



Kamal Sandesh
Fortnightly Magazine

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Cover : BJP releases Karnataka Election Manifesto 2013.

HISTORIC PICTURE



A glorious reception given to Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay at Calicut Railway Station on his being elected as National President in 1967.



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Besides, considering your own duty too you should not waver, for there is nothing more welcome for a man of the warrior class than a righteous war.

– (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-II, 31)

QUOTES

"The development model of Gujarat, where Narendra Modi is the Chief Minister, should be emulated in the entire country."

-Rajnath Singh

"If the JPC finds that they were innocent, all I can tell you is this JPC report will meet the same fate as the Bofors."

-Arun Jaitley

"While Government is about Authority, Governance is about accountability"

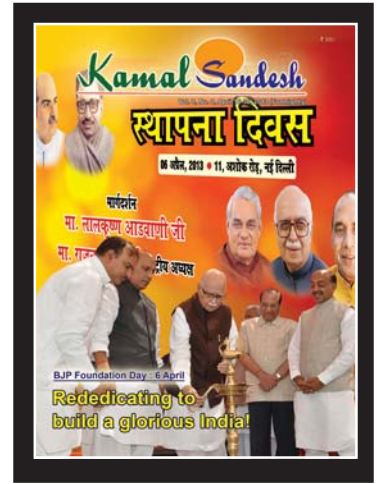
- Narendra Modi

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

The heinous crimes and cases of sexual violence against women and children in our country have reached alarming levels. The brutal 16 December Delhi gang rape and subsequent, but regular cases have shaken the entire country. It is because of our slack system that criminals walk free without any punishment for their wrongdoing. It is a wake-up call for all people to rise against those who have failed our administrative structure and judiciary. The only way for correction is quick justice and severe penalty for people who commit such heinous crimes.

Manish Kumar,
Pune



Write to us

The Editor,

Kamal Sandesh

We welcome

Your views & Suggestions

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We regret that in the editorial of Kamal Sandesh (1-15 March, 2013) English issue the name of Smt. Sonia Gandhi was written in place of Smt. Indira Gandhi in line six. The mistake was unintentional and we regret the same. -Editor



Courtesy : The Hindu



We should work towards bringing an end to social evils

Editorial...

Rape! Rape!! Rape!!! Only one thing is being discussed in newspapers, channels, parliament, public streets families and in different institutions. But it has no effect on the government. The Home Minister gives his illogical statement in police style. 'Smile' is the nature of human beings. Uncalled for 'smile' is perversion. When Congress member in Rajya Sabha Dr. Prabha Thakur was speaking in the House with tears in her eyes over the beastly incident that took place in Delhi, the Rajya Sabha channel was showing a smiling face of the Home Minister of India. One should feel ashamed over the incident of rape. One should never smile. The 'smile' of Home Minister is the mockery of India. It is mockery of the women of India. It is mockery of sensitivity. It is like performing the last rites of sensibilities. Those who see Rajya Sabha channel attentively might not have liked the 'smile' of the Home Minister.

How have we become? Were we earlier like what we are today? If incidents have crossed their limitations then we have also started breaking limitations after the incidents. The Home Minister could not understand the sentiments of the people. A Home Minister so much deaf and dumb has no right to continue in his chair. The day he has become Home Minister the list of crime has increased manifold in the Home Ministry. Repeated incidents of terror attacks took place. And to witness one such incident the then Home Minister Shivraj Patil changed his suit as many times as he visited the spot. The situation was such that he had to demit his office for this insensitivity. Alas, our Home Minister would have taken lessons from these incidents and had shown some kind of sensitivity.

While strong law is required to arrest the perverted mindset, general awareness campaign is also required for stopping the perversion. When Bharatiya Janata Party demands inclusion of moral values in the curriculum the UPA government rejects it saying it to be an RSS agenda. It is so when morality is synonymous with nationalism. The nationalism will get as much strengthened as morality is strengthened in the society. It is important for the present generation to study the ethics and moral values. It may so happen that the youth may remain unemployed for sometime after getting moral education but he will never be committing rape after such education. His mindset will not get perverted. The government will have to think over as to what should be taught and shown to the people. The kind of freedom which is given in the name of study and shown through various mediums is dangerous for democracy. Freedom of speech doesn't mean that a person has the right to speak whatever he wants. In the same manner freedom to live doesn't mean that one is free to live in whatever manner one likes. Since we live in a civilized society so we will have to think in terms of the society. When something is done against the society we call it anti-social. Media also needs to be cautious in its approach. It will have to highlight social works more. And it will have to exercise restraint in showing anti-social activities. Indian media today needs to exercise self-restraint more. Media will have to set its own standards in determining the extent in showing acceptable and unacceptable incidents.

The rape of a five year old girl is a shameless incident which is very shameful for the country, it is against Indian culture. First thing is that awareness campaign is required so that such incidents do not take place. If any such incident takes place it is a social crime to sensationalize it. It is not fair that the parliament should only enact



JPC report leak a ploy to save Manmohan Singh & P Chidambaram : BJP

The leak of the draft report of the joint parliamentary committee (JPC) is being seen as Congress ploy to create confusion in the public mind and as an attempt to shift the responsibility of the 2G spectrum allocation scam away from prime minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and finance minister Shri P Chidambaram. The BJP's deputy leader in the Rajya Sabha Ravi Shankar Prasad expressed concern over the leak of the draft of the report before the copies had reached the members of the committee. The parliamentary office of the committee had despatched the copies on Thursday night and Prasad said he got his copy around 10 am on Friday. He said this was a violation of parliamentary propriety and that his party would state its opposition to the report when the JPC meets on Monday. It will also express its protest against the leak. The BJP had decided not to quit the JPC despite the manner in which Chacko blocked the demand for summoning Singh and Chidambaram, and to concede to Raja's demand to appear before the committee. The BJP members wanted to give their dissent notes because they apprehended that the majority report will not nail the government's complicity in the scam. The BJP did not want the Congress members to get away with the majority report. The BJP was clear that it could not block Chacko from giving in his 'soft' report in the way the Congress members blocked PAC chairman Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi from giving in the real report on the 2G issue in 2011. Lok Sabha Speaker Meira Kumar had to reject the report which was forwarded to her by Dr. Joshi because it was not endorsed by the other Congress members of the PAC. ■

Union govt. lauds Narendra Modi govt for projects with best land use

The Ministry of Urban Development lauded Gujarat govt. on April 11 when it showcased two key projects from the state as one of the best models to be followed. The praise for the state came during a presentation on Land Economics at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors International Conference 2013 in Delhi. The meet was attended by delegates from the United Kingdom.

At the meet, which was also attended by minister Kamal Nath, Urban Development Secretary Sudhir Krishna highlighted the best of use of land by two Gujarat projects, Sabarmati Riverfront Development Project and the Surat City Ring Road Project. He also mentioned a Hyderabad project and Bhopal lake project as other two examples of better land use.

"Not one bit of land has to be acquired and commercial land use is made available to parties. Land can pay for itself," said Krishna while talking about Surat City project. He said the Sabarmati project has helped promote the local market.

A month ago, the ministry had advised states to follow the Surat model. Though the project is yet to start, the model has impressed the ministry officials so much that they have asked the states to identify ways to replicate the model for overall development of cities.

The project aims to encourage highrise buildings, toll plazas, commercial spaces along the proposed road, thereby filling the state coffer. The state has also been praised for the best utilisation of Centre's flagship urban scheme, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission.

At the meet, minister Kamal Nath said India's land economics was based on historical errors and there was no scientific approach to it. "India has one of the lowest floor area ratios. Delhi is surrounded by states and cannot expand. Share of the formal land market is declining and informal one catering to EWS category, lower middle class is on the rise. Towns are becoming hub of economic activities and one of the biggest challenge is infrastructure. It is imperative we plan our cities with futuristic vision," he said. ■



law and express concern. The central and state governments should act in tandem. The actions should be positive and reformative. Sometime media projects the incidents in such a way that it seems that only rapes are taking place in India. The media should not break its established norms in showing shameful incidents. No party should do politics on the incidents of rape. It is a social evil and we should work in the direction of bringing an end to this evil. ■

'Vikasa' all the way; BJP is the only way in Karnataka

By Ram Prasad Tripathy

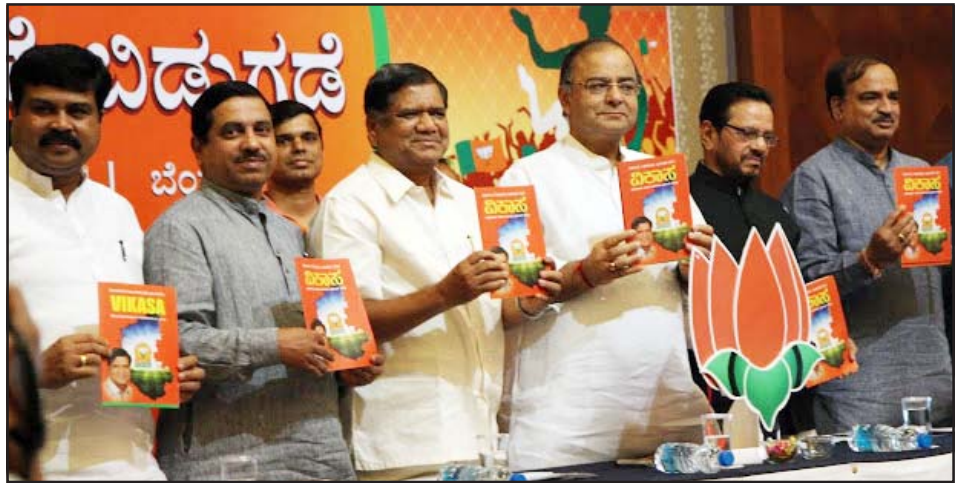
With a fortnight to go before Karnataka goes to polls, the State assembly elections are being watched with a great deal of attention throughout the country. An estimated 2,295 candidates have entered the fray for the Assembly polls in the State, as the process of filing nominations ended on April 17. Chief Minister Shri Jagadish Shettar was among those who filed nominations on the last day from the Hubli-Dharwad Central constituency. April 20 was the last day for withdrawal. In 23 of the total 224 segments, the number of candidates is more than 16, which means that the authorities would have to deploy additional ballot unit as one can have a total of only 16 names, in the event of them remaining in the fray beyond that number.

At the moment, it appears to be a straight fight between the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party led by Shri Jagadish Shatter and the Congress with the Janata Dal-Secular probably ending up at the third spot. The Bharatiya Janata Party has made its good administration an example to

attract voters and the people of the State are subscribing the view of the party. The BJP is also focusing on the rampant corruption, law and order situation and sky rocketing price rise under the Congress led United Progressive Alliance government at the Centre.

Noteworthy is the fact that the elections to the 224-member Karnataka legislative assembly

uninterrupted power supply to the nook and corner of the State and a project to teach good and correct English in Kannada medium schools would all be a reality. Leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley released the manifesto in the presence of State Chief Minister Shri Jagadish Shettar, Karnataka BJP President Shri Prahllad Joshi, BJP National General



will be held on May 5 in a single phase and counting will take place on May 8. The fate of the total 2,295 candidates who have entered the fray for the assembly polls will unfold on May 8 when counting of votes is taken up.

Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party released its election manifesto on 19 April. Seeking the people's mandate for the second time BJP leaders said, "Pure drinking water to all citizens of the State, 24X7

Secretaries Shri HN Ananth Kumar and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan and other senior state leaders.

The party manifesto also promised free laptops for students and better waste management in the state, 25 kilograms of rice to 98 lakh poor families at Rs 1 per kg, 50 per cent reservations to women in local bodies and compulsory yoga in schools.

Lessons on "cultural

nationalism" and moral values are part of promises held out in the field of education on which the party assured the people it would increase the spending from 1 per of GDP to 3 per cent. The party promised 50 per cent reservation of seats to women in local bodies and eradication of child labour.

Priority for Kannada medium students in higher education and employment, free Wi-Fi and internet for all schools and colleges, introduction of Yoga as part of the syllabus in schools and colleges are among the many promises made.

Defending the rice scheme Shri Arun Jaitley said the promise to provide rice and laptops could not be construed

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CM Shettar and seven ex-CMs in the race as Karnataka battle heats up

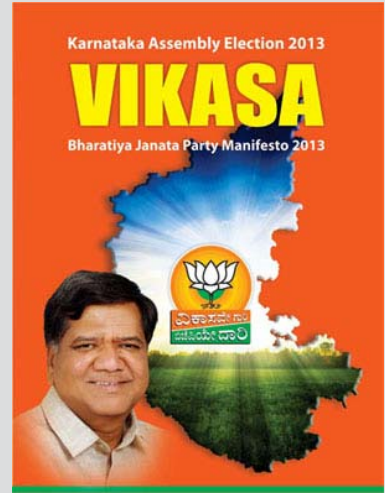
As political parties gearing up for the May 5 Assembly polls, seven former Chief Ministers and a present BJP Chief Minister Shri Jagadish Shettar are in the race for the crucial battle for the saddle. Former Chief Minister Shri Sadananda Gowda and present Chief Minister Shri Jagadish Shettar (from BJP) Former Chief Ministers, Shri M Veerappa Moily, Shri SM Krishna, Shri N Dharam Singh all of them from Congress, Former Chief Minister Shri HD Devegowda and his son Shri HD Kumaraswamy from JDs, and former Chief Minister Shri BS Yeddyurappa are fighting it out in the battle for victory.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BJP MANIFESTO

- ◆ 24X7 uninterrupted power supply
- ◆ 25 kilograms of rice to poor families at Rs 1 per kg
- ◆ 55 litres of clean drinking water daily for each person
- ◆ Solar power for agriculture pump sets
- ◆ Free laptops to 16 lakh students
- ◆ Life insurance to all BPL families
- ◆ Mobile medical services
- ◆ To upgrade Hubli airport
- ◆ Helipads in all Taluk headquarters
- ◆ To sanction a school to every village with over 3000 population and junior college to villages with 5000 population
- ◆ Thatched houses to be transformed into houses with RCC or tiled roofs
- ◆ Bring more services under SAKALA
- ◆ Construct roads to all villages with more than 5000 population
- ◆ To extend Yashaswini scheme to BPL families
- ◆ Cancer hospitals in all divisional headquarters
- ◆ Create rail corridors connecting Mysore-Bangalore-Tumkur, Davanagere-Hubli-Belgaum, Bijapur-Bagalkot-Gadag, Gulbarga-Raichur-Bellary and Kasaragod-Mangalore-Karwar.

Manifesto for Bangalore

- ◆ Construct flyovers, elevated roads, sub-ways and grad separators to decongest traffic
- ◆ Set up gas-based power plant



- ◆ Complete metro rail project in three years
- ◆ Set up solid waste management authority
- ◆ Restructuring of BBMP, BDA and BWSSB Direct election of Mayor
- ◆ Helicopter ambulance services for emergency health care.
- ◆ To recognize families with annual income up to Rs 30,000 as extremely poor and those with annual income above Rs 30,000 and below Rs 60,000 as poor
- ◆ Cyber Cafe in every village
- ◆ Doubling of power production to 10,000 MW
- ◆ To provide drinking water across the state
- ◆ To spend Rs 2,500 crore on road connectivity
- ◆ Direct election of mayor and setting up of Metropolitan Planning Council
- ◆ To issue multi-purpose identity cards
- ◆ New master plan for city's development
- ◆ Apartments and housing complexes that reuse/recycle water will get a discount on water bills

BELGAUM RALLY

BJP-led NDA is bound to return to power : Rajnath



Launching BJP's election campaign from Belgaum district of Mumbai-Karnataka region, BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh said the BJP-led NDA is bound to return to power at the Centre and the Congress-led UPA government will pay the price for its "failures" in the next parliamentary elections. He said the first step in this direction will be the BJP getting a clear majority in the Assembly elections in Karnataka, he said at an election meeting.

BJP national president said only the BJP was capable of providing good governance. The development model of Gujarat, where Shri Narendra Modi is the Chief Minister, should be emulated in the entire country, he said.

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as populism. Providing the right to food to the deprived sections would make right to live more meaningful, he said. He said it was also not populist, "It is a reality that there is a huge economically weaker section in the country and it is an obligation of every government to ensure them their right to food," he said. He said BJP had succeeded in installing the party's first-ever government in the South five years ago and "we have governed and completed full term taking up challenges for the cause of people." He also said that BJP had honored most of its promises made in the 2008 manifesto.

Shri Jaitley said whenever BJP faced difficult challenges; it stood by values and ideals rather than individuals. "Politically, we have emerged cleaner, stronger and more cohesive." "We are now entering with the hope of another mandate to serve the people", he said.

Reacting sharply to the clean chit given by the Joint

Parliamentary Committee to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in the 2G spectrum allocation scam, Shri Jaitley alleged that the Congress was "using the JPC to cover the truth." The former Telecom Minister, A. Raja's correspondence with the Prime Minister made it amply clear that Dr. Singh and P. Chidambaram, as the then Finance Minister, were "fully in the loop" and knew what Mr. Raja was doing.

Expressing dissatisfaction over "authors of the draft report" leaking the report to media instead of presenting it to members, he said JPC members would be hauled up for breach of privilege. "The entire country knows that 2G is a monumental scam."

He said, "If the JPC considered Dr. Singh and Mr. Chidambaram innocent, he was afraid; the JPC report would meet the same fate as the report on Bofors. The JPC under B. Shankaranand came out with a fictional report, describing bribes in the gun deal as winding-up

charges, because middlemen and agents were asked to wind up their business. Nobody believed what the JPC said about Bofors and its report was trashed. "It is a scar on the country's parliamentary democracy."

Noting that history repeats itself, once as tragedy and again as farce, Shri Jaitley said it was the second time in the history of the Congress and the United Progressive Alliance government, which were neck-deep in corruption, that the party subverted the truth using the JPC mechanism.

Addressing the gathering and referring his tenure of nine months and 11 months of his predecessor Shri DV Sadananda Gowda, Karnataka Chief Minister Shri Jagadish Shettar said, "We have provided good governance and a corruption-free and transparent government". Shri Jagadish Shettar said, "We are 100% sure that BJP will come back to power and we will implement the assurances made in the manifesto as soon as possible". ■

The party's government in Chhattisgarh had implemented the "best" public distribution system and the BJP-governed Madhya Pradesh was ahead on the development front compared with Congress-governed States, he said.

Owing to its "wrong" economic policies and rampant corruption, the Congress governments had failed to address several issues, including poverty, he said. Shri Singh said the Joint Parliamentary Committee, headed by a Congress MP, instead of showing its willingness to listen to the former Minister A. Raja, an accused in the 2G spectrum allocation scam, had pointed fingers at the former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The BJP would not leave the Congress to go scot-free on corruption and would continue its fight both inside and outside Parliament, he said.

He rued that former CM Shri BS Yeddyurappa, who made the BJP a power to reckon with in this southern State, did not see reason in party's decision and chose to end his decades-old association with the BJP. "Ideally, Karnataka should have seen one CM for full five years. Under different circumstances we had to change our CM here. I apologise to people here for not being able to give political stability to Karnataka," Shri Singh said addressing a massive rally in Chikodi.

The BJP President said the BJP has always given priority to probity in public life. "We did not force Shri Yeddyurappa out of the party. He should have understood party's compulsion. There was an allegation against him by the Lokayukta. We could not have continued with him as the CM. We have a precedence of LK Advani who did not contest election until cleared by court in the Hawala scam. It would have been better if Yeddyurappa had stayed back in the BJP and strengthened it. He did not see reason," Shri Singh said.

The BJP president said the party, however, found an honest Chief Minister in Shri Jagadish Shettar, and he would continue to provide good administration if the BJP returned to power, he said. If the BJP returned to power, Shri Singh said he would advise Shri Shettar to increase the limit of interest-free crop loan from the present Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh.

Critical of the Congress led UPA for its misgovernance Shri Rajnath Singh threatened the Congress of dire consequences if the JPC led by its MP PC Chako "dares" to drag the name of former PM Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's name in the 2G

scam.

"What joke is this? Clean chit is given to the PM and the Finance Minister but Vajpayeeji, who is indisposed, has been dragged into it. We will not remain silent if the JPC dares to do this. The Government will face our fury both inside Parliament and on the streets," he said.

Shri Singh appreciated the performance of BJP Governments in other States and reiterated poll promises made in party's election manifesto. "Even Government agencies have lauded the performance of the BJP-ruled States. We are committed to good governance. Vote us to power, the BJP will deliver promises made to people of Karnataka," he added.

HAVERI RALLY

Whatever the consequences, we will not compromise on corruption: Advani

BJP parliamentary party chairman Shri LK Advani in his whirlwind tour of the State started his campaign from Ranebennur in Haveri district on April 21 and said his party won't tolerate corruption. Shri Advani further said, "Whatever the consequences, we will not compromise on corruption. We will not tolerate corruption. Within the party there will be zero tolerance for indiscipline and within the Government there will be zero tolerance for corruption," he added.

He said Karnataka Chief Minister Shri Jagadish Shettar has done a great job and everybody praises his performance. He said, after the May 5 Assembly polls, BJP's position will be excellent. He also said the party has zero tolerance for terrorism. "When I was talking to General Musharraf I told him you can wage a war on us directly. We will not hesitate to fight back. But if you encourage terrorism we will not tolerate, Shri Advani added.

Speaking at a massive gathering Shri Advani said though two party system has not evolved in India, bipolar polity has developed with the BJP and the Congress emerging as two poles in national politics. "No Government can be formed in New Delhi without the support of either the BJP or the Congress. Asking for votes for BJP candidates, Shri Advani expressed confidence that his party will come back to power.

BANGALORE RALLY

Congress trying to exonerate Manmohan Singh & P Chidambaram in 2G scam : Sushma Swaraj

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party in Karnataka officially launched its election campaign with rallies by its national and state leaders across the state on April 22.

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj addressed a huge rally in Bangalore, where in a scathing attack on the ruling UPA, she accused the Congress-led government of being steeped in corruption and passing the blame on allies whenever it comes under attack for



irregularities.

She said the Congress had failed to stop corruption and terrorism and done little to make women more secure, and asked if Karnataka's voters wanted the same kind of government in the state. "Congress sarkar ka bhrashtachar hawa, zameen aur pataal tak hai (The corruption by Congress govt. has reached air, land and underworld)," Smt. Swaraj said at the BJP rally. She was referring to the alleged irregularities in 2G spectrum, CWG projects and coal block allocation.

She accused the Congress of trying to exonerate Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Finance Minister P Chidambaram in the alleged 2G scam through the JPC report. The ruling party also tried to blame former Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee and ex-ministers Arun Shourie and Jaswant Singh in the spectrum scam, she said.

"The Congress has crossed its limits of shamelessness by targeting the cleanest of Prime Ministers of India (Vajpayeeji) and exonerating

Manmohan Singh and Chidambaram in 2G scam," she said, referring to the JPC draft report.

On terrorism, she said BJP had demanded that the Congress-led UPA government stop talks with Pakistan unless the neighbouring country roots out terror camps there.

"In spite of incidents like 26/11 Mumbai attacks, Bangalore bomb blasts and beheading of an Indian soldier at the border, the UPA government continues to engage talks with Pakistan," she rued. Smt. Swaraj also alleged that the Congress has adopted a strategy of shifting blame on its allies whenever it came under attack for corruption.

MANGALORE RALLY

Sadananda urges Moily to quit 'scam-riddled' Union government

Addressing a rally at Mangalore Bharatiya Janata Party National Vice-President and former Karnataka Chief Minister Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda on April 21 challenged the Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri M. Veerappa Moily to resign on moral grounds.

Criticizing the reported statement of Mr. Moily that he was ashamed to call himself a former Chief Minister of Karnataka in view of the disrepute brought to the State by the ruling party, Shri Gowda pointed out that Mr. Moily was part of a government that was accused of a string of scams.

Shri Gowda said that the 2G spectrum allocation, helicopter purchase deal and coal block allocation were only a few in a series of scandals that the Congress was riddled with. If he (Mr. Moily) had any sense of morality, he should resign at least now. Wondering why Mr. Moily was not ashamed of being part of such a corrupt Union government, Shri Gowda said the Union Minister's statement only reflected his personality. Shri Gowda said he was proud to have been Chief Minister of Karnataka and he considered it a rare opportunity that came his way. There was nothing to be ashamed of it, he added.

The former Chief Minister said BJP had released a realistic manifesto which had programmes that could be implemented. He said the party was sure to find the resources required to supply 25 kg of rice to the poor at Re 1 a kg. It would need Rs. 6,000 crore. ■

Make Delhi safe and secure for women

When BJP will come to power, even the daughter of Sheila Dikshit will feel safe- Vijay Goel

Raising question on the incidents of rape almost every day in the capital BJP Delhi Pradesh President Vijay Goel has said that why the Chief Minister of Delhi is helpless in this matter? Reacting to the comments of Sheila Dikshit in which she had said that even her daughter is not safe in Delhi, Shri Goel said that when BJP will come to power, along with the people of Delhi, the daughter of Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit will feel safe. Shri Goel further said that the Congress Governments at centre and Delhi have completely

failed. The criminals are not afraid of the Government or the police. Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit should resign herself before the resignation of Police Commissioner.

Delhi BJP Mahila Morcha staged a massive demonstration at the residence of Congress President Sonia Gandhi to protest against the failure of law and order in Delhi and the increasing number of incidents of rape. Women activists were so much agitated that they broke down all the barricades put up by the police and reached at the residence of Sonia Gandhi. The police lathi charged them in a barbarous manner in which many women workers were seriously injured including Shikha Rai, Sandhya Verma, Alka Chaudhary, Surekha, Rajkumari.

Reacting to the incident of rape against a minor girl of 14 years by two young men in Shradhanand Colony of Bhalaswa Jahangirpuri, Shri Goel demanded that the persons responsible for the rape of minor girls should be hanged.

Shri Goel has demanded the Police to take following steps to control crime in Delhi immediately.

1. Every case should be registered and after the registration of case the Police Stations should ensure that the accused persons are punished and policemen should also be awarded.
2. The duties of traffic, investigation and law & order



should be separated.

3. Every police station should have women police officers and the investigation into the case of atrocities against women should be done by the women police officer.
4. Elected representatives and members of the RWA should be included in the Area Committee and not only the SHO and the members of ruling party.

As the mark of protest against the brutal rape of 5 year old Gudia, Delhi BJP led by President Vijay Goel along with 3000 workers marched towards the Parliament on 22nd April 2013. The protesters had black ribbon tied around their mouths and wore black caps as a token of protest against the Delhi Government's failure to provide security to women. Addressing the protestors Vijay Goel said that the Delhi Police Commissioner is appointed by the Home Minister in consultation with the Chief Minister of Delhi. Hence her and her son Sandeep Diskhit's constant stand that she wants the Police

Rajnath Singh blames Congress led Delhi & Central government for increasing rape cases

BJP president Shri Rajnath Singh on April 20 said Central and Delhi governments have failed to take required measures to curb cases of rapes in the national capital. Shri Rajnath Singh was reacting to the rape of a five-year-old girl took place in Delhi on April 18. The gruesome incident once again reminded people of the brutal rape and murder of a 23-year-old girl in a moving bus last december. He noted that in such cases, administrative response depends a lot on the kind of political leadership the country has. The BJP president said there was a need to awaken and sensitise people. He further demanded that the culprits must be punished. ■

Commissioner to be removed is mere posturing and it has less substance in it. Goel said, if both Sheila Dikshit and the Home Minister want the Delhi Police Commissioner to be sacked, then who is preventing his removal?

Shri Goel further said that it is Congress's old habit of accusing other persons for their own mistakes. For the 2G corruption, the Congress has made a scapegoat out of A. Raja, Kalmadi has been hanged for CWG mess and now the Congress is trying its best to project that for the deteriorating security of women in Delhi, the buck stops at the Police Headquarters.

Goel questioned is this right kind of democracy, where the bureaucracy alone is held responsible while their political masters go scot free? Can the highest elected political representative like the Chief Minister simply walk away by holding others responsible for her misdeeds?

Shri Goel said that Delhi is reeling under Jungle Raj and this needs immediate intervention to provide much required relief to the people of Delhi. Goel along with protestors were halted at the gate of the Parliament. They were assaulted and arrested. The Dharna was also attended by MLA's Jagdish Mukhi, Ramesh Bidhuri, Councillor Subhash Arya and BJP Vice President Pawan Sharma. (FOC) ■

Muralidhar Rao visited family of Smt. Bethala Suneela who gave her life to protect her daughter from molesters



BJP national General Secretary Shri Muralidhar Rao on April 13 visited Tenali to express sympathies to the bereaved family of Smt.

Bethala Kantha Suneela, a brave dalit woman who lost her life in a valiant bid to protect her daughter from molesters. While addressing the press conference at Tenali, Shri Muralidhar Rao said that women, particularly from downtrodden sections like SC and ST, are frequently becoming victims of such kinds of atrocities.

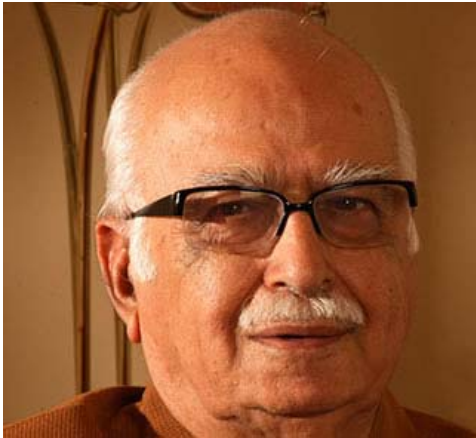
From Nirbhaya incident in Delhi to Suneela incident in AP, the Congress government is showing a kind of indifferent attitude in handling the issue. This in turn is becoming a reason for such incidents to repeat very frequently, despite public protest.

BJP demands the Andhra Pradesh state government to finish the investigation of this case immediately and establish a parallel court to bring the culprits to justice at the earliest. ■

Nitin Gadkari concludes first phase of BJP Suraaj Sankalp Yatra in Rajasthan

Lauding the party's commitment for development oriented politics, former BJP President Shri Nitin Gadkari on April 17 hailed good governance and development accomplished by the BJP led governments in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh. Addressing a public meeting at the conclusion of the first phase of the party state unit's Suraaj Sankalp Yatra in Udaipur, Shri Gadkari also slammed the Congress-led Government in Rajasthan for 'stalling development process, unduly increasing debt burden liability and failure in maintaining agriculture growth that was achieved during the previous BJP regime'.

He said that the agriculture growth rate, state gross domestic product, and other parameters of development and growth in economy were much low in Rajasthan as compared to the BJP ruled states. The BJP leader said Modi's Gujarat Model of Development has earned praise all over while agro reforms in Madhya Pradesh had also attracted the attention of the nation. Party state president Smt. Vasundhara Raje and leader of the Opposition in the state assembly Gulab Chand Kataria also spoke on the occasion. The yatra was flagged off by the party President Rajnath Singh in Charbhujaji-Rajsamand on April 4. The yatra aimed at garnering people's support has in its first phase has so far covered five districts of Mewar region. The yatra would be concluded in state capital of Jaipur on July 21 next. ■



White Paper on Black Money notwithstanding, not a single paisa has yet been recovered

By L.K Advani

blog.lkadvani.in

In May 2012, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, then Finance Minister presented to Parliament a White Paper on Black Money. In this White Paper, the UPA Government promised to curb generation of Black Money in the country, its illicit transfer to tax havens overseas and to take effective measures to secure the repatriation of all this illicit wealth of ours to India.

May, 2013 would mark the first anniversary of the presentation of this important document. It would be in place first to recall what made Government to present this White Paper, and what has been the follow up till date.

For the last five years now, the BJP has been consistently raising this issue of black money. When it was first raised in 2008, Congress Party spokesmen had ridiculed it. However, on April 6, 2008, I personally addressed a letter to Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh in which I wrote:

Recently, the German Government launched a massive investigation drive against tax-evaders in their country, and, in this process, the German

intelligence is reported to have procured from the LTG Bank in Liechtenstein confidential data on more than 1400 clients of this bank. Of these, 600 are Germans and the rest belong to other countries.

The revelations have already led to the resignation of the head of Deutsche Post – the former German mail service – one of the largest logistics company in the world.

The German Finance Ministry is reported to have publicly announced that it is willing to share the information with any government that

wanted it without charging any fees for the information.

Some countries of Europe like Finland, Norway and Sweden have already shown interest in getting this data.

Along with this development, there are also reports that pressure is building on Switzerland to treat black money entrusted to its banks from tax evasion to be treated as a crime and modify its internal regulations to cooperate with other countries in tracking such funds.

I think the Government of India, through its appropriate agencies, should request the German Government to share the data of the clients of LTG. Our Government should also be proactive in supporting the possible future steps to be initiated by European governments in bringing in more transparency in banking system of Switzerland and other tax havens particularly related to deposits from other countries.

If we ask for the data from Germany regarding the clients of the LTG group it will re-enforce our position as a responsible member of the comity of nations who stand for financial integrity

In May 2012, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, then Finance Minister presented to Parliament a White Paper on Black Money. In this White Paper, the UPA Government promised to curb generation of Black Money in the country, its illicit transfer to tax havens overseas and to take effective measures to secure the repatriation of all this illicit wealth of ours to India.

and transparent regulations. It will also facilitate our future participation in cleaning up the world financial system from some of the pernicious aspects of the functioning of these tax havens.

Presumably, at the instance of the Prime Minister, the Finance Minister Shri Chidambaram replied to me in May, 2008, that his government was seized of this matter and was pursuing it with the German Tax Office.

In March 2010, I wrote a blog on the matter in which I recounted this LTG Bank of Liechtenstein episode, and urged formally that Government come forth with a comprehensive White Paper on Black Money.

Meanwhile the BJP set up a 4-member Task Force to study the matter. This Task Force after studying various sources came to the conclusion that Indian wealth illegally stashed abroad may be anywhere between 25 lakh crores and 70 lakh crores.

So long as the West dominated world economy was doing well for the US and other Western nations, the entire world seemed reconciled to the banking secrecy of these tax havens. It was felt nothing could be done about the laws of these countries. But the global economic crisis made not only President Obama, but also several European countries like UK, France and Germany change their attitude, and join hands to make a determined effort to have banking secrecy laws in these countries changed.

In 2009, Washington forced the Swiss banking giant UBS to disclose the names of 4,450 American clients suspected of hiding assets in Switzerland.

In 2009 Lok Sabha poll, the BJP made black money an election issue. Sanyasis like Swami Ramdev would invariably refer to it in their sermons. In an article published by Financial Times, under title "India's Curse of Black Money", Raymond Baker, director, Global Financial Integrity, wrote: 'India has shown that this issue resonates with voters. Politicians in other developing democracies would be wise to take note'.

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The economic crisis in U.S. and other western countries made these nations acutely conscious of the fact that corruption, black money etc. had become issues that were a problem not just for individual nations, but were a challenge for democracy, the rule of law and good governance in the whole world. Way back in 2004, therefore, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime adopted a comprehensive Convention against Corruption. This 56-page document carries a powerful foreword by Kofi Annan, UN Secretary General

who says :

- ♦ Corruption is an insidious plague that has a wide range of corrosive effects on societies,
- ♦ It undermines democracy and the rule of law,
- ♦ Leads to violation of human rights,
- ♦ Distorts markets,
- ♦ Erodes the quality of life, and
- ♦ Allows organized crime, terrorism and other threats to human security to flourish.

Article 67 of this Convention against Corruption requires all member countries of the UN to sign the convention by December 2005, have it ratified by the respective countries shortly thereafter and deposit its instrument of ratification with the secretary general of the United Nations.

In 2010 the UPA Government took formal note of the issue and in the President's customary address to that year's Budget Session of Parliament affirmed that "India is an active part of the global efforts to facilitate exchange of tax information and take action against tax evaders".

The Jan Chetna Yatra organized by the BJP in the last quarter of 2011 had focused attention on three issues: Inflation, Corruption and Black Money. But since the Commonwealth Games of 2008, corruption and price rise had dominated all political discourse both in the media as well as in Parliament, I found the audiences at the meetings I addressed during this last yatra extremely responsive to all that I spoke about Black Money.

The Jan Chetna Yatra of

2011 has been my most recent yatra. It stretched over 40 days. I visited every single state of the country as also all Union Territories. The general impression has been that my first yatra of 1990 - planned from Somnath to Ayodhya, but cut short at Samastipur- had evoked the greatest response. It is also said very often that the enthusiasm aroused was because the core issue was religious, namely, the Rama Temple. But I would like to affirm here that my latest two yatras, the Swarna Jayanti Rath Yatra of 1997, and the Jan Chetna Yatra of 2011 have evoked the maximum response till date. Both these were related to good governance and economic well being of the people !

In his foreword to the White Paper on Black Money presented to Parliament on May 16, 2012, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee admitted that in 2011, "the public discourse on the issue of corruption and black money has come in the forefront."

In this Introduction, Shri Pranab Mukherjee also said:

"I would have been happy if I could have included the conclusions of reports of three premier institutions that have been tasked to quantify the magnitude of black money. These reports are likely to be received by the end of this year. However I have chosen to present this document now in response to an assurance given to the Parliament".

Pranab Da did present this White Paper as BJP had demanded and in this, very rightly affirmed :

"There is no doubt that manifestation of black money in

social, economic and political space of our lives has a debilitating effect on the institutions of governance and conduct of public policy in the country. Governance failure and corruption in the system affect the poor disproportionately. The success of an inclusive development strategy critically depends on the capacity of our society to root out the evil of corruption and black money from its very foundations".

My only regret is that the follow up of the White Paper has been disappointing.

The three premier institutions tasked to quantify the magnitude of black money have still not submitted their reports. Not only the more

powerful nations like U.S., Germany etc. but even smaller countries like Nigeria, Peru and Phillipines have got back their illicitly lost wealth from the tax havens. We in India, on the other hand, have seen some reports about names who are supposed to have accounts in Swiss Banks or such other tax havens, but have not heard of even a single paisa illegally stashed abroad having been repatriated to our country. I wish to urge Shri Pranab Mukherjee who is today in a far more exalted position than he was when he presented his White Paper to ensure that the promise made to the people in this document is fulfilled by Government both in letter and spirit. ■

Rajnath Singh condoles the death of five Indian Army personnel in South Sudan

Five Indian Army personnel including a Lieutenant Colonel and a Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) have been killed while performing their duty in South Sudan. The Indian army personnel were a part of the peace keepers in the UN Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) at Jonglei near Gumruk in South Sudan. As peace keepers from India and serving as a part of the UN Mission, the Indian soldiers were performing a very important duty. The BJP expresses its condolences to the near and dear of these soldiers. The BJP salutes their service and their sacrifice. Rajnath Singh said, we stand by their families in this moment of grief. ■

Rajnath appointed Devendra Gangadhar Fadanvis as new Maharashtra Unit President

BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh on April 11 appointed Shri Devendra Gangadhar Fadanvis as the President of BJP Maharashtra State. Belonging to a rare breed of politicians having scholarly approach as well as popular support, the BJP leader from the city earlier had the distinction of being the second-youngest mayor in the country when he became city mayor in 1997. A year later, he became the first 'mayor-in-council'. Presently into his third consecutive term as MLA since 1999, Fadanvis is representing Nagpur south-west seat, before which he had been elected twice from Nagpur west constituency. ■

"My Call Detail Records and A Citizen's Right to Privacy"

By Arun Jaitley

In the past few months I have been closely monitoring a series of news reports which deal with surveillance of my mobile phones. An effort has been made to get access to my call detail records. On two occasions senior officers of the Delhi Police have met me to keep me informed of the progress of the case.

The Facts

On three occasions the Delhi Police has officially asked for the call detail records of the mobile phone which I regularly use. These details have been asked for by the South District, the Central District and the Crime Branch of Delhi Police. The reason for officially seeking the call detail records are both curious and ridiculous. On two occasions for two different periods the Call Detail Records were sought ostensibly on the ground that they were required for a verification in relation to the crime of multiple murders which had been committed in a farmhouse in Delhi. On the third occasion a Head Constable of Delhi Police sought the details and successfully obtained them on the ground that he was returning from the Saket Courts, an anonymous source advised him to check up the call detail records of my telephone number since the same may provide some evidence in relation to a fake currency racket. Obviously, both the pretexts were palpably false. Even for the wildest of



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imagination there would not be any evidence available in my phone details in relation to these offences. I hardly have any familiarity with the persons

involved in these crimes or in relation to the subject matter of the offence.

In another incident the Delhi Police unearthed an effort to a constable of the Police acting at the behest of a private detective agency to get the Call Detail Records of some of the phones which are used by persons around me. Two phones in my name are used by two drivers whom I alternatively use and the third one is used by my son. When I am in my car or at a meeting, I do receive calls on my driver's numbers. The Delhi Police claims that this attempt was foiled by a vigilant employee of the Service Provider who suspected foul play in these transactions.

The details of these calls being observed through official and illegal channels were for the periods November-December, 2012 and January 2013. It was junior officers of the police including the officials at the level of Head Constable and Constables who could get access to these Call Detail Records.

It is obvious that somebody during this period was desperately trying to look for some evidence in my call details. The combined effort has covered the phones which I regularly use and some phones of persons who accompany me which I may incidentally use. Regrettably the Delhi Police believes that each of these efforts are unconnected

and there is no pattern in the fact that an attempt was being made both successfully and unsuccessfully to monitor the persons with whom I am in touch with during the critical period. I find it difficult to accept this explanation of the Delhi Police that it is unable to find out the master-mind behind this operation and it is merely co-incidental that so many activities

of his personal liberty. Interference in the right to privacy is an interference in his personal liberty by a process which is not fair, just or reasonable. A person's Call Detail Records can throw up details of several transactions. In the case of an average citizen it can reflect on his relationships. In the case of a professional or a business person it can reflect on

In the case of a Member of Parliament, this raises an additional issue. A Member of Parliament like a media person receives information from various sources. It is in public interest that the identity of the sources is to be concealed. Most scams are exposed by insiders. If identity of sources are revealed there is a danger of the sources drying up and public interest suffering. A Member of Parliament has several undefined privileges. Nobody has a right to know who communicates with him. If those who communicate with him are exposed nobody would be willing to provide information to a Member of Parliament. This will be detrimental to public interest.

If Constables and Head Constables of police officially (even though on false pretexts) or unofficially can get access to Call Detail Records of an individual (in this case Leader of Opposition in one of the Houses of Parliament) the personal liberty of an individual would be in peril.

were taking place at the same time to get at my Call details.

The Delhi Police would have me believe that these were unconnected developments. The inability of the Delhi Police to find out the master-mind behind this operation does not mean that there is no master-mind. Either the investigation is extremely incompetent to discover the identity of the master-mind or the Delhi Police finds it embarrassing to name the master-mind. My guess is still wide open. This could be an out-sourced operation to a Government agency or a private rogue operation.

The Effect

My object in raising this issue is not to play a victimhood card. I raise this issue because some larger questions of public interest are involved.

Firstly, every citizen in India has a right to privacy. His right to privacy is an inherent aspect

of his financial transactions. In the case of a journalist it can reveal the identity of his sources. In the case of a politician it can reveal the identity of the person with whom he has regular access. Every person has 'a right to be left alone'. In a liberal society there is no place for those who peep into the private affairs of individuals.

No one has a right to know who another communicates with him. The nature of communication, the identity of persons being communicated with and frequency of communications would be a serious breach of privacy. If Constables and Head Constables of police officially (even though on false pretexts) or unofficially can get access to Call Detail Records of an individual (in this case Leader of Opposition in one of the Houses of Parliament) the personal liberty of an individual would be in peril.

If the privileged phone records of the Leader of Opposition can be accessed so easily, one shudders to think as to what would happen to an ordinary citizen.

This incident throws up another legitimate fear. We are now entering the era of the Adhaar number. The Government has recently made the existence of the Adhaar number as a condition precedent for undertaking several activities; from registering marriages to execution of property documents. Will those who encroach upon the affairs of others be able to get access to bank accounts and other important details by breaking into the system? If this ever becomes possible the consequences would be far messier. ■

Writer is Leader of Opposition (Rajya Sabha)

Once FTA becomes active, EU will flood market with agro products : Dr. Joshi

While issuing a press statement on FTA, Lok Sabha MP and PAC chairman Shri Murli Manohar Joshi said, Manmohan Singh while announcing his road map for restoring the country's economic health in the coming year, had stressed that the UPA government would vigorously pursue the economic reforms which amounted to open several economic sectors to foreign capital and multinational financial agencies. It may be recalled that several financial experts and also political parties have questioned these measures which in the opinion of BJP need to be discussed through an informed debate in and outside the Parliament. The economy is already suffering from acute anaemia and it will not be prudent to allow it to bleed further.

What is even more surprising that the UPA government is now engaged in the final phase of the negotiations for the highly controversial Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the European Union (EU) without taking in to account the opposition by several development experts and many stakeholders. Irrespective of ideological considerations, the conditions which, according to reports, the UPA government is willing to concede to EU will seriously jeopardize the interests of the Indian people with no obvious gains in trade or economic expansion. There are hundreds of FTAs between

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countries and whatever little gains, if at all, India is likely to gain will erode fast due to the same country's treaties with other countries. In the process India also loses the policy space which it will never get back. As UNCTAD notes, "the gains for developing countries from improved market access through FTAs are not guaranteed, and may be short lived, but the loss of policy space is certain." Through the current negotiations on FTA with EU India will certainly lose the policy space in several sectors of its economy.

According to reports in the First Post, India stands to gain very

little from this FTA, because close to 69 percent of its agricultural exports and 65 percent of its non-agricultural export already enter the European markets without duties, whereas it allows only less than six percent of the former's products without duty. Under the proposed FTA, India has to remove 90 percent of the tariff, but there is no assurance that the EU will lift its subsidies that are disadvantageous to Indian agriculture. No, there is no provision to discuss subsidies in the FTA. So, in the short and long run, it will be bad for both farmers and agro-industries in India."

Once the FTA becomes active, the EU will flood the market with products in dairy, poultry, sugar, wheat, confectionary, oilseeds, plantation products and fisheries, some of which are strategic for India. This will directly compromise India's agricultural sovereignty and its food security. Obviously, an FTA which talks only about tariffs, and not about trade-distorting tricks such as subsidies and other incentives is detrimental to our agriculture.

Incidentally, access to food is a human right under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) of the United Nations (UN).

Another area that will impact India is opening up of procurement in central and state government institutions. This is the lifeline of many of Indian industries and

medium and small enterprises, including small businesses run by women and other disadvantaged communities. If this is opened to the EU, the SMEs will find it extremely hard to survive.

Imagine a situation when our small vendors have to compete with EU for contracts in Railways or other public sector undertakings. India hasn't so far given this facility to any other FTA-partner, and acceding to the EU will lead to demands by others. Small town India vendors competing with a high-tech vendor in Japan or Germany for government contracts doesn't sound like level-playing field. It's not about exclusive, technologically demanding area, but routine contracts.

India already has an increasing trade deficit since 2000-01 with the EU, which stood at 3309.3 million USD in 2008-09. Projections (CEPII-CIREM 2007) show that after the FTA even in the industrial sector India will make gains only in textiles & garments, and leather. The only significant variation in value for India is in textiles (3573 mln USD) and in industry and manufactures (807 mln USD). Even in the latter, India's market share in EU will remain unchanged. In addition, EU NTBs in the textile sector is a problem for India. However EU's bilateral trade will increase significantly in industry and manufactures, primary products, vehicles, textiles, leather and clothing, and in agro food. In fact EU's gain in industry and manufactures (7947 mln USD) alone is almost double the gain India will have from textile, garments, and leather.

MSMEs feel they are not given a 'level playing field' in competing with developed countries if the

reported conditions are accepted. Since infrastructure in India including that of marketing, storage and transportation are weak, entrepreneurs feel their competitors in the developed countries have huge advantage in terms of basic facilities. In addition they get significant support from the government. The UK government just released a new document in support their SMEs. In India, while certain policies are supposed to encourage MSME exports and production, almost all the entrepreneurs feel that they are not able to avail these facilities in reality.

Another important concern is: investment provisions in FTA not only provide post investment protection but also pre-establishment rights including market access commitments. Such commitments in FTAs would lock in India and may take away the opportunity to review the foreign investment in certain sectors in certain circumstances. For instance, India is now facing challenges from pharmaceutical MNCs due to their aggressive acquisitions of Indian generic companies. This may compromise access to medicines to people of India at an affordable price. One of the most discussed policy response is to put a cap on FDI in pharmaceutical sector. Such response may not be possible if India locks in certain sectors for foreign investment without any safeguards.

The intellectual property rights chapters proposed in this FTA goes beyond the TRIPS Agreement, which will also give European companies considerable market power. Further, EU is also demanding liberalization of FDI through FTA and thus establishes

linkage between trade and investment, which was successfully opposed by India during the WTO Cancun Ministerial Conference in 2003. These will also undermine the space of the government to enact policies to redress development inequalities.

Several media reports have suggested that EU is pressuring India to liberalize many sensitive areas which India cannot commit. The EU wants India's commitments in retail where millions of small businesses are dependent. The EU also wants India to open up sensitive areas such as banking, insurance, postal services, and energy which India can not afford.

BJP demands:

- ▶ A comprehensive debate in parliament during the second half of the Budget session on all FTAs entered and especially on EU-India FTA.
- ▶ Immediate release of negotiating text and impact assessment studies of FTAs particularly EU-India.
- ▶ Government should not go ahead on the Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) with EU without a political consensus and a conference of all stake holders be immediately convened.
- ▶ FTA with EU should not be allowed to endanger the Indian retail in general and agriculture and dairy farming in particular.
- ▶ All Treaties which impinge upon the sovereignty of the country and the fundamental rights of the people including food security and health, and the federal structure of the country should be ratified after the scrutiny of the Parliament.■

Of borrowed ideas and empty phrases

By Balbir Punj

Neither does Rahul Gandhi have any ideas of his own on how to lead India into the future nor does he have any understanding of the country's glorious past. His speech at the CII was proof enough

Can a leader, suffering from an embarrassing disconnect with the country's glorious past, lead it to realise its full potential? Congress vice president Rahul Gandhi's speech at a recent Confederation of Indian Industry meet only confirmed what most Indians always suspected: That the Gandhiscion's understanding of India is shallow and his opinions are based on borrowed ideas. Even the Congress was embarrassed by Mr Gandhi's failures and mistakes at the CII meet. Nothing else explains why it edited out several portions of his speech in the version that was posted online.

For example, Mr Gandhi said: "They used to look at India and say, boss, the Hindu rate of growth! They have been saying this for 3,000 years. Now the Hindu rate of growth has become the European rate of growth." The Congress vice president had borrowed the pejorative phrase 'Hindu rate of growth' from Raj Krishna, who first used it to describe India's dismal 2.5 to 3.5 per cent growth rate in the decades after independence, thanks to the country's centralised socialist economic model. With the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the

socialist model lost its legitimacy. Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao junked the Nehruvian mindset and with that ended the 'Hindu rate of growth'. The rest, as they say, is history.

Ideally, Mr Gandhi should have compared India's dismal economic performance in recent years with the country's pre-colonial past when it was a global leader. After all, there was a time when scholars and travellers from around the globe

Europeans learned it from the Arabs through their trade relations and then called it the Arabic numerals. The system was in place far before that, as can be seen from the numerals used in hundreds of ancient Hindu texts.

The picture of India as a semi-barbaric nation where babies were thrown into the river as sacrifice, was created by European colonisers and missionaries to justify their occupation of the Eastern

Ideally, Mr Gandhi should have compared India's dismal economic performance in recent years with the country's pre-colonial past when it was a global leader. After all, there was a time when scholars and travellers from around the globe came to India to learn and admire its wealth and richness. The world has already acknowledged the contribution of Hindu India to fields as diverse as mathematics, science, astronomy and botany.

came to India to learn and admire its wealth and richness. The world has already acknowledged the contribution of Hindu India to fields as diverse as mathematics, science, astronomy and botany.

Similarly, the concept of 'zero' and the decimal system introduced by Aryabhata and the pioneering contribution of others like Varahamihira solved key mathematical problems. As one can see from the Roman numerals, it was a cumbersome line-up of numbers till the Indian system came into vogue. The Arab traders learnt the Hindu system and modified it. The

countries through subterfuge. And then they bled India white through administrative and economic measures that destroyed local industry at a time when the economy worked through village-based self-sufficient institutions.

Volumes have been written by various foreign historians about the prosperity and abundance of ancient India right up to the middle of the 18th century. Paul Bairoch, a Belgian economist, in his well acknowledged study proved that in 1750 India's share of world GDP was 24.5 per cent, China's 33 per cent and the combined

share of Britain and the US just two per cent. Angus Maddison, a great economic historian, later confirmed Bairoch's study. He further said that India was a leading economic power till 1700. India had 32 per cent share of world's GDP in the first 1,000 years and 28 per cent in the second millennium till 1700.

It's a settled fact that poverty came to India because of colonial rule. Systematic destruction of

suffered the same type of scarcities as people did in the erstwhile Soviet Union.

That crass ignorance was also evident when he referred to the Rani of Jhansi while recalling his visit to Jhansi. He sought to play down the heroic role that she played in what was the first organised attack on British imperialism. The Congress was so embarrassed by this gaffe that it removed this part of the speech

how and when the Congress changed from being a vigorous mass movement under Mahatma Gandhi to the family heirloom that it is today. Also, if Mr Gandhi is talking about decentralisation when he himself derives legitimacy from dynastic heritage (or "political DNA", as he mentioned), then it poses the question whether he was condemning his own heritage or merely playing to a gallery consisting of a new generation of young people, that now dominates the electorate.

And that is not all. The Congress scion also wants exponential growth, not the incremental growth that India has registered so far. But surely he is aware that in the last nine years that his party has been in power, India's national growth rate has dropped from nine per cent to five per cent. In this context, his praise for Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, under whose leadership growth came down from 'incremental' to in effect 'negative' (when 10 per cent inflation is taken into account), is just absurd.

Ultimately, Mr Gandhi's much hyped speech proved to be just another well-rehearsed show, liberally laced with borrowed sound expressions. Also, he pointed to Mr Sam Pitroda several times, revealing the man who is quite possibly responsible for all the fancy phrases he used like "exponential growth", "Pradhan's voice" and "out-of-the-box thinking". A leadership that is divorced from the past and merely mouths borrowed phrases, holds little hope for the country. ■

(The writer is BJP National-Vice President and MP Rajya Sabha)

Against this background, it is regrettable that someone who is projected by the Congress as the crown prince of the party, should be so ignorant as to speak of a "Hindu rate of growth for 3,000 years". Moreover, the prince also seemed to have ignored the fact that his use of that phrase was tantamount to condemning his own party's socialist legacy between 1947 and 1977, and then between 1980 and 1989, when Soviet-style socialism governed Congress- thinking, and the country suffered.

the Indian economy was resorted to, so that wealth could be transferred from India to the West. Before colonial rule came, there was centuries of looting by Islamic invaders. But even though they took back to Central Asia and Persia much wealth from India and even destroyed institutions of great learning like Nalanda, they could not suffocate the Hindu economy.

Against this background, it is regrettable that someone who is projected by the Congress as the crown prince of the party, should be so ignorant as to speak of a "Hindu rate of growth for 3,000 years". Moreover, the prince also seemed to have ignored the fact that his use of that phrase was tantamount to condemning his own party's socialist legacy between 1947 and 1977, and then between 1980 and 1989, when Soviet-style socialism governed Congress-thinking, and the country

from the video it posed online.

Congressmen may claim that each of these mistakes was a mere instance of a slip of the tongue. But how could they hide the naivete of their leader which the latter laid bare, when he pleaded for a change in the system from the Pradhan Mantri to the village pradhan? Essentially, Mr Gandhi was promoting the decentralised system of governance that prevailed in India before colonial rule destroyed it. However, instead of referring to Mahatma Gandhi for empowering local Governments, he made much of the Constitutional Amendment that his father Rajiv Gandhi had brought about to confer power on panchayat heads.

The simplistic rhetoric that Mr Gandhi spouted about taking the people's voice to the Centre of power was really a condemnation of his own party's policies. He should ask himself

Diarchal UPA leadership resulting in drift, gross maladministration : NDA

The NDA Parliamentary floor leaders, meeting under the Chairmanship of Shri L. K. Advani, MP examined issues confronting the country on the eve of the residual Budgetary session of Parliament.

The NDA expressed its mounting concern at the state of the nation under the continuing misdeeds of this diarchal leadership of Dr. Manmohan Singh and Smt. Sonia Gandhi; resulting in drift, gross maladministration and rampant corruption in the present UPA regime.

Our borders, both in the West and in the East are breached with impunity; our Finance Minister abjectly circles the globe seeking investments as if India were a mendicant; our Defence Minister fails totally to lead his ministry, riddled as it is by corruption. Timidity, uncertainty, loss of direction and unmatched absence of leadership characterizes the conduct of the present Prime Minister, who sits atop the most corrupt government since Independence, behaving as if he sees nothing; hears nothing and thus supinely does nothing despite the loud ringing of the alarm bell of mounting chaos.

In Delhi, the capital city, the government sits idly by as unspeakable crimes of the most heinous kind get repeated with sickening frequency. When, we ask will this be ended?

As if this were not enough the latest occurrences of

ministerial interference with CBI in the 'coal gate' matter; in gross violation of Supreme Court directive reports that a draft on the 2G scandal has been circulated, but first to select journalists and only thereafter to committee members of the JPC. This is tantamount to relegating the Parliament's position to an irrelevancy, also violating the confidentiality of its reports.

The NDA, therefore, demands of the UPA:-

- ◆ How and why was A Raja, the accused, not permitted to appear before the JPC despite his repeated requests and demands for it from members of the JPC?
- ◆ How have the two principal ministers of the government, dealing with the matter Dr. Manmohan Singh and Shri P.Chidambaram been exonerated, without questioning and without any examination by the JPC?
- ◆ How possibly can a minister of the cabinet 'mislead the Prime Minister'?
- ◆ Where does the collective responsibility of a government lie?
- ◆ Who actually has drafted this purported report of the JPC – the Chairman or some proxy of the UPA?

Above all, the NDA collectively and with one voice, totally condemns the manner in

which the JPC draft, as per accounts, is charging the former Prime Minister and the present convener of NDA, Shri A.B. Vajpayee with knowingly



having caused losses to the exchequer. This is utterly and absolutely condemnable. Such conclusions in the draft report of JPC, whilst simultaneously clearing Dr. Manmohan Singh's name, through a variety of sleights of hand, is an act of unmatched perfidy.

It is the Parliament, the people and the country that is betrayed through such acts of dishonesty. The NDA, therefore appeals to all the members of JPC to reject this report in toto.

Further, to charge NDA ministers like Shri Arun Shourie and Jaswant Singh, recognized for their unimpeachable integrity, of wrong doing can only be termed as perverse. They have both, at the initiative of the UPA been already interrogated by the CBI and no fault found.

The NDA calls upon the citizens of India to rise against the accumulated wrongs of the UPA, against all their misdeeds and to root them out of office. ■

UPA wasted the gains made by NDA

An analysis of NDA and UPA rule

Annual GDP Growth

1. In spite of economic sanctions on India due to nuclear test NDA regime touched GDP figure of 8.1% but now GDP is 4.5%.

Inflation

2. Another measurement for the health of any economy is the rate of inflation. During the NDA regime the rate of inflation was 3.8% when NDA left the power. Which has more than doubled during the UPA regime to 9% on an average and touching 11% in the year 2010-2011. High Inflation during UPA is attributed to high prices of food items and commodity prices. Constant increase in the price of petroleum products affects the rate of inflation in the long run adversely.

Current Account deficit

3. Usually, countries recording a strong current account surplus have an economy which is heavily dependent on the exports revenues, with high savings ratings but weak domestic demand. On the other hand, countries recording a current account deficit have strong imports, a low saving rates and high personal consumption rates as a percentage of disposable incomes. This

parameter also shows that it was only after NDA took over in 1998, that the exports rose and the deficits started to decrease, Indian economy picked up and we had current account surplus of nearly 1.5% to GDP. As soon as UPA came to power, the current account declined again and deficit increased from 0 to -3.7% to GDP which is again reflective of the mess created in our economy in the last 9 years.

Balance of trade

4. When Exports exceed imports it is "trade surplus" and if vice versa it is "trade deficit".

During NDA regime, 1998 - 2004, the trade deficit was ranging between 0 to 2 billion dollars, but after the UPA took over in 2004-till date the trade deficit has increased alarmingly with deficit touching nearly 20 Billion Dollars (Rs 1086.12 billion) in 2012-13.

India's External Debt

5. Another factor that affects economy is the external debt which is the money a country owes to its creditors. India's external debt has increased significantly from 2004. This

highlights that our borrowing has increased which could signify higher investment in developmental activities but at the same time it also highlights that despite massive rise in forex reserves since 1991, huge FII and FDI inflow and increased domestic savings, we have not been able cut down on our external borrowing.

Industrial production

6. Industrial production is often referred to as the engine of economic growth with respect to job creation. The industrial growth during NDA rose from 4% in 1998 to 9% in 2004, while during UPA's rule the industrial production after a touching 20% in November 2006 set a new

Year	Inflation Rate (annual)
1998 (BJP led NDA assumed power)	13.24
1999	4.658
2000	3.906
2001	3.671
2002	4.469
2003	3.713
2004 (Congress led UPA assumed power)	3.891
2005	3.97
2006	6.268
2007	6.373
2008	8.349
2009	10.882
2010	11.989
2011	8.9

(Source: International Monetary Fund)

record low of -7.20% in February 2009 and is now again in negative with -0.6% in 2013.

Agriculture production

7. India is known as an agro based economy. From the Planning Commission data released in 2012, it is revealed that the share of agriculture in the GDP has dropped from 26% in 1998-99 to 13% in 2012-13. Further, the CAG report on Farm Loan Waiver Scheme made by UPA govt in 2008, clearly points at misappropriation of 54,000 Cr which was meant for waiver of farmers. The Scheme was aimed at providing relief to farmers in States like Maharashtra and AP reporting large farmer suicides because of large credit or loans. Further it has been reported that there has been 14 million jobs lost in agriculture and 5 million manufacturing jobs lost from period (2004-05 to 2009-10).

7. Malnutrition

The CAG report has been tabled in the Parliament in March, **except for Bihar which saw 82%** malnutrition, all other states that topped were Congress ruled states like AP (49%), Delhi (50%), Rajasthan and Haryana (43%), while Gujarat, which was most targeted on this front recorded the most improved figures down from 70% in 2007 to 38% in 2011, which shows how BJP has worked in the state. Even the BJP ruled MP which till a decade back was not known for development is now at 28%, NDA ruled Punjab at 33%. Uttarakhand, ruled by the BJP from 2007 to 2012 saw a drop from 45% to 27%.

8. Unemployment

The Union government (*Times of India* reported on April 22, 2013) has admitted to lack of

substantial increase in employment between 2004-05 and 2009-2010, with the self-employed workforce shrinking from 56.4% to 50.7% of the total workforce. In absolute numbers, the self-employed decreased from 258.4 million to 232.7 million in this period while regular salaried workers rose from 69.7 million to 75.1 million. The ranks of casual labour rose from 129.7 million to 151.3 million. Collectively, the total workforce increased from 457.8 million to 459.1 million, a rise of just 0.3% over this period.

9. NDA or BJP ruled states vs UPA ruled states

1. The Union government discontinued the practice of ranking states annually on the implementation of the Twenty-Point Programme, the Centre's key initiative to eradicate poverty, a move that came after the states ruled by the opposition BJP dominated the list for three consecutive years. Gujarat, Himachal (When the State ruled BJP led by Prem Kumar Dhumal Govt.) Pradesh and NDA ruled States fared better than most Congress-ruled states.

2. As far as Devolution of powers to panchayati raj institutions is concerned, report shows that Himachal (BJP ruled), Gujarat, MP, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Bihar and Uttarakhand fared well under BJP. In contrast, there was minimal devolution of powers to the panchayats in Congress-ruled Haryana and Rajasthan.

3. The BJP-ruled MP tops the list on food security, drawing maximum grain allocated for the targeted PDS with 104% offtake while Congress-ruled Delhi

comes second with 102%. Congress-ruled Andhra and Nagaland are on a par with Himachal, with 100% offtake of grain under another scheme – Antyodaya Anna Yojana.

4. Right to Service legislation are meant to reduce corruption among the government officials and to increase transparency and public accountability BJP ruled Madhya Pradesh became the first state in India to enact Right to Service Act on 18 August 2010 and Bihar [BJP - JD(U) coalition Government] was the second to enact this bill on 25 July 2012.

5. Revolutionary reforms brought by BJP ruled Chattisgarh government to the public distribution system that focused on extending coverage, improving delivery and increasing transparency have led to its remarkable revival. The Reforms in PDS became torch bearer for other states.

6. According to a draft report regarding implementation of MGNREGA released by Central government that includes 5 states Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Sikkim and Madhya Pradesh. Madhya Pradesh secured first rank among these states in implementation of MGNREGA.

7. BJP ruled Gujarat has ranked on top for attracting maximum private investments across India as of December 2012, according to a sector specific analysis titled 'Composition of Outstanding Investments Across States,' carried out by The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). ■

-Compiled by Vikash Anand

We aim at bridging social and economic gaps created by the long rule of Congress : Rajnath

At a grand feast organized at Burari in north Delhi, the BJP celebrated the Ambedkar Jayanti, with its national president Shri Rajnath Singh the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj; and Delhi BJP President Shri Vijay Goel sharing food with members of the dalit community.



“ We aim at bridging social and economic gaps created by the long rule of the Congress government,” said Shri Singh.

Smt. Swaraj won the crowd by declaring that the women who cook her food and perform puja on her behalf, when needed, belong to the Valmiki community. “A real leader cannot ask others to do what he himself does not practice. It’s time to remove the blot of discrimination from our forehead.”

Shri Goel said the party had organized the event to embrace the community. “The Congress has given them reservation but lowered their self-

esteem. If the BJP comes to power, it will work for the dignity of the community.” He also said, “Modern gears will be provided to safai karmcharis to prevent death at work. Those on contractual jobs will be regularized. Dalit families with an income of less than Rs 1 lakh per year will be given gas connection. Promotion to SC candidates and filling up of vacancies will be taken up in a time-bound manner.”

Bihar BJP celebrates 122nd Ambedkar Jyanti

Deputy CM decides to spend Rs 877 crore for uplift of SC

Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar Sushil Kumar Modi said that our government would spend Rs 877 crore for the welfare of state’s Scheduled Caste people this fiscal. “A provision of Rs 877 crore has been made in the budget for 2013-14 for taking various steps for alleviation of the socio-economic condition of the SC people who comprised 16 per cent of Bihar’s population,” Modi said at a function to mark the 122nd birth anniversary of Dr BR Ambedkar. It had also been decided that all departments would spend 16 per cent of their budgetary allocation for the welfare of the SC people, Modi said. The state government was also giving monthly stipend of Rs 561 to promote education among SC students up to Class X and Rs 1,000 a month to those pursuing technical education, he said. A sum of Rs 75 crore had been allotted for grant of scholarship to SC students up to Class X, the Deputy CM said. The state government was also concerned with incidents of atrocities against the dalits and had decided to set up SC/ST police stations in all 38 districts, he said. Besides, it had been decided to provide Rs 3000 as pension or job in the state government to the kin of a dalit killed by others or in accident, Modi said, adding, the incentive was in addition to Rs five lakh compensation.

Gujarat BJP celebrates Ambedkar Jayanti

On 14th April 2013 Shri Narendra Modi paid rich tributes to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar on the occasion of his birth anniversary. Shri Modi paid floral tributes to Dr. Ambedkar’s statue and pointed that day is like a second Diwali for the nation. Shri Modi said that Dr. Ambedkar was a Yug Purush worked very hard for the development of the underprivileged, he served them and made efforts to educate them. The Chief Minister also affirmed that Dr. Ambedkar is a great inspiration who teaches us how to live for the people, how to move ahead despite the toughest of situations, how to dedicate a life for the upliftment of the underprivileged and how to protect the rights of the people. He said that the issue of upliftment of the underprivileged was dear to Dr. Ambedkar and at the same time he was committed to unity in society. Cabinet Minister Shri Ramanlal Vora and several others were present on the occasion.

Era of the educated terrorist

By Mayuri Mukherjee

Pakistan-based militant outfit Lashkar-e-Tayyeba has emerged as a trusted ally of both Islamabad and Rawalpindi, and is one of the lethal tools in the hands of its handlers to torment India. And, it's only getting more informed by the day

With the impregnable American fortress having breached on Monday when two high-intensity bombs ripped through the finish line at the Boston Marathon, killing three and injuring several others, notice has been served that no one is ever really safe. While US federal authorities are yet to determine who caused the attack, there is no doubt that it was an incident of terrorism – the first on American soil since September 11, 2001.

In hindsight, the fact that the Boston Marathon was targeted makes complete sense. It is a major international event that marks an important patriotic holiday and conveniently brings together thousands of people into a relatively small place. Yet, it is safe to say that few would have realistically expected an attack to happen. In fact, there was no prior intelligence input even, at least from the information available at this point.

Clearly, in times such as these there is no scope for complacency; even when the situation seems to get better, when there is a feeling that one may have turned a corner;

beware the shadowy figure that lurks in the corner.

There is a lesson in this for India too. While unlike the US, this country has suffered a series of terror attacks both before and after the Mumbai carnage of 2008, supposedly India's '9/11', the situation has been markedly different in Jammu & Kashmir. The past three years especially have brought peace dividends to the State and insurgency in Kashmir is no longer at the levels that it was in the late 90s. Many counter-terrorism and regional experts believe that this drop in insurgent activity in Kashmir has much to do with the war in Afghanistan. According to them, when the US-led Nato forces hogged much of the attention of Pakistan-trained militants who were earlier pre-occupied with Kashmir.

More than a decade later, now that those forces are preparing to leave Afghanistan, there is good reason for the militants to re-focus on Kashmir. Add to this mix Pakistan's deteriorating domestic situation and it becomes increasingly evident that Islamabad might turn up the heat in Kashmir, so as to re-direct attention from domestic problems. In fact, regional observers are still trying to decide if the flare-up along the Line of Control in January that saw Pakistani soldiers kill two Indian soldiers, one of whom was beheaded, could be a sign of things to come. If this is indeed

the case, and the Pakistani establishment sees more value in re-igniting the conflict in Kashmir, then it is pretty much a given that Islamabad will turn to terror organisations such as the Lashkar-e-Tayyeba and others to do its bidding.

The LeT especially has emerged as a trusted ally of the Pakistani establishment, and is one of the lethal tools in the hands of Islamabad and Rawalpindi. It was only earlier this month that Admiral Samuel Locklear, Commander of the US Pacific Command, told American lawmakers during a Congressional hearing that the "Lashkar-e-Tayyeba remains one, if not the most operationally capable, terrorist groups through all of South Asia." This should be a matter of deep concern for India. Not only did the LeT mastermind the 26/11 attack, it has historically been the primary fighting force in Kashmir. Even today, LeT militants are trained to fight in Kashmir which is also where most eventually die, as a recent US military report has found.

In fact, there is now increasing consensus that the LeT is planning to go big and global. The spectacular manner in which it laid a three-day siege upon the city of Mumbai and coordinated from a safe distance a complex terror attack that included multiple high profile targets, is just one example of how the group is looking beyond the low-level war of attrition that

it has been waging in Kashmir. In recent years, the LeT has also been linked to some international plots and is known to recruit Westerners to its campaign as well. It is against this backdrop that the study conducted by Combating Terrorism Centre at West Point, a US military think-tank, profiling LeT militants, makes compulsory reading for anyone trying to gain a more organic and intrinsic understanding of this militant organisation, and shape an appropriate response towards it. The study, titled, 'The Fighters of Lashkar-e-Taiba: Recruitment, Training, Deployment and Death', looks into the biographical profiles of killed LeT militants, as available in four Urdu-language publications brought out by the LeT between 1994 and 2007, alongside media reports.

For one, it demolishes the myth that it is the poor and the illiterate from Pakistani society who join the Lashkar and shows that the opposite is more true. In fact, the LeT has been attracting the brightest and best minds of Pakistan, and Lashkar recruits actually have higher educational levels than the average Pakistani male. For example, 44.3 per cent of militants entering the LeT had completed matriculation or studied up to Class 10, whereas, nationally, only 17 per cent of the Pakistani population reached that level of education, according to Government estimates. Clearly, the time has come to revisit the commonly-held equation between education and militancy.

Adding another twist to this tale is the matter of religious versus non-religious education.

The study shatters the myth that it is the madarasas in Pakistan that breed terrorists. Instead, it finds that most Lashkar recruits come from secular educational backgrounds. Of course, this doesn't mean that they received no religious education at all. All Pakistani schools include some form of Islamic study in their curricula; also, many students receive religious education outside their schools.

However, even taking these factors into consideration, the study found that, while madarsa education may complement a young militant's studies, it is not an effective substitution. In fact, in many cases it is only after the terror recruits have joined the Lashkar that they receive a high dose of religious education, which leads to their being

brainwashed.

Additionally, the study has also found that often LeT recruits were even connected to the Pakistani Army. In fact, there is an intriguing overlap in the districts (mostly of Punjab) that contribute the most number of LeT militants and those that produce the maximum number of Army officers. Now, factor into this equation the fact that according to the study, family members play a crucial role in a young recruit's decision to join the LeT, and the picture becomes increasingly dark and murky. What emerges before us is the shadow of an enduring terror organisation that attracts high-quality recruits, appeals to their families and enjoys the trust of an entire country. ■

(Courtesy: The Pioneer)

Terror strikes Bangalore

Center failed to tackle terror, says Rajnath

Terror struck Bangalore on April 17 when a low-intensity bomb exploded near the bustling BJP city office in a busy residential area injuring at least 16 people, including 11 policemen.

The bomb, apparently strapped to a motorbike with a Tamil Nadu registration plate parked between a van and a car, went off around 10.30 AM about 100 metres diagonally opposite BJP office in Malleshwaram.

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister and Home Minister R Ashoka said the attack was an act of "terror."

Sixteen persons were injured — 11 policemen and five civilians, including three women — in the blast targeted at BJP workers and its leaders, Ashoka said. The injured persons were stated to be "out of danger." Two of the injured were college students returning home after tuition.

In Delhi, BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh said the central government had failed against terror. "Acts of terror are taking place across the country. It is a ground reality that there are several sleeper modules which are playing their roles in different places. The government is not making any effort to destroy these sleeper cells," Shri Singh said. ■

BJP will give a tough fight to Congress in upcoming General election : Dhumal

The two-day executive meeting of Himachal BJP started at Kullu with Chief Minister Dr. Prem Kumar Dhumal listing the achievements of BJP government in the State at the outset of the meeting.

Addressing the meet Dr. Dhumal said, "The BJP government during its four and half years rule had implemented various schemes for the welfare programmes, benefitting all sections of the people. The government not only implemented the party manifesto which it adopted as policy document, but gave benefits to the people beyond it," he said in his opening remarks. In recognition of its outstanding performance in different fields, the state was conferred 67 awards by reputed National and International institutions and agencies, including government of India, he said while addressing the meeting.

Shri Dhumal said Rs. 353 crore Pandit Deen Dayal Kisan Baagwan Samridhi Yojna and Rs 300 crore Doodh Ganga Yojna which entailed 25 to 80 percent subsidy, had been implemented for upliftment of farmers and livestock rearers. The per capita income had also increased from Rs 43,900 during 2007-2008 to Rs 73,600 while the Gross Domestic Product has also increased from Rs 33000 crore to Rs 63000 crore, he added. Dr. Dhumal said the BJP government

had provided 50 per cent reservation to women in Panchayati Raj Institutions and urban local bodies to ensure their participation in formulation of schemes.

In the meeting the State BJP adopted two political resolutions one against maladministration, corruption of the United



Progressive Alliance and other against the working of the Congress government in the state. Almost all senior leaders and party's executive members, office bearers attended the meeting.

Briefing media persons after the conclusion of the meeting Shri Dhumal alleged that the Congress had been stating separate things in the Assembly and at public meetings. He

claimed that the Revenue Minister told the House that 7,132.11 bighas had been given for government infrastructure and not to private universities in violation of Section 118, but Congress members had been misleading the public. Dr. Dhumal alleged that the Congress had decided to allot 3,000 bighas for a ski village to build 700 rooms without giving permission under Section 118 to the company Ford.

He claimed that the government had not taken the permission of the Defence Ministry and 300 huts would be built for foreigners. He said the ski village would affect 7,000 acres and artificial snow would consume 28 megawatts of power. Dr. Dhumal pointed out that the Congress government had failed to get the share of Himachal Pradesh worth Rs 4,000 crore from the BBMB and 7.19 per cent from Chandigarh. He alleged that

the state government had settled for only Rs 1,500 crore from the BBMB. The former Chief Minister said that BJP will give a tough fight to the Congress in the upcoming General Election. Dr. Dhumal alleged that the United Progressive Alliance government was stuck neck deep in scams. He was accompanied by state unit president Satpal Satti and office-bearers of the state executive. (FOC) ■

CHHATTISGARH

BJP to score hat-trick in Chhattisgarh : Raman Singh

Speaking on the occasion of inauguration of the Bharatiya Janata Party's newly constructed massive State office on 12 April at Raipur Chief Minister Dr.



Raman Singh declared that in the Parliamentary election of 2014, BJP will form the Government at the Centre.

Dr. Singh who is heading the BJP Government in the State since Dec 2003, claimed that the BJP would score hat-trick in the assembly polls in the state scheduled to be held later this year.

During the last two elections Chhattisgarh has given 10 MPs each to the party kitty, and this time also the state's contribution would be more than impressive in formation of government at the Centre, Dr Singh added. The State has a total of 11 Lok Sabha seats.

Referring to Assembly polls due in Chhattisgarh by November, the Chief Minister said like Gujarat, the BJP will make hat-trick here as well. Till the conduct of Assembly poll party workers will continuously be given training at the newly constructed party headquarters, Dr. Singh said. ■

GUJARAT

Modi inaugurates Asia's largest cattle-feed plant

The plant set up at the cost of Rs.140 crore will produce 1000 ton of cattle feed per day

Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated Asia's biggest cattle feed factory - Katarava Cattle Feed Plant - managed by the north Gujarat's Banas dairy on April 15. The plant, having capacity of producing 1000 ton of cattle feed per day, has been set up by the Banas dairy at the cost of Rs.140 crore. Cattle breeders and farmer families across the Banaskantha district thronged the venue despite the high temperature. On the occasion the Chief Minister expressed



resolve to put Gujarat on the forefront in the field of dairy and animal husbandry. Greeting the people on the occasion Shri Modi said the farmers of Banaskantha have made Gujarat proud in the field of milk production besides in agriculture, as they are getting benefits of Narmada water and *Sujalam Sufalam Yojana*. He gave outlines of the state government's mechanism for providing nutritional fodder to the animals, increasing their milk productivity and taking care of their health.

Argentina signs four MoUs with Gujarat

A delegation from Argentina's Mendoza Province, led by State Governor Dr. Francisco Perez, called on chief minister Shri Narendra Modi and signed four Memorandums of Understandings (MoUs) for mutual collaboration in four sectors on April 16 in Ahmedabad.

They are with (1) iNDEXTb for investment and promotion of socio-economic-cultural activities, (2) Gujarat Government's Industries Department for industrial investment and business promotion with small and medium manufacturing units, (3) Gujarat Government's Water Resources Department for irrigation, water management for optimum utilization and climate change, and (4) with MS University at Vadodara for teachers' and students' exchange between Mendoza State and improvement of quality of education. ■