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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**

Subscription

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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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**Shri Kushabhau Thakre auctioning his shawls  
for the flood affected people of Gujarat**



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*For this soul is incapable of being cut; it is proof against fire, impervious to water and undriable as well. This sou is eternal, omnipresent immovable, constant and everlasting.*  
– (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-II, 23)

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"The Congress tried to communalize the elections but all sections of the society contributed to the BJP victory for which I thank the people of Gujarat." -Nitin Gadkari

"I have always maintained that rapist should be punished with death sentence. I have also moved a private members Bill for this." -Sushma Swaraj

"It's strange and unfortunate that the Pakistani Minister with just the commencement visit, seen to be commenting on the cross border terrorism emanating from Pakistan, and in the same breath speaking in terms of domestic developments in India." - Arun Jaitley

*Letter to the Editor*



Dear Editor,

I recall an incident while speaking to a US farmer, he said that walmart cheats its farmers, they call farmers that they are coming to your house, they don't come, after a week when the farmer has already taken out the crop from the land, they will say your quality is not there so we won't give you the full price. This is true example. Also why US have to give huge subsidy if Wal-Mart is good.

In US the farmers share of the dollar spent by a consumer is just 11%. That is for every dollar spent by Consumer in US, 11 cents went to the farmer. Just 4 decades ago it was nearly 70%(70 cents). Similar situation prevails in Britain. Clearly the big box retailers did not help the farmers as touted by the Congress and its friends in media.

Shailendra Singh  
Ujjain, MP



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Dr. Mookerjee Smruti Nyas  
PP-66, Subramania Bharati Marg, New Delhi-110003  
Ph: 011-23381428, Fax : 011-23387887  
email : kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

-Editor

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Editor,

**Kamal Sandesh**

Dr. Mookerjee Smruti Nyas,  
PP-66, Subramanya Bharati Marg,  
New Delhi-110003

e-mail: kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in



## Entire nation is celebrating the victory of Gujarat!

# Editorial...

*The formation of BJP government in Gujarat for the fifth time in a row and third time under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi is indicative of boundless love of the people of Gujarat towards Shri Narendra Modi and BJP. It is not only a win but a great victory. The eyes of the entire country were fixed on the elections of Gujarat. Opposition was no less. God has blessed Shri Narendra Modi with boundless capacity to face opposition. He used to come out as strong as there was opposition against him. What not were done by his opponents but people's mandate has a special significance in democracy. In everyone's mind there were only BJP and Narendra Modi. So who would not like to congratulate Shri Narendra Modi on such an auspicious occasion. Congratulations Narendra Modi ji ! And congratulations to the people of Gujarat also. To reap the harvest of truth while being amidst those who engage in spreading lies signifies a mature democracy. The results of Gujarat have proved that the people of Gujarat are mature citizens. Not only in BJP but in the entire country Narendra Modi has emerged as an able administrator and mass leader and has established his name in the country. He is a result oriented personality. Seeking blessings from mother after victory is understandable but to seek blessings of the Bhishma Pitamahia of Guajrat Shri Keshubhai Patel who not only opposed Narendra Modi but also fought elections against him shows his big heart.*

*After the election results in Gujarat the people in media who were working overtime on single point agenda against Narendra Modi should understand that the newspapers which ignore ground reality and the channels which wanted to hoodwink the people may create confusion for a short while but not in the longer run. Had the stories of development not percolated to the ground level perhaps the result which we have got in Gujarat would not have come. After the election results entire country is celebrating it. This celebration is not sponsored but spontaneous. It is a celebration of self inspiration. Gujarat has become a unique school of BJP's ideology. Now gradually BJP will have to expand its work in the States on the line of Gujarat where it has still to move forward.*

*The victory of Gujarat has mitigated the pain of loss in Himachal to some extent. A win in Himachal would have added more colour to the Gujarat victory. But due to some weaknesses we are deprived of coming to the power there. We will have to look into the reasons of our defeat. Though it has been the history of Himachal that no party has formed the government for the second time in a row, BJP will have to make strategy for Himachal elections in the days to come.*

*It is an important work to understand the sentiments of the people and keep the Karyakartas ready in democracy. It is an advantage for Narendra Bhai Modi that he has been a pracharak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. He also served as organizational secretary of Gujarat BJP and BJP national secretary. Not only this he was also national general secretary (organization) of the party. He knows best the art of running government while keeping the dignity of the organization. He never compromises with the current distortion that is dominating the politics of the day. A rare combination of corruption free administration and good governance is being seen in Gujarat. Gujarat, development and Narendra Modi have become synonymous to each other.*

*The Gujarat victory has emerged as the symbol of national sentiments. The victory has not only been celebrated in Gujarat but also in Kerala where BJP has not been able to get a single seat and in West Bengal where the future of BJP appears difficult. Shri Narendra Modi has earned a special place for himself in the Indian politics. It is his uniqueness that he compels the nation to think about him with so much of expectation and hope.■*

## Burying the politics of untouchability Congress publishes BJP leader Sreedharan Pillai's book



Two weeks back Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee's (KPCC) publication cell published BJP National Executive member and poet-cum-columnist Shri P.S. Sreedharan Pillai's book "Onchium, Oru Marana Warrant" (Onchium, A Death Warrant), compilation of his columns published by different

newspapers in the state.

All articles are concerning legal, social and political aspects of the recent brutal assassination of CPM rebel leader Shri TP Chandrasekhran. They discuss the post-murder police enquiry, media reports, court's observations and CPI-M's lapses. A 'mini who is who' of KPCC shared dais with the Sangh Parivar leader. Rajya Sabha deputy chairman Prof. P. J. Kurien, KPCC president Shri Ramesh Chennithala, KPCC vice president Shri Thalekkunnil Basheer and KPCC spokesman M.M. Hassan were the Congress leaders who addressed the well attended function organized in VJT Hall, Thiruvananthapuram, the capital city of Kerala. Shri Chennithala stated that they intend to encourage good writers from all parties. Kerala Sahitya Academy chairman and well known novelist Shri Perumbadavam Sreedharan and famous poet and environmentalist Shri Sugathakumari released the first copy. The foreword has been penned by Shri Ramesh Chennithala.

All channels and newspapers of Kerala gave much importance to the episode. Because it was the first incident of that sort in Kerala. When some hints of controversy about the publishing of BJP leader's book by Congress' body came up, Shri Sreedharan Pillai told the media that "Onchium, A Marana Warrant" was his 24th book and the proceeds of this book, like all his previous books, will be spent for the charity. He added that he loves to give the proceeds of this book to the widow and son of Shri T.P. Chandrasekharan if they are not reluctant to receive it. Shri Ramesh informed Shri Sreedharan Pillai by the evening of the releasing day that all the printed copies of the book were sold out by dusk. The author, in his speech, told that Indian system and culture were always for freedom of media and freedom of expression. Pt. Nehru was always for these strong pillars of democracy. The period of Emergency (1975-1977) was the only exception. But, that period did not last long. ■

(Courtesy: The Organizer)



# Secular Nationalism should prevail over Communal Secularism

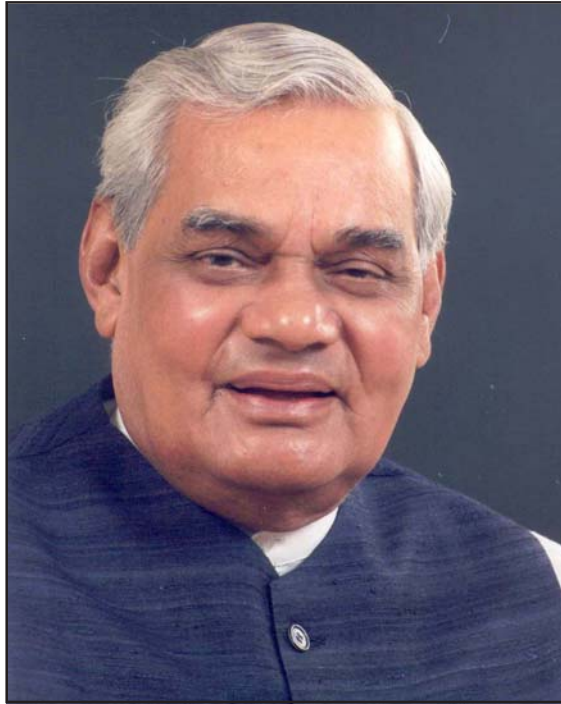
By Dr. M. Rama Jois

Atal Bihari Vajpayee was born on 25th December. He has been the most popular Prime Minister of this great Nation second only to the first prime minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He

represented Vibrant Nationalism. I always admired him for this. Vajpayee was well-known for his burning patriotism, robust Nationalism and powerful oratory, I had a few opportunities to translate his public speeches in Hindi to Kannada. I express my obeisance to him on his birth day through this article. I knew him right from the year 1952 when Bharateeya Jan Sangh was started and I became the first secretary of Shimoga city Branch of Bharateeya Jan Sangh.

However my personal contact with him became greater when on 26th June 1975 he along with Sarvasri Madhudandvate, L.K. Advani and Shyamnandan Mishra were arrested at Bangalore, consequent on declaration of emergency when they had come to attend a meeting of parliamentary committee. Then I was practicing as an advocate at High Court of Karnataka, I got the historic opportunity to file habeas corpus

writ petition on behalf of all the four, who were detained under the Maintenance Internal Security Act on the ground that all the aforesaid leaders were danger to the security of the State. I approached Shi M.C. Chagla to



appear as a senior advocate for petitioners in the High Court of Karnataka for which he agreed readily. The hearing of the case was fixed on a day, which was M.C. Chagla's Birth day, Despite that he came from Bombay to Bangalore and argued the case. His first submission was " My lords Atal Bihari Vajpayee and three others have been detained on the ground that they are

danger to the security of the State, and hit his forehead by his hand thrice". The court hall was jam-packed by the visitors. That one sentence was sufficient argument for the petitioners to convince the court about flagrant illegality of their detention. People were astonished about the illegality of their detention and the grounds for their detention.

The objection to the maintainability of the writ petitions raised by the central government was rejected by the high court. Unfortunately the said judgment was reversed by the supreme court in the infamous judgment in Shiv Kanth Shukla's case. The whole nation fell into pitch darkness by that judgment. But a few months later as destined, the emergency was lifted and the Nation went to polls to Loksabha in February 1977. A political party called Janata party which was founded just two months before the election under the leadership of Jaya Prakash Narayan triumphed and the mighty Congress was badly defeated. Morarji Desai who had for similar reason been detained became the Prime Minister. Three persons out of four arrested in June 1975 on the ground they

were dangerous to the security of the state became Union cabinet ministers, I was staying with Atalji on that day at Delhi and I had the fortune of attending the swearing in ceremony of the New Cabinet at Ashok Hall in Rastrapati Bhavan. Atal Bihari became the Minister for the external affairs and his performance as minister of external affairs was outstanding. Had this government continued for its full term the entire picture of our Nation would have been different and bright. But unfortunately on account of internecine quarrel on untenable grounds of pseudo Secularism by some of the government fell and the Nation faced political instability.

It was however in 1999 general election to Lok Sabha BJP became the single largest Party and Atal Bihari Vajpayee became the Prime Minister and led the government comprising of several political parties successfully forming National Democratic Alliance. Vajpayee stood firmly for real secularism. He always pointed out that concept of secularism of the west and of Bharat are distinct and separate. He said that in the west secularism arose as a reaction and protest to the domination of the church over political rulers whereas secularism of Bharat was part of our Rajadharma as is evidenced by the following verses in *Raja dharma* the constitutional law of ancient India

यथासर्वाणिभूतानि धरा धारयतेसमम् ।  
तथासर्वाणिभूतानिबिभ्रतः पार्थिवंरतम् ॥

Just as the mother earth gives equal support to all the living

beings, a king [State] should give support to all without any discrimination: [ManuSmriti X-311]

पाशण्डनैगमश्रेणीपूगव्रातगणादिशु ।  
संरक्षेत्समयंराजादुर्गजनपदेतथा ॥

(NaradaSmriti vide Dharmakosha P-870 laid down)

The king (State) should afford protection to compacts of associations of believers of Veda (Naigamas) as also of disbelievers in Veda (Pashandis) and of others in the same manner as he is under an obligation to protect his fort and territory.

These most ancient provisions, show how, in this land, where the vedas were regarded as Supreme, the disbelievers in the Vedas were to be respected and protected

Vajpayee was of view that this is secularism of Bharateeya brand, and obeyed it implicitly. Vajpayee and BJP firmly and sincerely believe and follow this. But unfortunately the so called secularists who always think and act on communal lines call themselves secular and dub real secularists as communal and practice what Bharatratna C. Subramanyam called as Political untouchability thus:-

“When the Constitution of India came into force on 26th November 1949, the pernicious social system of untouchability was abolished. Article 17 declared untouchability is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. The enforcement of any disability arising out of “untouchability” shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law”. Serious action is being taken to eradicate the remnants of untouchability existing in any form wherever

they exist. it is no longer a debatable point. While so, another form of untouchability has crept into our polity, namely, “political untouchability”. This is mainly based on the concept of secularism, even though each political party has its own view as to what is to be considered as anti-secular. The parties who claim to be secular consider B.J.P and its allied organizations as politically untouchable. For a different reason the Left parties consider Indian National Congress as untouchable. There is another concept of untouchability on the basis that the policy of a political party as anti-people, another vague term used by particularly the Communist parties and parties allied to them.

These attitudes of dubbing any party or policy anti-people arise out of what I would call, political fundamentalism. Any party or individual who does not agree with one’s own political or economic ideology is dubbed as anti-secular or anti-people” .

It looks as if each political party leader looks upon others as fools or knaves. It is not surprising that the Nation is going through a period of uncertainty and drifting without a positive direction”. [C.S. Speaks, pp. 334-335]

As a matter of fact, the ethos of the whole Nation is secular from times immemorial as pointed out above and it is going to be so in future also. It is an article of faith and an element of the basic structure of our *Raja Dharma*, the Constitutional Law of ancient Bharat and will be continuing as such for all times to come irrespective of the political leader / party coming

# Nation prays for good health of Atalji

By Prabhat Jha

**25<sup>th</sup>** December – A historic day. It is the 89<sup>th</sup> birth day of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He is not on all India tour but bedridden for last four years. What more can be said about his uniqueness while the entire country is waiting for his good health so that he may again be touring the entire country. India badly needs Atalji. There is no other Atal Bihari Vajpayee in the country. The country has no other personality like him who is not seen these days but worshipped by everyone. Atalji, we are praying to the God and if God answers our prayers then Indian politics will get an opportunity to again witness your commitment to liberalism, probity, ethical values, strong will, modernization, ancient glory and spiritualism. Atalji is one in body but his body is rich with qualities. He has attained the Everest in study. He is worshipper of humanity. Sarswati is on his tongue. Even today when the entire country thinks about Atalji his speech reverberates in their ears. The impact of his speech, its rhymes, tone and tenor, pitch, expression – everything appears like a movie passing before the eyes. He appeared completely Indian from his appearance and personality.

When people go to parliament without Atalji who is born to father Shri Krishna Bihari Vajpayee and mother Smt. Krishna Vajpayee and on the

land of Rishi Galav where Lord Krishna used to shepherd the cows in his lifetime, without him there appears a void in the parliament. By seeing the nameplate bearing the name of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Chairman, National Democratic Alliance people go inside the

***Today Indian politics needs not one but many personalities like him as it is deeply entangled in the web of political intolerance.***

***Country is not important now in the eyes of people. So everyone has only one desire that Atalji gets well soon and make a call – “Come let’s once again engage in the worship of Ma Bharati”.***

chamber of Shri Lal Krishna Advani located in the gallery of parliament. They peep inside, a person standing there tells them that Atalji is not there, Shri Advani ji is sitting inside the room. Astonished as he is, he goes inside the room. He asks about the wellbeing of Atalji from Advaniji. Advaniji with heavy heart tells him that Atalji is not well. In the Indian politics,

from the days of Jansangh to Bharatiya Janata Party, two persons led the party for years – one is Atalji and the other is Advaniji. A unique combination – like Ram and Lakshmana. They used to go to every district, every town all the time. Today when Advaniji goes on visit, people



ask where is Atalji. The illness of Atalji has somehow even affected Advaniji. Atalji was such a tireless traveller from Jansangh to BJP by seeing whom Karyakartas used to get delighted and felt proud about him. Confidence used to flow in the body. When the personality of one uses to influence the personality of others then the person becomes respectable.



When Atalji had not become the Prime Minister of India then people used to say that he should become the Prime Minister of the country. Atalji should become Prime Minister – it was in the mind of the people for many years. There is no other leader in India whom people used to see as future Prime Minister while in Opposition and started praying for him so that he becomes the Prime Minister of the country.

Atalji was the desire of the country. When something becomes the desire of the people, and when this desire starts finding expression then its realization becomes spontaneous. It is the reality of the spiritualism as well as in accordance with science. Many researchers are working on the style of functioning of Atalji. As Lata Mangeshkar and Sachin Tendulkar made their name due to their voice and bat so Atalji made his name in the world due to impact of his oratory. He is a magician of words. People consider him as a statesman. He has the rare ability to gauge the past and understand the realities of future in politics. He stood solid like Himalayas in politics. Babri structure fell but he never allowed the party to tumble. In the parliament he told the then Prime Minister Shri Narsimharao, “One will have to also think as to how situation arose which led to the demolition of the structure? How this situation was created? Who is responsible? I cannot justify what is wrong but at the same time I cannot say that only one is responsible for what has happened”. Atalji stood like a rock. This personality of Atalji

always ruled from parliament to streets.

Atalji signifies policy. He stands for principle. Atalji represents custom. Atalji symbolizes family. Atalji can be seen from Monday to Sunday. Atalji is friend of every kind of people. Atalji likes Kaba as much as he likes Kashi Vishwanath. Atalji is also a *Deepak* and blossoming *kamal*. It is difficult for the country to see Atalji bedridden who used to influence the decisions of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru to Dr. Manmohan Singh. He is the symbol of patriotism. He is the torchbearer of nationalism. He is the messenger of cultural nationalism. When he used to come to the meeting of parliamentary party people used to clap spontaneously. I feel fortunate that while he used to go to parliament, party had sent me to the house also. Not only me but many had seen Atalji from close quarters. Atmosphere used to change with the appearance of Atalji with smile. He had the

capacity to change the ambience. Atalji is the name of struggle. Atalji is the name of patience. Atalji is what *sarod* is to music. Atalji is the *meghadoot* of Kalidas. He is the couplet of Surdas. He is the spiritual rhymes of Kabir. In him the *krishnabhakti* of Meera and patriotism can be seen. People used to spontaneously chant the *dohas* of Rahim and poems of Bhushan on seeing him. He was the combination of *bhakti* (devotion), *shakti* (power) and *virakti* (renunciation).

Today Indian politics needs not one but many personalities like him as it is deeply entangled in the web of political intolerance. Country is not important now in the eyes of people. So everyone has only one desire that Atalji gets well soon and make a call – “Come let’s once again engage in the worship of Ma Bharati”. ■

*(The Writer is a member of Rajya Sabha and former MP BJP President)*

**...Continued from page 8**

to power. Right to happiness of all irrespective of religions region castes, is the ideal of our Nation as it inscribed in the Parliament house in golden letters thus:-

प्रजासुखेसुखंराज्ञः प्रजानां च हितेहितम् ।

नात्मप्रियंहितंराज्ञः प्रजानांतुप्रियंहितम् ॥

“In the happiness of the people lies the king’s(ruler’s) happiness;

In their welfare his welfare; Whatever in his own interest, the king(ruler) shall not consider as good; but Whatever is in the interest of his people, the king(ruler) shall consider as good”.

*(Kautilya, Arthasastra, P-39-P42-S).300 B.C)*

Earlier the politically motivated division of the people as secular and non-secular is demolished it is better for the Nation. Therefore a powerful National movement should be launched to put an end to the politically motivated propaganda by some of the parties claiming to be secular, dubbing others who stand for ‘Nationalism’ as non secular. ■

*(The writer is Rajya Sabha Member and former Justice of SC)*



## BJP has reached its present strength as a result of our collective efforts : Atal Bihari Vajpayee

*Speech delivered by former Prime Minister of India Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee on 15 April 2000 at the BJP National Executive Meeting.*

The BJP has reached its present strength as a result of our collective efforts. We have seen many joys which have been preceded by many a tears, sweat and at times even blood of our cadres. We have entered a crucial stage of our journey. Our acceptability has improved - it will improve further. This is because we are different and we speak a language which strikes a cord with the people. We must endeavor to maintain our distinctiveness as a party. Our political behaviour will determine this.

The crucial question we face is 'what after this political success?' We are in power in the Centre and several States. We have to concentrate on improving the quality of governance. The governance must concentrate on serving the people and keeping national interests paramount.

Our success has resulted in our opponents adopting an unpredictable behaviour. We have also been in opposition for a very long time, but we have never stooped so low. The kind and quality of the language used by some leaders on the issue of Constitution review has acquired a new low. But we must maintain a dignified posture. We must endeavor to raise the level of debate on this issue. The debate must be constitutional

and not provocative as some opposition leaders are indulging in.

The Congress has adopted political negativism from Pokharan to Kargil. What the Congress party delegation told President Clinton was misinformed to the nation. The Congress party delegation told President Clinton that India needed a minimum nuclear deterrent. The Congress spokesman informed the media of this. Later the party denied having ever said this. Petty political considerations resulted in this political somersault.

But we should not allow ourselves to be bogged down by these unnecessary controversies. We have to look ahead and deliver results to the people and the nation. This is a joint responsibility of all NDA partners. All the NDA allies have a very co-operative attitude. I am getting the best of co-operation from our allies. We must be very careful about all our statements

to the press. We must resist the temptation of speaking out too frequently. I have read some



report on cricket betting. The Government has no proposal to legalise betting. We are all for eliminating this menace.

All functionaries in the Government and the party must be particularly careful and sensitive when we speak on issues relating to the minorities.

We must ensure that the programmes get the support of the party and we endeavor to carry all sections of the society with us in this task which we have undertaken. ■

# “Nationalism is soul of BJP and providing good governance and social harmony is its mission”: Gadkari

From Our Correspondent

Addressing a huge meeting in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on 14 December BJP National

surfaced during the Congress regime and the party is playing family-based politics,” he said, adding “Congress has done

governance of the Congress,” he said. He added the country’s GDP growth was mainly contributed by the BJP-ruled states.



President Shri Nitin Gadkari said “Nationalism is the soul of BJP and providing good governance and social harmony is its mission”.

Exhorting the people to vote the NDA to power, Shri Gadkari said that BJP wants to bring a change in the socio-economic scenario of the country, which has become distorted during the long rule of the Congress. “Congress is synonymous with corruption and looting the country, depriving the poor and the needy. All the major scams

corruption in various places including air (spectrum scam), land (CWG) and underground (coal scam).”

Ridiculing the Congress’s claim of progress and prosperity of the weaker sections, the BJP National President pointed out that many suicide cases of farmers have been reported in the country and the number of unemployed people is increasing per year.

“The present situation of the country is mainly due to faulty economic policy and bad

governance of the Congress,” he said. He added the country’s GDP growth was mainly contributed by the BJP-ruled states. Referring to Arunachal, he said that BJP was preparing a vision document for the northeast for overall development of the region with the main thrust on infrastructure development, education, power and health sectors.

“We want to ensure progress and do development-based politics in Arunachal and, if voted to power both in the state as well as the Centre, we will put more emphasis on infrastructure development, through which investment will flow to the state,” he said.

He alleged that despite inflow of a huge chunk of central funds, Arunachal remained to be backward. “The state government, which claims to be a people-friendly government, has failed on all fronts to bring about real development. There are still several areas which have no proper road connectivity, schools, healthcare facilities and even basic minimum facilities for the people,” he added. ■

# Effort to eliminate discrimination cannot be done by reverse discrimination : Jaitley

**While intervening in the debate on the Constitution (117th) Amendment Bill, 2012 Leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley spoke on the amendment. The following is brief summary of the speech.**

The BJP has always supported the concept social justice. Social justice through affirmative action such as reservation is an instrument for alleviating poverty. It is a constitutional device to make equal those who became unequal on account of historical injustice. However, social justice measures must be implemented in a constitutionally compatible manner.

An effort to eliminate discrimination cannot be done by a process of resorting to reverse discrimination. It is for this reason that the Supreme Court has laid down certain guidelines which have now acquired a mandate of law. The Supreme Court, in M. Nagaraj case, has clearly mentioned that the ceiling limit of 50 percent, the concept of creamy layer and other reasons such as backwardness, inadequacy of representation and over all administrative efficiency under Article 335 are a part of the constitutional requirements without which the structure of equality of opportunity under Article 16 would collapse. These requirements have all been upgraded to the level of equality that is a part of the basic structure of the Constitution.



~~~~~  
***The SCs & STs are notified under Articles 341 & 342. They shall be deemed to be backward so as to get the benefit of Article 16 (4) and 16 (4A).***  
 ~~~~~

This amendment does not deal with the concept of reservation in promotion. It does not deal with the issue consequential seniority. These have been settled earlier. It has three major components, which I shall refer to separately.

Firstly, The SCs & STs are notified under Articles 341 &

342. They shall be deemed to be backward so as to get the benefit of Article 16 (4) and 16 (4A).

Secondly, this amendment through a non-obstantive provision makes the provisions of Article 335 inapplicable to reservations in promotion. I have a serious objection to this clause. Article 335 provides for relaxed standards to be made applicable to SCs & STs. If this provision in Article 335 is applicable, this would adversely impact the efficiency and the morale of the service, create an inequality and would be constitutionally vulnerable. I would, therefore, urge the government to delete this part of the amendment.

Thirdly, since reservation in promotion permits a certain amount of leapfrogging, the effect of this could be that the services could be packed by a certain category of castes. This amendment, therefore, provides that the state can only be permitted to make reservation "to the extent of percentage of reservation provided to SCs and STs in the service of the state". Thus a cap is sought to be imposed. The outer limit of this cap would be the reservation permitted in a state. Thus the possibility of all or most posts being occupied by a category would not arise. ■



Six crore Gujaratis repose faith in BJP with a resounding mandate for fifth time;

## *Nation erupts in jubilation*

A Report by Ram Prasad Tripathy

BJP's tryst with the voters of Gujarat received a thumping affirmation with the party emerging victorious with a resounding mandate in the 2012 Gujarat Assembly Elections. The people of Gujarat have spoken yet again and they have spoken loud and clear this time sending a clear message of the things to come in Indian politics. The results of the 2012 Assembly elections have yet again established the victory of development politics and good governance over everything else! Right from the initial trends till the declaration of the final result on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2012, it was clear that it is the BJP, under the dynamic leadership of Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi that would form the next Government in the state.

It was Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi's third consecutive victory as the Chief Minister of the State and fifth victory in a row for the BJP. BJP won 115 constituencies, just two short of the 117 it won in 2007. The Congress, which had been desperate to

oust Shri Narendra Modi by hook or crook, won 61 seats with most of its senior leaders biting the dust in the face of a groundswell of support in favour of the BJP. Former Chief Minister Shri Keshubhai Patel's newly set up Gujarat Parivartan Party (GPP) got just two seats in Saurashtra region of the state.



This resounding victory has come as an endorsement by the people of Gujarat for the politics of development and a rejection of the politics of hate and misinformation. Noteworthy, the BJP fought this election purely on the plank of the development work that the BJP Government has done for the people of the State during the last 11 years of its rule. On the other hand, the weak and insipid Congress campaign and a campaign taking potshots at the Chief Minister without offering its own model of development was rejected by the people. The voters of Gujarat, unfortunately for the Congress, have seen and tasted the fruits of progress and massive development in almost all sectors during the decade of Shri Narendra Modi's rule and it was difficult to mislead them with the shallow criticism that the Chief Minister's rivals kept leveling against him.

For weeks in the run-up to the election, the detractors of Shri Modi, that included the Congress, the so-called secular media and so-called civil rights activists who have created a career of sorts out of





demonizing the Chief Minister, had been spreading the message that Shri Modi was a polarizing figure and that he was absolutely reviled by the Muslims in the State. Although the Congress and its leaders from the New Delhi, scared as it was after the 2007 experience, did not once raise the issue of the 2002

violence, the fact remained that its workers continued to spread venom against the Chief Minister throughout the election campaign at the grassroots level. However, the results seem to suggest that even that strategy of the Congress has fallen flat.

The BJP has not only made significant inroads into the

minority votes as shown by several media reports it also clearly indicates that the Muslims of the State are by and large disgusted by the hate propaganda unleashed by the critics of Shri Narendra Modi. They are willing to leave the past behind and move forward. Additionally, neither the







### Modi seeks Mother's blessings

Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who won a third consecutive term, met his mother in Ahmedabad and sought her blessings. Shri Modi won from the Maninagar assembly constituency by over 86,373 votes as well as registered a thumping victory in the state election. Expressing his delight after meeting his mother Shri Modi said that there was 'no need of looking behind'. "No need of looking behind, Forward! We want infinite energy, infinite courage, and infinite patience".



### Modi seeks Keshubhai Patel's blessings

Gujarat Chief minister Shri Narendra Modi called on Gujarat Parivartan Party (GPP) president Shri Keshubhai Patel and sought his blessings after BJP's thumping victory in the assembly elections. Shri Modi drove to the residence of Shri Patel, who left the BJP and floated his own party ahead of the election, in Gandhinagar to meet him. "Modiji had come to seek blessings after his win in the elections. I congratulated him for the win," Shri Patel said after Shri Modi's visit.



<b>Gujarat P</b>
<b>Status Known For 182</b>
<b>Party</b>
Bharatiya Janata Party
Indian National Congress
Nationalist Congress Party
Janata Dal (United)
Others







भुवनेश्वर की आसफखान में विधानसभा चुनाव में भाजपा की जीत पर गुजरात के मुख्यमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी का मारक लगाकर जयम भवने कायेकरी। • अखिल



जीत का  
जश्न



Result Status			
2 out of 182 Constituencies			
	Won	Leading	Total
	115	0	115
	61	0	61
	2	0	2
	1	0	1
	3	0	3





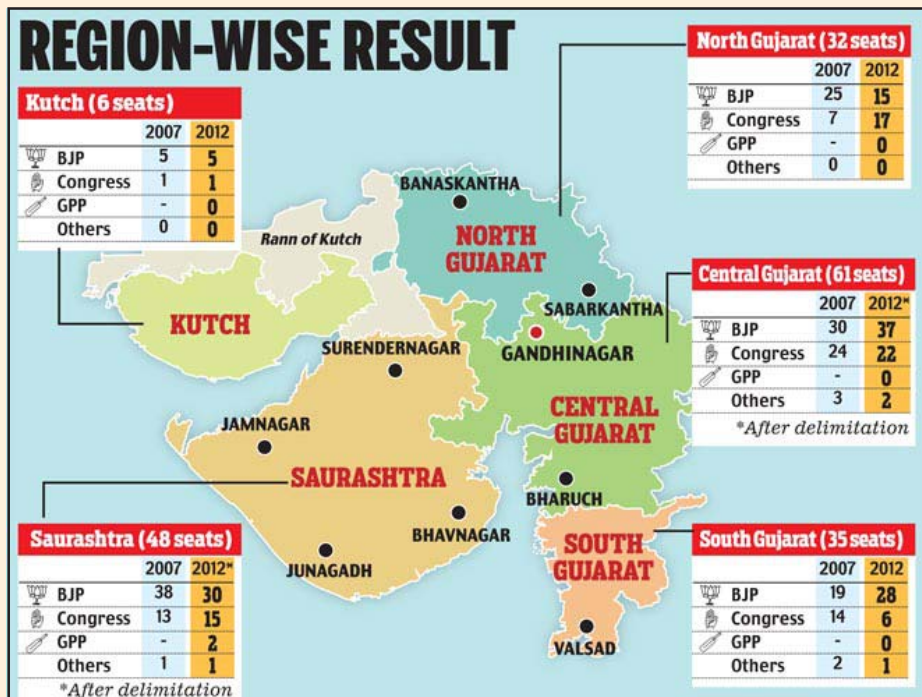


dreaded anti-incumbency factor nor the Keshubhai factor has worked to the advantage of the Congress. Noteworthy, against the tall claims of the poll *Pandits* the BJP has held on to its support base in Saurashtra region and the party has performed no less better than it did in 2007, as the number of seats and the share of votes plainly indicate.

After the results came on the expected lines, the Congress refused to see the writing on the wall and, much less, refused to acknowledge the fact that neither Ms Sonia Gandhi nor Rahul Gandhi were able to make much difference to the party's fate in the State. As it had

happened earlier in the case of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly election and earlier the Bihar Assembly poll, the two tallest leaders of the Congress have led their party to an emphatic defeat

in Gujarat as well. Surprisingly instead of accepting the defeat gracefully, unnerved and shaken as they were, Congress senior leaders came out with pathetic explanations and excuses.





Leaders like P Chidambaram and Salman Khurshid even described the Gujarat defeat as Congress's victory.

Undoubtedly, the victory, which Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated to the six crore people of Gujarat, dealt a severe blow to the Congress, which had made tall claims about stopping Shri Modi's juggernaut this time. Poll *Pandits* who foresaw a massive victory of BJP in Gujarat even before the first ballot was counted, described the verdict 2012, as people's mandate against the falsehood spread by the Congress and also as a verdict against the intolerable corruption, sky rocketing price rise and the Centre's injustice to Gujarat.

Shri Narendra Modi flanked by BJP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri LK Advani, BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari and other senior leaders of the BJP led the election campaign from the front time. This election was also remarkable for the use of 3D technology in electioneering which was received enthusiastically by the young voters of Gujarat. For the first time Shri Modi used the 3D holographic technology in elections and through 3D addresses he tried to cover almost all the 182 constituencies in the State during the election campaign. ■



### Nitin Gadkari

Thanking the people of Gujarat after the election Victory BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said, "Gujarat has given preference to the politics of development and the BJP government has in the country enhanced its prestige as a role model. The people of Gujarat have again chosen BJP under Shri Narendra bhai for the development of the state. The Congress tried to communalize the elections but all sections of the society contributed to the BJP victory for which I thank the people of Gujarat," Shri Gadkari said.



### Arun Jaitley

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley said that taking into consideration his emphatic win in Gujarat Assembly elections, BJP workers have high expectations from Shri Narendra Modi.



### Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan congratulated his Gujarat counterpart Shri Narendra Modi for scoring a hat-trick in the state assembly elections. Shri Chouhan described BJP's sterling performance in Gujarat as a victory for development and good governance. Gujarat elections have proved that development has become a focal point in politics, he said.



### J Jayalalithaa

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Ms J Jayalalithaa extended "hearty greetings" to her Gujarat counterpart Shri Narendra Modi for winning the Assembly polls for a third consecutive time. Ms. Jayalalithaa rang up Shri Modi and expressed "her hearty greetings", a state government press release in Chennai said.



### Naveen Patnaik

Congratulating after the victory Odisha Chief Minister and leader of the Biju Janata Dal Shri Naveen Patnaik said to lead a party to a win for three consecutive times is not a small thing and what Shri Narendra Modi has achieved is truly phenomenal.



### Uddhav Thackeray

Shiv Sena leader Shri Uddhav Thackeray congratulated Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi and pointed out that Shri Modi has won the election overcoming all odds and that he has won the hearts of the people!



### Amitabh Bachchan

Bollywood mega star Shri Amitabh Bachchan greeted Gujarat chief minister Shri Narendra Modi for securing a third consecutive win in the just concluded polls. He congratulated Shri Modi. ■

## International Media notes Gujarat victory

The TIME magazine

Noting Shri Narendra Modi's victory, *The TIME* magazine pointed out that the charismatic Shri Modi has been re-elected as CM in a decisive mandate. They also termed Shri Modi as someone who played a pivotal role in setting Gujarat on the path of enviable growth. About Shri Modi's popularity, *The TIME* wrote, "Few figures in Indian politics have the kind of devoted following that Shri Modi, 62, enjoys today."

### The New York Times

Writing about Shri Narendra Modi leading the BJP to a sweeping victory, *The New York Times* wrote that Shri Modi is fast emerging as a leading challenger to India's Nehru-Gandhi family. *The New York Times* also notes that Shri Modi's importance towards good governance and growth finds resonance in a nation where there are new corruption scandals every month and economic growth has considerably slowed.

### The Los Angeles Times

Writing about Shri Modi's leadership that played an anchoring role in the BJP's victory *The Los Angeles Times* noted, "In Gujarat, one of India's most pro-business states, Shri Narendra Modi is credited with improving infrastructure, offering attractive corporate tax incentives and streamlining red tape, helping make "Vibrant Gujarat" a darling of foreign investors. The state's annual economic growth has remained around 10% for much of the past decade. Manufacturing accounts for 28% of the state economy nearly double the average for other states. Gujarat's literacy rate is among India's highest and its poverty rate among the lowest."

### The China Daily

It is not only the west that has noted the electoral victory in Gujarat. The *China Daily* states, "There was little surprise in the results.... His reputation is forged on Gujarat's impressive economic growth, and supporters see him as the only leader charismatic enough to re-invigorate the BJP."

### BBC NEWS

Narendra Modi won an emphatic fourth term in Gujarat state polls..... Under his leadership, Gujarat has been turned into one of India's economic powerhouses.

## Gujarat has won! A Victory of People, Party & Performance : Modi

Addressing a massive gathering in the evening Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi said, "I thank the people of Gujarat for their affection, support and unwavering faith in our Party as well as Government. The people have given us a resounding mandate and I assure that we will leave no stone unturned to upholding the faith placed in us by the people. Most importantly I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Almighty, who showered us with blessings at every moment and gave us immense strength to serve the people of Gujarat for the last 11 years".

He said, "Today, we are happy to have again got the opportunity to be blessed by the Almighty through serving the people for the years to come. These elections are a victory of the people of Gujarat! It is a victory of Gujarat's Nari Shakti that has made its voice heard. It is a victory of our youth, who have taken this election on their shoulders right from the beginning; it is a victory of our farmers, the underprivileged, and our senior citizens who have stood by us".

He said these elections are a victory of Gujarat's model of Sarvasparshi (all pervasive), Sarvasamaveshak (inclusive) and Sarvangi (holistic) model of development and good governance. I consider it the strength of India's democracy that a man like me, who was born in the most ordinary of ordinary households, has got an extraordinary opportunity to serve society for so many years. I grew up among the people and it is their love and affection that has got me this far and given me the sacred opportunity to serve them day and night. For those youngsters who aspire to serve society and work towards nation building, there is a lot to learn from the Gujarat Elections.

Very often youngsters are disappointed on whether doors will open for them in a system where pedigree seems to matter more than hard work. Gujarat has shattered this cliché and demonstrated to the world that if you have the urge to serve our Motherland and the ability to overcome any obstruction come what may, then you will be given that opportunity to work irrespective of what dynasty or community you belongs to!

A profound thanks to the BJP Karyakartas, who fought as one team and tirelessly worked towards making the Lotus bloom more than ever before in Gujarat. This victory is the story of the sacrifices and determination of lakhs of our Karyakartas.

I have always stated that the Gujarat elections will be remembered as an election that will bring a paradigm shift in electioneering across India. By placing the development agenda above everything and by comprehensively rejecting the partisan agenda of casteism, votebank politics as well as divide and rule, the people of Gujarat have created a historic example in the eyes of the entire nation. Today Gujarat stands Ekmat with the message that it is politics of development and good governance that triumphs!

Friends, the need of the hour is to stand united as 6 crore Gujaratis. We are not a Government only for those who voted for us, we are a Government deeply concerned about each and every individual of this state. As Gujarat marches ahead on the path to glory and pride, the growth and success of every Gujarati belonging to every caste, creed and class is vital.

## Influence cuts across all regions

The landslide victory won by the BJP under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi this time has foxed political analysts of all hues. Detailed analysis of the results of the 2012 assembly elections reveal that the people of all regions of Gujarat have overwhelmingly voted for the BJP this time, cutting across regional variations.

Poverty, destitution or stagnation do not enter society seeing what caste, class or community a person belongs to and nor are vote bank and caste politics the solution to these problems. If we are to make a qualitative difference in the lives of the people, it is by making the fruits of development and good governance reach the last person in the queue. That has been our vision and we will continue to work on it for the years to come.

In every instance of Gujarat's development there is the mammoth contribution, hardwork and sweat of the people of Gujarat. We have only supported your hardwork by creating a people-centric environment where you can grow and prosper faster. Gujarat has revolutionized agriculture and is ushering in India's second green revolution, Gujarat made it attractive for industries to put their money in the state so

employment can be created and economic activity can be generated. Gujarat focused on basic infrastructure - bijli, paani and sadak -so that your work does not get hampered due to lack of basic amenities. We have eliminated the influence of middlemen and agents corroding the delivery of benefits under our poverty alleviation schemes. To give you an example, over the last decade Gujarat has witnessed the rise of a neo middle class.

The improvement in their lives is a result of their hardwork. This is the real Gujarati spirit-one which has stood the test of time. Our government's economic policies have enabled them to taste the fruits of development and scale new heights of prosperity. It becomes our duty to continue to take care for the well being of this new segment in Gujarat's society. A very common question I have been asked is- Modi ji what is going to be your agenda in the coming years vis-à-vis Gujarat's development. In the coming years we will continue serving our people, create opportunities for each and every one of you to prosper. We will build a Gujarat where not only you are happy but also where your future generations lead a life of happiness. The journey towards a Bhavya and Divya Gujarat has just begun! ■

## Social Media erupts with joy on Modi's win

Shri Narendra Modi is known as the 'King of Social Media' and his popularity among netizens is sky high. Thus, when Shri Modi led the BJP to a win in the elections, social media erupted with joy. Be it Facebook, Twitter or other forums, there were record number of congratulatory messages pouring in. The people lauded the fact that the politics of development and good governance has outshone votebank politics. Many on social media pointed out how Shri Modi overcame all odds and insults to lead the party to a massive win and give Gujarat a better future. Many also admired Shri Modi's philosophy to development and good governance and pointed out that it must be replicated not only in Gujarat but also all over.

# Electoral India is not a level playing field

By A Surya Prakash

**O**n May 1, 2004, in a case pertaining to the defacement of public property and putting up of election posters and banners, the Election Commission issued a notice to the All-India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam asking it to show cause why its recognition as a political party should not be withdrawn. The Commission cited Section 16A of the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968 which gives the commission the power to suspend or withdraw recognition of a political party for its failure to observe the Model Code of Conduct or follow lawful directions and instructions of the Commission. Why was the Commission so indignant? Because the AIADMK had defaced public property by putting up of election posters and banners in Puducherry in violation of the Commission's orders. Cut to December 2012.

True to its nature, the Congress violates established democratic norms by announcing the direct cash transfer scheme right in the midst of an election. Two Union Ministers – Mr P Chidambaram and Mr Jairam Ramesh – announce the scheme at the party headquarters, making it amply clear that the ruling party was determined to milk the Government's decision for votes. "Aap ka paisa, aapke haath" was how Mr Ramesh, a man known for coining catchy

*The Election Commission has been quick to take most political parties to task for violating the Model Code of Conduct during election season but has been inexplicably lax in reining in the Congress*

slogans, summed up the scheme.

The fact that the hand (haath) is the party's election symbol, is lost on nobody. But how can such a major scheme be announced when the Model Code of Conduct is in force after the announcement of the poll schedule for the Himachal and Gujarat State Assemblies, and when voters in the latter State are scheduled to exercise their franchise mid-December? And how does the Election Commission respond to such a gross violation of the Model Code?

It expresses its 'unhappiness' and says the Congress could have avoided making the announcement. There is no threat of any kind of punitive action. One finds the Election Commission's rather tentative, half-hearted response to the complaint lodged by the Bharatiya Janata Party, inexplicable, when one reads the

Model Code drafted by it for the guidance of political parties and with particular reference to parties in power. Part VII of this code says: "The party in power whether at the Centre or in the State or States concerned, shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that it has used its official position for the purposes of its election campaign..."

It also prohibits Ministers from making "grants/payments" after elections are announced or announce financial grants in any form. The Code also prohibits minor infringements like misuse of Government vehicles and personnel and Government rest houses by the ruling party in an election campaign.

Apart from the Model Code of Conduct, there are orders passed by the Election Commission, ticking off Ministers and MPs for even minor infringements of the Code. In each of these cases, the Commission has harped on the principle of 'level playing field' in the election arena. For example, the Commission examined the complaint that the Union Ministry of Tourism had distributed publicity material to promote the election prospects of the Ms Poonam Azad, candidate of the Bharatiya Janata Party in 2-Gole Market Assembly Constituency in New Delhi in November 2003.

This material was distributed along with an appeal made by Mr Jagmohan, the then



Union Minister for Tourism. The Election Commission, after an inquiry, said that it was “convinced” that the party (the BJP) “misused the said Government publicity materials, to promote the election prospects of Smt Poonam Azad... and thereby violated Para VII of the Model Code of Conduct”. The Commission went on to express its “displeasure” over the conduct of the BJP and the Union Minister.

As can be seen from the wording of the Model Code of Conduct and the Commission’s own orders, it is obvious that the Union Government’s announcement of direct cash transfer is a violation of the Code. Following a formal complaint by the BJP, the Commission issued notice to the Government. In its response, the Government claimed that direct cash transfer was an old policy and that the eligible beneficiaries will not receive anything more than what they were entitled to under various schemes. Further, in any case, the scheme takes effect only after January 1, 2013.

But, these explanations do not square up with the claim of Mr Chidambaram and Mr Ramesh that this scheme is a “game-changer”.

Also, the mere fact that the scheme takes effect only after the Gujarat election is no solace, because the announcement, which is by way of an inducement for voters, has come weeks before the date of polling. The cash transfer scheme is yet another humongous programme run on public money, but advertised as a gift from the Congress and its first family. The party is adept at this, and the

scandalous loan melas organised in the 1970s bear testimony to this. This blatant attempt to package and market Government programmes run on public money as acts of generosity by a family or a party towards the people, must, in the larger interests of our democracy and political plurality, be put an end to. Since the Congress’s election symbol is the hand, the Election Commission must prohibit the Government from advertising the scheme, even later, as “Aapka paisa, aap ke haath”, if it truly believes in ensuring a level playing field in the electoral arena.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission, which had threatened to withdraw recognition to the AIADMK just for putting up posters in

violation of the Code and come down hard on the BJP in the Poonam Azad Case, has merely expressed its “unhappiness” over the announcement of the cash transfer scheme and said this was “avoidable” when the election process was on.

The Commission’s order that the scheme should be implemented only after the Gujarat election is over is meaningless because the Government itself has said the scheme will kick off after January 1. Why this tepid response to such a gross violation by the Congress? Why does the Commission treat the Congress with kid gloves? Is the Commission’s bluster reserved only for smaller parties? Is this how the Commission ensures a level playing field? ■

## BJP demands capital punishment for rapists

**T**he horrific rape of a young medical student in a bus in South Delhi on December 16 night was raised by BJP parliamentarians in both houses.

Leader of opposition Smt. Sushma Swaraj said it’s time to introduce the death penalty for rapists. “What is the government doing to curb rape cases in the capital?” she asked. “The rapists should be hanged, we need tougher laws to stop rapes,” she said.

BJP members asked the Home Minister Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde to appear in the Rajya Sabha to discuss the case.

The 23-year-old victim was raped by at least five men on December 16 night on a private chartered bus at about 9.30 pm. The men then hit her repeatedly with an iron rod; a male friend who was escorting her home and tried to intervene was also assaulted.

The victim is fighting for her life and is on ventilator support. Her friend is not in critical condition and has been helping the police with its investigation. Three men have been arrested, among them the driver of the bus and his brother.

The couple boarded the bus, which was impounded last night, after watching *The Life of Pi* at a South Delhi mall. ■

# UPA Government has no conviction, credibility or commitment : Anant Kumar

*Brief Points made by Shri Ananth Kumar, MP & BJP General Secretary, during the discussion on the Supplementary Demands for Grants in Lok Sabha on December 13, 2012.*

- ▶ Shri Ananth Kumar began by paying homage to the martyrs of the terrorist attack on Parliament 11 years ago. He urged the present Finance Minister, Shri Chidambaram, who has also been the Home Minister in the UPA Government, to ensure that justice is done to their sacrifice by expediting the execution of death sentence of the mastermind Afzal Guru.
- ▶ In 2004, when Shri Chidambaram took over, he himself acknowledged that the NDA governance had left a robust economy – he had said “..the economic fundamentals are strong ..”
- ▶ Recently the Hon PM misled the nation when he said that the Government will not roll back the diesel prices because it is used by fuel guzzling SUVs. The Hon PM may not be aware that most of the diesel is used to run public transportation, irrigation pump sets and diesel gensets and tractors in rural areas and all these have a direct impact on the poor.
- ▶ There are three major indicators of a nation’s economy – GDP Growth, Fiscal Deficit and Inflation. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, when he was the Finance Minister had repeatedly assured the



House that India will see double digit growth and fiscal management. Instead we have seen the GDP Growth fall to its lowest – in the last quarter it was 5.7% and now it has further slipped to 5.3%. Instead of growth there is double digit inflation!

- ▶ Growth rates in all sectors have fallen abysmally – manufacturing has fallen to 0.8%, agriculture to 1.2%
- ▶ Shri Ananth Kumar quoted Shri Narendra Modi ji when he said that for the UPA, GDP growth does not mean Gross Domestic Product but it stand for Gas, Diesel and Petrol price increase.
- ▶ The reason why the GDP growth is poor while the fiscal deficit has increased is because the UPA Government is largely spending on consumptive expenditure. During the NDA rule under

Shri Atal ji’s leadership, we launched a number of programmes which created infrastructure like Golden Quadrilateral, National Highways, PMGSY, Agricultural Marketing Linkages, which boosted growth.

- ▶ The Chairman of State Bank of India has recently said that SBI is flush with liquidity. Of the Rs. 1 lakh crores, they have been able to disburse only Rs. 40,000 crores and are having reserves of Rs. 60,000 crores for which there are no takers as the interest rates are so high. During the NDA regime PLR was 11.25% and now it is 16.25%. Housing loans which were 7.25% at that time are today at 11.25%. The common man, the middle class, the MSMEs and industry are not approaching financial institutions to borrow because of the prohibitive interest rates.
- ▶ Today the food inflation is at 20%. This is because the Government is refusing to release foodgrains and other essential food items in the market. When the buffer stock required is only 14 million tonnes this UPA government is keeping reserves of 42 million tonnes, which is three times the requirement.

- ▶ So the Government has become the largest hoarder in the country - they are hoarding liquidity and they are hoarding foodgrains.
- ▶ The government has recently brought out a policy to extract more money from the people by increasing the PF contribution. This has reduced the take home pay of a population already reeling under inflation.
- ▶ Shri Ananth Kumar accused the UPA of having mala fide intentions behind this saying that they are hoarding now to launch populist schemes in the next budget which will be the election year budget. So it does not matter if the common suffers now, because the Smt. Sonia Gandhi led UPA looks at the people of the country not as "Aam Aadmi" but as a vote.
- ▶ With respect to the recent announcement of Shri Veerappa Moily during a CII event about increasing the cap of LPG cylinders for individuals from 6 to 9 per year, Shri Ananth Kumar said that the Minister had done that with an eye on the Gujarat elections and had violated all norms of Parliamentary propriety and also the code of conduct - Hon MPs of all non-UPA parties led by Smt. Sushma Swaraj had already in this session demanded a removal of the cap. The BJP reiterates that there should be no cap on LPG cylinders. During the NDA rule there was no cap and no shortage and no queues for LPG cylinders.
- ▶ The Hon PM and successive Finance Ministers have us

believe the pressure of the oil pool deficit has led to this situation. This is far from the truth. The petrol price in India is the highest compared to the neighbouring countries - in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka the price of petrol is around Rs. 61-62, whereas in India it is around Rs. 70. The high price in India is because of the crippling taxes of 46% that the Union Government collects on petrol. The landed cost of petrol at present rates is Rs. 39.60p and it is being sold at Rs. 67 in Delhi. The Centre charges Rs.30 extra per litre as tax - in the last fiscal the Government collected Rs.1,40,000 crores as taxes on

fuel. Therefore the BJP demands a White Paper on the finances in the oil pool account.

- ▶ That the UPA Government is afraid of revealing the actual state of the economy is evident from the fact that NSSO survey for unemployment has been cancelled this year. The large scale retrenchment and loss of jobs due to the poor growth will be revealed and the UPA fears this bitter truth in the run up to the elections.

The UPA Government has no conviction, credibility or commitment and they must make way for a BJP led Government at the centre. The people of India want a change.

## Anant Kumar speaks in parliament regarding special status to Hyderabad- Karnataka region

Brief Points made by Shri Ananth Kumar, MP and General Secretary, BJP, during the Discussion on the Constitution (118th Amendment) Bill to introduce Article 371J in the Constitution of India according Special Status to the Hyderabad - Karnataka Region

- It is a great and historic day for the 6 crore people of Karnataka.
- This great move has come after 56 years after the Vidharbha and Marathwada regions got their special status in 1956, and later Telangana got the special status in 1974.
- There was large scale agitation in this area historically as this region is one of the most backward areas in the country.
- The Dr. D M Nanjundappa Committee set up by the Government of Karnataka went into the backwardness of the area and recommended that special status be given for the development of the area.
- We thank the Government of India and this August House for delivering this long pending justice to the people of this area.
- The Hon. CM of Karnataka, Shri Jagadish Shettar along with all the MPs of the state met the Hon. Home Minister and impressed upon him the need to bring this legislation for the consideration of the Parliament.
- Both Houses of the Karnataka Legislature had unanimously passed resolutions urging the Union Government to pass the necessary legislation at the earliest

I urge the whole House to support this Bill and ensure this is passed unanimously. ■



# Raman Singh steals a march over UPA on food security

**Chhattisgarh passes improved Food Security Bill**



The Raman Singh government in Chhattisgarh has stolen a march over the United Progressive Alliance government at the Centre by enacting the Chhattisgarh Food Security Act, 2012, which provides for food entitlements to all Antyodaya households, priority households and general households without prescribing any limit on the percentage of beneficiaries in the vulnerable social groups.

The Bill that was passed by State Assembly on December 21, seeks to provide 35 kilogram/per month of foodgrains to Antyodaya (poorest of the poor) families at Re 1 per kg, to priority (Below Poverty Line) households at Rs. 2 per kg and 15 kg/month to general (Above Poverty Line) households at a rate of less than 50 per cent of the minimum support price of the grain.

Said Kavita Srivastava of the Right to Food Campaign: "It is a very good step forward by the Chhattisgarh government to give a legal food guarantee to almost 90 per cent of its population. The UPA which has kept delaying it has lost its political point."

"In many ways it is an improved version of UPA's National Food Security Bill," pointed out social activist Jean Dreze.

The Chhattisgarh government will provide to the Antyodaya and priority households 2 kg iodised salt for free, 2 kg of pulses at Rs. 10 per kg in non-scheduled areas and 2 kg of black chana (gram) at Rs. 5 per kg in scheduled areas to take care of the nutrition needs of the needy families. While the Centre has gone for a socio-economic caste census to identify the poor and is dithering on who would be the beneficiaries, the Chhattisgarh government has clearly stated that it was not fixing any percentage limits of beneficiaries and "will bear all additional costs".

*(Courtesy: The Hindu)*

## First Uttarakhand CM Nityanand Swami no more



The first Chief Minister of Uttarakhand and senior BJP leader Shri Nityanand Swami died in Dehradun at the age of 85 following protracted illness. Shri Swami, who is survived by four daughters, became the first Chief Minister of the north Indian state when it was carved out of Uttar Pradesh in November 2000. He remained at the helm till October 29, 2001. Shri Swami's mortal remains were consigned to flames with full state honours at Lakhbagh in the presence of a host of political leaders including former BJP Chief Ministers Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank and Bhagat Singh Koshiyari. BJP National President also express profound grief on demise of Swami.

Leaders from across the political spectrum condoled his death describing Swami as a warm-hearted person who was always available to young members of the House to guide them. Swami represented Dehradun seat in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly and was also a member of the UP Legislative Council in 1984, 1990 and 1996. Born at Narnaul in Haryana on December 27, 1927, he was a lawyer and social worker before joining politics.

## Narendra Tomar elected MP BJP president



**B**JP National General Secretary Shri Narendra Singh Tomar was on December 16 elected unopposed as the president of the party's Madhya Pradesh unit. Tomar replaced Shri Prabhat Jha as the new state BJP President. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad was appointed as poll officer by the BJP for the state president's and National Council members' election. On the occasion, Prasad also declared the names of the 29 party leaders elected for the National Council, which included MP and former Chief Ministers Kailash Joshi and Sunderlal Patwa, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Sushma Swaraj, MP

Sumitra Mahajan, outgoing State BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha, General Secretary Thawarchand Gehlot, Antar Singh Arya, former Union Minister Faggan Singh Kulaste and Dalpat Singh. ■

### CWG scam:

## Court orders framing of charges against Suresh Kalmadi

A Delhi court on December 21 ordered framing of charges against sacked CWG organizing committee Chairman and Congress MP Suresh Kalmadi and others for offences of forgery, cheating and conspiracy in a Games-related graft case. Special CBI Judge Talwant Singh passed the order on framing of charges against Kalmadi, former OC Secretary General Lalit Bhanot and nine others for illegally awarding a contract to Swiss firm, Swiss Timing Omega, causing huge loss to the exchequer.

The court said "prima facie" charges of cheating, forgery, criminal conspiracy and for offences under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act are made out against eight accused persons and three companies. "Charges under section 120B (criminal conspiracy), 201 (destruction of evidence), 420 (cheating), 467, 468, 471 (relating to forgery), 506 (criminal intimidation) of the IPC and section 13(1)(d) read with section 13(2) (criminal misconduct by public servants) of the PC Act is ordered to be framed against all the accused," the court said. "Put up for formally framing of charges on January 10 at 10.30 AM," the judge said.

The accused have been charge sheeted by the CBI for "illegally" awarding a contract to install Timing, Scoring and Results (TSR) system for the 2010 CWG to Swiss Timing at inflated rates causing a loss of over Rs 90 crore to the public exchequer.

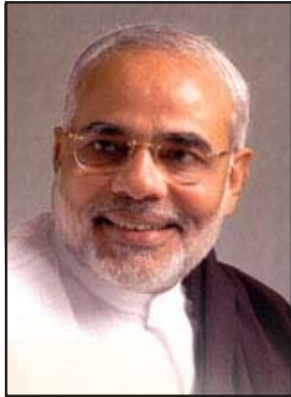
Besides Kalmadi and Bhanot the other accused in the case are OC's Director General V K Verma, Director General (Procurement) Surjit Lal, Joint Director General (Sports) A S V Prasad and Treasurer M Jayachandran. They are no more associated with the sporting body. (FOC) ■

## Th. Chaoba elected as Manipur BJP president

Former Lok Sabha MP and ex-Manipur cabinet minister Th. Chaoba and six times elected MLA of Utlu constituency, Bishnupur district, was elected as president of Manipur state unit BJP on December 17 in the election held at the party office in Imphal. Yanglet Haokip and T Shyamacharan were also elected as BJP National Council members for Outer and Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituencies respectively at the function attended by L Shantikumar, outgoing president, BJP Manipur state unit, P Chandra Shekhar Rao, Zonal Organising secretary, North-East States BJP, former president Dr Borobabu and former MLA M Bhorot. Speaking on the occasion, Chaoba alleged that Manipur has been engulfed by corruption being lived out by the state Congress Government while stating that BJP will continue to launch intense agitation against this corrupt Government. ■

**GUJARAT**

**Narendra Modi asks PM to stop bid to hand over Sir Creek to Pakistan**



Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi has urged the Prime Minister to stop any attempt to hand over the Sir Creek to Pakistan. The Sir Creek in extreme western tip of Kutch district is a muddy patch of water and land whose jurisdiction is the subject of Indo-Pak dialogue since the 1965

war. The issue has remained unsolved during the several rounds of Indo-Pak dialogues over last few decades.

In a letter dashed off to Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, Shri Modi expressed genuine fears of the people of Gujarat regarding their safety and security if the Centre agrees to hand over Sir Creek to Pakistan.

Shri Modi said that he is writing this letter as a responsible citizen of Gujarat. He reminded the Prime Minister that he had raised this issue at the Chief Ministers' conference in April this year and said that he is writing this letter as he has been told that a decision is being taken on the Sir Creek issue on December 15. Tracing the history of the Sir Creek issue wherein Pakistan was given only ten per cent of the 9,000 square km of the border area, Modi warned the Prime Minister that handing it over to Pakistan would lead to their greater control of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in the sea.

It would be a permanent threat to the fishermen from Saurashtra and Kutch areas and also to the vital defence installations, refineries and ports in the region, Shri Modi reminded the Prime Minister in his letter. Releasing copy of the letter to the Press, BJP national spokesperson Ms Nirmala Sitharman said that BJP is fully backing Shri Narendra Modi on this issue and hoped that the Prime Minister would not take any hasty decision on handing over the Sir Creek to Pakistan.

**HIMACHAL PRADESH**

**BJP led Himachal government got 75<sup>th</sup> national developmental award**

The State Bharatiya Janata Party has congratulated Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal for getting his government's 75<sup>th</sup> national developmental award. Led by the State BJP President Shri Satpal Satti, the entire State unit lauded his efforts for



taking the small backward hill State during his rule to the category of best developed States in India.

With robust growth in industrial investment climbing to 112 per cent, the hill State has been adjudged as the, "Most Attractive Investment Destination State" in the country according to the data collected by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation of the Government of India.

For achieving this highest growth in the country the State was presented the award by the Hon'ble President of India in New Delhi. Chief Minister Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal accepted the award from Hon'ble President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee at a function organised by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

On the occasion, Prof. Dhumal said that an investment of Rs. 19,099 crore has been approved to be invested in the State by 5775 industrial units involving employment opportunities to 2.17 lakh people since the year 2008.

During this period, 4450 Industrial units with investment of Rs 10,555 crore and employment to 59,665 persons have actually been established of which 122 units are in the medium and large scale sector.

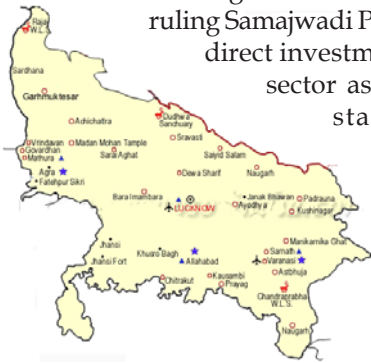
He said that State Level Single Window Clearance and Monitoring Authority held 37 meetings in last four years and approved and monitored 247 new investments.



UTTAR PRADESH

Samajwadi Party to clarify its stand on FDI in retail sector : BJP

Terming the attitude and stand of the ruling Samajwadi Party about foreign direct investment (FDI) in retail sector as an eyewash, the state BJP has demanded it to clarify its stand on the vexed issue which was all set to rock the upcoming winter session of the



Parliament.

The Uttar Pradesh BJP spokesman Shri Hriday Narayan Dixit while talking to media persons said that though Samajwadi Party has termed the FDI in retail sector as wrong initiative but it was unwilling to vote against the Congress led UPA Government in the Parliament on the issue. "The statement of the Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav suggests that party will oppose the FDI outside but in Parliament it will side with the Congress led UPA Government on the issue" he said.

Shri Hriday Narayan Dixit said that similar was the stand of the SP regarding the price rise as it opposed the price rise on roads but when it came to take the stand in Parliament it went along with the Government. "The truth is that the SP and the Congress were the two sides of the same coin and both befool the people by opposing each other on different issues. However, the characters of the both have been unearthed before the people" he said.

Meanwhile the BJP will hold demonstrations at the district headquarters against the corruption and anti people policies of the central government. The National General Secretary of the party Shri Anant Kumar and Uttar Pradesh BJP President Dr Lakshmikant Bajpai will lead the agitation in the state capital while National Vice President Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi and National General Secretary Shri Dharmendra Pradhan will lead the demonstration in Ghaziabad and Gautam Budhanagar respectively.

Similarly senior party leader Shri Lalji Tandon, former state presidents Shri Ramapatai Ram Tripathi and Shri Surya Pratap Shahi will lead the agitation in Kanpur, Allahabad and Azamgarh respectively. Senior leader Shri Yogi Adityanath MP (Gorakhpur), Dr. Shri Naipal Singh (Rampur), National secretary Shri Ashok Pradhan (Bareilly), Shri Satish Mahana (Fatehpur) and Shri Suresh Khanna (Lakhimpur Kheri) will also participate in the proposed agitation.

DELHI

Sheila's 'Rs. 600 enough for a BPL family's monthly expences' statement a cruel joke on the poor : BJP

Delhi Chief Minister Ms. Sheila Dikshit's statement that a deposit of Rs. 600 could meet the monthly requirements of a BPL family of five has triggered a torrent of criticism from the Opposition, with BJP National General Secretary Shri Vijay Goel terming it a 'cruel joke' on the poor.



At the launch of direct cash transfer programme Ms. Dikshit suggested that a monthly subsidy of Rs. 600 transferred directly into Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of the senior-most female members of two lakh poor families was a panacea for poverty. "In Rs. 600, they would get dal, rice and wheat... A family of five can easily complete its needs," Ms. Dikshit said at the function in the presence of Congress president Ms. Sonia Gandhi.

Severely criticizing her statement Mr. Goel said, "Sheila Dikshit says a family can manage on a budget of Rs. 600 per month for buying rice, wheat and dal. This means that one person can manage on Rs. 4 per day. The Chief Minister has never visited a slum or unauthorized colony. Hence, she is unaware of the ground realities," he said. ■

# Concentration

By Sri Swami Sivananda

If you focus the rays of the sun through a lens, they can burn cotton or a piece of paper; but, the scattered rays cannot do this act. If you want to talk to a man at a distance, you make a funnel of your hand and speak. The sound-waves are collected at one point and then directed towards the man. He can hear your speech very clearly. The water is converted into steam and the steam is concentrated at a point. The railway engine moves. All these are instances of concentrated waves. Even so, if you collect the dissipated rays of the mind and focus them at a point, you will have wonderful concentration. The concentrated mind will serve as a potent searchlight to find out the treasures of the soul and attain the supreme wealth of Atman (the Self), eternal bliss, immortality and perennial joy.

Real Raja Yoga starts from concentration. Concentration merges in meditation. Concentration is a portion of meditation.

Meditation follows concentration. Samadhi (super conscious state) follows meditation. The Jivanmukti (liberated being) state follows the attainment of Nirvikalpa Samadhi which is free from all thoughts of duality. Jivanmukti leads to emancipation from the wheel of birth and death. Therefore, concentration is the first and foremost thing a Sadhaka or aspirant should acquire in the spiritual path.

You are born to concentrate the mind on God after collecting the

mental rays that are dissipated on various objects. That is your important duty. You forget the duty on account of Moha (infatuation) for family, children, money, power, position, respect, name and fame.

Concentration of the mind on God after purification can give you real happiness and knowledge. You are born for this purpose only. You are carried away to external objects through attachment and infatuated love.

## WHAT IS CONCENTRATION?

Once a Sanskrit scholar approached Kabir and asked him, "O Kabir, what are you doing now?". Kabir replied, "O Pundit, I am detaching the mind from worldly objects and attaching it to the lotus-feet of the Lord". This is concentration.

Concentration or Dharana is centering the mind on one single thought. Vedantins try to fix the mind on the Atman. This is their Dharana. Hatha Yogins and Raja Yogins concentrate their mind on the six Chakras (energy centres). Bhaktas concentrate on their Ishta Devata (tutelary diety). Concentration is a great necessity for all aspirants.

During concentration, the various rays of the mind are collected and focussed on the object of concentration. There will be no tossing of the mind. One idea occupies the mind. The whole energy of the mind is concentrated on that one idea. The senses become still. They do not function. When there is deep concentration,

there is no consciousness of the body and surroundings.

When you study a book with profound interest, you do not hear if a man shouts and calls you by your name. You do not see a person when he stands in front of you. You do not smell the sweet fragrance of flowers that are placed on the table by your side. This is concentration or one-pointedness of mind. The mind is fixed firmly on one thing. You must have such a deep concentration when you think of God or the Atman.

Everybody possesses some ability to concentrate. Everybody does concentrate to a certain extent when he reads a book, when he writes a letter, when he plays tennis, and in fact, when he does any kind of work. But, for spiritual purposes, concentration should be developed to an infinite degree.

There is great concentration when you play cards or chess, but the mind is not filled with pure and divine thoughts. The mental contents are of an undesirable nature. You can hardly experience the divine thrill, ecstasy, and elevation when the mind is filled with impure thoughts. Every object has its own mental associations. You will have to fill up the mind with sublime, spiritual thoughts. Then only the mind will be expurgated of all worldly thoughts. The picture of Lord Jesus or Buddha or Lord Krishna is associated with sublime, soul-stirring ideas; chess and cards are associated with ideas of gambling, cheating and so forth. ■