

KAMAL SANDESH

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₹20



'MEGA DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WILL
POWER AND EMPOWER STATE OF KERALA'



'MISSION OF BJP IS TO SERVE THE COUNTRY'



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi along with BJP National President Shri JP Nadda paying floral tributes while inaugurating Party Office Bearers meeting in New Delhi



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda addressing the BJP National Office Bearers meeting in New Delhi



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda in a road show during his Pravas in Himachal Pradesh



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah greeting people during a massive public meeting while flagging off Poribortan Yatra in West Bengal



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah taking his lunch at Shri Subrata Biswas ji's home in Narayanpur village, South 24 Parganas in West Bengal



Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh addressing Tamil Nadu State BJYM's Convention in Salem

EDITOR

PRABHAT JHA

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

DR. SHIV SHAKTI BAKSHI

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

RAM PRASAD TRIPATHY
VIKASH ANAND

CREATIVE EDITORS

VIKAS SAINI
BHOLA ROY

DIGITAL MEDIA

RAJEEV KUMAR
VIPUL SHARMA

SUBSCRIPTION & CIRCULATION

SATISH KUMAR

E-MAIL

MAIL.KAMALSANDESH@GMAIL.COM

MAIL@KAMALSANDESH.ORG

PHONE: 011-23381428, FAX: 011-23387887

WEBSITE: WWW.KAMALSANDESH.ORG

SHRADHANJALI

Justice M. Rama Jois is no more 19

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SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

@narendramodi

West Bengal's development will happen with Ashol Poriborton, when: 'Syndicate Raj' is over. 'Cut culture' finishes. State patronage of criminal elements ends. Rule of law prevails.



@JPNadda

Hon PM @narendramodi ji approved Rs. 12,000 Cr PLI scheme for telecom sector. India didn't stop even during COVID & went on to become world's 2nd largest mobile manufacturer. I am sure that this step will create massive jobs & make India a manufacturing powerhouse.



@AmitShah

Time to uproot the Syndicate Raj from the revered land of West Bengal. Only BJP under the leadership of PM @narendramodi ji can fulfil the aspirations of people of Bengal.



@rajnathsingh

To widen the investment base, the Government of India has enhanced FDI in Defence Sector up to 74% under Automatic Route and 100% under Government route. This would further act as a catalyst for foreign players to invest in India.



@nitin_gadkari

In continuation to our effort to reduce costs through innovation, all steel whether produced from ore, billets, pellets or melting of scrap would be allowed to be used for NH construction as long as it meets the standards required for specific grades of steel.



@blsanthosh

First UDF promised to bring a legislation on Sabarimala. Then @arivalayam, the DMK started presenting Vel in its functions. Now LDF under @vijayanpinarayi announces withdrawing Sabarimala cases. Huge victory for @BJP4India. We set the agenda. Others follow. @BJP4Keralam



KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR

wishes a very happy

MAHASHIVRATRI (11 MARCH)

to all of its readers

PEOPLE SHOWERING BLESSINGS ON BJP

As Bharatiya Janata Party resolves to further intensify its efforts to serve the people in its National Office Bearers meeting, the people of Gujarat have responded by blessing the party overwhelmingly in the recently held municipal body elections. The people support was so massive that BJP emerged victorious in 85 percent seats sweeping the elections in all the six municipal bodies which went to the polls. The results of Gujarat municipal elections further reinforces the trend across the nation whereby BJP is increasingly becoming the most favoured choice of the people in elections from panchayats to parliament. In the recently held elections in Bihar, in the by-elections held across the nation – from Gujarat to Manipur and from Madhya Pradesh to Uttar Pradesh and Telangana, from GHMC elections to Bodoland Territorial Council elections, from Kashmir DDC elections to Ladakh Municipal Council elections – everywhere Lotus is blooming. The commitment of BJP to serve the people with the mantra of ‘Sabka Saath, Sabka Viaks, Sabka Vishwas’ is getting people’s support everywhere in the country. The people are blessing BJP again and again and even more than before.

Today, the visionary and inspiring leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been recognized globally as India becomes a hope of many countries in the world. While in the country massive relief work

was carried out during the Corona pandemic ensuring food, job and health security of the poorest of the poor, India was always eager to help other countries in their hour of crisis by sending medicines, doctors, medical equipments and even a lab. The idea of ‘Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah, Sarve Santu Niramayah’ is reverberating across the globe with ‘Made in India’ vaccines reaching to more than 150 countries. The oft repeated commitment of Prime Minister that an ‘Aatmnirbhar Bharat’ will work for ‘Vishwa Kalyan’ - for the welfare of the entire world, can be seen in action today.

The call of Prime Minister to convert challenges into opportunities not only inspired every Indian to optimally utilize their individual and collective potential but also raised the nation’s morale high throughout the pandemic. At the same time, the call for realizing the goals of an ‘Aatmnirbhar Bharat’ has also initiated the process to unleash the potential of the nation making India confident of its own capabilities in almost every

field. The Prime Minister has rightly said that an ‘Aatmnirbhar Bharat’ will be a force multiplier for the global economy and as the Budget 2021 show, India is set to move ahead with double digit growth with V-shape recovery. The reforms initiated during the pandemic covering almost every sector are also transforming India which is ready to take a giant leap in the post-Covid world.

The challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic were not only enormous but appeared insurmountable in many ways. It was the positive approach in a sensitive manner with intense belief in the concept of ‘Antyodaya’, that the new opportunities were created by applying novel means. Today, while the entire world is appreciating the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in glowing terms, the people within the country are showering their blessings and love on BJP in every election. As elections for the five states are approaching the writings on the wall are getting clearer with people showing overwhelming support for Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and BJP. While the states where BJP is in government people are set to re-elect them on the basis of their outstanding performances, the people in the states where BJP is not in government are looking forward to vote for electing BJP government in their states. It is the responsibility of every BJP karyakarta to reach to every electorate and give the message of the Prime Minister and BJP so that people’s dream of having BJP government in their own states is realized. BJP karyakartas have done it before and there is no doubt that they will do it again. ■

 shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org

**THE IDEA OF
‘SARVE BHAVANTU
SUKHINAH, SARVE
SANTU NIRAMAYAH’
IS REVERBERATING
ACROSS THE GLOBE
WITH ‘MADE IN
INDIA’ VACCINES
REACHING TO MORE
THAN 150 COUNTRIES.**

BJP OFFICE BEARERS MEET HELD IN NEW DELHI



‘UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PM NARENDRA MODI, EVERY KARYAKARTA IS READY TO WORK FOR EXPANSION OF THE PARTY’

Bharatiya Janata Party National Office Bearers meet was held on 21 February, 2021 at the NDMC Center in New Delhi. BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda presided over the meeting. It was attended by party's national office bearers, in-charge of the states, national presidents of all Morchas, state BJP presidents of all the states and state general secretaries (organization). On this occasion, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the program and guided the party's national functionaries.

The inauguration of the program began with the lighting of the lamp by PM Shri Narendra Modi and National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda. This was followed by the national song 'Vande Mataram'. All the participants paid homage to the victims of Covid-19 epidemic.

Delhi Pradesh BJP President Shri Adesh Gupta welcomed the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi while Chairman of SC Morcha Shri Lal Singh Arya welcomed the BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda. A political resolution was also passed in this meeting. BJP National Vice-President and former Chief Minister

of Chhattisgarh Shri Raman Singh presented the Political Resolution while Haryana BJP President Shri Om Prakash Dhankar seconded it. After this, all the party officials present in the meeting passed the Political Resolution in unison.

The Political Resolution passed in the National Office Bearers Meet, thanked Shri Narendra Modi for being a vigilant, sensitive, determined and visionary Prime Minister. The political resolution expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister for preparing the country for a decisive battle against Covid-19 and guiding the whole world during this period by adopting the policy of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam'.

The resolution highlighted how in the Corona crisis, the Prime Minister not only cared for about 80 crore people of the country but also accelerated the economic growth through several economic packages and 'Self-reliant India' campaign. On one hand, Prime Minister Shri Modi arranged free ration for about eight crore people of the country for about eight months and on the other hand he also started the employment programme for migrant labourers.

The Garib Kalyan package during the Covid 19

lockdown ensured that no one in the country would go to bed hungry. During this period, 1,500 rupees were deposited in three installments in the accounts of 20 crore women Jan Dhan account holders, while the elderly, widows and the disabled were also given financial assistance of Rs 1,000. Also, two installments of 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi' were also transferred to the accounts of about eight crore farmers of the country. Three, free gas cylinders were also provided to more than eight crore poor women.

The Political Resolution thanked the Prime Minister for passing the Agricultural Reform Laws in Parliament for the benefit of farmers and said that these reforms will not only help in increasing the income of farmers but also in making them self-reliant.

The proposal also outlined in details the Self-Reliant India Campaign, Vocal for Local and Comprehensive Achievement in the field of Medical Infrastructure, Merger of Banks, Implementation of Labour Laws, Swamitva Yojana, Budget Announcements and Allocation of One Lakh Crore for Agricultural Infrastructure.

In the Political Resolution, PM Shri Narendra Modi was specially thanked for the biggest vaccination campaign in the world. In just 34 days under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi, India has set a world record by immunizing more than one crore people. Not only this, India has presented a unique example of service to humanity by providing vaccine to many countries of the world in this hour of crisis which is being widely appreciated all over the world. The Resolution heartily congratulated the Prime Minister for this. The Resolution also expresses gratitude to the Prime Minister for successful and visionary foreign policy.

The popularity and credibility of a political party is considered to be a great blessing. Therefore, in the resolution the Prime Minister was warmly congratulated and thanked for party's success in last one year.

The resolution outlined the victory in the Bihar Assembly elections and BJP's spectacular performance in the DDC elections held in Jammu and Kashmir and the Ladakh Hill Development Council election. Along with this, party thanked

the people for giving historic mandate to BJP in elections ranging from local body in Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa to Bodo Territorial Council and Greater Hyderabad Municipal Council. The BJP also expressed gratitude to the people for the splendid success achieved by the BJP in the Assembly by-elections of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Manipur and Karnataka.

The resolution also said that during the Corona Pandemic the opposition, especially the Congress, tried to create unnecessary fear in the country on the basis of lies and confusion, but their every attempt failed completely. It also said that the Congress party only does cheap politics. The Congress could not implement GST during its tenure but when BJP government implemented it, they are opposing it. Similarly, Congress talked about agricultural reforms in its election manifesto but when the Modi government implemented agricultural reforms for the welfare of farmers, the Congress party started misleading the farmers. When we talked about the construction of Shri Ram Temple, the Congress used to raise a variety of questions, but today when the grand Shri Ram Temple is going to be built, the Congress is silent. We have taken forward the topic of national unity like Article 370, but it has become a habit of Congress to oppose every subject and even to play with the health of the people. Opposition to vaccination is also indicative of the prejudice of Congress. The Congress seems to have gone into darkness due to the eclipse of opposition.

It said all the office bearers and Karyakartas of the party believe that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Bharatiya Janata Party government at the Center worked to implement all the steps taken for the service of humanity. Under the leadership of Prime Minister, every party Karyakarta is ready to work for the expansion of the party, carrying forward the resolution of 'Seva Hi Sangathan'.

In the meeting, issues like Agricultural Reforms, Self-Reliant India Campaign, assembly elections to be held in five states and the party's organizational functions were discussed. The meeting also discussed the expansion plan in Himachal Pradesh and the plan to expand the party to Mandal level in Karnataka through new programs in Karnataka.



ALL THE PARTY KARYAKARTAS MUST WORK FOR 'NATION FIRST': PM

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his inaugural address said that the mission of Bharatiya Janata Party is not just to gain power but always to serve the country. He said for the purpose of serving the country, the organization should also develop its quality accordingly.

The Prime Minister said “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas” is the basic mantra of the Bharatiya Janata Party and taking this basic mantra forward the Central Government and the BJP State Governments functions. For this mantra, today there is a positive environment created for the development of the country.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said, “All the party Karyakartas should go ahead to expand the party organization and must work for “Nation First.” ■

@Narendra Modi

Attended a meeting of @BJP4India leaders. We had extensive discussions on the good governance agenda of the Party and ways to further increase the connect with people in the times to come.



CARRY FORWARD THE WORK OF ORGANIZATION WITH ENERGY: JP NADDA

B JP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda while addressing the meet, called upon all party Karyakartas to carry forward the work of the organization with energy. The National President called upon all Karyakartas to launch a comprehensive nationwide campaign for ‘Self-reliant India’. He said, during this programme the Karyakartas must create awareness in the masses for the ‘Vocal for Local’ and to purchase Swadeshi products. The Party Karyakartas will also take up awareness campaigns for Startups among the youth and support farmers by making them aware about Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs).

He said the party is also going to take up the subject of increasing the livelihood of the people in tribal areas as a campaign. Party Karyakartas should also take it forward in a mission mode.

Shri Nadda said an important campaign of nutrition is being carried out by the Modi government, to make this campaign a success, the party workers, especially the Mahila Morcha workers, should work by increasing their activity to the bottom. It is also decided that party will carry out all the programs that it has taken up on its Foundation Day.

He also informed that on the occasion of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar’s Birth Anniversary on April 14, the party will take his message to every booth and Mandal level. Shri Nadda said the subjects discussed in the party’s National Office Bearer Meet and the outlines for the upcoming programs will be discussed in the coming 15 days at the State level, District level and Mandal level and an action plan will be prepared. ■

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE POLITICAL RESOLUTION

- India not only defeated Covid under the able, sensitive, committed and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, but also infused in all its citizens the confidence to build an 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.
- The party unequivocally hails his leadership for introducing India to the world as a proud and victorious nation in the fight against Covid.
- The country upped its testing capacity in a very limited time. Today, our testing capacity stands at 15 lakh/per day.

SENSE OF COLLECTIVITY, BELIEF IN LEADERSHIP

COVID MANAGEMENT

- In March 2020, when Covid cases started being reported in India, the Central government under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi took the far-sighted and humanitarian decision to impose a 'complete nationwide lockdown' on March 24.
- India decided to place 'safety of humanity' before everything else.
- The Modi government took important steps in the form of 'Mini Budgets' as a result of which the country managed to quickly pull itself out of such umpteen challenges.
- The party applauds its leadership which announced a 'Gareeb Kalyan package' of Rs 1.70 lakh crore within 48 hours of the imposition of the lockdown.
- Under the package, the government announced that 80 crore people in the country would get free ration and pulses throughout the pandemic.
- Eight crore families were provided three free gas cylinders each.
- Three installments of Rs 500 each were transferred into the accounts of 20 crore women Jan Dhan account holders.
- Divyangs, women and elderly were given Rs 1,000 each during the lockdown as financial assistance, while farmers were given two installments of Kisan Samman Nidhi.
- In June 2020, to provide employment to migrant workers, Garib Kalyan RojgarAbhiyaan was kick-started.
- A separate allocation of Rs 1 lakh crore was made for farm infrastructure.
- On the other hand, despite the sudden need for healthcare equipment, PPE kits, testing kits, masks, oxygen cylinder, ventilator etc, a shortage of the same was never felt.

- The party profusely lauds the 130 crore Indians for their patience, cooperation, dedication and showing unprecedented courage by reposing faith in their leadership of Prime Minister Modi in the fight against the pandemic.
- The appeals and activities like clapping and clanging thalis as a token of appreciation and respect for Corona Warriors, lighting candles and diyas at 9pm for 9 minutes, and showering flowers over hospitals inspired a feeling of solidarity among people.
- The steps taken by Prime Minister Modi in communicating directly with the people during these times are inspirational.
- While there was continuous communication with people through timely TV addresses and the regular radio programme Mann Ki Baat, there was also a regular dialogue with states on the Covid situation.

THE COMMITMENT TO SERVICE

- When the opportunity to serve mankind arose amid the difficult times, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave inspiration for 'Seva Hi Sangathan' laying the 'Seven S' mantra.
- Inspired by this mantra, lakhs of dedicated party workers presented a wonderful example of service under the leadership and organisational guidance of BJP President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda.
- The seven S, service (sevabhav), balance (santulan), patience (sanyam), coordination (samanvay), positivity (sakaratomakta), goodwill (sadbhawnna), dialogue (samwad), were the mantras carrying which, BJP workers selflessly reached out to help the needy.
- BJP workers reached out to every section and every locality of the society with the resolve to serve people.
- By July 8, under 'Seva Hi Sangathan', BJP workers served food to over 22 crore people, made and distributed more than 4.5 crore face masks, over

5.40 lakh workers dedicated themselves to the service of the elderly.

THE MANTRA OF AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

- By presenting the resolve of building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat ahead of an India emerging from the pandemic, the Prime Minister has set new limits for the country's self empowerment.
- In May, there definitely were talks of a new economic package. But at that time nobody imagined the package would be a gigantic Rs 20 lakh crore. This 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' package, which touched upon all dimensions of the country's basic structure, had provisions for all aspects including the economy, infrastructure, system, demography and demand.
- It is only because of the impact of the PM's messaging that the country is increasingly becoming 'vocal for local'.
- This can be considered an encouraging sign for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat in the new decade.
- The Prime Minister's leadership must be commended for bringing Atmanirbharta to the centre of the debate in the country and making the world aware of it in such a short span of time.

VACCINE VICTORY

- The country is steadily advancing in the direction of complete triumph over Covid.
- In July 2020, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid out the plan for vaccine distribution for all Indians on the basis of priority categories so that every citizen feels safe from scourge of the pandemic.
- It is because of this that the world's largest vaccination drive started on January 16 by the Prime Minister has already covered 1 crore (98,46,523 on February 18) people.
- There is a huge demand for India's vaccines across the world. India has emerged as the top vaccine exporter in the world.
- In Budget 2021-22, the government made an allocation of Rs 35,000 crore for the vaccination drive.

REFORMATIVE STEPS INSPIRED BY STRONG WILLPOWER

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra

Modi, many legislative reforms have taken place.

Farm laws, New Education Policy, Ownership Scheme, merger of Public Sector Banks, curb on financial irregularities are among the reformative steps undertaken by the government.

1. LABOUR LAW REFORMS

- During the pandemic, as the global market was undergoing major churns, to attract investments, India decided to use the time as an opportunity to introduce long-pending labour law reforms.
- The party congratulates the Modi government for the successful passage of three legislations in labour laws.
- The reforms will open opportunities in India for investment and employment.

2. FARM REFORMS – FARMER WELFARE

- The government brought in three Farm Laws in the interest of farmers to ensure they get the right price for their produce, their farm income doubles and that they have the freedom to sell their farm produce where they want to.
- The Congress along with some other parties and people is trying to mislead the farmers about the farm laws.
- BJP believes that the laws were necessary for the welfare of India's farmers and had been in demand for a long time.

3. 'SVAMITVA' SCHEME ON PROPERTY CARDS

- Under an ambitious scheme envisaged by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the 'record of rights' is being provided to village household owners in rural areas by issuing property cards.

4. NEW EDUCATION POLICY

- Ushering in the long-awaited changes to the India's education policy, the Modi government on July 29, 2020, approved the New Education Policy.
- The policy emphasizes on uniform school education access for all - from pre-school to secondary level.

COMPREHENSIVE AND ALL-INCLUSIVE BUDGET

- The government has presented a Budget for the

new financial year which outlines the path for the country to surge ahead with a strong structural foundation.

- This Budget lays a solid foundation for building an Atmanirbhar Bharat.
- Budget 2021-22 presents the resolve to comprehend the country's healthcare infrastructure and prepare it for any future challenge in a new way.
- The Budget expresses the commitment to double farmer income, ensure an MSP which is 1.5 times the input cost for farmers.
- The Budget carries the resolve to reach newer heights in the development of basic infrastructure and creating new employment opportunities.
- The Budget ensures strengthening of defence to security and provides robustness to the country's economic foundations.
- The Budget shows the will to enlarge employment opportunities for the youth.
- The Budget makes the intention to work for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and ensure their educational upliftment very clear.
- The Budget includes provisions to expand the country's road network, ensure education for all, push for self-reliance in the defence sector and making public transport accessible.

MERGER OF 10 PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS

- The Modi government, which is committed to reforms in the interest of the country, took a major step by merging 10 small banks into four. The party praises the government for this reformative step.

STRONG NATION, CLEAR POLICY

- India's position has been clear on the situation that has developed with China. India will not let any expansionist strategy succeed on its borders. Under the leadership of PM Modi, India has proved this at every given opportunity.

PUBLIC MANDATE WITH GOVERNMENT

- The BJP received historic blessings from the people of Bihar in Assembly Election.
- The way in which NDA emerged victorious defying all negative aspirations, speaks volumes about the rising confidence of people in the BJP.
- In Jammu and Kashmir, in the first local elections

held after the removal of Article 370 it was democracy that won.

- The first District Development Council elections held in J&K shattered many myths. Ignoring terrorists and separatists, people fearlessly reposed faith in democracy and a three-tier Panchayati system has been instituted in J&K.
- The unprecedented support the BJP received in the local body elections of Hyderabad are proof that the confidence in PM Shri Narendra Modi's leadership is growing in every nook and corner of the country.

THE RESOLVE TO WIN IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS

Elections in many states will be held in 2021. West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Kerala and Puducherry are headed for elections.

- The way PM Shri Narendra Modi ji's leadership is winning people's support in West Bengal goes to show that the lotus will bloom in West Bengal and the BJP will form a full-majority government.
- Assam, which was once neglected, is now developing fast. During the tenure of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the view of the country towards Northeastern states has changed. As a result of this, the faith of Assamese people in the NDA government has become stronger.
- The NDA government is going into the elections Assam with the resolve to form a full majority government once again.
- The BJP has strengthened its organizational foundation in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. In Tamil Nadu, the BJP is contesting along with its coalition partner.
- In Kerala, the party has expanded its membership. Over the last few years, its vote percentage has increased. The BJP's acceptability among the people of Kerala has risen while at the same time people's anger towards the current government is palpable.
- The BJP's Kerala workers are taking the party's message from door-to-door in the state and working relentlessly to present a viable political alternative to Kerala.
- No election is small or insignificant for the party. Even elections in Puducherry are a matter of pride for the NDA. The people of Puducherry are looking to replace the anti-people Congress government and bring in a new NDA government. ■



DEENDAYAL JI WANTED INDIA TO BE 'AATMANIRBHAR': PM MODI

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 11 February, 2021 addressed the BJP Karyakartas on the occasion of 'Samarpan Diwas' to commemorate the contributions of party's founder leader Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya on his Punyatithi.

Speaking at the event, Prime Minister Shri Modi said, "All of you have read about Deendayal Ji and have designed your lives around his ideals. All of you know fully well his sacrifices. The more we think, talk and hear about him, we feel a new ray of freshness and a new point of view in his thoughts. His thoughts are very contemporary and will forever be."

Reminiscing Deendayal Ji, Shri Narendra Modi said, "In 1965, during the Indo-Pak war, India had to depend on foreign countries for weapons. Deendayal Ji had said at that time that we need to build an India that is self-reliant not just in agriculture,

but also in defence and weaponry. Today, India is witnessing defence corridors being made, Made in India weapons and fighter jets like Tejas."

PM Shri Modi remarked, "In our organisation, we put Karyakartas over party. That's exactly why the country is getting associated with us and every

HIGHLIGHTS

- Deendayal Upadhyaya Ji wanted India to be 'Aatmanirbhar' not just in agriculture, but also in defence.
- The entire country is awakened to the idea of Aatmanirbhar Bharat today, now that we're on the verge of reaching 75 years of Independence.
- BJP Karyakartas should do 75 works that serve the society as a tribute to 75 years of our Independence.



Karyakarta is treating every Indian like his/her family. Whenever a situation arises in any part of the country, our Karyakartas go there to serve the people.”

Talking on India’s Infrastructural development, he asserted, “The transformational changes taking place in the field of infrastructure will make lives of citizens easier. India will get a new modern image. When India’s stature is rising rapidly globally today, every Indian will be proud of today’s India.”

“We took the decisions that were deemed difficult in the country, and we took them with everyone. For example, BJP formed the Ministry for Tribal Affairs. It is the BJP government which has given reservation to economically weaker sections,” he added.

Drawing attention towards Digital India, the Prime Minister said, “In the last few years, we’ve been able to bring changes in lives of people at a massive scale by the usage of technology. India has broken several old proverbs to do digital transactions at a record level. Every month, India is doing transactions worth over Rs. 4 lakh crore digitally. It has become a part of their life. Due to technology, the poor and needy and getting their rightful money directly into their bank accounts.”

“The entire country is awakened to the idea of Aatmanirbhar Bharat today, now that we’re on the verge of reaching 75 years of Independence. I call upon every unit to do 75 works that serve the society as a tribute to 75 years of our Independence,” he urged BJP Karyakartas. ■

GUIDING PRINCIPLE OF BJP GOVERNMENT IS ‘ANTYODAYA’: JP NADDA



B JP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda addressed the party Karyakartas on ‘Samarpan Diwas’ at the BJP Headquarters in New Delhi on February 11 to mark the 53rd Punyatithi of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay ji and said, today the entire nation is observing the ‘Punyatithi’ of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay ji as ‘Samarpan Diwas’ and on behalf of crores of BJP Karyakartas I pay rich tributes to Pandit Deendayal ji. Each and every Karyakarta of the Bharatiya Janata Party is committed to serve the nation by following the ideals of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay ji.

He said Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay ji propagated the principle of ‘Antyodaya’ (welfare of the poorest of the poor) and humanism by following Indian ethos and culture. He talked about the welfare, wellbeing and upliftment of the poorest of the poor. He worked tirelessly for the upliftment and progress of poor, villagers, Dalits and deprived people. The Bharatiya Janata Party Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is following the ideals of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay ji and working on the path shown by him to help uplift the poorest of the poor in India.

Shri Nadda said the guiding principle of the



Bharatiya Janata Party Government has been the policy of 'Antyodaya' and all our policies and programmes are guided by it. Be it the BJP government at the Centre or in the states, all our policies and programmes are focused on the upliftment of the poorest of the poor in the society. The BJP government works for downtrodden and deprived classes.

He said, "In public life, a person is a leader, a philosopher or an organisation man but Deendayal ji was 'three-in-one'. He was a dedicated leader, a great philosopher and also an excellent organisation man. Deendayal ji strongly believed that unless every person in a society is happy, we cannot bring positive and constructive changes in the society. He used to say that a society can grow and prosper only when its people are happy and contented. He used to say that till the last person in a society is happy we cannot build a progressive society and a strong nation. Politics and political parties can be tools but not final destinations; they can be medium to reach somewhere but not the final destination. We have to utilize it as a medium to ensure progress, development and growth of the poorest of the poor".

Shri Nadda further said in his first address to the nation after becoming the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had said that his government was dedicated to farmers, poor, deprived classes,

women, Dalits, Schedule Caste and Scheduled Tribes. Shri Narendra Modi brought two most important and revolutionary policies – one is health policy and another is national education policy. These two policies clearly underline how health and education can bring about major changes in the growth and development of India and shape its future.

He said the Corona pandemic showed us the humane face of our PM Shri Narendra Modi. He led the nation from the front in the times of crisis and also followed the principle of 'Vasudev Kutumbakam' (the whole world is a big family). He presented to the nation and to the world the remarkable example of human kindness and compassion.

During the Corona pandemic, Narendra Modi ji led India with compassion and decisiveness; he also guided the entire world in the fight against the pandemic. First he ensured that every Indian get medicines and good treatment and later supplied medical aid to the world, then when India made Coronavirus vaccine, Shri Narendra Modi provided it to not only Indians but now India is supplying it to the entire world, Shri Nadda added.

He said to fight the Corona pandemic, the Prime Minister empowered poor and needy people with his schemes of Garib Kalyan Yojana and Ayushman Bharat Yojana. This not only provided relief and aid to Indians but also laid the foundation of making a strong and resilient India. During the Corona lockdown all the political parties went into a state of 'lockdown'. It was the Bharatiya Janata Party alone whose committed and dedicated workers served the humankind and helped the needy people by following the ideals of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay ji. They followed the footsteps of Hon'ble Prime Minister who led India's fight against Corona pandemic. ■



ORGANISATIONAL ACTIVITIES

BJP PRESIDENT'S HIMACHAL PRAVAS

ONLY BJP IS WORKER CENTRIC PARTY: JP NADDA

The BJP National President Shri JP Nadda visited Himachal Pradesh on 18 February, 2021 to address the party State Executive meeting in Dharamsala. After arrival, Shri Nadda was given a rousing welcome by CM Shri Jai Ram Thakur, all ministers, MLAs and thousands of party Karyakartas at Gaggal airport. Hundreds of BJP workers in traditional dresses also gathered at the airport and danced to welcome the BJP National President.

While addressing the State Executive meeting, Shri Nadda said the party did well by winning the Panchayat elections in the state and capturing nine out of 12 zila parishads. It should now aim for Mission Repeat in 2022 Assembly elections, he said.

He praised 'Panna Pramukh' system adopted by the Himachal BJP. Under Panna Pramukh model, a party worker oversees voters on a single page of voter list (Panna) in their respective areas. Shri Nadda

said the Panna Pramukh model has been so successful in Himachal that it was being adopted by the BJP in the entire country now.

He urged the party workers to now create Panna committees at each polling booth level. He said the BJP was winning elections due to its mass following and scientific working at the booth level.

The BJP President said all political parties in country were family centric. The BJP was the only party in the country that was worker centric and it makes it unique. The BJP had 18 crore active members in the country, he said.

He said the BJP aims at opening party office in each district of the country. He urged the Himachal BJP President Shri Suresh Kayshap, to expedite buying of land in all districts of Himachal so that party offices could be established there.

Shri Nadda said PM Shri Narendra Modi provided leadership to entire world during Covid pandemic and today 16 countries were looking towards

India for getting Covid vaccine.

The National President further said that the work for the construction of the Atal Tunnel linking Lahaul and Spiti district with all-weather road was expedited by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The Prime Minister had also restored special category status for Himachal that was terminated by the Congress government, he said.

While speaking on the occasion the BJP State President Shri Suresh Kashyap said the BJP government had taken landmark decisions such as abolition of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, construction of Ram Temple and abolition of Triple Talak.

Himachal Chief Minister Shri Jai Ram Thakur, former CM Shri Prem Kumar Dhumal, Minister of State for Finance and Corporate Affairs Shri Anurag Thakur, state BJP in-charge Shri Avinash Rai Khanna and co-in-charge Shri Sanjay Tandon were among other prominent leaders present at the meeting. ■

JAL JEEVAN MISSION WATER CONNECTIONS REACH 3.5 CRORE RURAL HOUSEHOLDS

The Jal Jeevan Mission announced by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 15th August, 2019 with the aim to provide tap water connection to every rural household by 2024 has reached a new milestone by providing 3.53 Crore rural household tap water connections. As on 15th August 2019, out of 18.93 Crore rural households, 3.23 Crore (17%) had tap water connections. The untiring efforts of States/UTs have helped Jal Jeevan Mission provide 3.53 Crore tap water connections. Further, every family living in 52 districts and



77 thousand villages are getting assured tap water supply in their homes. Now 6.76 Crore (35.24%) i.e. more than 1/3rd of rural households are getting potable water through taps. Goa has become the first State in the country to provide 100% tap water connection followed by Telangana. States/UTs are now competing with each other and

focusing on the target to ensure that every household in the country gets safe drinking water adhering to the core principle of 'equity & inclusiveness'. Jal Jeevan Mission is working in partnership with the States with an aim to provide potable water in adequate quantity and of prescribed quality on regular and long-term basis. Jal Jeevan Mission journey so far has been filled with challenges and disruptions as the entire world battled with CoVid-19 pandemic. All developmental and construction work has got badly affected during lockdown in most parts of the country. ■

15.33 % MORE PADDY PROCURED

In the ongoing Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2020-21, Government continues to procure Kharif 2020-21 crops at MSP from farmers as per existing MSP Schemes, as was done in previous seasons. Paddy procurement for Kharif 2020-21 is continuing smoothly in the procuring States & UTs of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Chandigarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, Karnataka, West Bengal and Tripura with purchase of over 647.68 LMTs of paddy up to February 17, 2021. This is an increase of 15.33 % against the last year corresponding purchase of 561.57 LMT. About 93.30 Lac farmers have already been benefitted from the ongoing KMS procurement Operations with MSP value of Rs. 1,22,282.54 Crore. Till 17 February, 2021 a quantity of 91,47,724 cotton bales valuing Rs.26,678.10 Crore has been procured benefitting 18,93,649 farmers. ■

INDIA HAS VACCINATED CLOSE TO 1.17 CRORE BENEFICIARIES IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST COVID19

India vaccination program running very smoothly and as on 22nd February, 2021 (day 38th of the vaccination drive), the vaccination coverage was 1,17,45,552 through 2,44,877 sessions, as per the provisional report. These include 64,51,251 HCWs (1st dose), 12,58,177 HCWs (2nd dose) and 40,36,124 FLWs (1st dose).

The 2nd dose of COVID19 vaccination started on 13th February, 2021 for those beneficiaries who have completed 28 days after receipt of the 1st dose. Vaccination of the FLWs started on 2nd Feb 2021.

On Day-38 of the vaccination drive (22nd February, 2021), 6,28,696 vaccine doses were given. Out of which, 3,38,373 beneficiaries were vaccinated across 12,560 sessions for 1st dose (HCWs and FLWs) and 2,90,323 HCWs received 2nd dose of vaccine. ■

FIRST TIME, POST COVID, RAILWAY FREIGHT REVENUE OVERTAKES LAST YEARS CUMULATIVE FIGURES

Railway Revenue surges ahead and stands at Rs 98068.45 crore on a cumulative basis compared to Rs 97342.14 crore last year in same corresponding.

Month to month, freight revenue is almost 5% more than last year same corresponding days of February. In a heartening new development, first time post Covid, Indian Railway's cumulative Freight Revenue has surged past last year's levels and stands at Rs 98068.45 crore as compared to Rs 97342.14 to Fy 20-21 in same corresponding. On a month to month basis as well, in first 12 days of February, Railways has overtaken last years freight revenue figures by 5%. On a monthly basis, Railway freight revenue has surged Rs 206 crore ahead in Feb 21 compared to

corresponding period Feb last year. As per the estimates, Railways freight revenue stood at Rs 4571 cr for the first 12 days of Feb as compared to Rs 4365 cr for the same period last FY. Incidentally loading is also ahead by almost 8% as compared to last year same corresponding. Railways has achieved this turnaround due to an extra ordinary set of new initiatives being taken in improving business development, incentives, speed and customisation.

It may be noted that Freight loading has been showing higher figures since August 20 as compared to corresponding period of previous Financial year. This is for the First time post Covid lock down that freight revenue for the month has also been showing higher estimates as compared to last corresponding. ■

INDIA'S FIRST DIESEL-CONVERTED CNG TRACTOR LAUNCHED

A farmer could save more than one lakh rupees annually only on fuel costs

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari has said that the government is working towards achieving increased income for farmers by lowering costs, and creating job opportunities in rural India. Launching India's first-ever diesel tractor converted to CNG, in Delhi on February 12 in the presence of Union Ministers Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Shri Parshottam Rupala and Gen (Retd) Dr V K Singh, Shri Gadkari said, the most important benefit for the farmer will be to save more than one lakh rupees annually on fuel costs, which will help them to improve their livelihood. The Minister said, CNG is a Clean Fuel, as it has the lowest content of carbon and other pollutants. It is economical as it has zero lead and is non-corrosive, non-dilutive and non-contaminating which helps in increasing the life of the engine and it requires less regular maintenance. It is cheaper as CNG prices are far more consistent than fluctuating Petrol prices; also the average mileage of CNG vehicles is better than that of Diesel/Petrol driven vehicles. ■

187.03 KISAN CREDIT CARDS WITH CREDIT LIMIT OF RS 1.76 LAKH CRORE SANCTIONED TO FARMERS AS ON 29TH JANUARY 2021

A special drive to cover farmers under Kisan Credit Card (KCC) is going on since February 2020. As per the information furnished by Public Sector Banks & NABARD, 187.03 lakh KCC with credit limit of Rs 1.76 lakh crore have been sanctioned to farmers across the country during this drive upto 29th January 2021.

This was stated by Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, Union Minister of State for Finance & Corporate Affairs in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha.

In order to ensure that all eligible farmers are provided with hassle-free and timely credit for their agricultural operations, the Government had introduced the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme to enable the farmers to purchase agricultural inputs such as seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, etc. The KCC Scheme has been simplified further w.e.f. 2012, which has the provision of ATM enabled debit card with, inter alia, facilities of one-time documentation, built-in cost escalation in the limit, any number of withdrawals within the limit, etc. ■

SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF VL-SRSAM MISSILE SYSTEM

Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted two successful launches of Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM).

The launches were carried out on 22 February from a static vertical launcher from Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. Indigenously designed and developed by DRDO for Indian Navy, VL-SRSAM is meant for neutralizing various aerial threats at close ranges including sea-skimming targets. The current launches were carried out for demonstration of vertical launch capability as part of its maiden launch campaign. On both occasions, the missiles intercepted the simulated targets with pinpoint accuracy. The missiles were tested for minimum and maximum range. VL-SRSAM with Weapon Control System (WCS) were deployed during the

trials.

The launches were monitored by senior scientists from various DRDO labs involved in the design and development of the system such as DRDL, RCI, Hyderabad and R&D Engineers, Pune.

During the test launches, flight path and vehicle performance parameters were monitored using flight data, captured by various Range instruments such as Radar, EOTS and Telemetry systems deployed by ITR, Chandipur.

The present trials have proved the effectiveness of the weapon system and few more trials will be conducted shortly before deployment on Indian Naval ships. Once deployed, the VL-SRSAM system will prove to be a force multiplier for the Indian Navy.

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath



Singh congratulated DRDO on the successful trials. Dr G Satheesh Reddy, Secretary DD R&D & Chairman DRDO congratulated the teams involved in successful flight test of VL-SRSAM Missile System. ■

56,368 NEW HOUSES APPROVED UNDER PMAY(U)

Construction of 56,368 houses have been approved under PMAY-U at 53rd Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee Meeting held in Delhi on 23 February. These houses are proposed to be constructed under various verticals of PMAY-U Mission. A total of 11 States/UTs attended the meeting.

The progress of Light House Projects (LHPs) and Demonstration Housing Projects (DHPs) was also reviewed by Secretary, MoHUA. The foundation stones of the LHPs were laid by Hon'ble Prime Minister on January 1, 2021. The houses under LHPs are being constructed at Lucknow, Ranchi, Rajkot,

Agartala, Chennai and Indore. To promote these LHP sites as Live Laboratories for transfer of technology to the field, the Ministry has initiated an Online Enrolment Drive for Technograhis to encourage large scale citizen participation and create technical awareness, on-site learning, find ideas for solutions, experimentation and encouraging innovation.

With the vision of 'Housing for All', the emphasis has been to accelerate construction, completion and delivery of houses across the country. MoHUA is committed to provide pucca houses to all eligible beneficiaries of Urban India by 2022 when the Nation celebrates 75 years of Independence. ■

JUSTICE M. RAMA JOIS IS NO MORE

Former Bihar-Jharkhand governor and noted jurist Justice (Retd.) Mandagadde Rama Jois is no more. He passed away at 88 on February 16 after a period of prolonged illness. Several leaders including Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda, Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and Karnataka Chief Minister Shri BS Yediyurappa expressed grief over the demise.

Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi expressing grief over the demise of Justice (Retd.) M. Rama Jois, said in a tweet "Justice(Retd.) M. Rama Jois was a towering intellectual and jurist. He was admired for his rich intellect and contributions towards making India's democratic fabric stronger. Saddened by his demise. My thoughts are with his family and admirers in this sad hour. Om Shanti."

Shri JP Nadda, expressing his condolence said, "The passing away of Justice M Rama Jois is a colossal loss to the society. He served selflessly for the nation and left his deep imprints on Judiciary, Executive & legislative fields. Condolences to his family, friends & supporters. Om Shanti."

Shri Amit Shah said, "My condolences on the passing away of a noted jurist and former governor of Bihar & Jharkhand,



Justice M Rama Jois Ji. He made a lasting contribution to Indian judiciary. His efforts in restoring democracy during the 1975 emergency will always be remembered. Om Shanti."

Justice Mandagadde Rama Jois (27 July 1931 – 16 February 2021) was an Indian politician and judge who served as a member of Rajya Sabha, as governor of Jharkhand and Bihar states, and as Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court. He was also a senior advocate in the Supreme Court of India.

Shri Rama Jois was born to Narasimha Jois and Lakshmiddevamma on 27 July 1931 at Araga village, Shivamogga, Karnataka. He studied in Shivamogga and Bengaluru and acquired B.A.,

B.L.degrees and Kuvempu University has conferred him with Doctor of Laws honorary degree. He was a noted writer and historian having written several books on Service Law, Habeas Corpus Law, Constitutional Law, etc. His most known two-volume book "Legal and Constitutional History of India", considered as a previous volume, is a textbook for Law Degree course. His another well known book is "Seeds of Modern Public Law in Ancient Indian Jurisprudence". His other works include "Historic Legal Battle", "Dharma - The Global Ethic" etc. His views on Dharma and Manu Smriti are of immense value, as they have been simplified for the understanding of the common man. ■

GUJARAT MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS

TOTAL SEATS: 576
BJP WON: 483
SEATS WON: 85%

BJP REGISTERS THUMPING VICTORY IN GUJARAT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

The Bharatiya Janata Party swept yet another election by winning all six Municipal Corporations in Gujarat. The results of all six Municipal Corporations were declared on 23 February, 2021 and BJP won 483 out of 576 seats. Polling for the six civic bodies was held on 21 February, 2021 where 46.08 per cent voter turnout was recorded.

The BJP again retained all the six local bodies – Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, Jamnagar and Bhavnagar. Congress, the main opposition, got a shameful defeat as it won only 55 seats and failed to even open its account in Surat.

The final tally for BJP is – 159 out of 192 seats in Ahmedabad, 68 out of 72 seats in Rajkot, 50 out of 64 seats in Jamnagar, 44 out of 52 seats in Bhavnagar, 69 out of 76 seats in Vadodara and 93 out of 120 seats in Surat.

PM MODI THANKS PEOPLE OF GUJARAT FOR REINSTATING THEIR FAITH IN BJP

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi thanked the people of Gujarat for reinstating their faith in the Bharatiya Janata Party.

“Thank you Gujarat! Results of municipal elections across the state clearly show the unwavering faith people have towards politics of development and good governance. Grateful to the people of the state for trusting BJP yet again. Always an honour to serve Gujarat... Today’s win across Gujarat is very special. For a party that is serving in a state for over two decades to record such a phenomenal win is noteworthy. It is heartening to see widespread support from all sections of society, particularly the youth of Gujarat towards BJP,” the Prime Minister

said.

He further hailed the Karyakartas of state BJP and said, “I would like to appreciate the efforts of each and every Karyakarta of @BJP4Gujarat, who reached out to people and elaborated our Party’s vision for the state. The Gujarat government’s pro-people policies have positively impacted the entire state”.

‘IT IS A VICTORY OF UNWAVERING FAITH IN PM’S PUBLIC WELFARE POLICIES’

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda too congratulated all the members of the party’s Gujarat unit, including CM Shri Vijay Rupani, for the thumping victory it received in the local body polls. “The BJP has received an overwhelming majority in all six metropolitan municipalities of Gujarat. It is a victory of the unwavering faith in PM Modi’s public welfare and development-oriented policies. I thank the people of the state for their continued faith in the BJP,” Shri Nadda said.

‘GUJARAT ONCE AGAIN DISTINGUISHES ITSELF AS A STRONGHOLD OF BJP’

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah expressed satisfaction on election results and said the election results of the six Municipal Corporations of Gujarat show that Gujarat has once again distinguished itself as a stronghold of the Bharatiya Janata Party. He said election results are one of the best results for the BJP so far in Gujarat. The main reason for the BJP’s victory in about 85% of the seats is the work culture, functioning of the BJP governments and the mantra of ‘Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Viswas’ of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. ■

PM HANDS OVER ARJUN MAIN BATTLE TANK TO ARMY

P rime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for several key projects and handed over the Arjun Main Battle Tank (MK-1A) to the Army, at Chennai in Tamil Nadu on February 14, 2021

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said “these projects are symbols of innovation and Indigenous development. These projects will further the growth of Tamil Nadu.” He said Thanjavur and Pudukkottai will be specially benefitted as the foundation to modernise the six hundred and thirty six kilometres long Grand Anicut Canal System was laid today. The impact of this is going to be very big. It will improve irrigation facilities for 2.27 lakh acres of land. Shri Modi lauded the farmers of Tamil Nadu for record food grain production and good use of water resources. He said that “the Grand Anicut is a living testimony to our glorious past. It is also an inspiration to our Nation’s “Aatmanirbhar Bharat” goals.” Quoting Tamil poet Avvaiyar, the Prime Minister stressed the need to conserve water as it is not just national issue but a global subject. He emphasized the need to remember mantra of Per Drop More Crop,

Speaking about the nine kilometre stretch of the Chennai Metro Rail Phase One, which was also inaugurated. The Prime Minister informed that the project



has been completed on schedule despite the pandemic. The project is in line with the boost to Aatmanirbhar Bharat as the rolling stock has been procured locally and civil construction activities were done by Indian Contractors. Shri Modi mentioned that in this year’s budget, over Rupees Sixty Three thousand crore have been set aside for a hundred and nineteen kilometres of Phase two of the project. This is one of the largest projects sanctioned for any city in one-go. The focus on urban transport will boost ‘Ease of Living’ for citizens here, Shri Modi pointed out.

The Prime Minister said India has undertaken a massive effort to become self-reliant in the defence sector. He said this is inspired by what Mahakavi Subramaniya Bharathi Writing in the oldest language in the world, Tamil, said Let us make weapons; let us make paper. Let us make factories; let us make schools. Let us make vehicles that can move and fly.

Let us make ships that can shake the world. Shri Modi said that One of the two defence corridors is in Tamil Nadu. The corridor has already received investment commitments over Rupees Eight thousand one hundred crores.

The Prime Minister said that the focus on making India Aatmanirbhar in the defence sector will keep moving with full speed.

Our armed forces signify India’s ethos of courage. They have shown time and again that they are fully capable of protecting our Motherland. Time and again they have also shown India believes in peace. However, India will protect our sovereignty at all costs, the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister expressed the hope that The Discovery Campus of IIT Madras with 2-lakh square metre infrastructure to house world-class research centres will be a leading centre of discovery and draw the best talent from all over India. ■

PM INAUGURATES VARIOUS PROJECTS IN KERALA



'MEGA DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WILL POWER AND EMPOWER STATE OF KERALA'

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 19 February, 2021 inaugurated Pugalur - Thrissur Power Transmission Project, Kasaragod Solar Power Project and Water Treatment Plant at Aruvikkara in Kerala through video conference. He also laid the foundation stone of Integrated Command and Control Centre and Smart Roads Project in Thiruvananthapuram during the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said the mega development works starting today are spread across all parts of Kerala and cover a wide range of sectors. They will power and empower the beautiful state of Kerala, whose people are making rich contributions to India's progress.

He said that the 2000 Megawatt state of the art Pugalur-Thrissur High Voltage Direct Current system inaugurated is the first HVDC interconnection of Kerala with National Grid and will facilitate transfer of huge quantum of power to meet the growing power demands of the State. This is also the first time the VSC converter technology has been introduced in the Country for transmission. He added Kerala is largely dependent on import of power from the National Grid due to its seasonal nature of internal

power generation and HVDC system helps to bridge the gap. He expressed happiness that the HVDC equipment used in this project has been made in India and gives strength to the Aatmanirbhar Bharat movement.

The Prime Minister said our gains in solar energy ensure a stronger fight against climate change, a boost to our entrepreneurs. He said farmers are also being connected with the solar sector to make our Annadatas as Urjadatas. Under PM-Kusum Yojana, over 20 lakh solar power pumps are being given to farmers. He added that in the last six years, India's solar energy capacity has increased 13 times. India has also brought the world together through the International Solar Alliance. He said our cities are engines of growth and power houses of innovation. Our cities are seeing three encouraging trends: Technological development, favorable demographic dividend and increasing domestic demand.

The Prime Minister said AMRUT is helping cities expand and upgrade their wastewater treatment infrastructure. A total of 175 water supply projects are being taken up in Kerala under AMRUT at a cost of more than Rs 1100 crore. Universal coverage is provided in 9 AMRUT cities. He said Aruvikkara Water Treatment Plant inaugurated today is completed at a cost of Rs. 70 crore. This would improve the lives of



litres per day from 100 litres per day supplied earlier. PM said India is on the way to becoming AatmaNirbhar in the defence sector. There have been path-breaking reforms in defence, and space sectors. These efforts will create opportunities for so many talented Indian youngsters. He said India is investing in the Blue Economy.

Prime Minister said that development and good governance do not know caste, creed, race, gender, religion or language. Development is for everyone and that is the essence of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas. PM sought the support of the people of Kerala to move forward and realise this shared vision of togetherness and development.

Chief Minister of Kerala Shri Pinarayi Vijayan along with Union Ministers of State (IC) for Power New & Renewable Energy Shri Raj Kumar Singh and Housing & Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, were also present on the occasion.

around 13 lakh citizens and this will help increase per capita water supply in Thiruvananthapuram to 150

PM IN KOCHI

'THIS YEAR'S BUDGET DEVOTED SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF KERALA'

Earlier, PM Shri Narendra Modi on February 14 also inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various projects in Kochi, Kerala. Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that the works inaugurated cover a wide range of sectors. They will energise the growth trajectory of India. He said that Propylene Derivative Petrochemical Project (PDPP) will help strengthen India's journey towards being Aatmanirbhar as it will save foreign exchange. A wide range of industries would gain and employment opportunities would be generated. Similarly, with Ro-Ro Vessels, a distance of almost thirty kilometers on road will become 3.5 kilometers through waterways leading to less congestion and

more convenience, commerce and capacity-building.

Shri Modi asserted that the Government of India is undertaking many efforts to improve tourism related infrastructure in Kerala. The inauguration of Sagarika, the International Cruise Terminal in Kochi is one example of this. Sagarika Cruise Terminal will cater to over a lakh cruise guests. The Prime Minister noted the rise in local tourism due to pandemic related restrictions on international travel. He said this is a great opportunity for added livelihood to those in the local tourism industry and deepening of connection between our culture and our youth. He called upon start-ups to think about innovative tourism related products. The Prime Minister noted the tourism sector in India has been growing well in the last five years. In the World Tourism Index ranking,



India moved from sixty fifth to thirty fourth positions, he said.

Prime Minister said capacity building and future ready infrastructure are two important factors for national development. Development works of 'Vigyan Sagar' and reconstruction of the South Coal Berth will contribute to both these factors.

The Prime Minister said that this year's Budget has devoted significant resources and schemes that will develop and benefit Kerala. This includes the next phase of the Kochi Metro. ■

'PM INAUGURATES SEVERAL METRO RAIL PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL'

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on February 22 inaugurated the extension of Metro Railway from Noapara to Dakshineswar in West Bengal and flagged off the first service on this stretch. He also inaugurated the third line between Kalaikunda and Jhargram.



Shri Modi dedicated to the nation the doubling of Azimganj to Khargraghat Road section of Eastern Railway. He dedicated to the nation the fourth line between Dankuni and Baruipara and the third line between Rasulpur and Magra.

Addressing the people at the event, the Prime Minister said the projects unveiled today will ease the lives of millions of people around Hooghly. He added the better the means of transport in our country will strengthen our resolve for self-reliance and confidence. He expressed happiness that apart from Kolkata, people of Hooghly, Howrah and North 24 Parganas districts shall also get the benefit of Metro service.

The Prime Minister expressed happiness that the impact of Made in India is visible in the metro or railway systems being constructed in India nowadays.

The Prime Minister said West Bengal has been an important center of self-reliance in the country and that there are immense possibilities of international trade for West Bengal and the North East. The Prime Minister said with these new rail lines, life will be easier, new avenues will also be available for the industries. ■

'NORTH EAST WILL BE NEW GROWTH ENGINE OF INDIA'

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also dedicated to the nation INDMAX Unit at Indian Oil's Bongaigaon Refinery, Oil India Limited's Secondary Tank Farm at Madhuban, Dibrugarh and a Gas Compressor Station at Hebeda Village, Makum, Tinsukia remotely from Dhemaji in Assam on 22 February, 2021. He also inaugurated the Dhemaji Engineering College and laid the foundation



stone for Sualkuchi Engineering College in Assam.

Addressing the people at the event, the Prime Minister said North East will be the new growth engine of India and he is inspired to work more for the people of Assam. He recalled how the North Bank in the Brahmaputra gave birth to Assamese cinema eight decades ago with the film Joymoti.

The Prime Minister stressed the necessity for India to continuously become self-sufficient, to increase its strength and also its capabilities. He said over the years, the refining capacity in India has greatly increased, especially at the Bongaigaon Refinery.

The Prime Minister said poor people suffer the most from the lack of gas connection, electricity connection and fertilizer. He said out of the 18,000 villages that did not have electricity even after seven decades of Independence, most of them were from Assam and the Northeast and the Government has worked on rectifying this.

The Prime Minister said Assam is known world over for tea, handlooms and tourism. Self-Reliance will increase the strength and capabilities of the people of Assam.

The Prime Minister said the state and central government are working together for the farmers of Assam to increase their potential and their income. He said a major scheme of Rs 20000 crore has also been made for the farmers in the fisheries sector, which will also benefit the people of Assam. ■

OVER 50,000 CRORE OIL AND GAS PROJECTS APPROVED FOR TAMIL NADU

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on February 17 dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation of key projects of the oil and gas sector in Tamil Nadu via video conferencing. Prime Minister dedicated to the nation the Ramanathapuram – Thoothukudi natural gas pipeline and Gasoline Desulphurisation Unit at Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited, Manali. He also laid the foundation stone of Cauvery Basin Refinery at Nagapattinam. Governor and Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, and Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas were present on the occasion.

The Prime Minister raised the issue of India importing over 85 percent of oil and 53 per cent of gas to meet the demand in 2019-20. He asked, can a diverse and talented nation like ours be so energy import dependent? He stressed had we focused on these subjects much earlier, our middle class would not be burdened. Now, it is our collective duty to work towards clean and green sources of energy, reduce energy dependence. "Our Government is sensitive to the concerns of the middle class", he emphasized.

To achieve this India is now increasing the focus on ethanol to help farmers and consumers. There is a focus on furthering usage of solar power to become a leader in the sector. Public transport is being encouraged and alternative sources like LED Bulbs are being embraced to enable huge savings for middle class households, The Prime Minister said.

Talking about overseas presence



of Indian oil and gas companies in 27 countries. The Prime Minister said that investments worth approximately Rupees two lakh seventy thousand crore.

Touching upon the 'One Nation One Gas Grid' vision, the Prime Minister said "we have planned to spend seven and a half lakh crores in creating oil and gas infrastructure over five years. A strong emphasis has been laid on the expansion of city gas distribution networks by covering 407 districts."

The Prime Minister informed that consumer focused schemes like PAHAL and PM Ujjwala Yojana are helping every Indian household access this gas. 95% of Tamil Nadu's LPG customers have joined the PAHAL Scheme. Over 90% of the active customers get direct subsidy transfer. Under the Ujjwala Yojana, over 32 lakh BPL households in Tamil Nadu have been given new connections. Over 31.6 lakh households benefited from free refills under the PM Garib Kalyan Yojana, informed the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister pointed out that Indian Oil's 143 Km long natural gas pipeline from Ramanathapuram to Tuticorin being launched today will monetise the gas from ONGC gas fields. This is a

part of a larger natural gas pipeline project being developed at a cost of Rs. 4,500 crore. It will benefit Ennore, Thiruvallur, Bengaluru, Puducherry, Nagapattinam, Madurai and Tuticorin.

These gas pipeline projects would also enable the development of City Gas projects which are being developed at 10 districts in Tamil Nadu at an investment of Rs. 5,000 Crore. The gas from ONGC field will now be delivered to Southern Petrochemical Industries Corp Limited Tuticorin. This pipeline is going to supply of natural gas as feedstock at a cheaper cost to SPIC for manufacturing fertiliser. Prime Minister expressed the country's plan to increase gas share in our energy basket from 6.3 percent currently to 15 per cent.

In the past six years, over Rs. 50,000 Crore worth oil and gas projects have been approved for implementation in Tamil Nadu. In the same period, over Rs 9100 crores worth projects sanctioned before 2014 were completed. In addition, over Rs 4,300 crore worth projects are in the pipeline. All the projects in Tamil Nadu are a result of joint efforts of our consistent policies and initiatives for sustainable growth of India, Shri Modi concluded. ■

DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN 'ANDOLANKARI' AND 'ANDOLANJIVI': PM

PM Shri Narendra Modi on 10 February, 2021 replied to the motion of thanks on the President's address to Parliament, in the Lok Sabha. He said, the speech by Rashtrapati Ji showcased India's 'Sankalp Shakti.' His words have boosted the spirit of confidence among the people of India. PM Shri Modi thanked the members of the House for participating in the motion of thanks discussion. Excerpts;

Tracing the historical trajectory of the world order after the World Wars, the Prime Minister pointed out that the post-COVID world is turning out to be very different. In such times, remaining isolated from the global trends will be counter-productive. That is why, India is working towards building an Aatmanirbhar Bharat, which seeks to further global good. He said, India becoming stronger and Aatmanirbhar is good for the world. "Our doctors, nurses, COVID warriors, Safai Karamcharis, those who drove ambulances...such people and so many others became manifestations of the divine who strengthened India's fight against the global pandemic", said the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister pointed out that during the pandemic, government could help the affected people through direct benefit transfer of 2 lakh crore rupees directly in their accounts. Our Jan-Dhan-Aadhar-Mobile (JAM) Trinity made a positive difference in people's lives. It helped the poorest of the poor, the marginalised and the downtrodden. He said that reforms continued during the pandemic also and this is creating new momentum in our economy and there is hope of double digit growth.

ON THE FARMER PROTESTS

On the Farmer protests the Prime Minister said, this House, the Government and we all respect the farmers who are voicing their views on the farm bills. This is the reason why topmost Ministers of the Government are constantly talking to them. There is great respect for the farmers. After the Laws relating to agriculture were passed by Parliament - no Mandi has shut. Likewise, MSP has remained. Procurement on MSP has remained. The Budget has proposed to strengthen the mandis. These facts can't be ignored. Shri Modi stressed those who are disrupting the House are doing so as per a well-planned strategy. They are unable to digest that people are seeing through the truth. Through their games, the trust of the people can never be won. He countered the argument that why is government pushing a reform

which has not been asked for.

MAKING FARMERS AATMNI RBHAR

Agriculture is part of the society and culture and our festivities and all occasions are connected with sowing and harvesting. More than 80 per cent of our population cannot be ignored, small farmers cannot be ignored. Fragmentation of land holding is leading to a worrisome situation where farmers are not getting viable returns from their fields, investment in agriculture is suffering. Steps are required for small farmers. Therefore we need to work for making our farmers Aatmanirbhar and give him freedom to sell his harvest and infuse diversity in crops. He stressed that investment in agriculture will lead to more employment. We need to provide our farmers a level playing field, modern technology and instil confidence in them. This will require positive thinking as old ways and parameters will not work, the Prime Minister said.

Shri Modi asserted that the public sector is essential but at the same time the role of the private sector is also vital. The Prime Minister criticized the violence in the kisan andolan. "I consider the Kisan Andolan to be Pavitra. But, when Andolanjeevis hijack Pavitra Andolans, showcase photos of those jailed for serious offences, does it serve any purpose? Not allowing toll plazas to work, destroying telecom towers- does it serve a Pavitra Andolan" asked the Prime Minister. It is important to differentiate between 'andolankari' and 'andolanjivi'.

STRENGTHENING INFRASTRUCTURE

He said that the government is working for strengthening infrastructure to create new opportunities for the poor and middle class. The Government is focussing on taking the country towards balanced development. He said that the Government is working in mission mode for eastern India. ■



INDIA IS THE 'MOTHER OF DEMOCRACY': PM MODI

PM Shri Narendra Modi replied to the motion of thanks on the President's address, in Rajya Sabha on 12 February, 2021. He thanked the members of the Upper House for participating and contributing towards the debate. He said that the President's address has infused hope, confidence in the world which is facing hard challenges. Excerpts;



P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said India, today, is a land of opportunities and the eyes of the world are on India. There are expectations from India and there is confidence that India will contribute to the betterment of our planet. As India enters the 75th year of its Independence, we should try to make it a celebration of inspiration and rededicate ourselves to the pledges of our vision for India of 2047 when it's Independence will be a century PM said.

financial inclusion, spread of toilet coverage, affordable housing, LPG coverage and free medical treatment

in this regard. Shri Modi said there are challenges and we have to decide whether we want to be part of the solution or the problem.

WORLD'S LARGEST VACCINE DRIVE

The Prime Minister said that effective handling of the Covid pandemic is not a success of a party or individual but is a success of the nation and should be celebrated as such. India has seen days when there was a large threat of polio, small pox. Nobody knew whether India will get a vaccine or how many people will get it. From those days, Shri Modi said, we are now here- when our nation is making vaccines for the world and undertaking world largest vaccine drive. This increases our self-confidence.

INDIA IS THE 'MOTHER OF DEMOCRACY'

The Prime Minister addressed the criticism of Indian democracy and said that Indian democracy is not a western institution but a human institution. It is imperative to alert the countrymen about the all-round attack on Indian Nationalism. Quoting Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, the Prime Minister asserted, Indian nationalism is neither narrow, nor selfish or aggressive, It is based on the notion of Satyam, Shivam Sundaram. "India is not merely the world's largest democracy. India is the 'Mother of Democracy' and this is our ethos. Our nation's temperament is democratic", said the PM.

TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION OR THE PROBLEM

Shri Modi said that where, countries are deprived of foreign investment during Corona times, India received record investment. Shri Modi listed strong performance in foreign currency, FDI, internet penetration and digital,

RISE ABOVE POLITICAL CALCULATIONS

The Prime Minister informed that since 2014 the Government has initiated changes in the agriculture sector aimed at empowering the farmer. The crop insurance scheme was changed to make it more farmer friendly. The PM-KISAN scheme was also brought in. Shri Modi stressed that the Government is working for the small farmers. Farmers have got claim worth Rs 90,000 crore under PMFBY. Farmers also benefitted from Kisan Credit Card, Soil Health Card and Samman Nidhi. When the road connectivity improves under PM Gramin Sadak Yojna, it enables the produce of the farmers to reach distant places. There are efforts like Kisan Rail and Kisan Udan too. The need of the hour is to improve the lives of the small farmers, said the Prime Minister. Why should not they have the same freedom as dairy sector to work with private or cooperative sector? Asked the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister invited all the parties to move forward for the welfare of the farmers. On MSP, the Prime Minister reiterated, "MSP is there, MSP was there. MSP will remain in the future. Affordable ration for the poor will continue. Mandis will be modernised." For the welfare of the farmers, we need to rise above political calculations, He said.

Referring to the notion of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, he underlined the steps taken for normalisation in naxal affected areas and the northeast. He expressed the hope that in coming time, eastern areas will play a major role in the development of the country. ■

JAMMU & KASHMIR WILL DEFINITELY BE GIVEN STATEHOOD STATUS AT APPROPRIATE TIME: AMIT SHAH

Replying to a discussion on the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah asserted in the Lok Sabha on 13 February, 2021 that the Modi government has done more for Jammu and Kashmir since Article 370 was abrogated in August 2019 than those who ruled it for generations. He also reeled out statistics to assert that Jammu and Kashmir's development has been the top priority of the Modi government. Shri Amit Shah also slammed some opposition members for their claim that the proposed law negates the hopes of the region getting back its erstwhile statehood. This legislation has nothing to do with statehood, and Jammu and Kashmir will be accorded the status at an appropriate time, Shri Shah said. Here we are publishing the synopsis of the speech for our esteemed readers:



It has been asked as to what the Government has done to fulfill the promises made at the time of abrogation of the Article 370. I would only like to remind them that they should think about their performance in Jammu and Kashmir before asking our performance because they have ruled the State for many generations. The case pertaining to the Article 370 is pending in the Court and the Supreme Court will take decision in this regard but it does not mean that we cannot take any decision for the development of the State.

J&K STATEHOOD QUESTION

The introduction of this Bill does not mean that now the J&K will not get the status of Statehood. The J&K will definitely be given the status of Statehood at appropriate time. It has been asked why the AGMUT has been introduced in the State. The opposition leaders must understand the nature of AGMUT cadre. Arunachal, Goa, Mizoram all are states and the All India Cadre of AGMUT has been functioning there.

The blame that the move from 2G to 4G has been introduced under external pressure. It is false. We do not take any decision under pressure. A Member has said that the Article 370 and 35(A) contained an agreement of the Government of the country

with the people of the would like to remind them agreement was a temporary one. It has also been said that this move will dilute the powers of the

The introduction of this Bill does not mean that now the J&K will not get the status of Statehood. The J&K will definitely be given the status of Statehood at appropriate time. It has been asked why the AGMUT has been introduced in the State. The opposition leaders must understand the nature of AGMUT cadre

J&K. I that this officers. This will definitely not happen because the IAS and IPS officers are routinely deployed in all over the country and this deployment in no way dilute the powers of the local officers.

PEACEFUL ELECTIONS

Gaining cheap popularity it has been alleged 80 per cent officers in J&K belong to the outside of the State. No one is an outsider. All are the sons of the mother India. We conducted elections for Panchayats. The entire exercise was peaceful. Those who fought elections on the basis of the restoration of Article 370 were wiped out. A person who has been elected today the member of the panchayat may be elected tomorrow as the member of the legislative assembly. The people of the State may elect them as their leader. We handed over an entire range of 21 matters of administration to the Panchayats. This will make them self dependent and usher in development of the villages. We have chalked out a training programme for their capacity building. It has been made compulsory for the



Gazetted Officers to stay for 2 days and 1 night in the allocated Panchayat.

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR J&K

18 thousands works have been sanctioned. 50,000 families have been covered under Health Insurance. 10,000 youths have granted employment opportunities. This work has also been started for urban areas under 'Mera Sehar, Mera Gaurav' scheme. There were 54 projects with an outlay of Rs.58627 crore under Pradhan Mantri Vikas Package. Out of which 20 projects have been completed. IIT Jammu has started functioning. The construction work of two AIIMs has been started. The work on ring road in Jammu will be completed by the year 2021. The 8.45 kilometer long Banihal tunnel will be made operationalized this year. The Jammu Kashmir has 14,867 Megawatt hydro power potential. During the last two years the closed projects for 3,000 Megawatts have been restarted. The cent per cent houses of the J & K have been electrified under the Saubhagya Yojana. All the 18.16 lakhs households are likely to be provided piped water supply by September, 2022. During the year 2020-2021, the roads with a length of 5,300 kilometer will be constructed. The Government has sent an amount of Rs. 881 crore from the Ministry of Health under the PMDP scheme and out of this amount Rs. 754 crore have already been spent. Every person has been covered under the Health Scheme. We have set up 7 new medical colleges. We have provided gas cylinders to 12 lakh 60 thousand 685 mothers under PM Ujjwala scheme.

JOBS TO THE YOUTH

All the households have been declared as ODF under Swachh Bharat Mission. The scholarship coverage has been tripled during the last 17 months. The Government of India has approved an incentive package for the industries in the J&K. The industrialists will be given the credit of Rs. 500 crore at the rate 6 per cent. Every entrepreneur, on investing Rs. 100, will

be given GST refund of Rs. 300. We have constituted a land bank of 29,300 canals which will be allotted to the industries. We have launched a rapid recruitment campaign for giving employment to the youth. On the whole, we will give 25,000 thousand jobs to the youths before the year 2022. We have launched a number of schemes under the Mission Youth. The rural BPOs are proposed to be set up at Srinagar and Jammu. The number of IT towers will be increased.

ENDED DISCRIMINATION AGAINST REFUGEES

The Lt. Governor, J&K has drafted a scientific plan to redress the grievances of the common man. We have granted domicile certificates to the Pakistani refugees, the refugee of West Pakistan, the refugees of the POK, the Valmiki, Gorkhas and other families and thus, we have ended the discrimination meted out to them for so many years. The Government has been giving Rs. 13 thousand every month to the displaced Kashmiri families. We are likely to rehabilitate 6,000 of those families in the Kashmir Valley by the year 2022. The 70,000 people living in the villages contiguous to the international border have provided reservation. We have launched a number of works for education, training and career.

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR LADAKH

The work on a new airport terminal and the up gradation of district hospital in Ladakh has been started. Central Government has set up five new tourists and five new tracking routes in Ladakh. The Government has proposed to set up the country's biggest solar power plant in Ladakh. The traditional medicine system has been revived. A Central University in Ladakh has been sanctioned and work on the Zozila tunnel has been started. Mini hydro projects have been set up in Kargil and Leh. The number of Pashmina goats has witnessed a record 8 per cent increase during the last 17 months. I would only like to say that we should not politicize the situation of J&K and Ladakh. It is a very sensitive matter. The Resolution was negative. The Bill was passed. ■

Central Government has set up five new tourists and five new tracking routes in Ladakh. The Government has proposed to set up the country's biggest solar power plant in Ladakh. The traditional medicine system has been revived.



PM LAYS THE FOUNDATION STONE OF MAHARAJA SUHELDEV MEMORIAL IN UP

HISTORY OF INDIA IS NOT ONLY THE HISTORY WRITTEN BY COLONIAL POWERS OR THOSE WITH COLONIAL MINDSET: PM

P rime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on February 16 laid the foundation stone of Maharaja Suheldev Memorial and development work of Chittaura Lake at Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh via video conference. The Prime Minister also inaugurated the medical College building named after Maharaja Suheldev. Governor and Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the PM said history of India is not only the history written by colonial powers or those with colonial mindset. Indian History is what has been nurtured by the common people in their folklore and taken forward by the generations. He lamented the fact that the people who sacrificed their all for India and Indianness have not been given their due importance. These irregularities and injustice against the makers of Indian history by the writers of Indian history are now being corrected as we are entering the 75th year of our Independence and remembering their contribution becomes all the more important, said the Prime Minister.

The PM cited examples of celebrating the contribution of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Red Fort to Andaman Nicobar, Sardar Patel in Statue of Unity and Baba Saheb Ambedkar through Panch Teerth. "There are innumerable personalities who were not recognized due to various reasons. Can we forget what happened with the bravehearts of Chauri Chaura?" asked the PM.

The PM said that Maharaja Suheldev's contribution to protect Indianness was similarly ignored. Maharaja Suheldev has been kept alive in the hearts of people

by the folklore of Awadh, Tarai and Poorvanchal despite being ignored by the textbooks. The Prime Minister recalled his contribution as a sensitive and development oriented ruler. The Prime Minister expressed the hope that the memorial for Maharaja Suheldev, will inspire the generations to come and said that with establishment of the medical college and expansion of the health facilities, will make life for people in this aspirational district and nearby areas better. The Prime Minister had released a stamp commemorating Maharaja Suheldev two years ago.

He said the biggest goal of the monuments related to history, faith and spirituality, built in the last few years is to promote tourism. He added that Uttar Pradesh is also rich in both tourism and pilgrimage and its possibilities are immense. Ramayana circuits, Spiritual circuits, Buddhist circuits are being developed at sites related to the life of Lord Rama, Shri Krishna and Buddha, such as Ayodhya, Chitrakoot, Mathura, Vrindavan, Govardhan, Kushinagar, Shravasti etc for developing tourism in Uttar Pradesh. He said these efforts have started showing results and now Uttar Pradesh attracts the maximum number of tourists from other states. UP has also come in the top three states of the country in attracting foreign tourists.

He said modern and wide roads such as Purvanchal Expressway, Bundelkhand Expressway, Ganga Expressway, Gorakhpur Link Expressway, Ballia Link Expressway are being constructed all over Uttar Pradesh. ■



BJP'S FIGHT IS WITH THE SYNDICATE OF TRINAMOOL CONGRESS: AMIT SHAH

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah addressed a huge public meeting in South 24 Parganas on 18 February, 2021 on the first day of his two-day Pravas to West Bengal. Shri Shah began his programme by flagging off BJP's state-wide fifth and final Parivartan Yatra from Kakdwip. He also visited Bharat Sevashram Sangh in Kolkata in the morning and after this, he went to Kapil Muni Ashram in Gangasagar.

After the public meeting, the Home Minister had lunch at Narayanpur village in the house of Subrata Biswas a refugee migrant. Subsequently, he became a part of grand road show from Kali Mandir to SBI Branch, Kakdwip, South 24 Parganas. After this, Shri Shah visited Aurobindo Bhawan in Kolkata.

While addressing the public meeting the Union Home Minister said BJP's fight is with the Syndicate of Trinamool Congress. This time after the assembly elections, we will overthrow the Trinamool Congress by gaining a full majority government of the Bharatiya Janata Party devoted to development.

He said under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Namami Gange program of the Ganga purification has been supposed to run from Gangotri to Gangasagar, but this work ultimately stops in Bengal. I am confident that when the BJP government is formed here, the Namami Gange scheme from Bengal to Gangasagar will also be completed.

INAUGURATES FIFTH PARIVARTAN YATRA AT NAMKHANA

Inaugurating the fifth Parivartan Yatra at Namkhana,

the Home Minister said that we are not aiming to just change the power equation in Bengal but our fight is to make Sonar Bangla. This Parivartan Yatra is bringing the message of PM Shri Modi. This journey is to overthrow TMC. Change is necessary in Bengal for the rights of the poor. This change will bring changes in the lives of the tribal family of West Bengal. This change is a journey for the farmers to enable them to get the right price of their produce without any intervention of middlemen. We will ensure that no one else can take your rights again during a natural disaster, this is called change.

The Union Home Minister while attacking TMC's terror said, "The Political violence is being promoted under TMC's rule. I want to tell Mamta didi, Trinamool goons have killed 130 of our workers, their martyrdom will not go in vain. We will also find TMC goons who did these killings".

'SHAURYANJALI' HELD IN HONOUR OF MARTYRS OF BENGAL

While Union Home Minister on the last day of his two-day Pravas in West Bengal visited National Library in Kolkata, where a program 'Shauryanjali' being organized in the honour of the martyrs of West Bengal who sacrificed in the country's freedom struggle.

Shri Amit Shah paid a warm tribute to the martyrs and also addressed the program. The Union Home Minister inaugurated a cultural program 'Biplabi Bangla' exhibition in the National Library itself and flagged off a cycle rally. ■

'DEVELOPMENT OF ASSAM & NORTH EAST ARE OUR PRIORITIES'

P rime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on February 18 launched 'Mahabahu-Brahmaputra' and laid the foundation stone of two bridges in Assam. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways; Union Minister for Law & Justice, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology; MoS (I/C) for Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Chief Minister of Assam and Meghalaya were present on the occasion.

To mark the launch of 'Mahabahu-Brahmaputra', he inaugurated the Ro-Pax vessel operations between Neamati-Majuli Island, North Guwahati-South Guwahati and Dhubri-Hatsingimari. He laid the foundation stone of Inland Water Transport (IWT) Terminal at Jogighopa and various tourist jetties on River Brahmaputra and launched digital solutions for Ease-of-Doing-Business.

Speaking on the occasion, the Prime Minister

He said this strengthens the security of the country and provides great convenience for our soldiers. The campaign to connect Assam and North East has been carried forward today.

Similarly, the 19 km long bridge from Dhubari to Fulbaari in Meghalaya will improve connectivity in Barak Valley and will reduce distance between Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram and Assam. The Prime Minister pointed out that today, the distance between Meghalaya and Assam is about 250 km by road; it will be reduced to just 19-20 km.

Talking about the 'Mahabahu-Brahmaputra' programme, Shri Modi said that this will strengthen water connectivity by Brahmaputra water through port-led development. The three Ro-Pax services which were launched today makes Assam a front-



wished the Mising community for the Ali-Aye-Ligang festival associated with agriculture, which was celebrated yesterday. He said for years this holy river was synonymous with socializing and connectivity. He lamented that not so much work related to connectivity on Brahmaputra has been done earlier. He said due to this reason connectivity within Assam and in other areas of the North East has always been a major challenge. He said now the projects are fast tracked to reduce the distances geographically and culturally of this entire region. He added that Physical and Cultural Integrity of the whole North East including Assam has been strengthened over the recent years.

The Prime Minister said many bridges like Dr. Bhupen Hazarika Setu, Bogibeel Bridge, Saraighat Bridge are making the life of Assam easier today.

runner state to be connected with Ro-Pax services at this scale. This, along with the four tourist jetties will significantly improve Assam's connectivity with the Northeast.

The Prime Minister listed steps like establishment of Cultural University, Biodiversity Heritage site status to Majuli, heritage circuit in Tezpur-Majuli-Sivasagar, celebrations like Namami Brahmaputra, Namami Barak. These steps are enriching Assam's identity even more, said the Prime Minister. He also expressed the hope that today's connectivity related launches will open new avenues of tourism and Assam could emerge as a major destination for cruise tourism. "We have to work collectively to make Assam, Northeast a strong pillar of Aatmnirbhar Bharat, Concluded the Prime Minister. ■

‘CREATE PLATFORM FOR COLLATING, COMPILING AND STUDYING EFFECTIVENESS OF COVID-19 VACCINES’



The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on February 18 addressed a workshop on “Covid-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward” with health leaders, experts and officials of 10 Neighbouring Countries viz Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka along with Indian officials and experts.

The Prime Minister lauded the way the health systems of the countries cooperated during the pandemic and for meeting the challenge in the most densely populated region with coordinated response.

The Prime Minister recalled creation of COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund to meet the immediate costs of fighting the pandemic and sharing of resources - medicines, PPE, and testing equipment. He also noted sharing of experiences and learning from each other’s best practices in testing, infection control and medical waste management. “This spirit of collaboration is a valuable take-away from this pandemic. Through our openness and determination, we have managed to achieve one of the lowest fatality rates in the world. This deserves to be applauded. Today, the hopes of our region and the world are focused on rapid deployment of vaccines. In this too, we must maintain the same cooperative

and collaborative spirit” said the Prime Minister.

Asking the countries to raise the ambition further, the Prime Minister suggested creating a special visa scheme for our doctors and nurses, so that they can travel quickly within our region during health emergencies, on the request of the receiving country. He also asked whether our Civil Aviation ministries can coordinate a regional Air Ambulance agreement for medical contingencies? He also suggested that we can create a regional platform for collating, compiling and studying data about the effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines among our populations. Furthermore, he asked, can we similarly create a regional network for promoting technology-assisted epidemiology, for preventing future pandemics?

Beyond COVID-19, the Prime Minister suggested sharing of successful public health policies and schemes. He suggested, from India, Ayushman Bharat and Jan Arogya schemes may be useful case-studies for the region. “If the 21st Century is to be the Asian Century, it cannot be without greater integration among the countries of South Asia and the Indian Ocean island countries. The spirit of regional solidarity that you have shown during the pandemic has proven that such integration is possible” concluded the Prime Minister. ■

INDIA AND MAURITIUS SIGN COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Government of India and Mauritius on February 22 signed the India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) in Port Louis in the august presence of Prime Minister of Mauritius Shri Pravind Jugnauth, and External Affairs Minister, Govt of India, Shri S. Jaishankar.

CECPA is the first trade Agreement signed by India with a country in Africa. The Agreement is a limited agreement, which will cover Trade in Goods, Rules of Origin, Trade in Services, Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures, Dispute Settlement, Movement of Natural Persons, Telecom, Financial services, Customs Procedures and Cooperation in other Areas

CECPA provides for an institutional mechanism

to encourage and improve trade between the two countries. The CECPA between India and Mauritius covers 310 export items for India. As regards trade in services, Indian service providers will have access to around 115 sub-sectors from the 11 broad service sectors.

India has offered around 95 sub-sectors from the 11 broad services sectors, including professional services, R&D, other business services, telecommunication, financial, distribution, higher education, environmental, health, tourism and travel related services, recreational services and transport services.

Both sides have also agreed to negotiate an Automatic Trigger Safeguard Mechanism (ATSM) for a limited number of highly sensitive products within two years of the Signing of the Agreement. ■



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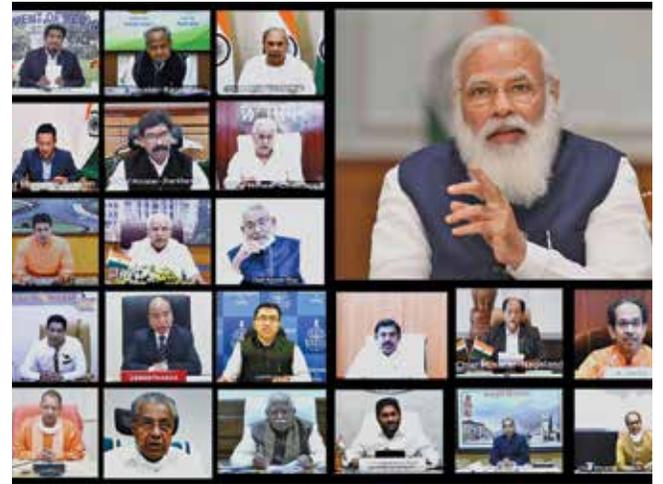
PM Shri Narendra Modi at a public meeting in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, Governor Shri Banwarilal Purohit, CM Shri Edappadi K. Palaniswami and Deputy CM Shri O. Panneerselvam are also seen



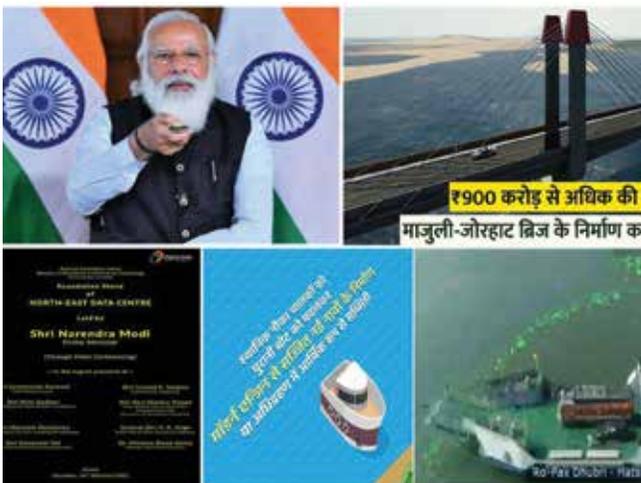
PM Shri Narendra Modi at an inauguration and foundation stone laying ceremony in Kochi, Kerala, Governor Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, MOS for External Affairs Shri V. Muraliedharan are also seen



PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing a meeting via video conferencing, after inauguration of key projects of the Oil and Gas sector in Tamil Nadu



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressing the 6th Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog in New Delhi



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launching the multiple development initiatives in Assam, through video conferencing in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing the Convocation Ceremony of Visva-Bharati University through video conferencing in New Delhi



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BRO – Border Roads Organization

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TELECOM MANUFACTURING TO GET BOOST OF RS 12,195 CRORE OVER 5 YEARS

- Will lead to enhanced production of **over Rs 2.4 lakh crore**
- Aim is to offset huge import of telecom equipment worth **over Rs 50,000 crore**
- Minimum Investment threshold for MSME has been kept at **Rs 10 crore** and for others at **Rs 100 crore**

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JAL JEEVAN MISSION

reaches milestone of

3.5 crore

rural household tap water connections

Over **50 lakh** connections provided since 1st January, 2021

6.76 crore (35.24%) rural households are getting potable water through taps



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- Reforms to bring new avenues for business
- Start-ups, agriculture, defence, mining, oil and gas sectors to benefit
- Massive employment opportunities

Unlock opportunities for private sector and research institutes to build applications and drive innovation in creation of digital public goods similar to Aadhar, UPI etc.

Start-ups and entrepreneurs in consumer tech/e-commerce sector can build their own maps, decision support systems and improve location-based services

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