



Fortnightly Magazine

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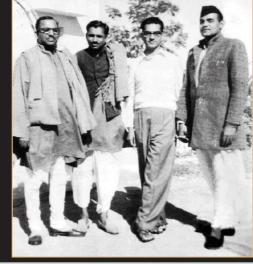
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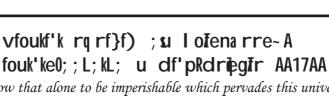
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Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay with Shri Kedarnath Sahni (extreme left), Sh. K.R. Malkani (third from left) and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee (extreme right)



Kamal <mark>Sa</mark>ndesh

Know that alone to be imperishable which pervades this universe; for no one has power to destroy this indestructible substance

- (Bhagavadgita: Ch.-II, 17)

"UPA government has been deeply involved in corruption from 2G spectrums to Coalgate and this has angered the people across the country."

-L.K Advani

"Within three months of BJP coming to power at the Center, we will form a Telangana state".

-Sushma Swaraj }

"I believe that in the soul of India lies the strength to take everybody together."

-Narendra Modi

## Letter to the Editor

### **BJP** fully Justified

#### **Dear Editor**

Irrespective of what some naive, or misled anti-BJP intellectuals are saying, the BJP is fully justified to stop the show of mock democracy by the UPA in the Parliament. Debates have been going on for ages in the UPA led Parliament, while they are conducting blatant and massive loot of national resources, one after another, as if it is their last chance ever. They often refer to the peaceful debates in western Parliaments. They fail to mention that under such plethora of serial scams, any western government would have resigned many times over. While the negligence and/or dishonesty originated in the PMO, it is futile telling that the CMOs are to be blamed in what is a matter for decision by the central government. While the Parliament has debated in the recent past serial loots as in Bofors, food for oil, CWG, 2G, Coalgate etc. which continues unabated with UPA cover-ups which could not hide Raja, only because the BJP stalled the UPA-led Parliament, and Raja was compelled to be a scapegoat to save others.

**Basudeb Ghose** 

## London

## Attention Readers!

Dear readers,

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-Editor











# Parliament logjam has exposed Congress led UPA

ongress led UPA might be thinking that it has rejected the Opposition's demand. Dr. Manmohan Singh has refused to resign. Congress might be boasting of its 'achievement' but the logjam in parliament has sent the message across the nation that in the coal scam amounting to thousands of crores Congress has been painted completely in black. Even more than the debates in the parliament, the parliament logjam has assaulted the UPA severely. Not allowing the parliament to function, not allowing the debates by not tendering resignation might have saved the day for the Congress but it has gone down clearly in the entire nation that the Congress is not for the country but for power.

After all what is wrong in BJP demand? It is only saying that if in 2G scam A Raja had to resign as a minister then why should Dr. Manmohan Singh not resign who was also Coal Minister when the coal scam took place. Had Congress been concerned about the democracy then neither the Prime Minister nor Sonia Gandhi would have gone on foreign trips. When the parliament was in session, then also they were concerned about themselves only, they never cared for the country.

All the Opposition parties including BJP will have now come out from the four walls of parliament to the roads where the protectors of democracy, the people of India live. In India people go to parliament only by leading movements on streets. Whether Congress accepts it or not but the nation wants the formation of 16<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha. How long the Congress can avert it, if not today, tomorrow...

Entire country is agitated. People want that there should be no scam, but the present government has become a government of scams. If India fails to pay heed to the distress call emanating out of parliament burdened with scams and corruption, then in the days to come we will not be able to strengthen Ma Bharati and will not be able to take the country where we want it to reach in 21st century.

In the Central Hall of parliament there are whispers that the Congress is neither the future of the country nor the Congress has any future. Such things are being said by those who themselves are the MPs and leaders of Congress. A downcast and demoralized Congress has tarnished the image of the country in the international arena. The height which the sensex of Indian prestige achieved in the time of Atalji has touched nadir under Congress and Dr. Manmohan Singh in the eight years of UPA. During the time of Atalji the five big powers had declared in the wake of Pokhran-II that they will not give any kind of help or support to India but the NRIs living in these five powerful countries had assured Atalji that while they were sending billions of money, more would be sent but there was no need to bow before these five powers. Those were



the days and now these are the days. How were those days and how are these days is for everyone to see.

Who can save the boat if the rudder is in the wrong hands? Although the people did not defeat NDA led by Atalji consciously in 2004 but it is true that it was the people who gave fractured mandate and handed over the reins of power to those who have been harming the country for long. One can imagine where the country would have been had not such an incident occurred. Congress is a conspiracy, a design, a gang and a company which runs like a corporate house. Now it is no longer a party nor it has any leader. It is reaping political harvest only on the basis of the noble work done pre-independence by Congress. That the country should stand up and move forward is not only the concern of BJP but of the entire nation. Therefore the Opposition BJP MPs will now have to hit the streets and through the movement at ground level they will have to come upto the expectations of the people by constituting a systematic, democratic and welfare oriented Lok

# Traders demonstrate against UPA's anti-trader policies



n August 23, thousands of Traders from twenty-six States of India thronged to Jantar-Mantar in Delhi to join agitation and demonstration called by BJP National Traders Cell. They condemned the the UPA's anti –trader policies and raised many important demands. They warned the Union Government if their demands are not met they will accelerate their agitation. BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari, BJP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri L.K Advani, former BJP Presidents Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi and Shri Rajnath Singh, General Secretary(Org.) Shri Ram Lal, National General Secretaries Shri Vijay Goel and Smt. Kiran Maheswari, BJP National Secretaries Shri Murlidhar Rao and Shri Shyam Jaju, National Morcha/Cell Coordinator Shri Mahendra Pandey, Odisha BJP President Shri Juel Uraon, UP BJP President Shri Laxmikant Vajpayee and Delhi BJP President Shri Vijendra Gupta addressed the demonstrators. BJP leaders assured the traders that the party would raise their concerns in Parliament. Protest meeting was presided over by National Convenor of the Cell Shri Shyam Bihari Mishra. Co-Convenor of Cell Shri Ghanshyam Agarwal conducted the meeting.

Kamal Sandesh wishes

Happy Ganesh

Chaturthy

to its esteemed readers.





Congress led UPA thoroughly exposed on Coal block scam

# Now fight against corruption to move from Parliament to streets

From Our Correspondent

n the last day of the monsoon session of Parliament BJP-led NDA held a demonstration in Parliament House complex demanding Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's resignation, cancellation of coal blocks, and a fair probe on the coal block scam and declared that it will now take this agitation to the streets. MPs from both Houses

demands.

NDA Acting Chairperson
Shri LK Advani, NDA convener
and JD (U) President Shri Sharad
Yadav, Leader of opposition in
Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj,
Leader of opposition in Rajya
Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley, former
BJP National Presidents Shri M.
Venkaiya Naidu and Shri
Rajnath Singh, Shiromani Akali
Dal MP Smt. Harsimrat Kaur and

and this has angered the people across the country. "We will take this agitation to all corners of the country," Shri Advani said. By organizing the dharna the NDA has send a strong message that it will not discontinue the agitation until Prime Minister Manmohan Singh submits his resignation.

Noteworthy on the issue of Coal blocks scam, one of the

greatest corruption scandals in Indian history the BJP led NDA agitated in the Parliament and the Parliamentary stalemate continued for around 13 days of the Monsoon session. During this period the BJP has conveyed to the Congress led UPA government that it has three demands viz. the resignation of the Prime Minister, the cancellation of 142 coal blocks and an independent probe into the

In the mean time to divert the attention of the people the Congress led UPA government has proposed a Constitution amendment on the issue of nullifying the effect of Supreme Court judgments with regards to reservation in promotion. The principal Opposition party BJP had conveyed its views to the government in the all party meeting that it supports the advancement of social justice

subject to the limitation of



belonging to BJP, JD(U), Shiromani Akali Dal and Shiv held the protest demonstration in front of Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Parliament premises on the coal allocation issue. Holding placards that read "On Coalgate issue, Prime Minister should resign", "For a corruption-free India, now from Parliament to the streets" and demanding cancellation of coal block allocations, the NDA MPs raised slogans to press for their September 16-30, 2012 **Q** 7

Shiv Sena MP Shri Anant Geete and several other senior leaders and MPs participated in the protest.

Shri Advani said, "Today is the last day of the session and so NDA MPs decided to gather here and declare that our agitation for a corruption-free India will move from Parliament to the streets. Our target is to make India free of corruption." He said that the UPA government has been deeply involved in corruption from 2G spectrums to Coalgate



Constitutional permissibility. However, the struggle for social justice and the battle against corruption must co-exist. The BJP has, therefore, conveyed to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha and the government that it is willing for a debate both on the issue of allotment of coal blocks and the proposed Constitutional amendment, provided the government takes effective steps to resolve the Parliamentary

deny the existence of any scam. At a later stage, they try to destroy the credibility of the Constitutional agency which brings out their corruption and after failing in both these ruses, they resort to diversionary tactics. Shri Jairam Ramesh's questions are such failed attempt.

Only for the relentless efforts of the BJP in the Parliament the evil design of the Congress has

People witnessed that how the Congress party is neck deep involved in the Coalgate scam. Now they have no answers to the questions being asked by the country. How the Union Coal Minister, Tourism minister forced the UPA government to allot Coal blocks to their near and dear ones and how standing Congress MPs got coal blocks under the full knowledge of the then Coal Minister and Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. How the UPA is defending the indefensible.

stalemate by cancelling the coal blocks and ordering an independent inquiry. If the government does so immediately, the Party is willing for a debate on both the issues but BJP will not allow the government to deflect the issue of corruption.

Due to the constant efforts of the BJP led NDA the humongous coal blocks scam came to the lime light. People witnessed that how the Congress party is neck deep involved in the Coalgate scam. Now they have no answers to the questions being asked by the country. How the Union Coal Minister, Tourism minister forced the UPA government to allot Coal blocks to their near and dear ones and how standing Congress MPs got coal blocks under the full knowledge of the then Coal Minister and Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. How the UPA is defending the indefensible.

<u>In this strategy they</u> first September 16-30, 2012 **Q** 8

been thoroughly exposed and now the nation is asking questions to the Congress and the ruling Congress led UPA must answer all of them. Is it not a fact that PMO and many Congress Chief Ministers have opposed the Centre's proposal? Is it not a fact that the PMO itself opposed proposal of the Competitive biddings in September 2004? Is it not a fact that every allotment of the coal block carried a stamp of approval of Dr. Manmohan Singh as the Coal Minister? Why there were no comparative appraisals of all applicants and explanation on record? Why a certain party was favoured? Is it not a fact that the right to mine goes to the allottee and does not remain with the government? In such a situation how the theory of 'Zero Loss' credible? How the CBI initiated a probe into the arbitrary allocation?

On its part the BJP Chief

Ministers had essentially asked that the State must get its share of Coal for its power generation and a fair share of the proceeds of auction. From when Congress started respecting the opinions of the BJP Chief Ministers is a biggest question the nation is willing to know? The matter of fact is that the Congress has always discriminated against the BJP ruled States. The BJP CMs had to resort to even *Dharna*.

Now one thing is coming to the fore that the Congress game plan was very clear from the beginning. Moot the idea of auction, but don't move ahead with required speed is the plane. Delay the proposal and its enactment and implementation as far as possible. Keep the sword of auction hanging so that the black-gold rush will convert into net gain for the Congress' coffers. This is malafide, and crux of the scam. Manmohan Singh was the Coal Minister during most of the period of these arbitrary allotments. How then the hierarchical subordinates are responsible and not the approving authority? This is the biggest question and strongest evidence of the malafide behind the scam.

Therefore, to expose the corrupt Congress thoroughly Leader of opposition in Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj said that till now NDA had been disrupting Parliament on the coal allocation issue and will take this issue further through street protests. "We have taken a pledge at the Gandhi statue that we will take this issue to the people. We will take this issue from Parliament to the streets and from village to village". ■



# The session exposed Congress-led UPA on scams and corruption

The Monsoon Session of Parliament has ended today. Even though important issues were taken up for consideration, in the first week of Parliament session, debate in the subsequent sittings of the Parliament could not be held on account involvement of the UPA government in the monumental case of corruption known as coal block allotment scam.

This is the biggest corruption scandal in the Indian history. The government having taken a policy decision to allot coal blocks through a competitive bidding system, delayed indefinitely the implementation of the policy and used the discretionary and corrupt method of allotting them through the screening committee. This has resulted in a huge loss of Rs. 1,86,000 crores to the public Exchequer and a corresponding gain to private parties. Descriptions which have appeared in the media in the last three weeks with regard to individual cases, conclusively establish that the coal block allotments were national loot. It was a case of crony capitalism at its worst. A large number of politicians and business persons, close to the UPA, have been the beneficiaries of this allotment. Many have nothing to do with either steel or power sectors. Many were namelenders and rentiers. They used their political clout to get an allocation, either in their own name or in the name of a joint

venture. And then they exited after a windfall gain. All this was happening under the very nose of the Prime Minister, who was also the Coal Minister.

The BJP as the principal Opposition party could not remain silent. We used this session of Parliament to shake the conscience of the people of India, and appealed to the government to correct the monumental

fraud committed on the Public Exchequre. One session of Parliament has earlier been lost on account of the corruption in the allotment of 2G Spectrum. That helped this country to cleanse up the telecom sector. Hopefully, the long term gains of this session may enable future governments to cleanse up the process of allocation of natural resources.

The government has been advancing frivolous arguments such as 'Zero Loss' theory or that the Congress has never disrupted the Parliament or the possible hike in Electricity rates if competitive bidding is done. The recent disclosures made by a news channel, with regard to the minutes of the meeting, held in the office of the Prime Minister, on July 25, 2005 conclusively establishes that the kingpin of this entire delay was the Prime Minister's office or the Prime



Joint statement issued by Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley on Coal Scam on September 07, 2012.

Minister himself. They were aware of the fact that competitive bidding will only transfer the windfall gains to Government exchequer and not hike the power rates. The interim allocation that was to be done for a brief period was converted into allocation of 142 coal blocks. which led to depletion of coal resources and a gain to private parties. For the BJP, this is not merely apolitical battle. It is a battle for safeguarding the economic resources for a larger public good. For us, it is a struggle for a fair policy for allocation of natural resources. Even if there has been a loss of Parliament's debating time, on account of the very nature of our protest, we are confident that this protest, coupled with our forthcoming battle from Parliament to the people, will cleanse up the process for fair system of allocation of natural resources.■

Kamal Sandesh

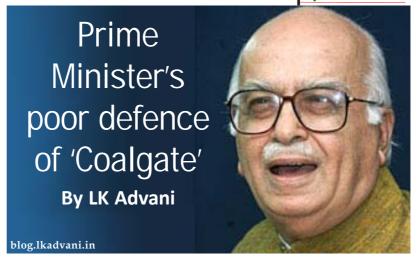
The deadlock in Parliament on coal allocation has continued for over a week now. The NDA has offered to resolve the deadlock if all the allotments made are cancelled and the process whereby the screening committee has decided these allocations is subjected to a judicial probe. The Government is not yet prepared for this.

Last week the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh came to the Lok Sabha and laid on the Table a lengthy statement on the scandal which today has come to be known as Coalgate (after Watergate). And I was intrigued to find that Federalism, rightly described by our Supreme Court as one of the basic features of the Indian Constitution and so one which cannot be amended by Parliament, was sought to be blamed by the Prime Minister in his totally unconvincing explanation.

Repeated reference was also made to reservations supposed to have been voiced by some BJP Chief Ministers as if the decision to reject the Law Ministry's recommendation that there should be competitive bidding for the coal blocks was taken because of BJP Chief Ministers – more prominently Dr. Raman Singh of Chhattisgarh.

It is these two references in the Prime Minister's statement – to Federalism, and to Chief Ministers – that made me revert to the emergency period and scan for similarities.

A news report from Raipur quotes verbatim Dr. Raman Singh's letter of May 2, 2005 addressed to then Minister of State for Coal, Dasari Narayan Rao in which Dr. Raman Singh September 16-30, 2012 **Q** 10



says:

In case the Central Government finally decides in favour of adopting the bidding route for allocation of coal blocks for captive mining, a part of the coal produced from such blocks will flow to the government. States being the owner of minerals within their respective territories, it would be in the fitness of things that the coal offer by the successful bidders to the government is shared between the concerned State Government and Central Government. It may be mentioned that similar demands of State Governments for the sharing of "profit petroleum" in the oil sector with the state governments is already under consideration of the Central Government."

Dr. Raman Singh is fully justified in demanding a share in the revenues earned by the State as a result of competitive bidding. How can this letter be cited as opposing auction?

It is now universally acknowledged that allowing discretionary allocation of precious resources like spectrum, oil, gas and minerals gives ample scope to people harbouring corrupt and collateral intentions.

The 2G spectrum scam has been a recent instance to prove this. The price of Rs.1658 crores fixed for an all-India license in 2008 was not the market value then. No wonder, under adverse market conditions, in 2012 the government itself has fixed the base price for 2G auction at Rs.14000 crores.

If NDA's demand that the discretionary allotment of coal already made should be scrapped and the coal blocks be auctioned is accepted and implemented, the truth would surface as to what is really the fair price presently.

When in June 1975, following the Allahabad High Court verdict on the election petition against Smt. Indira Gandhi, her election to the Lok Sabha was annulled and she was disqualified from being a Member of Parliament for a period of six years, the Congress Government imposed an Emergency on the country.

Vajpayeeji and I had gone to Bangalore that month to attend

a meeting of a Parliamentary Committee considering legislation against defections.

Emergency Proclamation was signed by Rashtrapati Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed late night on June 25, The Government machinery went into action. Loknayak Jaiprakash Narain, Shri Morarji Bhai Desai and many other senior leaders of the Opposition were arrested immediately thereafter. Early morning on June 26, 1975, the Union Cabinet was summoned and informed about all these developments and the Cabinet's post-facto approval taken for the extraordinary operation. Also, on the morning of June 26, Vajpayeeji and I were arrested and taken to Bangalore Central

While in detention at Bangalore I had occasion to write a series of pamphlets for party activists waging war against the Emergency while working underground. In two of these pamphlets titled A Tale of Two Emergencies and An Anatomy of Fascism, based very much on William Shirer's famous book about Nazi Germany titled "The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich", I drew a striking comparison between Hitler's Emergency of 1933 and Mrs. Gandhi's Emergency of 1975. Interestingly, Mrs. Gandhi herself once spoke in the Lok Sabha during the Emergency period about Fascism. She said on July 22, 1975:

"Yesterday, another member of the opposition wanted to know what fascism was. Fascism does not mean merely repression. Over and above every thing, it is the propagation of the big lie. It September 16-30, 2012 **Q** 11

In case the Central Government finally decides in favour of adopting the bidding route for allocation of coal blocks for captive mining, a part of the coal produced from such blocks will flow to the government. States being the owner of minerals within respective territories, it would be in the fitness of things that the coal offer by the successful bidders to the government is between the concerned State Government and Central Government.

is the use of whispering campaigns, the search for scapegoats."

Under Nazi propaganda tactics, the theory of the Big Lie occupied a cardinal place. Adolf Hitler has expounded this theory thus:

"The size of the lie is a definite factor in causing it to be believed...The primitive simplicity of the peoples' minds renders them a more easy prey to a big lie than the small one for they themselves often tell little lies but would be ashamed to tell big ones."

Curiously, Mrs. Gandhi accused western critics of India's Emergency with indulging in this characteristic Nazi tactic of the 'big lie' when she had this exchange with Dr. Kronzucker and Dr. Scharlav of North German T.V. She spoke bitterly about writings in the German, British and American Press, and said: "What they write is absolutely a figment of

somebody's imagination. One cannot even say that things are exaggerated; many of them have no foundation whatsoever".

Pressed by the interviewers to give some concrete instance of such baseless reporting, this is what the PM replied:

For instance, one very big lie that is propagated is that the whole Emergency and so on is run by a some small group including my son, which is absolutely false.

The decision was taken by the Chief Ministers of this country and they were the ones who have to manage the states.

You see this is more like a federal set-up...So the decision was taken by the Chief Ministers, with our senior colleagues, and so on.

(P. 166, 'Democracy and Discipline, Speeches of Indira Gandhi', GOI Publication.)

Is it not bizarre that Smt. Gandhi who did not consult even the Union Cabinet before making the President sign the atrocious Emergency Proclamation should have had no qualms attributing its authorship to Chief Ministers?

#### **TAILPIECE**

Shri N. Vittal, after retirement from the Indian Administrative Service in 1996 became Chief Vigilance Commissioner in 1998, and held that office until 2002.

Shri Vittal has been an official highly reputed for his ability as well as integrity. I have received from him a copy of his book just written with the title: "Ending Corruption? How to Clean Up India".

In his introduction to the book Shri Vittal speaks about the "general perception, especially in the media that bodies like the

... Continued on page 28



# Dubious Defence of Coal Block Allocations

## By Arun Jaitley

Parliamentary stalemate continues on one of the greatest corruption scandals in Indian history. Allocation of natural resources has been a subject matter of public debate in the last two decades, particularly with the entry of private sector in infrastructure development. Mineral is an important natural resource. The private sector has a great role to play in development of the mineralbased industries. However, the policy of allocation of these natural resources has been discretionary, thereby leaving ample scope for allocation on account of corrupt and collateral motives. It is, therefore, important that aware of the characters of and governance, discretions be eliminated and objective criteria be introduced.

Most tangible resources such as minerals, spectrum, oil and gas must only be allocated through a competitive bidding mechanism. The discretionary allocation of 2G spectrum resulted in scam of disproportionate magnitude. It is now proven that Rs. 1658 crores fixed for an all-India license spectrum in 2008 was not the market value of the spectrum then. Under adverse market conditions, government itself in 2012 has fixed the base price for 2G auction at Rs. 14,000 crores.

There has to be an equitable balance between the interests of public exchequer and the optimum use of natural resource for economic development.

Whispers with regard to misdemeanours in the allocation of coal blocks have been heard in the last few years. The government took a correct policy decision on June 28, 2004 that bidding competitive introduced in the coal block allocation policy. For most of the next five years the Prime Minister was the Coal Minister. The exploitation of coal blocks allotted between 2004 and 2012 is negligible. For most of these coal blocks, statutory and environmental permissions have not been given. The Prime Minister's argument that pending change of policy to

Most tangible resources such as minerals, spectrum, oil and gas must only be allocated through competitive bidding mechanism. The discretionary allocation of 2G spectrum resulted in scam of disproportionate magnitude. It is now proven that Rs. 1658 crores fixed for an all-India license spectrum in 2008 was not the market value of the spectrum then. Under adverse market conditions. government itself in 2012 has fixed the base price for 2G auction at Rs. 14,000 crores.

competitive bidding, allocation was necessary for the growth of GDP is eyewash. None of these coal blocks have contributed to the GDP. They have only contributed to the huge valuation of the private sector allottees and a corresponding opportunity and real cost to the Public Exchequer.

The Prime Minister's alternative defence is that his government was handicapped by the Opposition from the coal and lignite states to competitive bidding. In any federal polity, it is legitimate for the states to be about concerned the development of power production in their own states. Mineral producing states have always been concerned about the minerals mined in their states. The Prime Minister overlooks the fact that coal as a Major Mineral is in the domain of the Central Government. His government admittedly overruled the states in 2006. The present MoS, Coal Shri Prakash Jaiswal admitted in the Parliament on December 21, 2009 that the majority of the states had agreed to the competitive bidding process. Thus to shift the blame to the states is a very poor alibi. Federalism cannot be blamed for the corruption of the UPA.

The Prime Minister's statement is an assault on Constitutionalism and constitutional authority. Instead of respecting the observations of the CAG and taking remedial action the Prime Minister has evolved a logic, which is in



defiance of ethical governance. His government's policy is to subvert the institutions but if they assert themselves to attack them.

The Prime Minister has no answer for the fact that despite the initial policy decision of June, 2004 it was the PMO which circulated a parallel note on September 11, 2004 highlighting overenthusiastic in continuing the discretionary process in allotment. When vested interests realized that doors of discretion were about to be closed, they queued up for allotments through the Screening Committee mechanism.

The Prime Minister's final defence that the Screening

"It was also noted that the Screening Committee recommended the allocation of coal block to a particular allottee/allottees out of all the applicants for that coal block by way of minutes of the meeting of the Screening Committee. However, there was nothing on record the said minutes or in other documents on any comparative evaluation of the applicants for a coal block which was relied upon by the Screening Committee. Minutes of the Screening Committee did not indicate how each one of the applicant for a particular coal block was evaluated. Thus, a transparent method for allocation of coal blocks was not followed by the Screening Committee"

the drawbacks in the decision of competitive bidding.

It was the Law Ministry, which delayed the competitive bidding by first giving the opinion that administrative instructions were enough to switch over to competitive bidding. They then suggested an alternative that the MMDR Act be amended. Over two(2) valuable years were wasted and finally, when the MMDR (Amendment) Bill was approved by the Parliament on 09.09.2010, the UPA government took 17(seventeen) months before it could notify the same. The tenders of competitive bidding have not been prepared yet as the Government was so September 16-30, 2012 **Q** 13

Committee mechanism was fair and transparent is repelled by an observation of the CAG in Paragraph 4.1 of its report. The CAG has stated-

"It was also noted that the Committee Screening recommended the allocation of coal block to a particular allottee/ allottees out of all the applicants for that coal block by way of minutes of the meeting of the Screening Committee. However, there was nothing on record the said minutes or in other documents on any comparative evaluation of the applicants for a coal block which was relied upon by the Screening Committee. Minutes of the Screening Committee did not

indicate how each one of the applicant for a particular coal block was evaluated. Thus, a method transparent allocation of coal blocks was not followed by the Screening Committee"

Ordinarily, Parliament is the forum for debate on the issue. The PAC is the forum where CAG recommendations should be considered. Our experience of the recent past in relation to the CAG recommendations in the 2G spectrum allocation have convinced that the ruling party has decided to subvert the Parliamentary accountability available through the PAC. The PAC has been effectively made non-functional on that issue. Parliamentary obstructionism should be avoided. It is a weapon to be used in the rarest of the rare cases. Parliamentary accountability is as important as Parliamentary debate. Both must co-exist.

Parliamentary accountability is subverted and a debate is intended to be used to merely to put a lid on Parliamentary accountability, it is then a legitimate tactic for the Opposition to expose the government through Parliamentary instruments available at its command. Presently, a national debate on allocation of natural resources is on. Left to this government, they would have distributed these resources for collateral purposes to their favourites. The Prime Minister must own full and real responsibility. Let him cancel these 142 discretionary allocations, put them on auction and test whether they had been allocated at a fair price. ■



# Defenders of the faith, refresh your memory

## By Yashwant Sinha

his article is addressed to all defenders of the faith who are constantly haranguing BJP to stop disrupting Parliament and save Indian democracy. Public memory is short, media's shorter. A section of the media also suffers from selective amnesia.

The Vajpayee-led government was the first non-Congress government which governed India for over six years. It won an election in 1999, to return to power. It did suffer the fate of all earlier non-Congress governments in 1998, but acquired stability in its next term.

Its success led many to believe that Congress was not going to return to power any time soon. The resulting frustration in the Congress led to a complete change in its parliamentary behaviour. One has merely to look at the record of the thirteenth Lok Sabha to realise how often the Congress resorted to disruption and how flimsy were the grounds of those disruptions. Let me chronicle a few just to set the record straight and refresh the memory of the defenders of the faith.

If frequent adjournment of the Lok Sabha due to interruptions and disorderly scenes resulted in the loss of time of 10.66% during the Twelfth Lok Sabha, it increased to 19% during the Thirteenth Lok Sabha.

In February 2000, a circular issued by the Gujarat government, allowing its employees to take part in the activities of the RSS paralysed

The Vajpayee-led government was the first n o n - C o n g r e s s government which governed India for over six years. It won an election in 1999, to return to power. It did suffer the fate of all earlier non-Congress governments in 1998, but acquired stability in its next term.

the business of Lok Sabha for at least 10 days. In December 2000, the House was paralysed once again for eight days when CBI filed a chargesheet against three Union ministers in the Babri Masjid case.

A major part of the budget session of 2001 was lost because of the Tehelka sting operation. The same thing happened when the Comptroller and Auditor-General report on the purchase of coffins for the armed forces was presented to Parliament. Parliament was disrupted and George Fernandes was boycotted by the Congress in Parliament. He was described as a *Kafan Chor*.

When the US forces invaded Iraq in early 2003, despite the fact that the prime minister himself made a statement expressing strong opposition to any military action in Iraq, the Congress insisted on Parliament passing a resolution condemning the US action. They

disrupted the proceedings of Parliament again for many days until finally the great democrat Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee instructed us to work out a compromise which we did.

Only then was Parliament allowed to function. Compare Sonia Gandhi's belligerence today to the statesmanship of Vajpayee then. The examples of unprecedented corruption in recent years have been brought in the public domain by none other than a constitutional body like CAG. This has made the prime minister depart from established practice and make a statement in Parliament on August 27, 2012, criticising CAG. An extraordinary statement indeed by a person who has spent all his life as an economic administrator and should know more than anyone else about the role and responsibility of CAG.

The defenders of the faith are quiet on this point. They never tire of reminding us that according to our parliamentary procedure reports of CAG are automatically referred to the PAC and are examined by the PAC. This is absolutely correct. So, the report of the CAG on the 2G scam came to the PAC. Indeed, this was exactly the argument given by the government to reject our demand for a IPC.

The prime minister repeatedly expressed his faith in the PAC and its chairman. He even offered to appear before the PAC personally, knowing fully well that the PAC cannot call



ministers; an offer which he has not found fit to repeat for JPC.

In fact, JPC is stalemated on the issue of summoning the prime minister and the finance minister as witnesses which BJP members are demanding and the ruling party members are opposing stoutly. But let us return to the theme of the PAC. PAC spent eight months deliberating on the 2G scam.

It examined 22 witnesses during this period but when the time came to examine the Cabinet Secretary, the Principal Secretary to the PM and the then Solicitor-General, Attorney General Vahanvati, the ruling party members disrupted proceedings and did not allow the examination of these witnesses. The defenders of the faith kept quiet. Subsequently, the secretariat of the PAC prepared the report as is the practice in all Parliamentary Committees.

When the report was presented to the committee, the ruling party members indulged in rowdy behaviour to disrupt the meeting of the PAC. In my long parliamentary career, I have never seen such behaviour in any committee. When the chairman of the PAC adjourned the meeting because of this disruption, a ruling party member even occupied his chair and conducted mock proceedings to reject the report. They even conducted a press conference and abused the chairman.

All this was done under the direction of the senior-most ministers of the government. The defenders of the faith kept quiet. Parliament of India let it pass. The draft report of the JPC was effectively buried. An attempt is being made to repeat the same

thing even in the JPC. The message is loud and clear, "we shall indulge in corruption with impunity".

The fact of the matter is that anyone who dares to enquire into the misdeeds of this government, whether it be CAG, PAC, JPC, or any other constitutional body, will be rubbished by the UPA government on the strength of its numbers. Truth will be suppressed, their sins will be swept under the carpet and the stale excuse on every occasion will be that they were only following NDA policies or that BJP is also equally guilty.

The tragedy is that with the help of a section of the media, they sometimes succeed in their propaganda. When Congress disrupts Parliament, it is performing a sacred national duty. When we do so, we are committing a grave crime. When Sonia Gandhi beckons her members to attack LK Advani, it is an act of courage and leadership. When the prime minister criticises CAG, he is being bold. My appeal to the defenders of the faith is to refresh your memory, go back a little into the past, do a little research and then defend the faith. ■

# 85<sup>th</sup> birthday of Charti Lal Goel celebrated

85th Birthday of former Speaker of Delhi - Shri Charti Lal Goel was celebrated with a sense of gratitude in Delhi on September 2,2012. Shri Goel was renowned in his political career as a person who had established for himself an image of an able



administrator, an honest politician with clear thoughts and farsighted approach.

People who came to wish him good health and long life included former Deputy Prime Minister Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Former National President of BJP Shri Rajnath Singh, Chief Minister of Delhi Smt. Sheila Dikshit and her colleagues in cabinet, former speaker of Lok Sabha Shri Balram Jakhar, senior BJP leader Shri Jaswant Singh and Shri Yashwant Sinha among many others from the prominent politicians, artists, social activists, administrators, lawyers etc. Earlier during the day he was greeted on his birthday by Vice president of India Shri Hamid Ansari and Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Narendra Modi on telephone. Shri Advani said that Shri Goel is one of our oldest colleague and age wise he was three months senior to me. Honesty and dedication that Shri Goel has is hard to see today. During the days of emergency Shri Goel along with his son Shri Vijay Goel stood by the party ideology and was jailed for 19 months.



# A government that disowns constitutional and moral responsibility

## By Amba Charan Vashishth

n UPA government is more a coalition between Congress President Mrs. Sonia Gandhi and Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh than between other alliance partners. Its driving force is Mrs. Gandhi's inspiration and dynamism coupled with Dr. Singh's silence. The history of this government will be written not in words of gold but of coal. The mole of the good this government has done is getting buried under the mountain of innumerable scams and mud of corruption. The 'weak' Prime Minister is proving to be strong enough to give the country an unending chain of scams, the highest of ₹1.86 lakhs crores being in his own ministry of Coal and Mines crores surpassing the 2G spectrum score of ₹ 1.76 lakh crores.

The bold declarations of both Dr. Manmohan Singh and Mrs. Sonia Gandhi to take corruption "head-on" seem to be serving as a tonic to the demon of corruption that it is getting stronger and stronger – and to an extent, invincible — every day.

## GLAMOUR IN CORRUPTION

The UPA-II seems to have grown immune to the charges of corruption. That is why it always presents a bold face giving people the impression as if this too forms part of its great 'achievements'. This seems to be

in keeping with the latest fashionable fad that has caught up with the imagination of our political elite which when caught in heinous crimes like murder, rape, corruption and the like flash a broad smile with two fingers as if indicating victory over law of the land. The supporters, mostly paid goons, are made to organize noisy demonstrations proclaiming their leader's 'innocence' and shouting that he/she will come out clean. It is a 'politically motivated conspiracy' to tarnish the image of their 'great, popular' leader by opponents jealous of his popularity, they declare vociferously. After rubbing heels in jail with diehard criminals for months together, if the leader gets a bail pending trial in court, he is given a rousing reception as if he has returned home after scoring a decisive victory in a war against the nation's enemies (in this case, law?).

The first reaction of Prime Minister and his colleagues is to deny any wrongdoing. Till the presentation of the CAG report on 2G scam, both the Prime Minister and Congress President were issuing certificates of innocence and honesty to the then Telecom Minister A. Raja. He has not done anything wrong, Dr. Manmohan Singh declared repeatedly, and whatever Raja has done is as per the government policy. On the eve of

CAG report being presented Parliament PM was left with no alternative but to seek Raja's resignation. A few days after his resignation when A. Raja greeted the PM in the Central Hall of Parliament in a function, Dr. Singh patted his back, for what PM knows the best.

"WRONGDOING OR GENUINE ERROR"?

Within about a month of Raja's resignation, speaking at a function to celebrate 150 years of the institution of CAG on November 17, 2010 Dr. Manmohan Singh advised the audit watchdog to distinguish between "wrongdoing" and "genuine errors." government auditor should appreciate the context and circumstances of official decisions and it had a heavy responsibility to ensure that its reports were accurate, balanced and fair. But so far the PM has not clarified in which category -"wrongdoing" or "genuine errors" - does fall the coal scam in his ministry

When pressed to the wall to open his mouth on the serious allegations in the coalgate, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh tried to be as brief as he could lest he could be contradicted on many points. Breaking the record of *mauni baba* as former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee called the then Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao, Dr. Manmohan Singh in his



statement said: "My silence is better than a thousand answers for it keeps the dignity of the many questions." It remains to be seen whether if ever he was called to explain his conduct in a court of law, will he repeat the same words which he has used before the court of the people. Will his colleagues in the government and Congress take a cue from him and say the same words in the court of people, that is the parliament, and in a court of law and will that be sufficient for the defence of any leader accused of any wrongdoing or crime?

And does this blank statement of the prime minister satisfy the questions that are tormenting the mind of the members of parliament on the coalgate issue?

A drowning man catches whatever straw he can lay his hands on to save his life. And that is exactly what the Congress is doing at the moment. It is inventing alibis, no holds barred, to save its own skin and that of the prime minister.

Congress is today targeting the CAG, an institution of the Constitution continuing since the British days It is an institution the Congress had jumped to respect and protect. Whenever opposition parties had raised a finger, the Congress pontificated others not to target institution of Constitution. But today its report has, in the words of Congress, become a "bizarre accounting exercise". But whenever CAG has presented similar reports relating to non-Congress State governments, Congress takes it as a word of god and wants the state cabinets to resign or September 16-30, 2012 **Q** 17

dismissed.
RESPECTING
OPPOSITION?

Congress has also come out with the alibi that many BJP and CPM chief ministers had opposed the auction of the coal blocks. A strange argument! Since when has the Congress started fulfilling the wishes of the BJP and other opposition parties? It is a 'breaking news' that UPA gives utmost importance and respect to the views of opposition parties and governments. Otherwise there are numerous recommendations made by BJP and other opposition party state governments which are gathering dust in various ministries. UPA government has so far found no time, for the last so many years, to consider numerous enactments, some of which pertain to dealing with terror crimes, passed by various State assemblies. The Union government, the President and governors are sitting over granting their assent.

This is a repeat of the stand the government took when 2G spectrum scam burst out. UPA then claimed that it was following in 2007 the policy the BJP-led NDA government had laid down in 2001. Does it meant that UPA was blindly following NDA and implementing its agenda?

Congress has become very generous to offer to discuss the report in Parliament "threadbare" and if need be, the "PM will clarify". It has challenged the Opposition to move a vote of no-confidence against the government. It is true that Parliament is the institution for debate leading to finding

solutions to the problems facing the country. But unfortunately, debates in Parliament have lost faith, credibility and even sanctity. The standard of debates has greatly gone down and, to an extent, speeches in parliament have become a replica of what our leaders aver in public meetings.

### **FUTILITY OF DEBATES**

The UPA is guilty of undermining the sanctity of the debates and resolutions passed in Parliament. Take just one instance. Last year on August 27, both houses of parliament exhibited the "sense of the house" by unanimously passing a resolution moved by the then Leader of the House Mr. Pranab Mukherjee on Lokpal Bill. Has UPA respected that 'sense of the House'? So what will a debate on the Coal scam or discussion on a vote of no-confidence lead to? It will just be another futile exercise of coughing up of throats and raising of tempers in the house without a tangible result.

It also needs to be kept in mind that issues of corruption can be finally settled through impartial inquiries and by courts of law and not by a vote in parliament through debates. A majority in house is no verdict of "not guilty" and "honesty and innocence". Mafia dawn Gawli too had been elected to Maharashtra assembly but that was not certificate of his innocence and today he has been sentenced to life imprisonment for a murder.

While dealing with allegations against Mr. B. S. Yediyurappa in Karnataka the Congress did not adopt the same stand. He too enjoyed complete



confidence of the house and Congress also did not move a vote of no-confidence? Why these double standards?

And can a debate in Parliament be of any use when the UPA sticks to the medieval mentality that "Kings commit wrong"?Propounding the same principle and echoing same sentiment Telecom Minister Kapil Sibal has declared: "Our PM can never do anything wrong. And if anybody levels any such allegations against the PM, there is no correctness (or) facts in this".

And remember he is the same telecom minister who had repudiated the CAG report on 2G spectrum and claimed "zero loss" to the government. He also received an indirect rap when the Supreme Court did not question the 1.76 lakh crore loss figure.

Latest to join the galaxy of ministers making some funny claims is Mr. P. Chidamabaram, Finance Minister, who claimed no loss as most of the mines had not commenced mining. (Though on August 27 he has denied having said so, usual niche with politicians.) This again is a strange argument. If mining has not commenced, it does not absolve the Prime Minister of the charge of having made wrong allotments of coal

Moreover, if mining did not take place, it again was a loss to the nation firstly because it perpetuated the shortage of coal in the country and, secondly, it resulted in a loss of revenue to the government because of nonmining. Further, it contributed to worsening the shortage of power in the country.

On the one hand, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pawan Bansal is generous to have a discussion in Parliament and on the other, he has termed the opposition demand for PM's resignation as "baseless and preposterous" and BJP was "trying to make an issue out of nothing", In circumstances, one wonders why should Congress be generous to waste the precious time and money on a debate on "an issue out of nothing"?

WHY GOVT NOT RESPONSIBLE?

Numerous scams costing the nation lakhs of crores of rupees have taken place. But here is a government that is not willing to own responsibility. If the council of ministers is not responsible, then who else can be? Article 75(3) of the Constitution provides: "The Council of Ministers shall be collectively responsible to the House of the People".

That rightly means that the government is responsible (for all its acts of omission and commission) to the people through the House of the People (Lok Sabha) elected by them. The Prime Minister and his ministers take the oath to uphold the Constitution. In his clarification (which has raised more questions) issued on August 27 Prime Minister has surprisingly taken "full responsibility" for the decisions but not for the consequential wrongdoing. The way this government is behaving it looks as if it considers that indulging in scams and corruption is this government's

right and to put up with all their misconduct is the duty of the opposition and the people.

The then Railway Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri resigned owning moral responsibility for a railway accident that cost about 150 lives. Mr. Shastri certainly was not himself driving that train but as minister it was his responsibility. Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, the then Finance Minister resigned following eruption of Mundra scandal. He had not accepted any bribe. But in today's Congress whatever may happen nobody owns responsibility or is held responsible. It was during Congress government at the Centre that the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi was assassinated. But nobody was made accountable for the lapse. Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was killed in a suicide bomb blast in Tamilnadu when DMK was in power in the State, the same DMK with which Congress has an alliance both in the State and at the Centre.

### 2G repeating

It seems the 2G scam history is repeating itself in coalage. Despite claiming nothing wrong and no corruption, CBI has named Congress MP Vijay Darda and his brother, a cabinet minister Maharashtra's Congress-NCP government and conducted raids at various places. But, surprisingly, the person heading the coal ministry at that time is not responsible for the wrongdoing.

The writer is National Convener of BJP Literature & Publication Cell.■



# Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay – A visionary leader and philosopher

By Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

andit Deendayal Upadhyaya remembered as a great philosopher who as a political activist and leader not only laid down the principles but also lived those principles in his political life. A towering personality well versed in different disciplines, he was able to give direction to national politics through his intellectual insight and deep understanding of Indian civilizational values. His ideas and philosophy while still remain relevant, his contribution as an ideologue and as a guiding force for an alternative model of governance and politics continues to define and determine the course of politics in the country.

Born on 25 September 1916, he lost his parents in early childhood. As a bright student he earned many laurels and was poised for an illustrious career but he got attracted towards RSS while still a student and chose to work for common people by becoming an RSS *pracharak*. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was so impressed by him that he said "If I had two Deendayals, I could transform the political face of India."

Pandit Deendayal Uapdhyaya is widely acclaimed as propounder of the philosophy of Integral Humanism. He never sought to follow a piecemeal approach to seek solutions for the problems afflicting the nation, rather he aspired to devise a philosophy which may herald an era of integral approach. He advocated the simultaneous and integrated



program of the body, mind and intellect and soul of each human being. While seeking to spiritualise the politics like Gandhi, he laid emphasis on coining the idioms of national discourse in civilizational and cultural ethos of India. He was not in favour of adopting borrowed ideas from the west for goals of national reconstruction. He never considered either capitalism or communism as solution to problems of the human society.

According to him, "A capitalist economy first acquires power in the economic field and then enters the political field,

while socialism concentrates power over all means of production in the hands of state. Both these systems are against democratic rights of individuals."

Main ideas of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay may be seen in his conceptualization of Dharma, Bharativata, Dharmarajya and Antodaya. By Bharatiyata he meant Bharatiya culture which unlike western thoughts sees life as an integrated whole. Bharatiyata, according to him, can manifest itself not through politics but through culture. If India has anything to offer to the world then it is the feeling of cultural tolerance and a life dedicated to

He further says, "From the national standpoint we shall have to consider our culture because that is our very nature. Independence is intimately related to one's own culture. If culture does not form the basis of independence then the political movement independence would degenerate into a scramble by selfish and power-seeking persons. Independence can meaningful only if it becomes an instrument for the expression of our culture.

Such expression will not only contribute to our progress but the effort required will also give us the experience of joy".

He was completely opposed to the attempts to equate Dharma with religion. Religion while mainly meaning a mode of worship has a very limited meaning but Dharma stands for a wide term including many religions. According to him, religion means a creed, or a sect, it does not mean Dharma. Dharma is a very broad concept. It is concerned with all aspects of life. It sustains society. It sustains the whole world. That which sustains is "Dharma". The fundamental principles of Dharma are eternal and universal. Yet implementation may differ according to time, place and circumstance. The complete treatise on the rules in general and their philosophical basis is the meaning of Dharma.

While describing Dharmarajya he considers state to be one of the constituent within the nation and not above it. In theorizing thus he never intends to undermine the importance of state in the society or democracy but attempts to emphasise the pluralistic character of the society and the nation. He gives a very interesting explanation as to why a Jana Rajya (Democratic state) should also be a Dharmarajya. He says, "Let us understand very clearly that Dharma is not necessarily with the majority or with the people. Dharma is eternal. Therefore, in the definition of democracy, to say that it is a government of the people is not enough; it has to be for the good of the people.

Dharma alone can decide. Therefore, a democratic government "Jana Rajya', must also be rooted in Dharma i.e. a "Dharma Rajya". In the definition of 'Democracy' viz. "government of the people, by the people and for the people", 'of ' stands for independence, 'by' stands for democracy, and indicates Dharma. Therefore the true democracy is one where there is freedom as well as Dharma." His concept of Dharmarajya can be understood more elaborately from the following attributes which forms fundamental principles on which a rulers should act:

(1) The ruler is the upholder of Dharma, not its creator. Nor can he decide as to what Dharma is. He is responsible only for its proper enforcement. Dharma means those eternal and universal laws which are conducive to the sustenance of my life and the universe - those laws which, our Rishis have discovered through their prescience. On a small scale, they reflect in the most distinctive and fundamental characteristics of the way of life of nation on the maintenance of which depends the very persistence of a particular nation. In short, Dharma is the life process of a nation, and marks it out from other nations. It is the sacred duty of the ruler to protect this life process, i.e. Dharma.

(2) Dharma rajya is also inclusive of Gandhiji's Ram Rajya when he defines a ruler as Raja iti Ranjati. That is a ruler cannot claim to be a ruler in the true sense of the term unless he works for the welfare of all. (Gandhi, Lohia & Deendayal, ed. P. Parmeswaran, DRI, New

Delhi, 1978, p. 40).

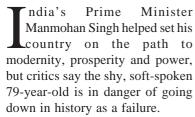
Antyoday, although a word belonging to Gandhian lexicon, it is inbuilt in the ideas of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay. His vision of 'education for all' and 'har hath ko kam, har khet ko pani' was seen culminating in his idea of Economic Democracy. Explaining his idea of Economic Democracy, he says, "If a vote for everyone is the touch-stone of political democracy, work for everyone is a measure of economic democracy. This right to work does not mean slave labour as in communist countries. Work should not only give a means of livelihood to a person but it should be of the choice of that person. If for doing that work the worker does not get a proper share in the national income, he would, be considered unemployed. From this point of view a minimum wage, a just system of distribution and some sort of social security are necessary."

Opposing the ideas of large industries based development, centralization and monopoly, he advocated swadeshi and decentralization. He further said that any system which reduces the opportunity for employment is undemocratic. He advocated a system free from social inequality where the and power get capital decentralized. As a staunch opponent of both capitalism and communism he felt that the path India was through encouraging the sectors of self employment for which a system was required wherein maximum production can be done by employing maximum hands. He was an ardent supporter of an integral village which can be self



# India's 'silent' prime minister becomes a tragic figure By Simon Denyer

Soon after the Time magazine dubbed PM Dr. Manmohan Singh 'The Underachiever' The Washington Post has called his record as 'Tragic' which speak volumes of UPA regime of corruption, scam and non-performance. We are publishing The Washington Post's article for our esteemed readers.

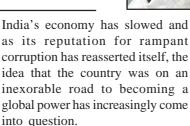


The architect of India's economic reforms, Singh was a major force behind his country's rapprochement with the United States and is a respected figure on the world stage. President Obama's aides used to boast of his tremendous rapport and friendship with Singh.

But the image of the scrupulously honorable, humble and intellectual technocrat has slowly given way to a completely different one: a dithering, ineffectual bureaucrat presiding over a deeply corrupt government.

Every day for the past two weeks, India's Parliament has been adjourned as the opposition bays for Singh's resignation over allegations of waste and corruption in the allocation of coal-mining concessions.

The story of Singh's dramatic fall from grace in his second term in office and the slow but steady tarnishing of his reputation has played out in parallel with his country's decline on his watch. As



"More and more, he has become a tragic figure in our history," said political historian Ramachandra Guha, describing a man fatally handicapped by his "timidity, complacency and intellectual dishonesty."

The irony is that Singh's greatest selling points — his incorruptibility and economic experience — are the mirror image of his government's greatest failings.

Under Singh, economic reforms have stalled, growth has slowed sharply and the rupee has collapsed.

But just as damaging to his reputation is the accusation that he looked the other way and remained silent as his cabinet colleagues filled their own pockets.

In the process, he transformed himself from an object of respect to one of ridicule and endured the worst period in his life, said Sanjaya Baru, Singh's media adviser during his first term.

Attendees at meetings and



conferences were jokingly urged to put their phones into "Manmohan Singh mode," while one joke cited a dentist urging the seated prime minister, "At least in my clinic, please open your mouth."

Singh finally did open his mouth last week, to rebut criticism from the government auditor that the national treasury had been cheated of billions of dollars after coal-mining concessions were granted to private companies for a pittance — including during a five-year period when Singh doubled as coal minister.

Singh denied that there was "any impropriety," but he was drowned out by catcalls when he attempted to address Parliament on the issue. His brief statement to the media afterward appeared to do little to change the impression of a man whose aloofness from the rough-and-tumble of Indian politics has been transformed from an asset into a liability.

"It has been my general practice not to respond to motivated criticism directed personally at me," he said. "My general attitude has been, 'My silence is better than a thousand answers; it keeps intact the honor of innumerable questions."

Courtesy: The Washington Post



# BJP already in election ring, Congress yet stretching its muscles

## **From Our Special Correspondent**

he appointment of former chief minister Virbhadra Singh as the new President of Himachal Congress replacing the incumbent Thakur Kaul Singh has failed to create a ripple in the Himachal electoral scene. On the other hand, it has widened the cleavage within the party. Shri Singh is a tainted leader who had to resign as Union Minister following a Himachal court ordering framing of corruption charges against him and his wife, Smt. Pratibha Singh, an ex-MP.

Bharatiya Janata Party is sitting pretty to get a renewed mandate to serve the people of Himachal in the ensuing assembly elections in another three months. The party's top leadership of Chief Minister Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal, BJP National Vice-President Shri Shanta Kumar, State President Shri Satpal Singh Satti and other leaders and workers are fully united to realize the 'Repeat Bhajapa Mission.'

BJP sees no threat from change of Congress leadership. Shri Virbhadra Singh has never been invincible. It is he, political observers remind, who has been humbled and dethroned thrice by BJP when he was chief minister in 1990, 1998 and 2007. He remains the first chief minister of the State to be defeated by a BJP-JD alliance candidate Thakur Ram Lal in 1990 from his traditional assembly

constituency of Jubbal-Kotkhai twice earlier won by him with record margins.

On August 30 Shimla BJP Parliamentary constituency unit organized an *aabhar* and *shubhkamna* rally with a greater impressive public show of strength that punctured the

Prem Kumar Dhumal thanked the workers for their gesture of organizing the rally and good wishes for BJP government's return to power. It is the people who voted out the inefficient and useless Virbhadra regime and brought in BJP government and it is a gain the people who will



Congress enthusiasm generated by its rally a day earlier.

The reality is that while Congress is just starting from the scratch, BJP is much ahead in its election campaign having held four massive rallies in each parliamentary constituency besides covering the campaign down up to the booth level.

A sudden downpour failed to dampen the high spirits of the enthusiastic workers and supporters. They continued to listen to their leaders unmindful of the rain.

Addressing the massive gathering, Chief Minister Prof.

once again give a chance to serve them. It was people's victory then and it will again be their victory this time too, he emphasized.

Shri Dhumal said BJP government had served the people well and is seeking a fresh mandate from them on the strength of development, performance and good governance. We went beyond our promises made to the people in the last election, he claimed.

Prof. Dhumal also announced the release of paygrade on the Punjab pattern to Himachal government



employees costing about 500 crores.

The massive gathering impelled BJP veteran Shri Shanta Kumar to say that the it is a glaring signal that Mission Repeat of BJP's Dhumal government is going to be realized. In Himachal BJP will return to power again, he prophesied, and from Centre Congress will be out again. He made the audience to repeat with him the slogan "Kaho dil se, Dhumal phir se".

BJP National Vice-President justified the action of the party to stall Parliament proceedings. If BJP had not adopted this stand of not allowing Parliament to function, he claimed, 2G spectrum and Commonwealth Games scams too would have been pushed below the carpet and culprits.

Shri Shanta Kumar also cautioned the Party that this great show of unity and strength is surely going to unnerve Congress and it may indulge in underhand tactics to damage the party.

Himachal BJP incharge and National Vice-President Kalraj Mishra regretted that Congress was so much upset by the unending flow of scams that it has started undermining the authority even of the constitutional bodies like the CAG which had exposed various cases of corruption indulged in by UPA-II government.

BJP National General Secretary Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda MP said Dhumal government had extended benefits to every section of society in the State. This government had made people fight the

dragon of rising prices by providing rice, atta, dals and cooking oil at subsidized rates, at about half the prices in the market through and effective and efficient public distribution system.

With his wit and humour BJP National Secretary Navjot Singh Sidhu MP kept the audience glued to their seats braving the rain. Pointing to the clouds Shri Sidhu said we have Badal in Punjab and in Himachal too indicating that like Parkash Singh Badal in Punjab Shri Dhumal too will stage an impressive come back to power in Himachal too.

Taking a dig at prime minister, Shri Sidhu said he is not sure whether he is a Sardar or not but this much he is sure that he is not asardar (effective). He wondered how a person (Virbhadra Singh) facing serious charges in a court of law could lead Congress to power.

BJP Yuva Morcha National President Shri Anurag Thakur MP said with what face will the prime minister seek votes from the people when Congress is submerged in corruption from head to toe.

Others present in the rally included National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Ram Lal, BJP sah-prabhari and national secretary Shri Shyam Jaju, Himachal BJP President Shri Satpal Singh Satti, BJP ministers, general secretaries Ram Sarup Sharma and Dr. Rajiv Binda, MPs, MLAs and party office-bearers.

## Continued from page 20...

sufficient and self reliant. He had a vision of increased production, restraint consumption and equitable distribution. He was also opposed to unrestrained exploitation of nature and felt that the nature should be used as per our need and not for people's greed. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay message to the world are:

- 1. Building a strong and prosperous Indian nation on the foundation of Indian culture.
- 2. Dharmarajya (which guartantees freedom, equality and justice to all)
- 3. Sarvodya and Antyodaya (maximum good to all),
- 4. Samanvaya (synthesis, not conflict, as the basis of life).

As we pay our tributes to the great philosopher, leader and activist on his birth anniversary, the need of the hour is to follow his ideas and principles which are aimed at making politics a tool for service to the nation. He stood rock solid defending Indian civilizational values and culture in the time when the western ideas were ruling the world and many great thinkers, philosophers and leaders of that time were swept away by its torrential current.

He not only stood his ground but defined Indian ethos and value system in the context of changing times and the need of the hour. Today we can say that he was as much right in his assertions as he was firm in his convictions. While the Marxist and Capitalist ideologies have created havoc in the world, his ideas attuned to the Indian civilizational values shows us the path to be followed in future. We salute the great son of *Ma Bharati* on the occasion of his birth anniversary.



# BJP will form Telangana state within three months of coming to power: Sushma Swaraj

#### From Our Correspondent

he Andhra Pradesh Bharatiya Janata Party led by its President Shri G. Kishan Reddy, began a threeday fast seeking immediate tabling of the Bill for creation of a separate Telangana State, at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on September 03.

Addressing party activists on the concluding day of the dharna at Jantar Mantar from Andhra Pradesh and other parts of the country BJP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri LK Advani said that till the current Congress-led UPA Government in New Delhi stays in power, the demand for the creation of a separate Telangana State will go unheeded. Urging people of Telangana to vote for the BJP, the he said that the party will make the statehood issue its second most important objective if it came to power after the 2014 General Elections.

Addressing 3,000 BJP workers from Telangana and thousands of other Karyakartas on the statehood issue at Jantar Mantar, Shri Advani said, "There is no other alternative but to change the Government in New Delhi. People have to take a decision and trust the BJP which is serious on this issue and promises to form the State in its manifesto," he said.

Criticizing the Congress for not paying heed to the demand of Telangana for years, he said that in its election manifesto for 2004 General Election, Congress president Sonia Gandhi had promised creation of Telangana but the party betrayed the trust of the electors not just by forgetting their vow but even ditching the issue entirely in the run up to the 2009 parliamentary election. "In 2009, then Union Home Minister in Parliament

will come to power, the State of Telangana will certainly be formed," he assured.

Addressing the gathering, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj promised to form a separate State of Telangana within three months if it formed a Central



had promised for formation of separate State of Telangana but within 15 days, the Minister also backtracked. This shows their intention," he added.

He pointed out that Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh were carved out during the BJP regime under Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji's Prime Minister. "Due to opposition of some allies of NDA, demand for the creation of Telangana was not met then, but now, this will be given utmost priority. There is great acrimony among the people of Telangana. When BJP

government.

Smt. Swaraj said, "Within three months of BJP coming to power at the Centre, we will form the Telangana State."

Criticizing the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government for going back on its promise of carving out Telangana, she said: "Do not trust the Congress led UPA government anymore."

Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley also addressed the Karyakartas from Telangana at Jantar Mantar.

On September 04, thousands

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of BJP Karyakartas marched from Jantar Mantar towards the Prime Minister's residence demanding a separate State. On the instructions of the government authorities near outside the Parliament Street, Police Station the police used water cannons and tear gas shells on the peaceful demonstrators to quell them.

The police also stopped the BJP cadres led by BJP National Spokesperson Shri Prakash Javadekar outside the police station and even attempted to clash with them when the Karyakartas were protesting. The protesters also courted arrest and raising slogans against the Congress led UPA government. The protesters demanded the Centre to take immediate steps to form the separate State of Telangana.

BJP Andhra Pradesh President Shri G Kishan Reddy, who led the fast took serious exception to the use of force by the police against the party Karyakartas and said that the three-day agitation will likely to continue in the State and the party shall not have a second thought on its demand of a separate Telangana.

Earlier, on the first day of the *dharna* former BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh while inaugurating the stir said that BJP will create on separate Telangana State within six months if it came to power in the next poll at the Centre. He reminded the gathering that it was the BJP which had created new States like Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand. Hundreds of BJP Karyakartas from Andhra Pradesh and thousands from other parts of

the country assembled at the venue.

Shri Singh assured that BJP would wholeheartedly support if the present Congress led UPA government introduced a Bill on the formation of separate Telangana in Parliament. However, he charged that the Congress regime both at the Centre and the State was deceiving the people of Telangana with false promises.

On the demand for appointment of Second Reorganization Commission (SRC), for creation of smaller States, Shri Singh said though it was a welcome step, it was not necessary for creation of Telangana. The protestors also undertook a candle light march from India Gate in the evening pressing their demand.

BJP National General Secretary (Organization) Shri Ram Lal, BJP National Secretary Shri Murlidhar Rao, former Union Minister Shri Bandaru Dattareye, other senior leaders from Andhra Pradesh like Shri Ranjan Reddy, Shri Vidya Sagar Rao, Shri Indresen Reddy, Shri Manohar Reddy and Shri Ram Vaidre also addressed the gathering.

# ST Morcha Executive Meeting held in Nagpur

With an eye preparation of coming elections of Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha BJP SC Morcha organised its two-day national executive on August 25 & 26, 2012 in Nagpur,



Maharashtra. BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the executive meeting. The meeting was chaired by SC Morcha President Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste. The leaders who attended the meeting were BJP National General Secretary (Organization) Shri Ram Lal, BJP National General Secretary Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Morcha/Cell Co-ordinator Shri Mahendra Pandey,Co-ordinator - SC/ST Morcha Shri Bhagawat Sharan Mathura, Shri Dilip Kumar Singh Bhuria, MP Shri Nand Kumar Sai, former SC Morcha President Shri Anant Nayak, MP Shri Ram Singh Rathwa, MP Shri Natu Bhai Patel, SC Morcha National Secretary Shri Som Marandi, Shri Kankamal Katara and Shri Trilok Kapoor. The concluding session of the meeting was addressed by Shri Ram Lal. ■



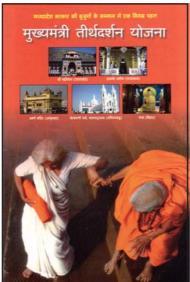
# BJP-ruled States should emulate Madhya Pradesh governance : Advani

From Our Correspondent

JP Parliamentary Party Chairman Shri LK Advani asked the States ruled by BJP and NDA to emulate BJP led Madhya Pradesh government in conceptualizing implementing public welfare initiatives. Addressing pilgrims before flagging off a special train to Rameshwaram at Habibganj railway station in Madhya Pradesh under the 'Teerth Darshan Scheme' Shri Advani said, "Teerth Darshan Scheme is a novel experiment after Ladli Laxmi Yojna by Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan. Other BIP-ruled States must continue to think on similar lines to prove that BJP-ruled States are working in a different manner," Shri Advani said.

Under the scheme, senior citizens who could not visit the holy places for lack of resources and are not tax payers, are eligible to visit the select pilgrimage spots at State's cost. On that occasion as many as 1000 senior citizens left for Rameshwaram in a special train booked by the State government.

Highlighting the importance of pilgrimage in one's life, Shri Advani recalled that when his family shifted to India from Pakistan, his grandmother wished to stay in Kashi following which his father saw to it that she spent sometime there. "In India, pilgrimage is an important aspect in one's life as people have a lot of faith even in





mountains, trees and rivers," he said. Hailing Shri Chouhan for the novel initiative, Shri LK Advani said the 'Ladli Laxmi Scheme' launched earlier by the

MP State government too was emulated by other State.

Speaking on the occasion Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said the BJP government has signed a MoU with the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC) to conduct the pilgrimage tours for senior citizens under the special scheme. The IRCTC will make all arrangements (boarding and lodging) for pilgrims. The Chief Minister said his government would run similar trains to religious places of all faiths. The second special train under the scheme would be flagged off for Aimer Sharif on September 13.

The Minister announced that senior citizens would also be covered under the Deendayal Antyodaya Upchar *Yojna*. Besides, they would also be provided assistance from Rajya Beemari Sahayata Yojna in case of serious illness. Old age homes would be opened in all the districts, which would be run by the States Government. A strict law would be implemented in the State under which a person ignoring parents would be punished with three months' imprisonment. He said a commission was considering schemes aimed at the welfare of senior citizens in the State.

Among others MP BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha, other senior leaders and thousands of people and Karyakartas were present on the occasion.

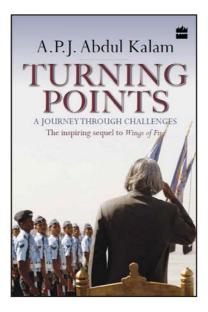


# 'Turning Points' - Kalam's vision of nation building By Vikash Anand

Turning Points: A Journey Through Challenges is an autobiography of Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam. In this book, Former President of India, Dr. API Abdul Kalam, has talked about his life from 1992 to 2012. This is a sequel of his previous book Wings of fire, where he had narrated his life-story till 1992. The "Missile man" as he is, fondly known, has spent most of his life in developing indigenous missile and launching vehicle technology. He played a pivotal organizational, technical and political role in India's Pokhran-II nuclear tests in 1998.

Both books Wings of Fire and Turning Points tells the story and vision of the man who started his life as a senior scientific assistant and moved up to the post of President of India. Turning point is less his biography and more of a blueprint for making India a developed country. It has fourteen chapters. Every chapter gives insight for making India a develop and prosperous nation.

In first chapter (When can I Sing a Song of India?) he talks about the last day of his presidency. The Second chapter entitled 'My Ninth Lecture At Anna University' discusses the story how and why he accepted Atalji's offer to become President of India. The reason, he has given, was to realize his 'India 20202 dream by putting forward his vision before the nation and the Parliament. Few months before he was offered to be the



Turning Points : A Journey through challenges

**Author:** APJ Abdul Kalam **Publisher:** HarperCollins

**Price :** Rs. 199 **Pages :** 182

Presidential candidate, he had left the post as principal scientific adviser to the government of India to return to teaching.

He writes " after lunch I prepared for next class....I returned to the room. ..... the phone was ringing. When I answered, a voice at the other end said, the prime minister wants to talk with you .... Now, as I spoke to the PM, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, my life was set for an unexpected change...... I said, Vajpayee ji, I consider this to be a very important mission....." (P.10,11, 12)

In the third chapter entitled

Seven Turning Points of My Life, he recalls the seven turning points of his life. Nuclear test in 1998 was his fourth turning point. He describes briefly the story behind the nuclear test in 1998. He also reveals that he declined the offer made by then Prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee to be a cabinet minister in his government in 1998. The revelation by Kalam also indicates how desperately Atalji wanted to make India a strong and developed country by utilizing the best brain. The fourth chapter entitled 'The interactive President' describes how he used the presidency to launch India 2020. Getting firsthand knowledge of the status of development in all states and union territories, he initiated inviting members of Parliament and Union Territories. For a stable government he stressed on the need to rapidly evolve into two-party system. Dr. Kalam in book appreciated Vajpayeeji's statement that every part of the administrative system must recognize the need for development and further the cause, which would enable an early realization of India's goals.

In Chapters four, five, seven, and eleven, he suggests the measures to make the Judiciary, Parliament, and Executive more efficient in their functioning. He describes ten pillars of development; five causes of delay in delivering justice by courts and nine suggestions to make them efficient; four points on meaning of development of



villages and some seventeen points for making our Parliament functional. He identifies three major areas for a developing country which must be focused are nanotechnology, e-governance and biodiesel.

In chapter 6 'Learning from Others' he writes 'I found Atalji was decisive in all his action while dealing with any national problem.'

The book includes a special chapter on his visit to Gujarat. He writes "Many apprehensions were expressed, among them that my visit might be boycotted by chief minister...... But to my great surprise when I landed at Gandhinagar, not only the chief minister, but his entire cabinet and a large number of legislators, officials and members of the public were present at the airport. Ι visited areas....Narendra Modi, the chief minister, was with me throughout the visit.... This helped me, as wherever I went, ....." (P.92,

He then writes on meaning of development of villages and has appreciated the uniqueness of Nanaji Deshmukh's creation of DRI (Deendayal Research Institute) and PURA(Providing Urban Amenities) in Chitrakoot.

In the complain mode in thirteenth chapter (Controversial Decisions), he mentions about a specific incident of the return of the Office of Profit Bill. The incident took place under UPA-I. He writes that the return of office of profit Bill clearly establishes how at the parliamentary level, practices that can't meet the standards of public probity are not debated and reviewed with seriousness they deserve. Mr. Kalam found the office of profit Bill passed by parliament had many anomalies. He stated in the book "I only understood the meaning of profit or gift as stated in Manu Smriti: 'By accepting gifts, the divine light in the person gets extinguished..."(P.131)

Every page of the biography narrates the vision of nation building as he had devoted and is devoting every second of his life for the well being of the nation.

### Continued from page 11...

CVC went only after the small fish – the big fish always escaped."

He adds:

I coined a new version of an old shloka which says in Sanskrit that even God favours the stronger ones:

Ashwam naiva, gajam naiva,

Vyagram naiva cha naiva cha

Ajaputram balim dadyat

Devan durbala ghatakaha

In our pujas, we make offerings to gods. In the case of vegetarian gods, there is no problem. But in the case of non-vegetarian gods, which animals can we sacrifice? We cannot offer a horse because only chakravartis (emperors) can perform the Ashwamedha Yagya, the horse sacrifice. Not an elephant. Nor a tiger. In fact, the tiger may make a sacrifice of us! Naturally all that is sacrificed is the weak goat. Even the English word 'scapegoat' refers to that animal. My parody was as follows:

Secretary naiva, chairman naiva

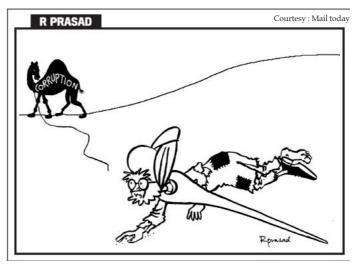
Minister naiva cha, naiva cha

LDC balim dadhatu

CVC durbala ghatakaha!

(It is not the Secretary to the Government or the chairman of an organization who is sacrificed. The minister is like the tiger; never is he punished. The CVC punishes only the poor lower division clerk (LDC)!')

As already mentioned, the perception was that the CVC only acted against the lower rungs in the government. In fact, the CVC's jurisdiction relates to senior levels, Group A or Class I officers, while public servants of Groups B, C and D are handled by the respective department themselves.



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# Kamal Sandesh

### ODISHA

# State BJYM plans massive 'Gaddi Chhodo' campaign against BJD government

The three-day training camp and State Executive Meeting of the State BJP Yuva Morcha was inaugurated by BJP State President Shri Juel



Oram on August 24 at Gopalpur-on-Sea near Berhampur city. It was attended by hundreds of delegates from all over the State.

Addressing the Karyakartas Shri Juel Oram said that the country is passing through a phase of turmoil. The Congress led UPA government at the Centre and the Naveen Patnaik led BJD government at the State have ruined the country by rampant corruption. Through the coal scam, 2G scam, Adarsh Scam, Anthrax and Devas Scam and CWG scam the UPA government has looted the Country. On the other hand the BJD government has involved in the mines scam, Dal Scam, land scam etc. and looted the State. For money these governments reduced to such a level that is unimaginable. He said BJP will surely expose the corrupt faces involved in these scams before the nation and the BJYM can play a vital role in it.

Addressing the concluding session BJYM National President Shri Anurag Thakur said, the BJP Yuva Morcha Karyakartas will take up 'Gaddi Chhodo' (give up power) agitation against the Naveen Patnaik led BJD government in Odisha soon. "Our 'Gaddi Chhodo' movement will also target the Congress led UPA government at the Centre," Shri Thakur said.

State BJYM President Shri Bhibhuti Bhusan Jena said the Yuva Morcha would play a key role in bringing down the 'corrupt' Naveen Patnaik government in the State and the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre in the next elections. "In Odisha our targets will be both the BJD and the Congress," Shri Jena added. Elaborating the future plans of the agitation he said from September 01, the party would launch a massive signature campaign against corruption in the State and at the Centre. The signature campaign would

continue for 15 days.

The BJYM State General Secretary Shri Umakant Patnaik said, "During this period we will try to educate the common people regarding the corruption and misappropriation worth crores of rupees by the BJD and Congress led UPA in the State and at the Centre". He said after the signature campaign, the Yuva Morcha would take

up massive protest programmes throughout the State to urge voters to defeat the BJD as well as the Congress in the coming elections.

Among others former BJP State President Shri Suresh Pujari, BJP senior leader Shri Biswabhusan Harichandan, State BJP General Secretary Shri Debanand Mahaptro, National BJYM Vice-President Shri Bhrigu Baxipatra, National BJYM General Secretary Shri Manoranjan Misra and thousands of Karyakartas and Office Bearers were present on this occasion.

### MADHYA PRADESH

## Follow the ideals of Vivekananda, Shivraj Singh Chouhan tells youth

Youth should contribute to making the State a golden State by following the ideals of Swami Vivekananda. Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said this at the conclusion of the BJYM's Bike Rally to commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda at Rewa.

Shri Chouhan said that youths should take the country on the path of progress by facing adverse situation with a firm conviction. Referring to personalities and deeds of great persons who made sacrifices for the country's independence, the Chief Minister exhorted the youths to draw



inspiration from their lives. He said that efforts would be made to make jobs available to local youths in industrial units being set up in Vindhya region.

On the occasion the Chief Minister said 'higher education loan scheme' had been launched in the State for the benefit of unemployed educated youths. Beneficiaries would have to repay only the principal amount leaving the interest to be paid by the State Government.

He said exhorted all parents in Rewa division to send their children to schools regularly. Shri Chouhan also said that a bonus of Rs 100 for each quintal of paddy would be given in the State. Power would be made available for 24 hours in villages of Vindhya region from 2013 onwards, he said.

The Chief Minister also administered a pledge to them to follow the ideals of Swami Vivekananda. He felicitated State Seed Development Corporation vice chairman Kamleshwar Singh with Vivekananda Youth Award.

Expressing happiness over the success of the rally State BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha pulled up the Congress-led UPA Government at the Centre for huge scams every now and then. Shri Jha said, "The report of Comptroller and Auditor General has exposed the biggest scam this country has ever seen."

He further said that coal blocks were allocated when the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh himself held the coal portfolio which is a matter of serious concern and suspicion. He criticized the Union Finance Minister for misleading the country by fathoming a false "theory of zero loss".

BJP National General Secretary and BJYM incharge Shri Dharmendra Pradhan said politics in the country was at a complicated turn. Congress party-led governments had exploited the country for the last 65 years and those regions were still under-developed which was governed by Congress governments'. The State government had only one motive and that was to bring the poor people forward and to merge them in the mainstream, he said.

Among others BJP National General Secretary Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Minister of State for Energy and Mineral Resources (independent charge) Shri Rajendra Shukla, and others also addressed the function.

### JHARKHAND

# Panchayati Raj institutions playing active role in execution of development schemes: Munda

Holding a high-level review meeting with senior officials of the State Government along with all Deputy Commissioners of Jharkhand, Chief Minister Shri Arjun Munda instructed the officials to review the agricultural scenario in the State by interacting with rural representatives at the village, block and district levels.

During the review the CM gave a clear instruction that no delay should take place in providing relief to farmers through National Crop Insurance scheme.

The CM expressed deep concerns on non-existence of School Management Committees. He ordered to form the committees soon and conduct close monitoring of their functioning at the district level. Stressing on the role of Panchayats in the field of education, he instructed for the decentralization of education committee. The CM also took stock of free book distribution, school building construction etc, under the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan*.

Shri Munda said that district-level plans and schemes have a significant role in the overall development of the State. "This is the first year of the Five Year plan. While assessing the situation post five years, it must be reviewed what is our pace of development.

It is important to identify the weak areas and provide momentum to those. We have to lay emphasis on institutional development vis-a-vis skill development. The beginning of any work is vital as the result is dependent on it," Shri Munda said.

The CM said that Panchayati Raj institutions had started working in the State and they have a very important role in the execution of schemes. "We have to stress on the fact that Panchayati Raj institutions play an active role in execution of development schemes in the State. Local Panchayats, District council members and DCs should hold frequent meetings so that their ideas come forward for effective implementation of plans".