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Fortnightly Magazine

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BJP Parliamentary Party chairman Shri L.K. Advani alongwith the Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and other senior BJP leaders addressing the media after submitting a memo to the President on the appointment of Lokayukta by Gujarat Governor

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“That terrorists could strike in the very heart of the seat of power of the central government with impunity is a serious matter and has exposed the tall claims of Delhi Police and the intelligence agencies about the safety of the national capital.”

—Nitin Gadkari

“All norms were ignored by the Gujarat Governor like consultation with the Chief Minister before the appointment of Lokayukta or taking the advice of his Cabinet on the issue. It is a very serious matter and we condemn it. It is an attack on the federal structure of the country.”

—L.K Advani

“The Government needs to ensure remunerative prices to farmers and it should implement the MS Swaminathan report to resolve the issues facing the farmers of the country.”

—Rajnath Singh

Letter to the Editor...



Loktantra bachao divas made a pleasant reading

Dear Editor,

I have been receiving the fortnightly Kamal Sandesh regularly and it has become one of my habits to read this journal which reflects the views and the news of Bhartiya Janata Party and about the innovative programmes initiated by the BJP ruled States. I read a report on 'LOKTANTRA BACHAO DIVAS observed' in Kamal Sandesh. It made me recall dark days of emergency imposed on the nation by the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi to curb the fundamental rights of the people of India. Remembering with utter disgust and horror, the days of emergency (1975-77) in a programme organized by BJP, it was heartening to note that brave workers who suffered during emergency were honoured. It made a pleasant reading. I am requesting more such articles in the days to come.

Himadri K. Chudhari
24-Paragana Circle



Articles invited

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

-Prabhat Jha, Editor

Write to us

The Editor,



We welcome

Your views & Suggestions

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Repression will not silence the voice of democracy

Editorial...

On 25th June 1975 the then Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi declared emergency to unleash repression on the country. She too might have thought that the democracy will prefer its voice to be choked than to embrace death. But she forgot that democracy was in the very nature of India. It is inscribed in the spirit and soul of India. Democracy is present in the character and nature of its people. When the character and nature of India were attacked, the people chose to respond silently. The 19 month repression was responded to by a non-violent movement. Indiraji and Congress both were completely decimated. Democracy was again thriving. It was smiling. It was proud of its defenders. Democracy had emerged as the symbol of the rule by the people. All opposition parties had joined hands with each other. We cannot survive without democracy. It is a fact known to Smt. Sonia Gandhi and Dr. Manmohan Singh as well. Even in the face of such facts, the events that are taking place in the country for the last two years are not only shameful but an assault on the democracy. The most recent example is the appointment of Lokayukta in Gujarat without the knowledge of the chief minister or consent of the council of ministers. What is going on? Now all those things are taking place in the country which had not happened before? What had happened during the appointment of CVC? Will the governors act as if they are members of Congress Working Committee? After all why Kalmadi is in jail? Was the 2G scam done by the ones in the jail on their own?

Adarsh scam is exposing the 'adarsh' for which Congress stands. Have Smt. Sonia Gandhi and Dr. Manmohan Singh emerged as new symbols of corruption? Is the country not passing through a difficult phase? The situation is that the government doesn't want to listen to anyone. It is doing whatever it chooses to do. The power has taken over their senses. The Congress having the culture of 'Yuvaraj' and 'Maharaj' is now dependent on the crutches of a single family. Although the Congress is not ashamed of itself but the country is feeling ashamed of its misdeeds.

The Congress in pursuance of its vendetta politics is targeting the opposition leaders. From the attempt to tarnish the image of social activist Anna Hazare to Baba Ramdev and their supporters, Congress is habitually conspiring to crush the governments in BJP ruled States. Congress is repeatedly making mistakes. The Congress which is itself neck deep in corruption is trying to attack opposition leaders. Perhaps, Smt. Sonia Gandhi has not taken lessons from the history - when the country could not be deterred by emergency then how the people can be stopped now? The Indian democracy is mature now. It has faced many challenges and came out with shining colours.

Today, a united and collective struggle is required. For it we will have to rise above our partisan politics. The Congress which had waged struggle against the British is today on its death bed and certain vested interests by advising the Congress to resort to falsehood, repression and terror paving way for its ultimate demise. The democracy can only give the warning signals. We are trying to give that signal to the Congress.

Congress should not repeat the mistakes committed by Indiraji in 1975. When the nation had responded so strongly against Indiraji, it may only be guessed now as to how it will respond to Smt. Sonia Gandhi and her 'Amul Baby'. ■

An attack on the federal structure of the country : Advani

From Our Correspondent



BJP Parliamentary party Chairman Shri L K Advani on August 30, 2011 led BJP MPs from Gujarat protested outside Parliament House against the appointment of Lokayukta in the state by the Governor without consulting the Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the State government and demanded her immediate removal for bypassing established norms.

Shri Advani, Shri Haren Pathak and around 15 other BJP MPs from Gujarat protested at the Gandhi statue in Parliament complex against the appointment of R A Mehta as the Lokayukta by Governor Kamla Beniwal.

The MPs shouted slogans against the Governor demanding her recall. Some of them held placards saying, “Dual policy on Gujarat will not be tolerated”, “Recall Gujarat governor”, “murder of democracy” and “Rajyapal Bhawan has become Congress Bhawan (Governor’s House has become Congress Bhawan).

Interacting with media persons Shri Advani said, “All norms were ignored by the Governor like consultation with the Chief Minister before the appointment or taking the advice of his Cabinet on the issue. He said it is a very serious matter and we condemn it. It is an attack on the federal structure of the country. It has never happened before.”

It is note worthy that in an unprecedented move, the Gujarat Governor appointed Retd. Justice R A Mehta as Lokayukta of the State, bypassing the State government.

Meanwhile, the State government challenged the appointment to the Lokayukta post before the state High Court contending it was “unconstitutional and unilateral”.

Against this autocratic move of the Gujarat Governor, BJP also submitted a memorandum to the President of India demanding the immediate recall of the Governor. ▶▶

BJP Memo to President regarding appointment of Lokayukta

BJP urges President to recall Governor

Mahamahim Rashtrapati ji,

We are constrained to bring to your notice the gross Constitutional improprieties committed by the Governor of Gujarat while appointing the Lokayukta of the State vide notification dated 26th August, 2011. The Governor has taken the decision to appoint Justice R A Mehta as Lokayukta without the aid and advice of the elected Government of the State as mandated by Article 163 of the Constitution. This exercise of power by the Governor is a gross violation of the Constitutional provisions and as the facts outlined hereinafter would clearly demonstrate, has caused an irreparable damage to the federal polity of this country. As is stipulated in the Constitution of India, the Governor is appointed by the President on the aid and advice of the Union Council of Ministers. In actual practice, a Governor is the nominee of the Union Government who holds the Constitutional Office and administers the functions assigned to the post. The Governor, except in certain functions, is bound by the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers of the State and cannot act on his/her own.

2. The State of Gujarat has been without a Lokayukta for a number of years. After consulting the Hon'ble Leader of Opposition in the State Assembly and after obtaining due consent of the Hon'ble



Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court, the State Government in 2006 advised to the Governor to appoint Justice (Retd.) Kshitij R. Vyas as Lokayukta of the State.

3. Under Section 3(1) of the Gujarat Lokayukta Act, the Governor can appoint a Lokayukta in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court and in consultation with the Leader of Opposition of the State Assembly. The intention of the Law is not to exclude the Chief Minister of the State as, in accordance with Article 163 of the Constitution of India, the Chief Minister consults the Chief Justice and the Leader of Opposition

and makes recommendation to the Governor. The Governor being the Executive Head of the State, appoints the Lokayukta.

4. From 2006 till 2009 the issue of appointment of the Lokayukta, as above, remained dormant as the Governor refrained from taking the necessary step. The political motive of the Congress party, the dominant party in the ruling coalition at the Centre, became apparent when the Maharashtra Government, where also the Congress Party is the leading partner in the coalition government, recommended Justice Vyas to be appointed as the Chairman of Human Rights Commission, Maharashtra. This move by the Congress led Government in Maharashtra was mischievously orchestrated by the Congress high command only to enable the Governor of Gujarat who had for three long years held back the file relating to appointment of Justice Vyas as Lokayukta, to return the file back on 2nd October, 2009 to Gujarat Government and seek an alternate appointment.

5. Thereafter, the Government of Gujarat started de novo the process of consultation and on that basis recommended the names of four retired Judges to the Gujarat High Court. However, in this occasion, the endeavour of the State Government to consult the Leader of Opposition in the State Assembly failed as he chose to abstain from all the five meetings convened for this purpose. Repeated attempts were made to consult the Hon'ble Leader of Opposition but he refused to be consulted in this regard and finally responded on 5th March, 2010 suggesting that he would not give his opinion to the Chief Minister but would only speak to the Governor. While the Leader of Opposition made

all-out efforts to thwart a Constitutional process, the Governor, who is expected to rise above party politics and act in a bipartisan manner, instead chose to play ball in accordance with the diktats of the Congress party and in the process trampled upon well established democratic conventions and constitutional norms. The Governor, in utter violation of the Constitutional mandate, tried to usurp the powers conferred on the Council of Ministers headed by the Chief Minister by even making efforts to hold consultation meetings directly with the Chief Minister and the Leader of Opposition.

6. Finally, from amongst the names recommended by the Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court, the State Government recommended the appointment of Justice (Retd.) J.R. Vohra as the State Lokayukta to the Governor. But the Governor returned the file on the ground that the Chief Justice of the High Court had sent a panel of names from amongst which the State Government selected one name. The Governor insisted that the Chief Justice of the High Court should send only one name.

7. The Chief Justice, meanwhile, appointed Justice (Retd.) J R Vohra as the Chairman of the Judicial Academy in Gujarat, thus, is pre-empting the possibility of his appointment to the office of the State Lokayukta.

8. Thereafter, Chief Justice sent the name of Justice S D Dave, a retired and ageing Judge, who informed his unwillingness to be appointed as Lokayukta.

9. On 7th June, 2011 the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court suo-motto recommended a new name, Justice (Retd.) R A Mehta, to the Chief Minister wanting him to be appointed as Lokayukta albeit the State Government did not seek consultation with the Chief Justice on the said name. The State Government informed the Chief Justice its inability to accept the name of Justice Mehta for appointment as Lokayukta mainly because his prejudice against the State Government stood demonstrated by his active participation in the campaigns since his retirement as a Judge.

10. Obviously, the Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court ought never to have recommended a person with manifest prejudice against the incumbent Government to function as Lokayukta, a position which warrants fairness and impartiality as the pre-requisite for eligibility. In any case, the Chief Justice is not entitled to recommend a name without the State Government initiating the process nor the Governor can exercise the power of appointing a Lokayukta without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers.

11. Instead of intervening in the matter and stopping such an unconstitutional process of appointment, the Governor has gone ahead and on 26th August, 2011 notified the appointment of Justice (Retd.) R A Mehta as Lokayukta. The entire federal polity of India stands shaken by the fact that Governor has chosen to exercise power to appoint the Lokayukta without consultation with the State Government and moreover, has unilaterally chosen a person who has been a political opponent of the State Government, to be notified for appointment as Lokayukta. Such a malafide act of the Governor has raised serious apprehension in the minds of the people of the State about the malicious objective of the Central Government vis-à-vis the popular elected Government of State.

Under the circumstances, we most humbly urge upon your Excellency to intervene in the matter and redeem the Constitution and prevent the assault on the federal character of our polity for which it is imperative that the Governor who has failed to discharge her duties in a bipartisan manner be immediately recalled. The facts narrated above show the Governor has brought serious disrepute to the high constitutional status attached to the office of the Governor and her continuance would only further demean and denigrate this august office. We urge you to act with expedition in the interest of preserving the federal balance of our Nation as per the Constitution, which has provided safeguards against undue interference by the Centre in the affairs of the State by manipulating through the office of Governor. We further urge you to cancel the appointment of Justice (Retd.) R A Mehta as it is in contravention of the provisions of the Constitution of India.

Yours sincerely,

(L.K. ADVANI)

(GOPINATH MUNDE)

(SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(S.S. AHLUWALIA)

(ARUN JAITLEY)

Recall Governor of Gujarat immediately

The appointment of Lokayukta by Gujarat Governor without consulting the chief Minister and Council of Ministers is an assault on the federal structure of the constitution. The action of the Governor completely undermines the provisions of constitution and infringes on the jurisdiction of the elected government of the State. We are publishing the joint statement of Leaders of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley below.

The Governor of Gujarat has violated the Constitution of India and its federal character. The Governor is appointed by the President on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers. In actual practice a Governor now is the nominee of the Central Government who holds the constitutional office and administers the functions assigned to the post. The Governor, except in certain functions, is bound by the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers and cannot act on his/her own.

The State of Gujarat has been without a Lokayukta for a number of years. After consulting the Leader of Opposition and after obtaining the consent of the Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court, the State in 2006 advised to the Governor to appoint Justice Kshitij R. Vyas (Retd) as Lokayukta of the State. Under section 3(1) of the Gujrat Lokayukta Act, the Governor can appoint a Lokayukta in consultation with the Chief justice of the High Court and in consultation with the Leader of Opposition of the State Assembly. The intention of the law is not to exclude the Chief Minister of the State. In accordance with Article 163, the Chief Minister consults the Chief justice and the Leader of Opposition and makes recommendation to the Governor. The Governor being the Executive head of the State appoints the Lokayukta. From 2006 to 2009 not much happened except routine correspondence between the State Government and the Governor. The political motive of the Congress party became apparent when Justice Vyas, a retired judge of Gujarat High Court was recommended by the Maharashtra Government to be appointed as the Chairman of Human Rights Commission, Maharashtra so as to enable the Governor who had held the file for three years and returned the

file on 2.10.2009 to seek an alternate appointment.

Thereafter, the State Government started the process of consultation once again and on that basis recommended the names of four retired Judges to the Gujarat High Court. The State Government tried consulting the leader of opposition who



abstained from consultation meetings. Accordingly, from amongst the names recommended by the Chief justice of Gujarat High Court the State Government recommended the appointment of Justice J.R. Vohra, a retired judge of Gujarat High Court as Lokayukta. Repeated attempts were made to consult the leader of Opposition but he refused to be consulted. The leader of opposition abstained from as many as five meetings. He ultimately took a view on 5/3/2010 that he will not give his opinion to the Chief Minister but will speak only to the Governor. The executive role was now being assigned to the Governor rather than the Governor acting on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers. The Governor even made efforts to hold consultation meetings directly with the Chief minister and the Leader of Opposition, something which was

beyond the mandate of the Governor. Finally, the name of justice J.R. Vohra was recommended to the Governor who returned the file on the ground that the Chief Justice of the High Court had sent a panel of names from amongst which the State Government had selected one name. The Governor insisted that the Chief justice of the High Court should send only one name. The Chief Justice meanwhile appointed

Justice J.R. Vohra as the Chairman of the Judicial Academy in Gujarat making him unavailable for LokAyukta.

There was obviously something more than what meets the eye. The Chief Justice now sent the name of Justice S.D. Dave, a retired and ageing judge. Unfortunately, Justice Dave withdrew his name and did not want to be so appointed.

On 7th June, 2011 the Chief justice of the High Court suo

motto recommended a new name to the Chief Minister wanting the same to be appointed. The person recommended was Justice R.A. Mehta. The State Government had not sought the consultation of the Chief Justice on this name. The Leader of Opposition unilaterally through a statement made in the State Assembly, supported the proposal of the Chief Justice. The State Government pointed out to the Honourable Chief justice that Justice R.A. Mehta was not acceptable as Lokayukta of Gujarat on several grounds. He had since retirement been an active campaigner on various issues against the State Government. He had publicly criticized the State Government in the matter relating to the management of the Narmada project. He had petitioned to the National Human Rights Commission against the State Government in the year 2002. The Jan Sangharsh Manch, an activist group, had been suggesting the name of Justice R.A. Mehta as a judge to hold inquiry in to the riots of 2002. He had publicly spoken on functions criticizing the policy of the State Government in relation to the victims of riots of 2002 and had been actively participating and making statements. Recently he was an activist in Citizens movement in Gujarat.

Obviously, the Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court ought never to have recommended such a name. He should have only given his opinion on the name/names suggested by the State Government. Regrettably, the Governor without consulting the State Government, on 25/8/2011

Narendra Modi writes to PM, demands recall of governor

Writing a letter to the prime minister Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi termed Mehta's appointment as made without the advice of the council of ministers and in collusion with the leader of the opposition. He said the governor of Gujarat has wrongly appropriated the function of the duly elected state government, which is a major subversion of the constitution, and appointed a person who has been participating in quasi-political activities and campaigning against the State government. He demanded immediate removal of the State Governor.

Clarifying the stand of the state government the letter stated that the state government had initiated the process of appointing Lokayukta way back in 2006. After consulting the Leader of Opposition and obtaining consent of the Chief Justice, the State Government advised the Governor to appoint Justice Kshitiji R. Vyas (Retd.) as Lokayukta. From 2006 to 2009, not much happened except routine correspondence between State Government and the Governor," the letter recalled.

It pointed out in 2009, when Justice Vyas was appointed as Chairman of Human Rights Commission in Maharashtra, the Governor after a lapse of three years returned the file on Oct 2, 2009, asking for an alternate appointment. Later, the name of retired Justice J.R. Vohra was suggested and thereafter that of Justice S.D. Dave, who withdrew and did not want to be appointed

Citing precedents in other states, the letter pointed out that the Article 163 of the Constitution is over and above Section 3 of the Lokayukta Act, 1986. The provision of any act does not have a supremacy over provisions in the Constitution of India. In the same way, Lokayukta Act, 1986, is giving power to the Governor under Section 3 of the Lokayukta Act but at the same time, the Governor has to work on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers as laid down in Article 163 of the Constitution," the letter pointed out.

has notified the appointment of Justice R.A. Mehta as Lokayukta of Gujarat.

The whole credibility of the institution of Lokayukta in the State has been eroded by such an appointment. A Lokayukta must be politically detached; he must not be a political activist. Such a name should never have been recommended in the first instance. In any case the Chief justice is not entitled to recommend a name without the State Government initiating the process. Additionally, the Governor cannot exercise the power of appointing a Lokayukta without the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers.

The entire federal polity of India stands shaken by the fact that a person who has been a political opponent of the State Government is notified for appointment as Lokayukta without the consent of the State Government. We request your Excellency to intervene in the matter and ensure that the Government of India and the Governor of Gujarat immediately comply with the constitutional requirements and undo the appointment of Justice R.A. Mehta. A Lokayukta appointed in this manner will not carry credibility besides being constitutionally incompatible. The BJP demands that the Governor of Gujarat be recalled immediately. ■

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Lokayukta must in every State : Gadkari



Over the appointment of Gujarat Lokayukta, BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said that the Congress has been indulging in “unconstitutional and undemocratic activities” and the latest move is another attempt to malign the democratically-elected Government in the state. Citing the provisions of the Constitution that the Governor of the State is bound to help and advice the Council of Ministers, Shri Gadkari said that the stand of the BJP is evident: there must be Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayukta in every State. Shri Nitin Gadkari was speaking at a seminar on ‘Appointment of Lokayukta in Gujarat, an attack on Federalism’ at the Constitution Club in New Delhi. The meet was organised by the ‘Lokmat’ organisation. Present on the occasion were JD(U) chief and Lok Sabha MP Shri Sharad Yadav, eminent lawyer and MP Shri Ram Jethmalani and constitutional expert Shri Subhash Kashyap. The function was presided over by BJP National General Secretary Shri Vijay Goel. Shri Nitin Gadkari said, “Since 2006, the Gujarat Government recommended names of three retired judges, including Justice KR Vyas, Justice JR Vohra and Justice SD Dave, on various occasions to be appointed as Lokayukta of the State after consulting the Leader of Opposition and Chief Justice Gujarat High Court. But no decision was taken and the files kept gathering dust in the Raj Bhavan for an unreasonable period. What were the constitutional hurdles, the mystery should be cleared before the people of the country”. Questioning the credibility of Gujarat Governor Kamla Beniwal, Shri Gadkari asked whether the suo motu decision taken by Smt. Beniwal was in accordance with the formation of the federal system of the country. He said, this episode was not the first occasion when the Congress had violated the spirit of the Constitution. He said since Emergency to Ramlila Maidan (Ramdev incident), it had been indulging in unconstitutional activities. In his address, JD(U) chief and Lok Sabha MP Shri Sharad Yadav said democracy is a very sensitive plant which is nurtured with dignity and balance. But after every four-six months, the Union Government loses its balance and crosses its limits. Be it the case of Karnataka, Bihar, and Andhra Pradesh or now in Gujarat,” he said. ■

Congress must end the 'politics of vendetta': Gadkari

From Our Correspondent

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari, on September 04 sought Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh's personal intervention to end the 'politics of vendetta' against the members of Team Anna and Yoga guru Baba Ramdev.

While members of Team Anna have received notices of breach of Parliament's privilege, Enforcement Directorate has registered case of FEMA violation

against Baba Ramdev. At the same time Team Anna's leader Arvind Kejriwal a former IRS officer, has been slapped an income tax notice to refund Rs 9 lakh for allegedly violating service norms.

He said the time of action against Team Anna and Baba Ramdev have raised many eyebrows. Shri Gadkari reminded the PM that Government agencies have also launched a similar sinister campaign against the RSS, Shri Narendra Modi, whistle blowers of cash-for-vote scandal, and late YSR Reddy's son Jaganmohan Reddy in Andhra Pradesh, who recently walked out of Congress to float his own party.

Shri Gadkari wrote in his letter to the PM that, "All this,

we are afraid, may lead to confrontation rather than reconciliation. What is all the more worrisome is the fact that such strong arm tactics and high handed actions of your Government are vitiating the political atmosphere in the



country which is dangerous for a healthy democracy. Besides, such cheap tactics of your government are adding to the misperceptions about the entire political class, causing a great

damage to the popular trust in democratic polity".

Equating the with-hunt against opposition parties and leaders with the similar action during emergency days, Shri Gadkari said the PM that various central agencies like the CBI,

Enforcement Directorate, Income tax Department and Revenue Intelligence were unabashedly misused by his government to harass those voicing dissent against the establishment, whether belonging to the RSS, Gandhian and Sarvodaya organizations, or other independent associations.

"Undoubtedly, law must take its own course in the cases of all those who are guilty. What disturbs all those who are committed to the principles of democracy and rule of law is the fact that law is taking its course only selectively and after dissent is articulated," Shri Gadkari wrote in his letter to the PM.

He also regretted that these painful developments have come at a time when the opposition extended every cooperation to the government in finding out a solution to end the impasse caused by the 12-day fast by Hazare in Delhi. ■

'War is not yet over', says Gadkari

Issuing a press statement, BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari said, "I am glad that Shri Anna Hazare has ended his 12-day fast this morning. The entire nation has heaved a sigh of relief. Thank God Anna's life has been saved." He added, "We pray for his long and healthy life so that he can accomplish his dream of a corruption free India. It is a historic moment for all of us who have been in the forefront of the crusade against corruption. I on my personal behalf and on behalf of the BJP congratulate Shri Anna Hazare on his successful campaign against corruption. I join the countrymen in rejoicing Anna's victory. It is a victory of democracy. People of India have won a decisive battle against corruption through peaceful means. But the war is not yet over." ■

I fail to understand why the Government backtracked : Sushma

The Lok Sabha discussed the issue of Lokpal to take the sense of the house on 27th August. While terming the discussion as historical Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj said that time had come to show commitment and bring strong legislation which can effectively fight corruption. We are publishing the synopsis of her speech below.

Today a historical discussion is going on in the House. The Lok Pal Bill introduced in the House by the Government on 4th August, 2011 is not the first Lok Pal Bill. The

Lok Pal Bill has been introduced in the House for the 9th time. For the last 43 years this Bill has been kept in abeyance. This Bill has been introduced for the first time during the seven year's long tenure of the UPA. For the first time, Anna Hazare ji has taken this Bill to the people in the shape of a Jan Lok Pal Bill movement. It has turned into a public movement and it is not that this public movement does not have any rhyme and reason. The reason behind this movement is the corruption cases which came to light during the last two years. The people are agitated as on one hand they find it difficult to make ends meet while on the other persons holding high posts and positions are amassing wealth. The Government, under which the corruption is going on, claim to wipe out corruption.

So, let them show that commitment and bring such a Bill which can fight corruption. Is the Government really



committed to root out corruption? Today, the fast of Anna ji has entered 12th day. The 74 years old man is struggling and people are supporting him. The situation is abnormal. To find a way out, the hon. Prime Minister called on an all party meeting at his residence. There should have been a solution emerging out from the all party meeting but things turned turtle. Later on, the hon. Prime Minister took on initiative and applauded the efforts of Anna ji and assured

him that an effective and strong Lok Pal Bill would be introduced. The next day the Government was supposed to bring forth some Motion or Resolution. However, I fail to understand why the Government backtracked? In fact, the Government was trying to find out such which does not make it commit anything and on a notice under Rule 193 given by some hon.

Member, the discussion could be conducted, thus performing mere rituals. But the General Secretary of the Congress Party washed out the statesmanship shown by the Hon. Prime Minister in this House a day before. I am happy that the hon. Prime Minister has taken the reins once again in his hands. The hon. Leader of the House in his statement today has put forth all the three issues before this House and has asked to find out some solution within the constitutional and parliamentary framework. For the last many days, we have been demanding that an effective and independent Lok Pal Bill should

be introduced. But what would be its outlines? The first issue to make it effective is whether the Prime Minister would be under its purview or not? The Prime Minister should be brought under the purview of the Lok Pal with two exceptions - The national security and public order. These are the two issues on which the Prime Minister has to do a lot of things and which cannot be brought under public domain in the public interest. Secondly, whether the Judiciary should be brought under the Lok Pal or not? The judge sitting in the seat of judgement is like the God but if he becomes corrupt then what should be done? Bringing the judges under the Lok Pal is not the solution to the problem. Instead of bringing the Judiciary under the Lok Pal, a National Judicial Commission should be setup which has to formulate the modalities of appointment and retirement of judges and there should be such a Judiciary in the country on which no question can be raised. Third, issue relates to the CBI. As per the Jan Lok Pal Bill, the anti corruption wing of the CBI should be brought under the Lok Pal. We have been urging for long that the CBI should be an autonomous institution. The CBI should be an independent body and if the Jan Lok Pal wants that its anti-corruption wing should come under it, we are agreed to that. Article 105 of the Constitution provides certain immunities to the Members for their conduct inside the House. That immunity should be maintained. As far as our conduct outside the House is concerned, we are ordinary citizens of the country. So, if our

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Today is a historical day. Our generation has suffered a lot because of corruption but we do not want that our future generation should also suffer the same. So, the history has given us a chance today and we cannot afford to miss it. Today the entire country is agitating on the issue of corruption and is looking forward to us. Therefore, we should ensure that this Bill also does not meet the same fate which the earlier eight Bills had met.

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conduct outside the House comes within the purview of Lok Pal, we don't have any objection. As far as constitution of Lok Pal is concerned, it should have less Members from Government side and more from outside. Only then it can become an independent and impartial body. So, it needs to be kept in mind a balance should be struck at the time of its constitution. The Leader of the House has raised three points in his statement. The first is whether it is possible to constitute a Lok Pal and Lokayukta under one Act. Article 252 of the Constitution gives this power to us that through an enabling provision Lok Sabha can frame such a law with the consent of two or more states which can be adopted by other states later on. Thus we can constitute Lok Pal and Lokayukta through a single bill.

As for Grievance Redressal Mechanism, many states have enacted effective Public Service Guarantee Act. The Central Government and all other State Governments could enact such Act on the same lines. Besides, Citizens Charter should also be put in place in all the Government Departments. The third point relates to the lower bureaucracy. The common man is not so much bothered about the corruption at high places because it does not have a direct bearing on him but he does feel a strong sense of anger against it. The common man is harassed by the officer at lower level. Therefore, he feels that the present Jan Lok Pal Bill will arm him against such officers. That is why our party feels that lower judiciary should also be brought under the Jan Lok Pal Bill. Hence, I hereby register the consent of my party on all the three points raised by the hon. Leader of the House. Today is a historical day. Our generation has suffered a lot because of corruption but we do not want that our future generation should also suffer the same. So, the history has given us a chance today and we cannot afford to miss it. Today the entire country is agitating on the issue of corruption and is looking forward to us. Therefore, we should ensure that this Bill also does not meet the same fate which the earlier eight Bills had met. So, a strong message should reach the Government today through this august House that an effective and a strong and independent Lok Pal should be constituted to root out the widespread corruption prevailing in the country. ■

## Our great sense of resilience is a great strength of our democracy : Arun Jaitley



*The Rajya Sabha discussed the issues related to creation of Lokpal on 27 August 2011 in the wake of the movement led by Shri Anna Hazare. Speaking on the occasion Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley while emphasising on the role and importance of Lokpal in the centre and Lokayukta in States strongly supported the need for constitution of an effective law to create the institution of Lokpal. We are publishing the synopsis of his speech for our esteemed readers :*

We have just heard a detailed statement from Finance Minister on the entire background of the negotiations. We have also just witnessed a great amount of enthusiasm to participate in this debate. On events arising out of Shri Anna Hazare's fast, this is third debate. The first one was on the day when Shri Anna Hazare was arrested by the Government. In the second debate we debated as to how to deal with this larger problem of corruption. The maturity of all of us and our democracy is on trial. A popular agitation across the country has sent to us a message that people of this country are no longer willing to accept the present status quo of corruption which in many areas has almost become a way of life. People in higher positions have a tendency to get away. We have also heard some notso-

complimentary statements made about Parliament and MPs. How we respond to them will be the best response of Indian democracy to all these statements which are made. Today, we are only deciding the basic parameters of what should

***'Ombudsman' was a Scandinavian concept. Dr. L. M. Singhvi translated this word into Hindi as Lokpal. It is a coincidence that his very distinguished son, Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, now has to prepare the final draft of this Bill. I am sure, he will keep in mind the great heritage.***

be the kind of Lokpal. We are also deciding about the areas which must come within its scope and which should be kept outside. Routine structures have not succeeded till date. We don't go for solutions which are not

consistent with our constitutional scheme.

Administrative Reforms Commission in 1966 had recommended the establishment of a Lokpal and Lokayuktas for the first time. Citizens Charter or public grievances is not a new concept. Public grievances and the concept of Lokayukta in the States was also a part of the 1968 Bill. It is not something which has now been taken out of the hat and suddenly we are confronted with it. 'Ombudsman' was a Scandinavian concept. Dr. L. M. Singhvi translated this word into Hindi as Lokpal. It is a coincidence that his very distinguished son, Dr. Abhishek Manu

Singhvi, now has to prepare the final draft of this Bill. I am sure, he will keep in mind the great heritage. In fact, Dr. L. M. Singhvi had defined the term Lokpal or Lokayukta in such a way that the Indian model of ombudsman

for the redressal of public grievances. It is having the answer that what should be the duties of Lokpal. Lok Sabha had passed the Lokpal Bill in 1969 but because of the split in the Indian National Congress then, the Lok Sabha was dissolved and the Rajya Sabha could not pass this Bill. Otherwise, this country would have had a Lokpal way back in 1969-70. We must not legislate in haste. We worked on nine different drafts of this Bill since 1968. Democracy can not be so lethargic that it takes 42 years to really develop a consensus as to what a Bill should be. The time has now come when this concept of Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayukta in the States should become a hard reality.

We have to respond to each one of these questions which have been raised, not merely by the civil society but by the people at large today. There are two basic principles that we have to keep in mind when we legislate. In any developing and mature society, there will be a role for civil society. Some of them may take positions which may not be implementable. But then we must realize their role as flag-bearer on several issues. We have the option of agreeing or not to agreeing with them. Even when pressure groups build up pressures in the society, we must concede to them the right to build up pressures but not be provoked by them. We must legislate keeping in mind the basic principles and values of Indian society and our constitutional values. We must still keep all rationality in mind and legislate accordingly as far as these principles are

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concerned. I first come to the original six questions that he had raised. Should a single act provide for a Lokpal in the Centre and Lokayukts in the States? The appointment of Lokayukt in States will not be made by the Centre. As far as the States are concerned that mechanism must be a State mechanism. What is a Lokpal or a Lokayukt supposed to do? When a complaint comes that some public servant has indulged in a misconduct. He has to examine the evidence. This requires assessment of evidence. Assessment of this evidence can be done by people who have a fair mind. Anybody whose appointment is brought in with a motive or anybody who is not well-versed in the art of assessing evidence, whose investigative or judicial or quasi-judicial abilities are a suspect will not be able to do that. We need higher standards of probity.

But while trying to achieve that, do we compromise with the federal structure? That is the conflict. I share this concern with the Finance Minister. One possible option is that you can legislate on areas where the Central Legislature has jurisdiction. Where you find that the Central Legislature has no jurisdiction, you have two options either you leave that part to the States or under Article 252, with the consent of two States, the Central Legislature can bring an enabling law. Both options are available to you. The second question you have raised before the political parties was whether the Prime Minister should be brought within the purview of the Lokpal. We have heard sufficiently both the arguments.

The Prime Minister must be kept out of the Lokpal purview because the Prime Minister will be only accountable to the Parliament and the Parliament is always entitled to remove the Prime Minister. Indian Penal Code and all other penal laws apply to the Prime Minister as much as they apply to any citizen of India. When you are creating a special procedural mechanism of a Lokpal, you want to suspend the operation of the substantive law, by saying that this procedure will not apply to the Prime Minister.

The Government's draft must be seriously reconsidered. I don't think that the world's largest democracy can afford an experimentation of this kind and therefore, a more rational approach on which a larger consensus is emerging today is that hold the Prime Minister within the purview of this law. Today it will be very difficult to sustain an argument that the Prime Minister must only be held responsible after he ceases to be the Prime Minister. I see that as a popular sense of the House there is a need to create a National Judicial Commission to deal with grievances and complaints and also to deal with matters of appointments. We have to bear in mind one basic principle that the executive must not interfere in the independence of judiciary. On the conduct of Members of Parliament, on the one hand there is need to check graft and corruption, on the other hand, you cannot interfere with the privacy of the House. There is no presumption that the House, when it comes to the probity in relation to the in-house conduct, does not take action. As

far as any impropriety outside the House is concerned, surely, no Member of Parliament can claim any immunity under Article 105. Any Lokpal Bill must necessarily be compatible with Constitutional values. Our first object has to be that India must get a strong and effective Lokpal and the second is that the current political impasse must get over and Shri Anna Hazare should be requested to give up his fast. The fact is that all employees and all public servants must be accountable.

Now what will be that accountability mechanism? Various options are there. We have said that please bring them within the Lokpal. As far as the option of Lokayukta institution in the States in concerned, I have already said that if you find that some areas are not within the domain of the Central Legislature, you can have an enabling law and leave the option with the States. The last question is: Do we need a grievance redressal mechanism? We certainly do need a grievance redressal mechanism. I agree that state after state are making such law. Therefore, if centre also consider on this, it would be a good administrative step. It will be a good step that every department of the Government has a charter. It is a step towards good governance and we must really come out with a procedure which is fair and which appears to be effective. They want whistleblowers to be given protection under the Lokayukta or the Lokpal. I don't think there can be any difficulty in principle. There is a suggestion that the authority will be entitled to keep tapping phones of these people if it receives a complaint. This power should be exercised with great caution. I think there is considerable merit in including the entire bureaucracy and going ahead with establishment of Lokayukta in the States. There is also considerable merit in having a grievance charter or a mechanism as far as the country is concerned. I am sure that today would be a very important day for us when we show and display that sense of resilience and are able to resolve the issues which are confronting us. ■

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## Stop attacking political opponents and instead concentrate on fighting terrorism: Gadkari

Expressing dismay over the blast in the heart of the "seat of power", BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari hit out at Home Minister P Chidambaram, asking him to stop attacking political opponents and instead concentrate on fighting terrorism. "That terrorists could strike in the very heart of the seat of power of the central government with impunity is a serious matter and has exposed the tall claims of Delhi Police and the intelligence agencies about the safety of the national capital," Shri Gadkari said in a statement.

### *Terror strikes Delhi again, 11 dead in HC blast*

The national capital (New Delhi) was once again the target of a terror strike when a high intensity bomb blast outside the Delhi High Court on September 7, 2011 killed 11 people and injured 76 others. The bomb, reportedly a combination of ammonium nitrate and pentaerythritol tetranitrate (PETN) and planted by terror group Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (HuJI) in a suitcase exploded at 10:14 AM outside Delhi High Court's Gate No. 5 where more than 100 litigants had gathered for passes to enter the court's premises.

He demanded a high-level probe into the incident to bring the culprits to book and look into the "failure of the intelligence agencies". At least nine people were killed and several injured in a blast at the reception area of Delhi High Court.

Shri Gadkari asked Chidambaram to stop training his guns against political opponents and concentrate his energies in tackling the menace of terrorism.

The BJP President, who also visited the injured at the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, pointed out that "the incident has happened when Parliament session is still on. "Government needs to change its policy towards terrorists and should chalk out ways to deal with terrorism as terrorists are active in the country," he said.

Expressing "profound shock and dismay" over the blast, he sent his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of the victims. He appealed to the people of Delhi not to panic and help authorities maintain peace and harmony. ■

## Crop holding declared by AP farmers will have serious repercussions : Rajnath

Former BJP President Shri Rajnath Singh raised the issue of crop holiday by farmers in Konaseema region and several other districts of



Andhra Pradesh in Lok Sabha on August 30 during the Zero Hour. Addressing the House Shri Singh said, "The crop holiday declared by farmers in Andhra Pradesh has serious repercussions not only on the agriculture sector but also poses a big threat to food security of our country. Nearly three lakh acres of fertile land is lying uncultivated due to this crop holiday.

The farmers have been forced to take this decision because they are not getting remunerative prices for their agricultural produce."

Making a mention of his tour to East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh Shri Rajnath Singh expressed concern over the growing unpredictability of agriculture as an economic activity. Giving the example of Paddy Shri Singh informed the House, "The current Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy

fails to cover even the actual input cost."

Demanding an immediate hike in the MSP of paddy Shri Singh said, "The Government needs to ensure remunerative prices to farmers and it should implement the MS Swaminathan report to resolve the issues facing the farmers of the country."

Highlighting the plight of farmers all around the country Shri Singh said that there was an urgent need to address the grievances of the farmers' on a priority basis. "A special session of Parliament should be

convened just after the ongoing Monsoon Session to address all the major issues facing the farmers", he added.

To provide relief to farmers in Andhra Pradesh Shri Singh urged the Government to give a special relief package to farmers in Konaseema area which should include Rs 10000 ex gratia per acre to farmers who declared a crop holiday.

"It is time that the Centre should declare farming as the national occupation as nearly seventy percent of the people in the country are dependent on agriculture to earn their livelihood", said Shri Singh. He further added that the National Employment Guarantee Scheme (NRGEA) should be integrated with agricultural works. ■

### BJP seeks special Parliament session to hear farmers' woes

The BJP sought a special session of Parliament to address the problems of farmers across the country. Demanding that this session be convened immediately after the Monsoon Session, the BJP also sought a hike in the minimum support price (MSP) for paddy.

Former BJP President Shri Rajnath Singh said in the Lok Sabha that, "The Government needs to ensure remunerative prices to farmers and it should implement the MS Swaminathan report to resolve the issues facing the farmers of the country. The current Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy fails to cover even the actual input cost". Cautioning that the unprecedented development in the agriculture sector could affect country's food security, Shri Singh suggested Centre to declare farming as the national occupation when nearly seventy percent of the people in the country were dependent on agriculture to earn their livelihood. He also demanded that the National Employment Guarantee Scheme (NRGEA) should be integrated with agricultural works. ■



# Reform 2020

By Arun Jaitley

Atal Bihari Vajpayee was fully conscious of the need for economic reforms as also the social realities of India. He believed that India's poverty could not be tackled merely by the trickle down effect of the growth process. He realised the virtues of enhanced economic activity, investment, job creation, infrastructure and enhanced revenues. It is only an enriched Government which could spend on poverty alleviation schemes. His reforms were intended to strike a balance between enhanced economic activity achieved through liberalisation and using the resources of an enriched State for the weaker sections. For Atalji, economic reforms were an art of the possible. Everything could not be done overnight. Slowly but surely the economy had to move in the right direction. He never used the compulsions of a coalition as an alibi for non-performance or inaction. Regional parties like the Trinamool Congress and many socialists were a part of his Cabinet. His persuasive charm could win them over. The statesman in him inspired confidence. His Cabinet was most democratic. It discussed various issues extensively and then looked at him awaiting the direction or his nod. Invariably, it was proreform.

If there was a stalemate, he would constitute a time-bound Group of Ministers

comprising of individuals

loaded in favour of the reforms. He risked international cooperation in order to protect India's security concerns by experimenting Pokhran-II. This was an evidence of his decisiveness. Despite sanctions, he engaged the world and ended up laying the foundation of a new relationship with the United States, the European Union and the ASEAN. His extroverted attitude took him to China and Pakistan to open the avenues of engagement. He was Prime Minister at a time when the nation was still debating the virtues of liberalisation. His initiatives in the telecom sector in correcting the initial aberrations of policy by replacing high licence fee with revenue sharing and allowing multiple technology laid the foundation for a telecom revolution. But for his initiatives, the telecom success story would not have been there. His rural roads programme added to the rural infrastructure. The users willingly paid for the construction of the national highways—a programme that he conceived and which still bears his imprint. The privatisation of public sector units in order to utilise governmental resources in the social sector and for infrastructure and to get the government out of non-strategic, non-core areas was his initiative. He lavishly sanctioned funds to the Railways to strengthen the railway tracks—a policy which paid dividends for the future

performance of the Railways. The new Electricity Act of 2003 was his initiative. But for the changed regime, some recent improvements in the power sector would not have taken place. He rationalised interest rates in order to make the industry competitive.

He pursued the rationalisation of the taxes structure, both direct and indirect, to give an impetus to the economy. The emphasis on port construction both in the State and in the private sector came from him. Wherever necessary in national interest, he increased the FDI limits in order to attract more investments. He had realised the intrinsic link between investments, economic activity, growth, infrastructure, jobs and additional revenue. He was aware of the political resistance to reforms. He therefore moved steadily and periodically announced one step after another. He provided a decisive political leadership for reforms. His encouragement for reformist ministers was always forthcoming.

He used the additional revenue available to help the under privileged. Rural roads, Antyodaya Yojnas which enabled free or cheap distribution of food to the poor, were all first perceived by him. The Kisan Credit Cards and cheaper loans for farmers were his initiative. He was fair to the States. He inherited an economy of shortages and left behind a legacy of surplage. He is indeed a gentle giant. ■

*(The writer is Leader of the Opposition in Rajya Sabha)  
(Courtesy: IE)*

# BJP helped bring country out of imbroglio

By Prabhat Jha

The way the Anna Hazare campaign against corruption and demand for enacting a strong Jan Lokpal has been dealt with by the Congress-led UPA government is a tragedy of errors.

Bharatiya Janata Party has since its birth been raising its voice against the rising menace of corruption. But our voice fell on deaf ears and the situation was allowed by the successive Congress governments to drift and deteriorate.

The word Lokpal was coined by Lok Sabha MP late Dr. L. M. Singhvi way back in 1963 during a debate on public grievances mechanism. The Lokpal Bill was first introduced by Shri Shanti Bhushan in 1968. Subsequent versions were introduced in 1971, 1977, 1985, 1989, 1996, 1998 and 2001. Unfortunately, each time no consensus could be arrived at on some contentious points and it lapsed with the tenure of Lok Sabha. It was presented during NDA rule in 2001 when the then Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, himself volunteered that his office should be brought under the Lokpal. But, unfortunately, this time again no agreement could be arrived at and the Bill lapsed with the tenure of Parliament coming to an end.

When Shri Anna Hazare

floated his Jan Lokpal Bill and launched his present campaign against corruption, BJP was the first political party to have come out openly in support of the campaign against corruption and the Bill.

But the Congress tried to play politics with the issue. First it tried to overawe the movement by imputing motives and raising

*Problem with the ruling Congress is that it wishes to see every issue — whether it is fight against corruption, against black money or against terrorism — through the prism of politics and electoral benefits. That is why its so-called crusade against all these issues has resulted not in eliminating these evils but in their flourishing by leaps and bounds day in and day out.*

the bogey of BJP and RSS support for it. Congress tried to give the impression that since it had our support, it could not accept it. In other words, Congress was not to fight corruption only because BJP and RSS were supporting the war against corruption.

Problem with the ruling Congress is that it wishes to see every issue — whether it is fight against corruption, against black money or against terrorism —

through the prism of politics and electoral benefits. That is why its so-called crusade against all these issues has resulted not in eliminating these evils but in their flourishing by leaps and bounds day in and day out. Ironically, the Congress fight against corruption resulted in corruption having the better of Congress and corruption reigned supreme during the last more than seven years it has been in office. Since 2009 this Congress-led UPA-II has given the country the most corrupt government since independence and every other day scams like 2G spectrum, Commonwealth Games, Adarsh Housing, surfaced.

Corruption, black money and terror are issues hurting the nation. The whole nation irrespective of caste, creed, sex and region should be one to eliminate these vices. But Congress here again tried to sow the seeds of confusion and division. Congress had inherited the British legacy of 'divide-and-rule' and it continues to use it for political purposes every now and then as it suits it in independent India too.

After first clinching its claws against the movement, all of a sudden in June this year Congress acceded to the demand of the Civil Society to formulate a draft Bill in which Congress

ministers and the Anna men were to be in equal numbers. The Opposition was not taken into confidence. But despite a number of meetings, no meeting ground could be evolved and Manmohan government decided to go ahead with its own version of the Lokpal Bill.

The moment Shri Anna Hazare re-launched his crusade Congress Dirty Tricks Department went into rapid action to tarnish the image of those behind the movement. Shri Anna's record when he was in military service was dug up. The 2005 report of the Sawant Commission was also raked up. Two prominent Congress leaders, Sarvshri Digvijay Singh and Manish Tiwari, known for spitting venom were fielded to overawe the Civil Society leaders with their foul language. They called Shri Hazare head to toe under corruption. When nothing worked and it all boomeranged on the Congress, Shri Tiwari was made to apologise.

When the UPA failed to come out with an agreed draft, it tabled in Parliament a Lokpal Bill which the Congress claimed was a strong one while the Civil Society members termed it as a Jokepal Bill. The Prime Minister was kept out of the purview of the Lokpal. When Shri Anna Hazare threatened to go on indefinite fast from August 16, Congress government marshalled all its strength and resources to thwart the attempt. Delhi police put unreasonable restrictions, the like of which even the British had not imposed during the freedom struggle. When everything failed, Police arrested Shri Hazare and sent him to Tihar Jail. But soon

government made an about-turn and released Shri Hazare and his men unconditionally that very evening.

For more than a week Congress government looked to be unmoved by the Anna fast. BJP held massive demonstrations and observed fasts all over the country in support of a strong Lokpal which should bring the office of Prime Minister under its purview. Further, as reports of more and more support for the movement started trickling in, the Congress government turned panicky. It convened an all party meeting to help it bail out of this imbroglio.

In the meantime, the Civil Society activists waited upon the top leadership of Bharatiya Janata Party and held a meeting with the President Shri Nitin Gadkari, Shri L. K. Advani, Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Arun Jaitley

to seek party's support. BJP extended support to the three issues – Citizens Charter, Lower bureaucracy also to be under Lokpal through appropriate mechanism and establishment of a Lokayukta in the States. This helped clinch the tricky issue over which Shri Anna Hazare could be persuaded to break his fast.

The tone for the discussion on August 27 was set by the Leader of Opposition Smt. Sushma Swaraj in the Lok Sabha, and Leader of Opposition Shri Arun Jaitley in Rajya Sabha. Ultimately, a motion indicating the "Sense of the House" was unanimously adopted by the two Houses of Parliament. Shri Anna Hazare ended his indefinite fast the next day on August 28 and the nation heaved a sigh of relief. ■

*(The writer is Editor, Kamal Sandesh, Rajya Sabha MP and Madhya Pradesh BJP State President)*

## **Sheila Dikshit shouldn't deliver sermons on Lokpal Bill as she herself has been indicted by CAG : Vijay Goel**

BJP National General Secretary Shri Vijay Goel said that Delhi Chief Minister, Smt. Sheila Dikshit has no business to deliver sermons on the issue of Lokpal Bill as she herself has been indicted by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the Shunglu Commission for being involved in widespread corruption in the Commonwealth Games.

In a statement, Shri Goel said the Chief Minister of Delhi is only making these noises about strengthening the Lokpal and bringing the office of the Lokayukta under it to divert attention from the issues of corruption plaguing her. "She has been cornered on the issue of corruption and is therefore taking a moral high ground to absolve herself of the blame," he said. "It is indeed ironical that Smt. Dikshit is now talking about strengthening the Delhi Lokayukta when she herself has been indicted by him for misrepresenting fact about housing for the poor in Delhi with an eye on the Delhi Assembly elections in 2008. That matter is now pending with the President of India," Shri Goel said. ■



## Madhya Pradesh CM and State MPs meet Union minister to resolve NH related problem

**O**n August 27 Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and BJP State Unit President Shri Prabhat Jha along with the Members of Parliament from Madhya Pradesh, led by Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj, met the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highway Shri C.P. Joshi at Parliament House to voice their concern over the issues relating to deterioration of National Highway passing through the state, their maintenance and reconstruction of roads. The Chief Minister had earlier written to the Union Minister expressing his dismay and dissatisfaction over the deteriorating conditions of National Highways in the State. ■

## Madhya Pradesh BJP to expose Congress led UPA for poor condition of NHs through hoardings

Failing to bear upon the Central government over the pathetic condition of the national highways in the state, Madhya Pradesh BJP has decided to erect hoardings on these highways that would contain the message that the responsibility of maintaining such roads lies with the Centre. The hoardings would read: "Maintenance of National Highway is the responsibility of Central Government".

The decision to this effect was taken in a meeting of the state BJP coordination committee,

which was attended by BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Ramlal, Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and State BJP President Shri Prabhat Jha.

Shri Chouhan will also go to New Delhi on August 26 to meet the concerned Union Ministers to highlight the condition of National Highways in the State.

The length of National Highways in the State is 4000 km, which very often witnesses massive traffic jams and accidents due to lack of maintenance.

The Chief Minister, in the past, has tried to communicate with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways on several occasions through emails to bring to his notice the condition of the Highways.

But with no response coming from the Centre's end, the State government also urged the Central government to bring maintenance of NHs in the state under the State List. Shri Chouhan had highlighted the poor condition of Highways in his Independence Day speech. (FOC) ■

# BJP wants CBI investigation in 1000 Crore Srinagar Defence Land Scam

The Srinagar Airport Land of Air Force in most sensitive security prone area is under siege of land mafias. Around 200 acres Defence land of Srinagar Airport has been grabbed by the mafias in connivance with the officials of Jammu & Kashmir Government and Defence Ministry. Dr. Kirit Somaiya, BJP National Secretary, along the Shri Shamsher Singh Manhas, BJP State President, Jammu & Kashmir has made a presentation and released Report on "1000 Crore Defence Land Scam" in Delhi today.

Dr. Somaiya produced documentary evidences of the involvement of 2 land mafias with the Revenue officials of Srinagar, Budgam and the Defence officials of Srinagar.

Till now 69 pieces of land of Srinagar Airport area has been transferred to the private citizens in last couple of years which covers 200 acres. These lands are in possession of Defence for decades. Defence/Army have acquired/purchased/hired land at various places for various purposes.

The BJP investigative team and media has unearthed Rs 1000 crore "land grab scam" at Budgam and Army's 15 corps headquarters in Srinagar. The Defence officials have a close nexus with the revenue officials and private brokers in Kashmir.

## BJP demands -

- ▶ Retransfer immediately all these 69 pieces of land in the name of Defence.
- ▶ Full-fledged investigation and upgradation of all the Defence Land in Kashmir Valley by a Team of senior Defence officials from Delhi.
- ▶ A special audit of Defence Land in Kashmir Valley by CAG.
- ▶ CBI investigation on the whole episode.
- ▶ BJP is concerned about the massive Defence Land in security sensitive zones of Jammu & Kashmir.
- ▶ BJP submits this Report to the Defence Minister Shri A K Antony and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Smt. Sushma Swaraj. ■

## BJP Mahila Morcha welcomes the decision of SC to reinstate eleven lady officers

BJP Mahila Morcha has been relentlessly fighting the battle for Permanent Commission of the lady officers in the Armed Forces in the Supreme Court for more than a year. BJP Mahila Morcha President Smt. Smriti Irani on September 2 welcomed the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court reinstating the remaining eleven lady officers of the Indian Army who were being represented by Advocate Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, Vice President BJP Mahila Morcha by 12 September, 2011.

Smt. Irani said "The Hon'ble Delhi High Court had passed an order dated 10.03.2010 granting Permanent Commission to lady officers of the Indian Army. The Indian Army was till now treating the stay of contempt proceedings as the stay of the Order dated 10.03.2010 passed by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court. The Indian Army was further compounding the contempt by constantly releasing the lady officers' batch after batch which was earlier stayed by the Supreme Court and by not reinstating the Petitioners. The Hon'ble Supreme Court on September 2 stated that there is no stay of the Order of the Delhi High Court."

"This order has paved the way for final victory. It has shown that Justice has prevailed and there is no conclave where the Rule of Law and Constitutional mandates will not reach."

She added, "By today's Order the Hon'ble Supreme Court has shown the way forward and BJP Mahila Morcha hopes that the Indian Army too welcomes this order and takes pride in successfully implementing the order." ■

# BJP wants to change the society by good governance : Gadkari

The one-day national conference of BJP Scheduled Caste Morcha was organised in Delhi. It was inaugurated by BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari and presided over by BJP Scheduled Caste Morcha President Shri Dushyant Gautam. Addressing the Gathering Shri Nitin Gadkari said, 'Our life time commitment is towards our



party activists and its ideology and we have never compromised with both of these. We are committed towards making society free from social-economic discrimination." Shri Gadkari stated, "Our purpose is not to make people M.P, MLA or minister, BJP does not want rule on basis of good governance but it wants change the society by good governance." While addressing the gathering former BJP President Shri Bangaru Laxman said, "63 years of independence and 60 years of implementation of the constitution have passed, but there is no changes in the situation of Dalits. The constitution made by Dr. Ambedkar is famous world-wide, which talks about equality in society. But Congress brought Sacchar committee report the basis of which is religion not socio-economic condition of the people."

Among other party leaders who addressed the conference were National General Secretary Shri Thawar Chandra Gahlot and BJP National Spokesperson Shri Ram Kovind. ■

## Cow Development Cell meeting held



*A meeting of directors and Conveners of Gau Seva Ayog was organised by National Cow Development Cell on August 30, 2011, in New Delhi. It was inaugurated by BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Ramlal. The meeting was attended by Cell & Morcha Co-ordinator Shri Mahendra Pandey, UP BJP Spokesperson Shri Hriday Nath Dixit, Akhil Bhartiya Gou Suraksha Pramukh Shri Om Prakash and other senior cell Karyakartas. ■*

## IT can play a key role in providing good governance & reducing corruption : Gadkari

The 7th National meet of the BJP IT Cell was organized on 26th and 27th of August 2011 at the BJP Central Office, New Delhi. BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari was the chief guest of the event, which was attended by members and conveners of National and state IT Cells. Prominent speakers from Industry, academics and NASSCOM were also present and shared best practices in e-Governance and enhancing the reach and communication with the rural and urban citizens of India.

Shri Nitin Gadkari in his inspirational address emphasized the importance of Information Technology in providing good governance and reducing corruption. He shared the examples like PDS system in Chhattisgarh and procurement project in Karnataka and how these projects have helped improve citizen services and reduce corruption. He reiterated party's commitment to bring transparency in funding through first of its kind online donation program (<http://www.bjp.org/donate>). He also stated that we should be open to all IT best practices and ideas if they help us in combating corruption.

Shri Gadkari also distributed used computers to students from the economically weaker section of the society; this e-Antyodaya scheme is being organized by the National IT Cell in conjunction with Antyodaya Cell. Shri Gadkari commended this effort and urged the corporate world to the same.

The participants unanimous demanded the government to initiate a fast track project to build high speed digital highways down to each Tehsil and village block, which can help improve citizen services in rural area. (FOC) ■



### HP Public Services Guarantee Bill passed

The state Assembly on August 26 created history when it passed the Himachal Pradesh Public Services Guarantee Bill, 2011, to ensure the delivery of services to the public in a time-bound manner. This is in keeping with the promise of the BJP government led by Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal to cut red tape in extending services to the people. Introducing the Bill on August 24, Chief Minister Shri P. K. Dhumal, said Himachal was the third state after Madhya Pradesh and Bihar to have passed the Bill, which was aimed at providing good governance, transparency and accountability in the administration and providing services to the public in a time-bound manner. The Chief Minister said the main objective was to ensure that services were provided to people in a time-bound manner as even delay bred corruption. "A citizens' charter would be issued by the state government by selecting the services to be delivered in a time-bound manner," he said. Addressing the concerns echoed by Opposition Congress members, Shri Dhumal said the government was open to suggestions which could be incorporated even later. "There will be provision for a penalty ranging from Rs 1,000 to Rs 5,000 and the applicant can appeal against the rejection of his request to the appellate authority and the Chief Information Commissioner will be the second appellate authority as an independent agency," he stated. The Congress members led by State Congress President Shri Kaul Singh Thakur welcomed the Bill. After discussion, the Bill was passed by a voice vote. ■

## Beti Bachao Andolan to be launched as a campaign : Shivraj Singh

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has said that *Beti Bachao Andolan* will be made a mass campaign in the State. This massive campaign of the State Government will be spearheaded from October 05 at the official residence of the Chief Minister. Besides, the districts having better male-female ratio will be awarded on this special occasion.

Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan was addressing a meeting held to discuss *Beti Bachao Abhiyan* in Bhopal on August 29, 2011. Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Shri Gopal Bhargava, Health Minister Shri Narottam Mishra, Higher Education Minister and Public Relations Minister Shri Laxmikant Sharma and Minister of State for Woman and Child Development Smt. Ranjna Baghel were also present in the

meeting. Shri Chouhan said that the district in-charge Ministers and MLA in their respective constituencies will take part in the programmes of *Beti Bachao Abhiyan*. "The campaign is an effort to change the mindset of people towards the birth of girl child in the society and express the importance of improving the conditions of girl child", he said.

He further said that committees would be formed at State, district and block levels in order to ensure smooth execution of the campaign. Also an atmosphere would be created to change the mindset of the people in the first phase of the campaign.

The CM added that he

would undertake tours of districts under the campaign during the period between Dussehra and Diwali. Similarly, the Ministers would also undertake tours of the districts. Women Panch and Sarpanch, people's representatives and social institutional would be associated with the campaign.

It was informed that female-male ratio in the State is 919 per 1,000 male. In five districts, it is below 850, in 20 districts below 900, in 19 districts less than 950 and female-male ratio in nine districts is more than 950 per thousand male. There would be special emphasis on programmes of mass awareness under the campaign. ■



### BJP National President appoints Convenors & Cell in-charge

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari appointed national Cell incharge Convenors and Co-Convenors of the party on Sept 05: Smt. Purnima Advani(Maharashtra) - Co-incharge of

- |                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Manvendra Singh, Ex MP    | - Co-Convenor Defence Cell         |
| Mayankweswar Singh(Bihar) | - Co-Convenor Gau(Cow) Raksha Cell |
| R. P Gupta (Delhi)        | - Co Convenor Infrastructure Cell  |
| Arun Bansal               | - Commerce Cell                    |
| Ashok Thakur              | - Co-Convenor, Jhuggi- Jhopari     |
| Shri Ramkrishna           | - Bio-energy Cell                  |

### BJP National President appoints Prakash Javadekar as Election in charge of Manipur

BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari has appointed BJP National Spokesperson Shri Prakash Javadekar as Election in charge of Manipur on August 24, 2011 to look after the ensuing State Election.



## MADHYA PRADESH

## State emerging as an economic giant

As a result of the committed efforts made over last six-seven years by the BJP government, Madhya Pradesh is now poised to emerge as an economic giant. As per an American firm, *Dun Bradstreet 'India 2020'*, Madhya Pradesh will be contributing significantly to economic growth of India.

In 2007, at the Global Investors' Summit at Indore, leading industrialist Anil Ambani had also said that Madhya Pradesh is a



State with immense natural wealth, central geographical location and a committed Government, and should prepare itself to play a leading role in economic growth of the country. Both these predictions seem to be prophetic, given the fact that Madhya Pradesh has been registering impressive economic growth rate over last six-seven years. The economic growth rate (GSDP) of the State was a negligible 3 per cent in year 2004-05. As per the assessment made using the available data through the method evolved by Government of India, the economic growth rate has been assured at 9 per cent in year 2010-11.

This achievement assumes added significance given the fact that the State witnessed heavy damage to Arhar, Gram and linseed crops due to frost in January and 26 per cent deficient rainfall in 2010-11. In the preceding year 2009-10, the State posted a remarkable 9.55 per cent economic growth rate defying a no less than 35 per cent deficient rainfall. The area under gram increased 3.3 per cent but the production was 16.6 per cent less. The area under Arhar crop increased by 48.3 per cent, however, the fall in production was 36.1 per cent. Similarly, linseed was sown in 16.4 per cent more area, but the production was only 13.2 per cent less. All this thanks to frost.

It also deserves a special mention that in year

2009-10, the agriculture growth rate was 7.2 per cent while the national average agriculture growth rate was negligible. The industrial growth rate during the period was 10.1 per cent.

In comparison to large States with higher economic growth rate, in 2009-10 Madhya Pradesh was third after Orissa and Chhattisgarh and in 2010-11 also at third place after Bihar and Chhattisgarh. As per an all India survey for poverty assessment, the per capita consumption in rural Madhya Pradesh is higher than five major States Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand. In urban Madhya Pradesh, the per capita consumption is higher than six States. These include Rajasthan in addition to the above mentioned five States.

## GUJARAT

## State emerging as global automobile hub : Narendra Modi

Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that the state was emerging as a global



automobile manufacturing hub with companies like Ford, PSA Peugeot and Tata Motors opening up their facilities

in the state. "We wanted to encourage our engineering sector as a result of which a lot of automotive companies have come to the state. Gujarat is moving towards becoming a global automotive manufacturing hub and shall become backbone of Indian automotive sector," Shri Modi said, while speaking at the MoU signing ceremony between Gujarat government and PSA Peugeot Citron.

He said, "I am really happy to see the signing of agreement with Peugeot on this auspicious day of Ganesh Chaturthi. In July, a similar agreement was signed with Ford," he said. "With this the first locally produced Peugeot car will be available in India by 2014," he said.

With this integrated manufacturing facility being set up at an investment of Rs 4,000 crore,

Sanand will also figure as one of the largest automotive parts manufacturing hub globally, he said adding the state has become a leading investment destination too, Shri Modi added.

The State government will also set up an international level Automotive Skill Development Institute on PPP mode with PSA Peugeot, to generate skilled manpower for the automotive sector, Modi said.

**JHARKHAND**

**UPA Govt. tagged India as 'Most Corrupt Country' : Murlidhar Rao**

The Congress led UPA Government tagged India as the 'Most Corrupt Country,' said Bharatiya Janata Party National Secretary Shri Murlidhar Rao. Talking to media persons in Bokaro,



Jharkhand during a one day *dharna* in-front of the district administrative office against the UPA Government's Anti-People Policy, and sky rocketing price he said that India has failed to achieve its mission of development. He added corruption is on a high during the

Congress rule and it is too small a word to describe what goes on across the country. What we have here is a complete failure of system under the UPA Government," said.

Branding the Manmohan Singh led UPA Government as indecisive and incompetent he said that the Government failed to keeps its promises. Blaming the Union Government for price hike Shri Rao said, "Despite the directive of Supreme Court, wheat had not been distributed among the poor. About 57 lakhs tons of wheat got rotten due to negligence of the Government authorities".

On the issue of corruption, he said that the Congress led UPA Governments' stance on Black money seems to be selective and evasive. "The Government seems to be hesitant in taking concrete action on black money as it could embarrass the Congress party", he said. He said the UPA

Government cleared their corrupt thoughts with filing a review petition in the black money case in the Supreme Court challenging the setting up of a Special Investigations Team (SIT) to probe the issue.

Demanding to confiscate the black money allegedly stashed in Swiss Bank accounts, Rao demanded the UPA Government step-up in bringing the money back to the country for investment in social projects.

**ANDHRA PRADESH**

**BJP wants transparent land allocation policy : G. Kishan Reddy**



The Andhra Pradesh BJP has demanded that the government adopt a transparent policy relating to land allocation that would enable employment generation. A round-table organised by the BJP found fault with the present land policy as vast tracts of land given

to industry at throwaway prices failed to yield any results. The proposed policy was inadequate, unprofessional and was limited in its scope.

BJP State President Shri G. Kishan Reddy, who presided over the meeting, expressed concern that allotment of lands at throwaway prices commenced during the TDP regime headed by the then Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and the subsequent Congress government, continued it.

The Government's new policy was focussed on land allocations in future and there was no mention about land that was already allotted. Companies like Emaar, Apache, Ramky and Agha Khan Trust that had been allotted valuable lands in and around Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam, Nellore and other major locations did not serve the purpose for which they were given.

Shri Reddy said the government should review the allotments and resume the land that did not meet the requirement. In addition, action should be initiated against the companies that violated the norms and conditions, Shri Reddy said

lamenting that the policy adopted by the Government resulted in several land scams.

Among others former Union minister Shri N. Indrasena Reddy, Shri Baddam Bal Reddy and Shri Mandadi Satyanarayana besides Bandaru Dattatreya and senior BJP leaders Shri Ch. Vidyasagar Rao, former MLAs and office bearers of the State BJP were present on the occasion.

## ODISHA

### Union Govt. should take instant action to check cutting of 6 lakh trees at POSCO site : Pani

An ecological catastrophe is in the making in Orissa where more than six lakh trees are being cut at the POSCO site in Jagatsinghpur district for the South Korean steel plant POSCO. The farmers in Orissa are also protesting against the felling of six lakh trees at the POSCO site. More than 50,000 have already been cut down and nearly six lakh more trees are to go. The district administration is going ahead with the felling despite the protests. The Odisha State BJP has also been protesting against the Odisha Government for its high-handedness in acquiring land for the proposed POSCO project in the State. The BJP has criticised Odisha government for evicting the indigenous poor residents against their will by using force and for showing excessive favours to the South Korean Steel major POSCO in terms of allowing swapping of mineral ore, indiscriminate cutting of more than six lakh trees at the site, diversion of water from river Mahanadi, Khandadhar mining lease for the steel project and allowing the construction of a captive port.

Recently, raising the issue through a Special Mention in the Rajya Sabha BJP Member of Parliament from Odisha Shri Rudra Narayan Pany, drew the attention of the Parliament on the need to take immediate action to check deforestation in the region proposed for setting up a steel plant by POSCO in Odisha. Shri Pany also voiced his



concern in the Parliament on the large scale cutting of trees which run into millions and demanded the Prime Minister to intervene on this grave matter and to tell the truth surrounding the project to the nation. Shri Pany criticized the Odisha State and Congress led Central government for allowing POSCO for a captive port near the existing Paradip port and allowing the swapping of iron ore and demanded the immediate revocation of these provisions besides stopping of illegal land acquisition and indiscriminate tree felling in the area that experienced the tragedy of super cyclone in 1999 and warned that the manner in which the project is being executed may turn out to be an ecological catastrophe.

Shri Pani come down heavily on the Naveen Patnaik led State BJD Government against large scale cutting of trees in the name of land acquisition and for acquiring land forcibly even as the MoU signed between the State Government and POSCO has expired in June 2011 and which is yet to be renewed. Shri Pani questioned the unusual haste shown by the State government in land acquisition for the proposed project when the Parliament is going to amend the Land Acquisition Act of 1894 soon to suitably compensate the land owners.

Shri Rudra Narayan Pany said in the recent months the State BJP has carried out several agitations on this issue with a delegation of Party leaders and the State BJP President Shri Jual Oram visiting the proposed project area. He said that the BJP will continue to oppose the steel project till the substantive issues concerning the people and the project are addressed by the Government after meeting the locals of the area who are facing displacement.

## UTTAR PRADESH

### 3 former SP legislators join BJP

Three former legislators of Samajwadi Party joined the Bharatiya Janata Party on September 01 along with hundreds of their supporters.

BJP National Vice-President Shri Vinay Katiyar announced their induction in the presence of State BJP President Shri Surya Pratap Shahi at the party office in Lucknow.

Those who joined the BJP included former MLAs Shri Anand Bhushan Singh, Shri Aditya Vikram Singh and Shri Natthu Singh.

Shri Anand Bhushan Singh who hails from Pratapgarh is an influential leader in the area.

Shri Aditya Vikram Singh, a former SP MLA from Kesraha in Sidharth Nagar district, is the son of late Shri Diwakar Vikram Singh who was Cabinet minister for several years in different governments of the state including those of Mulayam Singh Yadav, Kalyan Singh, Ram Prakash Gupta and Rajnath Singh.

Shri Natthu Singh, a former MLA from Bhagwant Nagar seat in Unnao district was chairman of UP Agro Corporation with the status of State minister and lost the last elections by a narrow margin. Besides these, former PCS (Allied) Shri Bhagwandas Kureel and Shri Manis Aseeja also joined the BJP.

## HIMACHAL PRADESH

### State passes Bill to confiscate properties of corrupt officials

Himachal Pradesh on August 29, 2011 introduced a Bill in the Assembly to confiscate properties acquired by public servants through corrupt means and use these assets in public interest.

Chief Minister Prem Kumar Dhumal introduced the Himachal Pradesh Special Courts (Attachment and Confiscation of Property) Bill-2011 and said there were reports and allegations that some people holding public offices have acquired vast properties, disproportionate to their known sources of income.

He said there were sufficient reasons to believe that some of these reports and allegations were true. BJP ruled Madhya Pradesh and Bihar have already implemented a law to confiscate properties of corrupt officials. The Himachal Pradesh Bill also empowers the government to set up special courts for speedy trial of offences. The special court will be headed by a district and sessions judge or additional district and sessions judge and will ensure that the case is disposed of within a year's time.

"It is the duty of the State to prosecute persons  
September 16-30, 2011 ○ 30



involved in such corrupt practices. The existing laws are insufficient as they neither provide for taking over the ill-gotten property nor does it provide a time-bound trial against the public servants involved in amassing such properties," Shri Dhumal said.

Section 10 of the Bill says the government, on the basis of *prima facie* evidence, has reasons to believe that any person who has held or is holding public office or has been a public servant has committed the offence, can move an application in the court seeking attachment of the property. Under Section 13, if the offence is proved in the trial court, the government can confiscate the property. The public servants aggrieved by the order of the trial court, however, will have a right to file an appeal in the high court. The Himachal Pradesh assembly later passed this bill.

## TAMILNADU

### BJP criticizes Centre for price rise and corruption

The Tamilnadu BJP Mahila Morcha staged a



demonstration in Tiruchi on September 04 condemning the Congress led UPA government for price rise and corruption.

The demonstration held near the Khadi Kraft junction was led by the BJP women's wing urban district president Smt. S. Seethalakshmi. The National Vice President and National Executive Committee Member of BJP Mahila Morcha Smt. Lalitha Kumaramangalam and members of the women's wing took part in the demonstration. The party also criticised the Central government's proposed move to limit the number of subsidized LPG domestic cylinders supplied to households. ■