



Editor

Prabhat Jha, MP

Executive Editor

Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

Editorial Team

**Ram Prasad Tripathy
Vikash Anand**

Creative Editor

**Dharmendra Kaushal
Vikas Saini**

Subscription

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Contact

Phone : +91(11) 23381428

Fax: +91(11) 23387887

Subscription : +91(11) 23005798

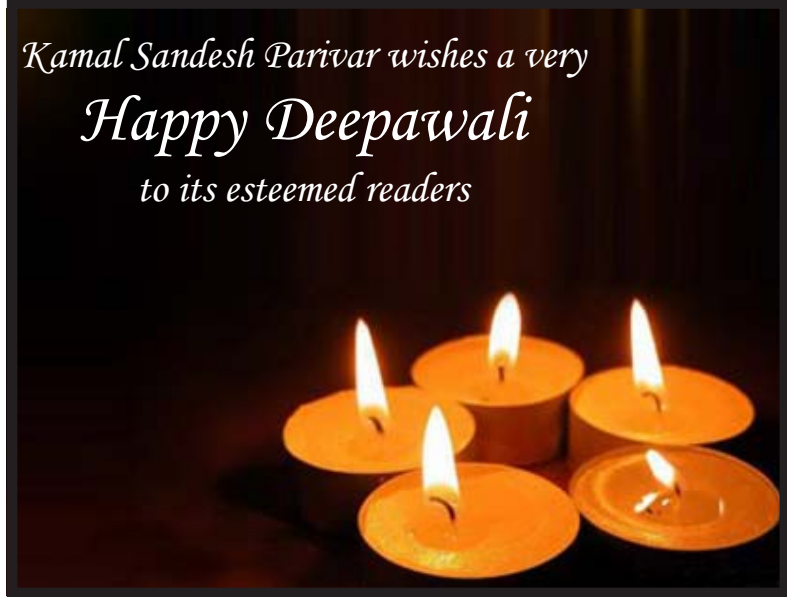
e-mail

kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

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*Kamal Sandesh Parivar wishes a very
Happy Deepawali
to its esteemed readers*



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- ▶▶ "Benami financial deals took place in CWG projects through the Mauritius route".
—Nitin Gadkari, BJP National President
- ▶▶ "The money that the central government collects is the tax-payer's money. People from Bihar also pay tax. Central funds are not the property of the Congress party".
—Arun Jaitley, Leader of Opposition (Rajya Sabha)
- ▶▶ "If J&K CM Omar Abdullah is seeking to differentiate between 'accession and merger' of the state like the separatists, it would mean that he was speaking the language of the separatists."
—M M Joshi, Former National President BJP
- ▶▶ "I may not have a place in the media space but I am certainly ensconced in the hearts of the people."
—Narendra Modi, Gujarat Chief Minister



Letters to Editor...

Sir,

I read Mr. Amba Charan Vashishth's article "Why not gather courage to ban RSS, Mr. Rahul?" This entire Gandhi clan is upto appeasing one section of the society and this has just taken it a bit too far. SIMI is a terrorist outfit which is based on fundamentalist and antisocial ideals. Having links with many terrorist groups, it has directly or indirectly involved in several of the terror plots. On the other hand RSS is just a pro Hindu group, which voices the opinions of a majority of Hindus in this country and is not against any particular religion. Congress throughout the history of independent India has always tried pleasing the so called minorities thus making RSS all the more popular. I hope the people will understand the real issue.

Vikas, New Delhi.
October 14.

Dear Editor,

The articles in Kamal Sandesh are always informative as well as interesting with a distinct nationalist perspective. Your last few issues have been extremely impressive. Having said that, I request you to include more and more issues of the States and from grassroots level which are generally overlooked by the mainstream media. My best wishes for the future.

Sanat Panda
Berhampur
Odisha

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



Punish the guilty of Commonwealth loot

Those who have gained financial health by looting 'commonwealth' should now be brought to book. The self respect of the nation was somehow attempted to be saved but the stink it has left can not be good for the health of the nation. Why only Kalmadi is guilty and not the Congress? Has Congress dissociated itself from Kalmadi? Is Kalmadi no longer a Congress MP? Is it not that Congress government in Delhi has played politics on the chessboard of Commonwealth games? Can Sheila Dikshit save herself by accusing Kalmadi? Kalmadi's black deeds are now in open but the higher ups who backed him in his every act of corruption should also not be spared. Smt. Sonia Gandhi had defended him by saying that inquiries in corruption will take place after the games were over, now the time has come. Whom did she try to save by giving such concessions in the name of games? She has ashamed the nation. The wealth which belonged to common people should not have been allowed to be squandered away in this manner. The country wants to see the face of the guilty persons. If the issue is not resolved then it will continue to haunt the nation from streets to parliament. There is an urgent need to punish the guilty.

BJP-JDU to bounce back with greater strength in Bihar

From the initial trends it appears that both Congress and Lalu will be defeated in Bihar. For the first time Bihar has seen the dawn of culture of development and good governance in last five years. Now there are no more damaged roads; law and order stands restored, poisonous political culture has come to an end; criminals are being sent to jail – in all Bihar is brimming with a new kind of confidence, a sense of self-respect opening the doors of new possibilities.

No government could have delivered so much in five years as BJP-JDU alliance has done. NDA should be hailed for its remarkable feat. The UPA government at the Centre has given price rise to people while Nitish government has delivered welfare to the people. There is only one message in the air – the BJP-JDU coalition government is returning to power again in Bihar. The elections staggered in six phases are not doing justice to Bihar. If Dusshera, Diwali and Chatth are falling in between different phases of elections then how can it be called a justice to the people? It is so because in India voting is not compulsory and Election Commission not taking these festivals into account and this situation may adversely affect polling percentage. Had there been compulsory voting there would have been no need to write these lines. When Laluji raises finger at Congress, people laugh at him. Who was supporting Congress for the last five years? Laluji is silent. His support base is so depleted that now he is banking on his son. Neither Rabri is showing her postures nor is Laluji finding it easy to convince voters. Lalu and Rabri both are failing to woo people to their side. More than one month is left for the election process to complete and BJP-JDU need to fight stoking their full strength. Even Ramvilas Paswan is marking his time.

The political acumen of the people of Bihar is also at stake. Are they going to elect those who can take the State forward or those who will again plunge it into another crisis? The name of the person who can take the State forward is Nitish Kumar. The names of those who will plunge the State into another crisis are Lalu, Paswan and Congress. Bihar is known for its political sagacity in the country. Country hopes that Bihar will understand the difference between development and destruction and will vote for those who have changed the destiny of Bihar.

Gadkari demands JPC probe into CWG; indicts PMO

Our sportspersons have made India proud at the recently concluded 19th Commonwealth Games-Delhi 2010 with their stupendous performance in various disciplines. All speculations about India's potential to develop a sports culture have come of age as a sporting nation have been put to rest by the first ever three figure medal tally. The opening as well as the closing ceremony was indeed spectacular and so were the foolproof security arrangements. I congratulate the entire Indian contingent for its outstanding performance and felicitate those who have won medals. I salute all the security agencies for making the Commonwealth Games a "security milestone" in the face of intelligence reports of threats by some groups to carry out terrorist attacks against the athletes. I also commend the flawless presentations by the performing artistes, school children and all others in making the games events a great success. But all was not well with the Commonwealth Games-Delhi 2010.

It all looked fine and on track till the bid was won. Then where did we fail and who all nearly let us down? The world community in general and the people of India in particular need to know.

India won the bid in November 2003, and it took 16 months to put the

November 1-15, 2010 ○ 6

Commonwealth Games Organizing Committee(CGOC) in place and the 35-member committee included Rahul Gandhi, Kapil Sibal, Jyotiraditya Scindia, Ajay Maken, Jitin Prasad and Sandeep Dikshit.

The first meeting of the Infrastructure Coordination Committee held in Delhi on March 15, 2005 took note of the requirements of venues and their up-gradation and the construction of the Games village giving all the government bodies like the Urban Development Ministry, the DDA, the Delhi Government & other agencies more than five years to accomplish the task without compromising on international standards. Their proposals were approved by a group of ministers and later ratified by the union cabinet. The irregularities and bungling in the tendering process of these projects was scandalous involving several thousand crores .

The first story about malpractices and corruption in Commonwealth Games came to light on July 30, 2010 when the UK-based AM Films highlighted the case of

payments with no written contract agreement. The CGOC is alleged to have paid AM Films, an Indian-owned firm in London, over 450,000 pounds (over ₹ 30 million) for services during last year's Queen's Baton Relay inaugural without proper tendering and paperwork.

Corruption was suspected in award of tenders for different projects of the games including the stadia and other infrastructure and granting of contracts in hiring or purchase



BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari releasing his Statement on October 19, 2010

of equipment such as air conditioners and treadmills and even toilet paper.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India commented adversely on the cost overruns for the stadium being built or refurbished for the Games.

Stung by corruption charges and allegations of sub-standard infrastructure and

inordinate delays made by the BJP leaders in parliament and outside, and amidst adverse media campaign, the central government went into overdrive to assure the participating nations that the stadium will be completed on time for the October 3-14 Commonwealth Games.

A panicky Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) President Mike Fennel rushed to Delhi and said at a press conference that "We (CGF) do not and will not tolerate any corruption." Fennel said "reports of corruption should be investigated thoroughly and acted upon as per the law of the land".

Fennel met Delhi Chief Minister Smt. Sheila Dikshit to voice his concern over the issues related to the Games and infrastructure development.

But things did not improve. An under construction footbridge just outside the main venue Jawaharlal Nehru stadium collapsed, 27 people were injured and a false ceiling at the weightlifting arena caved in. It was left to the armed forces to salvage the situation.

All this infuriated the Supreme Court to remark that the Commonwealth Games projects have bred corruption and that it cannot shut its eyes on the "rampant corruption" and criticized the Indian government on its preparations for the international sporting event. There are numerous allegations of bungling and irregularity in the tendering process for all games contracts which need to be looked into.

Senior BJP leaders including Smt. Sushma Swaraj,
November 1-15, 2010 ○ 7

Shri Arun Jaitley, Shri Kirti Azad, Shri Navjot Singh Sidhu and Shri Anurag Thakur have been raising these issues in both houses of parliament. Senior BJP leader, Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, party general secretary, Shri Vijay Goel and Delhi BJP chief, Shri Vijender Gupta and the BJP Sports Cell Convener Shri Mahinder Lal have led the BJP's campaign against the games scandals in Delhi.

All these BJP leaders and Secretary, Shri Kirit Somiaya have worked relentlessly to marshal all the facts and figures about the games mismanagement and prepared a 'Report on Commonwealth Games Loot' along with a voluminous annexure highlighting the callousness and total apathy and insensitivity of the government agencies and sports bodies in unabashedly wasting the tax payers money which resulted in the games budget initially billed at ₹ 2000 Crores going up to a whopping ₹ 70,000 crores.

The Prime Minister's Office has instituted an inquiry to be conducted by the former CAG Shri V. K. Shunglu. Several government agencies like the Enforcement Directorate, the CVC, the CAG, the CBI, the Revenue Intelligence and other outfits are also engaged in their respective investigations into specific charges of corruption, irregularities and malpractices etc.

Now the Commonwealth Games dirty linen is sought to be washed in public by Sheila Dikshit, Suresh Kalmadi & others, with Kalmadi demanding probe not only into

the CGOC ₹ 1,620 Crore budget but also into the ₹ 16,000 Crore budget of the Delhi Government.

The BJP strongly believes that all these inquiries and investigations must be expedited to reach some logical conclusions at the earliest so that the guilty could be punished without any further delay.

In view of the multiplicity of the agencies involved in this task, we demand that a high-power coordination committee headed by the cabinet secretary should be set up to ensure an effective and concerted effort to unearth the scandals.

The BJP will extend full cooperation to all the investigating agencies and make them available the information gathered by its leaders to facilitate an impartial and meaningful inquiry into all allegations of corruption and bungling.

It is high time to expose the nexus between the partners in the Commonwealth Games loot and those providing them political patronage by condoning this mess.

People of India have a solemn constitutional right to know who the real culprits of this national shame are.

The truth must prevail and shall prevail only if a comprehensive inquiry in the public domain is held and that is possible only through a Joint parliamentary probe.

The BJP demands the setting up of a Joint Parliamentary Committee at the earliest to probe into this monumental scam of Commonwealth Games Multi-Million Loot. ■



Karnataka Chief Minister Shri BS Yeddyurappa won the second trust vote on October 14 in the state Assembly. The second floor test suggested by Karnataka Governor Hansraj Bhardwaj on the grounds that Trust vote held on October 11 was not in order was accepted by Chief Minister Shri B.S Yeddyurappa and BJP emerged victorious. One Independent MLA Varthur Prakash supported the BJP Government.

In the second trust vote, Shri Yeddyurappa gets 106 votes and the Opposition gets 100 votes.

Congress pressed for postponement of trust vote citing the court order but Speaker rejected the leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah's request to postpone the floor test.

After the trust vote jubilant Chief Minister Shri Yeddyurappa said "This is a Victory for democracy. For the last one week Karnataka was in news for bad reason and the state's reputation was at a stake. Now that we have won the 2nd Floor test within three days, we will put our full efforts to work for the betterment of the six crore people of Karnataka. I have learnt many lessons in the last two and half years which cannot be taught by any universities in the world". He said he will meet the Governor, Prime Minister, President, Union ministers and senior party leaders cordially and thank all of them. He was enthusiastic while announcing that his government will again focus on the Development Mantra to serve the people.

Former BJP National President Shri Venkaiah

Naidu described the victory "a slap on the face of the Governor".

Reacting immediately after the second consecutive victory of the vote of confidence in the Assembly, BJP National spokesperson Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy said: "We have come back again and this is indeed a historic moment for Karnataka and for the BJP. The floor test in the Assembly in Karnataka conclusively proves the BJP stand that it has a majority there."

Shri Rudy noted that even if the Karnataka High Court struck down on October 18 the disqualification of five independent MLAs, restoring their membership, Chief Minister BS Yedyurappa's government would still be in a majority in the Assembly.

He claimed that with 106 votes in its favour in the Assembly which now has an effective strength of 208, the ruling party was "far ahead and beyond" the majority mark of 104 and even if the disqualified MLAs were allowed to vote it would not affect the government.

"Two MLAs - one from the JD(S) and one from the BJP abstained from voting. If that is so, then the factual strength of the Assembly is 206 and the majority mark 103. Even if we presume that on October 18, the court allows the Independent MLAs to vote, we would still have 106 MLAs and the vote of the Speaker, giving us a majority in a House of 213 members," Rudy said. In the same breath, Shri Rudy renewed the demand for removal of the Governor for "acting as an agent of the Congress".

Ploy of Congress Party to misuse Governor's office exposed : Gadkari

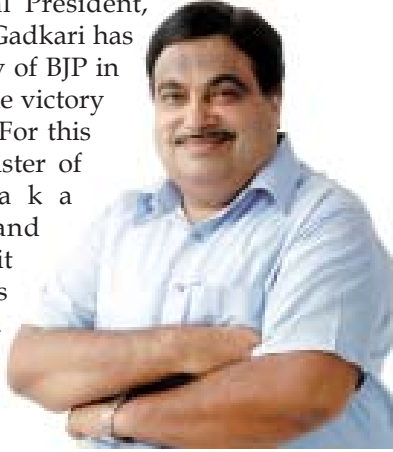
BJP National President, Shri Nitin Gadkari has said the victory of BJP in Karnataka is the victory of democracy. For this the Chief Minister of Karnataka Yeddurappa and local party unit deserves congratulations.

In a statement he said despite the partisan and the unconstitutional attitude adopted by Congress and JD(S), Bharatiya Janata Party has established its full majority in Karnataka Vidhan Sabha and proved that any undemocratic step taken against the democratically elected government would meet the same fate. It is the victory not only of BJP but of the entire Karnataka State.

The manner in which Congress and JD(S) used money and muscle-power for horse-trading of MLAs in Karnataka and tried to pull down the BJP government was like an attempt for murder of democracy and BJP gave a befitting reply to that.

He said the unconstitutional attitude adopted by the governor of Karnataka Hansraj Bhardwaj was totally wrong. The governor put pressure on the Vidhan Sabha speaker K G Bopaiah and advised him not to disqualify any MLA before the confidence vote and said the governor's decision would be final in the event of any change in the numbers.

By doing so he had tried to interfere into the rights of the speaker. Instead of adopting the neutral attitude the governor had adopted partisan attitude which is most condemnable. He said BJP hopes that taking a strong lesson from Karnataka the central government would not adopt any undemocratic method in future to destabilize the democratically elected government.



Karnataka Governor has lost both legal and moral authority : Sushma

Seeking recall of the Karnataka Governor Leader of Opposition (Lok Sabha) Smt.



Sushma Swaraj on said the BJP is shocked and outraged by the partisan and undemocratic behaviour of the Governor of Karnataka who has thrown all accepted norms to the winds by his highly objectionable communication to the Hon'ble Speaker of the State Assembly.

In a press statement, she said the Karnataka Governor has, in effect, threatened that if the Hon'ble Speaker does not act as directed by his office, the outcome of the Vote of Confidence in the Assembly will not be acceptable.

It reveals that the Governor has been acting in a manner prejudicial to constitutional governance in the State of Karnataka and the BJP has repeatedly pointed out his overt political partisanship.

She said the Karnataka Governor's latest diktat is almost reminiscent of the illegal actions of former Uttar Pradesh Governor Romesh Bhandari in 1996, which had to be overturned by the then President of India as well as the Allahabad High Court.

In view of this blatantly unconstitutional threat to a constitutional functionary and interference in the domain of the legislature, it is clear that the Governor of Karnataka has demonstrated he is unfit to hold the high constitutional office.

Smt. Swaraj said the BJP appeals to Her Excellency the President of India to forthwith recall Shri HR Bhardwaj who has lost both legal and moral authority to discharge his role as the President's appointee.

Nothing short of the immediate recall of the Governor will restore faith in constitutional governance in the State of Karnataka, she said.

Recall Karnataka Governor

Karnataka Governor Shri H R Bharadwaj's extra-constitutional methods in destabilising the State government has set as yet another example of misuse of Governor's office under Congress led UPA rule at the Centre. Text of memo :

13 October 2010

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the Bharatiya Janata Party we seek the recall of the Karnataka Governor, Shri H.R. Bhardwaj. The developments of the last few weeks have clearly demonstrated that notwithstanding his appointment to a constitutional office of a Governor, Shri Bhardwaj has utterly failed to politically detach himself from his political past and proved himself completely unworthy of the high constitutional office that he holds. Even when he was appointed a Governor, his appointment did not inspire confidence. Notwithstanding the ministerial offices he held in the past he was never perceived to be a respecter of democratic and constitutional institutions. Extra-constitutionalism was his firm belief and the use of extra constitutionalism to demonstrate loyalty was always his political strategy.

Upon his appointment as a Governor he embroiled himself in several controversies with political leaders of the State including Ministers. The Raj Bhawan provided an easy access to politicians of the Congress Party, the JD(S), some preferred businessmen including those who were aggrieved with the policies of the State Government. His public spat with the State Government and its ministers was considered unworthy of the office that he holds and yet many people chose to ignore it despite criticism because of his uncontrollable temperament. However, in recent weeks he converted the Raj Bhawan into the epicenter of political conspiracy to encourage horse trading and destabilize the State Government.

After having allowed the use of the Governor's office for political purposes he now embarked upon a political confrontation with other constitutional authorities of the State. When some members of the legislative assembly purportedly withdrew support from the BJP government led by Shri B.S. Yeddiurappa, the Governor asked the Chief Minister to seek a vote of confidence. He simultaneously wrote to the Speaker not to invoke his powers under the Tenth Schedule and disqualify any defector. Any person elected as a member of the Legislative Assembly on the symbol of a political party if he relinquishes the membership of the party is liable for disqualification. By the very act of withdrawing support from the BJP government these MLAs had relinquished the membership of the political party on which they were elected. Similarly, some independent members had acquired the membership of a political party and therefore lost their character as independent members. They were also liable for disqualification. It is incumbent upon the Speaker to disqualify such persons with immediate effect. However, the Governor wrote to the Speaker asking him not to exercise his powers under the Tenth Schedule. An advice by the Governor to the Speaker of the Assembly should never be against the Constitution. He further warned the Speaker that in case he exercised his power under the Tenth Schedule, the verdict of the Legislative Assembly would not be acceptable. He was acting with a pre-conceived mind to destabilize the State Government.

The strategy of the Congress and JD(S) clearly was not to allow a vote of confidence to be recorded in the House by causing disturbances. When the motion was approved by a voice vote with nobody seeking a division, the Governor now, as per his game plan, chose to send a report to the Central Government recommending action under Article 356 of the Constitution. His recommendation was perverse and motivated. 105 members of the Legislative Assembly, a majority who were present in the House had supported the motion. Yet the Governor chose to recommend President's

Rule.

Within twenty four hours of recommending President Rule, he volte face and asked the Chief Minister to seek a fresh vote of confidence on 14th October, 2010 calling the earlier vote a farce. If the recommendation for imposing President's Rule under Article 356 was based on good and cogent grounds, how did he implicitly over-rule himself within a day? Even though the Chief Minister agreed to the request of the Governor in order to avoid needless confrontation with a constitutional authority, could the Governor have asked for a second vote of confidence within a period of three days? His public utterances while accusing the State Government and the BJP of baseless charges extended to calling his gesture an act of charity against the Chief Minister. The decorum and the restraint required in a constitutional authority was completely missing.

The history sheet of extra-constitutionalism indulged by the Governor, Shri Hans Raj Bhardwaj disentitles him to occupy a worthy constitutional office. The essence of constitutionalism is restraint, convention, and not confrontation.

We have been, therefore, constrained to approach you to seriously introspect whether persons with a preference for extra-constitutionalism and lack of restraint should at all be appointed or continued as Governors. We urge you to recall Shri H.R. Bhardwaj as the Governor of Karnataka. His continuation is at variance with the constitutional requirement of that high constitutional office.

(L.K. Advani)
Chairman,
BJP Parliamentary Party (Lok Sabha)

(Sushma Swaraj)
Leader of Opposition

(Arun Jaitley)
Leader of Opposition
(Rajya Sabha)

(M. Venkaiah Naidu)
Ex-President, BJP
MP (Rajya Sabha)



Anti-defection law needs to be strengthened : Venkaiah Naidu

Former National President BJP Shri M Venkaiah Naidu wants the Centre to strengthen the anti-defection law to prevent defection by elected representatives.



Speaking to reporters in Hyderabad on October 16 he said that the anti-defection law need to be amended to give more clarity and shun the present ambiguity.

In the wake of Karnataka crisis, the law should be further amended to disqualify elected representatives who speak against the party, even though they did not violate the whip.

Changing loyalties from one party to other

was nothing wrong, but such leaders should first quit their posts and seek fresh mandate, Shri Naidu said. He mooted a nation-wide debate on the anti-defection law and even suggested parties not to offer any Constitutional posts for at least five years, to those who desert their parties in preference to others. "Defections are like cancer to the society. Unless timely action is taken it will weaken the polity of the country and democracy," he observed.

"The defectors have been taught a lesson in Karnataka and it is a step in the direction of providing stability in polity. It was also a big defeat for horse-traders," he said.

Criticizing the governor for allegedly behaving in an extra constitutional manner, Shri Naidu demanded that he be recalled immediately. "It is shocking to note that the governor even now is continuing with extra constitutional political acts," he said.

"The evil of political defections has been a matter of national concern. If it is not checked it is likely to undermine the very foundation of democracy," Shri Naidu said. ■

Give NDA second chance, will turn Bihar prosperous : Gadkari

From Our Correspondent

BJP President Shri Nitin Gadkari on October 13 urged the people to give another chance to the ruling NDA to bring Bihar to the category of developed states



like Punjab and Haryana.

Addressing a election rally in Bihar he said, "We had sought your precious vote at the time of elections in 2005 for development."

Now fruits of development are seen in all fields after five years. Once again we seek vote for a second term to make Bihar a developed state like Haryana and Punjab," Shri Gadkari said during a poll rally in Madhubani district.

Holding the successive Congress and RJD governments responsible for backwardness of Bihar, he said the people tasted the fruits of development for the first time during the NDA rule.

Good roads were seen in the state now and there was marked improvement in the power supply position, he said. "The major thing, also seen here, is

the marked improvement in law and order because of the efforts made by the NDA government," he said.

In Patna talking to media persons, he said, "We are confident of good performance and sure that the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) will return to power in Bihar," Shri Gadkari added.

Lambasting RJD and Congress party Shri Gadkari said "Lalu Prasad Yadav brought destruction to the state. As far as the Congress is concerned, it is a party of tall talks and that is all".

Continuing to slam the RJD-LJP alliance, Shri Gadkari said

that those in the opposition camp were deliberately choosing to ignore the development works done by the NDA government in order to serve their agendas.

"The work done by the Nitish-led NDA administration is being seen and appreciated by people around the globe but the opposition chooses to overlook it. Likewise, major strides have been made in the field of law and order but those who are hoping to displace the NDA government deny that despite measurable data available to everyone," Shri Gadkari said.

Taking a shot at the Congress Party, the BJP national president said that despite visits by the party's superstars like



Central funds are not Congress property : Jaitley

Addressing a rally in Bihar, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley slammed Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh for his remark that central funds had not been properly utilised by the Bihar government, saying 'central funds are not Congress property'. Shri Jaitley also said 'the Prime minister should not have made that remark on Bihar as a Congressman but as an economist'. 'The remark that was made on October 16 - the money that the central government collects is the tax-payer's money. People from Bihar also pay tax. Central funds are not the property of the Congress party,' Shri Jaitley said. On October 16 the prime minister had told an election rally in Narpatganj assembly constituency in Bihar's Araria district that funds provided by the central government were not utilised properly.



NDA provided good governance in Bihar : Advani

BJP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri Lal Krishna Advani addressed rallies in Motihari, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga on October 19. In his speech, Shri Advani praised Bihar Chief minister Shri Nitish Kumar and Deputy Chief Minister Shri Sushil Kumar Modi for giving good governance in Bihar.

He said the National Democratic Alliance government led by Shri Nitish Kumar and Sushil Kumar Modi had provided good governance in the state which was misruled by the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) for 15 years. " Bihar was the best-administered state after Independence. But, for 15 years

it suffered anarchy and jungle raj – which was supported by the Congress," he added.

"Take the example of Gujarat that has recorded the

did not belong to the Congress and they had not done Bihar any special favour. "

Shri Advani exhorted the voters to give the Nitish



highest GDP," he said at Motihari, adding that the BJP intended good governance and was not power hungry. He said that many people spoke against the Modi government but the Muslims had the best per capita income in Gujarat under his regime. He said all sections of society were happy in Gujarat.

The former Deputy Prime Minister said that the RJD was hand-in-glove with the Congress which was equally responsible for the jungle raj of 15 years in the state. Shri Advani said given the good work by the Bihar government, he expected Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to shower praise on Nitish's performance but, unfortunately, he did not.

Referring to the criticism of the Bihar government by Singh and UPA chairperson Mrs. Gandhi over central assistance in the past two days, Shri L.K Advani said the central funds

government another chance with a bigger majority than the last one. He stressed that Nitish had delivered whatever he had promised

The BJP's election manifesto released on October 19 announced direct cash transfer to beneficiaries of several poverty alleviation schemes.

Shri Advani and Deputy CM Shri Sushil Kumar Modi, while releasing the manifesto, promised a goat to each BPL family if the NDA returned to power. Like the JD-U, the BJP promised to set up a commission for economically backward upper caste people.

Shri Modi said the PDS system would be made more transparent by bringing in self-help groups. The party promised grants for *gaushalas* and said the Crop Insurance Scheme would be monitored at the panchayat level, instead of block level. ■

➔ Rahul Gandhi and others, the Congress had absolutely no chance of rehabilitating itself in this year's election. "Congress is known for its 'vote-dividing' tactics and that is all it can hope to keep once the elections are over," he said. "The BJP and the JD-U have become synonymous with development in Bihar as the government has worked hard for it," the BJP president said. In his Bihar visit he addressed public rallies in Khajauli, Sitamarhi, and Bathnaha. ■

An Unpardonable Gaffe

By L K Advani

Omar Abdullah, Chief Minister of J&K State has indeed made history. No other Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir has ever taken exception to anyone saying that J&K State is an integral part of India. Omar has not only chided the BJP for doing so but has gone further to make an assertion over which both the separatists in the State as well as the Pakistani media have gone into raptures.

In a recent statement in the State Assembly, Omar has said: Jammu and Kashmir State has acceded to India; it has not merged with India.

Fact is that all the over 500 princely states, including Hyderabad and Junagarh which Omar specifically mentioned as being different from Jammu & Kashmir, have become integral parts of India after independence and had signed the same Instrument of Accession that Jammu and Kashmir signed. And over the last six decades, it is not the BJP alone that has described Jammu and Kashmir as an integral part of Indian territory but every single leader of the country from Pandit Nehru to Smt. Indira Gandhi to our present External Affairs Minister, Shri S.M. Krishna who have affirmed this.

In fact, Pakistan's DAWN of Oct. 8 front paged S.M.

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Krishna's assertion by pitting it against Omar's speech in the Assembly.

It would be in place to recall that the unanimous resolution on J& K adopted by both the Houses of the Indian Parliament way back in 1994 has affirmed:

"The state of Jammu and Kashmir has been, is and shall be an integral part of India and any attempts to separate it from the rest of the country will be resisted by all necessary means".

It is this same resolution which goes on to state :

"Pakistan must vacate the area of the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir, which they have occupied by aggression".

The demand for Omar Abdullah's resignation that was being made till recently was on the ground that he had totally failed to deal with the situation in the valley created by stone-pelting mobs. There were elements willing to attribute it to his administrative inexperience. But this latest speech of his reveals that he is not just an administrative failure, but that in so far as J&K is concerned, he is totally out of tune with the national mood. The earlier he quits the better it would be for Jammu and Kashmir as well as for the nation.

In his Assembly speech, Omar Abdullah also referred critically to BJP's demand for



"Jeevem Shardah Shatam"

Birth anniversary : 8 November

All the BJP leaders and Karyakarta led by National President Shri Nitin Gadkari, Leader of Opposition in LS Smt. Sushma Swaraj, RS Shri Arun Jaitley, former BJP National President Dr. M.M. Joshi, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu and Shri Rajnath Singh, National Gen. Sec. (Organisation) Shri Ram Lal and Shri Prabhat Jha, Editor Kamal Sandesh join the nation in wishing their margdarshak, Shri Lal Krishna Advani a very happy birthday and pray for his long life to continue to guide the Party and the nation for long.

repeal of Art. 370. Since the days of Dr. S.P. Mookerji, we have been committed to Ek Pradhan, Ek Nishan and Ek Vidhan (One President, One Flag, and One Constitution).

The Kashmir movement launched by Dr. Mookerji and his death in detention accomplished the first two objectives, namely One President and One Flag. The third objective, One Constitution, is still to be achieved. And we are determined to achieve it.

But not many may be aware that even in the separate Constitution that J&K State has by virtue of Art. 370, Sec. 3 reads as follows :

Relationship of the State with the Union of India—The State of Jammu and Kashmir is and shall be an integral part of the Union of India

In his book, The Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir, former Chief Justice of India Justice A.S. Anand has commented on the above section :

In 1951 the State Constituent Assembly was convened to give “its reasoned conclusions regarding accession”. The dispute regarding Kashmir had come to a standstill at the U.N.O. The Assembly in Kashmir, in order to end the uncertainty about the future of the State, after due consideration, ratified the State’s accession to India in 1954.

In 1956, when the drafting of the State Constitution was being finalized, it was deemed necessary to incorporate the ultimate position of the State in respect of the sphere of its accession as a “permanent provision” in the State Constitution. It was with this idea that section 3 of the Constitution was adopted.

The words used in this section are “is and shall be”. These leave no ground for thinking that the people of the State ever had a doubt about their affiliations with India. The section is merely the affirmation of their desire to be “integral part of the Union of India”. (Courtesy : blogkadvani.in) ■

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BJYM protests against Omar Abdullah’s statement

Omar lost moral right to continue : Anurag Thakur

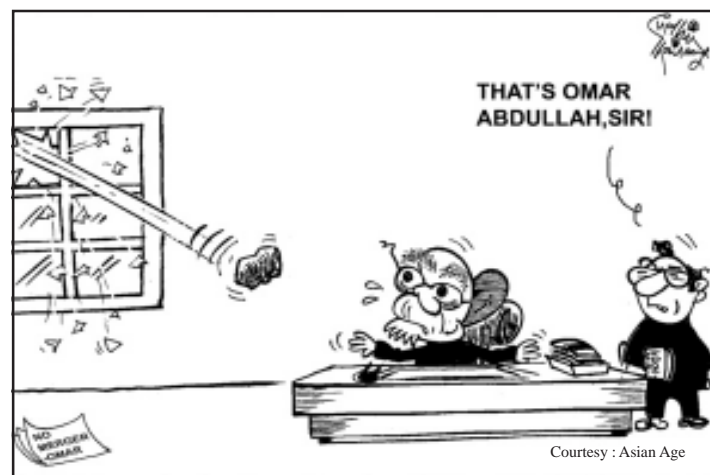
Bhartiya Janata Yuva Morcha organised a March from BJP Central Office 11, Ashok Road to Jammu & Kashmir house in New Delhi against the anti-national remark made by Chief Minister Omar Abdullah against Jammu & Kashmir on October 08, 2010.

Addressing the March BJYM National President Shri Anurag Singh Thakur MP said that the comment made by Omar had exposed his inclination towards the separatist mindset. Shri Thakur also demanded Omar’s resignation and said he has lost his credibility to remain in the office of Chief Minister. It is not just his moral but also a constitutional obligation as he is under oath to keep the nation sovereign.



BJYM General Secretary Shri Manoranjan Mishra said that the BJYM cadres are committed for lifetime to keep the nation intact. BJYM Delhi President Shri Nakul Bhardwaj said that the nation is one from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and no force can even dare to challenge its integrity. More than thousands of BJYM cadres attended the March and several were arrested during the protest.

It is noteworthy, BJYM had already started a nationwide campaign under the banner of “India First Campaign” to save Jammu & Kashmir and it is gaining a lot of support from every corner of the country. Among others Delhi State BJYM General Secretaries Shri Manjeet Singh, Shri Gajinder Yadav and BJYM Member National Executive Shri Pawan Agrawal were present. (FOC)■



Courtesy : Asian Age



Laudable RSS role in national reconstruction

By Ram Lal

The RSS, founded in 1925, has emerged as a strong national force. It has tirelessly worked for the service of the nation making all Indians proud of their common civilisational heritage. In keeping with the highest traditions of Hinduism, the Sangh does not discriminate on grounds of caste, creed and religion. It celebrates pluralism. Yet it suffers from false propaganda and prejudicial mindset against it. In this piece, Shri Ram Lal has tried to remove the mist of many misgivings about this great nationalist organization.



Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) today is a well-known name and organization. Not only in India, RSS swayamsevaks are spread all over the world. Programmes of shakhas are held regularly from Ladakh to Andaman Nicobar islands. The country has 50,000 shakhas at 35,000 places (villages and towns). 9500 weekly and 8500 months get-togethers are also organized. For the uplift of the neglected sections of society, to instill a sense of self-confidence and infuse a sense of nationalism in them, more than 1.5 lakh service works are being organized by the swayamsevaks. In association with various social organizations, numerous

swayamsevaks are running organizations to cater to various areas of social activity in the country.

At the time of natural calamities the swayamsevaks have created new milestones of providing aid and succour to the people in distress. This selfless service rendered by the swayamsevaks has drawn wide appreciation even from those sections of society which otherwise oppose the RSS.

By conducting daily shakhas which virtually mean daily sadhna for the nation, by organizing various social welfare and assistance programmes and by expressing its stand on various issues, RSS has emerged as a strong national force. It is necessary that people get factual in-

formation about such an organization.

RSS came into being on the auspicious Vijay Dashmi day in Vikrami Samvat 1982 (1925 AD). Its founder was Dr. Keshavrao Baliram Hedgewar. He was a born nationalist. When a dona (plate) of sweets was given to every child in school on the occasion of the birth of British Queen Victoria, the child Hedgewar threw the plate in the dustbin. When his brother asked him, he explained, "Why should we celebrate the birthday of a Queen who is ruling over us by force?" His life is full of such incidents.

Because of this bent of mind, as he grew up, he got more and more attached to the national movement. He was turned out

of the school when he said, "Vande Mataram". He went to Kolkata for his medical education because this place was the main centre of revolutionary activities. There he worked shoulder to shoulder with different revolutionaries. On return, he worked with many leading revolutionaries of the time. In the 1920 Congress session at Nagpur Dr. Hedgewar pleaded for demand for full independence for the country, but his suggestion was turned down. When ultimately in 1929 the Lahore Session of Congress resolved for full freedom, Dr. Hedgewar made every RSS shakha to pass a resolution in support of this resolve of the nation. Twice he was imprisoned during freedom

movement. Many other swayamsevaks also followed him in jail. In spite of all this, a false propaganda is made raising questions where was RSS during freedom struggle.

Dr. Hedgewar was greatly pained by the fact of India's political slavery. While administering an oath to every swayamsevka ".....I have become Sangh swayamsevak for securing country's freedom...."

Another pain tormenting Dr. Hedgewar's mind was that this country's largest society, Hindu society, gone bereft of national self-respect had drowned itself into oblivion and was suffering from the feeling that "what can I do all alone?" If the country's majority society continued with this feeling, how can the country stand up to face the challenges? History is witness to the fact that whenever this country has been in disarray,

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it has landed itself in the bonds of slavery of foreigners. It was in this background that to instill a sense of national pride, selfless service and unity in the country's oldest society, the Hindu society became the aim and objective of the Sangh.

It needs to be made clear that this idea was the outcome of Dr. Hedgewar's constructive thinking. It was not the outcome



RSS was first to swing in action to provide relief to Tsunami Victims

of any instant reaction to momentary thought or in opposition to anybody. To construe it as anti-Muslim or anti-Christian would be betraying the very basic concept and objectives of the organization. Those who suffer from prejudice against the very word of Hindu organization cannot understand Sangh and what it stands for. In these circumstances there is nothing unusual if such people call such a nationalist organization devoted to the nation as "narrow, communal" etc. Because of the liberal and sympathetic mindset of Hindus the faiths from all over the world got entry and protection in the country. Faiths from other countries came to India and settled there. They assimilated themselves with the culture of the country and yet they maintained their identity. Hindus accepted it because our education and upbringing is such. Shiv

Mahima states:

रुचीनां वैचित्र्यादजुकुटिलनानापथजुषाम् ।
नृणामेको गम्यस्त्वमसि पयसामर्णव इव ॥

The Hindu believes that the manner in which rivers having different sources of origin merge with the sea, people following different paths merge into the creator of all. This view allowed people of different faiths to live in India. And this in turn led to the creation of a plural society.

The pluralism we see today is not despite of but because of Hindus and Hinduism. If Hinduism were to be weakened, then neither India would remain India nor would pluralism survive. Can plural-

ism be imagined in Pakistan?

In this background the RSS is a national necessity of this country. Swayamsevaks of Sangh are discharging their national duty by organising Hindus. In the daily shakhas of the Sangh efforts are made to develop the body, mind and soul of Swayamsevaks and to instill national feelings in them.

After going through the prayer, pledge, solidarity source, solidarity mantra, which Swayamsevaks reiterate daily, one can understand the thoughts of the Sangh, what is taught in the Sangh and how the mind of Swayamsevaks works. Swayamsevaks worship the Motherland and pray for peace and prosperity of the nation. At the conclusion of every event, Swayamsevaks chant Bharatmata ki Jai. There is no room for caste, creed, provincialism, untouchability in the minds

of Swayamsevaks.

Hence, at moments of crisis and in times of tragedy, Swayamsevaks do not bother about who are the victims. They are the first to organise relief work. This was evident during the devastating tsunami of 2004. Before that, Swayamsevaks were the first to reach out to the victims of the Super Cyclone in Odisha.

It would be worthwhile to remember that Swayamsevaks toiled day and night after two airliners crashed into each other, resulting in the death of more than 300 passengers. The accident occurred in Haryana. Nearly all the dead were Muslims, and Swayamsevaks recovered their bodies, put them into coffins and handed them over to their relatives who were provided with board and lodging. Later the Swayamsevaks were felicitated at the local masjid.

Whenever there is a natural disaster like an earthquake, floods or cyclone, Swayamsevaks across the country collect relief material and rush to the disaster site. Destroyed houses are rebuilt, ruined survivors are rehabilitated. The Swayamsevaks do all this and more because they see everybody in India as children of Bharat Mata and deserving of their assistance. Swayamsevaks who migrate to other countries carry this spirit of selfless service and sacrifice with them. The good work being done by the Swayamsevaks in Mauritius, Trinidad & Tobago, the US, Europe and across the world bears testimony to this fact.

Thousands of Swayamsevaks have mobilised resources and set up Seva

Bharati, Seva Prakalp Sansthan, Banvasi Kalyan Ashram and various other trusts and institutions to look after the welfare of disadvantaged sections of our society. Their purpose is to instil self-confidence among the poor and the under-privileged, those living on the margins, by empowering them educationally and economically. The results of these initiatives have been spectacular.

The Swayamsevaks have in the forefront of organising civil support for the armed forces during wars and conflicts. Whether on the frontline or in cities, towns and villages, Swayamsevaks have toiled tirelessly during the 1947, 1962, 1965 and 1971 wars. They were also active during the Kargil conflict. Many Swayamsevaks have sacrificed their lives also. Others have suffered injuries. They have neither sought nor received either compensation or medals of bravery from the Government. For them it was service to the nation, to be performed with utmost dedication and without

any selfish motives. It is such selfless service that makes the Sangh and its Swayamsevaks stand tall and proud.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh is a national asset. It should be treasured and its services used for national reconstruction and making India stronger.

A lot more can be said about the good work being done by the Swayamsevaks and the Sangh, especially in the field of social reform and empowerment. This is being done without any publicity; often the Swayamsevaks remain in the background. That is the essence of selfless service. The Sangh is rooted in the soil of the motherland and seeks inspiration from its cultural identity and civilisational history. For the Sangh, the nation comes before everything else. Hence, Swayamsevaks dedicate their lives to the nation and toil for their selfless cause. ■

(The writer is National General Secretary (Organisation) of Bharatiya Janata Party who has devoted his life to the cause of RSS and nation)

Punish Teesta for perjury, Godhra accused requests SC

With evidence to suggest that Godhra riots case witnesses, according to a report published in the *Pioneer* were "tutored" by social activist Teesta Setalvad, an accused in one of the riots cases has approached the Supreme Court and demanded that perjury proceedings be initiated against her.

The application filed by Shashikant Patil, an accused in the Narodiya Patiya case (FIR No 100/02), highlighted how false affidavits were filed with the complicity of Teesta and her NGO Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP) to mislead the court. The application is expected to be heard on October 26, when similar petitions related to Godhra riots would be heard by a Special Bench of the Supreme Court. ■

BJP sweeps civic polls in Gujarat

From Our Correspondent

in five corporations. Elections were held in 555 seats of 186 wards spread over important cities, like Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat, Bhavnagar, Rajkot and Jamnagar.

The landslide victory of the BJP in the six civic bodies representing all regions of the State augurs well for the party and is a positive pointer of the way the results of the Nagar Palika and Panchayat elections scheduled on October 21 are likely to be.

441 seats in the six civic bodies while the Congress remained content with just 100 and independents won 14. What is a bigger shock for the Congress is that many Muslim candidates given ticket by the BJP have won.

The BJP has improved its tally in Ahmedabad from 96 in 2005 to 148 now as the number of seats in the city has also increased from 129 to 189 this time due to more areas on the outskirts having been merged

Modi steps into tenth year as CM

On October 8 Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi reached a personal milestone when he completed nine years in office. In the process, he has positioned the State as a premier investment destination.

He also took himself closer to the common man with people friendly schemes. His *Chiranjeevi Yojana* for child and mother's healthcare won laurels from Central agencies.

Shri Modi said he looked forward to continue the State's march towards development with peace and prosperity.

BJP has not only won the elections to all the six municipal corporations of Gujarat but also routed the Congress comprehensively, securing two-thirds majority in all civic bodies of the state despite all negative campaign by the Congress and regardless of using every possible dirty trick, including the misuse of the CBI by the UPA government

The ruling BJP made a clean sweep in the six municipal corporations in Gujarat for which elections were held on October 10. The BJP, in fact, registered two-thirds majority

The State BJP had announced peace, development and security to be its main poll plank, and Shri Narendra Modi himself assured the people that BJP will work only for the development of the state.

The humbled Congress had no inkling of the people's mood in the big urban areas is proved by its debacle in Rajkot and Jamnagar where they were seriously hoping to gain control of the municipal corporations this time around.

In total, the BJP won

in the corporation limits.

After the massive victory Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi, attributed the victory to the party, adding that he is not bigger than the party. Shri Modi said that "the son cannot be bigger than the mother" while describing himself as "small worker of mother BJP". He said that he owes everything to the BJP.

What makes the election results significant is that they reflect popular mood in important urban centres spread

When Rajbhawan loses sheen

By Amba Charan Vashishth

During the process of framing of the Constitution of India, the Constituent Assembly first wanted to abolish the office of Governor which the alien British government had been using to twist the arm of the local administration to enforce its designs. But after a detailed discussion it came round to continue with the institution. The framers of the Constitution thought that under a democracy the institution would, in the process, get democratized with the governor acting as the agent of the Government of India in the State and functioning as a friend and a guide to the

gress continued to rule at the Centre, many non-Congress governments were formed in various States. It was here that the institution of Governor began to be exploited to protect and promote in the States the interests of the ruling party at the Centre. It was the period when the phenomenon of *aayarams-gayaarams* raised its head. The governors, with a few exceptions, became an instrument in the hand of the party ruling at the Centre to destabilise non-Congress



with the UPA's "ideology". Later, when this diktat was challenged in the Supreme Court of India, the highest court of the country decried the UPA action not in consonance with the word and spirit of the Constitution.

As time passed, the instances of a governor acting as a friend and guide to the State administration and acting as per the word and spirit of the Constitution became few and far between. Instead of being the agents of the Union Government in the State, they are gradually turning into saboteur agents of the ruling party when the State is run by a political party other than that at the Centre.

During the last six years of UPA government, the conduct of governors has hardly enhanced the prestige and honour of the incumbent governors. Instead they have become the target of jeers and of adverse comment by the courts. The legal luminaries and constitutional experts have deprecated their conduct as unbecoming of the office they hold. Without going much back into the past, what the likes of Shri Buta Singh, Shri S. C. Jamir, Shri. Sibte Rizvi, etc. have done has only sullied their image in the eyes of the people. It is now being widely felt that the common tax-payer is being burdened to maintain a while elephant institution to promote and protect only the ruling party interests in the States.

They brought shame

There seems to be a definite design in the selection and appointments of governors. All the gentlemen occupying the august offices of governor in the non-UPA States are among the galaxy of the diehard

The dog will continue to be loyal, disregarding circumstances. People, however, change their loyalty depending on circumstances

- B S YEDDYURAPPA, Karnataka chief minister, on rebel MLAs holding his government to ransom

State government in the discharge of its constitutional duties.

Governors honourable

During the first quarter of a century in Independent India, there was hardly a problem or complaint. Although the incumbents who held this constitutional office in the State were the gentlemen mainly drawn from the ruling party or senior civil servants, yet these men of eminence maintained the dignity and impartiality of their office. Till about 1967, no conflict or controversy arose because the ruling party at the Centre and in the States used to be the same the Congress. But in the aftermath of 1967 general elections, the situation changed. While Con-

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governments in States and installing in their place Congress or Congress-supported puppet governments. Since then the constitutional institution of governor started losing its sheen. It has failed to regain the pride and glory it once commanded. The downslide continues. Since the dawn of the UPA in 2004 and its new avatar as UPA-II the malaise continues its downward slide unabated. UPA misusing institution

On coming into power in 2004, the first thing the Congress-led UPA did was to remove the governors appointed by the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government taking the specious plea that their ideology was in conflict

Congressmen more committed to 10, Janpath than the word and spirit of the Constitution. They are adept at contriving the law and the Constitution to make it bend to serve the narrow political and electoral objectives of the ruling party. Though under oath to uphold the law and the Constitution, the likes of Shri Buta Singh, Shri Jamir, or Shri Sibte Rizvi have been more loyal than the king -- the political party they came from and which had showered the luxury of a Raj Bhawan on them. They have stood the litmus test of their loyalty to their leader and the party at the cost of the interests of the nation. Even when Shri Buta Singh had to go following his indictment by the Supreme Court for his dubious role as Governor of Bihar, he was in no time prized for the service he rendered to the Congress with another constitutional honour of the post of the Chairman National Commission for Scheduled Castes at the national level.

The present Karnataka governor, Mr. H. R. Bharadwaj, proved no different. He seems to have turned the Raj Bhawan into the camp office of the ruling party at the Centre from where, it is alleged, the Operation Destabilise the Yedyurappa government was hatched and launched. When the 16 MLAs (11 BJP, 5 independents) met the Governor H. R. Bharadwaj informing him that they had withdrawn their support to the BJP government, there was nothing wrong in directing the CM to prove his majority on the floor of the House which is the ultimate place, as per directions of the Supreme Court, to determinate whether a government enjoys the majority or not. But what was intriguing is his direction to the Speaker a day before the floor test: "In the interest of a free and fair floor

test, it is required that no attempt should be made to change the character/configuration of the House after the House has been summoned for this purpose. Any attempt to change the character/configuration of the House in the run-up to the vote of confidence motion is bound to vitiate the proceedings. Any result obtained by such vitiated proceedings will not be acceptable."

Bhardwaj put premium on defections

The intention of the Governor was obvious: The Speaker should

uphold law.

The Speaker is the master of the House and successive courts have upheld his right to conduct the proceedings as per law, practice and precedents. As per directions of the Governor CM B. S. Yeddyurappa moved a vote of confidence and in the turmoil, as was expected in such a situation, from the opposition, the Speaker announced that the motion had been carried with a voice vote. What else could have been done when even the opposition did not demand and press for a division, for

| Total Votes | Ayes | Nays |
|-------------|------|------|
| 206 | 106 | 100 |

It is a slap on the face of state Governor HR Bhardwaj.

— Venkaiah Naidu, Former president, BJP



not take cognizance of the conduct of MLAs which had taken place before the floor test and amounted to a clear violation of the Anti-Defection Law. He appeared more anxious to ensure the fall of the government than to punish the rebel MLAs under anti-defection law. Governor should have been aware that the very plea before him by the rebel MLAs amounted to an offence under the Anti-Defection Law enacted with the sole objective of preventing floor crossing and destabilizing elected governments.

The Speaker was right in taking offence to the Governor's letter as amounting to interference in the discharge of the functions of the Speaker. He, however, assured the Governor that he would maintain absolute impartiality and act in accordance with the Constitution and

obvious reasons. But the Governor's partiality got exposed when he ignored the vote of confidence by voice vote and within hours shot off a hurried recommendation to the Union Government for dismissal of the Yedyurappa government and imposition of President's rule keeping the assembly in suspended animation.

BJP was quick to condemn the Governor's action and demand his recall charging that Shri. H. R. Bharadwaj had acted "as the leader of the Opposition".

Bharadwaj's volte face

The legal and constitutional experts were quick to question the haste with which the Governor had recommended the imposition of President's rule. Congress which in association with JD(S) was calling the shots to ensure the fall of

Yeddyurappa government found itself at the receiving end. So it changed track. It said that the Party had nothing to do with what Shri Bharadwaj had done and that it was a matter between the governor and the Centre. But soon it realised that it had left Mr. Bharadwaj in the lurch to fend for himself while he was only promoting the political agenda of Congress. So it changed its stand after two-three days and came out the whole hog in support of the Governor's action.

What is surprising - and intrigu-

and a former Union law minister himself, Shri Bharadwaj forgot that many important legislations have, in the past, been "carried by voice vote" when opposition did not press for division. This had happened in the case of the present trust vote too. Farce of 'friendly gesture'

Governor claimed his "advice" to Chief Minister was "a friendly gesture". He did confess: "Though it will be unprecedented to hold a trust-vote again within days after it was held, there is no such provision in the Constitution. It is a question

the House and cast their vote in a sealed cover to be taken into consideration after a final decision on their plea.

Both the Opposition and the Governor had a red face when in the second trust vote each vote was individually counted, Yeddyurappa government won with 106 votes for and 100 against. The Speaker had not cast his vote. Even if the five independent MLAs were allowed to vote, yet the BJP government would have survived.

The Opposition tried to conceal its embarrassment claiming that the outcome of the second trust vote too was subject to the decision of the Karnataka High Court expected on October 18 on the disqualified MLAs' petitions. The Governor too seemed to be hinging his hopes on that. But their hopes were dashed to the ground when the High Court referred the matter to a larger Bench delaying the court verdict.

A precedent unhealthy

Whatever may be the judgement of the High Court - and ultimately, the Supreme Court, as the matter will ultimately land there - the arbiter would remain the floor of the House subsequent to the court verdict.

It has been a practice, precedent and rule in the legislatures, both at the Centre and the States, that no leader of the house could be made to face another vote of confidence within less than six months. But thanks to the intrigues of the Opposition and ingenuity of the Governor playing into their hands, a new precedent - and an unhealthy one, indeed - shall be set up when the present Karnataka government may have to face a third floor test within a month or so. ■

The writer is National Convener of BJP Literature & Publication Cell

The Speaker was right in taking offence to the Governor's letter as amounting to interference in the discharge of the functions of the Speaker.

ing too - is that while the Union Cabinet met on the evening of October 12 to consider Governor Bharadwaj's recommendation for imposing President's rule in Karnataka, there was no word later whether it actually did and what was the decision. It continues to be a mystery whether the report was considered at all or what decision was taken - the recommendation was rejected or has it been kept pending for use at a later stage.

The next day Governor Bharadwaj staged a *volte face*. He called a Press conference by taking everyone surprise by asking the Yeddyurappa government to take the floor test once again on October 14 calling the trust secured by him on October 11 as "improper", "unacceptable", "a farce" and "not in accordance with the law". As the voting was carried by voice vote, he argued, "the proceedings were reduced to a farce." A veteran lawyer

of morality and upholding probity in public life." Shri Bharadwaj was only trying to hide his own embarrassment. If asking for a second trust vote "within days" was, as he said, "a friendly gesture", he did not explain in which category did he put his recommendation for Yeddyurappa government's dismissal and imposition of President's rule.

Chief Minister B S Yeddyurappa was quick to accept the challenge thrown to his government by state Governor H R Bharadwaj to face a fresh trust vote on October 14.

The Opposition, as also the Governor himself, seemed to have been banking on the course the petition of the 16 (particularly the 5 independent) MLAs took in the High Court which, later, extended no relief to them. The court even rejected the plea of the 5 independent MLAs to allow them to enter

Terrorism can't be tolerated in any form : Rajnath Singh

Former BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh raised the issue of terrorism on October 06, 2010 while delivering his speech in the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters, New York.

He represented India in its true national ethos as he delivered the speech in Hindi and was wearing the Indian attire of Dhoti and Kurta. At the outset he said that he has decided to deliver his speech in Hindi as he wanted to follow the tradition of former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee who was the first Indian to speak in Hindi at a UN meeting in 1978. He has also expressed hope that the UN will recognize Hindi as one of its official languages in the near future. As this will be the acknowledgement of the aspirations of the world's largest democracy in its true sense.

Shri Rajnath Singh said India attaches highest importance to the agenda item relating to "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism" presently under consideration before this Committee. Terrorism is a crime against humanity. It is the most vicious amongst international crimes. It affects us all equally. It is a scourge that open democratic societies have to contend with and the challenge is to maintain our openness,

safeguard individual rights, and at the same time, give no quarter to terrorists. The international community therefore needs to marshal all its efforts and resources to combat this scourge.

As you are aware, India has

Criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for whatever purposes, wherever, by whomever, against whomever committed, are in any circumstances



been a victim of terrorism for decades. The people of India continue to pay a heavy price in our fight against terrorism. The haunting memories of horrific terrorist attacks in Mumbai in the year 2008, which was planned and executed from across the border, and witnessed by the whole world on television, are still alive. We are determined to confront these challenges unshakably and decisively.

He said we align with the statement made by Iran on behalf of NAM. No cause could ever justify the indiscriminate killing of innocent peoples.

unjustifiable, whatever the considerations or factors that may be invoked to justify them.

He said the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism adopted by UNGA Resolution 49/60 condemns international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The Declaration also unequivocally condemns all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, whenever and by whoever committed. States are also obliged to refrain from organizing, acquiescing in or encouraging activities within their territories directed

towards the commission of such acts. States are also obliged to ensure that their territories are not used for terrorist installations or training camps or for the preparation or organization of terrorist acts intended to be committed against other States or their citizens. If this happens, then the UNGA or the Security Council must take strong action.

Shri Singh said terrorism poses a grave threat to all States and all societies. It undermines peace, democracy and freedom thus endangering the very foundations of the continued existence of democratic societies. Terrorism is a global threat and requires a coordinated and concerted global response to combat it. In this context in addition to the urgent need to conclude and adopt the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism, we support the recent second review of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy and the institutionalization of the CTITF.

Shri Rajnath Singh further said, "At the National level we have taken many steps to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism. Apart from strengthening our strategic and operational framework to combat terrorism effectively, we have also amended and strengthened our national legislation entitled Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 by integrating in it a mechanism for the effective enforcement of the measures adopted by the 1267 Committee against designated individuals and

entities. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act incorporates provisions that deal with all aspects of terrorism including incitement. The Act also criminalizes raising of funds for terrorist activities, holding of proceeds of terrorism, harbouring of terrorists, unauthorized possession of any bomb, dynamite or hazardous explosive substance or other lethal weapon or substance capable of mass destruction or biological or chemical substance of warfare. We have concluded bilateral treaties with many countries in the areas of combating terrorism, organized crime, money laundering, terrorist financing and illicit drug trafficking. We also have in place treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters to further strengthen and enhance international cooperation efforts in this regard. These treaties facilitate transfer of fugitive offenders and suspected terrorists to stand trial in the State in which the offence is committed and in their effective prosecution. These treaties also facilitate exchange of operational information and development of joint programs among concerned States.

At the international level, India has become party to 13 sectoral conventions on terrorism that have been adopted under the auspices of the United Nations. In relation to a specific activity, these conventions remain fundamental tools in the fight against terrorism. India has also become an active member of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). We have always

fulfilled our obligations under international and regional conventions and relevant Security Council resolutions on international terrorism.

He said now coming to the draft Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism, I am happy to note that the Ad-Hoc Committee that met in April this year witnessed some forward momentum as some delegations have shown better understanding and flexibility. Reflecting on the general sense of the debate that time, the Chairman of the Ad-Hoc Committee also advised delegations, and subsequently made a personal appeal to the Legal Advisers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to come prepared to take necessary decisions and move forward.

He said during the General Debate in the 65th Session of the General Assembly last month, many States have reiterated their support for the successful and early adoption of the draft CCIT. The Secretary General's report on the review of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy is very important. The Secretary General very aptly pointed out in paragraph 139 of his report that "the comprehensiveness of implementing the Strategy will not be complete without the conclusion of the comprehensive convention on international terrorism. As committed in the Strategy, Member States should make every effort to reach an agreement on the text and conclude the convention in order to unite behind the global counter-terrorism efforts. The

recent Security Council Presidential statement also encourages Member States to make every effort to conclude the negotiations of the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.

All these appeals and expectations expressed at various levels only remind us that we have already lost invaluable time in taking a concrete decision on this important issue and that the international community cannot afford to wait any longer at a time when there is the most urgent need to show solidarity and collective global action against international terrorism and to send a clear message that terrorism cannot be tolerated in any form or manifestation for whatever cause.

The negotiations over the years have by and large got a near full text of the proposed Convention with general agreement. There remain just a few outstanding issues in Article 18. We look forward to the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee to guide us in agreeing to a full text that can be recommended by us for adoption in this Session itself. We would also strongly urge delegations to show flexibility and reach a common understanding on the text so that we can move forward and fulfill the expectations of the Secretary General, the Security Council, and of the international community as a whole.

He said, "Madam Chairperson, I have full confidence that we will eventually succeed in our struggle against terrorism. There is a need to address

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J&K CM wants to internationalise a domestic issue: Dr. Joshi



Taking a strong view about Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah questioning the state's accession into Indian Union in the State assembly, former BJP National President Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi on October 8 warned that people would not tolerate the efforts of the Chief Minister to internationalise a domestic issue.

Dr. Joshi who as BJP president took out a countrywide 'Bharat Ekta Yatra' in early 1990s said newsmen that the Chief Minister had sought to speak the language of the separatists by differentiating between accession and merger of J&K with India after independence which was inappropriate for any incumbent CM especially that of J&K. The Chief Minister should have known that all kingdoms and dominions in the country had joined the Indian Union through the Instrument of Accession like Maharaja of Kashmir Hari Singh. Mr Abdullah must know the Constitution of India had listed Jammu and Kashmir as the 15th state of the country and Section 3 of Kashmir's own Constitution too had explicitly stated that it shall be integral part of India. "If Mr Abdullah is seeking to differentiate between 'accession and merger' of the state like the separatists, it would mean that he was speaking the language of the separatists. He was not only violating the Constitution of India but his own Kashmir State which proclaimed that it was part and parcel of India," he said.

If the Chief Minister wanted to internationalise the issue he could do so by asking Pakistan to vacate the PoK region, Dr Joshi remarked. Indian Parliament under the Congress regime had passed a unanimous resolution asserting that the territories of Pakistan occupied Kashmir (POK) as integral part of India and the BJP did not expect "irresponsible statement" from a person holding a constitutional position, Dr Joshi said.

While there could be no question of azadi, the demand for devolution of funds and political power for J&K could be considered by the country on the recommendation of Justice Sarkaria Commission. The demand could be considered for all states not just for Mr Abdullah's state, he remarked. Dr Joshi criticized the Congress led UPA Government for diluting the hard earned diplomatic gains of the country by conceding Pakistan as a victim of terror and agreeing to hold talks despite cross border terror and attacks from Pakistan side. ■

terrorism not only at the governmental or political levels but also at the intellectual level. The mindset of attaining goals through violent means will have to be changed. Towards this end, there is a need to raise awareness in the society about the thoughts of eminent personalities like Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi. With our thousands of years of tradition of harmonizing divergent streams of thoughts, culture of non-violence and non-aggression, India could make significant contribution in the fight against terrorism not only at the political level but also at the intellectual level. ■

Rajbhawan – A Congress tool to snatch power without mandate

By Ram Prasad Tripathy

The entire nation is once again shocked and outraged by the partisan and unconstitutional behaviour of the Governor of Karnataka Shri HR Bharadwaj who has thrown all established norms and conduct to the winds by his highly objectionable communication to the Karnataka Assembly Speaker. The tone, tenor and content of the letter make it clear that the Congressman turned Governor is determined to interfere with the legislative process. It is a brazen attempt to influence the result of the vote and in total violation of the letter and spirit of the Constitution of India and successive Supreme Court verdict. This could never have happened without the implied knowledge and consent of Congress leadership.

The Karnataka incident has once again revived the debate whether we should continue with this old-fashioned office of governor whose primary loyalty is not to the Constitution of India but to some political party or family.

The makers of our Constitution envisaged a federal structure. But the Congress is hell-bent on subverting the Constitution and making India a Unitary State in which the will of the people becomes subservient to one political party's megalomania. Now it seems there is a distinct pattern to this, that whenever the people of a state democratically throw out Congress from power it makes

every attempt to destabilize the state government by misusing the position of Governor and there is indisputable evidence to prove that.

During pre-independence days once in 1946 Sir Frederick Burrows, the Governor of Bengal, asked Mahatma Gandhi that with a popular government in power, what was a governor expected to do. The

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***Congress appointed Governors like Buta Singh in Bihar have created record of sort by earning even Supreme Court strictures against him for dissolution of a constitutionally elected Government. It was the most notorious misuse of Article 356 in recent times.***  
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Mahatma gave a one word reply, "Nothing." This advice given to a British Governor who wielded considerable executive authority, underscored the fact that even in those days, a Governor was not expected to interfere with the functioning of a popular government. During early independence days when Governor Jairam Das Daulat Ram, a veteran and much respected Congressman, criticised the functioning of Chief Minister Dr Sri Krishna Sinha, the latter took up the matter with the

Centre and offered to resign. At that time both Pt. Nehru and Sharda Patel decided to honour the mandate of the people of the State. Jai Ram Das Daulat Ram was transferred to Assam.

There was a strong opinion against continuing with the institution of Governor after independence. Biswanath Das a former Chief Minister of Orissa, during the debate in the Constituent Assembly stated, "Now we are going to have democracy from toe to neck and autocracy at the head."

But in the post independence period India's six-decade-old Constitutional history is replete with instances of misuse of the office of Governor and indiscriminate use of Article 356 by the Congress Party to destabilize states ruled by non-Congress parties. This Article was used for the first time to dismiss the democratically elected Communist government of Kerala in 1959. In 1970s and 1980s it became common practice for the Congress led Central government to dismiss the state governments under opposition parties on flimsy grounds. The Indira Gandhi's regime became infamous for this practice. The Congress party has misused this provision to impose President's rule because it means a government run as per the wishes of the ruling party at the Centre without a mandate of the people. It is only after the landmark S. R. Bommai case that the misuse of Article 356 curtailed to some



Nanaji a role model for people in politics: Advani

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh is the only organization which left very deep impact on the entire social and national life of India. Many organisations came into existence in this century but their influence has not been as lasting and deep as that of the RSS. We are lucky that we are serving the society through such an organisation, said BJP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri LK Advani. He was releasing a pictorial book on Nanaji Deshmukh, 'Rashtra Rishi Nanaji', on his 94th birth anniversary in New Delhi on October 10. The book has been published by the Culture Department of Madhya Pradesh Government.

Quoting Swami Vivekananda who had appealed to the countrymen in 1897 to let all their deities sleep for 50 years and worship only one

deity - Bharatmata, he said the RSS was formed in 1925 on the same premise.

"When people see the life and ideals of Sangh workers like Nanaji Deshmukh and Deendayalji, they wonder. They are role models for the people working in political field. Nanaji resolved to quit politics at the age of 60 and he did it. Nobody had told him to do it. After that whatever work he did in his life he took it to new heights of success. The work of rural development, self-reliance, education, health, sanitation, and many other activities that we see through Deendayal Research Institute is due to the sole efforts of



Nanaji. He was a rare person with extraordinary qualities," Shri Advani said and stressed the need to publish similar *Samagra Sahitya* on Deendayalji also.

Presiding over the function, Uttar Kshetra Sanghachalak and noted economist Dr. Bajranglal Gupta said Nanaji had too much faith in younger generation and he believed in doing than saying. The developmental work carried out by him in Gonda, Beed and Chitrakoot are example of it. (FOC) ■



extent. The Supreme Court gave strict guideline for imposing President's rule.

Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations had recommended that Article 356 must be used "very sparingly, in extreme cases, as a measure of last resort, when all the other alternatives fail to prevent or rectify a breakdown of constitutional machinery in the state."

Congress appointed Governors like Buta Singh in Bihar have created record of sort by earning even Supreme Court strictures for dissolution of a constitutionally elected Government. It was the most notorious misuse of Article 356 in recent times. The Congress Party has also used this weapon in Jharkhand, Goa, Bihar and recently in Karnataka against popularly elected NDA governments.

The successive Congress

governments at the Centre have been using the governor's office as a weapon to destabilize non-Congress governments in the states. The present Congress Government at the Centre under Dr, Manmohan Singh is also not above the cardinal principle of Congress culture and the Congress-led UPA Government at the Centre has created two categories of States: The privileged, consisting of those ruled by Congress and its allies and the underprivileged comprising those ruled by BJP and its allies. This is not only a violation of the Constitution but also a form of political apartheid.

The systematic harassment of non-Congress State Governments reflects the Congress Party's anti-federal mindset. The present dispensation under Dr. Manmohan Singh is also not above

this rotten mindset. The crisis situation which has arisen in Karnataka is a sad reflection of this "muzzle-opposition" mindset which has come to be identified with the Congress party and its politics of ruling states by proxy through governors.

Now there is unquestionable evidence to suggest that the Congress Party believes in ruling states through the governor by turning the Rajbhawans into party offices wherever it has been rejected by the masses and in the process Article 356 has been invoked more than 100 times and in most of the cases this has been selectively applied against opposition ruled states. It is time the public opinion forced UPA government to stop playing politics with the Constitution in the interest of democracy. ■

JHARKHAND

Holistic approach required to tackle Naxal menace : Munda



Pitching for a holistic approach to tackle the Naxal menace in the country, Jharkhand Chief Minister Shri Arjun Munda interacting with media persons in Ranchi on October 17 admitted that both the Union and State governments failed to look into genuine problems of the tribals which might have helped Maoists in their designs.

Shri Munda said, "Naxalism is a serious problem and it cannot be solved in parts. We have to look into the problem from both the humanitarian as well as the terror angle,"

He said that he firmly believed that the menace can be tackled only through a holistic approach rather than beating about the bush.

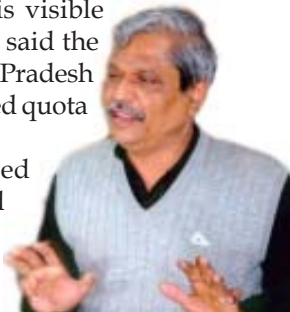
He said his government is committed to establishing the rule of law in the Jharkhand and to reaching the poorest of sections. Unless a democratic government fulfils the aspirations of the last man in the society, it is not considered to be successful. We will work together with our coalition partners to build a new developed Jharkhand, he said.

MADHYA PRADESH

Centre discriminating against State : Prabhat Jha

BJP State president Shri Prabhat Jha MP said the Centre's discrimination against the State Government is visible across the spectrum. He said the Centre is giving Madhya Pradesh much less than the allotted quota for coal and sugar.

In a statement issued on October 10 he said that electricity production in the State was getting affected, as the coal



provided by the Centre was not of a very good quality.

He said that of the 67.70 lakh Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the State, ration cards were issued only 41.25 lakh families by the Centre.

Shri Jha said that even in the case of sugar, the quantity that was given to the State was 55,000 MT less than the allotted quota. This almost works out to allotment of sugar for six months, he said.

He said that the allotments made to the State under the Indira Awas Yojana were much lower than those made for other States. For example Madhya Pradesh is much bigger than Kerala, but the latter got much larger allotment under the Yojana. He said that the electricity given to the State had been cut by 680 MW and demanded that the allocation of electricity to various States should be rationalised.

He said this discrimination against the State is being done at every stage. This may be the result of the Congress fear caused by the development taking place under the BJP Government in the State.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

BJP govt. plans law to provide essential services within time



Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal on October 15 said the State Government would consider enactment of an Act to provide delivery of services to the people of the State within the stipulated time limit and for matters connected therewith and incidental there to.

The Chief Minister said that it was common man's Government in the State, which was accountable to them in all its actions. He said that common man had been the focal point of all the policies and programmes of the Government and efforts were being made to ensure delivery of best services to people within stipulated time-limit.

He said that the State Government was committed to protect the interests of common man and

cater to his basic necessities. He said that the government was considering a proposal to fix a time limit for providing electricity connections, financial incentives under various welfare schemes, disbursement of relief as per relief manual, providing of documents required under Revenue Department, different types of certificates, settlement of social security pension, issuance of BPL/APL ration cards etc.

Prof. Dhumal said that such a provision was already in force in Madhya Pradesh where the State Government was delivering time-bound essential services to people. Efficiency, transparency, accountability and prompt delivery of services would be ensured with the enactment of the proposed Act after taking all related aspects into consideration and getting the same legally examined. He said that the Act would guarantee the delivery of public service in stipulated time limit and every citizen, if eligible, would have legal right to demand that the notified public service be provided to him within the prescribed period of time.

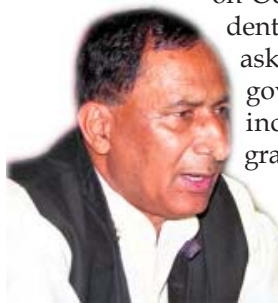
He said that it would be a path breaking legislation, which empowers the citizen in relation to public service delivery and would also include systematic responsiveness and accountability in public administration.

UTTARAKHAND

Hike relief amount to disaster-hit areas : Chufal

Interacting with media persons in Haldwani on October 15 State BJP President Shri Bishan Singh Chufal asked the Congress led UPA government to substantially increase the relief amount granted to the victims of natural disasters. According to the standing rules only Rs 2000 per acre in plains is given for loss to the crops by the natural disasters, while in the hilly areas the relief amount per 'naali' is only Rs 40 for crop loss.

He said it is quite unperceiving what kind of relief we are extending to the needy with this fixed amount and criticized the Opposition Congress



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party of playing politics in the name of disaster in the State.

He said we have urged the Centre to substantially increase the relief amount given under different heads to the natural disaster-hit victims. But no one is listening, he alleged while criticizing the Congress party and its five MPs from the State. Our main concern is that these Congress MPs have so far done nothing to impress upon the Central Government to provide maximum relief to the people of the hill State, Shri Chufal said adding a large number of houses were destroyed and more importantly a sizable number of houses were damaged beyond repairs. But the amount fixed as compensation for house damage is quite less, he said.

We have already demanded Rs 21,000 crore as relief package from the Centre. Even the Central team has justified our demand. But our concern is that this relief package should be released soon and the Central Government should also revise the existing relief amount rates under different heads.

He said the BJP government suspended all party engagements and directed Ministers, MLAs and office bearers and workers of the party to help the people. He also sought the support of the Congress led Union Government so that State could put the pace of development on track.

ANDHRA PRADESH

Congress diluting statehood cause : BJP

The Bharatiya Janata Party Telangana Udhayama Samiti has decided to launch a crusade against the Congress for diluting the cause of separate Telangana. The samithi meeting was held in Karimnagar on October 12 under the chairmanship of Shri T. Rajeshwar Rao.

In the meeting BJP decided to chalk out agitational programmes to expose the 'true colours' of the Congress and the Telugu Desam Party, who were betraying the cause of separate Telangana with their dual standards, at a meeting in Hyderabad.

Condemning the Telangana Congress leaders' meetings in the region, which were aimed at diluting the separate Telangana movement, Shri T. Rajeshwar Rao said the Congress leaders of the

region instead of striving to carve out separate Telangana, were dilly-dallying the issue for self- ish political gains.

He demanded that the Congress leaders bring pressure on the party high command to introduce a Bill for the formation of separate State and assured them of complete support by the Bharatiya Janata Party for its smooth passage in Parliament.

Appealing to the people of the region not to resort to suicides, he assured that separate Telangana would be a reality with the Bharatiya Janata Party in power.

CHANDIGARH

Mismanagement of food economy
BJP not to remain a silent
spectator : Somaiya

Bharatiya Janata Party Chandigarh Unit organized an exhibition on “Criminal Wastage of Foodgrains worth ₹ 58,000 crores” at Party Headquarter, Chandigarh on October 10, 2010.



The Exhibition was inaugurated by BJP National Secretary Dr. Kirit Somaiya alongwith

Shri Sanjay Tandon, President local unit of BJP.

The exhibition included photographs of various godowns and open plinths, used for storage of foodgrains by the Food Corporation of India which have been visited by the BJP delegation led by its National Secretary Dr. Kirit Somaiya.

Besides this, samples of rotten food grains collected from various godowns and open plinths were also displayed.

Briefing the media after inaugurating the exhibition, Dr. Kirit Somaiya said that in spite of reprimand by the Supreme Court of India, Government seems least concerned about the rotting food grains worth ₹ 58,000 crore. During his interaction with FCI senior officials in Haryana, Punjab and Delhi last week, Dr.

Somaiya learnt that 180 lakh tones of food grain was still lying in open at various open godowns in Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan and UP belonging to Government of India under the central pool. Condition of these godowns & food grains was horrible.

The Food Corporation of India has admitted that out of 64,21,000 tones foodgrains of central pool in Haryana, 50,11,675 tones is lying in open which is around 78% and out of 20,45,573 MT foodgrains in Rajasthan 15,05,318 MT is more than 15 months old.

Prominent party leaders and office-bearers present on the occasion included Sarvshri. Desraj Gupta, Raghubir Lal Arora, Satinder Singh, Arun Sood, Ramvir Bhatti, Ramesh Nikku, Shakti P Sachin Lohtia, Santosh Mishra, Ms. Ranjana Shahi, B.C.Puri, Shingara Singh, Vinod Aggarwal, Gurpreet Singh Dhillon. ■

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across Gujarat. The results, no doubt, reaffirm the fact that Shri Modi remains the tallest leader in Gujarat and his popularity transcends caste, class and community. This is as much on account of his undiminished charisma as the development-driven, growth- oriented governance that has come to be identified with Shri Modi. Gujarat remains a shining example of what a State Government with maximum governance can achieve, apart from the positive impact that corruption-free administration has on society.

After completing nine years in office, Modi remains untouched by the slightest hint of anti-incumbency. There’s a lesson in this for the Congress which has come to believe that trickery and deceit, coupled with gross abuse of power, can help dislodge State Governments over which it has no control.

The people have given a fitting reply to the shameful manner in which a compromised CBI has been unleashed on Shri Modi, his colleagues and upright senior police officers to harass and intimidate them and tarnish the image of the BJP.

Ironically, the ill-conceived strategy of the Congress high command has not only horribly misfired, but also exposed the party’s publicists in sections of the media. ■