



Kamal Sandesh
Fortnightly Magazine

Editor

Prabhat Jha, MP

Executive Editor

Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

Editorial Team

**Ram Prasad Tripathy
Vikash Anand**

Creative Editor

**Dharmendra Kaushal
Vikas Saini**

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Contact

Phone : +91(11) 23381428

Fax: +91(11) 23387887

Subscription : +91(11) 23005798

e-mail

kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

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For even on obtaining undisputed sovereignty and an effluent kingdom on this earth and lordship over the gods, I do not see any means that can drive away the grief which is drying up my senses.

– (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-II, 8)

Articles invited

“Relevance of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay and his ideas in present context”

Insightful and inspiring articles on the life and great work of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay ji are invited for a special issue of Kamal Sandesh under the title “*Relevance of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay and his ideas in present context*”. Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay remains a source of our inspiration, guiding us in our journey to restore the glory and greatness of *Maa Bharati*. We request his associates, co-workers, researchers, writers and journalists to become a part of this *vichara yatra* of Kamal Sandesh.

-Prabhat Jha, Editor

Letter to the Editor

Corruption crossed all limits during UPA rule

Dear Editor

Massive Indian corruption revealed during the UPA regime has startled and surprised everybody. It is not an abrupt phenomenon. Its seeds were planted many years ago and the plant has been nurtured for centuries. History of an occupied Nation like India remains distorted and hidden(Occupied by Pathan, Moghal, Europe for a Total of 700 years.)

At the present time, a section of Politicians, Bureaucrats, Officers, staff, right up to the lowest rank is utterly corrupted. To think that millions of poor people are underfed and there has been a loot from a CWG, 2G, Adarsh makes one think of a gap between promises, actions, allocation, and deliveries, which is a manifestation of corruption.

Taking bribes or illegal rewards, monetary or otherwise for performing official duties; morally depraved(bad); moral means something to do with right or wrong; deception, fraud, theft, robbery, violence is the order of the day. It seems that corruption crossed all limits during the Congress-led UPA rule.

**Basudeb Ghose
London (UK)**



Write to us

The Editor,

Kamal Sandesh

We welcome

Your views & Suggestions

Editor,

Kamal Sandesh

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

e-mail: kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in



Nation needs to be rescued from the clutches of Congress led UPA

Congress led UPA-II government is completing three years in office. These three years have cost people dearly, they now want to bid adieu to this government. While Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh remains out of sight, UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhi has a penchant for maintaining studies silence. No one is ready to take responsibility of various acts of omissions and commissions. Is there a government, a prime minister or someone who can be held accountable? No one is there to answer. Ministers are busy pursuing their own agendas, coalition partners are complaining of not being heard, governance is badly affected and charges of corruption are flying in the air. Governance is the biggest casualty for which people are made to pay in their everyday life.

In these three years in office, Congress led UPA stands thoroughly exposed. Its power game can now no longer mislead the people. The credibility of the Congress is at its lowest ebb, it has lost the confidence of the people. Its attempt to divide people on communal lines during Uttar Pradesh elections failed to shore up its electoral fortunes. All its promises for minority reservation and irresponsible statements of its ministers even defying election Commission's ruling could not pay it electorally. In Goa, minority voters rejected it. Punjab preferred to go with BJP-Akali Dal alliance. In Uttarakhand chances of the survival of its government which has come to power by default is bleak. Its plan to trifurcate Municipal Corporation in Delhi (MCD) and thus somehow win elections did not bore fruits. All three newly carved Corporations have BJP mayors at the helms of the affairs. Earlier, voters in Maharashtra rejected it in the municipal corporation elections across the State and voted BJP-Shiv Sena combine in power. Congress now stands dejected and rejected all over the country. It is now no more in a position to befool the electorates through its false promises and malicious agenda of divisive politics.

The situation has turned from bad to worse in the last three years. United Progressive Alliance has pushed the country into regressive mode. It is a government marked by unparalleled corruption and unprecedented price rise. It is a government which had no qualm in blocking investigations into CWG, 2G, ISRO-Devas deal, Coal block, Adarsh society and other scams. The Supreme Court had to order investigations in many of these scams. It is a government which has no shame in defending scamsters and culprits. It never hesitated on blocking any move towards bringing back black money and in instituting Lokpal. The country remains stuck, it cannot move forward and compete with other countries of the world under UPA regime. It has no vision, no plan and no willingness to march ahead with time. Congress led UPA is busy extending patronage to scamsters, corrupts, profiteers and black marketers. It is rolling in corruption and scams. It has no time to think for future, no time for foreign, economic or domestic policies. It is a government under 'policy paralysis', totally paralyzed.

Editorial...

The time has come to rescue the nation from the clutches of Congress led UPA government. The nation wants to move ahead, it wants to take its deserved place in the comity of the nations but Congress led UPA fails to understand the aspirations of the nation. The people are voting against it, they want to see this combination out of power. Everyone has realized that the country cannot move forward under a leadership which is incapable to lead. People are looking towards Bharatiya Janata Party with expectations and hopes. They see the future of the country in BJP. The BJP will have to come upto their expectations. The BJP ruled States are serving as glowing example of good governance and development. Now BJP will have to again prepare itself for its historic role at the Centre. Each and every Karyakarta of BJP will have to prepare himself in accordance with the expectations and hope of the people. They will have to prove themselves by hard work and by going to the people and engaging them in nation building works. Only constructive and positive approach will help in winning confidence of the people. The BJP leadership and Karyakartas will have to take resolve to wipe the tears of aam aadmi and take the country forward through determination and strong political will. ■

Weavers & Artisans Cell

BJP to organise Bunkar Samar Shankhnad

As part of its initiative to address the acute countrywide distress among weavers and artisans the Bharatiya Janata Party has constituted a special Cell to work towards the uplift of the weaver community in the name of 'Weavers and Artisans Cell.' The Cell is organizing a massive convention of more than 6000 weavers from all over the country, the *Bunkar Samar Shankhnad*, in New Delhi on May 8, 2012.

Keeping the importance of the sector in view - in terms of the sheer numbers of people involved, the size of the handloom economy and the urgency of stemming the tide of weavers' suicides - the Bharatiya Janata Party has pro-actively taken up the issues confronting weavers at various levels.

BJP National Secretary Shri P Muralidhar Rao, being the prabhari of the BJP Weavers & Artisans Cell has taken multiple initiatives towards the betterment of the weaving community and to draw attention of government, media and public towards this issue.

In an effort to draw the government's attention to the growing trend of suicides among weavers, demand efficient policies for the uplift of the community and preserve the nation's millennia-old heritage, Shri Muralidhra Rao also observed a 3-day hunger strike in Hyderabad from December 14th - 16th, 2011. Thousands of weavers and party workers participated, as homage to those who ended their lives in bitterness and despair. The Cell has also conducted hundreds of cluster meetings, visited various clusters all over the country, prepared extensive documentation, undertaken public mobilization and mass contact programmes through local office bearers.

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkariji had promised that the party would shortly hold a "mahasammelan" of weavers in the national capital.



Nitin Gadkari welcomes Sachin Tendulkar's nomination to Rajya Sabha

The BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari has welcomed the nomination of Sachin Tendulkar to the Rajya Sabha and congratulated the world's greatest cricketer on this occasion.

Fear, hunger & corruption rule the roost during the entire tenure of Congress led UPA: Gadkari

From Our Correspondence

Addressing a meeting of BJP mayors and chairpersons of different boards along with a huge gathering of party Karyakartas on May 02 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said that the present situation in the country is grim. Fear, hunger and corruption rule the roost during the whole tenure of Congress led UPA rule at the Centre. He blamed the UPA government for all wrongs, leading to crisis of security, poverty and unemployment. While sharing his experience on the emerging dimensions of development, Shri Gadkari laid emphasis on power generation, revenue collection and planning. He said that the



boards and municipal bodies may play important roles in development and required efforts should be made to make these bodies self sufficient and self

reliant.

The BJP National President lauded works done by Shri Shivraj Chouhan led BJP government, specially mentioning schemes like *Ladli Laxmi*, *Mukhyamantri Kanyadan yojna* and *Antyodaya* fairs. If comparison is to be made between Madhya Pradesh and any other States of the country, it should be on the basic indices of agricultural production, which has increased here manifolds, thanks to farmer welfare schemes, he said. He also said that research initiatives should be strengthened in various fields with positive approach for building beautiful and clean villages and townships.

Later addressing a press meet at the Indore Press Club and answering questions regarding who would be the party's prime ministerial candidate, BJP

Gadkari visits online voter registration & new voter felicitation camp

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari visited the online voter registration and new voter felicitation camp organized in Indore on May 02 during his daylong visit to the city. The camp was organized by the BJP's IT cell at the Vijay Nagar square. Upon reaching in the programme, Shri Gadkari welcomed the new voters by applying *tilak*. State convener of the BJP's IT Cell Shri Vikas Bondria informed the National President about the whole process of making the citizens into voters with the help of IT.

After surveying the process, Shri Nitin Gadkari said, "Plans will be made for organizing such camps all over the country". Shri Bondria further informed that around three thousands citizens were converted into new voters of the BJP in this camp and the Cell is operating such camps in several other cities of the State also.

National President said, "The party and BJP's top committee will take an appropriate decision at an appropriate time and would disclose the name of its prime ministerial candidate after that. At present we are focused on winning at least 200 seats on our own in the next Lok Sabha elections" he said.

The BJP National president further said, "The party was concentrating on strengthening its organizational base in States like Kerala, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and the North-East in view of the next general elections".

He said, "Because of rising inflation and corruption, there is a negative atmosphere prevailing in the country against Congress but we don't want to win polls by exploiting this situation. Instead, we will launch a positive campaign with a focus on BJP's achievements and providing good governance."

Taking a dig at Congress, Shri Gadkari said, "the affairs in Congress are in a dire strait and even the almighty cannot save it from losing". Answering a question regarding Shri Ram temple in Ayodhya Shri Gadkari said, "After the Allahabad High Court's judgment on the Ram temple issue, the row over birth place of Lord Ram stands resolved and a grand temple should be built at that place with the support of Muslims," he said, adding, similarly BJP will support if any mosque is built in the vicinity of the temple area, he said.

BJP National General secretary Shri Narendra Singh Tomar said on the occasion that the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government in Madhya Pradesh was doing many good works for

the people. He said that efforts should be made to win confidence of the people by providing good and effective administration which may bring development to the people. He also said that the problem of the people should be solved while working tirelessly for their development.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan while highlighting the achievements of the development boards in the State said that Indore Development Board has not only increased its revenues manifold but also done historic works for the development. He assured full support of the government to all such boards which is actively engaged in doing good works for the people.

Madhya Pradesh BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha said that very experienced and dedicated workers of the organizations are in charge of the boards so their hard work is getting reflected in their work. The organization gives such

important assignments to dedicated party workers with proven record of hard work and commitment.

He said that the responsibility on the shoulder of karyakartas are enormous as they work as a link between the people, party and the government.

In the beginning of the programme BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari was welcomed by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, BJP National General Secretary Shri Narendra Singh Tomar and Madhya Pradesh BJP State President Shri Prabhat Jha. Madhya Pradesh General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Arvind Menon, Madhya Pradesh Cabinet Minister Shri Babulal Gaur, Indore Mayor Shri Krishna Murari Moghe, State Spokesperson Shri Vijesh Lunavat and other prominent BJP office bearers and senior BJP leaders were present on the occasion.

Gadkari thanks Indore for inspiration

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari expressed his gratitude to Indore, recalling that the party's national convention held in the city soon after he assumed charge had infused energy into his working. Earlier, when the BJP National President arrived on a two-day visit to Indore from Nagpur on May 01 evening; he was accorded a rousing reception by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, State BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha and BJP National General Secretary Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, several senior leaders and Karyakartas of the Party. ■

Govt. must look into the matters of North-Eastern students very seriously : Jaitley

The news of the murder of a Manipuri student in Bangalore and death of a Maghalaya student in Delhi have raised the question of safety and security of students from North-Eastern States coming to different parts of India for study and employment. There is an urgent need to redress the problem of students and people from North-Eastern States who live in other parts of India so as to ensure their safety and security. Raising the issues related to North-East students, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley raised many valid questions which need urgent attention. We are publishing the synopsis of his speech delivered in Rajya Sabha on 2nd May 2012 for our esteemed readers:



Mr. Vice Chairman Sir, Home Minister has mentioned the three recent incidents which have recently increased the uneasiness and caused a lot of disquiet in the entire country. Two young lives of students from the North-East, in Manesar near Gurgaon, and in Bengaluru, were recently lost, and at the time of the BRICS Summit, a very large number of North-Eastern students studying in Delhi, as also employed in Delhi, has a serious grievance that they were being profiled and picked up even temporarily by the Police.

Sir, the Partition of this country in 1947, when we discuss it, certainly brought a lot of bloodshed in the Western region. Punjab suffered, other areas suffered. But North-East suffered virtually in perpetuity. Because of the carving out of East Pakistan, which later became Bangladesh, it moved away almost a thousand kilometres in terms of distance. Now, the impact of this was that the developmental activities in the North-East have considerably suffered. Despite the efforts of

various Governments, North-East has not grown in the same manner in which the rest of the country has. North-East also has a genuine complaint that certain Central Schemes and projects are endeavoured to assist them and various things have not really lived up to the mark.

My recent visit to some areas of North-East found that most of the States still do not have train service. Even in Assam where the facility is available, what we used to hear in the fifties' and sixties' in other parts of the country, the big issue is conversion of meter gauge into broad gauge, particularly to the Barak Valley. We have a highway project going on successfully in the rest of the country. The *Mahasadak Yojana* which was to really extend beyond West Bengal into the North-East, you can still see only built in patches and not useable. All this has considerably suffered. The educational infrastructure in the North-East has also suffered. I have been going through certain reports of studies which have been conducted with regard to

educational institutions which we have established in the North-East. Now one of the comments if I just read out, just the broad points. In which they have said syllabus has not been updated for more than ten years, number of new courses have not been added, institute-industry interaction is not taking place, flight of faculty is taking place and adequate faculty is not available, quality and quantity of qualified faculty is declining at an alarming rate, number of PhD holders have been reduced to minority in many cases, placement of students with industry becomes a weak thing. Now, all these factors have, therefore, contributed to really a large number of North Eastern students wanting to go to other parts of the country for education. Now while the reason for this is unfortunate but there is a sliver lining in this. Their interaction with the rest of the country contributes to national integration and it helps us really in understanding what their problems are. Sir, I remember when I was a student, the organization to which I belong

used to carry on a programme in relation to North Eastern students experiences at inter-State level. Some of them used to come, their structured tours used to be organized, not many were coming here to study at that time, they used to live here with families for a few days and we got to understand them. Now a situation is that we see it in the larger context and now we have dealt with hundreds and thousands of them. In fact, one recent study indicated that between 2005 and 2010, the number of people migrating for jobs from the North-East went up about 12 times. That was the figure. It was about 34,000 in 2005, and in 2010, it was 4,14,850. That is the pace at which it is increasing. The sliver lining in this is, and if we see

these students extremely charming personalities, polite, humble, very eager to Interact with the rest of the people, they have to be made to feel wanted in the rest of the society. They have left a great impact in educational institutions to which they belong. But, at the same time, most of them want to have the benefit of higher education institutions of quality in other parts of the country.

They want their educational profile and personalities to evolve and then they want to be a part of this great growth story which we talk about in the rest of the country. We have to admit and it is a genuine admission which everybody has to make that the growth in those regions has not been at the pace at which we would have expected it to be.

Therefore, in search of education, in search of better quality employment, they have moved to different parts of the country. Therefore, I must note that I find a line in the hon. Home Minister's statement, when he says, "I wish to categorically state that any citizen belonging to the North-Eastern States is free to travel and reside in any part of the country. They have a right to security and peace.' They also have a right to live free from any form of discrimination from any form of racial profiling. They have the rights to enjoy the fruits of development which in several other parts of the country people have now begun to enjoy, though to a limited extent. Under these circumstances, Sir, we need to assure all students and other citizens who have come from the

BJP condemns the violence against people from North-East : Nirmala Sitharaman

BJP National Spokesperson Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman issued a statement on May 2, 2012 on violence and harassment of people from North-East

The news of murder of a Manipuri student in Bangalore and the death of a student from Meghalaya, in Delhi are shocking. News of the frequent harassment of youth from the North East in public places, like roads, shopping malls or educational institutions are of late being reported from different cities of our country. Some landlords encroach on their tenants' (those hailing from the NE) privacy and a few among the police harass even during inquiries. The BJP condemns the violence against and the harassment of people from North East in any part of our country.

It is heartening to know that there are so many youth from different states in North East studying or working in various parts of our country, which is theirs too. It is a positive and welcome development that has to be encouraged by all of us. Continuous and sustained interaction among youth from all parts of the country will only ensure better understanding, sensitivity and appreciation among the citizens. Any economic resurgence of the country is only possible with greater sense of harmony and understanding amongst citizens.

All efforts should be taken in universities, colleges and also in organizations where youth from north eastern Indian States are enrolled to make them feel welcome. Facilitation and steps for better understanding should be pro-actively taken up. ■



North-East either in search of education or in search of jobs in this part of the country, that not only their safety and security is going to be maintained, even there is a lot that we have to learn from them.

Most of them are multi-lingual; they are multi-religious; they belong to different religious denominations. Therefore, we have a lot to learn from them. In this context, therefore, I would like the hon. Home Minister to consider, in addition to the steps that he has already taken, whether in these areas, where larger numbers of students are available whether in the Union Territories or in the States, a specific helpline for them can be created. We have data of surveys and studies done on the students of the North-East. One recent study says that 86 per cent of them have complaint, of some form or the other, of harassment. If the figure is as large as this, this is certainly alarming. This is an eye-opener. Therefore, must we not have a specific helpline in these major areas where these students are studying or these people are working?

It is not a very costly exercise. I think, any State Government, if properly advised, will be quite willing to do it. The Union Territories also can do it. I also think there is a need to sensitize the rest of the Indian society. When students from Jammu & Kashmir, from the North-Eastern States come and study here, or people come and work here, I think, it is extremely important for a larger national goal that their integration with the Indian society is further strengthened by virtue of the attitude of the society has for

them. Therefore, within universities, within workplaces and within the society, and, I think, media, particularly electronic media, will have a huge role to play. We have carried out campaigns how tourists have to be treated. We have carried out campaigns how weaker sections of the society are to be treated.

We have carried out campaigns how women are to be treated in the society. Therefore, in relation to this, I think, we need to carry out a campaign in India so that we can sensitize our own people on how, in such events, people who come from the North-East to study or

work in these places, are to be treated.

Finally, I would like to request the Government, through the hon. Home Minister that the areas where very obvious developmental activities, which have contributed to the neglect of the North-East, are pending – their roads, their railways, their connectivity, improvement in their educational institutions, etc. – the Government must, through the DONER, look into these matters very seriously. There are some areas which will take time, but there are some areas which are very easily doable. I think, top priority must be given to those areas. ■

Karnataka CM orders to register an FIR in Manipuri Student Richard Loitam's case

Karnataka Chief Minister Shri D Sadananda Gowda has ordered the State police to register an FIR in death case of Manipuri Student Loitam Richard.



Shri Sunil Deodhar, National Convener of BJP's North-East India Sampark Cell and many other representatives also called on Shri Gowda demanding a thorough investigation in the case. The Karnataka CM assured Shri Deodhar and others that the investigation will be foolproof and there will be no loopholes. Immediately after the CM's order the Inspector General of Police (Intelligence), has asked the local S.P. to file a case of

murder against unknown persons. It is noteworthy that Richard Loitam a Manipur student was found dead in his hostel room on 18th of May. During the discussion the Karnataka CM said there is a view in media that this is a case of racism but he asserted that one should wait for forensic report and completion of investigation by police before coming to any conclusion.

Interacting with media persons Shri Sunil Deodhar and other representatives of North-Eastern state said that the immediate action and support by the BJP government has given solace to the parents of the victim in particular and the North-East students in general in the city. ■

Cotton farmers not getting remunerative prices : Venkaiah

From Our Correspondent

Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, MP and former President, Bharatiya Janata Party on April 27 raised in Rajya Sabha after the Question Hour, the issue of glut in the cotton market, falling prices and agitation of affected farmers. He demanded the Government to make a statement on why and at whose behest the ban on export of cotton was imposed in the first place on 5th March, then why was it lifted subsequently on 12th of March, and why again certain conditions were imposed on exports which resulted in no further exports.

Shri Naidu said cotton prices have fallen drastically across the country and farmers are not getting remunerative prices. Shri

Naidu pointed out that cotton prices have come down to as low as Rs.3,500/- from Rs.6,000 last year. He also said that the Cotton Corporation of India is not purchasing cotton at the Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Shri Naidu lamented that on account of ambiguity with regard to lifting of ban on cotton exports, the market is affected and prices continue to remain low. He said lakhs of bales of cotton have piled up in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Gujarat. Shri Naidu also pointed out that the other day a farmer from Maharashtra committed suicide.



Shri Naidu said that farmers are worried because the rainy season is coming up and lakhs of bales of cotton remain piled up. Hence urgent intervention by the Government is the

need of the hour. Shri Naidu demanded immediate removal of conditions with regard to export of cotton. Shri Naidu strongly protested over the indifference of the Government to the sufferings of the cotton farmers. As the Government is not giving any concrete assurance, Shri Naidu led a walkout from the House. All the BJP members accordingly walked out of the House. ■

"PoK" being taught as Azad Kashmir in text book of Army Public Schools of Jammu and Kashmir : Prabhat Jha



Raising the issue of Pak -Occupied- Kashmir- being -taught- as- Azad Kashmir in text- books in Rajya Sabha, Shri Prabhat Jha said "In some areas of Jammu and Kashmir State in CBSE textbook of third class Pak Occupied Kashmir is being taught as independent Kashmir and Gilgit-Balistan taught as Northern territory. We want to know that who has written this book and whether amendment has been made or not after writing this book and anybody examine it or not?"

Which publisher of India has published this book? What was the Ministry of Human Resource Development doing?" He added "Our both Houses have collectively passed this resolution that POK is an integral part of the India and we will never give it a status of independent Kashmir. In Google,

from the map of India POK has been removed. Whether the Government of India is responsible for this. Shri Jha condemned this shameful incident and asked the book should be withdrawn immediately. ■



Human rights violation against Hindu women must stop in Pakistan : Dr. Joshi

From Our Correspondent

Criticizing strongly the human rights violations against women belonging to the Hindu minority community in Pakistan, former BJP National President Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi demanded a statement from the Congress led Union government on the flight of over 400 affected families to India.

Raising this issue in the Parliament, Dr. Joshi alleged that young women were being kidnapped, raped and converted in the Sindh province of Pakistan and added that an average of 25 girls were falling prey to such crimes every month.

"When the local courts grant some relief to the victims, they are threatened," he said, adding that there has been an exodus of a large number of people from the province and over 400 affected Hindu families have fled to India.

"This is a gross violation of human rights as also of their cultural rights. There are many instances of religious persecution. Large scale atrocities are being carried out against minorities in Pakistan," Dr. Joshi said quoting reports.

Observing that the government termed these incidents as "internal matters of Pakistan", he said, "It is a matter of regret that the Congress led Union government has remained silent on the issue so far."

Raising the matter in the Lok Sabha, Dr. Joshi said that at the

time of Independence Hindus formed 15 per cent of the population in Pakistan but this has been reduced to 2 per cent today.

Dr. Joshi said the Prime Minister should assure the House that the government would take up the matter at international human rights fora. After his speech several BJP members stood in support of Dr. Joshi and demanded an immediate



statement from the government.

Responding to the forceful plea by Dr. Joshi during the Zero Hour in Lok Sabha, Home Minister P Chidambaram said the matter required a detailed response.

"After consultations with the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister, government will make a statement", he said. (FOC)■

Houses must debate Hindu women plight in Pakistan : Shahnawaz Hussain

The BJP has sought a structured debate in both the Houses of Parliament on the plight of Hindu women in the Sindh province of neighbouring Pakistan. A day after former BJP National president Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi raised the matter in the Lok Sabha, the BJP parliamentary party took serious note of the violation of human rights of Hindu women in the Islamic country and cases of forced conversion.

Shri Shahnawaz Hussain raised the issue in the BJP's parliamentary party meeting in New Delhi and also expressed concern over the plight of the minority Muslims in Pakistan.

BJP leaders were concerned that there has been a sharp decline in the population of Hindus in Pakistan. "Hindus living in Pakistan are not only facing undue harassment, their cultural, religious and human rights are also being openly violated," Shri Hussain said.

Chairman of BJP Parliamentary Party Shri LK Advani expressed concern over the matter and said that the issue needs to be debated in Parliament. Shri Hussain also argued if a parliamentary delegation could visit Sri Lanka to address the issues faced by Tamil, why both the Houses can't discuss the problems faced by Hindus in Pakistan.

In the mean time the BJP had lent support to a group of Hindus, who fled from Pakistan around a month ago and are staying at Jantar Mantar. They want the Indian government to provide them refuge and citizenship as they do not want to go back fearing more persecution.(FOC) ■

No funds granted on scheme for women : BJP grills Govt.



The BJP on May 04, 2012 grilled the Congress led

UPA Government in the Rajya Sabha over non-utilization of funds under 'Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana' by some States for pregnant women and said deserving States were not granted these funds. Minister for Women and Child Welfare Smt. Krishna Tirath admitted that States like Congress ruled Maharashtra had not utilized the cash incentive for pregnant and lactating women under a pilot project and said the Central Government will not give funds to these States.

Raising the matter during the Question Hour, BJP deputy leader in Rajya Sabha Smt. Maya Singh said Maharashtra had not used even a single rupee out the grant of 456.97 lakhs for year 2010-11 and 1,121.18 lakhs for 2011-12.

As Smt. Tirath tried to explain the reasons for non-utilisation and

said she will get back to the House after finding out the exact position, Smt. Maya Singh and the opposition raised slogans and demanded an explanation from the Government. Some members also said even as Maharashtra had not utilised the funds, several other States desperately needed this scheme and the Government did not implement this scheme there. The Minister said *Matritva* scheme was launched as a pilot project in 52 districts of the country and after reviewing the result of the scheme it may be extended all over the country.

Concern over dowry menace in Rajya Sabha

The Upper House also expressed concern

over social menace of dowry and



urged minister Smt. Krishna Tirath to launch an awareness campaign throughout the country to educate people against this evil. BJP *Mahila Morcha* National President Smt. Smriti Irani said domestic violence stemmed from demand for dowry and

sought to know from the Government proposed laws to deal with the menace. Senior Congress leader Shri Karan Singh supported the view and said dowry is a stigma on Indian culture and "women are the biggest enemy of women" and urged the Minister to initiate an awareness campaign. Smt. Tirath said the National Commission for Women was examining various proposals and added these proposals were at a pre-mature stage and she will inform the House once the proposals are firmed up.

Farmer's suicides: BJP calls govt a 'murderer'

BJP National Spokesperson Shri

Prakash Javadekar accused the UPA government of being a "murderer"



a day after five farmers committed suicide in Vidarbha in Maharashtra. Raising the issue in the Rajya Sabha, Shri Prakash Javadekar blamed the government for being insensitive and responsible for their deaths. "It is not suicide but murder; the

murderer is the UPA government, their policies are anti-farmer," Shri Javadekar said during zero hour.

Shri Javadekar also accused Congress General Secretary Rahul Gandhi of playing political gimmicks by visiting farmers while doing nothing in reality. "The Congress general secretary went there and met Kalawati whose husband had committed suicide.

Not only did she have to struggle to get the help she was promised, two more members from her family committed suicide," he said. "The prime minister announced a package, but the money did not reach the farmers," he said.

According to statistics released by farmer advocacy group Vidarbha Jan Andolan Samiti (VJAS), five farmers, including a woman, committed suicide in the Vidarbha region since May 01. Three of the farmers were from Yavatmal district and one each from Washim and Amravati districts. VJAS says these five farmers - like thousands of others - were waiting for the relief money declared by the Maharashtra chief minister in December 2011. ■

A word of caution for India

By L K Advani

A recent addition to my personal library is a glossy, picture book titled - "100 CITIES OF THE WORLD: A journey through the most fascinating cities around the globe."

As I glanced through the Contents listing the hundred, Continent-wise, I was struck by the fact that India's capital, Delhi, was not included in this list. The two Indian cities

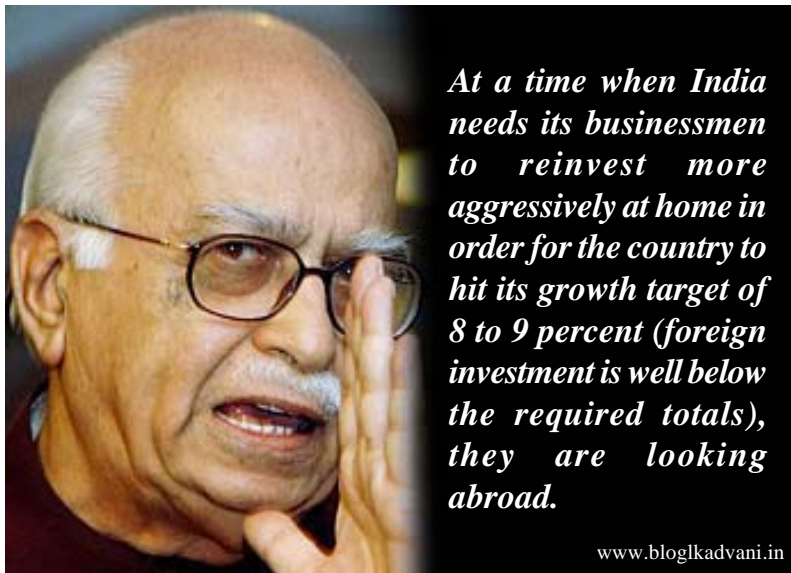
York, affirms that "the astonishingly rapid growth over the last decade of the world's celebrated emerging markets is coming to an end. The era of easy money and easy growth is over. China, in particular, will soon slow, but its place will not necessarily be taken by Brazil, Russia or India, all of which have weaknesses and difficulties often overlooked in the inflated expectations and emerging

Newsweek cover story he was dubbed a party spoiler. Top government officials told Sharma, "such cronyism is just a normal step in development, citing the example of the robber barons of nineteenth century America." "Prime Minister Singh, asked privately about the corruption problem, supposedly told people not to spoil India's image by going on and on about this."

This particular chapter dealing with our problems starts with Europe's nineteenth century fascination with India's well-known magic show, the Rope trick. The caption significantly given to the chapter is "The Great Indian Hope Trick"!

Referring to the increasing investment by Indian entrepreneurs abroad, Ruchir Sharma writes:

"As soon as companies from emerging nations start expanding their interests abroad, it is usually celebrated as a giant step for the whole country. But in India the moves suggest that many companies are going abroad in part to avoid the problems of doing business in the home market. Lately businessmen in Delhi and Mumbai have been complaining ever more bitterly that the cost of starting new businesses in India has gone up dramatically over time because of the sharp increase in the number of demands for government payoffs. Investment by Indian



At a time when India needs its businessmen to reinvest more aggressively at home in order for the country to hit its growth target of 8 to 9 percent (foreign investment is well below the required totals), they are looking abroad.

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mentioned in the Asian tally of twenty two were Kolkata and Mumbai. For Indian readers, a more interesting addition to my library this week is a thought provoking book by Ruchir Sharma, head of Emerging Market Equities and Global Macro at Morgan Stanley Investment Management. In this book titled Breakout Nations, the author, who is based in New

markets mania of the past decade." This book identifies "graft driven inflation" and "crony capitalism" among the weaknesses and difficulties that can be a damper for India's high expectations.

Referring at some length to the series of scams that have surfaced during the U.P.A. regime the author writes that when he wrote about this for a

business has declined from 17 percent of GDP in 2008 to 13 percent now.

“At a time when India needs its businessmen to reinvest more aggressively at home in order for the country to hit its growth target of 8 to 9 percent (foreign investment is well below the required totals), they are looking abroad. Overseas operations of all Indian companies now account for more than 10 percent of overall corporate profitability, compared with just 2 percent five years ago. Given the potential of the domestic marketplace, Indian companies should not need to chase growth abroad. (In 2010 more than a third of Indian households had, by local standards, a middle-class income equal to between \$2,000 and \$4,200, up from 22 percent in 2002½ But just over half the earnings of India’s top-fifty companies are now ‘outward facing’ or dependent on exports, global commodity prices, and international acquisitions.”

In his latest interaction however, with a group of eminent economic thinkers (reported in today’s Indian Express), Ruchir Sharma has been more optimistic about India.

A sector in particularly bad shape these days is the airlines sector. You talk to any section of the Air India staff - pilots, airhostesses, or any other - and you will hear endless complaints. And this is in an airline which when I first traveled on when I become an M.P. way back in 1970, had an excellent reputation all around the globe. Even private airlines like Kingfisher are facing a serious crisis.

So, it was a delight to learn
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that the newly constructed Indira Gandhi International Airport has been reckoned as the sixth best airport in the world, and in a certain specific category the second best. The evaluation has been done by the Airports Council International, a worldwide association of airports having 575 members operating over 1633 airports in 179 countries.

Passing through this newly built airport which caters both to domestic as well as foreign services, I was impressed by a beautifully sculpted tableau of the twelve postures which add up to the well known Yoga exercise of *Surya Namaskar*. The sculptor, I discovered, is one Ayush Kasliwal of Jaipur. Hearty compliments to G. Subba Rao of G.M.R. who must have conceived it, and the artist who has executed it.

It did remind me of the rumpus raised by some perverse politicians when Shivraj Singh Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh initiated a massive programme of *Surya Namaskar* in the schools of the State. Those objecting to the exercise said that the State Government’s proposal was anti-secular. It is believed that since January this year lakhs of students in more than 6000 schools have been doing *Surya Namaskar* in the State.

TAILPIECE

This blog begins with a reference to Ruchir Sharma’s book *Breakout Nations*. The prologue to this book is a caustic comment on the sort of vulgar decadence that seems to be infecting the life style of the affluent here. Sample these opening paragraphs:

It’s been a long time since

the farmers left the “farmhouses” of Delhi, and though the name lives on, it now describes the weekend retreats of the upper class, playgrounds on the fringes of the city where unmapped dirt lanes wind through poor villages and suddenly open onto lavish mansions with sprawling gardens and water features; in one case I even came upon a garden with a mini-railroad running through it. This is the “Hamptons” of Delhi, the city’s party central, where event planners will re-create Oscar night, Broadway, Las Vegas, even a Punjabi village for the home-sick, complete with waiters in ethnic garb.

On a foggy night in late 2010 I made my way to one of these famously decadent bashes, where the valets were juggling black Bentleys and red Porsches, and the hosts invited me to try the Kobe beef they had flown in from Japan, the white truffles from Italy, the beluga caviar from Azerbaijan. It was hard to talk over the pulsating techno-beat, but I managed to engage in a chat with a twenty - something son of the farmhouse demimonde - he was a classic of the type, working for his dad’s export business (it always seems to be “exports”), wearing a tight black shirt, hair spiky with grooming gel. After determining that I was a New York - based investor back in town to search for investment opportunities, he shrugged and remarked, “Well, of course. Where else will the money go?”

“Where else will the money go?” I left the Party around midnight, well before the main course was served, but the comment stayed with me. ■

Three years of UPA- II : A saga of deception, deceit and betrayal

By Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

Three years have passed since Dr. Manmohan Singh took oath as Prime Minister heading the Congress led UPA-II government at the Centre. As the Congress led UPA-II completes three years in office on 22nd May 2012, its report card registers failures on all fronts. United Progressive Alliance has failed to show any 'progress', leading country towards a mess created by policy paralysis and confused priorities. While the nation watches with shock and dismay the horrible degradation in functioning of the government, the UPA-II keeps itself busy with its only engagement which to somehow remain glued to the power. The work ethics and values in public life have become sacrificial lambs at the altar of power politics. In the last three years, the nation has witnessed Congress led UPA-II government touching new lows in public morality everyday. The Cash for Vote scam which took place just before 2009 general elections was one of the biggest expose of its time but the Congress was somehow able to hoodwink the nation. In its second term the Congress led UPA stands completely exposed as masks are slipping from its different faces.

A perceptible decline in political culture is getting reflected in the eroding credibility of the constitutional institutions. Attempts to safeguard politically vested

interests have led to politicization of these institutions. The increasing political interference in the functioning of these institutions and presence of pliable officials have led to a situation that people are fast losing faith in the system. The tendency in the bureaucracy to stoop to any extent in pleasing the political masters is picking up and we rarely find any example of upright individuals standing up to challenge this politically oriented patrimonial system. The situation is further worsened by ever increasing corruption under the political patronage of Congress led UPA which has failed to take strong initiatives to restore people's faith in the system. The economy is mishandled and mismanaged, constitutional institutions devalued, federal structure assaulted and democracy is replaced by authoritarianism.

The politics of deception, deceit and betrayal played by Congress to mislead the nation is now boomeranging. People are now no more ready to buy its excuses, people can now see through its intentions and approach. Its politics of minority appeasement in the name of minority reservation has backfired and its leaders giving irresponsible statements during UP elections have backfired. The Congress has even lost in Goa where minorities have

preferred to vote for BJP as they were able see through its deceptive and deceitful character. In Punjab too they stand defeated while in Delhi and Mumbai municipal corporation elections it was forced to bite dust. The Congress led UPA is fast losing the confidence of the people and in place of taking corrective measures it wants to cling to power by hook or crook.

Corruption & scams: A hallmark of UPA rule

If Congress led UPA can be credited for anything than it is for ever increasing corruption and scam which has become hallmark of its rule. In the last three years corruption, scam and loot of public money have become the order of the day. Not a single day passes when some kind of scam is not exposed. It seems as if the entire machinery is neck deep in corruption and surviving on a parallel economy of loot and plunder. Commonwealth Games scam, Adarsh society scam, 2G spectrum scam, ISRO-Devas deal, Coal block scam and many such minor and major scams symbolize the order of the day. The situation is turning from bad to worse with no serious attempt taken to weed out the growing cancer of corruption. While the people are used to corruption in daily life, the corruption exposed at the higher level seems to be enormous and the blatant manner in which it is going on is

not only condemnable but shocking. It seems that corruption has eaten into the vitals of our system pushing it to the brink of virtual collapse. The chief minister of Maharashtra Ashok Chavan has resigned due to his involvement in Adarsh society scam. Suresh Kalmadi, the Chairman of Commonwealth games Organising Committee had to be pushed out from his position in All India Congress Committee and his close aides have been arrested, telecom minister A Raja was forced to resign but these steps have not yet been able to restore public confidence in the system. All these actions appear merely a tokenism and taken under pressure. The Supreme Court has rightly questioned the silence of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh over all these scam for last eleven months. The lack of seriousness in issues related to corruption is very much evident for everyone to see. Corruption has become systemic taking everything under its sway and thus becoming an essential feature of our daily life. Some ministers may come and go, some high officials will be forced to leave their office but it seems that corruption is there to remain. A solution remains a far fetched dream as corruption appears overarching and deep rooted.

Corruption & demand for Lokpal

The burgeoning saga of corruption under Congress led UPA government has seen the common men hitting the street demanding action from the government. It is being said that the need of the hour is to think beyond tokenism. It is required to think of systemic correction

and systemic change. And for this a lot of political will and determination is required in our political leadership. The civil society demand for Lokpal bill to create an institution of citizens' ombudsman which can investigate into the cases of corruption against politicians and bureaucracy was met with opposition by the Congress led UPA government. The Congress led UPA which initially constituted a committee including Anna Hazare and his team members to draft the bill in the face of swelling support for the Lokpal later backtracked and arrested Anna Hazare in order to stop his agitation. But public support in favour of the bill forced the government to introduce the bill in the parliament but the bill was drafted in such a manner that it got mired into endless controversies. The Congress led UPA government was non-committal from the beginning and was very reluctant in accepting the idea of Lokpal. It was clear that the government was resisting the demand to keep the system patronizing corruption intact and was not willing to take any corrective measures.

Economic Policy: Mishandling and mismanagement

The mishandling of economic policies has not only slowed down the process of fiscal reforms but also stunted the economic growth of the country. While India was poised for a big leap forward under Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee led NDA government, the rate of GDP growth has slowed down since then to 6-7% from 8.4% in

2003-04. The other indicators of the economy are also not encouraging and the country appears to be in the trap of stagnated rate of growth showing no sign of high growth in near future. A number of factors like drop in industrial output, hike in petroleum prices and cut in fertilizers subsidy, tepid tax collections, the problems of high deficit and rupee depreciation have affected the Indian economy adversely. The inability of the UPA to build consensus among political parties have blocked many a reform moves resulting in policy paralysis which has halted the economic growth. The policy logjam has severely affected the economy creating further pressure on economic growth.

Unprecedented price rise

Price rise is another permanent feature of the Congress led UPA government. It is not only that the UPA has failed to check price rise, it has many a time pursued policies which has directly led to spiraling prices and back breaking *mehangai*. What is more disturbing is the fact that even in the face of repeated protests and criticisms the UPA-II government callously remains oblivious of the hardship that the people are facing in the wake of unprecedented price rise. UPA can now be better described as *Mehengai Badhao Sarkar*. Despite the claim of the government to the contrary, it cannot be denied that today the government has left the prices at the mercy of market manipulators, fixers, fly by operators and corporate gamblers. It is not that the economic principles like production, distribution,

monsoon etc. determine the prices but commodity exchange like MCX and other like commodity exchanges are responsible for the unprecedented price rise. While the black marketeers have been enabled to manipulate prices government remains a mute spectator allowing the profiteers and black marketeers to rule the roost. Such faulty policy of the government has led to increase of petroleum prices several times in the last three years creating inflationary condition in the country. Large scale corruption and taxation are also creating unbearable condition for people who are finding it difficult to cope with their household budget. Unleashing a phenomenon of reverse-development, the price rise has widened the gap between rich and poor leaving a vast section of the society marginalized and deprived.

In such circumstances rising prices are causing great havoc to the people in general and those living below poverty line in particular. Can India move ahead with the phenomenon like price rise which is reversing all the efforts made to improve the quality of life in India? In fact, the manner in which the issue has been so far treated only indicates the myopic vision and stunted understanding of UPA-II government which has failed to calculate the damage the rising prices are causing continuously. It has become a factor in Indian economy setting in motion trends of "reverse-development" offsetting any step taken on the path of development. Not acting on the issue of price rise which the

UPA-II might describe as something akin "criminal-inaction" on its part robbing people of their food, health and quality life.

Federalism assaulted

Congress has always sought to undermine the federal structure of the constitution since the time of independence. It has always tried to usurp the powers of the States by hook or crook. In the last three years of Congress led UPA rule the policy of discriminating against non-UPA States has continued and selectively targeting them has become a rule. There are instances when legislations passed by State assemblies were held up either by the governors or for the lack of presidential assent. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh - all these States have been deprived of having a strong law to control crime and to deal with situations emanating out of terror activities.

The bills passed by these States are pending with the Union govt. while a similar bill is in force in Congress-NCP ruled Maharashtra. There are even discriminations in financial allocations for various projects while raids were conducted against black marketers and hoarders in non-UPA States in the name of controlling prices and IT notices are served to investors signing MoUs with Gujarat government. Coal produced in Madhya Pradesh is allowed to be taken out of the State while the State faces scarcity for its power generation units.

The attempt of the Congress led UPA government to infringe upon the powers of the State can

be seen from its insistence on imposing National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) in the name of countering terrorism. So far strong resistance from States including the one ruled by Congress allies has thwarted the game plan of the Congress led UPA to encroach upon the power of the States.

Misuse of CBI and devaluation of institutions

CBI has become a convenient tool in the hands of the Congress to coerce and control its political adversaries. Every time the Congress led UPA government is threatened by any of its allies, it misuses CBI to save its government. It has been seen on several occasions that those being investigated against by CBI become ready supporter of Congress led UPA in bailing out the government. In place of gaining the reputation of highly professional institution, CBI today under Congress led UPA rule stands shorn of credibility and perceived as a meek, incompetent and biased agency which can be easily arm-twisted politically at will.

Whether it is the case involving 1984 Sikh riots implicating Congressmen like Jagdish Tytler and Sajjan Kumar or scams like CWG, 2G and Adarsh Society the role of CBI has not been above suspicion.

The most classic case is that of Quattorchhi, who is facing kickback charges in Bofors case, was arrested in Argentina against a red corner Interpol notice. The entire nation was shockingly kept in dark of the news of his arrest and when it ultimately got leaked in the press,

the CBI could not secure his extradition. The apparent 'bid' of CBI to secure Quattrocchi's extradition got exposed when it decided against appealing in Argentinian Supreme court after losing the case in a lower court. In 2005 also, he was allowed to withdraw the supposedly kickback money after the UPA government allowed the British authorities to defreeze his 21 crore account.

The manner in which CBI handled Quattrocchi affair smacks of a design to help the accused and CBI allowed itself to be consciously allowed itself to be politically misused. Now it is learnt that instead of taking follow up actions to bring the accused back home, CBI has facilitated withdrawal of Red Corner notice against Quattrocchi pleading for dropping all charges against him.

Apart from Quattrocchi case, CBI has much more to answer for the manner it has been handling the 1984 anti-Sikh riots case, corruption cases against Mayawati, Mulayam, Lalu, Rabri and others and in many other such politically volatile cases. If one moves beyond CBI, many other constitutional institutions like Election Commission, CVC and Office of the Governor were within the ambit of controversies. Such controversy may affect the democratic system which may lead to people's alienation from the constitutional institutional thereby creating a severe crisis of faith in the entire set-up. As long as our political class keeps prioritizing its short term goal of clinging to power by hook or crook, the long term national interest would get jeopardized.

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Internal Security neglected

The recent kidnapping of two Italians and a BJD MLA in Odisha and a collector in Chhattisgarh has once again brought before the nation the growing menace of Naxal-Maoist outfits. Repeated attacks on security forces, their cold blooded killings in landmines and deadly ambushes have sent shock waves throughout the nation. Naxal-Maoist elements have been striking at their will and even with impunity. The brutal manner in which these killings have been carried out exposes the inhuman and barbaric aspects of communism as an ideology. Claiming to wage a war against the Indian state, Naxal-Maoists today hold sway in about 180 districts across ten states of India accounting for about 40 percent of India's geographical area. They are especially concentrated in an area known as the "Red corridor" extending from Nepal borders to Andhra Pradesh, where they control 92,000 square kilometers. In the recent years they have been arming themselves with latest weaponry and arsenal and consolidating their position by gaining new areas and recruits. Moreover they are extorting huge amount on account of levies and other form of extortions. They run their own kangaroo courts intimidating and punishing their opponents in the rural areas and thus exercising illegal control over the rural population. In fact they have been able to run parallel governments in a vast region.

Why the government has failed to effectively curb the Naxal-Maoist menace is a

question which remains difficult to answer. The left leaning intelligentsia has often sought to explain it in the neglect of rural area and lack of developmental initiatives among the poor who being left unto themselves have chosen to take the path of 'armed revolution'. But how far Naxal-Maoists are responsible for disallowing the implementation of government's development plans in their stronghold needs to be honestly assessed.

If the cause is poverty and lack of developmental initiatives then the Naxal-Maoists should have been strengthening these efforts instead of blocking them. But the case is different on the ground. In addition to these leftist outfits who claim to oppose parliamentary democracy are seen to be garnering votes for the candidate/parties who prefer to pay them in elections. There is undoubtedly a politician-Naxal/Maoist nexus operating in these areas allowing these elements to strengthen and prosper. Perhaps, the lack of political will in tackling the menace is the result of such nexus in operation seriously undermining the safety and security of the country. While the brutal violence by Naxal-Maoist outfits has started to expose communism and its dangerous ideology, the government should decisively act to defeat and destroy this menace before it is too late.

Undemocratic and authoritarian

True to its colours the Congress led UPA government has shown most undemocratic and authoritarian character in

the last three years. Acting against the nationalistic spirit and fervor it had no qualms in forcibly stopping the *Rashtriya Ekta Yatra* organized by BJYM, the youth wing of BJP, to hoist tricolor at Lal Chowk in Srinagar. Responding to the call of BJYM a large number of youths were participating in the *Yatra* but they were stopped at Jammu & Kashmir border not allowed to proceed further. Thousands of youth were deprived of their right to hoist the national flag at Lal Chowk.

Similarly the participants in the camp organized by Baba Ramdeo in New Delhi were brutally attacked and assaulted in the midnight. The brutality of the police action may be gauged from the fact that even children and women were not spared and many suffered fatal injuries resulting in the death of one woman.

Anna Hazare who gave a call for a movement in support of the demand for Janlokalpal was arrested and confined in Tihar Jail. He could only be released in the face of massive protest by people. The Congress led UPA government has tried to muzzle people's voice and used force to stop movement in the most undemocratic and authoritarian ways which is reminiscent of the days when emergency was imposed on the country.

Conclusion

Apart from the issues discussed above, there are numerous other issues which require to be discussed in detail. In the last three years it appears that major infrastructural projects have been shelved. Progress on all the infrastructure projects including National

Highway, opening of six AIIMS and interlinking of rivers have been either slowed down or put on the backburner. Despite the parliament having passed RTE bill, the determination on the part of the government is lacking and infrastructural development has not gained momentum to meet the requirements. In higher education too India lags behind many developing and developed countries but the Congress led UPA government has failed to show its inclination towards building and upgrading universities and educational institutions upto international standards.

The commercialization of education is in full swing and students are made to pay hefty fees while there is little opportunity for meritorious students from economically and socially deprived section of the society. The health sector is similarly ailing and sick.

The private sector is growing leading to complete commercialization of health where poor have no access. The condition of the government facilities is appalling with no sign of improvement. A large section of population is malnourished and particularly women among whom a huge section is anemic.

India is said to be a nation which is getting younger with every passing day. The increasing share of young population is said to have led India to the threshold of demographic dividend. But so far the Congress led UPA government seems oblivious of this fact and continue to neglect the youth population.

The infrastructure required for reaping this demographic dividend is missing and the situation might be so that if the nation fails to nurture this youth population well, there may be chaos and anarchy. The unemployment condition in the country is alarming. The opportunities for farmers, youth, students and women are limited. The government has no special plan for these sections of the society. They remain a neglected lot.

The Congress led UPA-II government lacks vision and leadership which is capable of building a strong nation. India is now a confident nation but the irony is that its government is insecure with weak leadership and confused priorities. Political observers and experts have rightly said that the government suffers from 'policy paralysis'. It is incapable of formulating policies that could lead India confidently towards development and prosperity. Moreover, it is not 'policy paralysis' alone but owing to its intention and misplaced vote back priorities that the nation never comes first in its scheme of things but it is moved by considerations of power politics, myopic vision and stunted understanding about Indian culture, traditions and aspirations.

The Congress led UPA has mostly relied on deception, deceit and betrayal seeking to make fool of the people but the people have now started responding back. In the recent elections Congress had to face humiliating defeat and it will not be wrong to say that its days are now numbered. ■

“Gujarat will rise to such a height that every Gujarati would feel proud to be a Gujarati” : Narendra Modi

From Our Correspondent

Greeting the people of Gujarat on the 52nd Foundation Day of the State on May 01, Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi resolved to take the State to such a height that every Gujarati would feel proud to be a Gujarati. Addressing on the occasion, he paid his salutations to Mahagujarat Movement's



leaders Induchacha and others and said we should ensure their martyrdom do not go waste. My dear all citizens of Gujarat,

Fifty-one years have passed since Gujarat was founded this day in 1960. On this auspicious occasion, we remember all the martyrs of Mahagujarat Movement. It is the occasion to pay our tributes to all, including Induchacha, he said.

He said Gujarat cannot forget that many students braved bullets to uphold the pride of Gujarat then. Bullets were rained on students from the Congress Bhawan in Bhadra locality in

Ahmedabad. Several youth in their tender age shed their blood that would not go waste. Gujarat saw many governments, many movements, many events for good or bad during this period, but always marched ahead.

If we look behind, the first decade of the 21st Century became a decade of development, even though it began with many calamities like unforgettable earthquake, upheavals in cooperative banks and drought in 2001. Adversaries wished Gujarat should never rise, but were proved wrong. Gujarat virtually rose from the debris, converted obstacles into opportunities. We could see the results

of our relentless efforts paying dividends. Any discussion on development anywhere in the world would remain incomplete without a mention of Gujarat's development, he said.

Shri Modi said the reasons or the forces behind this success story are the six-crore people of Gujarat, their unity, brotherhood and accepting the path to peace. This I realized when I undertook fast at different places across the state during Sadbhavna Mission. The State has scaled many heights, completed many projects and even made its mark on Nature. Human efforts have

overcome frequent droughts and emerged as one united Gujarat. However, we have still many miles to go, to reach a stage from where the state could serve the nation better. If one looks at Gujarat's growth rate now would be compelled to recall long periods of droughts, when sons of toil used to dig nothing in relief camps. Today experts identify Gujarat for initiating agricultural revolution of sorts in India, achieving a growth of 11 per cent during the decade. Agricultural scientists are now coming to Gujarat to study the unbelievable phenomenon achieved by the farmers of the state.

He said it was made possible due to State-wide movement for water conservation and management, but for some unsavoury policies being drafted now to harm the farmers. The issue has to be tackled on another platform, on another occasion.

We have achieved all round progress, including milk production which rose by 66 per cent, thanks to commitment of the cattle owners and the government's concern for improving the breed he said.

While Gujarat has already made its mark in industrialization, the government issued notices to open dairies in so far unrepresented Kutch and Kathiawar regions with a view to checking the exploitation of

small and marginal cattle owners.

He said, no sooner than the Budget session was over in March, we held a series of Garib Kalyan Melas in April to distribute assistance worth Rs.1,600-crore directly to the poor beneficiaries. They have been involved in some scheme or the other. In a novel government-sponsored project for economic empowerment of women, over 29-lakh poor women saved and invested Rs.400-crore in 2.37-lakh Sakhi Mandals, doing a business of Rs.1,400-crore now. They are now engaged in sewing, making incense sticks, papad, khakhra, herding cattle or selling milk, running computer classes or canteens, cooking or providing Tiffin service. It is being carried forward under Mission Mangalam.

The Chief Minister said the government has introduced an insurance scheme of up to Rs.30,000 to take care of the poor, living on the edge, constantly worried about their health and children's education. The government has allocated Rs.200-crore under the Chief Minister's Amritam Yojna in this year's budget for treatment of unexpected expenditure on account of terminal diseases like cancer, kidney failure and heart attack of the poor.

He said, "I desire to bring my tribal and dalit brothers on the forefront of development. People who are into studying tribal related issues, come to Gujarat to personally see how Gujarat has managed to do miracle through its Rs.40,000 crore Van Bandhu scheme. We have allocated Rs.22,000 crore for

the urban poor. We have given them UMMID scheme; imparted vocational training to them and helped them for self-employment with a view to infuse them with strength, so that these youths become self-reliant and earn their livelihood".

He said, this is the 150th birth anniversary year of Swami Vivekananda and the Gujarat has decided to celebrate it as 'Yuva Shakti Varsh'. The state has embarked on a movement to ensure employment to every youth by helping them in developing skills through various skill development initiatives. The State has spent billions of rupees to empower the youths and making them self-

reliant.

Not a single sector has remained untouched from the momentum of development. Not single person has been left in getting the fruits of development. We are endeavoring with an approach that all the six crore Gujaratis move ahead with a new hope and zeal.

He said, come, let us take a pledge; let us resolve to accelerate our growth even more. Let us expand the scope of our development and reach to every village, every farmer and every hut. Let the development benefits reaches to all and let everyone feel Gujarat his own and everyone feel proud of being a Gujarati. ■

BJP Kisan Morcha to organize Farmers' Parliament in New Delhi

Two members from the Kisan Morcha of the Bharatiya Janata Party from each of the Lok Sabha constituencies in the country will take part in the two-day 'Farmers' Parliament' beginning on May 12 in New Delhi. It is being organized to protest against the "anti-farmers' policies of the Union government". Addressing media persons in Hubli, Karnataka on May 2, 2012, General Secretary of the BJP National Kisan Morcha and the former Union Minister Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad Patil said that the Farmers' Parliament would discuss various proposed Bills and what should be included in the Bills to protect the interests of the farmers.

Shri Jaysingrao said that Land Acquisition Bill, Seed bill, Pesticide Management Bill and Biotechnology Authority Bill were before the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha and unless modifications were made, the proposed Bills would be detrimental to the interests of the farming community. He said that the Morcha wanted prices of crops be fixed scientifically as proposed by the Swaminathan Committee. Shri Jaysingrao said that the Kisan Morcha was against acquisition of land in large quantities on the pretext of establishing industries.

He said that BJP national president Nitin Gadkari, former chairman of the Farmers' Commission M.S. Swaminathan, senior journalist P. Sainath, several national-level leaders of the BJP and Chief Ministers of all the BJP ruled States would be participating in the two-day event. Two members of the Kisan Morcha from each of the Lok Sabha constituencies in the country would be part of the two-day deliberations, he said. ■

NHRC pulls up Omar Abdullah-led J&K govt in blocking tricolour

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has pulled up the Omar Abdullah-led government in Jammu and Kashmir for 'disallowing' leader of opposition in Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj, leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley, BJP National General Secretary Shri Ananth Kumar and



a host of party supporters from hoisting the national flag in Srinagar's Lal Chowk on Republic Day last year. 'Every citizen enjoys the fundamental right to go to J&K and hoist the national flag in Srinagar on Republic Day.

This right is guaranteed by Article 19 of the Constitution. It is not the case of the state government that the petitioners (BJP) were trying to flout any provision of the Emblems and Names Act 1950 or the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act 1971,' the commission said.

More than a year later, a full bench of the human rights commission, headed by retired Supreme Court Chief Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, said the State government violated an apex court order that 'hoisting the national flag was a fundamental right.'

Issuing a notice, it asked the State government to explain within two months why it defied the Constitution. The NHRC said the arrests or preventing anybody wishing to hoist the flag was tantamount to taking away his fundamental right.

The NHRC also wanted to know why no action was taken against those who threatened to stop the *Ekta Yatra*. ■

BJP women councillors elected for three Mayor posts

BJP councillors were elected for three posts of Mayors in Delhi Corporations. Smt. Annapurna Mishra, Smt. Meera Aggarwal and Smt. Savita Gupta were elected Mayors of the East, North and South Delhi municipal corporations, respectively.



Smt. Meera Aggarwal Smt. Savita Gupta Smt. Annapurna Mishra

The BJP on April 26 announced the nominees for the posts of Mayors of the three corporations and other important posts. Preferring women, the party has nominated Smt. Annapurna Mishra, Smt. Meera Aggarwal and Smt. Savita Gupta for the posts of Mayors of the East, North and South Delhi municipal corporations, respectively.

East Delhi Municipal Corporation: Usha Shastri was elected Deputy Mayor of East Delhi; Mehak Singh as the chairperson of the standing committee; Lata Gupta as the deputy chairperson of the standing committee; Raj Kumar Dhillon and Sanjay Kaushik as members of the standing committee; BB Tyagi as the Leader of House and Harsh Malhotra as the chairman of the education committee.

North Delhi Municipal Corporation: Master Azad Singh was elected as the deputy Mayor; Yogender Chandolia as the chairperson of the standing committee; Vijay Prakash Pandey as the deputy chairperson of the standing committee; Hoorbano and Surender Kaur as members of the standing committee; Mahendra Nagpal as the Leader of the House and Rekha Gupta as the chairperson of the education committee.

South Delhi Municipal Corporation: The post of the deputy Mayor has been left for the opposition and hence no BJP candidate filed nomination for this post. Rajesh Gehlot was elected as the chairperson of the standing committee; Sarita Chaudhary as the deputy chairperson of the standing committee; Nagrajan and Simmi Jain as members of the standing committee; Subhash Arya as the Leader of the House and Satish Upadhyay was elected as the chairman of the education committee. ■

UPA government is anti-women

The two-day National Executive meeting of BJP Mahila Morcha was held in Solan, Himachal Pradesh on 5-6 May 2012. In the meeting the leaders while alleging the Congress led UPA government at the Centre to be anti-women felt that it had failed in ensuring economic self reliance, security, safety, health and empowerment of the women. The meeting was presided over by BJP Mahila

government. In the resolution on women security it was said that a rape is committed in every five minutes in the country. The situation is so grim that out of 140 crores allocated for the relief and rehabilitation of rape victims in the budget 2011-12, not a single penny has been spent. On the issue of women reservation it was alleged that half of the population is being discriminated against by dilly

55% married women being suffering from anaemia and are malnourished the UPA government failed to spend money from 100 crore fund earmarked under National Nutrition Mission. The resolution warned the government to take immediate steps for women empowerment and pass women reservation bill in the parliament.

On the second day on 6 May 2012, the National Executive meeting was addressed by Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Prem Kumar Dhumal He highlighted the steps taken by his government for the empowerment of women in the State. He said *Beti Hai Anmol, Matri Seva Yojana, Mata Shabari Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana, Mukhyamantri Kanyadan Yojana* were some of the programmes started by the BJP government for women upliftment in the State. He said the BJP had made provision for 50% reservation for women in panchayati raj institution which has resulted in 58% women getting elected in the body.

He informed that his government had also decided to give 33% reservation in cooperative bodies. He also said that free ambulance service and institutional pregnancy care has been started by his government. The National Executive meeting was concluded by expressing satisfaction over the progress of women related schemes and programmes in BJP ruled States. (FOC).■



Morcha National President Smt. Smriti Irani.

The National Executive meeting was divided into various sessions and addressed by BJP National General Secretary Shri JP Nadda and National Coordinator of Cell & Morcha Shri Mahendra Pandey. In a resolution unanimously passed in the meeting it was said that price rise, crime against women, attempt to derail women reservation and increasing incidents of female foeticides show the kind of treatment being meted out to women by UPA

dallying on its enactment in the parliament. After the bill was passed in the Rajya Sabha it is yet to be presented in the Lok Sabha. It also said that female foeticide has resulted in depriving around one crore females from taking birth. The government doesn't appear to be concerned on this issue of gender injustice which is also creating gender imbalance. Not only this the *Indira Matritva Sahyog Yojna* has also been not implemented in all the districts of the country. The resolution also expressed concern over the fact that despite

Congress & RJD pushed state into economic chaos and backwardness : BJP

Bihar BJP organized two-day State Executive Committee meeting on May 05-06 in Begusarai. In the meeting the party unit has possessed political resolution and economic resolution. The resolution blamed Congress and RJD for pushing State into economic chaos and backwardness. The resolution said that it had been due to the "collective misrule" of the non-NDA parties, that Bihar was pushed to the bottom rung of indices like per capita income, literacy and poverty.

The State executive gave full credit to the NDA government in Bihar for economic turnaround and said that the "ever growing growth rate in double digits" speaks volumes about its achievement. The resolution said that the per capita income rose to Rs 16,952 in 2011-12 from Rs 8,706 in 2005-06 and the annual plan size increased to Rs 28,000 crore in 2012-13 from Rs 4,376 crore in 2005-06.

The State government formulated and implemented the agriculture road map in 2007 as a result of which food grain production has increased significantly and the State recorded paddy production of 67 million tonnes in 2011. According to the resolution the State government implemented the Right to Service Act and the Lokayukta Act to bring transparency in public life and ensure redressal of people's grievances. A separate resolution seeking special status for Bihar

was moved by Lok Sabha MP Bholu Singh and Radha Mohan Singh.

National General Secretary and Bihar BJP Prabhari Shri Anant Kumar said in his inaugural speech, "Now Bihar and Madhya Pradesh are not *Bimaru* State but UP even today is a *Bimaru* State. Bihar has become number one state in growth rate. National General Secretary and BJP Co-in charge

of Bihar Shri Dharmendra Pradhan said in the meeting "Without progress of Bihar, the country's progress is not possible." For special status of Bihar, the party will struggle from street to parliament, added Shri Pradhan. If it is needed we will start struggle like 1974 for getting special status for Bihar. Bihar Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi and State President Shri C.P Thakur also addressed the executive meeting. (FOC) ■

Coal block allotment will be the biggest scam : Javadekar

BJP National Spokesperson Shri Prakash Javadekar while raising the issue of Coal block allotment in Rajya Sabha on 2nd May 2012 dubbed it as one of the biggest scams. The synopsis of his speech is hereunder :-

Ultra Mega Power Plant has failed due to non-availability of coal linkage. In the present situation neither coal nor gas is there. I am giving three example of what is going on and how big loot is going on? Scam number one is the allotment of coal block from 2006 to 2009. In 2006 and 2009, 1700 crore ton coal worth Rs. 51 lakh crores of 73 block was distributed among 143 companies. When election was due in 2009 than 15 mines were distributed only within 3 months. The coal mines were also allotted to those whose factory was only on paper and in applications. This is a scam. It should be investigated. We demand, if you order CBI inquiry under Supreme Court, every thing would come out. 316 Second scam is related to the allotment of mines to near and dear. It is a PB scam. There was loss of Rs.6,000 crores to NTPC. This was done to make profit of Rs.6,000 crores to a company. Therefore it should also be investigated. Third scam is related with the system. Coal India does e-auction of 10 percent coal. In fact small industries should get it. But a trader will take it and sell it to small industries on four times high prices. Mining expenditure of private companies is Rs. 400 per ton. While it is Rs. 800 in Coal India. Why is this? The corruption is the most in NSSIDC. You frame the quota policy. Implement it without any discrimination. Give only to the industries and don't involve middlemen in between. The Ministry of Coal should seek all kind of clearances. After that it should grant permission. First rehabilitate, than construct and than mining. I have told 2-3 scams. I want their answers and their investigation also. ■

Jungle Raj prevails during BJD rule in the State : BJP

From Our Correspondent

The Odisha State BJP slammed the State Government for its failure to contain the Maoist activities which have spread to 24 districts. Passing several political resolutions at the State Executive Committee meeting in Bhubaneswar, the party said the Government had miserably failed to maintain law and order in South

cuts.

Presiding over the meeting, State BJP President Shri Julal Oram said the Naveen Patnaik Government had surrendered before the Maoists. He called upon the party Karyakartas to take the failure of the Government to the people and organize public movements against price rise, power tariff hike,

The party also alleged that the ruling party resorted to large-scale bungling and use of money power and misutilisation of the administrative machinery in the last Panchayat elections.

BJP National General Secretary Shri Dharmendra Pradhan MP said the State Government and the Congress-led UPA Government at

the Centre are mired in a number of big corruption cases. He called upon the party workers to expose their misdeeds.

BJP senior leader and former minister Shri B B Harichandan said the Chief Minister had no moral right to



Odisha and the entire State in general as Left-wing extremists (LWE) have spread their wings to almost all parts of the State. It reiterated its demand for CBI probe into mining, linkage coal, dal, land and rural job scams.

In a separate resolution, the BJP said the Centre and the State Government are equally responsible for the unrelenting price rise of essential commodities as their policies are faulty. Expressing concern over the steep hike in electricity tariff, the party said the hike was effected at a time when the State is reeling under heat wave conditions and unscheduled power

frequent power cuts and HSC exam question paper leak.

Under the chairmanship of State BJP president Shri Julal Oram a committee decided to undertake State-wide agitation to highlight the BJD Government's massive corruption in mining, MNREGA and dal supply, deterioration of law and order, failure in tackling the growing Maoist activities, the role in resolving the twin hostage crisis and measures like increasing the electricity tariff.

Shri Julal Oram also demanded a CBI inquiry into the alleged horse-trading in the 2010 Rajya Sabha election as was done in Jharkhand.

continue after the Maoists abducted two Italian nationals and a sitting MLA of the ruling BJD. The manner in which the Government handled the hostage crisis proved that there is a *jungle raj* prevailing in the State, he said.

BJP senior leader and MP Shri Balbir Punj and Odisha BJP Prabhari Shri Santosh Gangwar also spoke on this occasion. Former State President Shri Bimbardhar Kuanr, State General Secretary Shri Nayan Mohanty and organizing secretary Shri Panchanan Kanungo, all district presidents and office bearers were present on the occasion. ■

GUJARAT

Solar panels set up atop Narmada branch canal



A multi-benefit pilot project generating one-MW electricity from solar panels atop the Narmada branch canal was dedicated to the nation by Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Besides producing “clean energy” without causing any pollution, the solar panels would spare an enormous amount of land otherwise required if the solar power project was land-based. In addition, they save a huge quantity of water in irrigation canals from evaporation.

Under the project, set up jointly on an experimental basis by the State-owned Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigam Limited (SSNNL) and the Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Limited, solar panels have been fitted over a 750-metre stretch on the Sanand-Kadi Narmada branch canal to generate 16 lakh units of clean electricity annually. As the canal will remain covered, it is estimated that the project will prevent evaporation of 90 lakh litres of water annually. Experts claimed that the trial run of the plant had indicated 15 per cent additional power generation compared to similar land-based solar panels for, the water flowing under the panel had helped to keep them cool.

Considering the total canal network of the Narmada dam project in Gujarat, even if 10 per cent of the 85,000-kilometre long main, branch and sub-branch canals were covered with solar panels, they would generate 2,200 MW, eliminate the need of 11,000 acres of land and prevent evaporation of about 2,000 crore litres of water annually, the experts claimed.

Shri Modi said the pilot project would put Gujarat and India on the world energy map, and it would also be a major contribution to the humanity in the field of clean energy and solving the problem of both water and power shortages.

Pointing out that he had already asked both engineering students and the experts to work on the pilot project further, Shri Modi said it would do wonders if installation of solar panels became feasible on the Narmada main canals also. It was because of the huge width of the main canals that the experts did not find it feasible to put up heavy solar panels without support, which in turn would restrict water flow. But he expressed the confidence that a solution would be found soon.

Chief Minister's Amritam Yojna for poor patients started

Gujarat leads in preventive medicine : Narendra Modi

Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi on May 03 said that Gujarat Government has



allotted Rs.200-crore in the budget for the timely treatment of serious diseases of poor patients Below Poverty Line (BPL) for assistance of Rs.2-lakh under the Chief Minister's Amritam Yojna. He said that Gujarat is also ahead in preventive medicine. While inaugurating Narayana Rudralaya Hospital in Ahmedabad, he said the government has allotted 37 acres land for the hospital just one-and-half months back and the 300-bed hospital began functioning from today taking a fee of Rs.10 from the poor patients.

Expressing satisfaction at the modern facility

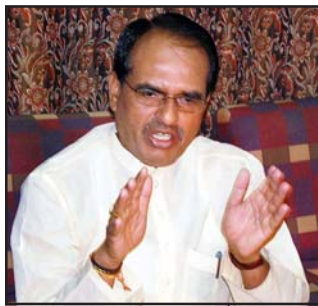
for the poor, he said that the state government has taken many schemes for the well-being of children and expecting mothers. Delivery at institutional maternity has reached 97 per cent as 108 Emergency Service has reached far and wide.

Shri Modi wished the hospital expands to 5,000-bed capacity fast, start a medical college. The government has also started Chiranjeev Healthcare, CNG Transport for pollution free atmosphere, providing drinking water from the Narmada to the Sabarmati and nutritious food the needy to improve basic physical infrastructure, he said.

MADHYA PRADESH

Govt. will establish a solar park on Lines of Gujarat : Chouhan

Inspired by the solar park set up in Gujarat, the BJP Government in Madhya Pradesh is also planning to open a similar park to get rid of the power woes concerning the State. A land bank will be created for the purpose to lay down the solar panels for the park. As an initial effort, 2,000 hectares of land not suitable for farming or industry will be marked for the purpose.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan discussed the solar park project in detail in the meeting of the energy department on April 23. Shri Chouhan said, "Solar energy is a futuristic investment. The importance of solar energy will rise in future and there is a need for balanced initiative in this direction."

The Chief Minister said that land not suitable for agriculture or setting up of industries must be identified for developing infrastructure for the solar park besides studying the solar park set up by Gujarat. In the meeting it was said, a policy has been made for promoting modernisation of power. Many officials along with Chief Secretary Avani Vaish were present in the meeting.

He further said, "Our policy for setting up solar parks is under process still we have issued

tenders for 200 MW through tradeco, our prices would be finalise by May 10." He said that a 50 MW solar power plant has been transferred to NTPC and three 5 MW each plants to private companies. Five districts of Madhya Pradesh come under over 6.2 radiations while half of the State falls under 5.6 radiation levels. Hence there are very good possibilities of solar power generation in the State and "we are thinking of establishing many more solar parks," he added.

HIMACHAL

State will award one crore for winning Gold medal in Olympics : Dhumal

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Prof PK Dhumal announced to give one crore for the Himachali, who will win Gold Medal in the forthcoming Olympics in Great Britain. Silver Medalist will get Rs. 50 lakh and Bronze Medal Winner will be reward with Rs. 25 lakh cash prize. He said it while inaugurated the three-day long 15th Dr. Y.S.Parmar Memorial Volley Ball Tournament.



He said that sports infrastructural facilities were being created in rural areas besides providing each of the panchayats, nagar panchayat, municipal council and municipal corporation gymnasium to channelise energy of rural youth and making them health conscious. He said that Rs. 17 crore had been provided to achieve the objective. He said that synthetic athletic tracks were being constructed at Dharamshala and Hamirpur, at a cost of Rs. eight crore each, with a view to provide world class infrastructural facilities to budding athletes of the State. He said that additionally Rs. 7 crore astro-turf hockey ground was also being constructed at Una thereby adding to the world class sports infrastructural facilities within the State. He said that there were a number of programmes under implementation to give boost to sports activities in the State.

The Chief Minister said that the State Government had given three percent reservation in government service to the outstanding

sportspersons. He said that diet money of the players within and outside the state had also been increased substantially to ensure nutritious diet to sportspersons. He said that besides providing cash awards to the outstanding sportspersons, 'Parshuram Award' the highest sports award of the State was also being given to them. He said that nine sportspersons were conferred with 'Parshuram Award' on Himachal Day, April 15, 2012 while 83 sportspersons were also honoured for their excellent achievements in different sports events.

UTTAR PRADESH

Samajwadi Party government disappoints all in the State : Lakshmikant Bajpai

Addressing his second Press conference after assuming charge as the President of State BJP, Dr Lakshmikant Bajpai said that the core committee of the party held its meeting on May 03 and discussed its structural requirements. The five regional heads of the party also participated in the meeting besides senior party functionaries. He said the revamping and overhauling of the organisation would take place after the completion of the local urban bodies' elections which is likely to be held in June.



Answering the questions Dr Bajpai criticized the Samajwadi Party government for failing to fulfill its poll promise of providing adequate wheat price to farmers and its utter failure to improve the law and order situation which has worsened ever since the SP took the reins of the State in March.

The State BJP president said that the Samajwadi Party had promised in its election manifesto that farmers would be provided 50 per cent plus to their cost price of wheat as the minimum support price but no panel has been constituted in this regard to give its recommendations.

"The entire wheat procurement in the state has been marked by rampant corruption and farmers are being exploited," he alleged. He said that BJP Legislature Party leader Shri Hukum Singh would visit Shahjehanpur and former state president Surya Pratap Shahi will go to Hamirpur

to see the ground realities of the wheat procurement process. He also attacked the SP government on the law and order front and said that 212 murders took place in UP during March-April and 39 rape cases have been reported. "In many of the murder cases SP workers and leader are involved and it seems doubtful whether the government could fulfill its poll promises and provide good governance," Dr. Bajpai said.

He said that though the SP government has been formed recently it does not mean that BJP would turn its back from its misdeeds because of this.

He said, "It has been decided that BJP would contest the forthcoming urban local bodies elections on party symbol and steering committees would be constituted at the district and regional levels to take care of the elections. The organizational changes would take place after the completion of the civic polls," Dr. Bajpai said, adding that a membership drive in rural areas would be launched soon but the same exercise in urban areas would be taken up after the civic polls. ■

Gadkari sends condolence message to grief stricken people of Dhubri in Assam

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari has expressed deep sorrow over the most unfortunate tragedy involving the capsizing of a packed steamer in river Brahmaputra, near Dhubri in Assam. He said "We share the sorrow of the families who have lost their dear ones. We also extend all our support to the administration engaged in extending relief and rehabilitation to the people who are the victims of this mishap. BJP also urges the Govt to use all modern technologies and speed up the work of locating those who are still missing and try to save their lives. I personally appeal to the BJP workers and supporters to rush to the help of the affected people in every possible way. We also pray to the almighty for the speedy recovery of those who have suffered injuries and peace to the souls departed." ■