



Kamal Sandesh
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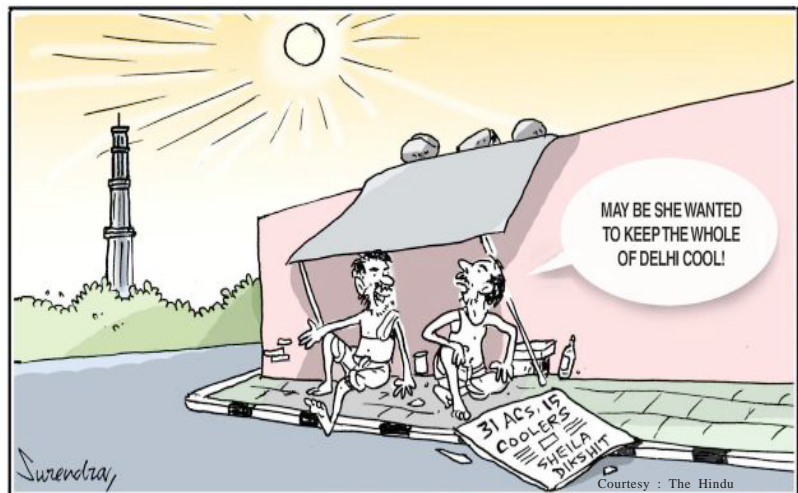
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Arjuna said: O Krishna what are the signs of one properly situated in perfect knowledge? Of one absorbed in pure spiritual consciousness? How does one steadfast in this consciousness talk? How does he sit? How does he walk?

Arjuna said: O Krishna what are the signs of one properly situated in perfect knowledge? Of one absorbed in pure spiritual consciousness? How does one steadfast in this consciousness talk? How does he sit? How does he walk?

— (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-II, 54)

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"I don't blame anybody but I surely feel that we need to strengthen systems whereby the right things are communicated to the right people at the right time."

-Narendra Modi

"In Independent India no other party had become bigger than Congress and today BJP on its own has achieved this political stature."

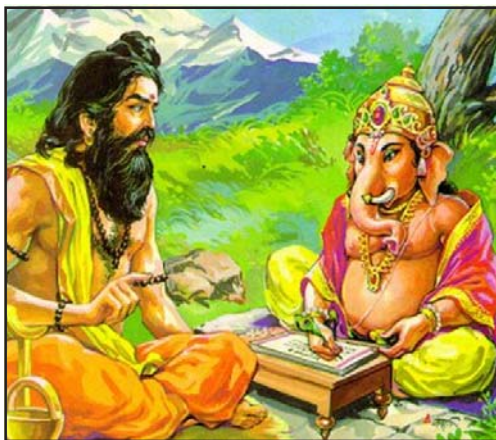
-Rajnath Singh

"The medicine appears bitter in the beginning, but is like nectar in the end."

-Sadananda Gowda

Guru Purnima: 12 July, 2014

Guru Purnima is a Hindu festival dedicated to spiritual and academic Gurus (teachers). This festival traditionally celebrated by Hindus and Buddhists, to thank their teachers. It is marked by ritualistic respect to the Guru, Guru Puja. The word Guru is derived from two words, 'Gu' and 'Ru'. The Sanskrit root "Gu" means darkness or ignorance. "Ru" denotes the remover of that darkness. Therefore one who removes darkness of our ignorance is a Guru. Gurus are believed by many to be the most necessary part of lives. On this day, disciples offer puja (worship) or pay respect to their Guru (Spiritual Guide). It falls on the day of full moon, Purnima, in the month of Ashadh (June-July) of the Shaka Samvat, Indian national calendar and Hindu calendar.



Hindus celebrate it in honour of the great sage Vyasa, who is seen as one of the greatest gurus in ancient Hindu traditions and a symbol of the Guru-shishya tradition. This was the day, when Krishna-Dwaipayana Vyasa – author of the Mahabharata – was born to sage Parashara and a fisherman's daughter Satyawati, thus this day is also celebrated as Vyasa Purnima. Veda Vyasa, did great service to the cause of Vedic studies by gathering all the Vedic hymns extant during his times, dividing them into four parts based on their use in the sacrificial rites, and teaching them to his four chief disciples – Paila, Vaisampayana, Jaimini and Sumantu. It was this dividing and editing that earned him the honorific "Vyasa" (vyas = to edit, to divide). "He divided the Veda into four, namely Rig, Yajur, Sama and Atharva. The histories and the Puranas are said to be the fifth Veda."

The festival is common to all spiritual traditions in Hinduism, where it is an expression of gratitude toward the teacher by his/her disciple. Hindu ascetics and wandering monks (sanyasis), observe this day by offering puja to the Guru, during the Chaturmas, a four-month period during the rainy season, when they choose seclusion and stay at one chosen place; some also give discourses to the local public. Students of Indian classical music, which also follows the Guru shishya parampara, celebrate this holy festival around the world.

Traditionally the festival is celebrated by Buddhists in honour of the lord Buddha who gave His first sermon on this day at Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh, India. ■



Government should work as link between society and country

BJP and BJP led NDA government at the centre has got a golden opportunity to connect every section and group of the society. To bring change in the society every section needs to be prepared. The government which takes the society along is called a good one. The present NDA government and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi are making efforts so that the society stands behind them. The society should lead the change. Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh believes that our main aim should not only to change the government but to change the society.

The country has a lot of hope from the current government. Narendra Modi has even presented the vision of developed India to the people. The people were disconnected from the UPA government for last ten year. There was nothing called government. But the atmosphere has changed now. People consider Modi government as their own. They not only consider it so but also believe in having right over it. That's why the responsibility of the Modi government is much more than its predecessor. In the society there are good people present who need to be identified and nurtured. India is a huge country full of diversities. The beauty of our democracy is unity in diversity. In the last few years whatever government wanted to do on the strength of the power of the government could not do as it was not possible. The government which wins the confidence of the people and takes the society along is considered to be a good government. The people will also have to understand that it was not the only responsibility to form the government but the responsibility to run it also rests on their shoulder. Becoming indifferent to whoever is in government will not help. The government which remains responsible to the people is considered good and people who keep a constant watch over the government are considered better.

Bharatiya Janata Party will have to work hard. Only forming the government will not help. BJP will have to make efforts so that government is linked to the society. The people who are expert, adept and specialists in their own field will have to be approached and connected to the government. To take them on the path of development will be considered a praiseworthy step. There are many people in the society who are effective but have not got an opportunity or support; the government will have to reach to such people.

In villages inventions are taking place every day. Villagers work as per their need in their villages itself. In India many such villages are self-reliant. The society has together made such villages stand on their legs. The government and BJP should try to identify such villages.

There are volunteers in the villages who are making the dream of *gram swaraj* a reality and made villages self-reliant in power and water. They have opened the doors for all round development of the villages be it cattle rearing, development of village markets, laying out the network of cottage industries etc. Such villages should be taken note of. Villages are our administrative units. Villages can be nurtured by a self-reliant society. Therefore attention should be paid to the social workers who work as architect of the society.

The country needs everyone and everyone needs the country. The government should work towards becoming a medium between society and country. To realize the dreams of antyodaya of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the ideologue of Bharatiya Janata Party Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay it is required today that the villages should rise and the society in the villages should awake. In many fields like sports, science, arts, cottage industries, rural development, irrigation, power, education, health many social workers have already

created many models. The ray of the government should reach to those models and to the ones who created those models. There are illustrations in every village. The need of the hour is that these illustrations should get opportunities through the government. Most of the governments that came after the independence used to only run the government but the society remained aloof from them. The government cannot run without society. The work is difficult but not impossible. The government machinery has been hitherto discouraging the rural talents and high level social activists. But under the Modi government a new hope has got kindled. Therefore the parliamentarians, legislatures, supporters along with BJP activists have the responsibility that the hands of the powerful leaders of the society should reach the hands of the government. When the government and society join the hands then the democracy will become stronger and the country will march forward. When the country will march forward our dream of a great nation will be realized. ■

Mookerjee's contribution invaluable : Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi took the lead on July 06 in paying tributes to Bharatiya Jana Sangh founder Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his birth anniversary, describing his contribution to the nation as "invaluable."



"His contribution to our nation is invaluable. If there was something that mattered most to Dr. Mookerjee it was serving the people. He always spoke about education for the youth. Let us devote ourselves to fulfilling Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee's ideals," Shri Modi later said in a tweet. The Prime Minister along with Lok Sabha Speaker Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Shri P.J. Kurien and BJP senior leader Shri L.K. Advani paid floral tributes to the founder of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the forerunner of the BJP, at the Central Hall in Parliament House. Several Ministers, including Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley, Foreign Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Railway Minister Shri Sadananda Gowda, Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Shri Kalraj Mishra, Shri Jitendra Singh and Shri Manoj Sinha also paid tributes to Dr. Mookerjee. A booklet containing the profile of Dr. Mookerjee, brought out by the Lok Sabha Secretariat in Hindi and English, was also presented to the dignitaries who attended the function.

Dr. Mookerjee's portrait was unveiled in the Central Hall by the then President R. Venkataraman, on May 31, 1991, in recognition of his outstanding services to the nation. ■

India- Singapore planned Year-long series of events to mark 50 years of diplomatic relations

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Minister for Law of the Republic of Singapore on July 2 Mr. K. Shanmugam, called on the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today. He conveyed the message of the Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr. Lee Hsien Loong, that the relations between the two countries, which are based on mutual trust, should be made even stronger through a series of concrete steps.

During the meeting, it was planned that a year-long series of events be held to mark the completion of fifty years of diplomatic relations between Singapore and India. Both Prime Ministers are keen that the occasion should be celebrated in a way that further expands the canvas of the relationship. Mutual cooperation in the fields of skill development, development of smart cities, water management, shipping, port management and coastal development was discussed in depth. Shri Narendra Modi said that his Government plans a major thrust in low-cost and affordable housing, and sought Singapore's assistance in construction technology for this purpose. Observing that Singapore is one of the top tourist destinations worldwide, the Prime Minister suggested that Indian states should hold one-month long special campaigns in Singapore to highlight their tourism potential, during celebrations of the fifty years of relationship. The meeting was attended by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Lim Thuan Kuan, High Commissioner of Singapore to India, and senior officials from both sides.

Will take forward Vajpayee's initiatives on J&K : Narendra Modi



Sticking strictly to his development agenda in Jammu and Kashmir, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi marked his first visit to the State with a pitch for a 'Himalayan model for growth' while he spoke to soldiers in Srinagar about indigenizing weaponry.

The Prime Minister stopped at Jammu, Katra, Srinagar and Uri during his one-day trip to the state. The visit saw no political engagements or reference to political issues in the State. He also chose to ignore the Pakistan foreign office's reference to the Kashmir dispute.

The Prime Minister said he wished to "win the hearts and minds of the people of Jammu and Kashmir through development." Shri Modi dedicated the Katra-Udhampur railway line and inaugurated a 240MW hydroelectric power plant by the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation in Uri.

Invoking former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's initiatives, the PM said, "The journey begun by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee will be taken ahead by us."

PM dedicates Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Udhampur railway line to the nation

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on June 04 dedicated to the nation, the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Udhampur railway line. The Prime Minister flagged off the first train to Udhampur, from Katra Railway Station, and spoke

to schoolchildren on board the train. The train was flagged off amid vociferous chants of "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" by the children.

The Prime Minister also went around the Railway Station and suggested that solar energy be used to meet the energy requirements of the station. Let Katra Railway Station be an environment-friendly, people-friendly railway station that inspires the use of solar energy, Shri Modi said.

Later addressing a public function at Katra, the Prime Minister observed that with the ongoing Amarnath Yatra, and the holy month of Ramzan, and now this new railway line that brings Shri Mata Vaishno Devi closer to her devotees, it has become an extremely pious occasion. This railway line is not just a gift to the state of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Modi said, but to the entire nation, to 125 crore Indians who wish to come to the shrine, and I am proud to be placing this gift before them, he said. He added that he had suggested to the Railway Minister that this train be called Shri Shakti Express. He also congratulated the Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board for facilities and technology used at the railway station for the benefit of the devotees.

The Prime Minister said that Jammu and Kashmir's development will continue unhindered. And even with the new railway station at Katra, it will in fact be a more qualitative development.

The Prime Minister said his Government would work towards a common development model for Himalayan states from Jammu and Kashmir to the north-east.

He said Katra is now coming to the centre-stage in J&K's development, and will contribute as an engine of growth for the state. He said his Government will continue to work towards fulfilling Shri Vajpayee's dream, by extending the line to Banihal.

Shri Modi also highlighted the fact that rail and bus connectivity have been combined for the first time. A passenger will be able to travel on both bus and train through a single ticket. He described



this as a hybrid model. He also observed that Katra is being connected to the rest of the country through six pairs of trains.

The Prime Minister assured the people of India that modernization of railway stations in metro cities and important destinations like Jammu is a priority for his Government.

Speaking of the significance of the day, Shri Modi said "Today brings speed to the state of Jammu and Kashmir through this rail link, and energy through the Uri-II hydro-electric project, which I shall be inaugurating later in the day. I am beginning my "Vikas Yatra" - development journey - for the country with the blessings of Mata Vaishno Devi." He said that his Government will take this Vikas Yatra forward, establish new standards, and work for benefit of the common man. "My objective is to win the hearts of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, through development, and through their benefit", Shri Modi said, and added that the intention is not political win or loss. He said the

state of Jammu and Kashmir has passed through a difficult time; whether or not in power, it is our wish and our responsibility to improve the quality of life of the people, meet their aspirations, provide jobs to youth, and reach the last man in the line.

The Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri N.N. Vohra, the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Shri Omar Abdullah, the Minister for Railways, Shri Sadananda Gowda, the MoS Railways, Shri Manoj Sinha and the MoS PMO Shri Jitendra Singh, were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Omar Abdullah said the credit for bringing Railways to the state should go, first of all, to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He also requested further expansion of the rail network in the state, and for the upgradation of Jammu Railway Station.

The Railway Minister Shri Sadananda Gowda said the wish of the devotees of Mata Vaishno Devi was being fulfilled after a long time. MoS PMO Shri Jitendra Singh remarked that the wish of the devotees of Mata Vaishno Devi had been fulfilled by Shri Modi after becoming Prime Minister, in his first visit to the state.

PM visits Badami Bagh cantonment in Srinagar

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 05 June visited the Badami Bagh Army Cantonment in Srinagar. He addressed the Army Jawans and officers. Praising the valour and courage of the soldiers, the Prime Minister asserted that self-reliance in defence offset manufacturing was essential for the security (*aatma-raksha*) of the nation. Praising the Indian defence forces, Prime Minister said that strong armed forces were necessary for an atmosphere of peace, amity, harmony and brotherhood in the country, and this was the foundation on which India would achieve new heights of development. Therefore, Shri Modi said, he accorded highest priority to modernization of the defence forces. He said today the world was looking at India with hope, and we could interact on equal terms with all developed countries.

Shri Modi said the spirit of sacrifice and selflessness of the defence forces was an inspiration for all Indians. He added that this spirit would

ensure them victory at all times. He said the people of India trusted them and believed that no power on earth could defeat them.

The Prime Minister reiterated his Government's commitment to building a National War Memorial, in memory of soldiers who had laid down their lives for the motherland. He said the welfare of the army men and their families was the concern and collective responsibility of all Indians,



and his Government would take all good decisions in the interest of the jawans.

Earlier, the Prime Minister paid homage at the martyrs memorial at Badami Bagh cantonment. He also wrote in the visitors' book at the memorial, and visited the nearby 1200 year old Shiva Temple. PM Dedicates URI-II Power Station to the Nation

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, dedicated to the Nation the 240 MW URI-II Power Station of NHPC located in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir. On this occasion, Shri N.N.Vohra, Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Omar Abdullah, Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy, Government of India and other senior officials of Ministry of Power and NHPC were present.

Shri Modi while dedicating the Power Station to the Nation said the project is one step closer to fulfilling the commitment by the government to light the nation. He said power generation is vital for the economic development of the society. Speaking on the occasion, he stressed on environment friendly development in the era of global warming. He also said that Jammu and Kashmir is blessed with hydro power potential of about 14000 MW which

needs to be harnessed. The Prime Minister thanked all concerned for their support in completion of Uri-II Power Station. Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy, Government of India, thanked Prime Minister for dedicating Uri-II Power Station to the Nation. He congratulated NHPC for successful completion of the Project and also appreciated the initiatives undertaken by NHPC for development of hydro power.

URI-II Power Station is a 240 MW run of the river scheme on the Jhelum River, located near Salamabad village of Uri Tehsil in Baramulla District (J&K) built at a cost of around Rs. 2300 crore. The salient features of the project include a concrete Gravity Dam of 43.7 m height and 157 m length with Head Regulator, around 9 Km long water conductor system comprising of an open channel, HRT, TRT and an underground power house. A net head of 118 m is being utilized with an installed capacity of 240 MW comprising of 4 units of 60 MW each which would generate 1123 MU of electricity annually.

During the construction of this project, considerable infrastructure development has taken place in the area. Local people have been employed with NHPC and with other companies associated with the work of the project. Various area development activities under Relief and Rehabilitation work and Corporate Social Responsibility have been taken up by NHPC. A twenty bedded project Hospital with modern facilities at the project site will soon be available to the local people. Some important initiatives include approval for construction of a sports stadium at Chehla near Boniyar at a cost of Rs. 300 Lakh and sanction of Rs. 50 Lakh for construction of a Bus Stand at Uri.

As part of its commitment for the overall development of Jammu & Kashmir, NHPC has adopted seven ITIs for up-gradation in the state at Reasi, Ramban, Kargil, Leh, Kishtwar, Bandipora and Uri. In addition, NHPC would be setting up a Hydro Training Institute at Kangan near Ganderbal, for which an MOU has been signed between NHPC and Jammu & Kashmir State Power Development Corporation (JKSPDC). Under its CSR initiatives, NHPC has already spent Rs. 984 lakh in the State till March, 2014 and a further amount of Rs. 1268 Lakh is proposed to be spent during the current financial year(FOC).■

Good governance, Narendra Modi's popularity led to BJP victory in general elections : Rajnath Singh

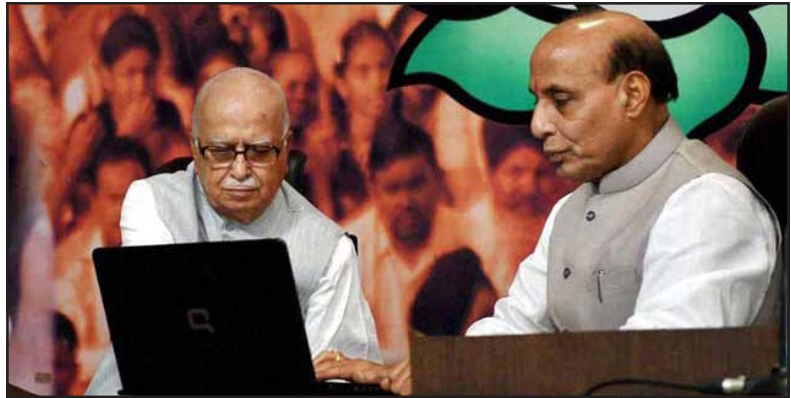
Giving credit to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and good governance in BJP-ruled states for the party's electoral victory in the Lok Sabha elections, BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh on July 06 said the kind of faith people reposed on it could not have been possible otherwise.

"Had it not been good governance provided by our party-run state governments and had we not have a popular leader like Narendra Modi then we would not have achieved this tremendous electoral results. Probably, the kind of faith people reposed on us could not have been possible," Shri Singh said.

The Home Minister was speaking at a function to pay tribute to Bhartiya Jana Sangh founder Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his birth anniversary and also launching the "join BJP" online membership drive.

Describing the people's response towards the party in the elections as very good, he said, "After observing the performances of various BJP-run state governments, people realized that if any political party can give good governance and development-oriented government then it is BJP. So we got a clear majority at the Centre." Shri Singh also mentioned the contribution of Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Advani and said "the duo have contributed to take BJP to this height."

On the occasion, Shri Rajnath Singh also remembered veteran party leaders Kushabhau Thakre, Deen Dayal Upadhaya and others



for sacrificing their lives for the party.

Paying tribute to Dr. Mookerjee on his birth anniversary, he said, "In independent India, if any political leader sacrificed his life for the unity of the country, I would say it was Mookerjee. Our party was founded by his guidance and principles set by him. Today, we are running the party and our political journey is based on his principles and ideology."

On the party's achievement in the recent elections, Shri Rajnath Singh said, "In Independent India no other party had become bigger than Congress and today BJP on its own has achieved this political stature." He also thanked the party's IT cell for its significant role during the election campaigning.

Speaking on the occasion BJP senior leader Shri LK Advani recalled the role played by Dr. Mookerjee in forming Bharatiya Jana Sangh. "Mookerjee wanted to form a political party on the basis of Indian culture and tradition and which can be different from Congress and other parties," he said.

The BJP veteran also mentioned about the role of RSS in

the formation of Bharatiya Jana Sangh. "It was decided that RSS will not participate in direct election but will work for the party."

Recalling the past, the former Deputy Prime Minister said, "The Bharatiya Jana Sangh party had contested the first election in 1952 and won three seats - two from Bengal and one from Rajasthan. Now, we have reached to this stage."

On the 'JoinBJP' online campaign, Shri Advani said, "It is a good day to launch the online membership drive. Now, it is Internet age, a new era has come. We have always utilised the modern technology."

On the online campaign, Shri Singh said, "We decided that even after the formation of the government, the process of membership drive will continue."

Shri Singh further said "Whoever wants to join the party can become member through online membership drive." On the occasion, party vice-president Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi announced that the former Power Secretary of Delhi government, Shakti Sinha and singer Shivani Kashyap have joined BJP (FOC) ■

Together we will take India to greater heights : Narendra Modi

Shri Narendra Modi led NDA Government completes a month in office on 26 June, 2014. On the occasion Shri Modi thanks the people for their support & affection that keeps inspiring him to work harder. He said, "due to people's affection, collective experience of Ministerial colleagues & support from officials my confidence level rose tremendously. Had fruitful meetings with CMs & detailed presentations with Ministers & Officials. Together we will take India to greater heights." As NDA Govt. completes a month, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi shared some thoughts in his Blog. The full text of the blog is given blow:

Dear Friends,

Today our Government completes a month in office. The support and affection of the people has been overwhelming and this inspires us to work even harder.

67 years of previous governments is nothing compared to 1 month, but I do want to say that in the last month, our entire team has devoted every single moment for the welfare of the people. Every decision we took has been guided solely by national interest.

When we took over a month ago, I kept thinking that I am new to this place and some people believed that I would take at least a year or even two to learn the intricacies of the working of the Central



Government. Fortunately, a month later that thought does not exist any longer in my mind. My confidence and determination has increased tremendously and I credit a substantial part of this to the collective experience and wisdom of my ministerial colleagues and also to my experiences as a four time Chief Minister. The affection of the people and support from officials has also added to this confidence in large measure.

Over the past few days I have been meeting Ministers and Officials from various departments who have been making detailed presentations to me. I must share that these presentations have enabled a wonderful exchange of thoughts and ideas and we have come up with excellent roadmaps for the various ministries and departments.

CMs of several states have met me in the past month. They have

extended their good wishes and talked about issues concerning their state. I look forward to working closely with them in the times to come.

I feel there are areas where surely we need to improve. A big challenge I am facing in Delhi is to convey to a select group of people about our intentions and sincerity to bring a positive change in this country. These are people who are both within and outside the government system. There have been some instances in the last month with which our Government had nothing to do yet these controversies have persisted. I don't blame anybody but I surely feel that we need to strengthen systems whereby the right things are communicated to the right people at the right time. Hopefully things will change then.

Every new Government has something that friends in the media

like to call a 'honeymoon period.' Previous governments had the luxury of extending this 'honeymoon period' upto a hundred days and even beyond. Not unexpectedly I don't have any such luxury. Forget hundred days, the series of allegations began in less than a hundred hours. But when one is working with the sole aim of serving the nation determinately, these things do not matter. That is why I keep working and that is most satisfying.

26th of June is an important date for me. It marks the completion of one month of our journey to fulfil the aspirations of the people. This day is also another landmark day, when in 1975 I witnessed an important phase that taught me the significance of a vibrant democracy. 26th June was the day when the Emergency started, having been imposed an evening earlier. As a youngster, I have several memories of those testing times.

The Emergency surely stands out as one of the darkest periods in our history and is a grim reminder of the dangers associated with subverting freedom of speech, press, expression and silencing opposition. Our democracy will not sustain if we can't guarantee freedom of speech and expression. Today is also a day to reaffirm our pledge to safeguard these values and at the same time create strong institutions through good governance so that that we never ever see those dark days again.

Once again I salute the people of India for their strong support and good wishes as we complete a month in office. I assure you that we are committed to taking India to greater heights in the years to come.

Yours,

Narendra Modi

Give us time, we promise you *achchhe din*: Rajnath

Blaming the Congress led UPA for price rise BJP National President and Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh said that the ten-year rule of the Congress Government has derailed country's



economy which was the main reason for current inflation and rise in the prices of essential commodities.

"We are on repairing job and the economy would be back on tracks very soon. We have made promises to people during election campaign. By the end of five years people will themselves realise that the BJP has fulfilled all the promises," he said while talking to reporters in Lucknow on June 01.

He said that effective steps have already been taken to control the prices of vegetables and other essential goods. "Nothing can be changed in a day or even a month. Give us some time, and we promise you "achchhe din," he said and added: "The Centre has already sought cooperation from the state governments to control prices and to act against the hoarders".

"The Narendra Modi government is just one month old and it has won praises from national and international economists. They are already saying that NDA would do better than the UPA," he said.

The Union Home Minister categorically said that within three years' time National Population Registration (NPR) would be made compulsory for every citizen. Singh said that after the completion of NPR the Government will consider about the fate of the illegal Bangladeshi residing in the country.

When asked about the internal security Shri Singh said the Government will chalk out a comprehensive plan in this regard. When asked about this comprehensive plan he refused to elaborate.

Reacting on the black money issue, the Union Home Minister said that the BJP Government's first decision was to set up SIT on black money. It was a commendable step. The Government is committed to put up all details obtained from foreign banks on public domain.

He also said that the SIT and other concerned departments are monitoring all the aspects of black money and even the recent report that people are converting money into gold, silver and diamonds.■

India launches successfully PSLV-C23 from Sriharikota (AP)

'Dedicate ourselves to accelerate our nation's progress, I am confident We Can!' - Narendra Modi

India successfully launched five foreign satellites from four countries on board PSLV-C23 rocket on 30 June which placed them in orbit, an achievement described by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi as an 'endorsement' of the country's space capabilities.

After a perfect lift off from the First Launch Pad in Satish Dhawan Space Centre here at 9.52 AM witnessed by Shri Modi, Indian Space Research Organisation's workhorse Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C23 placed all five satellites into their intended orbits, one after the other between 17 and 19 minutes after liftoff, in textbook precision.

Though the Mission Readiness Review Committee and Launch Authorisation Board had earlier cleared the launch, the launch time was rescheduled to 9.52 AM, a delay of three minutes, attributed to "probable space debris" coming in the rocket's way.

Besides its primary payload of 714 kg French Earth Observation Satellite SPOT-7, PSLV C23 carried and placed in orbit 14 kg AISAT of Germany, NLS7.1 (CAN-X4) and NLS7.2 (CAN-X5) of Canada each weighing 15 kg and the 7 kg VELOX-1 of Singapore.

In his first official visit to this spaceport, Shri Modi asked the space community to develop a SAARC satellite even as he heaped praise on Indian space scientists, recalling their contributions from the early days. He referred to pictures showing rocket components being transported on bicycles.

A visibly elated Modi, who said

it was a 'privilege' to witness the event, congratulated "our brilliant space scientists for a successful launch".

"This fills every Indian's heart with pride and I can see the joy reflected on your face," he said from the Mission Control Room, adding today's successful launch of foreign satellites was a "global endorsement of India's space capability".

The following is the text speech of the Prime Minister at the launch of PSLV-C23 on 30th June 2014

My congratulations to our brilliant space scientists, and the Department of Space; for yet another successful launch of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle! We have perfectly placed 5 satellites into their orbits 660 km above the Earth.

This fills every Indian's heart with pride. And I can see it reflected in the joy and satisfaction on your faces.

Fascinated by Space Technology, I feel specially privileged to witness this event in person.



India's advanced Space Program, puts her in an elite global group of 5-6 countries today. This is one domain, in which we are at the international cutting edge. A domain in which we have pushed beyond mediocrity to achieve excellence.

We have launched satellites of advanced nations. PSLV itself has launched 67 satellites; of which 40 have been foreign satellites, coming from 19 countries. Even today's satellites, are all from developed nations - France, Canada, Germany and Singapore. Truly, this is a global endorsement of India's space capabilities.

Inspired by Atal ji's vision, we have sent a mission to the Moon. Another is on its way to Mars as we speak. I personally follow it with great interest. We have also developed our own satellite-based navigation system. I am told this will be fully deployed by 2015.

Moreover, we can be proud that our space program is Indigenous. We have developed it despite international hurdles.

Generations of our space scientists have worked to make India a self-reliant space power. We owe them a big thank you.

Our journey into Space has come a long way from its humble beginnings. It has been a journey of many constraints and resource limitations. I have seen photographs of rocket cones being transported on bicycles. Our first satellite, Aryabhata, was made in industrial sheds in Bangalore.

Even today, our program stands out as the most cost effective in the world. The story of our Mars Mission costing less than the Hollywood movie Gravity, had gone viral on social media recently. Our scientists have shown the world, a

new paradigm of Frugal Engineering, and the power of Imagination. Friends, this success of ours has deep historical roots.

India has a rich heritage of science and technology, including in the field of space. An understanding of the cosmos, and its relationship to Life and Science; is deeply rooted in our ancient thought and knowledge. Our ancestors had conceived of ideas like 'Shunya' and 'flying objects', long before others. The works of visionaries like Bhaskaracharya and Aryabhata, continue to inspire scientists.

Many misunderstand space technology to be for the elite. That it has nothing to do with the common man. I however believe, such technology is fundamentally connected with the common man. As a change agent, it can empower and connect, to transform his life. Technology opens up new opportunities of development. And gives us new ways of addressing our challenges.

Space may seem distant, but is an integral part of our daily life today. It drives our modern communication, connecting even the remotest family to the mainstream. It empowers the child in the farthest village with quality education, through Long-distance Learning. It ensures quality healthcare to the most distant person, through Tele-medicine. It enables the youth in a small town, with various new job opportunities. Satellite technology has made distance irrelevant. It effectively enables us to reach the unreachable. It helps us connect virtually, where physical connections are difficult.

It has a critical role, in realizing the vision of a Digital India - the power of 125 crore connected

Indians.

GIS technology has transformed policy planning, and implementation. Space imaging enables modern management, and conservation of water resources - through GIS-driven watershed development. It has been deployed in our urban planning, to scientifically manage our growing towns and cities. It has also become an important tool, in better managing, and conserving our natural resources. Whether it be the Himalayan glaciers, oceans and forests, coastal resources or our mineral wealth. Space imagery is improving our land management systems, bringing wasteland into productive use. Our next frontier, should be to extend the same to land records, bringing in accuracy and transparency for the common man.

Space technology has also evolved into an invaluable asset in disaster management. Satellite communication channels, often end up being the only mode of communication. Accurate advanced warning, and tracking of Cyclone Phailin, saved countless lives recently.

We must as a nation, fully harness this expertise in space technology, in our developmental process. For social change, economic development, and resource conservation. The possibilities are limitless. The benefits enormous. I urge the Department of Space, to proactively engage with all stakeholders, to maximize the use of space science in Governance and Development. Deepening of State involvement will be critical for the same.

Friends, India is rooted in our age-old ethos of Vasudeiva Kutumbakam. Of the whole world

being one family. India's Space program, is thus driven by a vision of service to humanity. Not by a desire of power. For us, it is an important instrument of our human progress.

We must therefore, share the fruits of our technological advancement, with those who do not enjoy the same. The developing world, and our neighbours in particular. We already share Disaster Management data with over 30 countries. We provide benefits of Tele medicine to Afghanistan and African countries. But we must do more!

Today, I ask our Space community, to take up the challenge, of developing a SAARC Satellite - that we can dedicated to our neighbourhood, as a gift from India. A satellite, that provides a full range of applications and services, to all our neighbours. I also ask you, to enlarge the footprint of our satellite-based navigation system, to cover all of South Asia. Friends, continued progress in space must remain a national mission. We must keep enhancing our space capabilities. We must develop more advanced satellites; with higher computing, imaging and transmitting power. We must expand our satellite footprint, in terms of frequency and quality. We must also strengthen our international partnerships in all areas of Space technology.

India has the potential, to be the launch service provider of the world. We must work towards this goal. Construct the required new launch infrastructure. And extend our launching capabilities to heavier satellites.

Development of human resources, will be critical for our future success. I was very pleased to meet our young scientists here. I

admire their work and their achievements. Let us link up with more universities and colleges, to develop our future leaders in this area. We must also involve our youth at large, with Space.

You have already started putting a lot of space-related data online, through your Bhuvan space portal. What steps can we take to further increase access to data, by students and researchers? Let us use Social Media to further engage with our youth. Let us invite school and college children, to witness launches and visit Space centres. Could we also think of developing, a state-of-the-art, interactive, digital Space Museum?

In conclusion, I want to emphasize how Technology is central to Development. It touches one and all, and is an important instrument of our national progress.

India's Space program is a perfect example of my vision of Scale, Speed and Skill. Our Space scientists have made us global leaders, in one of the most complex areas of modern technology. This shows that we can be the best. If we apply ourselves, we can meet the aspirations of our people.

Let us take inspiration from today's mission. Dedicate ourselves to accelerate our nation's progress. I am confident We Can!

I thank the Department of Space, for this opportunity to witness the launch. I commend Dr. K. Radhakrishnan for his leadership. I wish the team the very best, as you prepare to put our spacecraft into the Mars Orbit, in a few months from now. I wish you every success, as you strive to master new technologies, and conquer new frontiers of Space. May all your endeavours meet with success!

Thank you!

Besides Shri Modi, Andhra Pradesh Governor Shri E S L Narasimhan, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Shri N Chandrababu Naidu, and Union Minister Shri M Venkaiah Naidu also witnessed the launch from the Sriharikota spaceport, about 100 kilometres from Chennai.

A day before the Prime Minister had arrived in Chennai enroute to Sriharikota to witness the event.

French satellite SPOT 7, identical to SPOT-6, which ISRO had launched in 2012, would be placed diametrically opposite to SPOT-6, forming part of the existing Earth observation satellite. European space technology company Airbus Defence and Space has built SPOT-7.

Germany's AISAT satellite would focus on the global sea-traffic monitoring system with special emphasis on high traffic zones using AIS signals. It is also Germany's first DLR satellite in the nano-satellite class.

NLS 7.1 and NLS 7.2 are from the University of Toronto, Institute of Aerospace Studies/ Space Flight Laboratory in Canada. Both payloads would perform Two-spacecraft precision formation flying using differential GPS with centimetre-level relative position and sub-metre level accurate position control system.

Satellite VELOX-1 from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore is a technology demonstrator for in-house design of image sensor, MEMS-based attitude determination and control system and inter-satellite RF link.

The five satellites were launched under commercial arrangements that ANTRIX (ISRO's commercial arm) entered into with the respective foreign agencies.

ISRO has so far launched 35 satellites from 19 countries around the globe -- Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Singapore, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey and United Kingdom, bringing a huge sum to the country as foreign exchange.■

My Ministry is committed to the development of Tribals and to protect their cultural identity : Jual Oram

Born in a poor tribal family in Sundargarh district in Odisha, Shri Jual Oram created history when he became the first Union Tribal Affairs Minister of India in 1999 under the Atal Bihari Vajpayee led NDA government. Before joining politics in 1990, Shri Oram worked as an Electrical Engineer with BHEL for six years. He has held several important posts during his political career that include BJP National Vice-President for two terms, President of Odisha State BJP for three times, Member of the Orissa Legislative Assembly and member of several high-profile Committees of the Union Government and in Bharatiya Janata Party.



Shri Oram was first elected to the 12th Lok Sabha in 1998 and he registered his fourth victory in the recently held elections in 2014 to the 16th Lok Sabha. Shri Oram who has always championed the cause of tribal upliftment and welfare of the poorer sections of the society assumed charge as Cabinet Minister for Tribal Affairs for a second time recently.

In a special interview for Kamal Sandesh with Editorial Board Member Shri Ram Prasad Tripathy, Shri Jual Oram revealed the issues and challenges concerning the Tribals and candidly expressed his views and futuristic plans for the Tribal people of the country who are reeling under utter poverty and backwardness. He also highlighted the plans and programmes of his ministry for the rapid development of Tribals in every sphere of life and to bring the community back on the main path of development. Excerpts:

-You were the First Tribal development Minister during the Vajpayee led NDA Government. Now once again Modi ji has given the responsibility of tribal welfare on your shoulders. What changes have come in the quality of life of tribals in the mean time?

Three Ministers took charge as Minister of Tribal Affairs in the last decade and except for minor changes in the Forest Rights Act what was initiated by the Vajpayee Government they have done nothing substantial for the development of Tribals. I have to start my work where I left ten years back.

-What is your immediate priority for the development of Tribals and what are the long-term goals?

The main focus area of my tenure will be the issues of livelihood, employment and education opportunities for the Tribals. I will try my best to bring all the welfare schemes now being carried out through different agencies and

NGOs under one umbrella and the Ministry will do its best to implement these schemes on the ground.

-The crying need of the Tribal community at this point is health facility, vocational education, skill enhancement, transportation and communication facilities. Do you have any specific plans for addressing these issues concerning the Tribals?

In my previous tenure the NDA government has introduced a number of schemes for the Tribal dominated areas to enhance the quality in education, communication and healthcare sectors. This time I think we will introduce two more schemes focusing on Vocational Education and Sports Infrastructure in the tribal dominated pockets of the country.

-The Forest Land ownership issue is a major debating point in every forum. How would you approach this issue of land Rights for Tribals?

There is a provision in the Constitution by which any Tribal who is living in the forest land for more than ten years will get the ownership right of the land. For that various offices are working in Block level, District level and State level. However, under one or the other pretext, the officials have denied pattas (land titles) to the Tribals. For this reason the Tribals are not getting benefit of this scheme. I will focus and try to address the concerns of the officials and the loopholes in the scheme by which common Tribals will get its benefit.

-Given the controversies surrounding the Land Right issue industrialization and mining have been severely affected in the tribal pockets of the country. VEDANTA at Niyamgiri and POSCO at Khandhadhar are burning examples of this. How do you see this issue?

There are certain things which are nature-gifted on this earth. Once destroyed, we cannot recreate it. Niyamgiri and Khandadhar in Odisha are such examples. So, I personally believe that development cannot come only by the destruction of these treasures. It will bring more disasters instead of development in the backward Tribal regions of various states.

On Niyamgiri, the Tribals believe it as their God and presently the mountain contributes more to their lives than the industry. Similarly in Khandadhar, the presence of a perennial stream contributes immensely to the survival of the locals. Due to the presence of the mountain in this rain-fed area this stream has sustained the local communities and biosphere. So, destroying the mountain will be an irreparable loss both for the nature and the locals.

In the past I have strongly opposed the mining of Khandadhar for setting up POSCO iron industry in Odisha. But my intention is not to create obstacles for industrialization or development. There are several alternative places my department can suggest to the Odisha government for mining. But it is unfortunate that the State government is adamant on granting mining rights to Vedanta and POSCO in the eco-sensitive tribal areas of Niyamgiri and Khandadhar. Even if Odisha Government suggests alternative viable locations I will be the first person to support

the industrialization process.

-The tribal pockets from Bihar to the borders of Andhra Pradesh have become the den of Maoists. At times the Maoists kill the innocent Tribals and they are the main obstacle for development in those areas. What steps will you take to counter the Maoist menace in these tribal areas?

Tribals have a unique character. Before doing something in their area if we try to win the hearts of the people and do the development works as per their wish then every scheme will be successful. But we could not understand this fact. Different governments spent lot of money for the elimination of Maoists and to implement various welfare schemes. But why we have not got success in these efforts? I think the main reason behind this is that, neither have we tried to win their hearts nor have we made them part of implementation and so the disobedience is natural.

First time the BJP and Shri Narendra Modi ji are trying their best to win over the hearts of the Tribals. The Honorable Prime Minister has given a vision for the development of Tribals. He has given the responsibility of tribal development to a tribal like me. I think it connects and the Tribals have also reciprocated. In the recently completed General Elections the BJP got maximum tribal seats in the Lok Sabha. I hope we will be able to educate them on the Maoist issue and also take measures to eliminate Maoists from the tribal dominated areas.

-In the name of service some of the NGOs are getting huge foreign fund and some of them have used it for purposes like mass conversion of Tribals by offering allurements. Tribals have been the biggest victims of this. Do you have any plan to check conversion and monitor the activity of such NGOs?

In the Right to Freedom of Religion guaranteed by the country's constitution, it is clearly stated that nobody can allure others by giving money and other inducements for conversion. But several organizations have been doing it in violation of this Right. I think due to the spread of education now Tribals are conscious of this issue and instead of converting they are reconverting themselves to their ancient faith.

The Ministry will keep vigil on the conversion issue and ensure that Tribals are not exploited on religious lines.

-There are long standing demands for the preservation of tribal culture, traditions and literature and establishment of centrally sponsored research centres in tribal dominated areas. Are you planning to do something to fulfill these issues?

There are many tribal research centres established by state Governments in all the tribal dominated states of the country. We will provide more central fund to these institutions for their upgradation and development.

-Due to the absence of proper communication and storage many tribal products do not reach the market. Do you have any plans to provide storage and communication infrastructure in the tribal areas?

We have planned many things for this sector. For the first time we are going to declare the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for 10 forest produce. I will launch a website very soon and it will link the information on various forest produce to the procurement agencies on the rates and products available on a real time basis and eventually the Tribals will get benefit out of this.

-In the recently completed Assembly and General Elections in Odisha though the BJP enhanced its voting percentage but could not perform well in terms of seats. What was the lacuna and how do you see the future of BJP in the State?

In terms of vote percentage we have improved from 16% in the previous election to 22% in this election, but we failed to convert the votes into seats. Secondly, people were confused because voting for both Assembly and Parliament took place at the same time. In terms of votes we registered a 130% rise from the previous elections. In the last election we got 20 lakh votes whereas we got 46 lakh votes this time. But I hope in the coming five years BJP will strengthen its organization at the grassroots level. The work has already started for that and we will emerge as a viable alternative in Odisha.

-Few years ago Swami Laxmananand Saraswati who was one of the vocal faces of tribal development and tribal upliftment was

murdered in Odisha's Kandhamal district. Even after six years of his murder, the perpetrators are roaming free. Do you think that this is a conspiracy of the State Government?

I believe that murder of Swami Laxmananand Saraswati was a big conspiracy. Many people at that time tried to raise this issue. Swami Laxmananand Saraswati had won over the hearts and minds of Tribals and the locals regarded him as a saint and many people could not tolerate this development in Kandhamal and so this conspiracy issue cannot be ruled out. If it was not a conspiracy then why the Government of Odisha has not taken steps to nab the culprits in last so many years? I have demanded several times to expedite the enquiry though the loss is irreparable and once again I am asking the State Government to expedite the enquiry on this sensitive issue.

-During the time of Rath Yatra, the Odisha Government created an unhealthy atmosphere by disrespecting the Institution of Sankaracharya in Puri. Do you think it is uncalled for?

The act of the State Government has undoubtedly hurt Hindu sentiments who revere the seat of Sankaracharya. The State Government interfering in religious matters has set an unhealthy precedent. However, the matter can still be resolved if the State Government acts impartially and apologizes for its conduct and undue interference. ■

BSP, CPI & NCP may lose status of national party

In India Only 6 parties have the status of being 'national' parties. These are Bharatiya Janata Party or BJP, Indian National Congress of INC, Communist Party of India - Marxist or CPI-M, Communist Part of India or CPI, Bahujan Samaj Party or BSP, and Nationalist Congress Party or NCP. But with BJP's massive victory in the Lok Sabha polls could deprive the Bahujan Samaj Party, Communist Party of India and Nationalist Congress Party of their national party status. The poll panel has already served show-cause notices to the three parties, seeking their stance on why their national party-status should not be withdrawn following their crushing defeat in the polls. ■

Remembering Emergency

By Arun Jaitley

26th June, 2014 marks the 39th Anniversary of the Emergency. The Emergency whose oppressive phase lasted 19 months (excluding two months of the election) is perhaps the worst post independence chapter of the Indian democracy. Most Indians today were not even born when the country had to suffer this monstrosity. I wish to recall some of my personal memories on the Emergency.

Smt. Indira Gandhi had won her 1971 election from Rai Bareilly against the Socialist Leader Raj Narain. Raj Narain had filed an election petition in the Allahabad High Court challenging the validity of Mrs. Gandhi's election. His lawyer in the Allahabad High Court was Shanti Bhushan. The trial was well publicized in the Indian newspapers and attracted a lot of national curiosity. On June 12, 1975, Justice Jagmohan Lal Sinha of the Allahabad High Court quashed the election of Mrs. Indira Gandhi as being influenced by corrupt practices. The Prime Minister ceased to be the Member of Parliament. She was also disqualified for a period of 6 years from contesting any further election.

Mrs. Gandhi preferred a Special Leave Petition before the Supreme Court. Nani Palkhivala appeared for her. The Judge in the Supreme Court Justice Krishna Iyer gave a partial stay. She could attend the House and speak as a Prime Minister but was not allowed to vote. Meanwhile the national agitation spurred by the mis-governance and corruption led by Shri Jaiprakash Narain had captured the popular mood. A two

day conference of leaders of non-Congress political parties was held at the Gandhi Peace Foundation in Delhi. On the evening of 25th June, 1975 a massive rally was organized at Ramlila Maidan which was addressed by JP and several other leaders. After attending the rally I

I telephoned my colleagues and collected the details of what was happening. In the morning, there were no newspapers. Electricity of the entire press at Bahadurshah Zafar Marg had been disconnected. News started trickling in that the entire political leadership of the

Smt. Indira Gandhi had won her 1971 election from Rai Bareilly against the Socialist Leader Raj Narain. Raj Narain had filed an election petition in the Allahabad High Court challenging the validity of Mrs. Gandhi's election. His lawyer in the Allahabad High Court was Shanti Bhushan. The trial was well publicized in the Indian newspapers and attracted a lot of national curiosity. On June 12, 1975, Justice Jagmohan Lal Sinha of the Allahabad High Court quashed the election of Mrs. Indira Gandhi as being influenced by corrupt practices. The Prime Minister ceased to be the Member of Parliament. She was also disqualified for a period of 6 years from contesting any further election.

came back home late in the evening. I was at that time a second year student of the law faculty pursuing my studies. I was the President of the Delhi University Students' Union and convener of JP's Committee for Youth and Students Organisations.

At about 2 AM past midnight, I received a midnight knock at my residence. The police had come to arrest me. My father, a lawyer by profession got into an argument outside the gate of my house asking them at least to inform him as to the nature of offence I had committed. The police had simple instructions to arrest me - they did not know under which provision and for which offence. While this argument was on, I escaped from the backdoor and went to the friend's house in the neighbourhood.

opposition including Jai Prakash Narain. Morarji Desai, Choudhury Charan Singh, Atal Behari Vajpayee, L.K. Advani had been arrested. The police station in Timarpur nearby Delhi University was the centre of this activity. All the detained leaders had been taken there and transferred to specific jails in Haryana and Delhi. Along with my co-ABVP workers I reached Delhi University Campus by about 10.00 AM to organize a protest. This was the only protest against the Emergency which took place that day in the whole country. An effigy was burned by us in protest. The news of the protest attracted a large number of policemen in the Delhi University campus. I requested my colleagues to quietly disappear since I had been surrounded by the police. I courted arrest. I was also taken to the

Timarpur Police Station where I was handed over a detention order under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA). I was taken to the Tihar jail in Delhi where all the political detainees were also kept. I stayed there for eight days before being transferred to the Ambala Jail in Haryana. After about three months, I was re-transferred back to

position that even if a detainee was physically killed, he could not approach the court. A submissive Supreme Court agreed with this observation. Most of the Members of the Parliament were detained. Any Parliamentary proceeding where Government was criticized could not be published in newspapers.

The Prime Minister Indira

The declaration of emergency under Article 352 of the Constitution was accompanied by a Notification under Article 359 wherein fundamental rights under Articles 14, 19, 21 and 22 were suspended. All the newspapers were subjected to pre-censorship. A representative of the Censoring Authority sat in the office of every newspaper and news agency. No news critical of the Government could be published.

Delhi where I remained till the end of January 1977 for a period over 19 months. I had been detained 19 months in prison under preventive detention. Needless to say I was deprived of my right to continue my education at Delhi.

The declaration of emergency under Article 352 of the Constitution was accompanied by a Notification under Article 359 wherein fundamental rights under Articles 14, 19, 21 and 22 were suspended. All the newspapers were subjected to pre-censorship. A representative of the Censoring Authority sat in the office of every newspaper and news agency. No news critical of the Government could be published. Fundamental rights were suspended. The right to oppose the Government was taken away. No protests were allowed anywhere in the country. The Supreme Court in perhaps the worst amongst the post independence judgments, in the habeas corpus case, ruled that even though political detainees have been illegally detained, they have no right to approach the court and seek the relief. The Government took the

Gandhi proclaimed that an era of discipline had started. She announced a 20 Point Economic Programme comprising of ideas which were most retrograde. Loyal to the 20 Point Programme of the dictator, the Congress President Dev Kant Baruah proclaimed "Indira is India and India is Indira." Mrs. Gandhi's younger son Sanjay was introduced as a youth icon of India. Proclaiming loyalty to the 20 Point Programme, film actors and musicians were asked to perform for the Congress Party at its programmes. The dissenters were punished. Kishore Kumar's songs were banned on the All India Radio. Dev Anand's films were not telecast in Doordarshan. The entire police administration of the country had become an instrument of sycophancy. False FIRs were filed and lakhs of political workers were arrested.

The Representation of Peoples' Act was amended retrospectively to legitimize and validate the invalid election of Indira Gandhi. The Constitution was amended to make the election of Prime Minister as

non-justiciable. The proclamation of emergency was made non-justiciable. Some dissenters in the Congress Party led by Chandra Sekhar were also detained. Governments of Opposition Parties in states like Gujarat, Tamil Nadu were dismissed and the President's rule imposed. The High Courts in the country showed some courage in giving relief to the detainees. But the extremely pliable Supreme Court overturned each and every favourable order of the High Court.

The Emergency displayed the weakness of the Indian Constitutional order. The press could be silenced. The judiciary could be made pliable. Large number of opposition parties including the Left either supported the emergency or only put up a soft opposition against it. For us in prison, it was not clear as to how long we will be in detention.

It was the pressure of the international opinion which had started building up that Indira Gandhi began to rethink. She miscalculated and decided to hold elections. Towards the end of January 1977, the emergency was relaxed and the most political detainees were released from jail. The election saw a massive anger against the emergency. The Congress Party was trounced in the election in most parts of India. Both Mrs. Indira Gandhi and her son Sanjay were defeated in their constituencies of Rai Bareilly and Amethi. For many like me who underwent emergency experience in Delhi and successfully fought against it, this became a turning point in our lives. The emergency was perhaps the best political education of my life. It taught me that some compromises were just not possible. ■

(Writer is Union Minister of Finance & Defence)

Be Responsible, Remain Positive : Modi Message to BJP MPs

Recently, ruling BJP and the Lok Sabha Secretariat conducted training programmes for debutant lawmakers. The effort is a milestone initiative in the democratic process that will not only develop effective democratic leadership but will also build in the culture of training to develop a model of good governance. If the lessons learnt during the training programmes are imbibed meticulously by the trainees, we can hope positively for better legislative proceedings in the coming years.

Addressing the newly elected MPs in the training camp, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi urged the party MPs to be responsible and positive. He said there are huge expectations among the people and we have to rise to that level of expectations. He was inaugurating the recently held training session at Surajkund organised by the BJP and attended by 180 first timer MPs from both the Houses of Parliament. There were old time party organisation men who are first timers in the Parliament. Also, there were persons who are latest entrants in the BJP, many with Congress background, eager to understand BJP culture. There were post-graduates, management experts, singers and

artistes, farmers and also professionals. The first and foremost that was achieved at the end of this training was meeting of minds.

In his presidential remarks, Party President Rajnath Singh lauded the efforts of party's training cell as well as parliamentary wing and expressed confidence that such efforts alone can make this largest



democracy in the world into also the finest democracy. Reminding the MPs of their responsibility towards their constituencies, he urged them to ensure an orderly and disciplined conduct in the House. "The new MPs must go to library, make a thorough study and try to master the subject. Whenever a Member speaks, he should not create any embarrassment to anyone. Please read the rules and the procedures in Parliament. It is like Bhagwat Gita for all the MPs," he said.

Veteran party leader Shri LK Advani stressed the need that our long-term vision should be only

for India and Indian politics should be one in which there is no distinction whatsoever between majority and minority communities in public life. "Indeed, we should make these categories of majority and minority completely irrelevant, while fully safeguarding the people's right and freedom to follow their respective religions."

He said in the traditional way of governance, there has been disconnect between the government machinery and the people in addressing the development challenges. This is why we are not getting the desired results, even though the government spends considerable resources on each of these various issues.

Therefore, Narendrabhai is right in insisting that development should become a People's Movement. "Many things are needed to make this happen. But what is relevant in today's context is that our Ministers and Members of Parliament should take the lead in involving people in the implementation of government schemes, programmes and policies. I suggest that the new party president, and a small group of ministers and party functionaries, working under the guidance of Prime Minister, should prepare the guidelines to

implement this very important and useful thought. It is no doubt useful for the BJP because when our ministers and MPs take the initiative in making Development a People's Movement, the people are bound to support us in future elections," he added.

Most remarkable, of course was the inspiring speech of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who urged the first-timer Party MPs to develop a sense of mission towards their duties and select at least one subject for self-study to have deeper understanding in it. "To be a Member of Parliament is an important thing and one must look at it seriously. Remember, people are observing your performance in the house but even outside. Our transition from opposition to treasury is not limited to moving few feet to the other side. This is a significant transition and we must try to appreciate the meaning of this", he said. Urging party MPs not to get disillusioned by small issues he reminded them that there is no full stop in politics.

Appealing party MPs to eschew every kind of negativism, he stressed that our approach to parliamentary party has to be that of mutuality and fellow feeling. "We are a family and all are working for a common goal. Try to make new friends, learn from each other and develop a new collectivism", he said. Reminding the party MPs that training is not a ritual, he elaborated on how BJP has a very long and sturdy tradition of capacity building. He also exhorted them to become a well-knit wholesome organisational entity. "We are not just an assemblage of individuals under

one roof", he had reminded them. "This training camp is to prepare yourself for a bigger role and fulfill common people's aspirations. The training is for fulfilling our goal as a representative of the people. We have to create confidence among the people by fulfilling their aspirations. Our collective power, our conduction and our hard work will give a good impact in the House. If we are able to solve the problems of poor people of India by passing a Bill, the generations will remember about our government. We should speak more about positive aspects. We should not be negative.

The atmosphere at the training camp was that of informal camaraderie. Remarkably, even ministers like Prof Jitendra Singh sat in the audience like a student with fellow MPs. None was unduly status conscious and there were no burden of protocols. Many found comfort in the fact that most new MPs feel like a new college entrant.

A bit unsure, at times even confused! "This is but natural since you are the beginners. Spend as much time as possible in the House, be attentive, seek guidance from ever willing seniors and you will earn confidence", they were rightly told. Both, Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley gave them invaluable practical tips on how to make a mark in the business of parliament. Both urged the greenhorn MPs to try and spend as much time as possible also in to the parliamentary library. In another session, Venkaiya Naidu; whose initiative made

this training possible, dwelt extensively on coordination between the elected representatives and the party organisation. Many first-timers reacted very positively to these inputs." On parliamentary tools, at least came to know that we know precious little", commented one. A young woman MP said, "I was in Zilla Parishad earlier and the very sight of the huge Parliament House made me feel very shy and even bewildered. Now that I know ways and means of effective parliamentary participation, I feel greatly equipped and thereby hugely confident".

Advocate Alok Kumar, former deputy speaker of Legislative Assembly of Delhi dwelt at length on the history and contribution of the BJP in Indian polity. To many young MPs, listening to the journey of BJP since 1951 when Jan Sangh was founded was highly inspiring. Although in brief, Alok Ji also highlighted some unique aspects of the organisational profile of the Party.

Lal Krishna Advani's valedictory address was like blessings of a father figure reminding the delegates about the challenge of huge popular expectations.

At a session conducted by Party Organising Secretary Ram Lal, delegates thoroughly enjoyed participating in some management games. While leaving from Surajkund, all had this feeling of having made new friends, cultivated new acquaintances and a realisation that they are not the only freshers!■

(Courtesy : Organisor)

Shall we then ban temple bells and Loudspeakers?

By Kanchan Gupta

Prohibiting the use of a loudspeaker at a temple in Moradabad is representative of what it means to be a Hindu in SP-ruled Uttar Pradesh as well as what it means to be a Hindu in the fraudulent 'secular' Republic of India

Do not rejoice in his defeat, you men. For though the world has stood up and stopped the bastard, the bitch that bore him is in heat again – The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui by Bertolt Brecht.

Western Uttar Pradesh, the badlands of India's most populous and largest State, is in ferment again. This time it's Moradabad which, in the past, has seen vicious riotous mobs lay life and property to waste, from where disturbing news has been emanating over the past week. As is usually the practice, big newspapers and television channels have either ignored the details while indulging in exaggerated and hackneyed hyperbole or simply swamped the news with trivia that titillates the chattering classes.

Since media reports are increasingly unreliable, especially when they deal with issues that are described by the politically correct Left-liberal commentariat as 'communally sensitive', I asked my friend Vikas Saraswat, who lives in Agra and is possibly the best informed person on western Uttar Pradesh affairs, for what led to Friday's clashes in Moradabad between enraged BJP activists and ham-handed

officials of the district administration. I received this reply from him which I am reproducing without any substantive edits:

"A loudspeaker was installed at a Shiv temple in Ansariyan Mohalla of Akbarpur Chanderi under Kanth police station of Moradabad district. It had been playing prayers regularly in the morning since last Shivratri a few months back. The prayers on loudspeakers were objected to by Muslims in the area who were using loudspeakers for azaan in a mosque nearby. The over enthusiasm of the administration in removing the loudspeaker from the temple was evident in the fact that the police force from several police stations was used for this task. Hindus of the village were lathicharged for protesting the removal.

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Hindus of the village were

lathicharged for protesting the removal. Matters were made worse by the callous handling of the situation by Deputy Inspector General of Police Gulab

Singh who is former Samajwadi Party spokesperson Mohan Singh's brother. The markets have remained closed for the last seven days in protest of the police action. Subsequently, the police disallowed a Mahapanchayat in the area and BJP leaders Nepal Singh (MP), Satyapal Singh (MP), Sarvesh Singh Saini (MP) and Sangeet Som (MLA) were arrested on Friday for violating prohibitory orders."

In brief, the district administration of Moradabad used brute police force to remove a loudspeaker from a Hindu temple in a predominantly Muslim locality to demonstrate sensitivity towards Muslim

sentiments. Those sentiments were clearly inimical to Hindu sentiments, but then the latter seized to matter the day Akhilesh Yadav became Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and Mulayam Singh Yadav resumed his crass pandering of those who are euphemistically described as India's "minorities", a label that puts them beyond the pale of the law which, in any event, is more honoured in the breach than in the observance whenever the

using it during this period". The 'period' they refer to is the month of Muslim fasting, Ramzan.

Hindus say that's not true. And there's sufficient evidence to suggest that the administration's version, either concocted or based on what the Muslims have claimed, is severely flawed. But that's not the real issue. What is of relevance is that there cannot be two different standards for allowing the use of loudspeakers at places of worship

The Muslims' complaint to the police over the loudspeaker at the temple in Ansariyan Mohalla is reminiscent of the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen complaining, at the behest of the Owaisi clan, that the pealing of bells at Hindu temples in Hyderabad is offensive to Muslim sensitivities and hence must be prohibited. In other parts of the country, most notably in West Bengal, Hindu places of worship have been ransacked or desecrated because they happened to be located in Muslim majority areas.

Samajwadi Party seizes control over this State. It's a twisted, perverse 'Socialism' at play.

The extent of perversion can be gauged from the statements of officials who should have been more circumspect in their utterances but clearly feel sufficiently emboldened to give full flow to them, confident that no explanation shall be sought from them by their political masters of the day.

From what has appeared in the media, and has not been contradicted, according to Kanth Circle Officer Rahul Kumar, "Muslims had complained to the police to remove the loudspeaker as it could create disharmony in the area." Both he and Inspector-General of Police, Bareilly Zone, Zaki Ahmed, have said that the administration removed the loudspeaker from the temple "on finding there was no tradition of

— that is, if at all they are to be allowed to do so. If mosques can have loudspeakers, so can temples and vice-versa. If bhajans played over a loudspeaker at a temple could "create communal disharmony", as the Muslims of Akbarpur Chanderi insist they can, then so canazaan over a loudspeaker upset communal harmony. It would be absurd to argue otherwise.

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ransacked or desecrated because they happened to be located in Muslim majority areas. In other places, for instance in Jammu & Kashmir, Muslims have claimed offence to what others wear or do not wear.

There are other manifestations of increasing assertion by Muslims of their right to have their way, even if that clashes with the law or inconveniences others, not to mention offending the sensitivities of non-Muslims. The most glaring of these manifestations is the use of roads, highways, expressways, railway station platforms and other public places for offering namaaz. 'Prayer Rooms' at airports and hospitals, meant for people of all faiths, have been usurped and converted into 'Muslim Only' facilities. If Hindus were to do anything similar, there would have been outrage and an outpouring of condemnation. We would have heard how 'communal harmony' was being disturbed.

Last week's incident at Moradabad is at once representative of what it means to be a Hindu in Samajwadi Party-ruled Uttar Pradesh as well as what it means to be a Hindu in the fraudulent 'secular' Republic of India. It means to surrender before bigotry lest 'communal harmony' be disturbed. It means giving in to the thuggery of a few and accepting minorityism as a way of life. It also means converting this country into a tinderbox, waiting to explode in the most hideous manner with ghastly consequences.

Is that what we want? ■

(The writer is BJP National Executive Member)

Sushma Swaraj returns home after extremely satisfying Bangladesh visit

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj on June 27 returned home after her maiden standalone overseas tour to Bangladesh with an understanding that she has made an "excellent beginning" in addressing each others' concerns in the spirit of good neighbourliness.

During the visit, Smt. Swaraj held a meeting with former Bangladesh prime minister and Chairperson of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Khaleda Zia, who met the visiting leader in her hotel.

Smt. Swaraj held a 30-minute meeting with Zia, who had boycotted the January 5 elections and accused that the Awami League government led by her arch-rival Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina lacked people's mandate.



Vajpayee likely to get Bangla honour in Delhi

Close on the heels of External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj's successful visit to Dhaka, Bangladesh is considering presenting the 'Friends of Bangladesh liberation war award' to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

So far, about 300 Indians have been honoured by the Bangladesh government in the past three years for their contribution to the liberation war. All of them had travelled to Bangladesh personally or sent their family members to receive the award in Dhaka. However, Vajpayee is likely to be honoured in New Delhi.

"Vajpayee is one of those Indian friends of Bangladesh who are not keeping well, and cannot come to receive the award in Dhaka. So, the proposal is to present it when Bangladesh prime minister or foreign minister travels to the country," said Shahriar Kabir, member of the Bangladesh government's national-level committee on bestowing the honour to "foreign friends".

"We are going to take a decision on this proposal in the next meeting of the committee," said Kabir.

According to the Bangladesh government, Vajpayee, who was then an MP from Jan Sangh, had been vocal in lending support to the liberation war in the 1970s and had also campaigned for the recognition of Bangladesh as a separate country. He is the only BJP leader in the list of Indians named for the honour.

Bangladesh government sources said the High Commission in New Delhi had approached Vajpayee's office twice and extended an invitation for the award, but they were told he cannot travel due to his health.

If this proposal is approved, singer Lata Mangeshkar would also be presented the award by a Bangladesh leader during their visit. She, according to Kabir, contributed Rs 1 lakh in cash and royalties from her songs in the 1970s on hearing about the plight of Bangladesh refugees. She, too, said she cannot travel because of health reasons. In the past, Indira Gandhi's award has been received by Sonia Gandhi, while former PM I K Gujral, former defence minister Jagjivan Ram and former President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed were represented by family members.

The change in thinking, sources said, is a result of Pandit Ravi Shankar's death. The sitar maestro was to be honoured with the award in 2011 onwards, but could not travel because he was unwell. The Bangladesh government waited for him to recover but he died in 2012 and his daughter Anoushka Shankar had to receive the award. ■



Smt. Swaraj's last engagement in Dhaka was a 45-minute meeting with leader of the opposition Raushan Ershad of Jatiya Party at her office in parliament.

Bangladesh's foreign secretary Shahidul Haque and Bangladesh High Commissioner to India Tarique A Karim saw Swaraj off at the VIP lounge of the airport.

Earlier on the day, Swaraj visited the Dhakeswari National Temple and held a meeting with Prime minister's international affairs adviser Professor Gowher Rizvi.

Smt. Swaraj held a series of meetings with the top leadership here on 26 June including Bangladesh's President Abdul Hamid, Prime Minister Hasina, and held delegation-level talks with her Bangladeshi counterpart A H Mahmud Ali.

During her meetings, Smt. Swaraj gave a commitment to address Bangladesh's concerns over sharing of Teesta waters and implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) "in a manner that improves the welfare and well-being of both our people".

She also handed over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's letter to Hasina in which he pledged to further strengthen the framework of ties.

Shri Modi, while thanking Hasina for her letter of felicitation on his assumption of office, also accepted her invitation to visit Bangladesh.

He also extended an invitation to her to visit India at her earliest convenience. ■

J&K BJP Executive meeting held

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has decided to focus on Muslim majority areas including Kashmir to achieve set target in the next Assembly elections.

The party's state executive meeting attended by National General Secretary (Organization), Ram Lal, in Jammu on June 24 decided to connect with Muslims, while focusing on Muslim majority areas, remote areas and youth to convert them in positive votes. It also decided to roll out Muslim-friendly policies in election manifesto to woo voters in Muslim majority Kashmir.

The meeting further decided to connect with migrants, refugees, farmers, border residents, Schedule Castes, Schedule Tribe and other economically or socially backward groups during campaign. The party decided to raise the issues of SPOs and VDCs.

The party appointed election campaign committee for Kashmir region with Jagat Prakash Nadda, National General Secretary as its in-charge, while J&K Seh-Prabhari, R P Singh, was asked to lead the poll strategy committee for Ladakh.

Minister of State, PMO, Dr. Jitendra Singh, State President and MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, J&K Sah-Prabhari R.P. Singh, Leader of Legislative Party Ashok Khajuria, National Executive Members Dr. Nirmal Singh and Shamsheer Singh Manhas, State General Secretaries Ashok Kaul, Kavinder Gupta, Bali Bhagat, Rajiv Jasrotia and senior leader Farooq Khan attended the the meeting. ■



Haryana BJP State Executive meet held

The Haryana unit of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on June formed a high-powered committee under its firebrand legislator from Ambala Cantt Anil Vij to prepare a 'charge sheet' against the Congress regime's misrule in the state. The decision was taken by the state executive committee on June 24 of its meeting held at Kurukshetra. Shri Vij has been asked to prepare data of acts of omissions and commissions committed under the Bhupinder Singh Hooda government". The state executive discussed the issue of whether to maintain coalition with the Haryana Janhit Congress (HJC) or not and the matter was left to the party's central parliamentary board to take the final call. ■



Human rights cell organizes meet on "Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and Human Rights"

BJP Human Rights Cell organized National Meet on "Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee and Human Rights" on 2nd July, 2014 at BJP Head Office, 11 Ashok Road, New Delhi. Addressing the elite gathering RSS National Executive Member, Shri indresh Kumar said It would not be wrong if we call Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee a real life mascot of Fundamental Rights as provided in the Constitution of the Country. Shri Kiren Rijju, Minister of State for Home Affairs in his inaugural address, said Human Rights is an old Concept, and Right to Life is the base, rest of Rights comes later. He also referred the sayings of Bhagvat Gita, and explained that discharging your Duty is your prime right.

Shri Prakash Javadekar, Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting (Independent Charge) admired the works of BJP Human Rights Cell and said that the time has come, every one should be

made aware about their fundamental rights so that violations could be negated.

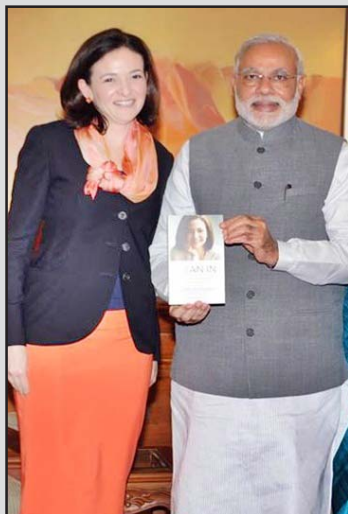
Shri Ram Lal, National General Secretary (Org.) in his address praised the efforts of Human Rights Cell in the field of expanding awareness among people of the country. He said, Human Right Cell is so special that the work of whole of the party and of all the morchas and Cells can be consolidated in to one named Human Rights. He also suggested that all the Qualified people such as rtd. Judges, IAS , Lawyers and other Professionals be attached to the Cell.

Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, BJP National Vice-President in his address acknowledged the work done by members of Human Rights Cell. Shri. Sham Jaju, National Secretary in his address said that



Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, the founder of Bharatiya Jansangh preferred values in the work before politics. Shri Sudhir Aggarwal, National Convener in his address added that Dr. Mukherjee continued to work for the implementation of Rights in all walks of Life.

Shri Sudhir Aggarwal, National Convener presided over the Meet. Dr. KP Muthu Koya, State President of BJP of UT of Lakshadweep was also present in the Meet. Shailender Singh and Kailashnath Pillai actively participated in Discussion. ■



Facebook COO calls on PM

PM discussed role of Facebook in cleanliness drive

The Chief Operating Officer of Facebook, Ms. Sheryl Sandberg, called on the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on July 3. She said India is a very important country for Facebook, considering the high number of active Facebook users in India. The Prime Minister discussed with Ms. Sandberg, ways through which a platform such as Facebook can be used for governance and better interaction between the people and governments. He also talked about how Facebook can be used to bring more tourists to India. Shri Narendra Modi also spoke to Ms. Sandberg on how Facebook can assist us in commemorating Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary year with a special focus on cleanliness. Being an avid user of social media myself, I talked about ways through which a platform such as Facebook can be used for governance and better interaction between the people and governments. I also talked about how Facebook can be used to bring more tourists to India. ■

DELHI

'No preferential treatment for BJP-ruled States': M. Venkaiah Naidu

There would be no political discrimination while setting up smart cities, funding new projects or providing housing facilities to States, said Union Urban Development and Housing and Poverty Alleviation Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu,



adding that the Centre would not give preference to BJP-ruled States while extending services.

At present, several States are ruled by regional parties and the Congress. "I have assured all States and Union Territories that there will be no discrimination on political lines while releasing funds. Performance will be the only criterion and good performers from whichever party will be duly rewarded," he said.

The Minister said the government would seek help from both private and public sectors to fulfil its ambitious plan of housing for all by 2022. He said the Centre had proposed the setting up of an ESCROW account from the revenue collected from taxes, excise and sales to fund the affordable housing project.

"The Prime Minister has spoken of housing for all, and unless we have the public, private sectors and urban local bodies on board, it will not be possible," he said. India has a shortage of 18.7 million houses in urban areas, a bulk of it in the economically weaker section category.

The Minister said the private sector would need to be given incentives and sops. They would also need to remove bottlenecks and ease procedures through single-window clearances.

The Minister said the interests of consumers would be protected and that the government would reintroduce the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Bill, 2013," he said.

JHARKHAND

BJP to form majority Govt. in state: Arjun Munda

Terming the Hemant Soren-led Government totally inactive, former Chief Minister Shri Arjun Munda said that the incumbent State Government has failed in almost all fronts of development.

"Assembly election is just 3-4 months away and this time, there will be a majority BJP Government in Jharkhand," said former CM Munda at Barkagaon in Hazaribagh.



Talking about the deteriorating law and order condition of entire State he said that the people of this State were passing the days in panic. Murder, abduction, rape, loot and other such incidence have become a part of day to day life of the denizens and Government was doing nothing.

Criticising the Government, Shri Munda counter-questioned to enlist the developmental works in Hazaribagh district and especially in Barkagaon for the last one year. This government has been formed for the benefit of parties not for the people and it has become clear in Parliamentary election that the citizens of Jharkhand are aware of this fact.

He said, "The people of Jharkhand had expressed their faith in BJP in the parliamentary election and once again the party will get the faith of voters of this State in Assembly election. We all are sure that this time the State will come out of the grips of coalition and a majority Government will be formed for the first time which will fulfil the aspirations of the citizens of this State."

HARYANA

BJP's morale high; 5 Cong, INLD leaders join party

With the Assembly elections round the corner, the BJP has got a boost on 04 June with five leaders from the Congress and the INLD joined the party in Chandigarh. Former Congress MLA from Samalkha, Bharat Singh Chhoker, Sudhir Godara, grandson of former Haryana Home Minister and veteran Congress leaders late Mani Ram Godara and Neelam Bhagwaria, daughter of former Cooperation Minister, Shakuntla Bhagwaria from Bhawal joined the BJP. Besides, Randhir Singh Saini, brother of former Minister of INLD Balbir

Singh Saini from Kurukshetra and former IAS officer Rajiv Sharma, also joined the BJP.

Haryana BJP President Shri Ram Bilas Sharma said the party is ready for Assembly elections and it will expose the Bhupinder Singh Hooda Government right from the booth level in all the 90 Assembly constituencies. "A lot of people are showing interest in BJP after the thumping victory of the party in the recent Lok Sabha elections in which we won seven of the nine seats contested, BJP Legislature Party Leader Shri Anil Vij said.

Shri Sharma has also constituted a five-member advisory committee to get information about the new entrants in BJP. He said that several senior and junior leaders of ruling Congress, INLD and Haryana Janhit Congress are keen to adopt the ideology of BJP. "Next week another big announcement of leaders joining BJP would be made", added he said.

CHHATTISGARH

Chhattisgarh to mull over forming 'land donation board' : Raman Singh

Chief Minister Dr Raman Singh said that deliberations over forming a 'Land Donation Board' in Chhattisgarh would be actively held in the State. The Sarvodaya workers while meeting the Chief Minister during his 'Jandarshan programme' held at his residence in Raipur stated that the Land Donation Board was dissolved after the bifurcation of Madhya Pradesh, due to which all the records related to the Board was handed over to Revenue Department of Madhya Pradesh. But Chhattisgarh has not yet received any of these records.



They stated that some people are also trying to sell off the donated land, which is wrong and requested the Chief Minister to get the records of land in Chhattisgarh from Madhya Pradesh Government and also insisted for reconstitution of Land Donation Board in Chhattisgarh.

The Chief Minister said that Madhya Pradesh will be sent a letter for retrieval of the records. He further said that the officials will be instructed to investigate and take necessary action, if complaints about people

selling off donated land are received.

Dr Singh assured Sarvodaya workers that strong initiatives will also be taken to retrieve records of the land in Chhattisgarh, which was received as donation during Acharya Vinoba Bhave's Land Donation Yagna movement in year 1960, from Madhya Pradesh.

The Sarvodaya workers handed over a memorandum to the Chief Minister in the context, requesting that the Government Higher Secondary School of village Marra in Patan block should be named after 'Acharya Vinoba Bhave,' who is the source of inspiration for Sarvodaya and Bhu Daan Yagna Movement.

"During his bhu-daan padyatra days, Vinoba ji had visited this village in year 1964," They stated in the memorandum.

Dr. Singh immediately accepted the request of Sarvodaya workers and directed the Secretary of Education Department to ensure naming of the school after Acharya Vinoba Bhave by August 15.

It was also stated in the memorandum that Acharya Vinoba Bhave had travelled across the country from Kashmir to Kanyakumari in nearly 13 years, during 1950-1960 decade. He had conducted a public awareness movement to motivate people for donating land to the landless people across country.

During this movement, nearly 45 lakh acres of land was received. Out of which, nearly 24.49 lakh acres of land was distributed in various States of the country. In the then Madhya Pradesh, 4.10 lakh acres of land was received as donation, out of which nearly 2.37 lakh acres of land has been distributed. This distributed land includes about 12,000 acre land of Durg district in Chhattisgarh. On request of Panth Ram and Sarvodaya workers, Chief Minister immediately approved the discretionary fund of Rs. 40,000 for under-construction cowshed in village Kauhi of Patan block.

UTTAR PRADESH

BJP walks out of UP council over power crisis

Members of the Bharatiya Janta Party took on the ruling Samajwadi Party Government on recent hike in power tariffs in the State Council and later staged a walk-out over the issue after they failed to get a convincing reply.

Raising the issue of recent power hike during Question Hour, Leader of BJP Group in the Legislative Council, Shri Hriday Narain Dixit accused the



Government of not trying to check power theft and rampant corruption in the Department. Instead, the Government is putting the entire pressure on the shoulders of common consumer, he added. Dixit said that it is also an irony that the public had to pay even when they were not getting proper supply.

Replying to the question, state minister for power in the UP government, Yaseer Shah, said that the decision of hike has been taken by the UP Power Regulatory Authority and that the government had done every bit to improve the situation and also brought down the line loss. Shah also blamed the Central government for the power mess claiming that the Centre was not providing them full support to tackle the grim power situation.

Agitated with the reply, BJP members raised slogan against the government and staged a wall out. The BJP

members also raised the issue of brutal lathi charge on members of Bharatiya Janta Yuva Morcha, who were brutally thrashed by the police during agitation in front of Vidhan Sabha.

The BJP leaders demanded a discussion on the issue claiming that the matter is related to right to freedom of staging a protest, but when the Chairman of the House refused and asked to take the issue on Tuesday, all the BJP members raised voice against the government and came in well after which the House was adjourned for one hour. BJP members also raised the issue of poor services in government run Primary Health Centre and Community Health Centre on which the Chairman directed to take appropriate measures. BJYM activists protest in front of Assembly, police resort to lathicharge

Activists of BJP youth wing, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha, on June 30 took out protest against poor law and order situation in the state in front of Assembly while it was in session. Police resorted lathicharge and used tear gas shells on BJYM actists.

The lathicharge on BJYM workers evoked strong protest by BJP MLAs in Uttar Pradesh Vidhan Sabha forcing its adjournment for the day. In support of their 11-point charter of demands and to protest against "poor" law and order, increasing crime against women, power cuts, problems of youths and students, the BJYM workers attempted to gherao the state Assembly this afternoon. Nearly 50 BJYM activists were injured in the lathicharge. ■

Senator John McCain calls on PM, conveys US desire to revitalise strategic partnership

On July 3, Senator McCain conveyed the high level of expectations in the United States about a new momentum in India's economic growth and all-round progress under the new Government and wished Prime Minister all success in this endeavour. He also conveyed the keen desire in the United States to work with Prime Minister Modi to revitalise the India-U.S. Strategic Partnership. Prime Minister conveyed his desire to further deepen and expand the strategic partnership, based on our shared values and interests; sensitivity to each other's concerns; and, tangible progress across the full spectrum of bilateral relations. Prime Minister also observed that success of democratic countries and their cooperation will advance peace, stability and prosperity in the world. Shri Modi hoped for a forward looking, result-oriented visit to the United



States in September 2014 to take the relationship to a new level. The situation in Iraq and Afghanistan was discussed. The Prime Minister expressed concern over the increased threat of terrorism across the world, and reiterated that the fight against terror should be a global priority for humanitarian forces. ■