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24 | MODIJI'S NEW MONETARY ARCHITECTURE FOR SEAMLESS **GROWTH, SCAMLESS POLITICS**

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Mahasamabesh, Odisha Jagaran









Picture from BJP Journals & Publication Department national meeting presided over by BJP National President Shri Amit Shah. BJP National Gen. Sec. (Organisation) Shri Ram Lal also addressed the meeting.



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah paying floral tribute to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on his Maha-Parinirvan Diwas at Party Headquarters on December 06, 2016



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twitter 🏏



@narendramodi

Together, we must ensure #IndiaDefeatsBlackMoney. This will empower the poor, neo-middle class, middle class & benefit future generations.



Govt has shown long term vision with a series of concerted strategic steps taken after demonetisation to strangle corruption & black money.





@PiyushGoyal

To accelerate digital transactions, Govt. has decided on a package of incentives and measures for promotion of digital and cashless economy.

facebook

Digital Payments have grown very rapidly since 8 Nov. 2016. This shows that people are fast adopting digital means of payments.



— Ravi Shankar Prasad

It's painful to see that Odisha, which is richer in ores & minerals than 20 Countries in the world is labelled as a poor state with rich people. In places like Silicon Valley Odias are among



most successful. But Odias in Odisha are poor. This is the dichotomy which we need to overcome. This uneven distribution of wealth in the society gives birth to several socio-economic problems.

— Dharmendra Pradhan

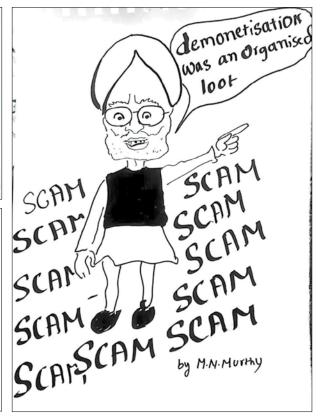
Demonetisation will push GDP growth to 10%. As a result of demonetisation, the ambit of economic activity will grow and add to the GDP.



— Arjun Ram Meghwal







Massive support for bold and decisive initiatives

s people continue to extend overwhelming support to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision of demonetizing Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000 notes, Congress and its allies are finding it difficult to explain as to why they have been obstructing parliament for so long. It appears very unusual that Opposition is trying to block the functioning of the parliament while the government is trying to have a debate on the issue of demonetization. It's evident from the fact that Congress has been raising one demand after another and as soon as the first demand is met it moves onto second making it difficult for the parliament to function. The Congress approach is clear; it somehow wants to keep obstructing the house so that the stand taken by it on the issue of Demonetization and Black money is not exposed before the nation. But it hardly realizes that its continuous obstruction of parliament on one pretext or the other is exposing its real intention and it's unable to hide its face anymore. The situation has turned so worse that even the President of India had to appeal so that the parliament can function but Congress has failed to heed to the call.

The fight against the black money and demonetization has come as a bolt from the blue to Congress and its associates. In place of welcoming and supporting this bold move of the Prime

CONGRESS SHOULD
REALIZE THAT
MIDDLEMEN,
SCAMSTERS, MONEY
LAUNDERERS AND
PROTECTING THE
CORRUPT SYSTEM AND
BLACK MONEY WILL
NEVER WIN PUBLIC
SUPPORT FOR IT

Minister, Congress and a section of Opposition have raised voice of protest seeking to serve the interests of the black marketeers, scamsters and money launderers. In their attempt to mislead the people they tried to create false stories and sow seeds of doubts in the minds of the citizens exhorting them to oppose the move. Congress Vice President Rahul Gandhi went to banks but failed to gain support of the people in the queues who supported the move even in the face of hardships. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee came down flying to capital to oppose the move only to find herself isolated within the Opposition and alone in the streets of the Delhi. Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal threats of dire consequences if the decision was not rolled back within three days turned out to be a damp squib after the three days elapsed. Kejriwal's call for picketing the parliament thereafter got converted into a small show with Manish Sisodia courting arrests with

a handful of party workers. Since then Kejriwal has not spoken a single word on his 'roll back' demand. The Bharat Bandh call given by the Opposition finally exposed the Congress, its allies and communists alike with everyone disowning it on the D-day saying that it was not their call. BSP Supremo Mayawati has also gone on silent mode since the failure of Bharat Bandh. In fact the political parties opposing the move are finding themselves swiftly discredited along with Congress in the eyes of people for opposing the fight against black money.

The kind of support which the Prime Minister is receiving in his fight against black money is unprecedented in the history of India. It has turned out to be doomsayer's nightmare who had never expected of so overwhelming people's support. Those who predicted BJP would lose people's support should now realize that it has received massive support in bye-elections held across different states and in the local elections of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan. It's also an eye opener for the opposition and Congress should realize that middlemen, scamsters, money launderers and protecting the corrupt system and black money will never win public support for it. It's high time that people in the country want change, the youth want bold initiatives, the poor want better lives, the farmers want new technology, the women want equal opportunities and oppressed and exploited want a new system of freedom and democracy. To meet the aspirations of the new era, it's urgently required to break the back of the vested interests created during the corrupt Congress regimes. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is taking bold and decisive initiatives and people are coming out massively in his support.



Demonetization forced the opposition to take shelter under one umbrella: Amit Shah

JP National President Shri Amit Shah launched the BJP's campaign for the Panchayat elections in Odisha from Bhubaneswar on 25 November, 2016. Addressing the huge 'Jan Jagaran Mahasamabesh' in Bhubaneswar, Odisha Shri Shah said, "The Narendra Modi government will be completing 30 months in power on Saturday. During this period, the Centre has taken many steps for the country's development. But Mr. Patnaik needs to be asked what he has done in 17 years of his rule". "Seventeen year is a very long period for any country or State to develop. During these years, there are many States in the country that have leapfrogged up the development ladder whereas Odisha remains where it was," charged Shri Shah.

"In many BJP-ruled States, piped water supply has been made available in villages. When the government has failed to provide water in 17 years, it can do nothing. Odisha has enough coal reserve to illuminate the whole India, but 41 per cent of households in the State have not seen electricity," the BJP National President said.

Pointing out that lakhs of Odia youths were migrating to other parts of the country in search of

work, he asked, had the Naveen Patnaik government taken steps for employment generation; youths would not have run from pillar to the post for jobs. "Similarly, Odisha trails behind other States as far as tribal development is concerned. The State government has ignored tribal population," he criticized

Raking up the issue of Dana Majhi, a tribal man who recently walked 10 km carrying his wife's body on his shoulder in Kalahandi district, the BJP president said the government, which failed to provide minimum basic service to people, had no right to rule. He asked party workers to work hard and overthrow the Naveen Patnaik government from Odisha.

He said the Narendra Modi government had conducted itself in such a way that not a single corruption case tarnished its image. "No government at the Centre in the past 70 years can match the Narendra Modi government in efforts to develop Odisha. The UPA government has allocated Rs. 23000 crore to Odisha in 2013 budget. In 2016 budget, budgetary provision of Rs. 63,000 crore has been made for the State. Similarly, Odisha was given Rs. 764 crore in 2013 railway budget. But,



the NDA government increased the railway budget for Odisha to Rs. 4682 crore in 2016," he said.

"In absolute term, the central government has provided Rs. 130000 crore in funds to the Odisha government. I dare Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik to give an account of the work he has done in his 17 years of rule," Shri Shah said.

Taking a dig at the opposition unity against demonetization, BJP President Amit Shah today said leaders such as Manmohan Singh, Mamata Banerjee, Arvind Kejriwal, Mulayam Singh and Mayawati were together now as their parties were hit hard by the Centre's move. "Modiji's move on black money has made leaders like Manmohan Singh, Mamata Banerjee, Arvind Kejriwal, Mulayam Singh, Mayawati and others uncomfortable. The glow on their faces has disappeared," he told the gathering at the BJP's 'Jan Jagaran Mahasamabesh'.

Referring to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's criticism of the demonetization decision in Rajya Sabha, Shri Shah said, "Demonetization has pained Manmohan Singhji. Why will a person be pained if he or she is not affected?" He also wondered why would the opposition leaders be unhappy over the "measure against black money".

"Till November 7, they (opposition) were asking Prime Minister Narendra Modi what steps had been taken to curb black money. However, after November 8, they are saying why such a step," the BJP president said and wondered how the opposition's "what" had suddenly become "why". "I ask them (opposition), why are you so worried over Modiji's move against black money," he said, adding that parties with different ideologies had joined hands on the issue. "When there is a flood, snakes and mongooses, rats and cats stay together on a tree. Now, Modi's demonetization flood has forced the opposition and leaders of the SP, Congress, Mamata, Mulayam, Mayawati and Kejriwal to take shelter under one umbrella. They are waiting for Modi's flood water (step against black money) to recede," Shri Shah said. ■ (FOC)

BJP sweeps local bodies polls in Gujarat, wins 109 out of 125 seats



fter shining in the Maharashtra civic polls, the BJP on November 29, 2016 won the municipal and district panchayat elections in Gujarat. Out of 125 municipal and district panchayat seats to which by-elections were held, the BJP has won 109, while Congress could win just 16

seats. The party won in two municipalities and one taluka panchayat along with majority seats of various other local bodies. The victory in Maharashtra and Gujarat came as a boost for the BJP as the polls were seen as a litmus

test for the party post demonetisation drive by the government.

As per the final result declared by the Gujarat State Election Commission, BJP has registered victory in Vapi municipality of Valsad district by capturing 41 out of total 44 seats. Only three seats went to Congress. Vapi municipality was earlier held by BJP.

Similarly, BJP made a near clean sweep in the polls to Kanakpur-Kansad municipality of Surat, where it captured 27 out of 28 seats, leaving only one to Congress. It was also held by BJP earlier. In Rajkot, BJP snatched Gondal taluka panchayat, which went for mid-term poll, from Congress by winning 18

out of total 22 seats. Congress settled for only four. Earlier, Congress was ruling Gondal taluka panchayat.

The results of the local bodies elections assume significance for the BJP in the run up to the state polls next year,

and that they were held just after the demonetisation of Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes by the Centre.

Apart from these three elections, Gujarat SEC conducted by-elections on 29 seats of various municipalities, taluka panchayats and district panchayats across the state. The bypolls were necessitated as these seats fell vacant due to various reasons.



@narendramodi

I salute people of Gujarat for continued trust in BJP. BJP's great win in local polls shows people's strong faith in development politics.



Out of total 16 seats of different municipalities, BJP bagged 14 while Congress has to settle for only two. Out of the total four seats of district panchayats, both the parties bagged two each. In the taluka panchayat by-polls, BJP won on five out of total nine while Congress captured four seats.

PM MODI THANKS PEOPLE

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the party for its brilliant show in the Gujarat civic polls and thanked the people for showing trust in the party. In a series of tweets, Shri Modi said the result illustrates that people stand for all-round progress of the nation and against corruption.

He said I salute people of Gujarat for continued trust in BJP. BJP's great win in local polls shows people's strong faith in development politics.

POLL WINS PROVE NOTE BAN HAS SUPPORT: AMIT SHAH

After the Bharatiya Janata Party's win in civic elections and bypolls, party president Shri Amit Shah said it was evidence of the people's support for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's demonetisation move and claimed that some opposition leaders were upset as the money they had "looted" in scams had turned into trash. "While the opposition is organising the Bharat bandh and Akrosh Divas...everywhere the BJP has posted unprecedented victories. People are with the government's decision on demonetisation," he said. He said over the last few days, the BJP has won one Lok Sabha seat each in by-polls in Assam and Madhya Pradesh, besides bagging a number of Assembly seats in Madhya Pradesh. Gujarat and Arunachal Pradesh. The party also emerged victorious in civic polls in Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Reacting to the polls results, Chief Minister Shri Vijay Rupani said the results indicate that the extreme steps taken by the prime minister like surgical strike and demonetisation have worked.

Taking a potshot at Congress over the results, Gujarat BJP leader Shri Harshad Patel said the result has once again proved that the entire state is with BJP. "Regular as well as by-polls were held in different parts of Gujarat. Right from Vapi in south Gujarat to Gondal in Saurashtra region, people have chosen BJP over Congress. The opposition party should now understand that people are really unhappy with them," Shri Patel said. • (FOC)

BJP registers huge victory in Maharashtra civic polls

fter a fiercely contested electoral battle in which the Centre's demonetisation policy dominated the campaign, the BJP on 28 November 2016 delivered a setback to the Congress and NCP in Maharashtra, making significant gains in the local body elections for 147 municipal councils and 17 nagar panchayats. All the mainstream parties had called these polls a "mini-assembly election". As per the available information, the election which was held on the 27th November 2016, there were total 3756 councillor seats, out of which the results are out for 3298 seats BJP has secured 963 seats and have left the other parties far behind, emerging as the biggest party. Last time BJP was at third position with 298 seats only. The latest information suggests that BJP has won 53 seats out of 147 seats. BJP has done well in the Vidarbha along with West Maharashtra, Konkan,

"I LAUD BJP KARYAKARTAS, CM @DEV_FADNAVIS & @ RAOSAHEBDANVE. THEIR GRASSROOT LEVEL WORK ENSURED PEOPLE PLACE THEIR VALUED TRUST IN BJP,"

East Marathwada with good win. BJP was followed by Shiv Sena with 25, Congress 23 and NCP with 18 posts, as per the final poll results by the State Election Commission. The outcome. which came on a day when Opposition parties were protesting the demonetisation policy, was described by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his official Twitter account as "a win for propoor & development politics of BJP". Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed BJP's victory in polls to Maharashtra's local bodies as a "win for pro-poor and development politics" and thanked people of the state for placing their faith in the party. "I thank people of Maharashtra for placing their faith in BJP in local body polls. This is a win for pro-poor & development politics of BJP," he said in a tweet. He also praised Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and state BJP president Rao Saheb Danve for their efforts in ensuring the party's victory. • (FOC)

National Meeting of Party Journals and Publication Department

Party publications should become effective organ of the party: Amit Shah



national meeting of the Party Journals and Publication Department was presided over by BJP National President Shri Amit Shah at the party headquarters in New Delhi on 6th December 2016. While addressing the delegates Shri Amit Shah emphasized on the need to strengthen publication works of the party and its importance in expanding party works. He said that BJP is a party based on ideology and publication department has the responsibility to take ideology to every nook and corner of the country. He said that the party activists can be educated and informed of the achievements of the party and its government at the centre and in different states which can be taken to the people through them.

He launched the Kamal Sandesh in new look and also publication department's web portal on the occasion. While launching the membership drive of the Publication Department he said that all the party journals should aim at increasing their membership manifold. He also interacted with the editors and delegates of the publication department from different states and guided them on the need of the publication and the approach which should be followed in making party journals an effective organ of the party.

The new look Kamal Sandesh is colourful with increased space, size and coverage for party activities and government's achievements. The journal has a long list of illustrious contributors whose articles on different issues ranging from ideology to history of

the party and contemporary politics are very useful in gaining insights into party functioning and approach on various issues of national and international importance. Its web edition is expected to increase its global outreach while making available web editions of state party journals in regional languages also. Currently 20 party journals in 13 languages are being published from different states and given the focus of Shri Amit Shah on publication works, soon many more states are expected to come out with their own publications.

The meeting was also addressed by BJP National Organizing General Secretary Shri Ram Lal who laid emphasis on highlighting the views of the propounder of the philosophy of Integral Humanism Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya in the party publications. He said that in the wake of the ongoing centenary celebrations of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya, all the publications should try to propagate his ideas and focus on the articles on his philosophy. He also emphasized that every state should try to expand their reach and publish materials which are useful for readers in getting enlightened about the party and the achievements of BJP governments from centre to state levels.

A report about the activities and future plan of the publication department was placed in the meeting. In the meeting two delegates each from 21 states along with Kamal Sandesh editorial team and members of Party Journals and Publication Deptt. were present... (FOC)

LOK SABHA PASSES 'TAXATION LAWS (2ND AMENDMENT) BILL, 2016'

Taxation & Investment Regime for Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, 2016' scheme introduced in the bill



he Taxation Laws (2nd Amendment) Bill 2016 was passed by Lok Sabha. It sought amendment in the Income Tax Act, 1961 and Finance Act, 2016. An alternative Scheme namely, 'Taxation and Investment Regime for Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, 2016' (PMGKY) was proposed in the Bill.

While speaking on the amendment bill Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley said while moving the Bill for passing that the Bill would enable the government to implement schemes like the Garib Kalyan Kosh.

The new Taxation Laws (2nd Amendment) Bill 2016 was passed in the Lok Sabha on November 29, will entail a tax of 30 per cent of the income declared, an additional surcharge of 33 per cent of the tax amount, and a penalty of 10 per cent of the declared income. This adds up to a total liability of about 50 per cent. In addition, the amendment states that 25 per cent of the declared income is to be deposited in an interest-free deposit scheme with a lock-in Period of four years.

If undeclared, then the unexplained amount will face a flat tax of 60 per cent, a surcharge of 25 per cent of the tax amount, and a possible 10 per cent penalty at the discretion of the assessing officer. This takes the total levy on undeclared income or assets to as much as 85 per cent.

Evasion of taxes deprives the nation of critical

resources which could enable the Government to undertake anti-poverty and development programmes. It also puts a disproportionate burden on the honest taxpayers who have to bear the brunt of higher taxes to make up for the revenue leakage. As a step forward to curb black money, bank notes of existing series of denomination of the value of Rs.500 and Rs.1000 [Specified Bank Notes(SBN)] have been recently withdrawn the Reserve Bank of India.

Concerns have been raised that some of the existing provisions of the Income-tax Act, 1961 (the Act) can possibly be used for concealing black money. The Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2016 ('the Bill') has been introduced in the Parliament to amend the provisions of the Act to ensure that defaulting assessees are subjected to tax at a higher rate and stringent penalty provision.

Further, in the wake of declaring specified bank notes "as not legal tender", there have been suggestions from experts that instead of allowing people to find illegal ways of converting their black money into black again, the Government should give them an opportunity to pay taxes with heavy penalty and allow them to come clean so that not only the Government gets additional revenue for undertaking activities for the welfare of the poor but also the remaining part of the declared income legitimately comes into the formal economy. • (FOC)

STEPS TAKEN BY MODI GOVT TO CURB BLACK MONEY

JP led NDA government at the centre has taken many remarkable steps in curbing the black money in the Indian economy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared war on black money from day one when he constituted SIT in the very first cabinet meeting of his government. According to Minister of State for Finance Santosh Kumar Gangwar, a sectoral analysis of the admission of undisclosed income during searches conducted by the Income Tax Department in FY16, revealed that the main sectors that is generating black money are -- manufacturing (31%), real estate (29%), trading (8%), educational institutions (7%), contractors (6%), services (5%), gems & jewellery (4%). Gangwar was responding to a question on 22 November 2016 asked in the Rajya Sabha. The government has announced several measures since it took office in New Delhi, to clamp down on black money, both, within the country and outside it.

Government has taken several measures, by way of policy initiatives and enforcement action, to curb black money. Such measures include –

- Constitution of the Special Investigation Team
 (SIT) on Black Money
 under Chairmanship
 and Vice-Chairmanship
 of two former Judges of
 Hon'ble Supreme Court.

 PRIME MINISTER
 DECLARED WAR
- Enactment of 'The Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and
 - Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015' to specifically deal with the issue of black money stashed away abroad. The Act inter alia provides stringent provisions for concealment penalties (equal to three times the amount of tax payable) and contains stringent provision for prosecution.
- Constitution of Multi-Agency Group (MAG) consisting of officers of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) for investigation of recent revelations in Panama paper leaks.
- Proactively engaging with foreign governments with a view to facilitate and enhance the exchange

- of information under Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs)/Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs)/ Multilateral Conventions.
- Joining the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement in respect of Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) and having information sharing arrangement with USA under its Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA).
- Renegotiation of DTAAs with other countries to bring the Article on Exchange of Information to International Standards and expanding India's treaty network by signing new DTAAs and TIEAs with many jurisdictions to facilitate the exchange of information and to bring
- ▶ Enabling attachment and confiscation of property equivalent in value held within the country where the property/proceeds of crime is taken or held outside the country by amending the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 through the Finance Act, 2015.
- Enactment of the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016 to amend the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 with a view

to, inter alia, enable confiscation of Benami property and provide for prosecution. The provisions of the amended Prohibition of Benami Property Transaction Act, 1988 have come into effect

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI DECLARED WAR ON BLACK MONEY FROM DAY ONE WHEN HE CONSTITUTED SIT IN THE VERY FIRST CABINET MEETING OF HIS GOVERNMENT.

from 01.11.2016.

- Initiation of the information technology based 'Project Insight' by the Income Tax Department for strengthening the non-intrusive information driven approach for improving tax compliance and effective utilization of available information.
- Withdrawal of Rs.500 and Rs.1000 denominations of Bank Notes of the existing series issued by Reserve Bank of India vide Notification No.2652 [S.O.3407(E)] dated 08.11.2016.
- Amendment of Rule 114B of the Income-tax Rules to mandate quoting of PAN, for transactions of sale or purchase of goods or services of any nature above Rs.2 Lakh. (FOC)

E-pashuhaat portal launched









he Union Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Minister, Shri Radha Mohan Singh launched e-pashuhaat (www.epashuhaat.gov.in) portal on the occasion of National Milk Day on November 26. Shri Singh informed that for the first time in the world under the scheme National Mission on Bovine Productivity 'e-pashuhaat' portal has been developed for connecting breeders and farmers regarding availability of bovine germplasm. Through the portal breeders/farmers can sell and purchase breeding stock, information on all forms of germplasm including semen, embryos and live animals with all the agencies and stake holders in the country has been uploaded on the portal. Through this portal, farmers will be aware about the availability of quality disease free bovine germplasm with different agencies in the country. The portal will lead to propagation of high genetic merit germplasm. ■ (FOC)

HIGHLIGHTS

- E-pashuhaat portal for livestock germplasm and additional related services.
- Will connect farmers with breeders Central, State, Co-operative, Milk Federations, and private agencies.
- Real time authentic certified information on availability of germplasm.
- The Farmers platform on the main menu of the website will provide
- 3 options in Germplasm marketplace for Animals, Frozen Semen and Embryos

List of suppliers

- It will establish links between "farmer to farmer" and "farmer to Institutes".
- One stop portal for bovine breeders, sellers and buyers.
- Creating and Comparative Farm Network
- Making Farmers exchange local knowledge and resources
- Availability of disease free germplasm with known genetic merit.
- Minimizes the involvement of middlemen.
- Increase in farmers' incomes.

Targeted Outcomes

- For Government: Central/States/UT
- Programme oversight in real-time with greater transparency
- Zero cost for States for Transportal creation
- Demand and supply position of various items
- Monitoring and evaluation reports generation
- Sire Directory /Annual Report generation
- Repository and aggregator of both public and private sector services
- Evidence based Policy support information for decisions.
- Forecasting and Targeting Production Plan for Nation
- Targeted Genetic Development
- Assessing need for Infrastructure and Education
- Global recognition for using data mining and analytics
- Capacity building at all levels.

Modi Govt takes decision to rationalize Visa regime in India

or making 'Skill India', Digital India,' 'Make in India' 'Minimum Government Maximum Governance' successful the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for liberalization, simplification and rationalization of the existing visa regime in India, and incremental changes in the visa policy decided by the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with various stakeholders and with approval of the Home Minister. The approval will facilitate entry of foreigners for tourism, business and medical purposes. This is expected to stimulate economic growth, increase earnings from export of services like tourism, medical value travel and travel on account of business and to make 'Skill India', 'Digital India', 'Make in India' and other such flagship initiatives of the Government successful. This will also considerably ease the travel of foreigners to India for the above-mentioned legitimate purposes. • (FOC)

'Antyodaya' and the Villages of India

Pt. Deendayalji is one of the greatest economic thinkers in post-Gandhian era. He also laid emphasis on practical and rural economy. His book on the first two five year plans' became very popular for his observations. He added a new chapter 'Integral Humanism', in economics.

SHANTA KUMAR

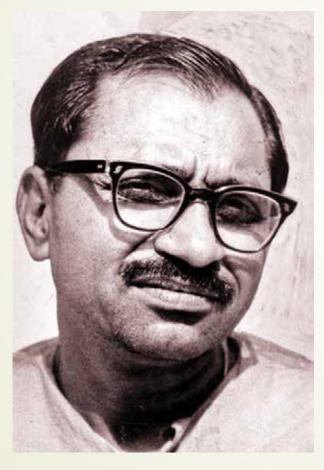
ndia is a country of villages. Millions of Indians live in small rural settlements. This is the reason, India's civilization and economy is predominantly rural. During the struggle for freedom our leaders had a vision for developing rural India. And the picture emerged was of an economy based on the villages.

Gandhian philosophy also revolved around villages and this was the reason why Mahatma Gandhi advocated strengthening of rural economy. He repeatedly said that the development of the country was only possible if it followed the 'Antyodaya' path. He had faith that India would become prosperous only when its villages became so.

India's poverty and its backwardness were always a cause of concern for the leaders of modern India. Dadabhai Nauroji wrote a historic book which was an elaborate account of India's poverty. Swami Vivekanand was also very keen to remove poverty from villages. He had left home in search of 'Moksha' but his guru, Ramakrishna Paramhans, asked him to travel the length and breadth of the country. Swamiji did so and travelled all over the country for two years like an ascetic. He was moved to witness abysmal poverty prevailing in India. He found himself in a dilemma, whether to seek 'Moksha' or to work for the poor. He opted for the second. Swami Vivekanand went to Kanyakumari and made a historic announcement after meditating on a rock in the sea, which later became famous as the 'Vivekanand Rock':

"I don't aspire for 'Moksha' until every individual in this country is fed properly. I wish to be born again and serve my country":

Swami Vivekanand had left home and everything else for attaining 'Moksha' but instead decided



"THE TRUE INDICATOR OF PROGRESS IS NOT AN INCREASE IN THE WEALTH OF RICH BUT AVAILABILITY OF BASIC AMENITIES AND COMFORTS TO THE POOR." — PT. DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA



to serve the country. Gandhiji propagated the 'Antyodaya' philosophy with India's poor in mind. His idea was to work for the welfare of the marginal man. He asserted that the process of development should commence from the marginal poor.

Pt. Deendayalji is one of the greatest economic thinkers in post-Gandhian era. He also laid emphasis on practical and rural economy. His book on the first two five year plans' became very popular for his observations. He added a new chapter 'Integral Humanism', in economics. His was not a fractured vision but was an integrated one.

We as a country became free on August 15, 1947. But we could not hold on to the true spirit which inspired us to obtain freedom. Gandhian thought and the philosophy of Swami Vivekanand were put on the backburner. Big cities, mega projects became the focal point while formulating policies on development. Slogans of social welfare and socialism had rent the air then.

Development could not become the thrust area and it resulted in the deprivation of social justice. Development reached the upper class and partly, the middle class. The marginal poor had little share in either development or justice.

This is the reason why even after 57 years of independence, around 300 million people live below the poverty line. Their income is not enough even for subsistence. Lakhs of people don't have access to pure drinking water. There are no good roads and educational facilities are still insufficient. In short, the true spirit of freedom is yet to be fulfilled.

This has resulted into uneven distribution of wealth, as the rich are getting richer and the poor, poorer. The problem of unemployment is getting worse. A feeling of discontentment is rampant. Crime is on the rise and youths are taking to the streets. The development in India could not impart social justice.

The need of the hour is to converge the process of development towards the time - tested vision of 'Antyodaya' which suggests giving priority to the poor. At least, his minimum basic needs should be fulfilled.

I myself have been very much inspired by Gandhiji. When I became the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh in 1977 most of the budget was directed towards the village and the poor. Making arrangements for drinking water was taken on a war footing. 'Antyodaya' was adopted and one lakh of the most poor persons were identified. No separate



"THE PROCESS OF
RECONSTRUCTION OF A NATION
MUST BEGINE FROM RURAL
QUARTERS BECAUSE HERE EXIST
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SOURCE OF NATURAL RESOURCES
AND ALSO THIS IS NATURAL ORDER
OF EVOLUTION."

— PT. DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA

funds were allocated but an order was given that every project must benefit them first. Thus it was ensured that the development reached the marginal man. This project was very much effective and within a year 10% of the poor were able to cross the 'poverty line'.

In the end I must say if we want to realise the dream which our great leaders had in their mind at the hour of Independence, then 'Antyodaya' is the only way out.

The writer is a Member of Parliament. The article was published in a Special Issue 'Antyodaya' in 2005.

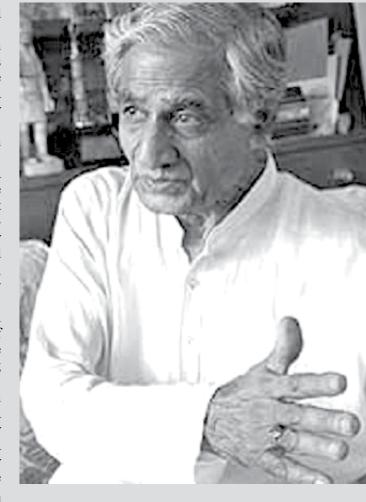
Bhai Mahavir is no more

ormer Madhya Pradesh governor and founder member of Jana Sangh Dr. Bhai Mahavir passed away in Delhi on December 3 after brief illness. He was 94 and survived by his two daughters. His wife passed away earlier. He was married to Krishna Kumari who died in New Delhi on 14 December 2012

Bhai Mahavir served as the Madhya Pradesh governor from April 1998 to May 2003.

Mahavir joined the RSS in 1938, in a shakha established by Raja Bhau Paturkar in Lahore. He became a pracharak in 1942, and worked in that capacity in Jalandhar for 2 years. Between 1944-47 he was the Secretary of RSS in Lahore. After the partition, he settled down in Jalandhar and worked as a Lecturer. He moved to Delhi in 1956, working as a Lecturer in the Panjab University College established for the Panjabi refugees.

Towards the end of 1950, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee gathered in Delhi a core group of activists for forming a new political party, the Bharatiya Jana Sangh. Bhai Mahavir was among this group, along with Vasantrao Oak and Balraj Madhok, all RSS pracharaks. The three of them founded the Panjab-Delhi branch of the Jana Sangh in Jalandhar on 27 May 1951, which later became part of the nationwide 'Bharatiya' Jana Sangh established on 21 October. Bhai Mahavir was named a General Secretary of the nationwide





@narendramodi

Bhai Mahavir was a stalwart, belonging to a generation of Karyakartas who selflessly immersed themselves towards nation building.



@AmitShah

Bhai Mahavir was hardworking person and committed to ideology. His entire life was devoted to service of the nation and society. party. He served in that capacity for one year, succeeded by Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya in 1952. He continued on the Working Committee of the Jana Sangh, along with several other RSS leaders who formulated the policy line of Jana Sangh.

Bhai Mahavir continued in senior positions in the Jana Sangh and later in Bharatiya Janata Party. He was elected to the Rajya Sabha during 1968-74 and 1978-84. In 1998, he was appointed as the Governor of Madhya Pradesh and served a full term till 2003.

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and other leaders of the BJP condoled the demise of the leader.

Philosophy of Sree Narayana Guru brought renaissance & reformation to the society: Amit Shah

JP does not believe in politics of class and cast, said BJP National President while addressing a convention in connection with the first anniversary of Bharat Dharma Jana Sena (BDJS) in Angamaly on December 5. He added "Shri

Narayana Guru was promulgator of social reform movement in south India. The Party regards him as its ideal."

Sree Narayana Guru not only fought against inequality that prevailed in the society but also worked hard to imbibe spiritual consciousness among the people of Kerala by establishing temples, said Shri Amit Shah.

He slammed both LDF and UDF in the state. "The succeeding LDF and UDF governments has trodden the cultural values of Kerala. The political parties in the state should look back to the history. Kerala was divided on the basis of caste, creed and other factors till nineteenth century. But the philosophy of Sree Narayana Guru brought renaissance and reformation



to the society," Shri Shah added

"Mahatma Gandhi, got inspiration from Guru to use the word Harijan in his weekly publication, which highlighted the social and economic discrepancies in the

country. Poet Rabindranath Tagore also got inspired by Guru," Shri Shah said.

"With promulgation of *advaita* Sree Narayan Guru gave simple interpretation of religion. When a temple was founded in Trishut in 1920, he kindled lamp in the temple. Temple was made in 1922, instead of installing statue; he got four words - Truth, Dharma, Love and Pity written. When a temple was built in 1924, inside the temple he got a mirror framed in which a message was inscribed that god is inside you. Sree Narayan Guru gave a new philosophical knowledge (Tatva Gyan)."

Following the path shown by Sree Narayan Guru, Narendra Modi Government has adopted all-inclusive mode of development. • (FOC)

Shah appeals to the BJP karykartas for making strong party at booth level in AP

ddressing a farmers' rally at Tadepalligudem Shri Amit Shah appealed to the BJP karykartas for making strong the party at booth level in Andhra Pradesh. "It is necessary to make BJP strong in Andhra Pradesh for

development of the State and the country", he added. BJP National President Shri Amit Shah was addressing Raithu Mahasabha in West Godavari district on November 26.

Highlighting the schemes initiated by Modi Government at Center, Shri Shah said "For the First time after independence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has provided security through 'PM Crop Insurance Scheme' to farmers from sowing seeds to harvesting crops & marketing of the grain." He said "Prime Minister has re-opened urea factories closed for several years." The



Union government has controlled the black marketing & reducing scarcity of urea by introduced neem coated urea, Shri Shah added. He mentioned the schemes like Soil Health card, Pradhanmantri Sichai Yojana, E-mandi etc. launched by Union government

for improving production and conditions of farmers. Launching the E-mandi BJP government has tried to save the farmers from middlemen, he added.

Talking about the long term benefits of demonetization to farmers, poors of the country, he said, Opposition parties oppose Modi government's moves for betterment of poors and farmers as they have no issues to raise. Taking a dig at opposition Shri Shah said "It appears that in coming time if Modiji says that today is Monday, opposition will say 'No' today is Tuesday." (FOC)

Do not play with the lives of poor people: PM



rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his monthly radio programme on 27 November 2016 'Mann Ki Baat' shared his experience of Diwali celebration. In his address to the people India through radio Shri Modi said "This Diwali was an entirely different experience. The heartening effect of the novel way in which our 1.25 billion countrymen dedicated this Diwali to soldiers of our army, to our defence forces, was clearly evident on their faces.

"A soldier wrote to me – Mr. Prime Minister, we soldiers have all the festivals like Holi and Diwali on the borders. We are devoted to defending the country every moment. Bu we do miss our near and dear ones back home during festivals. But, to tell you the truth, this time we did not feel so. Never did it appear to us even once that we are not at home for the festivities. It felt as if we were celebrating Diwali together with a hundred and twenty five crore Indians."

He added "A few days ago, all Pradhans from the villages of Jammu & Kashmir had come to see me. They were from the Jammu & Kashmir Panchayat Conference. They had come from different villages of the Kashmir valley, there were around 40-50 Pradhans. I got an opportunity to speak to them

at length. They had come to discuss a few points on the development of their villages; they had some demands. But when the deliberations began, issues such as conditions in the valley, the law and order situation, the future of children came up in a natural manner. These village Pradhans spoke about these topics with such affection and openness that everything touched my heart. In the course of the conversation, there was also a mention of schools in Kashmir that had been set on fire. And I felt these Pradhans were as saddened as our other countrymen were, at that. They too felt that it was not just schools, it was the future of the children, that had been set ablaze. I had urged them to focus on these children's future, on their return home. I am feeling happy today that these Pradhans, who had come from the Kashmir valley, kept their word in letter and spirit. They returned to their villages and made people from far and wide aware on this issue. Recently, just a few days ago, when the Board examinations were held, 95% of the sons and daughters of Kashmir, the young students appeared in the examinations. The sheer volume of students, who appeared in the Board Examinations, is a clear indication that our children from Jammu & Kashmir are committed to attain newer heights



of progress, to build a bright future through the medium of education.

Further, he said,500 and 1000 rupee notes and such a vast country, wide proliferation of currencies, billions and trillions of bank notes and amidst that, this decision – the whole world is minutely observing, every economist is analysing it, evaluating it. The whole world is watching – will hundred and twenty-five crore Indians finally attain success after facing numerous hardships? This question may be there in the world community.

Across the country, central government, state governments, all units of the local self government institutions, one lakh thirty thousand bank branches, lakhs of bank employees, over one and a half lakh post offices, over a lakh Bank-Mitras are relentlessly at work, day and night, with complete dedication. In the midst of immense and varied stress, all these individuals are working hard, maintaining a calm and composed demeanour, taking it as a Yagya of

"NOW ALL OF US KNOW VERY WELL

THAT THE POOR PEOPLE ALWAYS

LIKE TO CLEAR THEIR DUES 2-3 DAYS

IN ADVANCE. IT IS THE WELL-OFF

PEOPLE, WHO DO NOT PAY THEIR

TAXES AND BILLS AS THEY HAVE

HIGHER CONNECTIONS."

Service to the Nation, an attempt towards a great transformation.

Thev begin work early in the morning, not knowing when they will wind up at night. Everyone is busy working.

"But vices are SO widespread and deeprooted that even today

there are people whose vicious habits refuse to die. Even now, some people think that they can reintroduce into the system, money from corruption, black money, unaccounted wealth and Benami money (money in unknown person's name), using some route or the other. They seek illegal means to save their ill-gotten wealth. The saddest part is that, for this too, they have chosen to misuse the poor, the underprivileged people. By misguiding the poor, enticing them through the vices of avarice and temptation, wrongfully pumping money into their bank accounts, or getting them to undertake some wrong activities, some people are trying to save their black money. I want to tell such people today - whether you reform or not is up to you, whether you respect and follow the law or do otherwise is again up to you; of course, the law will take its own course to decide on the requisite action; but, for God's sake, please do not play with the lives of poor people. Do not do anything that may bring the

names of the poor on record for wrong reasons and land my dear poor people into trouble during the investigation later on account of your foul deeds. And the law regarding Benami property that has been enacted and is being implemented is very stringent and it is going to be extremely tough on wrong doers. The government does not wish that our countrymen should face undue hardships."

"I once saw in the news on TV, when I had returned late in the night, a report about a small village called Dhekiajulli in Assam, where tea workers reside. These tea workers get their wages on weekly basis. Now, what they did when they received a 2000 rupee note as wages? Four women from the neighborhood got together and jointly made purchases and made the payment with the 2000 Rupee note; they did not need small currency as they had jointly made their purchases and had decided that they would settle accounts later when they were to meet next week. People are themselves finding ways. And

> just look at this change. getting transformed.

"Now all of us know very well that the poor people always like to clear

The government received a message that people of tea gardens in Assam are demanding setting up of ATMs in their areas. See, how the village life is also

their dues 2-3 days in advance. It is the well-off people, who do not pay their taxes and bills as they have higher connections and know that nobody is going to ask or do anything against them. Thus there are big arrears of payments, which remain pending. All municipalities receive hardly 50% of their tax revenues. But, this time after the decision taken on the 8th instant, people rushed to deposit their old currency notes. 47 urban institutions had received about 3 to 3.5 thousand crore rupees in taxes last year. You will be surprised and also happy to know that during this one week, these institutions received 13 thousand crore rupees. Imagine the difference from 3 to 3.5 thousand crores to 13 thousand crores. And, that too with the self initiative of those making payments. Now that these municipalities have received 4 times the money, it is quite natural that poor localities and slums will get better drainage facilities, better water supply and better Aanganbari system." **■** (FOC)

Notes for a cashless economy

The Prime Minister's agenda for moving towards digital transfer of money is the need of the hour wherein day-to-day transactions take place without cash.



M. VENKAIAH NAIDU

ndia's economic landscape, in terms of everyday transactions, has been transformed, so to say, in one fell swoop. The life of every Indian, from a corporate CEO to a cobbler, has changed like never before ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the trailblazing decision to withdraw old Rs.500 and Rs.1,000 currency notes from circulation.

THE BIGGEST REFORM, WITH A PURPOSE

Apart from turning out to be the biggest economic reform in independent India, this revolutionary measure is making it incumbent upon everyone to embrace and promote digital platforms for money transactions. Necessity is the mother of invention, to use a clichéd adage. Herein lies the importance of the crucial and game-changing role the youth and other digitally literate people can play in educating

the unlettered and semi-literate men and women in the use of mobiles and digital platforms for money transactions.

The November 8 announcement was basically aimed at eliminating the twin menaces of black money and corruption, apart from dealing a death blow to Pakistan's terror-funding machine and the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)-sponsored counterfeit currency industry. It has also given a god-sent opportunity for providing a huge thrust to the digital economy and reap a bouquet of benefits that would accrue from such an all-encompassing transformation the country is going to witness in the days and months to come. The positive cascading effect would give a major fillip to our formal economy and help improve the country's GDP in the long run.

There comes a time in the history of a nation when a major shake-up has to be effected by taking a momentous decision to bring about a tectonic shift in the attitudes of people, especially those who



have been exploiting and milking the loopholes in the system for begetting illegal and tainted wealth.

Despite having a deep understanding of the temporary difficulties it might cause to the common man, the Prime Minister, in a courageous move, decided to withdraw Rs.500 and Rs.1,000 denominations in view of the gigantic proportions black money was acquiring, leading to a virtual parallel economy. He was also aware of the growing menace of counterfeit currency being pumped into the country from across the border and the sinister manner in which it was being used by terrorists, smugglers, separatists, women and child traffickers and drug dealers. He took this timely and pathbreaking decision to prevent the shadow economy from causing any further damage to the country.

NOT A SUDDEN DECISION

The decision was not sudden. Mr. Modi took all the necessary precautions and alerted the nation about the likely stringent measures the government would be taking to unearth black money. Who should

fear the consequences of such a historic decision? The answer is simple. Only those in possession of ill-gotten, unaccounted money in our country and those with sinister motives and evil designs across the border

AT THE VERY FIRST G20 SUMMIT HE HAD ATTENDED AT BRISBANE IN NOVEMBER 2014, MR. MODI STRIDENTLY TOOK UP THE ISSUE OF BLACK MONEY WITH OTHER GLOBAL LEADERS.

Soon after the National Democratic Alliance came to power in 2014, the Union Cabinet at its very first meeting constituted an SIT (special investigation team) headed by the former Supreme Court judge, M.B. Shah, to go into the issue of black money.

Similarly, at the very first G20 Summit he had attended at Brisbane in November 2014, Mr. Modi stridently took up the issue of black money with other global leaders. "Increased mobility of capital and technology has created new opportunities for avoiding tax and profit sharing. I urge every jurisdiction, especially tax havens, to provide information for tax purposes in accordance with treaty obligations," he told the world leaders. This forceful pitch by the Prime Minister led to the inclusion of a clause on combating tax evasion in the final communiqué.

Later, the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign

Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015 came into force on July 1, 2015 for disclosure of foreign black money within three months by paying 60 per cent tax.

Other measures include the constitution of a Multi-Agency Group (MAG) on the Panama Paper leaks and the passage of the Benami Transaction Bill, 2015, an anti-black money measure, in the Lok Sabha. India also inked agreements with many countries, including the U.S. to add new provisions for sharing banking information. Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAA) were also signed with countries which were considered safe tax havens such as Mauritius and Cyprus. India also joined the Multilateral Competent Authority Agreement on Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (AEOI) to combat tax evasion and unearth black money. Later the Income Declaration Scheme was announced and, finally, the Prime Minister warned during his "Mann Ki Baat" address to the nation that the time is up for black money hoarders.

SUPPORT AND THE ROAD MAP

As the country is passing through this momentous phase, marking a tectonic shift, it is our good fortune that most Indians — be they illiterate or literate,

rich or poor, rural or urban dwellers — are lending their wholehearted support to the Prime Minister's drive against black money and corruption. At this juncture, one should salute the common Indian for bearing this temporary inconvenience with fortitude and patience in the larger interest of the country. That people are in sync with the Prime Minister was also reflected in opinion polls carried out by various agencies.

Another testimony of this support was captured in the results of the recently held by-elections in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. In the municipal elections held in Maharashtra and Gujarat, the Bharatiya Janata Party swept to power, clearly indicating that the people were willing to suffer temporary pain for long-term gain.

The Prime Minister's agenda for moving towards digital transfer of money is the need of the hour wherein day-to-day transactions take place without cash. Yes, in a society as layered and complex as ours, the challenges that lie ahead are many, but the road map has been laid out in a statesman-like fashion by the Prime Minister.

The government on its part has suggested various measures for people to move towards a less-cash economy. Transactions in physical currency would gradually come down as more and more people switch over to digital currency.

An important aspect that should be noted here is that India has the highest use of cash in the world, according to MasterCard report. It is apparent that such high use of cash would only strengthen the country's informal economy, which is not in the larger interest of the nation. Reduced use of cash would choke the grey economy, curb money laundering and result in increased tax collections to the government's coffers. All this would ultimately benefit the common man, as a less cash economy would plug loopholes in the public system.

JAN DHAN, AADHAR AND MOBILE

The Prime Minister has steered the country in the right direction for people to move towards digital transactions — right from the launch of



A MOODY'S REPORT HAS PEGGED THE IMPACT OF ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS TO 0.8 PER CENT INCREASE IN GDP IN EMERGING MARKETS AS AGAINST 0.3 PER CENT INCREASE IN DEVELOPED MARKETS.

the Jan Dhan Yojana to JAM (Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile) and other initiatives, including the Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd. (MUDRA) Bank, all of which are a demonstration of his commitment towards improving the living standards of every Indian.

With Aadhaar acting as an important link between the people and the government, the common citizen need no longer do the bidding of unscrupulous and corrupt officials to secure what is rightfully his.

A Moody's report has pegged the impact of electronic transactions to 0.8 per cent increase in GDP in emerging markets as against 0.3 per cent increase in developed markets. People need to make full use of electronic payments as they are faster and easier to trace.

The various options towards a cashless or lesscash economy include Unified Payments Interface (UIP), Bank Card, prepaid cards, using various cards at any PoS (point of sale)/ ATM, Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) based mobile banking, Aadhaar-enabled payment system (AEPS) and e-wallet or digital wallet.

As part of the drive to promote digital transactions, the Prime Minister himself conducted a workshop for his personal staff. Various ministries too are undertaking similar workshops for their respective staff.

Eventually, it is planned to ensure that every transaction takes place through the mobile phone. With more than 1,033 million mobile phones in India, including about 250-300 million smartphones, an important requirement is change of mindset among all sections — I am sure every Indian would become part of this awe-inspiring initiative launched by the Prime Minister to take the Indian economy to majestic heights.

(M. Venkaiah Naidu is Union Minister of Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, and Information and Broadcasting.)

BJP National President urges people in Karnataka to bring BJP back to power



irtually sounding the 2018 poll bugle, BJP national president Shri Amit Shah on November 27, 2016 labeled Karnataka the most corrupt State in the country, calling for bringing BJP back to power in the state. Inaugurating the party's Ekta Samavesha organized by Other Backward Classes (OBC) Morcha in Bengaluru by beating the "nagada" (drum), Shri Shah said, "This nagada beating is to put the last nail in the Congress government's coffin."

Addressing a public gathering in Bengaluru, he said, "I would like to thank Bihar CM Nitish Kumar that he stood by our Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the demonetization move." The demonetization decision taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is aimed at curbing black money and it will not harm farmers or the common man or woman," he asserted.

Taking a dig at the opposition unity against demonetisation, he said leaders such as Manmohan Singh, Mamata Banerjee, Arvind Kejriwal, Mulayam Singh have lost their sleep as their parties were hit hard by the Centre's move.

Exhorting people to ensure BJP returns to power he said, "Although Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched 54 welfare schemes for the poor, the benefits of these schemes are not reaching people in Karnataka because the State government is corrupt."

All roads led to Palace Grounds for BJP workers turned up in huge numbers for Ekta Samavesha. Shri Yeddyurappa said the huge turnout indicated that the "Congress government's days were numbered in Karnataka". He said that hundreds of party workers could not attend the programme as their buses were stranded in traffic jam near Yeshwantpur.

"If they have spent even a rupee more than what we did in our tenure, I will retire from politics," Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council Shri K.S. Eshwarappa said, challenging the image of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah as an unrivalled OBC leader. He alleged that the State government had forgotten saint poets Kanakadasa, Valmiki and Sangolli Rayanna, while it was busy celebrating Tipu Sultan Jayanti.

Union Ministers Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda, Shri Ananth Kumar, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, other senior BJP leaders like Shri Muralidhar Rao, Shri B.P. Singh Baghera, Smt Shobha Karandlaje, Shri R. Ashok, Shri Arvind Limbavali, Shri Jagadish Shettar, and others also addressed the people on the occasion. • (FOC)

Modiji's new monetary architecture for seamless growth, scamless politics



Modi's idea of financial inclusion is comprehensive and real. All doubts regarding the gains of demonetization have been positively answered in the last twenty days.

DR R. BALASHANKAR

he doomsday merchants have fallen silent and are now busy constructing a linkage between demonetization and the param vaibhav goal of the Sangh ideology. Pathetic, as the detractors of the monetary revolution have failed in forty days to formulate a logical economic narrative to demolish the philosophy behind scraping of high denomination currency notes. Positive results are already visible.

There is a sudden 20 per cent spurt in online and mobile transactions. Prices of vegetables, food and consumer durables, even automobiles have started falling. Inflation is declining. Even tea garden workers are getting tempted to open bank accounts. Socially, there is a decline in money-related crime rate in the past six weeks. The incidents of stone pelting has come to a halt in Srinagar, which was being engineered using fake and black money routed through Pakistan.

Reports say that 12 lakh crore of the 14.6 lakh crore in high denomination notes have already been deposited in banks. Opposition naively asks so what was the big deal? "There was no black money as was being made out. Even counterfeit currency was just 2 per cent." This is an argument of obfuscation. The very purpose of demonetization was to bring the hoarded 10 lakh crore back into the system. Second, to net the tax that was due



to the exchequer. Both have been achieved. The extent of fake currency is debatable. What is more important is that it has gone out of the system and it has left underground operatives like Maoists, J&K Jehadis and hawala operators out of job. The first casualty being the Pakastani hawala operative Javed Khanani, considered the conduit of Dawood. committing suicide due to financial bankruptcy resulting from demonetization.

Will demonetization work? Will it slow down growth? Will it lead to huge job losses? Will it lead to rural poverty and farmer distress? Will it lead to price rise and inflation? Will it lead to windfall gains for RBI? Will it help government to deliver a balanced budget? Will the 2017 budget be a dream budget with less taxes and greater bonanza for the common man? These were the concerns and hopes expressed by both critics and supporters when the PM announced the demonetization on November 8. The concerns have been allied by experience. The good is in the realm of possibility. In any case the

naysayers have lost the ground.

Demonetization has rebranded Narendra Modi as the messiah of the poor. His connect with the dalit, shoshit, vanchit, peedith India is now complete. It could

be described as his proud socialist moment. The move has brought him closer to the common man as never before is best illustrated from the disarray in the opposition ranks, the flop show of the Bharat bandh and the series of big election victories the BJP gained in the last three weeks.

The critics failed to respond both politically and with convincing economic arguments. This shows that the Prime Minister has largely been able to manage the biggest ever monetary reform and sweeping social restructuring with the smoothest possible precision of a surgical genius. Politics will never be the same again. Taxes will come down. Investment and growth will become reality with job creation. It is expected to unlock as much as Rs six lakh crore which was hoarded by tax evaders. The tax base is going to double, the case of too much cash chasing too few goods will disappear. Already Maoists, terrorists and criminals are on the run. Counterfeit currency will disappear. We are witnessing a bloodless coup on the monetary front.

November 8, 2016 will perhaps go down in history as the day India unleashed the most decisive war against black money, counterfeit notes and corruption. It may not suddenly invert the socio-economic pyramid in the country, but it will for a long time alter the exercise of power and the political practice that we have so far been familiar with. Here Modi played the big leveler and disruptionist of the status quo.

That is why the opposition is sounding unimpressive and hackneyed. Nobody is saying the transition is totally painless. But to call it monumental "mismanagement and legalized loot" as Dr Manmohan Singh said or that the fear of massive distress that would have caused to the public as P. Chidambaram said in their critique of the measure is only an expression of timidity and ineptitude in the face of a daunting task.

Nobody disputes there was no black money and corruption. No one has openly said there was no need to fight it. All are almost unanimous

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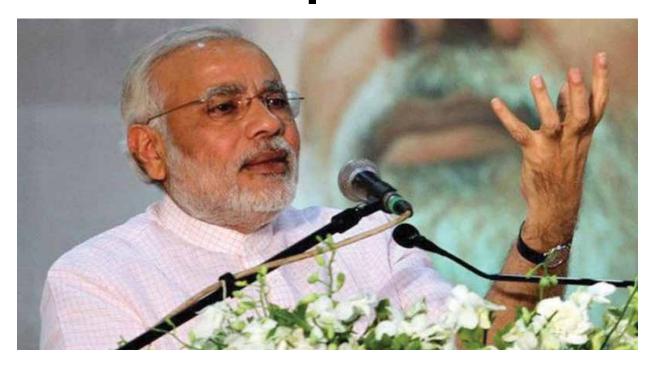
attempt to fight the twin evil. But they quarrel on the methodology. They say the move has distressed the poor and rural farmer. But this constituency has rejected their argument.

Then they say it will slow down the economy. Another charge is that the PM has not consulted widely and that it infringes on the right of a citizen to withdraw his cash from banks. A fourth criticism is that the banking penetration and the tech savvy of the masses are not sufficient for a modern money exchange model. No one in the right state of mind will blame 30 months of Modi for any of this malaise.

of financial Modi's idea inclusion comprehensive and real. All doubts regarding the gains of demonetization have been positively answered in the last twenty days. Tax collections have made most of our civic bodies flush with money, the banks have already collected seven lakh crore, the banks are thinking of reducing lending rates and hence in February we are likely to have a balanced dream budget are all pointing to the opportunities others missed and Modi cashed on.

(Writer is Member, BJP Central Committee on Training, and Committee on Publications, former National Convener, BJP Intellectual Cell) Yes, India can have less-cash economy

The prime minister has struck a chord with the poor



The Prime Minister has struck the chord with the poor. India's poor are the happiest today. They feel they have found a leader who really cares for them.

| SHIVAJI SARKAR

ndian economy has been the pride of world. It has been showcased as the only growing economy - a proud moment for Indians particularly under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. However a section of media and political parties differ. There have been some stories in the foreign media also sceptical of the decision. Has the worldview changed? Is that correct?

But despite all this, one surprising aspect is quite visible that those standing in the queues or facing the sudden withdrawal of cash are vocally supporting the decision and seem to be fully in agreement with Prime Minister Modi that this would prove to be a decisive step to eliminate corruption and black money from the country.

Demonetisation was never dreamt to be an option to fight black money, terror funding or money laundering. It is an out of the box solution. It led to a withdrawal of over Rs 14 lakh crore currency notes or 84 percent in circulation. It led to a sudden thaw in many activities, queues at banks and ATMs.

But surprisingly those in the lower end of the economy almost in unison said that they were not unhappy as those having stacks of untaxed money have huge suffering.

The Prime Minister has struck the chord with the poor. India's poor are the happiest today. They feel they have found a leader who really cares for them. They also feel that most leaders make poll promises, but at least one delivers it. As the penalties on undeclared income are now considered to be enhanced and the huge sum is to be used for



development and poverty alleviation.

This explains why despite so much of hullaballoo, the nation continues to function in a quiet atmosphere. It is a period of transition and everybody wants to be at the right side.

It is no wonder that Rs 8.5 lakh crore demonetised notes have come back to the bank coffers till November 24. The bankers say it is over 55 percent of what was in circulation. Only Rs 33000 crore worth notes are exchanged.

The new currency in circulation is about Rs 1.36 lakh crore. There remains a huge cash shortage. That is reflected in the continuous demand at banks as their stacks are to be filled with new notes. The problem persists in the market as well.

It has led to emergence of new credit system at localities, villages and even in the farm market. That is a partial relief.

Indian market system relies on cash transaction. The wholesale business works on a low cut of 1 to 1.5 percent and cash deals help in fast turnover. The cash also has its problem. There is a perception that it leads to evasion of tax and consequent creation of black money.

The prime minister in his Man ki Baat on November 27 gave a call to go cashless and transact through various electronic modes, bank transfers, cheques and e-wallets.

It is a plausible system. There are over 71 crore debit cards and 2.6 crore credit cards. Considering



that many have multiple cards, the actual may be around 65 crore cards. Over 80 crore people have mobile phones, which can work also as a wallet. The wallets are being used by the youth and it is solving the problem of small coins as well.

The people are still less comfortable with electronic transfers. They are apprehensive of security issues. The banks recently blocked six lakh debit cards as they said the data were compromised. This also increases the concerns. An e-wallet also has to suspend operation recently as the authorities pointed out to certain shortcomings in its security systems.

In many cases people avoid it as the sellers demand an extra payment of 2 to 2.5 percent for card usage. Besides, the payments stations (POS) are also not available everywhere. Of late, there is a demand and now the banks that over 5000 such demands have been placed with them.

It takes time to solve the issues. If these are solved the chances of using the e-payment system is likely to increase. The government is trying to remove the bottlenecks. During the last over 20 days the usage of e-payments have increased.

Banks have come out with massive advertisements – cash nahi to hum hai na. They have also launched micro ATMs to popularise the e-payment option.

No society however is cashless. The people need to listen to the prime minister. He also says that let it be less cash. The cashless system has a cost that either the banks have to bear or the customer. The banks are finding dealing not easy with huge cash arrivals. The RBI has also understanding the problem of high liquidity with banks has increased the cash reserve ratio (CRR).

The country also has to reduce the tax rates and the bureaucracy and bankers have to be more understanding and rational. An economy that is in cash going to less cash and then cashless would take some time. It can happen gradually. The expanse of the country is vast and there are also problems in remote areas and hinterlands. There has to be a mix of all the different payment modes. One system alone would not suffice and could have its problems as well.

And finally howsoever critical the opposition or section of media might be, despite problems, India is poised for growth.

(The author is a senior journalist based in Delhi. Regularly writes on Socio-political issues. The views expressed in the article are author's own.)

MODI'S ASSERTIVE DIPLOMACY IN 6th



Both India and Afghanistan have been the victims of Pakistan sponsored terrorism and are still grappling from the menace of the same. Therefore, it's natural for both the countries to share a common regional security outlook for the region and make a concerted effort against the root cause of security threat affecting the region as a whole.

DR.MUKESH MISHRA

eart of Asia-Istanbul Process, region-led dialogue in Asia was launched in November 2011 to expand result-oriented coordination between Afghanistan and its neighbors and regional partners in facing common threats, including counterterrorism, counternarcotics, poverty, and extremism. The Heart of Asia is comprised of 14 participating countries, 17 supporting countries, and 12 supporting regional and international organizations. Also, it examines the Afghani recovery process and, specifically, how interregional cooperation can facilitate it. The Ministerial brings together regional representatives from both the private and public sector to discuss prospective developmental and restructuring initiatives.

Organisationally, Afghanistan is the permanent 'Chair' for this Process. Each year, a participating country accepts the Co-Chair position and hosts the yearly Ministerial Conference in their home country. In the past, the HoA-IP was Co-Chaired, by Turkey in 2011 Afghanistan in 2012, Kazakhstan in 2013, China in 2014, Pakistan in 2015 and India in 2016.

The sixth HOA-IP conference at Amritsar India was centered on the menace of 'Terrorism' that the region as whole suffers from. On the concluding day, the participating and supporting countries and their ministers signed a joined declaration stating the need to work to combat terrorism in Afghanistan and the region. In fact, the declaration stated to bring an end to any kind of support and shelter to terrorism, and to create a fund to find forces of terror in the region.

In fact, Afghanistan President Ghani walked



HEART OF ASIA-IP CONFERENCE

extra mile when he named Pakistan as the country harboring and sheltering terrorism thereby unleashing the menace of terror not only in Afghanistan but in the region as well as the world as a whole. Indian Prime Minister categorical call at the Summit to punish those who facilitate regional terrorism and those who support it, was an act of assertive diplomacy wherein Afghanistan, 'the heart of Asia' and India jointly send a strong message to Pakistan about its growing isolation and to the world about the determination of India and Pakistan against Pakistan being as the nursery of Global terrorism and the corresponding need to address the issue in all its sincerity.

The Amritsar declaration unequivocally named Pakistan-based terrorist groups by name as threats to regional security wherein Pakistan based groups are held as the facilitator and financier of the terrorism activities of these groups against Pakistan's neighbours.

One needs to see these developments not as a case in isolation but as a consistent approach of Modi's foreign policy wherein assertive diplomacy, concerted regional and international effort and measured military actions are employed if required.

The open naming and shaming of Pakistan by the Afghanistan President, despite the presence of China in the conference who has deep economic ties with the Afghanistan as well, points out that India achieved a better leverage against Pakistan among majority of the Asian nations in general and Afghanistan in particular.

THE CLEAR MESSAGE TO PAKISTAN IS OF 'NO DIALOGUE WITHOUT END OF TERRORISM AS AN INSTRUMENT OF POLICY'

Both India and Afghanistan have been the victims of Pakistan sponsored terrorism and are still grappling from the menace of the same. Therefore, it's natural for both the countries to share a common regional security outlook for the region and make a concerted effort against the root cause of security threat affecting the region as a whole. The obstacle in this case was the China factor that has deep relations with Pakistan and wields its influence at regional and international forum to frustrate any effective measured against Pakistan's implicitness in Terrorism.

Highlights of the speech of PM Shri Narendra Modi delivered in sixth 'Heart of Asia- Istanbul Process' conference:

- An Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghancontrolled process is key. It is the only guarantor of durability of solutions.
- We must demonstrate strong collective will to defeat terror networks that cause bloodshed and spread fear. Terrorism and externally induced instability pose the gravest threat to Afghanistan's peace, stability and prosperity. And, the growing arc of terrorist violence endangers our entire region. As such, support for voices of peace in Afghanistan alone is not enough. It must be backed by resolute action. Not just against forces of terrorism, but also against those who support, shelter, train and finance them. Silence and inaction against terrorism in Afghanistan and our region will only embolden terrorists and their masters.
- Our bilateral and regional commitments of material assistance for Afghanistan's development and humanitarian needs must continue and increase.
 Our cooperative endeavours in Afghanistan should contribute to its infrastructure and institutional capacity, and self-propelling engines of growth.
- We should all work to build stronger positive connectivity between Afghanistan and other countries of the region. Afghanistan should be at the centre of our connectivity networks, not peripheral to them.
- Our commitment to our brave Afghan brothers and sisters is absolute and unwavering. The welfare of Afghanistan and its people is close to our hearts and minds. The successful record of our partnership in projects, big and small, in Afghanistan speaks for itself. The principal dimension of our cooperation has always been its people centric nature. the reach and benefit of such efforts extends to all corners of Afghanistan. Herat's India-Afghanistan Friendship Dam, also called the Salma Dam, that was launched a few months ago, will help revive economic activity for the people there. (FOC)



About Heart of Asia Conference

The conference was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani, Senior Officials from 14-member countries including India, China, Russia, Iran and Pakistan, and representatives of 17 supporting nations deliberated on the issues relating to peace and stability in the region. The conference was chaired by India. Previous year it was held in Islamabad and chaired by Pakistan. Since 2011 this regionled dialogue is held every year to expand practical coordination between Afghanistan and its neighbors and regional partners in facing common threats, including counterterrorism, counternarcotics. poverty, and extremism.

In this backdrop, the sending of the strong message to the Pakistan, in the presence of the delegates of other Asian countries and the diplomats of other countries marks a decisive shift in the diplomacy concerning not only Pakistan and its terrorism nexus but to those, like China, who act as its savior.

This declaration must be seen as a part of the Modi's realist approach to the Pakistan and security issue

affecting the region as a whole. The clear message to Pakistan of 'no dialogue without end of Terrorism as an instrument of policy', 'the surgical strike' calling the bluff of its nuclear blackmail, cornering of Pakistan at international forums, and this unequivocal naming of Pakistan as the nursery of Terrorism affecting India, Afghanistan, region and the world as a whole, marks a shift in India's foreign policy and diplomatic approach under Modi wherein India has consistently adopted a pro-active and assertive measure against Pakistan.

This marks the growing catalyst role of India's PM on the issues of global importance wherein he is taking the lead in setting the agenda and mobilizing the world opinion in a concerted way.

The HOA-IP declaration at Amritsar must not be seen as just a momentary gesture that would find no echo but rather as a consistent and measured step by Modi's diplomatic approach that is integrating all aspects needed to corner the harbours of terrorism and its protectors in a systematic manner. This issue and the Amritsar declaration are not only a diplomatic victory for India but also a victory of the people wherein India's diplomatic stances are in conformity to the overwhelming public opinion.

(The writer is associated with Party Journals & Publication Department.)

BJP wins local body by-polls in Rajasthan

he Bharatiya Janata Party on December 2 won 19 of the 37 panchayat and municipal seats that went up for by-polls in Rajasthan. While the Congress finished second with 14 seats, independent candidates bagged the remaining four. This was the first by-elections held in Rajasthan after Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the demonetisation decision. The by-polls for 20 districts were held on November 29. The elections were held for three zilla parishad seats, 10 municipal seats and 24 panchayat samiti seats. Among the zilla parishad seats, BJP candidates won in Banswara and Bhilwara, and Congress won the Jalore seat.

Of the 24 panchayat samiti seats, the BJP won 12 and the Congress won 10. Independent candidates won two seats. The BJP won five of the 10 municipal seats, while the Congress won three and the independent nominees got two.

(With inputs from PTI)



PM asks BJP MPs, MLAs to submit bank transaction details

rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on November 30, 2016 asked BJP legislators and parliamentarians to submit details of their bank transactions between November 8 and December 31 to party president Shri Amit Shah. The dates correspond with when banknotes of denomination Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 were scrapped (November 8) and the last date for handing over one's demonetised currency at banks and post offices



(December 31).

At the weekly meeting of the BJP parliamentary party, Shri Modi also said the amendment to the income tax act was not to help convert black money into legitimate wealth, but channel the money looted from poor to their welfare. "I will not allow the country to be weighed down by wads of currency notes (black money)," Shri Modi said at the meeting. The Lok Sabha passed the amendment bill later in the day.

The PM's call for declaring banking transactions of BJP leaders appears to be a move to buttress his commitment to transparency and probity in public life. It is also meant to counter the Opposition parties' attempt to run down the Centre's demonetization decision by highlighting its poor implementation and also by questioning the real motive.

The Prime Minister's instructions to party MPs and MLAs also pressure other parties to follow suit. BJP present Shri Amit Shah has told party MPs to counter the Opposition's disinformation campaign, particularly in rural areas. He also urged them to motivate traders in panchayats, municipalities and other local bodies falling in their constituency to shift to cashless transactions.

'Parivartan Yatras to change corrupt regime of Uttarakhand'



JP National President Shri Amit Shah addressing on 7th December 2016 the closing rally of 'Uttarakhand Parivartan Yatra' in Haldwani said Kumaon is Gateway of this Devbhoomi. Hence, the organized rally in this Kumaon area is not closing of Parivartan Yatra rather it is beginning of 'Parivartan' (change) in Uttarakhand. BJP wanted the wave of change to begin from Kumaon region and sweep the rest of the state.

He added "The Aim of 'Parivartan Yatra' is to make it a leading state in tourism, providing employment to youths on local level and make the State free from corrupt regime."

"Huge gathering at the rallies in the course of Parivartan yatras ensures that the BJP is forming next government with a two-third majority in the State" added Shri Shah.

Not only is to change the government in the state objective of the BJP but to change the condition and system of the State. He appealed to the people of Uttarakhand to throw out corrupt Congress government and to bring the transparent government like one being run by Narendra Modi at Center. A long struggle by youths of Uttarakhand made possible a separate State.

He said former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee did not dream of an Uttarakhand where liquor and mining mafia called the shots.

Shri Shah added Mr Vajpayee had visualized a developed hill state with a strong economy based on tourism from where people did not migrate elsewhere in search of livelihood. He asked people to vote for BJP if they wanted to translate the "Uttarakhand of Vajpayee's dreams" into a reality.

"Shri Vajpayee created Uttarakhand, Modi will build it," he said adding that the Prime Minister wants to link the chardham with four lane roads.

When BJP Government come to power in Uttarakhand, youths of Uttarakhand will not have to wander for job. They will find employment in their districts and villages.

Taking a dig at Congress on implementation of OROP said "Narendra Modi government has implemented OROP which was pending for 45 years. Congress Party's failure to implement it despite being in power shows how little it cares for the armed forces.'

"Narendra Modi on the other hand implemented it within a year of coming to power," he added. • (FOC)

Demonetization decision has won hearts of people: Amit Shah

ddressing a huge gathering BJP National President Amit Shah said that his party has won hearts despite a canard being spread by Opposition parties over demonetization of high value notes. "Opposition parties are shell shocked over the government decision to cull high value notes as their money 'looted' through scams has turned into trash in one go. Before November 7, these leaders used to ask what action had been taken against black money by Modi ji. Now they are asking why Modiji has taken this action," Shri Shah said while addressing a Parviratan rally in Maharajganj on 30 November, 2016.

He said that leaders who had stashed black money gave a call of Bharat Bandh and Aakrosh Diwas but people gave a befitting reply to them in local elections. The Opposition has made demonetization an election issue in the bye-polls and civic polls in Maharshtra and Gujarat. But everywhere the BJP posted unprecedented victories," Shri Shah said. "People's mandate in these elections is referendum towards demonetization. Black money would go to state treasury and black marketeers to jail," the BJP president said.

In his 45-minute spech, Shri Shah delved in detail about corruption during UPA regime and how Mayawati and Akhilesh government had looted the state exchequer in a systematic manner. "In its 10 years regime, the UPA government had earned over Rs 12 lakh crore through different scams. Leaders like Mamata Banerji, Mayawati, Kejriwal and Akhilesh Yadav are angry with Modi ji because in one stroke, he has reduced their ill-gotten money to trash," he said.

"The Modi government has even introduced a bill in Lok Sabha as per which taxes earned from unaccounted money would be utilized for poor people's welfare. This is the only government of the country which is working continuously towards public welfare. Other parties while in power, looted the state exchequer while the BJP is replenishing it through different sources," he asserted.

Hitting out at Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi for his 'khoon ki dalali' remark on surgical strikes across the LoC, the BJP chief said that





the Modi government acted within ten days of the Uri attack unlike the previous Congress-led government. "But Congress shehzada (prince) says that Modiji indulges in 'khoon ki dalali," he pointed out. "Rahul baba how will you know the value of Army jawans' valour...how will you know the value of their sacrifice...it is invaluable," Shri Shah said, claiming that no one could dare touch the Indian boundaries under the BJP regime.

The BJP president also appealed to women present in the rally to help the BJP bring about a change in the state. "We are fighting to restore pride of women. The BJP believes even Muslim women should get their rights as sanctioned by the Indian statute. The triple talag system should end. We advocate women should get equal rights as that enjoyed by men," he said.

"The Modi government has introduced many welfare schemes for the people but the SP government in UP has not implemented them. If you want benefits of Central government schemes to reach you, elect the BJP in the state so that the Centre and state should work as a well-oiled machine and tranform the state into a developed one," Shri Shah said. [(FOC)

Direct Transfer of Fertilizer Subsidy to be introduced

nion Government decided to introduce Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system for fertilizer subsidy payments. Under the proposed system, 100% subsidy on various fertilizer grades shall be released to the manufacturers and importers on the basis of actual sales made by the retailer to the beneficiaries. Initially, the modified subsidy procedure under DBT system will be introduced on pilot basis in 16 select districts and after its due stabilization, the new payment system would be rolled out in all states in the second phase. The proposed DBT will address the issues relating to diversion and smuggling of urea.

The DBT being implemented in fertilizer subsidy payment is slightly different from the normal DBT being implemented in LPG subsidy. Under the DBT in fertilizer sector, the subsidy will be released to the fertilizer companies instead of the beneficiaries, after the sale is made by the retailers to the beneficiaries on submission of claims generated in the web-based online Integrated Fertilizer



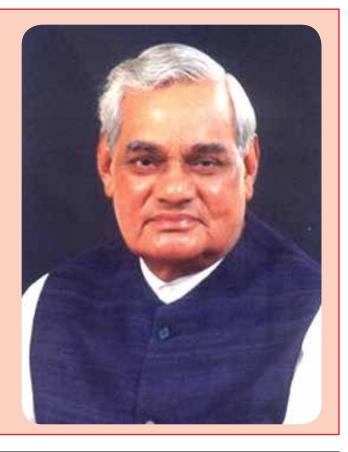
Monitoring System (iFMS) by fertilizer companies. After implementation of DBT, it is expected that diversion/smuggling of fertilizers will be reduced to a large extent and the Government will save subsidy to that extent. However, no assessment has been made to calculate the savings.

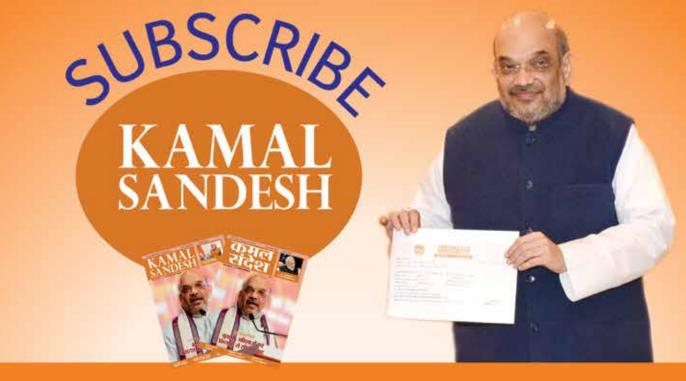
The proposed DBT for release of fertilizer subsidy to fertilizer companies has no direct relation with landholding of the farmers. The fertilizers will be available to all on 'no denial' basis. • (FOC)

Jeevem Shardah Shatam

Birthday: December 25

Kamal Sandesh Parivar join the nation in wishing our Margdarshak and former Prime Minister Adarniya Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee a very happy birthday and pray for his health and long life to continue to guide the Party and the nation for long.





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