



Kamal Sandesh
Fortnightly Magazine

Editor

Prabhat Jha, MP

Executive Editor

Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

Editorial Team

**Ram Prasad Tripathy
Vikash Anand**

Creative Editor

**Dharmendra Kaushal
Vikas Saini**

Subscription

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Contact

Phone : +91(11) 23381428

Fax: +91(11) 23387887

Subscription : +91(11) 23005798

e-mail

kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

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Cover : Shri Rajnath Singh visits bomb blast site in Hyderabad.

HISTORIC PICTURE



Prabhu Datta Brahmachari ji's Aashram, Vrindavan : Shri Guruji, Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay, Sh. Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Prabhu Datta Brahmachari ji are seen in the picture.



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Arjuna, before birth beings are not manifest to our human senses; at death they return to the unmanifest again. They are manifest only in the interim between birth and death. What occasion then, for lamentation. – (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-II, 28)

QUOTES

“Andhra Pradesh capital has turned into the epicentre of Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in India.”
-Rajnath Singh

“Katju has been crossing the red lines repeatedly through his various press statements. What kind of judge Katju was I don't know but I am convinced he does not deserve to be the chairman of an important body like the Press Council of India.”
-Yaswant Sinha

“Good Governance is the ability to differentiate between right & wrong, just & unjust, fair & foul and moral & immoral.”
- Narendra Modi

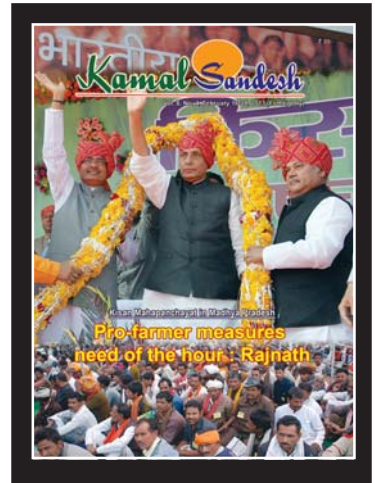
Letter to the Editor

Hyderabad blasts show massive administrative failure

Dear Editor,

Tragic as the bomb blasts that bloodied Hyderabad on February 21 are, what is equally shocking is that the Central and State government, intelligence agencies and Hyderabad Police could not prevent the attacks despite having advance information that Dilsukhnagar area of the city had been on the terrorists' radar for some time now. Both Union Minister for Home Affairs Sushil Kumar Shinde and officials of Hyderabad Police have denied having any 'specific' advance information, with Mr Shinde adding that a general alert of possible attacks on major cities had been passed on to all States including Andhra Pradesh three days before the latest horrific incident. The question is: Did Delhi Police share this crucial material with its Hyderabad counterpart and impress upon the latter the gravity of the disclosure? If it did, what was Hyderabad Police's response? And more importantly, what did the Central intelligence agencies and government do with the material which was in the public domain after Delhi Police revealed the information it had gleaned from the arrested IM operatives? Given this backdrop, the Union Home Ministry cannot get away by now saying it had no specific input on the attack.

Ashok Kumar
Allahabad, UP



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Dr. Mookerjee Smruti Nyas
PP-66, Subramania Bharati Marg, New Delhi-110003
Ph: 011-23381428, Fax : 011-23387887
email : kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

-Editor

Write to us

The Editor,

Kamal Sandesh

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Your views & Suggestions

Editor,

Kamal Sandesh

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

e-mail: kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in



Giving post is in your hand but respect....!

Editorial...

Who doesn't know that in Congress there is no accountability, - 'Congress me khata na bahi, Sonia ji jo kahe wo sahi' (whatever Sonia ji says is considered right in Congress). In past about Debkant Barua and Kesari who also became Congress President, the same things were said jokingly but this joke in the last one and half decade has become a reality in the Congress. It was said that former President Smt. Pratibha Patil used to cook food in Sonia Gandhi's house. It was true or false only people in the house can tell as who can stop the information, but the same cannot be said about the present President. But the first presidential address which he delivered has disheartened the people and by looking back at his parliamentary experience of 50 years and the dynamism he displayed as Congress leader seems to have dissipated by his address. Whatever Soniaji wants is happening these days. At this point of time she decided the names of President, Lok Sabha Speaker, Rajya Sabha Chairman, Leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party, Home Minister or Finance Minister and she is doing so. And she has usurped all these rights by her so called renouncing of the post. She got the right of appointing people in important positions of an ancient democratic country like India whose history, culture and geography she is not aware of. And when someone gets such kind of right it is not important as to who is in post but who has given that post to the person? The current Home Minister is a product of such a system. His merit was not taken into consideration but made to feel that she can make Pranab Mookerjee the president and Sushil Kumar Shinde the home minister. Soniaji, it is true that you can do this but you cannot make Sushil Kumar Shinde either Sardar Patel or Yashwant Rao Chauhan. Because you can give the post not the prestige. Today the one who is Home Minister was a sub-inspector in his initial days. He used to work on the principle of filing FIR as soon as the incident took place. It doesn't mean that a small person cannot become a big one. But we will have to see whom we are adorning with what kind of responsibilities.

The country is feeling helpless on both internal and external fronts. In the house the home minister Sushil Kumar Shinde said that I woke up at 03.00 AM on 22nd February. He reached the place of incident at 7.00 proves that the basic nature of the inspector doesn't change even if he is made a home minister. In India it cannot be the language of the home minister. When he was reading his statement in the house it appeared that he got a challan issued from some police station and was reading it. Many news channels were telecasting live the statement of the home minister. These channels were able to find out that who was the mastermind of the twin bomb blasts and it was unfortunate for India that its home minister was giving police statement about the incident. Soniaji you have given Shinde ji the post but who will give him the intellect? The problem is same with true for you. But I cannot say this because at least you have something in you which have made the Congressmen to give the reins of 100 years old Congress in your hand. The statement of the home minister is itself pointing fingers at him. The adverse impact of the weak statement could be read on his face. The Home Minister of India should not be weak but strong. It is India where the son of a school teacher Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee becomes the Prime Minister of the country and the son of a *mallah* becomes APJ Abdul Kalam. But no one has till now raised a finger on their ability and personality. The life which began as a newspaper seller transcended into a missile man. And a son of a small primary school

teacher by giving speech in the national language in UNO and raised the tricolor aloft in the international arena. It was never heard that those who had no ground level base have become pillars of the Congress. Dr. Manmohan Singh never won any election. He is a member of the Rajya Sabha even now. How the Finance Minister Chidambaram won the election is known to everyone. AK Antony is also from Rajya Sabha. It is said that he is very honest but the scams getting exposed in his ministry exceed any other ministry now.

If the Indian government fails to take the incident of Hyderabad bomb blast seriously then the days are not far off when the UPA government will be able to do nothing except distributing condolences and relief money. And if Pakistan celebrates on the statement given by the Home Minister in the wake of Jaipur Chintan Shivir, does he have the right to continue? We have handed over the pride of India in the hands of the home minister. And pride is handed over to a person who understands its value. He has to remain alert of his responsibilities about the unity and integrity of the nation. Should a home minister continue to remain in his chair after giving the statement which has boosted the morale of the terrorists? ■

Vijay Goel is new Delhi BJP President

Former Union Minister and Bharatiya Janata Party National General Secretary Shri Vijay Goel has been nominated as President of the party's Delhi unit by the Party President Shri Rajnath Singh. Shri Goel had won the Lok Sabha elections from Delhi thrice and served in Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Council of Ministers and in the BJP central party. He held the post of BJP



National General Secretary at the time of announcement. After his appointment, talking to media, Shri Goel said "The party leadership has entrusted me with enormous responsibility in an election year. Delhi faces enormous problems today like water, electricity, law & order, traffic, and my first priority will be fighting for the rights of the people of Delhi and to provide them with facilities and amenities they deserve."

V. Muraleedharan appointed Kerala BJP President



BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh appointed Shri V. Muraleedharan as Kerala BJP President for a second term on February 4 with immediate effect. During his academic period Shri. Muraleedharan had functioned as Thalassery taluk President, District Secretary of Kannur and State Joint Secretary of ABVP. He was the State Organizing Secretary of ABVP from 1983 to 1994. He was also the All India Secretary of ABVP from 1987 to 1990. From 1994 to 1996 he made Mumbai as his centre to carry out the responsibilities nation wide as the All India General Secretary of ABVP.

Tirath Singh Rawat is new Uttarakhand BJP President

Shri Tirath Singh Rawat has been appointed as Uttarakhand BJP President. Shri Rawat represents the Chaubatakhal (Pauri Garhwal) seat in the State Assembly, was named as the State BJP President by the BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh in New Delhi on February 10, 2013.



Ashok Khajuria appointed BJP Legislature Party Leader in J&K



BJP MLA Shri Ashok Khajuria was on February 17 appointed as the leader of the BJP Legislature Party in Jammu and Kashmir. Khajuria was elected as the legislature party leader unanimously at a meeting of BJP MLAs in Jammu. BJP President Shri Rajnath Singh had appointed party General Secretary Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda as the observer for the process of election of the legislature party leader. The appointment comes in the wake of the recent party elections in which Nagrota MLA Shri Jugal Kishore was elected as the President of the State unit of BJP. ■

Terror strikes again – time to build a 'National Consensus'

By Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

2^{1st} February 2013 - Disukhnagar, Hyderabad - At around 07.00 pm two blasts in succession ripped apart the calmness of the city. So far 16 people are reported to have died and 119 wounded. Usually a busy area, the site selected for the terror attack has a shopping complex, cinema halls and bus stop in the vicinity. The area was bustling with activities at the

hospitals where many of them are still fighting for their survival. While many people have lost their lives, many will have to bear the brunt of this blast throughout their life in the shape of permanent injuries and disabilities.

The twin blasts sent a shock wave throughout the nation. It was not for the first time that innocent people were targeted by

October itself that the locality of Disukhnagar was surveyed by Indian Mujahideen but still adequate and effective policing of the area was not done.

The 'speed and commitment' displayed by the Congress led UPA government in repealing POTA as soon as it assumed power at the centre in 2004 was completely absent in tackling the menace of terrorism. While in the wake of 26/11 Mumbai terror attack the Congress led UPA government which hitherto dithered on the issue of terrorism was forced to act but the steps remain embroiled in half hearted measures. The National Investigating Agency, Natgrid and Organisation for Counter Terrorism Operation have failed to effectively curb the menace of terrorism and take pre-emptive measures to contain terror strikes. Contrast it with the case in US and UK who have acted in the wake of 9/11 terror attack and enacted tough terror laws and followed tough policies in this regard. The US policy as laid down in an annual publication of the US State Department may be taken note of:

- Make no concession to Terrorism and strike no deal
- Bring terrorists to justice for their crimes
- Isolate and apply pressures on states that sponsor terrorism
- Bolster the counter-terrorist



time of blasts and the people were caught unaware leading to a tragic incident in which innocent people were killed and maimed. The blood splattered site with those hurt crying for help presented a heart rending spectacle. The scene was strewn with mangled bodies of the victims and those who were injured waited for their survival hoping to get some help. The dead and injured ranged from children to old aged persons - the terror took the toll of all those whom it could get hold of. The injured were rushed to nearby

the terrorists. But the irony is that we wake up when the incident has already taken place, when damage has been done, innocent lives lost, hundreds maimed and then we choose to suddenly forget everything and close our eyes from the looming threats and dangers. Every time there is an attack, there are ritualistic expressions of concern and commitment but an effective delivery mechanism remains missing. In this case also there were intelligence inputs about the recce being done of the area and Delhi Police had learnt last

capabilities of countries that work with the US.

In the context of the above four points it may be easily concluded that the Congress led UPA government has been acting in contravention to these tenets. The government was under pressure for Afzal Guru's clemency even when the Supreme Court has ordered his execution after he was found guilty in Parliament attack case and the process was delayed inflaming passions in the country. Even in the case of Ajmal Kasab, a convict in 26/11 terror attack, there were much dilly-dallying. Secondly, the UPA government engaged in

like Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh are deprived from having any anti-terror law by withholding the bills to this effect passed by their state assemblies. The Congress led UPA is seen more interested in thwarting the fight against terrorism rather than leading it from the front. The hands of UPA remained tied with vote bank compulsions, it could not act and nor even pretend to do so.

Irresponsible statement of Home Minister

Although the home minister Sushil Kumar Shinde has taken back his statement accusing RSS-BJP of training 'Hindu Terror' in their camps, the statement has

agenda on its cards. The 'secularists' having failed in their bid to rationalize the terrorist attacks especially from jihadi groups through their half baked theories ranging from economic deprivation, lack of education, regional imbalances to attacks on the minorities have been in search of a new rationale. While SIMI was banned and its new avatara Indian Mujahideen has gone on bombing the Indian cities including Hyderabad with blasts inflicting heavy casualties, attempts were made to find its Hindu equivalent. Such approach has weakened the fight against terrorism in India.

Conclusion

Terrorism has become a grave challenge for the entire humanity. In the recent years it has assumed global dimension enhancing its capabilities to strike at chosen location throughout the world. One of the major worrying features of this whole dimension is linkages between these terrorist outfits which is emerging as a nexus between the outfits swearing by diverse and even diametrically opposite ideologies. Terrorism is now being transformed into a paying industry, a parallel economic-political and military world power. The Naxal-Maoist outfits declaring support for SIMI is one such example. India has been a target of terrorism even before the world realized its seriousness in the wake of 9/11 attack on US. According to an estimate, "since the closing years of 1970s, India has been in the vortex of foreign-sponsored terrorism, which has claimed nearly 80,000 lives, both civilians and security forces - in Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, North -

Statement issued by BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh on Hyderabad bomb blasts on 21st February 2013

The incident of bomb blasts which took place in Hyderabad is unfortunate and condemnable. I have received the information that many people have lost their lives and people were injured in large numbers in the Hyderabad bomb blasts. I extend my deep condolences to the bereaved families of the people who died in the incident and wish for speedy recovery of the injured.

Hyderabad bomb blasts are a challenge to the country by the terrorists. I hope that the government will conduct extensive investigations and act strongly against the culprits.

negotiations with the terrorist outfits and in the process implicitly legitimizing these elements. Thirdly, even in the face of its own claim that Pakistan has been sponsoring terrorism on Indian soil, the Indian Government has signed Havana Agreement buying Pakistan's argument that it is also a victim of terrorism. The Congress leaders are openly addressing Hafeez Saeed in respectful manner who is also the mastermind of 26/11 Mumbai terror attack and head of Jama'at-ud-Da'wah in Pakistan. Not only this, the states

led to celebration in Pakistan. Such irresponsible statement has further emboldened the terrorist outfits. There have been several attempts in the past to create "Hindu Terrorists" out of nothing. Ridiculous theories were invented to create "Hindu Terrorists" seeking to salvage the image of 'secularist' sympathizers of jihadi groups. One such theory was that since the members of ULFA were Hindus, so Hindus were also terrorists! In arguing to create "Hindu Terrorists" they deliberately ignored the fact that the ULFA never had any Hindu

eastern states and in the rest of India." According to another estimate, 54,705 people including 20,925 civilians, 7,824 security force personnels and 26,921 terrorists were killed between 1994 and October 2008. The data excludes fatalities by Naxal-Maoist violence.

The response of the Indian state in the wake of repeated bomb blasts has been shockingly slack and timid. The Congress led UPA government at the centre has done nothing more than expressing its helplessness after every terror attack and indulging in tokenism.

Intelligentsia, media, policy-makers, politicians, social activists, judiciary and all the other important components of our polity will have to come together to evolve a NATIONAL CONSENSUS on the issue of Terrorism and show political will and commitment in implementing that consensus. It is the need of the hour that concrete and effective measures are initiated to deal with the threat of terrorism. An opinion building exercise at the various level of polity should focus on the threat that may have devastating impact on our future. Following steps may be initiated to counter the terrorist threats:

- There should be a national consensus on the issue of internal security while dealing with the serious long term and short term threats posed by cross-border terrorism, separatist terrorist activities, naxal violence, disruptive and subversive elements and others.
- National consensus is required in the face of the long term nature of the security

threats requiring long-term policies. In such a context the policies should remain intact so that it might not be changed with the change of government at different levels.

- At no point of time the territorial integrity of the nation should be made negotiable in initiating or implementing measures while tackling elements posing security threats.
- Terrorist, separatist, disruptive, subversive and other similar elements should be dealt strongly at global, national and regional levels.
- A consensus should be there to earmark a definite proportion of the budget at state and national levels to strengthen security measures so as to adequately and sufficiently fund our security requirements.
- Intelligence set-up of the nation should be overhauled and the issue of coordination should be resolved in such a manner that there is no space for any loopholes.
- Anti-terror law should be in place; policy changes like having TADA at some time and allowing it to lapse at other time or enacting POTA at some time but repealing it with the change in Government should be done away with.
- A team of experts working at the level of planning and implementation of the long term security related policies should be appointed on a permanent basis which may function consistently irrespective of change in the government.
- There should be a proper

mechanism to arrive at political consensus on security related issues by organizing all-party meetings and initiating confidence building measures among the political parties through debates, discussions and mutual sharing of ideas.

- Interference by politically vested interests should be reduced to the minimum by conceptualizing a mechanism whereby the judiciary, military, security forces, intelligence are allowed to perform professionally and objectively.
- The issue of border surveillance and security management should be given top priority so that infiltration can be checked effectively. At the same time identifying the infiltrators and their deportation should be done without politicizing the issue.

There should be a consensus that in a democratic set-up like the one we have, violence and separatism have no place. Any individual or outfit espousing their cause through violence and separatism should not be tolerated and be declared outside the ambit of our system and be also declared out of the parameters of negotiations unless and until they shun violence and separatism. The person(s) or outfit(s) supporting violence and separatism should be immediately brought to justice under the existing laws. By taken such strong measures and political will the nation can pay its real tributes to the victims of terror attacks. It is high time that we rise up to the challenge and take the fight against terrorism to its logical conclusion. ■

“Why Justice Markandey Katju must quit as the Chairman of the Press Council of India”

By Arun Jaitley

The last week witnessed a selective targeting of two popular non-Congress State Governments and its leaders by Justice Markandey Katju, a retired judge of the Supreme Court, presently the Chairperson of the Press Council of India. He released a draft report on behalf of the Press Council of India alleging that media in Bihar was not independent. He followed it up with an article in ‘The Hindu’ attacking the Gujarat Government and its Chief Minister Narendra Modi.

Though initially known for his scholarship Justice Katju was never a conventional judge. His utterances, both during his tenure as a Judge and thereafter are clearly outlandish. Dignified comment is alien to him. His attacks on non-Congress governments whether in West Bengal, Bihar or Gujarat seem more in the nature of thanksgiving to those who provided him with a post retirement job.

I have held a strong view that Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts must not be eligible for jobs in the Government after retirement. In some cases the pre-retirement judicial conduct of a judge is influenced by the desire to get a

post retirement assignment. However, we are still operating under a system where various tribunals and other quasi-judicial assignments are filled up with retired judges. The Chairman of the Press Council of India has always been a retired judge of the Supreme Court. He deals with issues relating to the freedom of Press, possible

Justice Markandey Katju has failed every test on which a Judge whether sitting or retired could be judged. The choice of his subjects and targets is motivated by his political preferences. He is extraordinarily soft on those who provided him a post retirement job. I am yet to read a comment from him which prefers meritocracy over dynasty as an instrument of leadership creation.

encroachment of the said freedom and also hears complaints relating to lack of professionalism in media reporting and comment. The Chairman of the Press Council discharges a statutory job. His job requires fairness, impartiality and political neutrality. Additionally a Judge, whether sitting or retired, is expected to conduct himself with sobriety, dignity and grace. He cannot be loud, crude,

outlandish or behave like a megalomaniac. When Judges discharge judicial functions nobody can attribute a motive to them. Even criticism of judgements has to be couched in a language of restraint. Criticism can be academic not personal. It is a fundamental principle in the conduct of Judicial or Quasi Judicial functions a Judge should

refrain from involving themselves in political controversies. If he desires to get into a political activity or a political debate, he should cease to hold his Judicial or Quasi-Judicial office. In any case his views are liable for the same level of scrutiny and comment as is applicable to politicians.

Justice Markandey Katju has failed every test on which a Judge whether sitting or retired could be judged. The choice of his subjects and

targets is motivated by his political preferences. He is extraordinarily soft on those who provided him a post retirement job. I am yet to read a comment from him which prefers meritocracy over dynasty as an instrument of leadership creation. Obviously, such a comments would embarrass those who desire to legitimise India as a Dynastic Democracy. The crusader in Justice Katju subjects himself to self-

censorship when UPA's corruption from the 2G spectrum allocation to the coal block allocation are to be commented upon. When confronted with favourable comments by large sections of domestic and international community praising the change of polity in Bihar and the emergence of development as the centre stage agenda of politics, Justice Katju chooses to target Nitish Kumar and the Bihar Government for lack of Press freedom.

His recent criticism in a signed article in 'The Hindu' against the Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi reads more like a personal tirade. His political bias is clear from the fact that on the burning of the Sabarmati Express in Godhra he writes - "There is still a mystery of what happened in Godhra". Is Justice Markandey Katju trying to hold a brief for those who have been convicted for setting the train on fire resulting in the death of innumerable people and injuries to many others. Can a former judge of the Supreme Court presently holding a statutory assignment ignore the fact that the trial court has convicted a large number of accused in the case and their appeals are pending?

He then comments on the fact that Narendra Modi has not been prima facie held liable by any judicial authority. He prefers bazaar gossip over judicial verdicts and observes - "I do not want to comment on our judiciary but I certainly do not buy the story that Shri Modi had no hand in 2002."

He then continues his tirade against Modi and Gujarat by underplaying the economic

development in Gujarat. He observes - "Giving concessions to big industrial houses and offering them cheap land and cheap electricity can hardly be called development if it does not raise the life of the masses." He then selectively quotes statistics to substantiate his point. Professor Jagdish Bhagwati and Dr. Arvind Panagariya in their recent publications have observed that Gujarat inherited low levels of social indicators at the time of Independence and it is the change in these indicators where Gujarat has shown impressive improvement. The literacy rate has risen from 22 percent in 1951 to 69 percent in 2001 and 79 percent in 2011. The infant mortality rate per 1000 has fallen from 144 in 1971 to 60 in 2001 and 41 in 2011. He looks at Gujarat with a jaundiced eye.

Justice Katju finally concludes his article with a political appeal. He observes "I appeal to the people of India to consider all this if they are really concerned about the nation's

future, otherwise they may make the same mistake which the Germans made in 1933." I concede to Justice Katju the right to hold his political views, but can the occupant of a job whose functioning is quasi-judicial openly participate in political activity. His appeal is political. He appears to be more Congress than the Congress party. If a sitting Judge of the Supreme Court participated in politics so openly and issued a political appeal he would be liable for impeachment. If a Civil Servant did the same he would be liable to be dismissed from service. Should not a former judge who currently occupies a quasi-judicial office as Chairman of the Press Council of India, either quit before actively participating in politics or be sacked. Retired judges must remember that the rental for occupying a Lutyen's bungalow post retirement has to be political neutrality not political participation. ■

(The writer is Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha)

Assam's Goalpara District violence exposes ineffectiveness of Congress Government : Rajnath

BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh on February 16 announced a team of four MPs which will visit Goalpara district in Assam and submit a report to him on poll related violence which claimed over 20 lives last week.

Shri Singh has expressed serious concern over the recent violence in Goalpara area of Assam. "In the violence there, 13 people were killed in police firing while another 13 were killed by suspected Bangladeshis. Houses in about 15 villages in the area were set on fire," Shri Singh said.

The team comprises Guwahati MP Smt. Bijaya Chakravarty, Rajya Sabha MPs Shri Prakash Javadekar and Shri Tarun Vijay, and Meerut MP Shri Rajendra Agarwal. BJP alleged, "This incidence of violence in Goalpara district has exposed the ineffectiveness of the state government. Law and order has virtually come to a naught in the area".

AgustaWestland-Deal scam another blot in Congress cap

By Vikash Anand

Surfacing of the Agustawestland -Deal-Scam in defence has added one more feather in the corrupt Congress led UPA's cap.

During the last decade since UPA came to power, innumerable scams have hit the country. However, this one is different from the previous scams. It's more like

He plundered India 17 times.

The main Opposition party BJP has demanded a time-bound court monitored CBI inquiry into the kickbacks for the purchase of 12 AW101 helicopters worth over Rs 3,500 crores. The CBI inquiry will not yield any result under the UPA regime unless monitored by the court.

probe into the matter. While Government of India avoided a proper inquiry, the Italian Government was quick to start probing the kickback charges of the deal seriously.

In a press statement Shri Javadekar said: "In fact news reports indicate that the Government's internal inquiry was eager to give a "clean chit" to the deal. BJP demands the details of MoD's internal inquiry and how the Government arrived at the conclusion that there was no "foul play". Interestingly, without reference to the inquiry UPA Government expressed its helplessness saying that "in the absence of any specific information, Government has not started any formal probe in this regard by Indian agencies." Actually Government can start probing based on the basis of information from sources and need not wait for any official communication from Italy. The transcripts of taped conversation between Haschke and his accomplice Gerosa, was available in the public domain for over four months. However, the Government did not bother to take note of it.

Because of this approach of Government, the Indian operations Chief of Finmeccanica Mr Girasole, one of the links in the kickback could leave India. Ministry of Defence, instead of accepting its fault is trying to deflect the issue by bringing in unnecessarily the "technical specifications" and



About AgustaWestland NV

AgustaWestland NV is an Italian multinational helicopter design and manufacturing company, and a wholly owned subsidiary of Finmeccanica. It was formed in July 2000 when Finmeccanica and GKN merged their respective helicopter subsidiaries (Agusta and Westland Helicopters) to form AgustaWestland, with each holding a 50% share. Finmeccanica acquired GKN's stake in AgustaWestland in 2004.

the 'Bofors' that happened during Rajeev Gandhi's tenure as Prime Minister of the country .Like Bofors, this scam has also links with Italy. Scams, one after the other, by the Congress led UPA Government remind the times of Mohammad Ghajini who was the first to loot this golden sparrow, what Bharat was then known as.

Last year in December, when the issue of kickbacks in VVIP choper deal was reported in Italian and Indian media, BJP raised the issue in Parliament on December 12, 2012. Rajya Sabha member Shri Prakash Javadekar wrote a letter to the Defence Minister of India on December 14, 2012 to initiate a suo-moto time bound

The Indian Express reported from Italian probe report, how and when the scandal broke in its 15 February, 2013 edition:

- **Pages 1-2:** *The first two pages of the Italian document details the main accused in the chopper scandal case. It names the Finmeccanica CEO, other officials of the company, the three alleged middlemen — Guido Haschke, Carlo Gerosa and Christian Michel — as well as the Indians to whom money was allegedly paid. In particular, there is a specific allegation on page two that former air chief S P Tyagi was paid money through his cousins, the Tyagi brothers, to favour AgustaWestland in the contract.*
- **Pages 3-6:** *On these pages, Italian investigators have detailed how the money was allegedly generated through bogus engineering contracts that Finmeccanica signed with a Tunisia and India-based company IDS. The document maps the money paid through this channel and accounts for a total of 21 million euros that was generated through inflated bills and bogus engineering contracts. The money chart explains that regular monthly tranches of payments were made between 2007-11. These payments averaged to a 5,50,000 euros per month towards the end.*
- **Pages 7-11:** *The investigation started in 2011 after an open succession war between Guarguaglini, who was then heading Finmeccanica, and Orsi, who eventually did succeed him. Meanwhile, late last year, Silvio Berlusconi's coalition government, whose partners include parties such as the far-right Lega Nord (now alleged to have received kickbacks to swing the deal in Italy), was replaced by one led by technocrat Mario Monti. This prompted Lorenzo Borgogni, a former top employee of Finmeccanica and an Orsi-baiter, to blow the whistle on Agusta's deal with the Indian government. Borgogni told prosecutors in a detailed statement that kickbacks were paid by AgustaWestland for the Indian contract through the use of middlemen and that the total amount came up to 51 million euros. Borgogni detailed how the money was paid through a network of middlemen and consultants, with the main allegation being that at least 10 million euros was funnelled back to Italy and paid to the Lega Nord party in return for its support to Orsi's bid to become president of Finmeccanica. In his interrogation, Borgogni says the company decided to divert funds for commissions, knowing how risky it is to hire agents for Indian deals.*
- **Page 12-16:** *These contain the confession of prime middleman Guido Haschke, in which he details how he got involved in the first place with the deal, how he managed to get a contract with Finmeccanica and who his contacts in India are. It is in this confession that he claims to have met Tyagi several times when he was Chief. Haschke also admits he received a kickback of 20 million euros of which 12 was paid off to the Tyagi brothers.*
- *The Italian investigators find a copy of an agreement that was allegedly drawn up by the two key middlemen in Dubai to settle a dispute that had threatened to end their contract with Finmeccanica. The agreement, a copy of which was seized from a house in Switzerland and is cited in the report as a major piece of evidence, discussed how a total of 52 million euros would be divided between Guido Haschke and Christian Michel. The letter says that Michel has agreed to take a 12 million-euro cut in his commission to accommodate the demand of Haschke and "the family". It is, however, not specified in the letter what "the family" alludes to. (IE, Feb 15)*

dragging the name of NDA. The issue is not of technical specification but the real issue is the corruption and the kickbacks and Government's failure to order timely probe and find out the

Indian beneficiaries. The Congress Government is neck deep in corruption. CWG, 2G, Coal, Loan Waiver and many other scams have become the hallmark of the UPA government.

According to Indian Express's report, Finmeccanica which happens to be the parent company of Agusta, a war of succession within the Italian firm led to the unearthing of alleged corruption

TIMELINE

2005-06: Carlo Gerosa and Guido Haschke, business partners based in Switzerland, approach AgustaWestland claiming they can help it with the Indian contract. Key contention that the technical requirements of the contract can be tweaked allegedly swung the deal.

2006: Agusta officials 'tie up' with Haschke and Gerosa, sign consultancy contracts. Deal is that Euro 51 million commission will be paid, partly through engineering consultancy contracts for bagging the deal. UK-based consultant Christian Michel too enters the picture.

2007: After the down selection of AgustaWestland for the contract along with an American contender, payments start funneling in from the consultancy contracts. At first they are small — ranging from Euro 111,000 to 286,987 — but over next few years swell up to an average of Euro 550,000 per month.

2009-10: Contract is bagged by AgustaWestland. Payments made through engineering contracts continue.

2011: An Agusta insider spills the beans to Italian investigators. Inquiry is ordered, including wire taps, phone taps, car bugging and electronic surveillance.

2012: Italian prosecutors start filing cases. Name Indian players, reveal a nexus of arms agents and fixers.

2013: Finmeccanica CEO held, former Indian Air Chief named as receiving bribes.

THE CAST

- ❖ ORSI Giuseppe, CEO and president of Finmeccanica from May 4, 2011, previously CEO of AgustaWestland Holdings NV from 2005 to May 2011
- ❖ SPAGNOLINI Bruno, CEO from May 2011 of AgustaWestland Holdings NV based in Holland
- ❖ HASCHKE Guido Ralph, chief and partner of Gadit SA of Lugano and Gordian Services SARL based in Tunis
- ❖ GEROSA Carlo, Haschke's partner in the above companies

in AgustaWestland's helicopter deal with India. The Italian State with the largest shareholding of 30% in Finmeccanica probed into the deal immediately, thereby revealing the confessions of Guido Haschke also (the prime middleman), apart from the insider account of a former AgustaWestland official, who was the first to blow the lid on the scam. The official, a baiter of arrested Finmeccanica chief Giuseppe Orsi, blew the whistle after Orsi replaced Francesco Guarguaglini at the post.

BJP stepped up pressure on the UPA regime asking it to reveal the identity of "the family" that received Rs 200 crore kickbacks. BJP said that the government must answer to the following questions which the nation is eager to know:

- Who finalized and signed the VVIP Chopper deal?
- Who received the kickbacks?

- In two places, Italian charge sheet talks about payment of 28 million Euros to 'The Family'. The nation wants to know who 'The Family' is?
- What is the connection of the Haschke and Emaar MGF?
- What is the status and role of IDS India in the chopper scam?
- Whether government has issued Letter Rogatory in connection with this Scam?

The same controversial and loss making deal that involved Westland Company was made to purchase helicopters by the then Congress Government under Prime Ministership of Rajiv Gandhi in 1986.

The deal raised a big controversy and was labelled as one of the worst deals in the civil aviation sector. That time, due to political pressure Pawan Hans had bought 21 Westland helicopters. The helicopters were

meant primarily for Pawan Hans's off-shore operations for Oil & Natural Gas commission (ONGC). Just a few months after the agreement, it was discovered that the Westland helicopters were ill suited to operate in moist conditions which is a prerequisite for off-shore operations.

The helicopters suffered from engine failure and torque mismatch besides being fuel guzzlers. The 1986 deal had made a huge loss to the government exchequer. The company was about to close. Finally, Westland was acquired by Finmeccanica's Agusta and was renamed as AgustaWestland.

The Manmohan government is now trying to dilly-dally the matter by promising a discussion in Parliament and even constitution of a Joint Parliamentary Committee which have been of no use in similar scams in the past. ■

Congress has piled an Everest of Corruption

By Amba Charan Vashishth

The clock of UPA's scams continues to click unabatedly. By the time the final whistle for the 2014 Lok Sabha elections is blown, Manmohan government may have piled up an Everest of corruption which no corrupt government in the country may ever dream to scale.

There are many similarities in the Bofors scandal and the AgustaWestland helicopter. Both occurred in the Defence Ministry. Both had Italian links.

know what is going wrong at the border or beyond threatening the very unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country.

During the occurrence of these scams there were Congress government or Congress-led UPA government at the Centre. Both times the Defence Ministry was headed by Congressmen.

Both times it was not the shark eye of the Defence Ministry which pierced into the crime, but the foreign governments - in the case of Bofors the Swedish Radio

even ascertain facts remains beyond comprehension.

Even when the matter was raised in the Rajya Sabha by BJP Spokesperson Shri Prakash Javadekar, the Manmohan government refused to take action. It only tried to dilly-dally the allegations. The reasons now seem obvious. This government, as in the past too, was trying to help and save some party or individuals. This has become all the more evident when media reports reported that the Italy's state-controlled AgustaWestland had allegedly kept aside Rs 217 crore as part of "corrupt activity" to bag India's Rs 3,600 crore deal and its choppers became eligible only after certain required parameters were altered in the tender document. According to the report filed by Italian investigators in an Italian court, the middlemen had agreed for a 7.5 per cent commission in the Rs 3600 crore for 12 VVIP helicopters. Finally, the kickbacks were to the tune of about Rs 362 crore.

Even when the matter was raised in the Rajya Sabha by BJP Spokesperson Shri Prakash Javadekar, the Manmohan government refused to take action. It only tried to dilly-dally the allegations. The reasons now seem obvious. This government, as in the past too, was trying to help and save some party or individuals. This has become all the more evident when media reports reported that the Italy's state-controlled AgustaWestland had allegedly kept aside Rs 217 crore as part of "corrupt activity" to bag India's Rs 3,600 crore deal and its choppers became eligible only after certain required parameters were altered in the tender document. According to the report filed by Italian investigators in an Italian court, the middlemen had agreed for a 7.5 per cent commission in the Rs 3600 crore for 12 VVIP helicopters. Finally, the kickbacks were to the tune of about Rs 362 crore.

In both cases the Congress governments had claimed that there were no middlemen and no bribes were taken. But later they were proved wrong.

In both the cases the Defence Ministry failed to smell the stink flowing under its very nose. The moot question is: what is the military intelligence doing? If it cannot keep a vigilant eye on what is going on within the South Block, one wonders what would our Defence Ministry

and in the helicopter case the Italian government itself.

Reports of bungling and corruption in the case had been circulating in the Press, in particular, in *The Indian Express* for more than a year, but for reasons unexplained the UPA government refused to take cognizance of such reports and hold inquiry on the pretext that government could not Press reports but by hard facts. But why did the government refuse to

The BJP has stepped up its attack on the government over the VVIP helicopter scam by asking it to name "who benefitted from kickbacks" in the deal and which was the "the family" referred to in the Italian court documents.

Alleging that the government was trying to cover up the bribery case, BJP accused the UPA of diverting attention to non-issues like changes made in the specifications of the

...Continued on page 18

Special interview on the occasion

BJP is the only hope for Women Empowerment : Smriti

On the eve of International Women's Day on March 8, for Kamal Sandesh National Convener of BJP's Literature & Publication Cell, Shri Amba Charan Vashishth interviewed Smt. Smriti Irani, National President of BJP Mahila Morcha at her residence in New Delhi. She is also a Rajya Sabha MP from Gujarat. She is very active in women affairs and an effective presenter of women and party views in TV channel debates. Excerpts:



Are you satisfied with the condition of women of India after 65 years of Independence?

Not the least. Women constitute about 50 percent of India's population of 120 crores. Yet, unfortunately, when budget of the country is framed not half the care due is extended to women. In the 9th Five Year Plan there was a provision for Women Composite Programme according to whose guidelines 33 percent of the budget plan should be devoted towards women development. But, unfortunately, I have found that in the last two budgets not even 5 percent of the budget has been spent on women centric welfare projects. This government makes tall claims about women safety but when women protest against crimes against women, our sisters are treated to lathicharge in Delhi. In this country no woman feels safe on roads and will not dare to visit a police station to seek protection. If the government cannot infuse that much confidence in women, it only shows that women have lost faith and confidence in the administration.

These days there is a flood of incidents of crime and sexual harassment against women. Why is it so?

I feel our media is giving more prominence to cases of rape and other atrocities against women. There is less coverage when the culprits are punished. A woman will feel empowered to speak against injustice to her only after she

feels assured that the administration and society will help her in getting justice. As long as we do not succeed in erasing the feeling of hesitancy from the mind of women the things are not going to change for the better for them. We swing into action only when a big incident of the nature of Nirbhaya blasts out. By ignoring small incidents we encourage the commission of more heinous crimes. In Delhi the incidents of sexual harassment of women have increased by 116 percent. But tell me how many are there against whom serious action has been taken. That figure is too low.

What is the crux of the problem?

The mindset of our administration and the crime prevention agency. When a girl is harassed or teased and if she dares to report it to the police, she is confronted with very embarrassing questions: You have only been teased or harassed. Have you been raped? If no, why do you make so much fuss? This is how the police treat women who gather courage to report such incidents to the police. What can be more funny and disgraceful than the Chairman of the Women Commission asking women not to feel offended if somebody calls you sexy. What kind of message are we trying to convey to women? That women are an object and you should not have any grouse against it. This system does not generate confidence in women.

When many rape incidents occurred in Delhi, BJP Mahila Morcha in November 2010 wrote to the Police Commissioner to remove tinted glasses from vehicles. Later, Supreme Court too directed it. We demanded that the Commissioner should periodically review the situation of crime against women and plug loopholes in the system. Had this been done in time, the kind of Nirbhaya incidents could have been avoided. The fact of the matter is that we go slow and are wise only after the incident to swing into action.

We have a woman as Delhi chief minister, yet the situation is worse.

Delhi has earned the dubious distinction of being the Rape capital of India. Delhi CM Shiela Dikshit says she is helpless. What message does she convey to the anti-social elements? She feels strong in indulging in scams but weak in combating crime against women. What a sorry state of affairs!

In the protest rallies against Nirbhaya rape and murder in Delhi what role did BJP Mahila Morcha play?

It was a social protest. Therefore BJP did not make it a political issue. But our workers did join the protest rallies though not under the Mahila Morcha banner. BJP was the only political party which convened a meeting of Core Committee on this issue and demanded that the Government frame a strong law to punish the guilty.

A great misconception has been spread about place of women in our ancient culture. What would you say?

I feel proud to say that it is only the Indian culture which has given a place of prominence to women. No religious ceremony is considered complete without the association of the wife. It is only Indian culture which has given the concept of *ardhnaarishwar*. *Shakti* (denoting woman power) and Shiva have been given equal respect. This you cannot find in western culture. In Kautilya's *arthshastra* there was a provision for punishment to a person if he subjected his wife to sexual exploitation. On the other hand, the Sexual Harrassment Bill is still hanging fire in Parliament. *Manusmriti* has specified the conditions under which a woman is free to desert her man. The great king Chandragupta Maurya had entrusted

his personal security to a contingent of armed women. Every country wishes to conserve and preserve its culture, traditions and heritage. We are fortunate we have it plenty in India. In Vedic age we had women scholars like Maitree and Gaargi. In Ancient Mithila there was *shaastrarth* between Shankaracharya and woman scholar Bharati. I fail to understand why we shut our eyes to all that is great in our history and culture. Why do we fail to present to the world all that is good in it?

Women Reservation Bill continues to hang on in Parliament. Do you think the present UPA government is capable of getting it through?

I am the least hopeful. I do not feel this government is sincere in getting this Bill passed in Parliament.

What are the challenges faced by women today?

Rising prices is one of the most critical problem facing women today. What they need? Only to ensure two meals a day to her family. Majority of women are hard up to make both ends meet even to secure meals for their children, not to speak of it for themselves. The other problem is malnutrition and lack of hospital facilities. The situation is that either there are no hospitals. If there are, there is no doctor. If there is a doctor, there are no medicines. Education is another challenge. In tribal areas the drop rate of girls after matriculation is 80 percent and among dalit girls it is 72 percent. In the unorganized sector more than 90 percent of the work force is women because they do not demand high wages and perks.

It is felt that the talk of women empowerment is only on paper. In reality, it is only a mirage. Is it so?

I feel proud and fortunate that I belong to a party that has empowered women in the organization. BJP has granted 33 percent reservation to women at all levels in the Party which has not been done in any other party. This process was initiated by Shri Lal Krishan Advaniji and given effect to by Shri Rajnath Singhji in his last tenure as President. BJP has provided all avenues for women to come forward in all spheres. I feel that when BJP is voted into power at the Centre, it will do a lot to transform the life of women for the better. ■

...Continued from page 15

helicopters, when the quality of the machine was not in question.

“The issue is not technical specifications but the real issues are the corruption and the kickbacks and the government’s failure to order timely probe and find out the Indian beneficiaries,” BJP spokesperson Shri Prakash Javadekar said.

Whenever the Congress is caught with its hands soiled in corruption, it tries to dig past to extricate itself of the guilt. When 2G spectrum scam broke out, Congress alleged that the rates had been fixed by NDA in 2001. The Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha, Shri Arun Jaitley rightly questioned the government: Will you sell the spectrum at 2001 prices in August 2010?

This time, too, the Congress said that the National Security Adviser Shri Brajesh Mishra during NDA rule had suggested lowering of the helicopter’s height ceiling from 18000 feet to 15000. But whom is the Congress kidding? Does it wish the people to believe that the Congress government was left with no option but to accept in 2010 – and under what circumstances? – the Mishra suggestion made in 2003? Responsibility for all the rights or wrongs lies on the shoulders of the authority taking the decision on a particular date and not on those who may have suggested something a decade back.

It seems to be the case of “*chori aur seena zori*”. Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has tried to appear chivalrous bravely declaring that the Government is ready to have an [open discussion in Parliament](#)

on the helicopter deal. He is trying to spread the impression that his government had committed no wrong in the deal.

The Parliamentary Affairs Minister went a step further. He volunteered the Government’s willingness to constitute a Joint Parliamentary Committee to look into the whole matter. The government seems to be trying to be over smart. The JPC on 2G spectrum scam constituted more than a year back is yet nowhere near a report. Another JPC on helicopter scam may meet the same fate. In the meantime, in less than 14 months elections to Lok Sabha will be announced and the matter may end without any report. This will afford the

Congress the opportunity and excuse to claim that JPC has so far not found anything wrong on the part of government.

The source of the stream of scams that started flowing perennially since the Congress-led UPA government took office about 9 years back lies in the Congress and Congress alone. This is beyond doubt. That also gives the suspicion that Manmohan Singh government is deliberately delaying action to unearth the black money stashed in Swiss and other foreign banks with a definite design to save some people involved in the scams. ■

(The writer is the National Convener of Literature & Publication Cell of Bharatiya Janata Party.)

India’s economic growth rate in 2012-13 pegged lowest in a decade

India’s economic growth rate this fiscal is estimated to be sharply lower at 5%, lowest in a decade, on account of poor performance of manufacturing, agriculture and services sector. This estimate by CSO is drastically lower than what has been projected thus far by the government and RBI. “The growth in GDP (Gross Domestic Product) during 2012-13 is estimated at 5% as compared to a growth rate of 6.2% in 2011-12,” according to the Advanced Estimates released today by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO). In 2002-03, the GDP had grown at 4%. Since then the Indian economy has been expanding at over 6%, the highest rate being 9.6% in 2006-07. CSO’s advance estimate lowered the growth in agriculture and allied activities to 1.8% in 2012-13, compared to 3.6% 2011-12. Manufacturing growth is also expected to drop to 1.9% in this fiscal, from 2.7% last year. The CSO’s GDP growth projection is a lower than the 5.5% forecast made by the Reserve Bank in its quarterly monetary policy review last week.

In its mid-year Economic Review, the government had also estimated growth ranging from 5.7-5.9%. The current estimate is a sharply lower than the 7.6% growth projection for 2012-13 made by government in Budget. The latest estimate of 5% for the entire fiscal means that the pace of economic expansion has slowed sharply in the second half of 2012-13, given that GDP growth in the April-September period stood at 5.4%. ■

BJP holds protest march against Shinde's irresponsible remarks

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) took to the streets on Febdrury 20,2013 to protest against Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde's "Hindu terror" remark. Top leaders including party National President Shri Rajnath Singh led the protest from Parliament Street to Jantar Mantar in New Delhi. They were also detained by the police for some time. BJP leaders want an apology from the Home Minister.

Stepping up the attack on Shinde ahead of the Budget Session of Parliament starting tomorrow, BJP President Shri Rajnath Singh questioned the Home Minister's intentions in making such a provocative statement.

"This comment of the Home Minister is part of a conspiracy to divide the nation for votebank politics," Singh said, addressing a large number of protesting party workers at Parliament Street here today.

Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley said the Congress was indulging in "communal polarisation" through such remarks.

"The Congress and UPA votebank is contracting. Shinde wants to divide the nation on the basis of religion. They are trying to indulge in communal polarisation. The Home Minister made this statement with the intention of dividing the nation for votes and seek the votebank of a particular religion," Jaitley said, addressing the protesting

partymen.

Shri Jaitley questioned Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and UPA Chairperson Smt. Sonia Gandhi on how they have allowed such a Home Minister, who is giving Pakistan a reason to say that India is running terror camps, to function.

Shri Singh also questioned the intentions of Shinde to make such provocative comment and appealed to the countrymen "to understand the conspiracy behind making such a statement."

He accused the Congress of doing votebank politics and warned the government "not to play with the sentiments of people for the sake of votes."

"Don't think Indians as votes and votebanks," Shri Singh said, adding that the Indian population will not allow such a thing. Shri Jaitley said the BJP has taken to the streets against Shinde for his remarks and unless he takes them back and make a public apology the party will not let him do politics.

Both Shri Jaitley and Shri Rajnath Singh dared the UPA to ban the BJP and RSS if they have any proof of the outfits running terror camps.

Shri Singh lamented that the Congress was charging its own countrymen as terrorists and referred to the UNSC which suggested the involvement of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) into the Samjahuta Express blast, Malegaon and Mecca Masjid blasts.

Shri Jaitley said, "No one has ever dared to make such a comment against both BJP and RSS in this country. If there is any truth in such allegations, then the Centre should ban us."

He alleged that the Home Minister has given Pakistan an opportunity to say that India runs terror camps, which India has been accusing Pakistan of doing on its soil for so many years.

He said due to such comments of the Home Minister, "it is India which is a loser".

On government seeking support and cooperation of the Opposition during the difficult economic situation that the country is facing, Jaitley said, "How can you expect cooperation from those whom you charge of running terror camps. We will protest both outside and inside Parliament."

"Ahead of the Budget Session of Parliament, BJP is ready to take this fight to the streets. Take this wrong comment back and make a public apology, then only BJP will allow you to run politics," Jaitley said.

The protesting BJP leaders were detained by the police at Parliament Street Police station and let off after 10 minutes.

Other prominent leader s who attended the protest were BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Ram Lal, Former BJP National President Shri Nitin Gadkari, Delhi BJP President Shri Vijay Goel and others. ■

Shinde's "Hindu terror" comment BJP' stiff stand & countrywide resentment makes Shinde apologise

On the conclusion of the 2-day Congress chintan shivar when Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde made his much quoted "Hindu terror" statement that "...we have got an investigation report that be it the RSS or BJP, their training camps are promoting Hindu terrorism. We are keeping a strict vigil on all this," it was the Congress man in him and not the Home Minister who was speaking at that time at Jaipur. More so because as a Congress man he cannot afford to be irresponsible but not as Home Minister. He was then trying to please his political bosses to keep the non-Hindu constituency of voters in good humour. In a party where not a leaf moves without the nod of Congress chief Mrs. Sonia Gandhi and her son Shri Rahul Gandhi, it remains unthinkable that he opened his mouth without their permission.

In the face of strong denunciation of Shinde diatribe by BJP it took two days for the Congress Party to say **that the party does not endorse identification of such acts with any religion or colour.** The party said Shinde's remarks may have been misinterpreted since he did not intend to hurt religious beliefs or sentiments. "We believe that terrorism should not be linked with religion. So far as the question of the use of phrases like Hindu terrorism and saffron terrorism is concerned, the party

does not endorse them," Shri Janardan Dwivedi, head of the Congress media cell, told reporters.

In the meantime, Shri Shinde marshalled his Home Secretary R. K. Singh to defend him.

At the same time, Foreign Minister Shri Salman Khurshid too jumped in defending Shinde's statement on "Hindu terrorism" saying it was based "entirely on facts" made available by investigative agencies.

There was nationwide condemnation of Shinde's remarks against the majority community and the BJP took a strong stand against him. It decided to boycott him in Parliament and show black flags wherever he goes in the country until he tendered an unqualified apology.

In the meantime, BJP organized massive protests all over the country, including Delhi in which top leadership of the party and thousands of BJP karyakartas and people participated.

After one month on February 20 the Home Minister expressed his regret over his controversial "Hindu terror" remark made at Jaipur. In a statement he regretted that his comments had created a misunderstanding. "It has been understood to mean that I was linking terrorism to a particular religion and was accusing certain political organisations of

being involved in organising terror camps," he said adding that "I had no intention to link terror to any religion. There is no basis for suggesting that terror can be linked to organisations mentioned in my brief speech in Jaipur."

"Since controversy has been created on account of my statement, I am issuing this clarification and expressing regret to those who felt hurt by my statement."

By claiming that his comments "created a misunderstanding" and by denying that "I was linking terrorism to a particular religion and was accusing certain political organisations of being involved in organising terror camps" Shri Shinde seems to be trying to create an impression that he did not understand what he said at that time. How funny indeed!

The Bharatiya Janata Party displayed great heartedness when it welcomed and accepted Home Minister Shinde's statement expressing regret over his Hindu terror remarks but the Party chief spokesperson Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad added that had Shri Shinde done so graciously earlier it would not have "gladdened the hearts" of terrorists based in Pakistan.

"We accept this regret...(his) comment against the RSS and the BJP was totally unwarranted, baseless and malicious. If Mr

Shinde knew that what has spoken was incorrect he ought to have accepted his mistake earlier graciously," Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad said.

If the Congress was not playing politics and was sincere in its heart, it should not have put ifs and buts. Foreign Minister Salman Khurhsid who had supported Shri Shinde's earlier statement too should have apologized. But Shri Shinde made the position of Home Secretary R. K. Singh all the more embarrassing whom he him made to support his political diatribe.

In spite of all this, Congress intentions still do not appear to be sincere and honest. The very next day when Shri Shinde regretted his comment, on February 21 AICC spokesman Shri P C Chacko said, "His (Shinde's) statement may not be factually incorrect but if his statements have hurt any political party, we did not want to go into a fighting mood...

Home minister was speaking on the basis of some fact but even then if he hurt the feelings of some political party, it was not his intent and the home minister has clarified that." Chacko added a home minister would never speak without facts and that Shinde never denied his claims but the government was only adopting a spirit of dialogue with the opposition.

(An analysis by Amba Charan Vashishth)

BJP Govt. is committed for faster progress of Gujarat : Narendra Modi

On 20th February Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi hailed the 2013-14 Budget presented in the Gujarat Vidhan Sabha by Finance Minister Shri Nitinbhai Patel. Shri Narendra Modi said that this is the first budget presented by the new Government after being re-elected and the budget shows that the Gujarat Government is committed to progress of Gujarat and is also determined to increase the pace of development in the state. "We want to take the fruits of development to the villages, to the poor and that is clear from this Budget." The Chief Minister said that if one is to view the plan and non-plan expenditure of the Budgets of Centre and the Budget of the Gujarat Government, they are pictures in contrast. "In their case, 65% of the wealth is spent on running the Government whereas only 35% is spent on development. In our case it is the opposite. 65% is spent on development while 35% spent on running the Government," and said that due to this the development in Gujarat is possible. Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that it recognizes the role of youth in the State's development story. Shri Modi affirmed that the Budget will create confidence, make the youth active partners in the development process and is an extremely progressive budget on issues related to development of women, the poor and the issue of malnutrition. ■

National e-Governance award for Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh has been conferred upon the prestigious National e-Governance Gold Award for 2012-13, for its 'Sparsh Abhiyan' aimed towards the disabled and the aged. The state received the award at Jaipur during the two-day 16th National e-Governance Conference starting Monday. 'Sparsh Abhiyan' is a special programme for rehabilitation and empowerment of the disabled, aged and the destitute. Madhya Pradesh was honoured in the "Focus Sector" category for this innovative programme of its own kind. The award has been given jointly to Directorate of Social Justice, Madhya Pradesh and National Informatics Centre, Madhya Pradesh, an official release said here. ■

Prabhat Jha urges President of India to take some solid action agains Katju to maintain democratic decorum

Rajya Sabha Member and Kamal Sandesh's Editor Shri Prabhat Jha on February wrote to President Shri Pranab Mukherjee, objecting against the controversial statements made by Press Council of India Chairman Markandey Katju targeting Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley, Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi and mediaperson Shri Deepak Chaurasia. "I urge you to definitely take some solid step to maintain democracy's decorum and respect. Justice Katju is constantly making improper comments regarding the Indian leadership and democracy's fourth pillar. The comment made against Shri Modi in a recent article is condemnable," Shri Jha wrote. The remarks against Shri Modi and Shri Jaitley are a cause for concern to the entire country, he added. ■

Salute to Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya on his 45th *punyatithi*

By OP Kohli

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay's *punyatithi* falls in the month of February. This year (2013) it was his 45th *punyatithi*. He was born on 25th September 1916 and died on 11th February 1968. On 25th September 1968 he would have been of 52 years but seven months before this date he was murdered. Who was the murderer and what was the motive behind his murder is still shrouded in mystery. The death of the founder of Bharatiya Jansangh Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee also took place when he was 52 years of age. Whether his death was a natural one or a conspiracy remains a secret till date. What a coincidence is it that the challenging work of creating a national alternative to Congress was done by Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee while challenging task of ideological institutionalization, philosophy, organization, constitution and organized form was given to this newly formed party by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay.

Some people look extraordinary from a distance but as we get closer to them the extraordinariness of the person appears an illusion. Just opposite to it some people who look very ordinary and common from a distance appear extraordinary when we get closer to them. The extraordinariness of Deendayal ji was covered in his

ordinariness. His non-cosmetic way of life had a charm of its own.

He had to bear many shocks in his initial life. He bore the shock of the death of his mother, father, brother and other relatives one by one but this cannot break



him. He was 'made' from the process of these shocks and he was imbued with the sensitive nature without which a person fails to connect with others.

Deendayal ji came in touch with Sangh, he became *swayamsevak* and then a *pracharak* of Sangh. He continued with his Sangh work for fourteen years between 1937 and 1951. Again from 1952 to 1968 he continued to work as General Secretary of Jansangh which was also a Sangh work although his area of work was politics. He

was an ambassador of culture in the field of politics. Without being attached to the politics in vogue he devoted his energy in realizing the goals of national construction through politics. He considered politics to be a tool of national construction, a means to public education and public *samskar* and a way to public service and social and economic transformation. Deendayal ji wanted to give a new political model to the country, a political model which was based on Indianness and values, one which was imbued with Integral Humanism - the philosophy of the holistic welfare and the one which was filled with sensitivity-compassion-concern of *antyo daya*. He rejected the power centric, compassionless and insensitive politics and advocated the politics of service, commitment and compassion.

Deendayalji was an ideologue politician, a thinker politician. In the field of politics today the scene is flooded with the kind of politicians who only indulge in sloganeering, making noises, indulging in agitation, dharna-demonstration but they neither have any idea nor philosophy to offer to the society. In place of race for power, enjoyment of power, plotting for power and politics bereft of ideas Deendayal ji tried to develop a kind of political culture which may lead to holistic welfare of

people and society.

Deendayal ji taught that nation is neither only a piece of land nor a community of men living on that land. A piece of land administered by state and governed by a constitution and the community living on that piece of land cannot be called a nation.

Constitution, administration, land, community and only parts of the body of nation; the soul of the nation is its 'chiti', its ethos. As there are genes in the living beings so there are genes in nations which give form and personality to it. We can call it culture also. Culture is the national essence of the nation, soul of the nation and rest are the constituent and outwardly appearance only. Not to allow the 'chiti' of the nation to weaken and its continuous nurturing and strengthening is nationalism. The concept of cultural nationalism of Jansangh and BJP has developed from the above mentioned ideas of Deendayal ji.

Deendayal ji was an organizer. Only those can do the organizational work who keep him behind and not those who push others behind seeking to project themselves. To make an organization activists are required to be gathered, activists are to be nurtured, hearty relations with the activists need to be established and continuous dialogue with the activists is to be maintained. If the communication between leader and activists get ineffective the organization gets weakened. Those who want to build organization will have to shun false pride and will have to restrain their own ambitions. We

will have to learn these fundamental things of the art of organization building.

Probity is very much required in public life. Probity gives us ability to win confidence of others. A person is able to win the confidence of not only of ones own but the confidence of adversaries. Today probity is becoming a rare thing in public life. Cosmetic behaviour, cunningness, deceitfulness, plotting, deception, difference in preaching and action are prevalent. The standard which Deendayalji set in probity through his life and action can be a guiding light for us. He was ready to lose election in Jaunpur but he it was not acceptable to win the electoral fight in the name of caste. The non-cosmetic life of Deendayal ji is an example of probity in public life.

In 1967 Jansangh conference was held in Calicut. Deendayal ji had articulated many valuable ideas on politics, economy and organization in his presidential address. In understanding the views of Deendayal ji, his Calicut presidential address is a valuable document. I am quoting some excerpts from his speech as the speech delivered 45 years back are still relevant and even more relevant today. Deendayal ji had said:

- Ours is an organization of karyakartas.
- Political consciousness should be made means to create emotional national institution.
- Congress has failed to become a medium for new age.
- Congress has been defeated in many states in fourth

general elections.

- In Jansangh seeds for developing as new alternative are present.

Three Post-election problems:

- (a) Firstly, there are the problems pertaining to the politics of the transition. Inter-party relations, instability of coalition ministries, floor-crossing etc. are problems which fall in this category.
 - (b) To the second category belong those problems which stem from our constitutional set-up but which had either not arisen as yet, or had not confronted us as seriously as now.
 - (c) And thirdly, there are the manifold problems relating to economic, defence, home and foreign affairs which, because of the policies of the Congress Government, have become very grave now.
- The arbitrary conduct of the Governors in the above cases, then later in Madhya Pradesh at the time of the fall of the Mishra Government, and again recently in West Bengal, Haryana and Punjab, has lowered the prestige of this august once and weakened regard for constitutional proprieties. As Governors are the representatives of the Centre, the Central Government must own full responsibility for their actions. By declining to take the onus of their actions the Central Government has only created mistrust about its own bonafides and confirmed misgivings that they are intent on using the office of Governor only as a

facade behind which they might further their own party ends.

- The strains inside these coalitions and the political instability resulting from the continued efforts to topple these Governments, or from their fall, have prompted many to suggest that the present cabinet form of Government are discarded in favour of the Presidential system. Shri Ashok Mehta has suggested that the system be introduced only at the State level.
- I really fail to understand why a distinction is sought to be made between the Centre and the States. Fact is that the systems of Government in Britain and in the U.S.A. have grown out of their history. Instead of trying merely to imitate the one or the other, let us try to evolve democratic practices suited to our own genius. Actually, during the past 50 years or so we have been working with the parliamentary system of Government. It would be more fruitful if we try to mould this to suit our changing politics.
- If you are a democrat do not be dictated by anybody but your conscience. Political parties that stand for the people also stand on the strength of the people. If the people want that nobody should bend them the people should lend them their strength. It is the people who are the architects of political parties, and through them of their political destiny.
- The definition of Swaraj includes three main things.

The first is that the Government should be in the hands of those who are a part of the nation. The second special point is that the Government should be conducted in the interest of the nation, which means its policies should be oriented towards national interest. And the third point is that such a Government should have its own strength to achieve the good of the nation.

- Like an individual, society comes into existence in an organic way. People do not

produce society. It is not a sort of club, or some joint stock company, or a registered co-operative society. In reality, society is an entity with its own "SELF", its own life; it is a sovereign being like an individual; it is an organic entity. We have not accepted the view that society is some arbitrary association. It has its own life. Society too has its body, mind, intellect and soul. Some western psychologists are beginning to accept this truth. ■

(The Writer is BJP National Headquarters In-Charge)

Gujarat

Gujarat govt's Bhadra revitalization project wins HUDCO award

The prestigious Bhadra precinct revitalization project in the walled city area of Ahmedabad has won the 'HUDCO Award for Best Practices to Improve the Living Environment'. The more than Rs 100 project is one-of-its-kind in the country and among first heritage and pedestrianization projects assisted under the JNNURM. The award will be conferred by HUDCO in Delhi and a team from the city has already left for the capital.

A senior AMC official said the HUDCO committee had gone into the details of the design of the precinct and the AMC's plans of revitalizing and conserving heritage buildings around the Bhadra square.

"The linking of the Bhadra project with the Sabarmati Riverfront was an inclusive planning technique," adds the official. "The project also scored because it was geared towards making the walled city traffic-free and making it accessible to pedestrians. The linking of the riverfront with walled city was mainly to improve the local economic conditions of those who live in the walled city."

The AMC has till now drawn a roadmap for Rs 112 crore for the project. The project today is in full swing as the AMC has already started work on the plaza area of the Bhadra precinct. The century-old clock tower on Bhadra too would be repaired under programme. The project is being undertaken after the AMC signed the first ever MoU with the Archaeological Survey of India to partner in this revitalization project. ■

BJP emerging as a force to reckon with in North-East

By Ram Prasad Tripathy

As per the schedule announced by the Election Commission of India, the 2013 Assembly elections for the remaining two North-Eastern States of Nagaland and Meghalaya will be held on February 23. Meanwhile, polling to elect a new assembly in the Left-ruled Tripura ended peacefully on February 14. With an electorate of 23, 52,505 including 11, 64,656 women, more than 92 percent of voters exercised their franchise in the election contested by 249 candidates belonging to 16 political parties besides independents. As per the Election Commission sources except few minor incidents, the voting passed off peacefully with no major incident reported from anywhere in the North-Eastern State, which shares a 856-km border with Bangladesh. The ballots will be counted on February 28. All the political parties expressed happiness over the heavy voter turnout and the arrangements made by the Election Commissions resulting in peaceful polling. Noteworthy, that in the wake of threats from separatists and possible violence, a record 40,000 security personnel were deployed in Tripura this time, while two air surveillance teams also kept vigil.

This time the Election Commission also deployed specially modified EVMs in all

the 3,041 polling stations of the State to check possible malpractice and other irregularities. The State of Tripura ravaged by insurgency for decades has 60 Assembly seats with 20 reserved for tribals and 10 for Scheduled Castes. The Left Front government which has been in power since 1978 barring one term (1988-1993), has been facing huge challenge this time

electorate size of 11.93 lakh. The campaigning for the February 23 elections ended on February 21. There are 39 Independents and two women among the contestants. Of the two women nominees, Smt. Rakhila has been fielded by the BJP from Tuensang Sadar-II and Dr. Yangerla, an Independent is contesting from Mokokchung Town.

The ruling Naga People's



on numerous issues, including higher salaries to the government employees, underdevelopment and rising unemployment.

Electioneering in the two other poll bound states of Nagaland and Meghalaya has gathered momentum where the polling will be held on February 23. So far as Nagaland is concerned it goes to the polls to elect 60 members to the 12th Legislative Assembly from among 188 candidates with an

Front is the only party contesting all the 60 seats. The opposition Congress is contesting 57 seats, followed by NCP in 15, BJP in 11, JD-U in three, RJD in two and the United Nagaland Democratic Party in one. A total of 52 MLAs are seeking re-election while 60 candidates are contesting for the first time and 102 had contested unsuccessfully in the 2008 polls. In the outgoing 11th Nagaland Assembly, the ruling NPF had 35 members and the support of

BJP will solve Naga issue if comes to power : Rajnath Singh

The BJP reiterated that it would work towards solving the Naga problem if the BJP-led NDA government comes to power at the Centre. Talking to media persons at Dimapur Airport BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh said that for decades Nagaland witnessed violence and turmoil and it was only after the Atal Bihari Vajpayee-led NDA government came to power at the Centre that positive steps were taken to restore peace and normalcy in the State. Shri Singh, who addressed election rallies for BJP candidates at Tizit and Aboi constituencies under Mon District, expressed confidence that the BJP-led NDA would form the next government at the Centre. "We will resolve the Naga political problem through mutual dialogue and in a unique way," he said.

Stating that the BJP was concerned about the people of the North East, Shri Singh said the NDA government had constituted the ministry for Development of North East Region (DONER) keeping these long-term objectives in mind. "BJP has an emotional relation with the northeast and we assure the people of the region that when BJP comes to power, we will provide a special package for the development of the region as was done during the regime of Atalji," he said. Claiming that the people of Nagaland have understood the need to have a non-Congress government, the BJP President said they are willing to let the NPF-led DAN government form the next government as well. He said he was very happy to see the people's response at Aboi and Tizit constituencies. "I have full confidence that DAN will come to power again in Nagaland," he said.

Shri Singh said that the party has implemented 50 per cent reservation for women in all BJP ruled States local bodies elections and once the DAN government comes to power in the State, he would ensure that women get empowerment with 33 per cent reservation. Charging the UPA government of various scams, the BJP National President said that it is now involved in the helicopter scam. "The entire nation is ashamed of the helicopter scandal, and the UPA government has been rocked by one scandal after another," he said. On the Prime Minister's proposal for a debate on the issue, he said "debate is not a solution to corruption."

He said during the NDA regime, prices of essential commodities were controlled and the GDP stood at 9.5 per cent. Singh slammed the UPA government saying inflation was on the rise while fiscal management was also affected. He claimed that the national GDP stands at 5.2 per cent at present. Singh said under the UPA government, the value of rupee as compared to dollar has been decreasing.

six Independents, while Congress had 18 members backed by an Independent. One third of the constituencies will witness a straight contest.

821 polling stations have been identified as sensitive and 662 as hyper sensitive of the 2023 polling stations in the State. To beef-up the security in the State altogether 255 companies of central paramilitary forces have been deployed in the state for the elections. Counting of votes will be carried out on February 28. EVMs are being put up in 2023 polling stations in the state, of which 821 have been identified as sensitive and 662 as hyper sensitive. To conduct free and fair polls, 255 companies of central paramilitary forces have been deployed in the state.

To brighten the prospects of the BJP candidates the BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh, Deputy Leader in Rajya Sabha Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad and other senior leaders of the Party have campaigned for the candidates in Nagaland. Counting of votes will be carried out on February 28.

In Meghalaya battle lines have been drawn for poll to the 60-member Meghalaya Assembly in which 345 candidates are in the fray. The Congress has put up candidates in all 60 seats while the United Democratic Party is contesting in 50 seats. Of the 15 parties in the fray, the P A Sangma-led National Peoples' Party is contesting in 32 seats, the NCP in 21 and the BJP in 13. Among the candidates 25 are women. Of the 2,845 polling stations, 900 have been declared hyper-sensitive. Booths along the international border and the inter-State border with Assam have also been categorized as hyper-sensitive.

In the meantime, the BJP has exuded confidence about forming the next government in Meghalaya by defeating the Congress, after BJP forged an internal alliance with the PA Sangma-led National People's Party (NPP) and United Democratic Party (UDP). Interacting with media persons BJP's

organizing secretary for North Eastern States Shri P Chandra Shekhar said, "We are having internal-alliance with the NPP and the UDP and we will extend our full support to them to form a coalition-government in the State."

The Goa Deputy Chief Minister Shri Francis Dezousa and other senior leaders of BJP who are campaigning in the State have lauded BJP's achievements and attention towards the North-Eastern States during the Atal Bihari Vajpayee led NDA regime, while urging the voters to vote for the party's candidate for the better future and rapid development of the North Eastern States.

The results of Assembly elections in Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya will be out on February 28, and people would have voted for various things. But if there is one strand that connects all the three North-Eastern States – each with old and bitter complaints of being ignored and marginalized by the Congress led UPA government at the Centre. This time the frustration of the people against the Congress betrayal is out on the fore. It will surely brighten the prospects of parties other than the Congress. ■

BJP calls President's address to Parliament a 'damp squib'

Terming as a 'damp squib' President Shri Pranab Mukherjee's joint address to Parliament, BJP on February 21, 2013 said the speech did not touch upon relevant issues like price rise and corruption. "It is a damp squib as it has not actually touched what is relevant today and we are very disappointed," BJP spokesperson Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy told reporters outside Parliament after the President's address. Shri Rudy also dubbed the address as a "old one". "I think he read the old speech because there was nothing new in the speech," Shri Rudy said.

In the hour-long maiden address to the joint sitting of Parliament, Mukherjee touched upon various issues like slower growth of economy and steps to deal with factors responsible for the slowdown. "The President has given a joint statement in both Houses. It has not referred to the issue of corruption after all. UPA government is besieged with charges of corruption especially in the latest copter case," Rudy said.

He said the government did not talk about corruption deliberately. "Since this seems to be the last joint session before the election, I think by design government has chosen not to talk about corruption and other factors about inflation and price rise, which is affecting every household. Petrol and diesel prices are constantly going up," he said. ■

BJP continues victory march in Gujarat, wins Salaya, Thara and Okha

BJP's victory march is continuing in Gujarat. Two small towns Okha in Jamnagar district and Thara in Banaskantha district witnessed Municipality election on 10th of July. The results were out on February 12 and BJP captured both Municipalities with clear majority. BJP has been victorious on 20 out of total 36 seats of Okha Municipality. Rival Congress party has secured victory over 16 seats. In Thara Municipality election, the BJP has secured victory over 18 out of total 21 seats leaving 3 seats for Congress. Out of 11 Municipality seats across the state that witnessed by-election on same date, the BJP has secured victory over 7 seats while Congress has to be satisfied cornering only 4 seats. In Taluka Panchayat by-elections BJP is declared winner on 5 seats while Congress 2 seats. Thus out of total 75 seats the BJP has captured 50 seats while rival Congress party could win 25. Chief Minister Narendra Modi called the victory a "major win". The victory in the Salaya municipality in the Jamnagar district of Saurashtra, holds prominence as it is a Muslim dominated area. BJP who fielded 24 Muslim candidates here, managed to win all the seats. It is interesting that Congress which had a successful record in Jamnagar failed to secure even a single seat. "Thankful to people of Gujarat for the continued faith in us. Congrats to BJP workers for major win in municipalities polls," said Modi reacting to the party's victory that came less than a couple of months after the resounding win in the Assembly polls. ■

Senior Congress leaders are indulging in spreading rumours and hatching conspiracy, says Anant Kumar

The ruling BJP unit in Madhya Pradesh held its executive committee meeting on 10,2013, with state party president Shri Narendra Singh Tomar's announcement that the party organization would be getting into the election mode (for the state Assembly elections to be held later this year) through a Maha Jansampark Abhiyan beginning on February 25, which happens to be the birth anniversary of Sant

in spreading rumours and hatching conspiracy so that the state does not get assistance from the Centre," he said. "The Centre is providing assistance to Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and other Congress-ruled states but is meting out discriminatory treatment to Madhya Pradesh," Shri Kumar said.

Claiming that General Secretary Digvijay Singh and union ministers Kamal Nath and

lambasted Congress government for its weak external-affairs policy and Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde's irresponsible remark to malign Hindu community. Agriculture resolution appreciated the BJP Government in the state for achieving the highest agriculture growth rate in the country.

Addressing the concluding session of the meeting Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said "To stop desertification of Malwa, State government has planning to provide irrigation facility for 16 lakh hectare land in Malwa. He added, the dream made by Deen Dayal ji and Shyama Prasad Mookerjee is being made true by Madhya Pradesh Government.

Addressing a press conference at the state party headquarters on that day in evening, the state BJP President Shri Narendra Singh Tomar said that the Maha Jansampark Abhiyan (mass contact programme) target is to reach out to 2.25 crore voters across 53,000 polling booths with the help of 49,000 party workers.

These workers would be divided into 4,572 teams. During the mass contact programme, people will be given booklets highlighting the state BJP government's achievements and also a separate handout listing the failures of the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre. The meeting was attended by all prominent leaders of Madhya Pradesh BJP. ■



Ravidas.

Alleging that senior Congress leaders from Madhya Pradesh are not happy with the rapid progress being made by the state, Bharatiya Janata Party general secretary Shri Anant Kumar said the Centre is meting out "step-motherly" treatment to the state. Shri Kumar, who is also the incharge of the BJP's state unit, made the statement while addressing the party's first state executive meeting after the recent change of guard in the Madhya Pradesh BJP here. "Senior Congress leaders are indulging

Jyotiraditya Scindia were involved in this conspiracy, he said the state was not getting adequate funds for repairing national highways. Exhorting party workers for the challenge that lay ahead before them in view of state assembly polls in November, Shri Kumar called upon them to not provide opportunity for those who were proving to be an obstacle before development.

In the meeting, party also passed two resolutions - political and Krishi (agriculture). In political resolution the party

CHHATTISGARH

Raman Singh will lead BJP to a hat-trick : Rajnath Singh

On February 14 Bharatiya Janata Party President Shri Rajnath Singh gave Chief Minister Raman Singh a pat on the back for introducing the unique Food Security Act and other welfare schemes saying that he would lead the party to a hat-trick victory in the upcoming assembly elections.

Talking to newsmen in Raipur on his arrival to attend a meeting of Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), he said Chhattisgarh has set a milestone with the enactment of a legislation to ensure food security. Referring to the alleged prosecutor-accused collusion in the 2G spectrum scam case, Singh demanded widening the scope of probe saying that he suspected involvement of more influential people in it. "Even some ministers and officers may be involved," he said.

DELHI

BJP slams Delhi govt for discom bailout, seeks PM's intervention

BJP on February 21, 2013 slammed Delhi government for offering bailout package to private power distribution companies and sought Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's intervention in ordering a CAG scrutiny into their accounts. The Delhi government yesterday had decided to infuse fresh equity of Rs 245 crore into Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd (TPDDL) to help it tide over financial crisis. Delhi government has 49 per cent share in TPDDL.

"The private power distribution companies have been looting people. The government has been offering bailout packages to these companies succumbing to their black-mailing. We condemn the government decision," senior BJP leader Shri V K Malhotra said.

Over a year ago, Delhi government had offered a similar bailout package to Reliance Infrastructure-backed discom BSES by infusing fresh equity of Rs 500 crore to the company. Reliance had infused Rs 520 crore and the total amount of Rs 1,020 crore

was used for getting a loan of Rs 5,000 crore from IDBI bank.

"We request the Prime Minister to immediately order a CAG audit of all the accounts of the distribution companies since start of their operation in Delhi," said Malhotra.

The Delhi Government has also granted a financial assistance of Rs 200 crore to Pragati Power Corporation Ltd and Rs 100 crore to Indraprastha Power Generation Co Ltd as both these state-run power generation companies have been going through severe financial crisis due to non-payment of dues by BSES Yamuna Power Ltd and BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd.

The two discoms together have not paid outstanding dues to the tune of Rs 2,000 crore.

Malhotra also accused the Delhi Government of siding with private discoms and said the Sheila Dikshit-led dispensation has given "freehand" to the companies to "loot the public of Delhi."

Malhotra said though the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission in 2010 had decided to cut the tariff by around 25 per cent, the government restrained the regulator from doing so coming under pressure from the discoms.

MADHYA PRADESH

Shivraj launches Atal Jyoti Abhiyan

On February 18, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched Atal Jyoti Abhiyan in Mandla district. With this, villages in Mandla district have started getting 24-hour domestic power supply and 8 hours for agricultural operations. Mandla has become the 2nd district in the state after Jabalpur to receive this facility. With this, power cuts will become a thing of past in the district.

Through Atal Jyoti Abhiyan, 1205 villages in Mandla district 38 thousand 825 low-tension and 17 high-tension consumers as well as 7 thousand 456 agricultural consumers will be benefited. Apart from benefit to small and village industries as well as Anganwadi centres, continuous power will be supplied to health centres, schools and communication centres under the campaign. For the campaign, 3,525 kilometer long low-tension and 3,117 kilometer long 11 KV lines have been laid in Mandla district. ■

See God in All

By Sri Swami Atmaswarupananda

As we are aware, Gurudev always used to remind his disciples that the goal of life is God-realisation. To achieve that goal he advocated integral yoga – yoga of the head, heart and hand. It is not that we haven't had many examples, even in the past century, of great saints who have realised God by following a single yoga – yoga of the head or the heart or even perhaps with Mahatma Gandhi, yoga of the hand. Ramana Maharshi believed in the path of enquiry as did Nisargadatta Maharaj. Papa Ramdas believed in repetition of God's name and total surrender to God. His leading disciple Krishnabai was surrendered totally to him. So we don't require integral yoga to realise God, but Gurudev believed it was the best way because it included all parts of our being; it didn't leave anything out.

But perhaps there is another reason that Gurudev believed in integral yoga, because in the final analysis God-realisation is not about us. As Gurudev rather humourously answered one day, "Who is left to realise God." In other words the condition of God-realisation is that we disappear and God alone remains. The real purpose of God-realisation is that God

alone remains serving Himself in all these names and forms. Thus, integral yoga allows us to acknowledge God in all parts of our being, so that there is no "I" left over either in our head or our heart or our hand.

Many years ago, back in the 50's, there was a devotee of



Gurudev's living in Canada. He was not very sophisticated, and so he would write to Gurudev about all sorts of things – complaints about this, questions about that. And then he would laugh, "No matter what I say, all Gurudev tells me is, See God in all. See God in all. See God in all." And perhaps there is nothing else we need to be told.

Whatever we're thinking, see God in it. Whatever we see, hear, smell, taste, touch, see God in it. Whatever there is in the world, see God in it. Acknowledge God. If we're angry, see God in it. If we forget God, see God in it. Is this some sort of a cop out to make excuses for what we do? Let us try the practice. Let us practise seeing God in all and see if we remain the same person.

One of the conditions of total surrender is that we must risk everything. If we turn everything over to God, we don't know how we're going to behave, and we must risk that. But, in fact, if we turn everything over to God, we actually become a different person. And that different person's behaviour – while we don't know what it's going to be – is not likely to be the behaviour of the old man.

And so it is when we practise seeing God in all. We ultimately become a new being, because we don't have any of our old reference points left. The old man, the human being, is a separate individual seeing everything outside. When we see God in all, even in our own ego, we become a new being, because to us God alone is. This is the true integral yoga that Gurudev wanted us to practise and to become. ■

(Courtesy : DLS)