



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

**Annual Rs. 100/-
For 3 years Rs. 250/-**

Contact

Phone : +91(11) 23381428

Fax : +91(11) 23387887

Subscription : +91(11) 23005798

e-mail

kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

Publisher and Printer : Printed by Dr. Nandkishore Garg for Dr. Mookerjee Smruti Nyas, at Excelprints, C-36, F.F. Complex, Jhandewalan, New Delhi-55 and Published by Dr. Mookerjee Smruti Nyas, PP-66, Subramanya Bharati Marg, New Delhi-03. Editor : Prabhat Jha.

CONTENTS

Organisational Activities : Membership Drive

BJP set to achieve the target by March 31 : Amit Shah..... 7

Government's Achievements : Economic Survey

NDA government will be able to make....the BEST India..... 11

Vaichariki - Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya

Our Nationhood..... 14

Shradhanjali

Shaheedon ke chitaon par lagenge har baras mele..... 16

Others

General Budget 2015-16..... 17

'Motion of Thanks' to President's address in the Lok Sabha.. 20

Rail Budget 2015-16..... 25

Railway Budget 2015-16..... 28

PDP-BJP forms govt in Jammu and Kashmir..... 29



***Kamal Sandesh
Parivar wishes
its esteemed
readers a
very happy
'Ram Navmi'***



; k fu'kk I oBkurkuka rL; ka tkxfrZ I a ehA

; L; ka tkxfr Hkurkfu I k fu'kk i 'prks eq% AAεεAA

What is night for all living entities then the self-controlled is wakeful and that in which all living being are awake, that is night for the introspective sage.

– (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-II, 69)

T
W
E
E
T



“We believing in serving the last person in the queue. Efforts of the Government must make a difference on the ground.”

-Narendra Modi



“The Union Budget 2015-16 aims to pursue, restrict & return Black Money stashed abroad and punish the Evaders”

-Amit Shah

Chaitra Mela at Tara Tarini : March 10-31

The Chaitra Mela at Tara-Tarini also known as Chaitra Yatra or Tara-Tarini Mela is observed in the month of Chaitra. It is one of the biggest fairs, taking place in India during the Hindu month of Chaitra (i.e. mid March-mid April according to the English calendar) and huge congregation takes place at the Tara Tarini Shakti Peetha in Ganjam district of Odisha. It is believed that the Tara Tarini Shrine is one of the oldest pilgrimage centers of Mother Goddess and is one of the four major ancient Shakti shrines in India. The Hindu religious texts recognize four major Shakti Peethas at Bimala (Pada Khanda) inside the Jagannath Temple, Puri; Tara Tarini (Sthana Khanda), near Berhampur; Kamakhya (Yoni khanda), near Guwahati; and Dakshina Kali (Mukha khanda) in Kolkata. Puranas believe that there are 51 sacred Shakti Peethas, 26 Upa Peethas and some Maha Shakti Peethas originated from the limbs of Mata Sati's corpse in the Satya Yuga after the Daksha Prajapati's Yajna episode.



Lakhs of devotees, sadhus, Sanyasis and Shakti Upasakas come from various corner of the world in order to take a dip in the holy Rushikulya River and have darshan of the twin Goddess Maa Tara Tarini. Grand congregations take place on the famous Tuesdays falling in the month of Chaitra. This year the Chaitra Mela/Yatra begins on March 10 and concludes on March 31. The Chaitra Tuesdays of this year fall on 10, 17, 24 & 31 March 2015.

The Chaitra Mela is significant for several reasons – Chaitra Mela is the longest fair celebrated at any Shrine in India which takes place for a period of one month. The four Tuesdays of the month are considered to be the most auspicious days to get Siddhi. Therefore, lakhs of devotees congregate during these days. Another unique feature of the Chaitra Mela is the mass feast by the devotees spread across the Shrine where thousands of people, families and groups make food under open sky as an offering to the goddesses upon fulfillment of their wishes. This oldest form of Puja still survives at this shrine. Another traditional form of Bhakti which is seen here is the mass tonsuring of Hair of newborn babies during this auspicious period to protect the newborns from all evils and ensure their well-being with *Chaturbarga Phala* (i.e. Dharma-Artha-Kama & Mokshya) throughout their life. ■



Time to build bridges and goodwill for a developed Jammu & Kashmir

A new history has been created in Jammu & Kashmir. BJP and PDP have come together to form new government in the state. As Mufti Mohammad Sayeed was being sworn in as the new chief minister of Jammu & Kashmir in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP President Amit Shah, the people of the state were looking forward for a new future and the nation was watching it with newfound hope and confidence. It was a dawn of the new era in Indian politics as this government was seen as an initiative which may bring long lasting solutions to some of the longstanding problems on the basis of bonds of goodwill and trust between the union and the state governments. It was a fitting tribute to the people of Jammu and Kashmir who had voted so enthusiastically in the assembly elections strengthening democracy and speaking in favour of development and progress.

The people of Jammu & Kashmir had to wait for over two long months to get their government in the state. The results of the assembly elections which were declared on 23rd December 2014 saw a hung assembly in the state with PDP getting 28 seats followed by BJP with 25 seats. The NC and Congress could manage 15 and 12 seats respectively in 87-member legislative assembly of the state. The talks between PDP and BJP continued for around two months and finally as a result of an understanding reached on many crucial issues the government was sworn-in on 1st March 2015. While Mufti Mohammad Sayeed of PDP was sworn as Chief Minister, Nirmal Singh of BJP took the oath as Deputy Chief Minister. As the Governor NN Vohra administered the oath, 13 MLAs including Sayeed from the PDP and 12 MLAs from BJP and People's Conference combine were sworn-in as ministers. Sajjad Lone from People's Conference became a minister from BJP quota. The government has reiterated its commitment towards development and progress of the state.

The PDP-BJP government which appeared impossible for many political analysts became a reality as both sides worked hard for two months to give shape to their common minimum programme. In the 16-page "Agenda of the Alliance" many crucial issues were addressed and future agenda was worked out. While a status quo was to be maintained on Article 370, the PDP-BJP government promised to examine the need for denotifying disturbed areas with regard to AFSPA. The government is also expected to take measures for sustenance and livelihood of West Pakistani refugees and work out one-time settlement of refugees from Pak-occupied Kashmir in 1947, 1965 and 1971. The governance alliance reached by PDP-BJP seeks to make efforts towards seeking national reconciliation on Jammu and Kashmir.

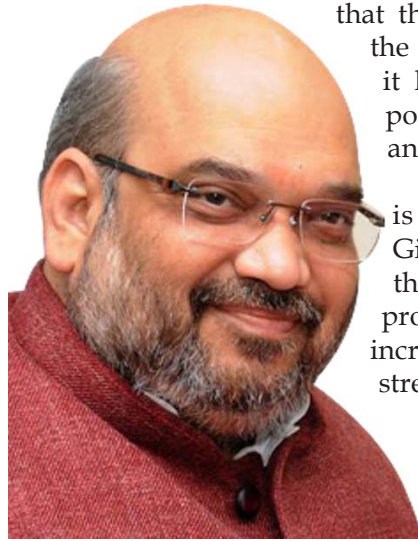
The BJP has come to power for the first time in Jammu & Kashmir. It is an emotional moment for the party as the issue of Jammu & Kashmir remained close to its heart right from the beginning. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, the founder of Janasangh was martyred while raising the issue of Jammu & Kashmir. Never before BJP could win so many seats as it was voted overwhelmingly in Jammu region and could win 25 seats to become the second

largest party in the state just three seats behind PDP. In Kashmir valley also BJP made its presence felt for the first time with many candidates contesting elections with full commitment and sincerity. But in the valley PDP was voted by the people helping it to win 28 seats. So it was natural that a government formed by PDP-BJP had the mandate of both Jammu and Kashmir region of the state. The PDP-BJP government therefore represents the aspirations of both the major regions and may work towards development of the people. It is an opportunity for the BJP to work hard among the people and create a niche for the party in the hearts of the people of the Kashmir valley also. The state may develop and prosper only if both the regions come together and recognize the mutual beneficial alliance for development and prosperity. It is time to build bridges and goodwill for a developed state and a stronger and vibrant India.



Budget has given the poor the gift of employment and insurance cover : Amit Shah

Reacting on General Budget 2015-16 BJP National President said that the Union Budget offers something for everyone and will bring prosperity to states and strengthen the country's economy to realize the dream of 'One India, Great India'.



"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the NDA government is dedicated to the poor and thus in its first full budget it has taken care of all sections, be it poor, youth, women, elderly, disabled and employees", he added.

"This is a budget for all. This budget is for the development of the poor. Giving employment and education to the youth, security to women and brings prosperity in the lives of farmers and increasing the prosperity of states and strengthens the economy," he said.

"This is how this first full general budget of the NDA government is one which will realise the dream of 'One India, Great India' and bring the country on the path of prosperity through 'Sabka saath, Sabka vikas'," Shri Shah said.

Terming the budget as "*sabka budget*", he said, it provides insurance, pension and support to the poor population in India besides youth empowerment, education, entrepreneurship and skill development.

"It increases the skill and yield of farmers and boosts rural employment," he said, adding, that "the budget aims to pursue, restrict and return black money stashed abroad and punish the evaders".

Shri Shah said Prime Minister Modi had said this government is dedicated to the poor and hence this budget has given the poor the gift of employment and insurance cover. After linking the poor with banking facilities, he said the government has now announced to give them pension and insurance cover.

"This is a budget which will put strong checks against black money. The government has taken concrete steps in general budget to bring back black money stashed abroad," he said. The BJP President said Government will bring changes in FEMA to resolve the problem of black money. (FOC)■

BJP set to achieve the target by March 31 : Amit Shah

From Our Correspondent

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah arrived at Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu on 05 March 2015 and spent the day with state-level BJP Karyakartas to discuss ways and means to strengthen the party in the State.

party workers to be alert and make efforts to check money flow during elections.

He said, "Tamil Nadu is the number one state in the country where money plays a bigger role during elections. To prevent this, BJP should

to increase the membership to achieve the desired target'. Shri Shah asked the Karyakartas to involve themselves in further strengthening the party; increase the cadre base and reach out to the masses by



Addressing the first session of the State and District office bearers of the party Shri Shah said Tamil Nadu is the number one state in electoral corruption and it was necessary to strengthen BJP to prevent corruption and to bring about a change in Tamil Nadu. To prevent this, BJP should be strengthened at the booth level, so that voters can be alerted and prevented from taking money. He asked

be strengthened at the booth level and grass root level, so that voters can be alerted and prevented from taking money".

Shri Amit Shah said BJP is targeting 60 lakh new members in the State. He said the membership drive had crossed 23 lakh as against the target of 60 lakh. 'So far we have enrolled close to 23 lakh members,' Shri Shah told the gathering and suggested ways

highlighting the good governance of the BJP led NDA Government at the Centre.

The BJP National President further said, "We have distributed a booklet to each cadre that contains 100 forms to enroll new, active members. In Tamil Nadu, 22 lakh new members have enrolled so far, of which 8-9 lakh had voluntarily joined the party. Of the 53,000

booklets issued for the membership drive in Tamil Nadu, 15,000 booklets have been utilized and members have been enrolled,” Shri Shah said. The cadres have another 25 days to enroll around 40 lakh members he added.

He said, “Our drive to enroll 60 lakh members in the state would continue till the target is met”, adding if the target is achieved, then it won’t be long since the BJP reaps the dividends. So far we have enrolled close to 23 lakh members, he told the gathering and suggested ways to increase the membership to achieve the desired target’.

On BJP’s national membership drive, Shri Shah said nearly 6.2 crore new members had been enrolled and hoped the party’s target of 10 crore by March 31 would be achieved in another 25 days.

Mentioning that the party polled over 17 crore votes in the 2014 Lok Sabha polls, he said if the 10 crore new members enrolled three each, including family members, it would reach 30 crore, enabling the Party to easily get 370 seats in the next elections.

He said BJP Karyakartas must remember one thing that Tamil Nadu was number one in electoral malpractices. Therefore, BJP has to enroll 60 lakh members this month

so that malpractices in elections in Tamil Nadu could be countered. “He said if we get 60 lakh members, we can be assured of significant presence in every polling booth. This will help fight electoral malpractices from the grass root level and on their part the party Karyakartas also assured the National President that they would work harder to make BJP grow in the state.



Reiterating the importance of the membership drive, he said that from a position of strength, the Congress fell to a position of having just 44 Members of Parliament because it did not focus on membership drive. The BJP did not want to commit the mistake and was keen on enrolment drive, he added.

Shri Amit Shah said in the 2014 Parliamentary election in the state, the BJP alliance secured 19 per cent of the votes. It could have secured more had the party infrastructure been stronger.

BJP’s Nationwide Membership drive follows its

target of becoming the largest political party in the world with a base of ten crore members by March-end, beating Communist Party of China’s eight crore membership. The party had managed 6.36 crore members so far. BJP National Vice-President and Co-convenor of BJP Membership Drive Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe said we are confident of achieving the target. We may extend the

drive by 15 days or a month. It is not a hard and fast decision,” he said.

Dr. Sahasrabuddhe said Tamilnadu is important in BJP’s scheme of things and BJP now wants to establish its own presence here.

It is noteworthy that the party has launched the membership drive with a new vision, resolve and slogan of “Sashakta Bhajapa, Sashakta Bharat”. Thus to strengthen the party organization Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and BJP National Present Shri Amit Shah launched the Nationwide Membership drive on November 01, 2014 to enroll at least three to four

times of primary members into the party fold. From the day of the Membership Drive was launched around 6.2 crore online-members have been registered as primary members till date.

This membership drive is not new for BJP. Every time, as the festival of organization BJP conducts membership drive and every member become member again after every six year. It is BJP's tradition. Among almost 1300 parties, there are one or two only in which internal democracy still survives and there is a system to connect the people. After getting linked to the party one is connected to the organization and there is a system to reach to any post through election. Anyone can come forward to use this platform to serve the country. BJP is currently the only democratic political party in this country which has been doing this type of membership drive in a gape of every six years. The present drive will continue till March 31, 2015.

Like earlier instances, BJP is organizing this massive membership drive but so far as the mechanism is concerned, apart from the traditional methods for the first time the party is using technology and enrolling members over mobile phone. Anybody interested will have to make a call to 18002662020 for joining BJP as a Primary Member of the party. However, persons without

having mobile phones have to send an SMS to 9242492424 and he/she can become a member of BJP.

To become an active member one has to make at least 100 primary members. This time BJP has decided to increase 50% of the active

members which was 5.5 -6.00 lakh earlier. If a state has 100 active members then it has to make 150 by increasing 50%. If 6 lakh active members are in the entire country then we want to have 9 lakh active members this time. And the party has made some changes

Membership till March 07, 2015

| Sr No | Circle | Till 07 March |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Uttar Pradesh (East) | 77,84,073 |
| 2 | Gujarat | 67,36,157 |
| 3 | Madhya Pradesh-Chattisgarh | 65,80,594 |
| 4 | Karnataka | 52,14,136 |
| 5 | Maharashtra-Goa | 47,79,647 |
| 6 | Uttar Pradesh (West)-Uttarakhand | 47,79,014 |
| 7 | Rajasthan | 39,33,617 |
| 8 | Bihar-Jharkhand | 37,35,281 |
| 9 | Delhi | 29,30,322 |
| 10 | Not Allocated | 18,70,956 |
| 11 | Assam | 17,82,254 |
| 12 | Haryana | 17,20,500 |
| 13 | Orissa | 16,98,828 |
| 14 | West Bengal-Andaman Nicobar | 15,38,082 |
| 15 | Mumbai | 15,36,980 |
| 16 | Tamil Nadu | 14,90,755 |
| 17 | Andhra Pradesh | 12,85,132 |
| 18 | Punjab | 12,71,875 |
| 19 | Kerala | 11,64,904 |
| 20 | Kolkata | 6,61,506 |
| 21 | Chennai | 4,01,905 |
| 22 | Jammu-Kashmir | 3,30,572 |
| 23 | North East | 2,05,466 |
| 24 | Himachal Pradesh | 1,89,414 |
| 25 | Tamil Nadu-Chennai | 6,255 |
| TOTAL | | 6,36,28,225 |

in the eligibility criteria for becoming an active member. One who wants to become an active member will have to give 7-day time in any locality, slum, Dalit basti, village or block where BJP has no member and work for membership and will have to submit report.

After that once the work is certified he will be involved as an active member. Every active member has to make 100 members. So if 9 lakh active members make 100 members each then 9 crore members are easily registered. And those who make 100 members only they can become active members as every active member will have to give a list of 100 members.

A pamphlet in this regard has been prepared, in which name, mandal, district, state, mobile number of the active member who is being proposed are to be given. It means that the active member who is going to become councilor will have to get toll free number dialed before him. And

after that his councilor number will come. In one family more than one number can be made. BJP has made up its mind to see that this system has to be strictly followed from PM Narendra Modi to booth level Karyakartas.

Following March 31 the organization has decided to celebrate the whole Year 2015 as 'Sadasyata Parb Varsh'. The aim of this 'Sadasyata Parb Varsh' is to reach out to every household of this country and 'Ghar Ghar Bhajapa' or a member from each and every household of the country in BJP, as the final objective of the party.

On the occasion Shri Amit Shah also felicitated party functionaries who had enrolled over 1,000 members. BJP State President Shri T a m i l i s a i Soundararajan and Union Minister of State for Shipping Shri P o n Radhakrishnan were among those who addressed the gathering.

Among others BJP National General Secretary Shri Muralidhar Rao, BJP National secretary Shri H Raja, BJP National E x e c u t i v e member Shri C P Radhakrishnan and State secretary Shri G K S Selvakumar were present.

(FOC) ■

Highlights of BJP Membership Drive

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and BJP National Present Shri Amit Shah launched a nationwide membership drive on November 01, 2014 to enroll at least 3-4 times of primary members into BJP fold.
- The party has launched the membership drive with a new vision, resolve and slogan of "Sashakta Bhajapa, Sashakta Bharat".
- Anybody interested will have to make a call to 18002662020 for joining BJP as a Primary Member.
- Persons without having mobile phones have to send an SMS to 9242492424 and he/she can become a member of BJP.
- One who wants to become an active member will have to give 7-day time in any locality, slum, Dalit basti, village or block where BJP has no member and work for membership and will have to submit report.
- To become an active member one has to make at least 100 primary members.
- From the day the Membership Drive was launched around 6.2 crore online-members have been registered as primary members
- The present Membership Drive will continue till March 31, 2015.
- Following march 31 the organization has decided to celebrate the whole Year 2015 as 'Sadasyata Parb Varsh'.
- The aim of this 'Sadasyata Parb Varsh' is to reach out to every household of this country and 'Ghar Ghar Bhajapa' or a member from each and every household of the country in BJP, as the final objective of the party.

NDA government will be able to make the dream of making India the BEST India true : Amit Shah



Economic Survey report for the year 2014-15 shows that the macroeconomic fundamentals of the Indian economy have improved dramatically and the confidence in Indian economy has revived manifold. India is set to move on the high growth trajectory with NDA government taking out the country from the era of policy paralysis and economic gloom. On 27th February 2015 BJP National President Shri Amit Shah made a statement hoping that the NDA government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri

Narendra Modi will take India towards becoming best economy in the world. His statement is published below:

- Economy strengthened by the efforts of NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, enters the era of high growth
- Review of the estimated economic growth rate in the financial year 2015-16 is estimated to be 8.1- 8.5 percent
- 8-10 per cent growth rate in the coming years, double-digit growth rate possible
- Per capita income comes to INR 74,193
- The wholesale price index-based inflation comes to zero percent
- The goal of the NDA is 'wipe tear from every eye'. For this the three point solutions of JAM number to be tapped (Public funding scheme 'Jan Dhan Yojana', Adhar and mobile)
- Government will rationalize subsidies and make it reach the beneficiaries
- Food production in 2014-15 estimated at 25.70 million tonnes, food production will be higher by 85 million tonnes than the average of the past five years
- Agriculture and allied sector contributes to 18 per cent of GDP
- National common market will be prepared for agricultural products
- Support to the reach of 'Make In India' Mission through Rural Information Technology (IT) services
- Stress on 'Make In India' and 'Skill India' for providing employment to youth
- Boost to industrial growth
- NDA government has taken several steps towards making India 'Best India'
- Commitment to fiscal balance, emphasis on efforts to increase revenue
- Increase in foreign exchange reserves of the country
- Current account deficit will come down to about 1 percent during 2015-16
- The fiscal deficit target of 4.1 percent in the current fiscal year continues
- Aim to limit fiscal deficit to 3 percent of GDP in fiscal year 2015-16
- Preparation of major reforms, major role of GST and Direct Benefit Transfer

(DBT)

- Establishment of Niti Ayog to promote federalism policy
- The government accepted the recommendation of Fourteenth Finance Commission states and the share of central taxes increased from 32 percent to 42 percent
- Exports increased and foreign capital inflows strengthened.

Efforts made by NDA government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley lead to strengthened state of the economy and accelerated growth. The Economic Survey 2014- 15 presented in Parliament confirmed this. Economic review reported that in the fiscal year 2015- 16 economic growth expected to be 8.5 percent from 8.1. In current fiscal year the per capita income has come to INR 74193 Rs. This means that the Indian economy leaving behind an era of economic slowdown, persistent inflation, rising fiscal deficit, declining domestic demand and external account imbalances and declining prices and leading to rapid higher growth. The future of the Indian economy, among the world's two major economies, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is bright, and the economic growth rate of the country is considered

The Economic Survey 2014- 15 presented in Parliament confirmed this. Economic review reported that in the fiscal year 2015- 16 economic growth expected to be 8.5 percent from 8.1. In current fiscal year the per capita income has come to INR 74193 Rs. This means that the Indian economy leaving behind an era of economic slowdown, persistent inflation, rising fiscal deficit, declining domestic demand and external account imbalances and declining prices and leading to rapid higher growth.

to reach double-digits soon. The policy of NDA government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'. So when the country will proceed with high growth rates, this will help in achieving the fundamental objective of wiping the tear from eye of every poor and deprived. This will provide opportunity to the young, aspiring middle class and the aspiring India. The NDA government in its nine months has taken steps to strengthen the country's economy, providing services to farmers, youth employment, protecting women, girls' education and upbringing, education, health

and hygiene. At the same time, the government has begun programs as 'Make in India' and 'Skill India' for country's industrial development. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi-led NDA government is committed to promote domestic and foreign investment in the country to be made through pending reforms. Besides, the government is in the process of implementing reforms. Today, India is becoming the first choice for investors. NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken rapid decisive steps, which have brought widespread decline especially in food inflation. Wholesale Price Index inflation in November 2014 and January 2015 has touched psychological level of zero percent. The government has taken several steps to organize improve the availability and distribution system in foodgrains. All states to allocate 50 million tonnes of rice to families from below poverty line and above the poverty line (BPL and APL), allocation of 10 million tonnes of wheat pending under the implementation of the National Food Security Act and open market for the domestic market in 2014-15. States have been advised for allowing free movement of fruits and vegetables under Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act. Onions and potatoes are to be brought

under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, to prevent the hoarding of stocks and to allow state governments to limit the stock strain and make non-compliance as non-bailable and to apply Minimum Export Price (MEP) of the potato to \$ 300 and onion to US \$ 450 per metric ton from June 26, 2014. Economic Review has underlined the fact that the NDA government has increased the minimum support price during the previous and current season for farmers. The economic survey emphasized the need for national common agricultural market. Currently there is no transparency in the miscellaneous charges applied in APMC. Commission agent in the transaction between the seller and the farmers, charge huge commissions. VAT and Mandi Tax are different in every state tax which affect the increase in prices. Prime Minister

The policy of NDA government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi '*Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas*': So when the country will proceed with high growth rates, this will help in achieving the fundamental objective of wiping the tear from eye of every poor and deprived. This will provide opportunity to the young, aspiring middle class and the aspiring India.

Shri Narendra Modi is himself conscious about climate change and environmental protection. That is why the NDA government has taken several steps towards environmental protection, including protection of rivers, urban air quality improvement, increasing reforestation, renewable energy sources increase, the increase in the means of public transport, and urban and rural infrastructure development. This includes initiatives as the recent Clean India campaign, Clean Ganga project, the five-fold increase in national solar mission from 20,000 MW to 100,000 MW. This has been underlined in the economic survey. Such steps taken so far by the NDA government are proof of improved economic conditions according to the Economic Survey 2014-15. Economic Survey shows that NDA government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi walking on the path of development with everyone, will be able to make the dream of making India the BEST India true soon. (FOC)■

Amit Shah hails Union govt. for accepting Finance Commission recommendations

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah congratulated the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led NDA government for accepting the recommendations of the 14th Financial Commission which will provide more share of Central taxes to states and make them help financially independent. Shri Shah said the steps enhancing the tax share of states from 32 per cent to 42 per cent will help states become financially independent and less dependent on the Centre for initiating developmental work.

“Prime Minister Narendra Modi has risen above partisan politics and taken steps for the welfare of the poor and overall progress of the country. The biggest example of this is the NDA govt’s decision to accept the recommendations of the 14th Financial Commission,” Shri Shah said in a statement.

He added that Shri Modi has tried to build Team India by taking everyone along. He also cited the example of setting up of Niti Aayog where the states and the Centre would work together for policy making and country’s progress.

He also cited the example of coal block auction which has brought in Rs 1.25 lakh crore, much of which will go to poor states like West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha and Chattisgarh, which have these coal blocks.

By taking such steps, BJP feels that the NDA regime is trying to take everyone along in the development process and is taking steps to fulfill the dream of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat', the statement said. (FOC)■

Our Nationhood

Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya



India had to contend with the challenge of its existence as a nation. The coming of the colonial rule not only posed a challenge to Indian civilization, culture, economy and polity it also posed an intellectual challenge for India to reclaim itself as a united entity. Unfortunately many Indians under the influence of western understanding of the term 'nation' could not dissociate themselves from alien conceptualization aimed at distorting its meaning. Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya tried to conceptualise the term from Indian understanding of the term and from Indian intellectual and civilizational perspective. We are publishing his ideas under the title "Our Nationhood" in two parts for better understanding of ideological positioning on the term "nation" and its attributes. The first part is published below for our esteemed readers:

WHAT IS A NATION ?

WHEN a group of persons lives with a goal, an ideal, a mission, and looks upon a particular piece of land as motherland, it constitutes a nation. If either of the two-and ideal and a motherland-is not there, then there is no nation.

ESSENTIALS OF NATION

A 'NATION' requires four things. The first is land or people, whom. we call a country. The second is a collective will for a corporate life. The third is a system which we can call a constitution but which can far more appropriately be called Dharma'. And the fourth is an ideal of life. The synthesis of all these four is called a Nation. As an individual is made up of body, minds intelligence and soul, a nation is made up of country, will, Dharma and ideal.

NATION IS PERMANENT

THE Nation is a permanent truth. The State is created to fulfill the needs of the nation. Two reasons have been given for the origin of the State. It is said that the State becomes necessary in two circumstances. The first is when some distortion enters the people of the nation. The State is established to control the problems that arise in such a

situation. For example, one does not see the police when there is no quarrel. But if there is a fight the police are immediately called. The second need is when some complexity appears in society and it becomes necessary to bring order in corporate life.

The State is created so that the powerful, prosperous and resourceful class of society should not exploit the weak, the helpless and the poor, and everyone should remain within the bounds of justice. It is only these two reasons that give rise to the State. To regulate the distortion that may have entered into society, to establish peace by punishing; wrong-doers and to solve the complexity within a society so that life of every individual becomes just, honourable and easy-these have been considered the functions of the State.

A third function is an important aspect of the fulfilment of these two functions. It is to establish relations with other states. Hence security from external aggression is also a function of the State.

NATION HAS PERSONALITY

THE name Bharat denotes a nation, while the names of such provinces as Uttar Pradesh and Bengal do not denote it. Hence we must be quite clear in our minds that although a

definite territory is a must and the first essential of a nation, a territory by itself does not become a nation. The existence of a nation depends upon an element which though invisible is felt with the greatest intensity. A nation has a personality just as an Individual has a personality. It is this national personality that keeps a nation alive. When it grows weak, the nation becomes weak, and when it is forgotten or destroyed the entire nation heads for ruination. This is why many nations of the

The existence of a nation depends upon an element which though invisible is felt with the greatest intensity. A nation has a personality just as an Individual has a personality. It is this national personality that keeps a nation alive.

the nation resides.

THE BODY NATIONAL

THE nation does not come into being for the fulfilment of any selfish ends. The limbs of the human body have their natural functions and do not have to be tempted or encouraged to perform them. Similarly the units of a nation function as parts of one single whole and maintain its entity. Dissipation of the national feeling leads to a weakening of these limbs of the nation, and if they become completely inactive the result can be the end of the nation. But if the national feeling is aroused in these units they again start performing their natural functions. Hence we would have to accept as the basis of the nation a practical and natural organisation that is stable, strong and self-reliant. If the organisation of the State is strong enough its limbs would be equally strong.

NATION HAS A SOUL

A NATION too has a soul. There is a technical name for it-Chiti. According to McDougal, it is the innate nature of a group.

Every group of persons has an innate nature. Similarly every society has an innate nature, which is not the result of historical circumstances. 'CHITI' IS NATION'S TOUCHSTONE

'CHITI' is the touchstone, on which each action, each attitude is tested, and determined to be acceptable or otherwise. 'Chiti' is the soul of the nation. On the strength of this 'Chiti', a nation arises, strong and virile. It is this 'Chiti' that is demonstrated in the actions of every great man of a nation.

An individual is also an instrument in bringing forth the soul of the nation, "Chiti". Thus apart from his own self, an individual also represents his nation. Not only that, he also mens the various institutions that are created for the fulfilment of the national goal. Therefore he represents these too. The groups larger than nation, such as "mankind" are also represented by him. In, short, an individual has a multitude of aspects, but they are not conflicting; there is co-operation, unity and harmony in them. A system based on the recognition of this mutually complementary nature of the different ideals of mankind, their essential harmony, a system which devises laws, which removes the disharmony and enhances their mutual usefulness and co-operation alone can bring peace and happiness to mankind; can ensure steady development. NATION'S IDEAL IS 'CHITI'

THE state is brought into existence to protect the nation; produce and maintain conditions in which the ideals of the nation can be translated into reality. The ideals of the nation constitute "Chiti" which is analogous to the soul of an individual. It requires some effort to comprehend Chiti. The laws that help manifest and maintain Chiti of a nation are termed Dharma of that nation. Hence it is this "Dharma" that is supreme. Dharma is the repository of the nation's soul. If Dharma is destroyed, the nation perishes. Anyone who abandons Dharma, betrays the nation.

To be continued...

(Excerpts from the book - "Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya A Profile" edited by Sudhakar Raje)

Shaheedon ke chitaon par lagenge har baras mele...

On 23rd March 1931 the great revolutionaries Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev attained martyrdom. They fought for the independence of Maa Bharati and offered their supreme sacrifice at the altar of our motherland. They continue to inspire us as youth icons of the country who were intensely in love with the motherland and had the indefatigable courage and indomitable spirit to awaken the people with their actions and deeds. We salute our *shaheeds* on 23rd March, the day when they were hanged by the British government for their relentless and heroic struggle for the independence of our motherland.

Shaheed Bhagat Singh

(27th Sept. 1907- 23rd March 1931)

As a freedom fighter, he was considered to be one of the most famous revolutionaries of the Bharatiya Independence movement. For this reason, he is often referred to as Shaheed Bhagat Singh. At such a young age, if anyone was smiling just before being hanged to death, it was Shaheed Bhagat Singh. His uncle, Sardar Ajit Singh as well as his father, were both great freedom fighters, so Bhagat Singh grew up in a patriotic atmosphere. In search of revolutionary groups and ideas, he met Sukhdev and Rajguru. Bhagat Singh, along with the help of Chandrashekhar Azad, formed the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army (HSRA). He courted arrest after throwing bombs in Central Assembly protesting against the Britishers. Despite great popular pressure and numerous appeals by political leaders of Bharat, Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were accorded the death sentence and hanged in the early hours of 23rd March 1931. Their bodies were cremated on the bank of the Sutlej in Ferozepur. Bhagat Singh was just 23 years old at that time. Old timers say that in many places, not a single hearth fire burned that day.

Sukhdev Thapar

(15th May 1907 – 23rd March 1931)

He was a revolutionary from Punjab. He was an active member of the HSRA, being one of its senior most leaders. He is known to have started



study circles at the National College (Lahore), in order to delve into Bharat's past as well as to scrutinise the finer aspects of the world's revolutionary literature. Along with Bhagat Singh and others he started the 'Naujawan Bharat Sabha' at Lahore. The main aims of this organisation were to activate the youth for the freedom struggle, inculcate a rational scientific attitude, fight communalism and end the practice of untouchability.

Shivram Hari Rajguru

(1908 – 23rd March 1931)

He was born in an average middle-class Hindu Brahmin family at Khed in Pune District in 1908. He came to Varanasi at a very early age where he learnt Sanskrit and read the Hindu religious scriptures. He had a great admiration for Shivaji and his guerrilla tactics. At Varanasi, he came in contact with revolutionaries. He joined the movement and became an active member of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army (HSRA). On 17th December 1928, while Saunders came out of his office and started his motor-cycle, he was shot dead in front of the police headquarters at Lahore by Rajguru. At the time of his martyrdom, Rajguru was hardly 23 years of age.

We pay our tributes to these invaluable sons of Maa Bharati! (FOC)■

Employment oriented, pro-farmer, pro-poor and pro-people budget

Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley on February 28 presented general budget in Lok Sabha aimed at high growth. Presenting the budget Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley has said that the Indian Economy has turned around dramatically in the last nine months with the real GDP growth expected to accelerate to 7.4% making India the fastest growing large economy in the world. Presenting the General Budget for the year 2015-16 in Lok Sabha today, he said macro-economic stability has been restored and conditions have been created for sustainable poverty elimination, job creation and durable double digit economic growth. Shri Jaitley specifically talked about three key achievements of the Government, the Jan Dhan Yojana which brought over 12.5 crores families into financial mainstream in a short period of 100 days, transparent coal block auctions to augment resources of the states and 'Swachh Bharat' which has become a movement to regenerate India. Shri Jaitley said that India has now embarked on two more game changing reforms which are GST and the JAM Trinity-Jan Dhan, Aadhar and Mobile-to implement direct transfer of benefits. He added that GST will put in place a state-of-the art indirect tax system by 1st April 2016 while the JAM Trinity will allow transfer benefits in a leakage-proof, well-targetted and cashless manner. Describing the declining inflation as one of the major achievements of the Government, the Finance Minister said that this represents a structural shift. He said CPI inflation is expected to remain at close to 5% by the end of the year which will allow further easing of monetary policy. Shri Jaitley said a Monetary Policy Framework Agreement has been concluded with the RBI to keep inflation below 6%.

Experts termed the budget employment oriented, pro-farmer, pro-poor, pro-business and pro-people. The following are key Highlights of the budget:

Highlights of Union Budget 2015-16

FISCAL DEFICIT

- Fiscal deficit seen at 3.9 percent of GDP in 2015-16
- Will meet the challenging fiscal target of 4.1 percent of GDP
- Remain committed to meeting medium term fiscal deficit target of 3 percent of GDP
- Current account deficit below 1.3 percent of GDP
- Jaitley says will have to keep fiscal discipline in mind despite need for higher investment

TAXATION

- Abolition of Wealth Tax.
- Additional 2% surcharge for the super rich with income of over Rs. 1 crore.
- Rate of corporate tax to be reduced to

25% over next four years.

- No change in tax slabs.
- Total exemption of up to Rs. 4,44,200 can be achieved.
- 100% exemption for contribution to Swachh Bharat, apart from CSR.
- Service tax increased to 14 per cent.

AGRICULTURE

- Rs. 25,000 crore for Rural Infrastructure Development Bank.
- Rs. 5,300 crore to support Micro Irrigation Programme.
- Farmers credit - target of 8.5 lakh crore.

INFRASTRUCTURE

- Rs. 70,000 crores to Infrastructure sector.

- Tax-free bonds for projects in rail road and irrigation
- PPP model for infrastructure development to be revitalised and govt. to bear majority of the risk.
- Atal Innovation Mission to be established to draw on expertise of entrepreneurs, and researchers to foster scientific innovations; allocation of Rs. 150 crore.
- Govt. proposes to set up 5 ultra mega power projects, each of 4000MW.

EDUCATION

- AIIMS in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar and Assam.
- IIT in Karnataka; Indian School of Mines in Dhanbad to be upgraded to IIT.
- PG institute of Horticulture in Amritsar.
- Kerala to have University of Disability Studies
- Centre of film production, animation and gaming to come up in Arunachal Pradesh.
- IIM for Jammu and Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh.

DEFENCE

- Allocation of Rs. 2,46,726 crore; an increase of 9.87 per cent over last year.
- Focus on Make in India for quick manufacturing of Defence equipment.

WELFARE SCHEMES

- GST and JAM trinity (Jan Dhan Yojana, Aadhaar and Mobile) to improve quality of life and to pass benefits to common man.
- Six crore toilets across the country under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.
- MUDRA bank will refinance micro finance orgs. to encourage first generation SC/ST entrepreneurs.
- Housing for all by 2020.
- Upgradation 80,000 secondary schools.
- DBT will be further be expanded from 1 crore to 10.3 crore.
- For the Atal Pension Yojana, govt. will

contribute 50% of the premium limited to Rs. 1,000 a year.

- New scheme for physical aids and assisted living devices for people aged over 80 .
- Govt. to use Rs. 9,000 crore unclaimed funds in PPF/EPF for Senior Citizens Fund.
- Rs. 5,000 crore additional allocation for MGNREGA.
- Govt. to create universal social security system for all Indians.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

- Rs. 75 crore for electric cars production.
- Renewable energy target for 2022: 100K MW in solar; 60K MW in wind; 10K MW in biomass and 5K MW in small hydro

TOURISM

- Development schemes for churches and convents in old Goa; Hampi, Elephanta caves, Forests of Rajasthan, Leh palace, Varanasi , Jallianwala Bagh, Qutb Shahi tombs at Hyderabad to be under the new tourism scheme.
- Visa on Arrival for 150 countries.

GOLD

- Sovereign Gold Bond, as an alternative to purchasing metal gold.
- New scheme for depositors of gold to earn interest and jewellers to obtain loans on their metal accounts.
- To develop an Indian gold coin, which will carry the Ashok Chakra on its face, to reduce the demand for foreign coins and recycle the gold available in the country.

FINANCIAL SECTOR

- Forward Markets Commission to be merged with the Securities and Exchange Board of India
- NBFCs registered with the RBI and having asset size of Rs 500 crore and above to be considered as 'financial institution' under Sarfaesi Act, 2002, enabling them to fund SME and mid-corporate businesses

Key feature of the Budget

- Budget formally kicked off India's new federal policy by devolution of Central taxes from 32% to 42%. The biggest reform undertaken in this budget, which is not readily evident, is that public expenditure policy has now been moved decisively and firmly to the jurisdiction of the state governments.
- Setting up of an expert committee to prepare draft legislation for obtaining regulatory clearances expeditiously.
- Introduction of one law to deal with issues of procurement of public resources will be useful in eliminating confusion arising from multiplicity of laws that deal with natural resources.
- To promote domestic manufacturing that leads to job creation a series of cuts in customs and excise in budget was announced.
- With an aim to create 100,000 jobs through start-ups, the government has proposed a self-Employment and Talent Utilization mechanism to provide technical assistance and incubation to start-ups.
- Credit facility for small entrepreneurs
- Special pension scheme for the poor and elderly, and a social security programme were among the measures that the NDA announced for the economically and socially disadvantaged sections of the society.
- 79,536 crore was allocated to rural development initiatives, a 5% more allocation than previous UPA government. ■

- Permanent Establishment norms to be modified to that mere presence of offshore fund managers in the country does not lead to "adverse tax consequences."

SUBSIDIES

- Food subsidy seen at 1.24 trillion rupees
- Fertiliser subsidy seen at 729.69 billion rupees
- Fuel subsidy seen at 300 billion rupees
- Major subsidies estimated at 2.27 trillion rupees
- committed to subsidy rationalisation based on cutting leakages. ■

...Continued on page 24

PM welcomes Union Budget; terms it positive and pragmatic

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has welcomed the Union Budget.

"Union Budget 2015 is a Budget with a clear vision. It is a Budget that is progressive, positive, practical, pragmatic and prudent. Budget 2015 has a distinct focus on farmers, youth, poor, neo-middle class and the Aam Nagrik. It delivers on growth, equity and job creation. Budget is investment friendly and removes all doubts on tax issues. It assures investors that we have a stable, predictable and fair tax system. From housing for all, jobs, health, education and total electrification, FM laid down goals to be achieved by 2022, India's Amrut Mahotsav. I congratulate FM for doing an excellent job in respecting aspirations of the States and at the same time delivering on National priorities. Budget indicates our commitment to ensure that development of Eastern and North-Eastern parts of India gets an impetus and drives future growth. Details of the Black Money law being introduced demonstrates our firm commitment to bring back every Rupee of Black Money stashed abroad. Success of Jan Dhan Yojana is gladdening. Building on that, key schemes are announced that will comprehensively transform lives of the poor. Suraksha Bima Yojana, Atal Pension Yojana, Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, Vidya Lakshmi Karyakram mark a shift from Jan Dhan to Jan Kalyan. Atal Innovation Mission and SETU underline our commitment to enable innovation, entrepreneurship and start-ups to grow and shine in India.

FM @arunjaitley must be congratulated for this pro-poor, pro-growth, pro-middle class, pro-youth and paradigm shifting Budget.

2015 Budget will further reignite our growth engine, signalling the dawn of a prosperous future.#SabkaBudget", the Prime Minister said. ■

My government has only one bhakti - Bharat bhakti : PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi replying in the Lok Sabha to the motion of thanks on the President's address on 27 February 2015 said, the President, in his address, mentioned several problems being faced by our country and the measures being taken to tackle those problems. It is true that several honourable members believe that a particular thing could have been further improved. I take it in a positive manner and these expectations are of a great importance, no matter whether they have been expressed by the ruling party members or by members of opposition. Also it demonstrates your belief that these problems will be resolved probably in this current period only and so it is a good thing. Following is the synopsis of the speech delivered by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi :



I have risen in this august House to speak on the motion of thanks. Several hon. Members including the leaders of various opposition parties have put forth their views. The President's Address has outlined the problems; the country is faced with, the efforts being made to resolve them and the direction in which efforts are being made. The scheme is new or old, there could be a dispute about it but this fact cannot be disputed that the problem is acute and chronic.

We are trying to explore the solutions to the problems which we have inherited. Therefore, such issues should not be criticized. In the year

1999, our former Prime Minister, Shri A.B. Vajpayee had launched the Total Sanitation Project. Was the Nirmal Bharat another name for the same project? I believe that the real issue is problem and what is there in a name. Cleanliness is linked to our attitude. The filth causes diseases and a poor has to bear, on an average, an expenditure of rupees seven thousand as a result thereof. The cleanliness and sanitation are also linked to the dignity of a woman.

We have to give the women a life of dignity. The girl children drop from schools because there are no toilets for girl children in the

schools. Therefore, this campaign has been launched on this premise. Even people at large have liked this campaign. A group of media people launched a program to collect money for this campaign and the people very generously contributed Rs. 400 crore for that purpose. This campaign has to be carried forward by all 125 crore people of the country. The Governments come and go but the country is made by its people. Every country has his philosophy. Ideologies change but the country is run on the essence of its philosophy.

Therefore, I say that we have to explore the solutions

to the problems. A point was made that the Government has or is likely to discontinue the MNREGA scheme. The leaders of opposition parties may have some doubts about my capabilities but they would agree that I have robust political sense. My political understanding says that MNREGA should never be discontinued because this very scheme MNREGA is the live example of your utter

coal, even CAG could never imagine that corruption could be of so high magnitude. The figure of 1,86,000 crore rupees had shocked the country. When auction of coal took place, the Supreme Court cancelled 204 coal blocks. So far only 18 or 19 blocks have been auctioned and more than rupees one lakh crore has been received.

When all 204 coal blocks are auctioned then the

for the purpose. A joint declaration was issued after the G-20 Summit and we urged the G-20 countries to take steps against the black money and drug trafficking. It is not necessary that all the persons involved in such activities may be political leader but whosoever will found involved therein will not be spared because it has caused loss to our exchequer.

We have come here after making a promise to the people. We shall keep making all out efforts and finally we shall resolve the issue and I can assure the House that we will bring this issue to the logical conclusion. We talk about farmers but should we not find ways to bail out farmers of their miseries. There are several measures to this end. We are working on several measures like per drop more crop. There is shortage of water in our country. Is it not the responsibility of the Governments to work on a long perspective plan of say 30-40 years to find a solution to this problem.

We have introduced soil health card scheme for farmers. Our mantra for farming is "swastha dhara to khet hara". We should prepare entrepreneurs for soil testing labs in each and every village. The youth of rural areas who are literate enough should be imparted training in soil testing. I have also asked to convert the laboratories of schools into

I believe that the corruption has eaten into the vitals of our country. The issue of corruption should not be discussed on the political lines. We all should come together and decide that now onwards we shall not allow the corruption to happen in our country. The States should be policy driven and when the processes and systems are based on policies then there is hardly any room for gray area.

failures. After 60 years of country's independence, the people have been put on work for digging only. My Party would launch a huge campaign to tell the people and the world that this scheme is the direct result of your failures and misgovernance.

I believe that the corruption has eaten into the vitals of our country. The issue of corruption should not be discussed on the political lines. We all should come together and decide that now onwards we shall not allow the corruption to happen in our country. The States should be policy driven and when the processes and systems are based on policies then there is hardly any room for gray area. For instance, auction of

estimated figure could go beyond what CAG had quoted. This is the simple example which shows that corruption free system can be evolved. The issue of black money was also raised during the discussion. The Supreme Court had asked to constitute an SIT on black money.

The SIT was not constituted for three years. Our new Government constituted SIT in the very first meeting of its Cabinet. I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister who after studying the relevant national and international laws persuaded the Switzerland Government for sharing the important information in this regard. We utilised the G-20 platform

soil testing labs during the vacation periods. This move not only result in some income to schools but to the youth of villages as well. We should make the optimum utilization of our existing infrastructure. This is called good governance.

Our Government is committed to the welfare of the poor. We have setup a expenditure commission to check the unnecessary expenses so that the money so saved could be utilized for the welfare of the poor. We believe in the simplification of processes. We want to do away with red-tapism so as to avoid inconvenience to the common man. We have started work in this direction and its results will be before us very soon. I visited Japan recently and I met there with noble laureate

Mr. Yamanaka who has done a research on the stem cell. It came to my mind that this research could be to our benefit because I know that people of tribal regions of our country are suffering from a disease called sickle cell. This disease is more dangerous than cancer and passes on from generation to generation and till date no cure has been found to this disease. There is some hope that stem cell could be helpful in getting rid of this disease. Our young scientists at the institute of science in Bangalore are working in this direction. I had attended G20 summit in Australia.

I met there with agriculture scientists in a lab as they have done a research by which farmers could get more production of grams per hectare. Our country is lagging behind in the production of pulses. If our farmers also could get more production of pulses per hectare, it would not only boost their income but the poor of our country also get nutritious food in the

The youth of rural areas who are literate enough should be imparted training in soil testing. I have also asked to convert the laboratories of schools into soil testing labs during the vacation periods. This move not only result in some income to schools but to the youth of villages as well. We should make the optimum utilization of our existing infrastructure. This is called good governance.

form of pulses. I also met another scientist who has been able to add additional nutrition value to banana.

Generally, it is called the fruit of a poor man and if we are also able to add this nutrition value to banana in our country, it would give energy to the poor. It is interest of the poor, tribal and farmer that always find place in my mind. It is said in the House that we already had a Jan Dhan Yojana like scheme in the country but 40 years have elapsed since the nationalisation of banks yet the poor of our country are still outside the ambit of our banking system. I had announced on 15th August last year that we would complete the work of opening the bank accounts of the poor

before 26th January this year and I am happy to say that we have been able to complete this work well within the time limit. Now we will transfer the wages under the MNREGA directly to the accounts of the beneficiaries account opened under the Jan Dhan Yojana and this will also help in plugging the leakages. I had made a reference of toilets in schools.

We need 4.25 lakhs toilets for schools and out of them, 1.50 lakh new toilets need to be constructed and the remaining toilets require repair work. We have a separate online portal for the purpose and we have also worked out on other details. Several hon. Members have also participated actively in this work and they have used MPLADS funds for this purpose. And I am sure that when the new session will begin in June in schools, we will be able to construct the toilets well before that. The Swachta Abhiyan has had a good impact on tourism in the country. We have also started online 'arrival on visa'. Both these schemes have had a good impact on the tourism. There has been a good

increase in the tourism as compared to last year.

There has been no Government in the country when there occurred no natural calamity but the methods of calamity management have also changed. When the State of Jammu Kashmir witnessed floods last year, I first of all asked to prepare a list of all officers of Jammu Kashmir cadre. And then we sent the then Home Secretary of the Jammu Kashmir cadre there to supervise the relief work and he stayed there for a week. And we fully supported them to combat the natural calamity.

I myself visited Kashmir during that period and I interacted with various groups in this regard. I have heard several Members today speaking on the Land Acquisition Act in the House. When this Act was enacted we fully supported the previous Government in the passage of this act. After the enactment of this Act, all the Chief Ministers of the States said in a voice do something for the farmers of the country as well. We talk of federal cooperation on the one hand but we are not ready to hear what the Chief Ministers of our country say.

Is it right thing not to hear them and not to respect their feelings. Some officers of the army met me and they told me that it was not possible to construct infrastructure for setting up defense

The prosperity and empowerment of the states is absolutely imperative for the prosperity and empowerment of the nation. We revised the royalty rates by one and half times as soon as we came to power. Where is that money going? It will certainly go to the states and who are those states? These are the states which are rich in mineral wealth.

installations under the existing land acquisition law. If at all there are some lacunas in this law it is our responsibility to plug them.

I have connected all the departments with Railways. I have also given instructions that work be carried forward by striking coordination among all the departments. We have taken this definition of development as a theme and this is the reason why I talk about cooperative federalism because we are required to address the problems of all those states. The country cannot march forward if we continue to level allegations and finding faults with others. If we want to carry our country on the path of progress then the progress of the states will have to be ensured.

The prosperity and empowerment of the states is absolutely imperative for the prosperity and empowerment of the nation. We revised the royalty rates by one and half times as soon as we came to power. Where is that money

going? It will certainly go to the states and who are those states? These are the states which are rich in mineral wealth.

As the eastern states of our country are rich with minerals, so they are going to be the maximum beneficiary of this step. Coal auction took place. Where will this money go? All this money is going to the exchequer of the states. Some of the states might not even have thought that there will be a day when they will be having such a large amount of money with them which even exceeds the total amount of their budget. Is this not a way to strengthen the federal structure and thereby strengthening the states. Recently, we have accepted the recommendations of the Finance Commission wherein we have decided to give 42 per cent share of the central revenue to the states.

This we have done despite the fact that there was no unanimity in the Commission about the said recommendations. We could have taken advantage of this lack of unanimity but our intent is not so and ultimately we are committed for prosperity and strengths of the states. This exactly is the reason why we are parting with 42 per cent. It is not a small amount. For the first time in independent India we have come to a stage when, in totality, the states are having 62 per cent of the total exchequer of the country

leaving only 38 per cent with the central government. We are of then opinion that states should be made powerful and they should be given opportunities to grow. We are exactly doing the same by rising above partisan politics.

The Venom of communalism is being injected into the blood stream of the country and this is being done for political reasons. This is not a new phenomenon but has been a long standing one that has continued to devastate the country and divide the countrymen. Our country is full of diversities. Unity in diversity is our identity and strength. We are not in favour of uniformity but rather in favour of unity. Flourishing of all the communities is something which is unique to our motherland. I would like to emphasize that our constitution is the expression of our contemplation and thought spanning thousands of years. It is a constitution reflecting the general behaviour hopes and aspirations of our countrymen and our country can continue to move forward only within the ambit of the constitution.

No one has any right to discriminate against others in the name of religion. We have a duty to carry all the countrymen together and it is my responsibility to see how this government should function. I would like to apprise you about our commitment. I have

repeatedly said that my government has only one religion that is India first. My Government has only one religion that is the Constitution of India. My government has to follow only one scripture which is the Constitution of India.

'My government has only one Bhakti which is Bharat Bhakti. My government has

only one worship which is centered on the welfare of 125 crore countrymen and my government has only one style of working which is Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas.

Therefore, when I say Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas then I also need your cooperation as well because everyone's development is to be ensured'. ■

...Continued from page 19

Black Money

- ◆ Generation of black money and its concealment to be dealt with effectively and forcefully.
- ◆ Investigation into cases of undisclosed foreign assets has been given highest priority in the last nine months.
- ◆ Major breakthrough with Swiss authorities, who have agreed to:
 - Provide information in respect of cases independently investigated by IT department;
 - Confirm genuineness of bank accounts and provide non-banking information;
 - Provide such information in time-bound manner; and
 - Commence talks for automatic exchange of information.
- ◆ New structure of electronic filing of statements by reporting entities to ensure seamless integration of data for more effective enforcement.
- ◆ Bill for a comprehensive new law to deal with black money parked abroad to be introduced in the current session.
- ◆ Key features of new law on black money:
 - Evasion of tax in relation to foreign assets to have a punishment of rigorous imprisonment upto 10 years, be non-compoundable, have a penalty rate of 300% and the offender will not be permitted to approach the Settlement Commission.
 - Non-filing of return/filing of return with inadequate disclosures to have a punishment of rigorous imprisonment upto 7 years.
 - Undisclosed income from any foreign assets to be taxable at the maximum marginal rate.
 - Mandatory filing of return in respect of foreign asset.
 - Entities, banks, financial institutions including individuals all liable for prosecution and penalty.
 - Concealment of income/evasion of income in relation to a foreign asset to be made a predicate offence under PML Act, 2002.
 - PML Act, 2002 and FEMA to be amended to enable administration of new Act on black money. ■

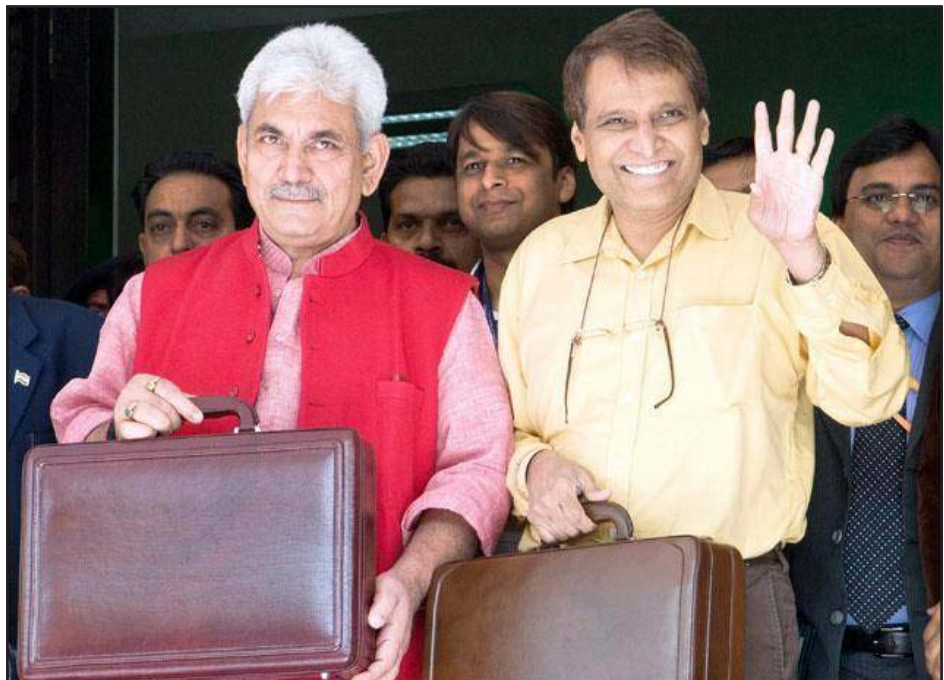
Indian Railways set to become prime mover of Indian economy once again

From Our Correspondent

Railway Budget presented on February 6 in Parliament proposed measures to make Indian Railways prime mover of Indian Economy once again. It seeks resource mobilization for higher investment, decongestion of heavy haul routes and speeding of trains and project delivery, better passenger amenities and safety, and to make railways a preferred mode of transport for masses. Presenting the Budget in Parliament, Railway Minister, Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhakar said that all critical initiatives proposed will be pursued in mission mode. The Budget proposals have set four goals to transform Indian Railways over next five years which are- a sustainable and measurable improvement in

customer experience, make rail a safer means of travel, expansion of capacity substantially, modernization of infrastructure and finally to make railways financially self-sustainable. To achieve these goals the budget proposes five drivers which include adopting a medium-term perspective plan consisting of White Paper, a Vision-2030 document and a five year action plan. Building Partnerships with key stakeholders for long term financing and overseas technology, improving last mile

connectivity, expanding fleet of rolling stock and modernization of station infrastructure are included in these drivers. Railways will also leverage additional resources; envisages investment of Rs. 8.5 lakh crore in next five years. Revamping management practices, systems, processes, and re-tooling of human resources will be taken up by the Railways to



achieve targeted operating ratio for 2015-16 at 88.5%. Fast decision making, tight accountability, improved management information systems and better training and development of human resource will also be part of the action plan to achieve the goals. In order to make travel on Indian Railways a happy experience, the Budget has given thrust on Cleanliness and proposes a new department for keeping stations and trains clean under Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. New

toilets will be built at 650 additional stations; online 3 booking of disposable bed rolls will be made available. 24X7 helpline number 138; toll-free number 182 for security related complaints have also been proposed in the budget. In order to make ticketing more passenger friendly the Budget proposes "operation five minutes" for issuing unreserved tickets, hot buttons, coin vending machines, concessional tickets for differently abled travelers, for booking tickets a multi-lingual e-portal will be developed. Crediting of refunds through banks and unreserved tickets on Smart phones will be available. Proliferation of automatic ticket vending machines with smart cards and currency options, integrated ticketing system on the lines of rail-cum-road tickets, Defence Travel System developed for elimination of Warrants have also been proposed in the Budget. The Budget has proposed e-catering to select meals from an array of choices. Four Railway Research Centers in select universities for fundamental research have also been proposed besides 'Malaviya Chair' for Railway Technology at IIT (BHU), Varanasi. PPP cell of Railways will be revamped to make it result oriented, "Foreign Rail Technology Cooperation scheme" will be launched. Joint ventures will be set up with States for focused project development, resource mobilization, land acquisition, project implementation and monitoring of critical rail projects. In order to meet the requirements of new lines JVs will also be set up with major public sector customers. Rail Budget has also proposed Coastal Connectivity Program in partnership with ports for Nargol, Chharra, Dighi, Rewas and Tuna. Besides this, projects worth Rs 2500 crore will be taken up through BOT/ Annuity route. These include Wardha- Nagpur 3rd line, Kazipet-Vijaywada 3rd line, Bhadrak - Nargundi 3rd line and Bhuj- Nalia Gauge Conversion. In order to make Indian Railways more environment friendly, 100 DEMUs will be enabled for dual fuel - CNG and diesel. Locomotives running on LNG are also currently under development. Noise levels of

locos to be at par with international norms; concerns related to wildlife to be addressed. As a part of its social initiatives, now Rail stations and training centers will be made available for skill development. Incredible Rail for Incredible India will be launched and training of auto-rickshaw and taxi-operators as tourist-guides on the model of Konkan Railway will be taken up for tourism promotion. IRCTC will work on promoting the Gandhi circuit to attract tourists to mark the occasion of 100 years of the return of Mahatma Gandhi to India from South Africa. Kisan Yatra, a special travel scheme for farmers for farming & marketing technique centres has also been proposed. According to Budget Estimates, Plan Outlay for 2015-16 has been proposed to Rs 1,00,011 crore, an increase of 52% over RE 2014-15 plan size. Out of this 41.6% resources will come from Central Government support while 17.8 % will be generated from internal resources.

Passenger friendly features of the Budget

- ▶ No increase in railway passenger fares
- ▶ A mobile application to address complaints of people
- ▶ 'Operation 5 minutes' to ensure that a passenger travelling unreserved can purchase a ticket within 5 minutes
- ▶ SMS alert services for passengers to inform them about arrival and departure of trains
- ▶ Modern facilities for disabled citizens, senior citizens, patients through IRCTC
- ▶ 24 to 26 coaches in certain identified trains, more general class coaches, ladders to be replaced
- ▶ In 400 stations Wi-Fi facility will be provided
- ▶ All India 24 X 7 helpline 138 from March 1; Toll free No.182 - for security complaints
- ▶ Introduction of integrated ticketing will be done, a defence travel system has been developed to make travel easier
- ▶ Replacement of 17,000 more toilets with bio-toilets to be undertaken this year

- ▶ Surveillance cameras on select mainline and ladies compartments to be installed
- ▶ Cleanliness in railways highest priority under 'Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat'
- ▶ Travel between Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Kolkata to be an overnight journey
- ▶ ISRO to be involved, 3,438 level crossings to be eliminated
- ▶ Paperless ticketing, hand-held device for TTEs to be introduced
- ▶ All newly-manufactured coaches to be braille-enabled
- ▶ Online booking for wheel chairs to be enabled
- ▶ The facility of self-operated lockers would also gradually be made available at stations
- ▶ Collaboration with NIFT and NID for better bed rolls, inner coach designs
- ▶ Rs 120 crore provided for lifts and escalators to facilitate movement of passengers and goods
- ▶ To expand water vending machines to most railway stations to ensure availability of clean drinking water at very low cost to people
- ▶ Middle bay of coaches will be reserved for women and senior citizens for reasons of safety
- ▶ TTEs would be instructed to help senior citizens, pregnant women and differently-abled people in obtaining lower berths
- ▶ Toilets at stations need improvement; 650 additional toilets to be created in addition to 120 last year
- ▶ New department to keep stations clean. (FOC) ■

Rail budget is futuristic and development-oriented : Amit Shah

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah termed the railway budget as "futuristic and development-oriented" which reflects NDA government's policy of "Sabka saath, Sabka vikas".

Shri Shah said "the budget is inspired by the priorities of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and is dedicated to the poor and downtrodden, providing them a number of facilities." "The first budget of NDA government under the leadership of Narendra Modi is futuristic, development-oriented and a passengers' budget.

"The NDA government has announced many new measures to provide better amenities and safe travel



facilities to passengers in the 2015-16 rail budget. The chief characteristic of the budget is that there will be no increase in passenger fare in sync with 'sabka saath, sabka vikas' policy of NDA government," Shri Shah added.

He said that keeping in mind the convenience of passengers, a 67% increase has been made in fund allocation for provision of amenities. Besides, a mobile application will also be developed for redressal of complaints.

"Inspired by Shri Narendra Modi's Clean India campaign, a lot of emphasis has been given on cleanliness in railways.

A new department for sanitation will be formed for cleaning stations and trains under 'Swachh rail, swachh bharat' mission.

"In order to realise the dream of Diamond Quadrilateral of bullet trains of the Prime Minister, a massive amount of Rs 65,000 crore has been allocated in the rail budget for high-speed trains for the next five years," Shri Shah said. (FOC) ■

Forward looking and futuristic : PM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi appreciated Railway Budget 2015, presented by the Union Minister for Railways, Shri MR Suresh Prabhu.

“Railway Budget 2015 is a forward looking, futuristic and passenger centric budget, combining a clear vision and a definite plan to achieve it. This is



a watershed moment for Railways, marking a paradigm shift from discussing coaches and trains to comprehensive railway reform. I am particularly delighted that for the first time, there is a concrete vision for technology upgradation and modernisation of the Railways. The Railway Budget lays out a clear roadmap to make the Railways the key driver of India's economic growth, playing a key role in India's progress. Railway Budget 2015 stands out for its focus on the common man, putting speed, scale, service and safety, all on one track,” the Prime Minister said.

Railway is an organization that touches the hearts and existence of all Indians : Prabhu

Speaking on rail budget Union Railway Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu said that Railway is an organization that touches the hearts and existence of all Indians, even Mahatma Gandhi. He added Bapu decided to undertake a voyage of discovery of India before launching himself into the national freedom movement. And he conducted this Bharat Darshan on trains, always travelling in third class.

Shri Prabhu said “We want to make Swachh Rail the driving force behind this Government's flagship programme - Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. Hence, we now work on-Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat.”

“Introducing ‘Operation 5-minute’ to ensure ticketless passenger get regular ticket within five minute of entering station. Railways goal is to give increase connectivity in Northeast and J&K.”

“An all -India 24X7 helpline number, 138, will become functional to attend to the problems of passengers on a real time basis. Passengers will be able to call up for complaints while on trains. A mobile application to redress Railway-related complaints is also being developed.”

He said, The Indian Railways have to run fast express trains like Rajdhani and Shatabdi, ordinary slow passenger trains as well as goods trains. Is it surprising that though Rajdhani and Shatabdi are capable of doing 130 km/hour, the average speed does not exceed 70? Is it surprising that the ordinary passenger train or a goods train cannot average more than around 25 km/hour?

“We must restore the strength of Bhartiya Rail as the backbone of our country's transportation infrastructure. Bhartiya Rail must substantially regain the market share of freight transport”.

“Our people are our biggest asset. Even in the short term that I have held this portfolio I have seen the enthusiasm and dedication of Railway personnel across the country. For our transformation journey to succeed it will be very important to harness the talent of our employees through training and development”.

He informed that Railways planned to set up ‘waste to energy’ conversion plants near major coaching terminals to dispose waste in an environment-friendly manner. ■

Govt. committed for welfare and development of State

From Our Correspondent

The forty-nine days of Governor's rule in Jammu and Kashmir came to an end with the swearing-in of PDP patron Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed on 01 March, 2015 as the Chief Minister of J&K in an alliance with the BJP. The BJP and the PDP, which had won most seats in recently-concluded Jammu and Kashmir Assembly elections, have jointly formed the government after getting the invitation from Hon'ble Governor Shri NN Vohra. Noteworthy, the BJP has won 25 of the State's 87 seats, 3 less than the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

The swearing-in ceremony was held at General Zorawar Singh Auditorium of Jammu University in the presence of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Union Ministers including home minister Shri Rajnath Singh and senior BJP leaders Shri LK Advani and Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi.

The 79-year-old Shri Mufti Mohammad Sayeed who will be the 12th Chief Minister of the state was administered the oath of office by Governor Shri NN Vohra. Shri Sayeed was sworn in along with BJP leader Shri Nirmal Singh as the Deputy Chief Minister, Abdul Rehman Bhat as the

Minister of state of Jammu and Kashmir and leader of People's Party Conference, Sajjad Lone as a minister in the Jammu and Kashmir cabinet under BJP quota.

Among the prominent faces who have taken oath today as Ministers in the BJP-

the Chief Minister and 12 BJP MLAs. BJP and PDP which have been in negotiations for two months following the verdict of J&K assembly polls finalized an agreement on February 24 to form a coalition government in Kashmir and sorted out all



PDP coalition government include Abdul Rehman Bhatt Veeri, Chander Prakash, Javed Mustafa Abdul Rehman Bhatt Veeri, Chander Prakash, Javed Mustafa Mir, Abdul Haq Khan and Bali Bhagat.

The strength of the coalition government is 25 with 13 PDP MLAs along with

the differences over contentious issues like, Article 370, Armed Forces Special Powers Act, resettlement of West Pakistan Refugees, holding talks with Pakistan and separatist leaders of the state. and at the end of the swearing-in ceremony the Common Minimum Programme was released. The

formation of this coalition government has also been acknowledged for the agenda and the vision that both the parties have agreed upon for the welfare and the development of the state.

Noteworthy, the BJP and PDP on February 24 announced that they have reached an understanding on forming a coalition government in Jammu and Kashmir. Addressing the press conference in New Delhi BJP National President Shri Amit Shah along with, Mehbooba Mufti said, "We have reached an understanding on government formation."

Shri Shah added that contentious issues in the Common Minimum Programme (CMP) had been sorted out and the same will be finalized at the Modi-Mufti meet. The state of Jammu and Kashmir will soon get a BJP-PDP popular government, he said.

The PDP chief said both the parties have found middle ground and that the coming government is not just about power sharing but to win the hearts of people. "Keeping in mind the development and aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, we have formulated an agenda for alliance between BJP and PDP," she stated.

However, decks were cleared for the first ever formation of a BJP-PDP coalition government in Jammu and Kashmir

The *karyakartas*, who in large numbers thronged the BJP headquarter, burst crackers and showered flowers on some of the newly appointed Ministers amid dancing to the beats of dholaks and 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' slogans. BJP has created a history by forming government in J&K in alliance. We never thought that BJP will be in government in J&K. We are very happy, BJP leaders said.

following a historic meeting between Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and PDP chief Shri Mufti Mohammed Sayeed where the two leaders gave their approval for a common minimum programme (CMP) for governance.

After completion of the meeting repeating the BJP slogan of 'Sab Ka Saath, Sab Ka Vikas', Shri Mufti Mohammed Sayeed said, the Prime Minister Shri Modi has won the mandate of the people of the country and has full legitimacy to decide on this alliance and adding that "this had to be done". BJP, PDP celebrate government formation

Activists of BJP and PDP celebrated the formation of coalition government in Jammu and Kashmir, by bursting crackers and dancing to music. Celebrations were seen in several places in the

state particularly at BJP headquarters, where people and BJP *karyakartas* celebrated the formation of the first BJP-partnered government in the state.

The *karyakartas*, who in large numbers thronged the BJP headquarter, burst crackers and showered flowers on some of the newly appointed Ministers amid dancing to the beats of dholaks and 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' slogans. BJP has created a history by forming government in J&K in alliance. We never thought that BJP will be in government in J&K. We are very happy, BJP leaders said.

Similarly following the oath taking ceremony over 300 PDP activists danced to tunes of 'dholaks' and burst crackers to celebrate the government formation.

It is time for Jammu and Kashmir to register development in all sectors. We are very happy," PDP activists Rano Devi said. PDP workers raised victory slogans and exchanged greetings with each other. Sweets were distributed outside the PDP office and firecrackers were set off to celebrate. PDP activists said BJP -PDP govt is a historic opportunity to fulfill the aspirations of the people of the state and take it to new heights of progress.

Leaders of different parties showered their wishes for the newly formed government. (FOC)■