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**14 | PEOPLE OF INDIA ARE GOVERNMENT'S ONLY HIGH COMMAND**

राष्ट्रीय कार्यकारिणी बैठक

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING

6-7, जनवरी 2017

एम. सी. कन्वेंशन सेन्टर, नई दिल्ली



## 'Demonetisation Badly Hits Black Money, Fake Currency & Terror-Maoist Activities'

**BJP CONTINUES WINNING SPREE IN CIVIC BODY POLLS**

**INDIANS WITH FIRM RESOLVE FACED DIFFICULTIES**

**DEMONETISATION - A LOOK BACK AT THE LAST TWO MONTHS**



# Grand view of BJP National Executive Meeting in New Delhi



BJP NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING  
06-07 JANUARY, 2017  
NEW DELHI

## Editor

Prabhat Jha

## Executive Editor

Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi

## Associate Editors

Ram Prasad Tripathy

Vikash Anand

## Creative Editors

Vikas Saini

Mukesh Kumar

## Phone

+91(11) 23381428

## FAX

+91(11) 23387887

## E-mail

kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

mail@kamalsandesh.org

Website: www.kamalsandesh.org

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Every Indian and not a select few must own a house. We are committed to providing 'Housing for All.'

**@AmitShah**

BJP registers spectacular victory in Faridabad civic polls, winning 30 out of 40 seats. Countrymen continue to support demonetisation move.



**@SushmaSwaraj**

Prime Minister - Thank you for your inspiring address on 31 December, 2016. You rolled out your vision with clarity, sensitivity and firmness.



Courtesy: Social Media



Courtesy: Social Media



**facebook**

The announcements made by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 31 December, 2016 will benefit 'Gaon, Gareeb, Kisan' and all other sections of the society. I congratulate the Prime Minister on taking these pro-people decisions.



— **Rajnath Singh**

The GST, to be implemented this year, will provide for better indirect tax administration & will be an efficient law against tax evasion.

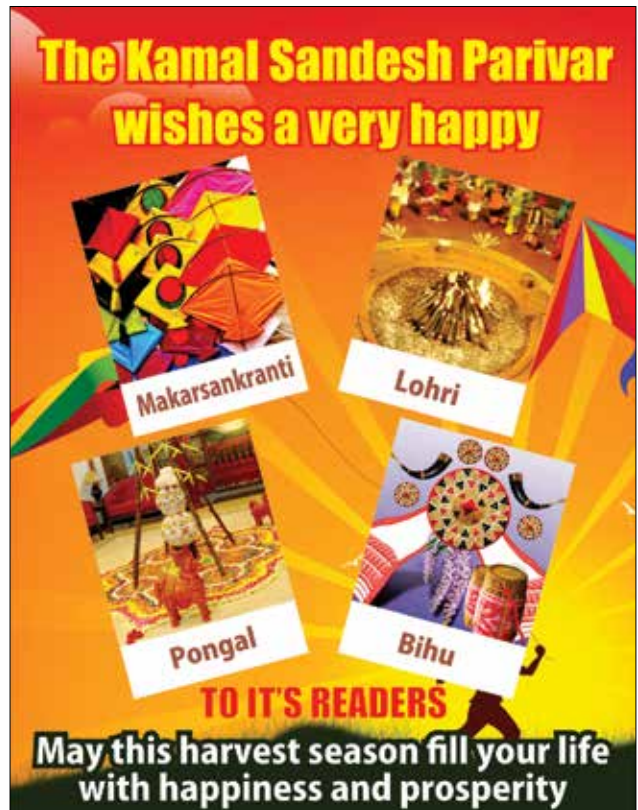


— **Arun Jaitley**

BHIM app crosses 7 million downloads, 1 million transactions within first week of launch.



— **Piyush Goyal**



# People resolutely backing Prime Minister Narendra Modi

**T**he year 2017 started on a positive note for India when people are finding themselves filled with hope and confidence about the future. The year 2016 ended with the completion of deadline for demonetization of Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000 notes and the address of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to the nation. The process of demonetization which received overwhelming support across the country as people refused to fall prey to the misleading propaganda of Congress and a section of opposition. The successful completion of the demonetization has not only silenced its critiques but the country is set to reap unprecedented benefits from this courageous decision of the Prime Minister. The immediate impact was visible in the form of huge cash deposits in the banks which has enabled them to lower interest rates. While announcing many pro-poor, pro-farmer, youth and women oriented policies the Prime Minister has rightly appreciated the strong will of the poor and honest of this country to fight black money and corruption. The people of this country should be saluted for standing resolutely with the Prime Minister's political will to fight black money and corruption.

The BJP National Executive meeting held in the first week of January has further strengthened the resolve to continue the transformative initiatives in rescuing the country from the clutches of status-quoist system. While welcoming the demonetization the National Executive resolved to further the policies for the welfare of poor and downtrodden in the society. While applauding the steps taken by Central government in taking bold decisions it was noted that there have been a remarkable shift in the way India was perceived and the world is acknowledging the political will and determination with which decisions are being taken by the Prime Minister. BJP National President Amit Shah while applauding the surgical strike said the BJP government is working on policy of zero-tolerance towards terrorism. He further said the demonetization has badly hit black money, fake currency, terror funding, Maoist extremism and drug dealers. Prime Minister in his concluding address while reiterating his commitment to change the quality of life for the poor urged the party activists to serve the poor as serving them amounts to serving the god. While acknowledging the huge support of the people even in the face of sufferings and pain in the wake of demonetization, the national executive has sent a right message to the people that their sacrifice will not go in vain.

BJP is getting massive support from the people in various elections which are taking place across the country. From the bye-elections of parliament and state assemblies in different states to local body elections in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Haryana, BJP has registered huge victories. If these

indications are taken into account, the coming assembly elections in UP, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Goa and Manipur may see BJP natural choice of the people. In Uttar Pradesh people are looking for an alternative and come out of the cycle of SP-BSP rule which has come to symbolize goondaism, corruption and backwardness blocking the progress of the state. In Uttarakhand people are fed up with the corruption and misrule of Harish Rawat government. In Goa people are eager to vote again the BJP government while SAD-BJP alliance in Punjab is set to make a comeback. In the wake the emergence of BJP in the northeastern states of Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur may spring a surprise this time with BJP gaining major ground in the state. BJP has today emerged as the only political party which is committed to good governance, development and political will to act decisively. While other political parties remain plunged in dynastic politics, appeasement and vote-bank calculations BJP is banking on politics of performance aimed at welfare of poor, tribals, Dalits, youth and women. The result is that it is getting massive support across the nation. ■

THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE DEMONETIZATION HAS NOT ONLY SILENCED ITS CRITIQUES BUT THE COUNTRY IS SET TO REAP UNPRECEDENTED BENEFITS FROM THIS COURAGEOUS DECISION OF THE PRIME MINISTER. THE IMMEDIATE IMPACT WAS VISIBLE IN THE FORM OF HUGE CASH DEPOSITS IN THE BANKS WHICH HAS ENABLED THEM TO LOWER INTEREST RATES.

## Inaugural address of the President

# Surgical strike and note ban are historical decisions: Amit Shah



Organised after three months of the last meeting in Kozhikode (Kerala), the two-day BJP National Executive meeting kicked off in the national capital New Delhi on 06 January, 2017. Former BJP National Presidents, party Chief Ministers, senior leaders and around 300 party executive members attended the meeting. Key Economic and Political resolutions were unanimously adopted by the members at the convention.

The meeting also recounted the party's win in Assam and the formation of its government in Arunachal Pradesh. The party also praised the armed forces and slammed Pakistan for unleashing terror in the country.

The party collectively said, "Terrorism is today seen by the democratic and civilized world as a scourge whereas Pakistan continues

to use it as state policy. It continues to push terrorists into India and other countries and engages in terror attacks and promotes violent insurgent and separatist movement in J&K".

"The surgical strikes ordered by the Prime Minister and total rejection of the separatist agenda by the people and governments of J&K and the Centre are a categorical assertion to Pakistan that its ulterior designs shall never succeed and the government led by PM Modi will continue to demonstrate zero tolerance for terrorism," the party national executive said.

**D**elivering the inaugural address, party National President Shri Amit Shah hailed demonetization and surgical strikes as historical decisions of the government.

Shri Amit Shah also praised PM Shri Narendra Modi for India's stance after the Uri attack. "Because of the leadership and will power of the Prime Minister, for the first time in independent India, we gave a fitting reply by entering the enemy's own home. This one decision changed the way the world looks at India," Shri Shah said.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPEECH

- ▶ Shri Amit Shah targeted the opposition parties for criticizing the demonetization saying they used to question earlier what the government has done against black money and now they are questioning the government. The opposition parties have now been exposed, he said.
- ▶ He said the outcomes of the demonetization are now



visible as it has badly hit the black money, fake currency, terror funding, Maoist activities and drug dealers.

- ▶ He said that the people of the country have hailed this historic decision saying that the note ban decision would result in more revenues that will be spent on pro-poor welfare measures.
- ▶ He said the surgical strikes carried out by the Army across the Line of Control (LoC) were recognized across the world and it reflects government's intention towards zero tolerance against terrorism.
- ▶ He expressed concern for doing politics by some opposition parties on surgical strikes.
- ▶ The BJP President appealed to all the political parties to think of holding general and assembly polls simultaneously. He said, the party has also constituted a committee to submit a report in this regard.
- ▶ To strengthen the party, Shri Shah also asked the party workers to do 'shram daan' in those areas where the party base is not strong. ■



# ‘Modi government will show zero tolerance for terrorism’

Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh presented the Political Resolution in the BJP National Executive meeting held in New Delhi on 06-07 January, 2017 and it was seconded by Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh.

The Political resolution of the party congratulated the PM for the transformative initiatives of the government that have ushered in a new light in the lives of the poor and the downtrodden while at the same time benefitting the rest of the country by setting the basics of the economy right.

It congratulates the armed forces and the prime Minister for the surgical strikes executed with utmost precision which have shown to the world that India is led by a government today that is committed to securing its borders and interests with determination and will power.

The resolution also expressed satisfaction for convincing victories, the BJP has registered in the elections by-elections and local body elections held in states like Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Chandigarh, Haryana and Arunachal Pradesh.

The Political resolution promises the countrymen a new year that would bring about more prosperity and progress in the country. We are publishing the full text of the Political Resolution for our esteemed readers:



## **T** RANSFORMATIVE GOVERNANCE – VALUE BASED POLITICS

The National Executive of the BJP conveys best wishes to the people of India and the world on the occasion of the New Year 2017. It promises the countrymen a new year that would bring about more prosperity and progress in the country.

The NE congratulates the PM and his colleagues in the Cabinet for the transformative initiatives of the government in the just concluded year of 2016 that have ushered in a new light in the lives of the poor and the downtrodden while at the same time benefitting the rest of the country by setting the basics of the economy right.

## **SURGICAL STRIKES – ZERO TOLERANCE TO TERRORISM**

The surgical strikes executed with utmost precision by our armed forces have shown to the world that India is led by a government today that is committed to securing its borders and interests with determination and will power.

The NE congratulates the Prime Minister and his other concerned ministerial colleagues for the bold decision of responding appropriately to the terror tactics of our recalcitrant neighbour. We salute our brave soldiers for valiantly fighting and laying down their lives to secure our borders and honour. That the strikes have had the required effect on our neighbour can be gauged from the fact that there is near normal silence on the Indo-Pak border in the last few weeks and also the initiative taken by Pakistan to call for DGMO level talks between the two countries.

India has always demonstrated its urge and desire for peaceful and friendly relations with all its neighbours including Pakistan. PM Modi's motto – 'Together We Grow' – envisions a combined and integrated future of all the Indian Ocean neighbours. It is in the interest of Pakistan and also the bilateral relations between our two countries that the Nawaz Sherif government takes concrete and credible steps to end terror factories on its soil and the clandestine support extended to them by Pakistan's official agencies like the ISI.

Terrorism is today seen by the democratic and civilised world as a scourge whereas Pakistan continues to use it as state policy. It continues to push terrorists into India and other countries in the world and engages in terror attacks and promotes violent insurgent and separatist movement in J&K. The surgical strikes ordered by the Prime Minister and the total rejection of the separatist agenda by the people and governments of J&K and the Centre are a categorical assertion to Pakistan that its ulterior designs shall never succeed and the government led by PM Modi will continue to demonstrate zero tolerance for terrorism; and it reserves every right to respond to such threats in an appropriate and out-of-the-box manner in future also.

### **ANTYODAYA**

We are celebrating the Birth Centenary of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay, the ideological mentor of the nationalist movement, this year. Inspired by his Antyodaya vision the Modi government has taken up countless initiatives for the welfare and wellbeing of the poor, downtrodden, farmers, daily wage earners, workers and senior citizens. Icing on the cake is the PM's New Year eve address in which he has offered several incentives for urban and rural poor, farmers, pregnant women, small and medium industries and senior citizens etc. These new incentives are going to not only benefit the poor and marginalised but also various other segments of the society by kick-starting the economy in a big way. Housing sector is going to get a major boost that will help grow jobs and industry.

We are here not merely for reform. Reform is good, but it is largely about tinkering the existing system. PM Modi's vision is transformative. All the above mentioned schemes and programs are intended to bring about a fundamental course correction and transformation at the grassroots. A new culture of honesty, discipline, commitment and patriotism is the end goal of these measures by our government. The NE lauds the PM's relentless efforts in leading from the front to usher in a new work culture and ethics where honesty is respected and rewarded and dishonest are shown the path of reform.

The just concluded year has seen Prime Minister's popularity soaring. He has been named as one of the top ten most popular leaders in the world by the prestigious Time magazine recently. The NE has no hesitation to conclude that the unmatched popularity of the Prime Minister is a reflection of the endorsement of the people of the country for his transformative policies and programs.

THE YEAR 2016 HAS BEEN A VERY SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE BJP AS A PARTY TOO. IN THE ELECTORAL ARENA, THE YEAR BEGAN WITH THE BJP ENTERING THE NORTH EAST WITH A BANG BY WINNING ASSAM ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS WITH TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY IN ALLIANCE WITH ITS PARTNERS. THE YEAR HAS ENDED ON ANOTHER HAPPY NOTE WITH 33 MLAS FROM THE PPA IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH, INCLUDING THE CHIEF MINISTER, OPTING TO JOIN THE BJP. THE NE WELCOMES THE NEW BJP CM PEMA KHANDU INTO THE BJP PARIVAR. ARUNACHAL PRADESH BECAME THE 10TH STATE RULED BY BJP AND THE 14TH RULED BY BJP ALLIANCE.

### **ELECTORAL VICTORIES**

The year 2016 has been a very successful year for the BJP as a party too. In the electoral arena, the year began with the BJP entering the North East with a bang by winning Assam Assembly elections with two-thirds majority in alliance with its partners. The year has ended on another happy note with 33 MLAs from the PPA in Arunachal Pradesh, including the Chief Minister, opting to join the BJP. The NE welcomes the new BJP CM Pema Khandu into the BJP Parivar. Arunachal Pradesh became the 10th state ruled by BJP and the 14th ruled by BJP alliance.

The BJP has registered convincing victories in the by-elections held to the Lok Sabha and different Vidhan Sabhas in states like Assam, Madhya Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh. Its showing in the Left-dominated Tripura, where it is slowly but surely emerging as the credible alternative to the Left Front pushing back parties like Congress and TMC, can't be overlooked. In Bengal too, the Party has weathered the brute politics of the ruling party and emerged as a strong runner up in recent by-polls.

The Party has registered thumping victory in the local body elections held in states like Maharashtra, Chattisgarh, Gujarat and Rajasthan. BJP's landslide victory in the Chandigarh Municipal Corporation elections needs special mention where it has almost swept the polls winning 21 out of 26 seats. It needs to be remembered that most of these elections were held after the announcement of demonetisation scheme by PM Modiji. It is not an overstatement to claim that the results are a vindication of the unqualified popular support to the demonetisation program.







Party has concluded training programs in most of the states and preparing to reach out to the people under the banner of Deendayal Upadhyay Birth Centenary celebrations.

## **ANTI-PEOPLE AND ANTI-DEMOCRACY OPPOSITION**

The NE takes this opportunity to strongly censure anti-people and anti-democracy acts and deeds of the Opposition parties. The behaviour of the parties led by the Congress Party in stalling the entire session of the Parliament betrays their scant respect for democratic institutions. Obstruction and obfuscation has become the hallmark of the Opposition politics in the country.

In states like Bengal normal functioning of the political activity has become difficult under the draconian TMC rule. Attacks on political workers of the BJP have increased in Bengal and Kerala. The recent attacks on BJP headquarters in Kolkata and scores of other places in Bengal point to the extreme and violent form of political intolerance practised by the ruling TMC. Dozens of Karyakartas were injured in these attacks. The red terror in Kerala continues to rob the lives of dedicated Karyakartas, the latest victim being Sri Radhakrishnan. It is a sad commentary on the bureaucracy and law and order machinery that they too seem to have become mute spectators while lawlessness and crime perpetrates.

Extreme appeasement politics of the governments in the states have led to sever communal tension and strife in these states. Government machinery has been misused to allow the perpetrators of communal violence go scot-free if not clandestinely support them. The failure of the TMC government in Bengal in safeguarding the majority law-abiding community is most glaring in the recent Dhulagarh riots where the rioters went about torching houses and shouting slogans like Pakistan Zindabad while the state police had looked the other way.

The NE bemoans the silence of the larger public institutions like media and intelligentsia over the Fascist oppression of fundamental political rights in these states. Their silence is baffling even when their own colleagues are being subjected to violation of their fundamental rights like free speech etc. The NE wishes remind the so-called

torchbearers of human rights and civil liberties that in such matters their silence tantamount to complicity only.

The NE expresses sympathy for the people affected by communal and political violence in these states. In its history of several decades the BJP has faced such political vandalism several times before and knows how to tackle it in a democratic manner. The NE warns that it would intensify democratic protest programs to awaken people to the misrule of the governments in Bengal and Kerala.

## **ELECTORAL REFORMS**

The NE extends its full support to PM's another path-breaking initiative in the electoral reforms arena by calling for simultaneous polls to central and state legislatures. The NE opines that such a move together with several other important reforms would pave way for cleaner and healthier electoral practises in the country. The NE calls for a wider debate on PM's call among the political parties, intelligentsia and the voters at large.

## **DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAY BIRTH CENTENARY AND OTHER EVENTS**

The NE calls upon the Party cadres to use the Centenary Celebrations of the ideological mentor Pt. Upadhyay to reach out to far and wide and carry his message of clean public life and Antyodaya. The NE also

appeals to the cadres to actively participate in the events associated with the 350thPrakashotsav of Shri Guru Gobind Singhji and Centenary of Sri Nanaji Deshmukh.

## **ELECTIONS TO STATES**

Five states will go to polls in the next couple of months. BJP is in power in Goa and Punjab out of these five states. In UP and Uttarakhand it had been a ruling party earlier. Manipur is the only state where our party has never been in power. The BJP views the forthcoming Assembly elections as an opportunity to retain or regain power in all the states including Manipur. People of the country are yearning to follow PM Modiji's development politics. The BJP appeals to the Karyakartas in the poll-bound states to work hard so that we can secure the mandate of the people and form governments in all the five states. ■

IN STATES LIKE BENGAL NORMAL FUNCTIONING OF THE POLITICAL ACTIVITY HAS BECOME DIFFICULT UNDER THE DRACONIAN TMC RULE. ATTACKS ON POLITICAL WORKERS OF THE BJP HAVE INCREASED IN BENGAL AND KERALA. THE RECENT ATTACKS ON BJP HEADQUARTERS IN KOLKATA AND SCORES OF OTHER PLACES IN BENGAL POINT TO THE EXTREME AND VIOLENT FORM OF POLITICAL INTOLERANCE PRACTISED BY THE RULING TMC.

# Demonetization a step towards establishment of economic inclusion, transparent governance and equitable society



Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley moved the Economic Resolution in the BJP National Executive meeting held in New Delhi on 06-07 January, 2017 and it was seconded by Union Minister of Steel, Mines, Labour and Employment Shri Narendra Singh Tomar.

The resolution of the party congratulates the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the Central Government on the historic decision of demonetization and its successful and credible implementation. It also expresses its gratitude to the 125 crore people of our country who have put their faith in PM Shri Narendra Modi and the Central

Government for its attack on corruption and black money. The National Executive also said that this fight is an important step in the re-making of an equitable and strong India.

The resolution expressed its trust that the Party workers in form of a campaign must take the digital economy, transparent governance, decisive leadership and dialogue with the common men to the people of this country. We are publishing the full text of the Economic Resolution for our esteemed readers:

**T**his National Executive of the Bhartiya Janta Party congratulates the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Central Government on the historic decision of demonetization and its successful and credible implementation. This National Executive expresses its gratitude to the 125 crore people of our country who have put their faith and trust in Shri Narendra Modi and the Central Government for its attack on corruption and black money. Their faith, patience and support has strengthened the determination of the Central Government to fight the parallel economy of black money and fake currency along with the evils of corruption and terrorism. The National Executive believes that this fight is an important step in the re-making of an equitable and strong India. This step of the Central Government has reaffirmed the belief that patriotism isn't just a political talk but it is the political will to take strong and decisive steps to favor the last man. Demonetization is an important step towards the establishment of economic inclusion,

transparent governance and equitable society in our country. It is the transfer of black money from the tax non-compliant to the poor and the weak. The National Executive congratulates the Central Government for fulfilling its promise of providing a cleaner and strategic economy for the Nation.

## A NEGATIVE OPPOSITION

In this sacred movement across the country, the common people were taking upon themselves the temporary suffering of standing in queues with full enthusiasm and positive energy, but the opposition had become negative with destructive energy to defame the Central Government and trying to destroy the positive environment of the Country. The Opposition had threadbare the decorum of the Country's Parliament by not allowing it to function for the whole winter session but their efforts didn't pay them any results because people of this Country had shown their trust and patience for the present Government







Some of the benefits for the poor as announced by the Prime Minister are worth recalling.

1) Rs 20,000 crores was added to the NABARD Fund to ensure cheap credit for the farmers. 2) loans taken by farmers for Rabi crop are exempted from interest for 60 days. 3) Three crore Kissan Credit Cards will now be upgraded to RuPay Debit cards. 4) Rural households under PM Awaas Yojana is increased by 33%. 5) Mudra allocations shall be doubled giving priority to Dalits, Tribals, BCs and Women. 6) Senior citizens shall get fixed interest of 8% for a period of 10 years. 7) Interest subvention for loans upto Rs 12 lakhs. 8) Rs 6000 to be transferred directly to pregnant women on institutional delivery. 9) Government will under-write loans given by NBFCs for SMEs, has also raised their credit limit from 20 to 25% of turnover.

and its leader's motives and initiatives. This is reflected in the fact that even after the 50 days of demonetization, there was not a single major incident in the country, there was no loss of public property and there was no loss of people's patience anywhere in the Country.

### **MOVING STEPS TOWARDS GOOD GOVERNANCE AGAINST THE BLACK MONEY**

This National Executive congratulates the Central Government led by Shri Narendra Modi that the decision of demonetization was taken with full-fledged

preparations and that the Government has come true to the expectations and trust of the people of our Country. This is reflected in the series of events including the decision of forming a SIT against Black Money in the very first Cabinet Meeting of this Government. Other steps were different laws and schemes which the Government has introduced and implemented from time

to time in last two and half years, like that of Income Declaration Scheme, Jan Dhan Scheme, Black Money Act, Bankruptcy Insolvency Law, DRT Amendment Law, Benami Property Act, etc. The Double Taxation Avoidance Treaties with Mauritius, Cyprus and Singapore which enabled the round tripping of Black Money were re-written. All these acts, schemes and initiatives are coordinated steps in the fight against the black money and corruption in the Country. The ADHAR Act has ensured that the poor of our country

will get their due share and it reaches to them directly. Similarly, demonetization was necessary for decimating the parallel economy of the black money and for the smooth functioning of the GST in near future. There is today more money with the banks to lend Interest rates have moved downwards. Black money has been deposited in the Banks. It has lost its anonymity. The informal Economy will now increasingly integrate with the formal economy. This will lead to higher revenues with the States and the Centre. It will lead to the bigger and the Cleaner GDP.

**THIS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BELIEVES THAT THE COUNTRY'S 107 CRORE MOBILE PHONE CONNECTIONS, 147 CRORE BANK ACCOUNTS INCLUDING 117 CRORE SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS AND 25 CRORE JAN DHAN ACCOUNTS, 35 CRORE SMART PHONES, MORE THAN 40 CRORE ADHAR LINKED ACCOUNTS AND MORE THAN 75 CRORE DEBIT CARDS MAKE IT AN 'ENABLED' SOCIETY FOR DIGITAL TRANSACTIONS.**

This National Executive believes that the Country's 107 crore mobile phone connections, 147 crore bank accounts including 117 crore savings bank accounts and 25 crore Jan Dhan accounts, 35 crore smart phones, more than 40 crore ADHAR linked accounts and more than 75 crore debit cards make it an 'enabled' society for digital transactions. The Central

Government has also promoted cashless transactions through UPI, USSD, AEPS and Rupay Card. All these steps of the Central Government are steps towards the corruption free India.

### **DIGITAL ECONOMY – POWER OF THE NEW INDIA**

This Government has ended any role of and kind of middlemen from its beneficiary schemes like MNREGA, financial assistance to poor students, subsidies to marginal sections including SC/ST/OBC through digital

transactions and Direct Benefit Transfers. This is a matter of great satisfaction for this National Executive of the BhartiyaJanta Party. The BJP firmly believes that digital economy will stop the leakage of taxes. It also believes that the acts like Industrial Disputes Act, Minimum Wages Act, Payment of Bonus Act, Factory Act, Contract Labor Act will ensure justice for the poorer sections of our society. The Amendment in Payment of Wages Act brought in the Central Government is one of the most important steps towards the welfare of the labor and workers of this Country.

This decision of demonetization has strengthened the honest middle class taxpayers, small traders, professionals and other such people who were bearing the brunt of corruption and black money in day-to-day life. The BHIM app launched by our Prime Minister in the beginning of New Year will be an important tool in this movement towards the social, economic and political justice ensured by the Constitution of India made by Dr. Baba Sahab Ambedkar.

### **HONBLE PRIME MINISTER'S PROMISE TO THE COUNTRY**

On the 8th of November 2016, our Prime Minister Shri NarendraModi ensured honor to the honest people of the country and on the 31st December 2016 he provided a new energy and faith to the youth, women, small businessmen, senior citizen and farmer of this country. At the end of the 50 days, the PM announced that the withdrawal limits in banks was enhanced to Rs 4500 from Rs 2000. Some

of the benefits for the poor as announced by the Prime Minister are worth recalling. 1) Rs 20,000 crores was added to the NABARD Fund to ensure cheap credit for the farmers. 2) loans taken by farmers for Rabi crop are exempted from interest for 60 days. 3) Three crore Kissan Credit Cards will now be upgraded to RuPay Debit cards. 4) Rural households under PM Awaas Yojana is increased by 33%. 5) Mudra allocations shall be doubled giving priority to Dalits, Tribals, BCs and Women. 6) Senior citizens shall get fixed interest of 8% for a period of 10 years. 7) Interest subvention for loans upto Rs 12 lakhs. 8) Rs 6000 to be transferred directly to pregnant women on institutional delivery. 9) Government will under-write loans given by NBFCs for SMEs, has also raised their

credit limit from 20 to 25% of turnover.

Prime Minister's appeal to all political parties about election expenditures is a revolutionary step as the political parties' freedom from black money and corruption is essential for the making of the India of our Future. This National Executive welcomes the statement of our Prime Minister to create a positive consensus in the country to simultaneously hold the general elections and the State assembly elections across the Country.

### **CHANGING INDIA – GROWING INDIA**

Growth in the size of the economy of our Country has now become necessary. Demonetization has brought back the money that was lying idle outside the purview of the Government. This National Executive welcomes the Central Government's firm and tough fight against the corrupt and cunning in the system. To distribute the benefits of growth and development to all equitably, the Country needs honest and transparent business. The BJP believes that the effective implementation of the policies of demonetization and digital economy will successfully lead us towards a developed India.

This year 2017 is the birth centenary year of proponent of our nationalist thoughts, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya. The Party welcome that the steps taken towards the betterment of the poor are in accordance with the philosophy of Integral Humanism. The BJP believes that the trust the people of this country have shown in the firm decisions taken by our Prime Minister

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Shri NarendraModi and their implementation by the Central Government should be complemented by a campaign to establish a dialogue with the people of our Country. The Party workers in form of a campaign should take digital economy, transparent governance, decisive leadership and dialogue with the common men to the people of this country. Integral humanism teaches that everyone in our society should be able to take decisions that are good for everyone.

These decisions of our Central Government are paving the way towards the making of a Modern India where modern technique, transparent governance and equitable society will be fulfilling the aim of 'sabka saath – sabka vikas'. ■



## Concluding address of PM

# I wish nothing but to lift poor's life: Narendra Modi



**A**ddressing the concluding session of the two-day National Executive meeting of the Bhartiya Janta Party on 07 January, 2017 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi commended the Karyakartas for the party's gains in 2016 and urged them to gear up for the forthcoming Assembly elections in five states. The Prime Minister in his address further said;

### HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Our commitment is to change quality of life of the poor.
- ▶ Demonetization is part of long term measures against corruption and black money.
- ▶ Shri Modi rallied the party workers to use their organizational strength to win over the poor and said that “serving the people amounts to serving God”.
- ▶ Shri Modi said, “His dispensation was not there merely for “changing or improving life styles” but was rather authentically focused on improving the quality of lives of poor in the country”.
- ▶ PM said that we need to make our political process more transparent.
- ▶ The Prime Minister called for transparency in political funding.
- ▶ Shri Modi said as the culture of transparency is emerging in the country, there is also a need for “transparency in political funding” towards which “the BJP will play an important role”.
- ▶ He categorically maintained that only the right and deserving candidates will be given the tickets to contest the upcoming elections and said pressurizing on this issue is wrong.
- ▶ “PM saluted inner strength of poor who responded to his appeal, inspite of some difficulties”.
- ▶ Shri Modi said, “For his party poor were not a medium to win elections and not a mere vote bank”.
- ▶ Appreciating the poor for accepting all the programmes initiated by his Government since 2014, he said, “I know the aspirations of the poor since I myself was born in a poor family”.
- ▶ He added that poor people want basic amenities in their lives and their happiness when a lamp post is set up outside their homes will far outshine the happiness of those elated over a good feast.
- ▶ He added criticism is welcome from any quarters and asked partymen not to be unnerved by such talks as our honesty would lead us forward on our way.
- ▶ BJP workers are not carried away by the trend but they create the trend, he said.
- ▶ Shri Modi said Assembly polls will go in the BJP's favour and the party workers should concentrate at booth-level monitoring.
- ▶ The executive members of the party at the meet including the Party National President Shri Amit Shah lauded the Prime Minister for his extraordinary move on demonetization and cross-border surgical strikes against Pakistani terrorists. ■

# People of India are Government's only high command: Narendra Modi

Some people are saying this election will end BJP's Vanvas in Uttar Pradesh. We do not see it through that prism. It is not about BJP but about UP. It has not been Vanvas of BJP but the Vanvas of development in UP and I see that changing very soon.



**A**ddressing one of the biggest rallies of the country on 02 January, 2017 in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that seeing enthusiasm of the people, it is clear that which party will form the next Government in the upcoming elections. He urged the people of the state to vote for development.

The Prime Minister remarked that it is time to transform Uttar Pradesh. "Some people are saying this election will end BJP's Vanvas in Uttar Pradesh. We do not see it through that prism. It is not about BJP but about UP. It has not been Vanvas of BJP but the Vanvas of development in UP and I see that changing very soon", Shri Modi said.

Shri Modi said that NDA Government's objective

is to transform India, but the first precondition is to transform Uttar Pradesh. "Our agenda is development of Uttar Pradesh but sadly, development doesn't seem to be a priority for the rulers in the state."

Launching a scathing attack on BSP and SP, Shri Modi said, "When have you seen SP & BSP talking in one voice? It's rare to happen but on our decision to end corruption they are speaking in one voice. They say remove Modi, I say remove black money, they say remove Modi, I say remove corruption.

People must decide what they want to remove."

Shri Modi stated, "There is one party with minimal presence in UP, that is trying for 15 years to establish their leader but with little success. There is another party trying to save money and there is one more

THEY SAY REMOVE MODI, I  
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party trying to save their own family. There is only the BJP, whose aim is to save Uttar Pradesh.” The Prime Minister said even during the time of BJP rule Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri Kalyan Singh contributed immensely for the development of the state.

The Prime Minister said that people of India are the Government’s only high command and it is because of their blessings the Centre is undertaking steps to eradicate black money and corruption. “Our fight against corruption and black money will not stop. The middle class and the poor cannot be exploited any further”, Shri Modi added further.

### **PM NARENDRA MODI WILL BRING JOBS IN UTTAR PRADESH, SAYS AMIT SHAH**

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah lashed out at the ruling Samajwadi Party dispensation, Yadav family and Mayawati-led BSP, saying, “Uncle, nephew and aunt cannot develop” Uttar Pradesh. Addressing a ‘Parivartan rally’ in Lucknow, he said, “Whether uncle becomes the CM or nephew is not the matter, what matters is whether the youth are getting jobs.”

Launching a scathing attack at Mulayam Singh Yadav, state Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav and Shivpal Yadav over the ongoing feud, Shri Shah said, “Uncle, nephew have been fighting over commission and have forgotten the poor.”

Terming the dramatic turn of event within SP as ‘drama’, he cautioned the people saying “this was just to divert your attention.” Urging people to vote for BJP in the upcoming assembly polls, Shri Shah said, “Enough of SP, BSP rule in Uttar Pradesh, request you to give BJP a chance.” “Modi ji became PM with the blessings of people from UP, he wants to develop UP. There was to be a BJP government in Uttar Pradesh for the development of the state,” he said.

Reaching out to the poor of Uttar Pradesh, the BJP president said, “PM has given UP every year over Rs 1 lakh crore but there has been no development.” Targeting opposition for leveling corruption charges on PM Modi, Shri Shah said, “Opposition has not been able to raise a finger at us on corruption.” “SP fears that if PM Modi’s development plan reaches the poor then his popularity will surge,” Shri Shah said.

The BJP President welcomed the lowering of base interest rates by top public sector banks in the country and said the money deposited with them following demonetization would boost Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s pro-poor welfare campaign. He said the lower rates would boost growth, especially in the Micro, Small and Medium enterprise (MSME) sector,

## **Highlights**

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- ▶ When have you seen SP & BSP talking in one voice? It’s rare to happen but on our decision to end corruption they are speaking in one voice
- ▶ They say remove Modi, I say remove black money, they say remove Modi, I say remove corruption. People must decide what they want to remove.
- ▶ The Prime Minister said even during the time of BJP rule Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Shri Kalyan Singh contributed immensely for the development of UP.
- ▶ Our fight against corruption and black money will not stop.
- ▶ Uncle, nephew and aunt cannot develop Uttar Pradesh.
- ▶ Uncle, nephew have been fighting over commission and have forgotten the poor.



and create employment.

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked banks to priorities their lending towards the poor and middle class, top PSU lenders State Bank, PNB and Union Bank slashed their benchmark lending rates by up to 90 basis points. “I hail Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s appeal to the banks to go above and beyond their traditional priorities and give importance to the needs of the poor, the lower and the middle classes. I also welcome the SBI’s decision to lower its benchmark interest rate by 0.9 per cent.

Among others Union Ministers Shri Rajnath Singh, Ms. Uma Bharti, Smt. Maneka Gandhi, UP BJP President Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya and other BJP leaders were present during the event. ■ (FOC)

# BJP continues winning spree in Civic Body polls in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana and Maharashtra

## CHHATTISGARH

**F**ollowing BJP's recent victories in civic body polls in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Chandigarh, the BJP in Chhattisgarh maintained the party's winning streak capturing the mayoral post both in Bhilai-Charoda Municipal Corporation and Sarangarh Municipality. Fifty days after the demonetization, the win on 30 December, 2016 at the Bhilai-Charoda and Sarangarh Municipal Elections came as a boost for ruling BJP and Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh in Chhattisgarh. The votes for the local body elections were cast on December 27.

Smt. Chandrakanta Mandle of BJP won the mayoral seat in Bhilai-Charoda defeating the Congress candidate Jyoti Banjare by a margin of over 4,000 votes. Similarly, Shri Amit Agrawal of BJP defeated Suraj Tiwari of Congress by 1,096 votes to win the Sarangarh mayor post.

"BJP's win in Bhilai-Charoda and Sarangarh civic elections is yet another public endorsement of PM Shri Narendra Modi's demonetization drive," Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh tweeted after the results were declared.

## GUJARAT

The Gujarat State Election Commission (GSEC) began counting of votes for nearly 9,000 gram panchayats on 29 December, 2016. Gram panchayat elections are not fought on party symbols in Gujarat, but as per media reports BJP supported candidates won majority of the seats. Official BJP sources said that more than 80 per cent winners were devoted to BJP party. BJP also announced conventions for elected Sarpanches at different places across the state.

Gujarat BJP President Shri Jitu Vaghani said that more than 80 per cent winners from among the declared results were devoted to BJP. He added that the number of winning BJP candidates in the gram panchayat elections was a reflection of people's support to the Prime Minister's decision of 'NoteBandi'.

## HARYANA

Ahead of assembly elections in five states and in the wake of demonetization, Bharatiya Janata Party has managed to garner another victory in Civic body elections of Haryana on 09 January, 2017. BJP recorded a landslide victory in the Faridabad Municipal elections, winning 30 seats out of 40 and also marked its victory in Bhiwani Municipal Elections in which the party had won 22 seats out of 31 seats.

## VICTORY IN LOCAL POLLS SHOWS SUPPORT FOR NOTE BAN: AMIT SHAH

On the victory of BJP in Civic body elections in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana and Maharashtra, party President Shri Amit Shah said that the party's win in recent



local polls in several states, including Chhattisgarh, Haryana and Gujarat, reflected people's "stamp of approval" of the government's bold move. "It is clear with results in local elections that people are with the Modi government in this fight against black money and corruption while the opposition is only doing negative politics," Shri Shah said.

Haryana Cabinet Minister Captain Abhimanyu tweeted, "After Chandigarh now, BJP turned victorious in Faridabad and Bhiwani shows that the decision of demonetization of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been warmly welcomed by the people".

Apart from BJP, independent candidates marked their victory on 10 wards seat while Congress was unable to open its account.

## MAHARASHTRA

Bharatiya Janata Party on 09 January, 2017 emerged as the biggest gainer in the fourth and last phase of Maharashtra Municipal Council elections 2017. Of the 244 seats, the BJP bagged 100 seats in the last phase of Nagar Parishad polls, securing seven posts of Municipal Council President. The BJP won total 1190 seats and 71 municipal council president posts, retaining overall top position after the four phases of local body elections in Maharashtra.

In this fourth phase Congress bagged 58 seats, NCP won 26 seats and Shiv Sena won 14 seats. It did not win a single council president seat in the last phase.

Maharashtra BJP president Shri Raosaheb Danve thanked the people for "historic victory" of the party in the civic polls, and said it was an endorsement of the decision of demonetization. ■ (FOC)

# Indians with firm resolve faced difficulties, re-defining the concept of sacrifice



We have, during the external aggressions, of 1962, 1965, 1971 and Kargil; witnessed the intrinsic strength of our citizens. Such collective energy and patriotism is understandable, in the face of external threats. However, when crores of Indians unite to fight a war against internal evils, it is unparalleled.

**P** rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that People were forced by circumstances, in defiance of their inherent goodness.

Addressing the Nation on the eve of New Year 2017 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said “People feel suffocated in a bad environment, and struggle to come out of it. Corruption, black money, and counterfeit notes had become so rampant in India’s social fabric, that even honest people were brought to their knees.

“People were forced by circumstances, in defiance of their inherent goodness. It seemed at times, that

the evils and corruptions of society, knowingly or unknowingly, intentionally or unintentionally, had become a part of our daily lives. Developments post-Diwali have shown, that crores of Indians were looking for an escape from this suffocation.”

“We have, during the external aggressions, of 1962, 1965, 1971 and Kargil; witnessed the intrinsic strength of our citizens. Such collective energy and patriotism is understandable, in the face of external threats. However, when crores of Indians unite to fight a war against internal evils, it is unparalleled.”

Indians have, with firm resolve and infinite



patience, faced difficulties with a smile, re-defining the concept of sacrifice. We have lived these ideals. 125 crore Indians have shown, in their fortitude, the importance we place in truth and goodness. This has been written on the sands of time.

Indians have displayed the strength of people power, utmost discipline, and the ability to discern the truth in a storm of disinformation. They have shown that resolute honesty, can defeat dishonesty.

They have shown how much, even people trapped in poverty, are willing to do, to build a glorious India. The people, through persistence, sweat and toil, have demonstrated to the world, an unparalleled example of citizen sacrifice, for the brighter future of a nation.

Usually, when people's movements have arisen, the people and the government have been at loggerheads.

It is historic, that both the people and the government are on the same side in this battle against evil. The Government is well aware, that in this period, you had to queue up, and face difficulty in withdrawing your own money.

He added, My effort is to take the banking system to normalcy as fast as possible in the new year. I have asked all concerned officers in the Government to focus their attention to this task. They have especially been told to proactively resolve the problems in rural and remote areas.

"I am sure, if great sons of India like Jayaprakash Narayan, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Ram Manohar Lohia, and Kamaraj had been present today, they would have applauded the patience, discipline and resolve of our countrymen."

He said "I wish to share some information with you, which will either make you laugh, or make you angry. According to information with the Government, there are only 24 lakh people in India who accept that their annual income is more than 10 lakh rupees. Can we digest this? Look at the big bungalows and big cars around you."

"In this fight against corruption and black money, it is natural to debate the fate of the dishonest. What punishment will they get? The Law will take its own course, with its full force. But the priority of the Government now is how to help the honest, protect them, and ease their difficulty."

Shri Modi said "It is accepted the world over, that terrorism, Naxalism, Maoism, counterfeit currency trade, drug trade, human trafficking – all of these depend on black money. These evils have become a festering sore on society and Governments. Demonetisation has dealt a severe blow to these trades.

He added "Amid this herculean effort, some grave crimes by some officers in some banks have come to light. Some Government officers have

also committed serious offences, and tried to take advantage of the situation. They will not be spared."

He appealed the banks for moving beyond their traditional priorities, and keep the poor, the lower middle class, and the middle class at the focus of their activities. India is celebrating the centenary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay as Garib Kalyan Varsh. Banks should also not let this opportunity slip. They should take

appropriate decisions in public interest promptly.

"Even so many years after independence, millions of poor do not have their own home. When black money increased in our economy, houses became out of reach of even the middle class. The Government has taken some major decisions to ensure homes for the poor, the neo middle class and the middle class."

"Two new middle income categories have been created under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana in urban areas. Loans of up to 9 lakh rupees taken in 2017, will receive interest subvention of 4 per cent. Loans of up to 12 lakh rupees taken in 2017, will receive interest subvention of 3 per cent."

He said "The number of houses being built for

**ACCORDING TO INFORMATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT, THERE ARE ONLY 24 LAKH PEOPLE IN INDIA WHO ACCEPT THAT THEIR ANNUAL INCOME IS MORE THAN 10 LAKH RUPEES. CAN WE DIGEST THIS? LOOK AT THE BIG BUNGALOWS AND BIG CARS AROUND YOU." "IN THIS FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION AND BLACK MONEY, IT IS NATURAL TO DEBATE THE FATE OF THE DISHONEST. WHAT PUNISHMENT WILL THEY GET? THE LAW WILL TAKE ITS OWN COURSE, WITH ITS FULL FORCE. BUT THE PRIORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT NOW IS HOW TO HELP THE HONEST, PROTECT THEM, AND EASE THEIR DIFFICULTY."**



the poor, under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana in rural areas, is being increased by 33 per cent. In addition to this, another scheme is being put in place for the neo middle and middle class in rural areas. Loans of up to 2 lakh rupees taken in 2017, for new housing, or extension of housing in rural areas, will receive an interest subvention of 3 per cent.

He said “Farmers themselves have given a fitting reply to those who were doing so. Rabi sowing is up by 6 per cent compared to last year. Fertilizer offtake is up by 9 per cent. During this period, the Government has taken care to ensure that farmers do not suffer for want of access to seeds, fertilisers and credit. Now, we have taken some more decisions in the interest of farmers.”

“Farmers who have taken loans for the Rabi crop from District Cooperative Central Banks and Primary Societies, will not have to pay interest on such loans for a period of 60 days. Farmers who have paid interest during the last two months, will receive these amounts back, directly into their bank accounts.”

Arrangements are being made to provide farmers even better access to loans from cooperative banks and societies. NABARD created a fund of 21,000 crore rupees last month. Now, Government is adding 20,000 crore rupees more to this. The loss that NABARD suffers by giving loans to cooperative banks and societies at low interest rates, shall be borne by the Government of India.

The Government has decided, that 3 crore farmers who have Kisan Credit Cards, will be given RuPay debit cards within three months. Kisan Credit Cards were launched in 1998, but so far, it was essential to go to a bank, to use them. Now, farmers will have RuPay Debit Cards, which they can use anywhere.

For MSME sector, Government of India underwrites loans given by banks to small businesses through a trust. So far, loans were covered upto one crore rupees. This limit is now being enhanced to 2 crore rupees. Earlier the scheme only covered bank loans. Hereafter it will cover loans given by NBFCs

as well. This decision will enable better access to credit for small shop-owners and small enterprises. Banks and NBFCs will not levy high interest on these loans, as Government of India is bearing the cost of underwriting them.

Government has also asked banks to raise the credit limit for small industry from 20 per cent of turnover to 25 per cent.

Banks have also been asked to increase working capital loans from 20 per cent of turnover to 30 per cent, for enterprises that transact digitally.

A few days back, Government announced a major tax relief for small businesses. Income of businesses with turnover of up to Rs 2 crores was calculated at 8% of the turnover. Now, for such businesses income from digital transactions will be calculated at 6%. This will effectively reduce their tax liability by 25%.

**“WE ARE INTRODUCING A NATION-WIDE SCHEME FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PREGNANT WOMEN. 6000 RUPEES WILL BE TRANSFERRED DIRECTLY TO THE BANK ACCOUNTS OF PREGNANT WOMEN WHO UNDERGO INSTITUTIONAL DELIVERY AND VACCINATE THEIR CHILDREN. THIS SCHEME WILL HELP REDUCE THE MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE, IN A BIG WAY. SO FAR, PREGNANT WOMEN IN 53 DISTRICTS WERE BEING GIVEN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF 4000 RUPEES, UNDER A PILOT PROJECT.”**

The progress of the MUDRA Yojana has been very encouraging. Last year, nearly 3 and a half crore people have benefited from this. The Government now aims to double this, giving priority to Dalits, Tribals, Backward Classes and Women. A new scheme is being launched for pregnant women.

“We are introducing a nation-wide scheme for financial assistance to pregnant women. 6000 rupees will be transferred directly to the bank accounts of pregnant women who undergo institutional delivery and vaccinate their children. This scheme will help reduce the maternal mortality rate, in a big way. So far, pregnant women in 53 districts were being given financial assistance of 4000 rupees, under a pilot project.”

As a nation, India’s villages, poor, farmers, youth, educated and uneducated men and women, have all displayed infinite patience and people power. In a short time, the new year of 2017 will begin. Exactly 100 years ago, in 1917, Mahatma Gandhi initiated a Satyagraha in Champaran. Now, a century later, we witness that the people of India continue to share that feeling towards truth and goodness. ■

# The Rationale of Jana Sangh

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya

**T**hey country is passing through critical times. There is no sphere of our national life, and no section of the society, which is not faced with problems unsurpassed in magnitude and unthought-of of in kind. The first flush of freedom has long since ended. Hopes raised through out our long struggle for independence have been belied. There is disillusionment all round. But it has not created a sense of realism, or a determination to take up the challenge. Instead there has grown a feeling of frustration, a sense of cynicism they pursue, and in the principles they propagate. The problem today is to re-establish this faith. It is more important than the problem of Chinese aggression or of economic reconstruction. Without it we cannot solve either the one or the other. In needs some bold thinking and revolutionary steps?

## CHANGE HAS TO BE IDEOLOGICAL

The present all-round degradation is not accidental. It is the culmination of a series of acts and policies followed by the Congress leadership. The people got the greatest shock of their life when the country was partitioned. The iconoclast succeeded in breaking the idol of Bharatmata, and we simply acquiesced. It demolished the basis of our nationalism, viz intense love for the motherland. India's independence was nothing more than transfer of political power. It had no idealistic base to inspire the people—or even those who assumed power to selfless service and greater sacrifice. Not only the nitty and integrity of Bharat was destroyed, but everything associated with our age-old culture and tradition was looked down upon. Instead the Government tried to put before the nation ideals of secularism and socialism. These, however, have remained empty slogans. They have not enthused the people. Instead, they have created a vague tendency resulting not a sacrifice, austerity and service, but in self aggrandisement, indolence and indulgence; not in greater assimilation and emotional integration, but in communalism, casteism, regionalism and disruption.

The whole thing cannot be readied simply by institutional changes. Shri Jayaprakash Naryan and other Sarvodaya leaders have suggested some such changes. There are other who have advocated formation of a national coalition at the Centre to give an

appearance of national unity. Community Development schemes have been there and have failed to vitalize the masses. Decentralisation Acts are being passed with a view to give more powers to the people so that it may develop initiative in them. But the aim is no likely to be realised. It is simply decentralizing corruption and groupism. The change has to be basic ideological.

## DR. SAMPURNANAD'S WISE ANALYSIS

Dr. Sampurnanad in his note to the Congress Party Seminar on planning, made a reference to this fact when he wrote, "The other day the Working Committee passed resolution about Tibet. In that resolution it made a reference to certain things which have come down to us from time immemorial and have become part of our consciousness, this reference was heartening. I feel that if we addressed our appeal to the nation on the lines of those things which are fundamental components, on which our whole attitude towards life is based, we would...meet with success. People would get the inspiration that they need. They should see before them something that is worth living for, striving for and, if necessary—dying for." It is 'Dharma' in the common language of the people. Unless 'Dharma' forms the basis of all our activities, social or individual, it is not possible to sublimate the base nature of man, or to strike a balance between the needs of the society and the aspirations of the individual.

Bharatiya Jana Sangh was born out of this realisation that the party in power, or even others in the opposition, had completely neglected this fundamental basis of Bharat's life and culture. In their attempt to modernize the country, they were trying to devitalize it by changing its age-old values. If they posed as reformers, they were only deluding the people, and themselves, Dayanand and Gandhiji were great reformers, they brooked no social evil, but they never decried Dharma or minimised its importance. On the contrary they appealed in the name of Dharma, and they succeeded.

To Jana Sangh, indivisibility of the country, oneness of its people, and unity of their culture, is fundamental concepts of our Rashtra Dharma. It was on this basis that the whole country fought the Britishers unitedly. This unity permeates our whole history, life and literature inspite of outward diversities. It is because of





this faith that Jana Sangh opposed the idea of plebiscite in Kashmir, or discrimination between the people there and in the rest of the country in their rights of franchise and justice. In keeping with our traditional outlook of tolerance and respect for all religions we stand for full freedom to every citizen in the matter of worship and faith, but we consider it unnational to differentiate in politics on the basis of anybody's religious persuasion. We do not recognise minorities based on religion, in the sphere of politics. We would like Christians and Muslims to give up their separatism and be integral parts of the Nation. Their insistence on right of minorities in matters of services, language, ministerial appointments, elections, etc. are a negation of the one-nation theory. Congress, by trying to champion their misconceived cause, is only obstructing the process of national integration, to suit its party ends.

### **DHARMA IS THE KEY**

In order that every individual may lead his life in accordance with 'Swadharma', it is essential that he should be provided with gainful employment. Full employment, therefore, should be the basis of all economic planning. It means that we cannot import foreign patterns of industrialization. We should evolve our own technology to suit our factor-availability. Small-scale industries, mechanised and power-driven, will suit us most. Almost all consumer goods can be produced by them. Producer goods should be manufactured by large scale concerns.

Socialism and capitalism are both foreign concepts. Jana Sangh rejects both. It is only when we take to large-scale enterprises that theist ideological questions assume some importance. It, however, our industrial structure is broad-based on a decentralized family, self-employed or on small co-operative pattern, it will not materially affect social relationship, if most of the other industries are left to individual enterprise under state regulation and supervision. The State should of course step into such field as are not likely to be explored by individuals or should not, in the interest of security, be handed over to them. Family has been in India the primary and most important unit of society. If it can be made a unit of production, and not only unit of consumption, its place can be restored. With well-organised family, it will not be difficult to inculcate other values of Bharatiya culture, the individual merging his self in the family, can, without destroying his individuality, sublimate himself into a social constituent.

I need not go into the details of the Jana Sangh programme. Its opposition to cooperative farming, to

planning in a totalitarian manner—without taking into consideration the realities of the situation, the resources available and needs of the nation—are well known. Its opposition to a policy of appeasement towards Pakistan and not towards China, even at the cost of national honour and integrity needs no reiteration. What we need today is to reaffirm faith in the principles that people have kept before them throughout the ages. Nothing but these ideals can catch the imagination of the people. Secondly, the people should develop a faith in the party. Emergence of new parties, by defection or amalgamation, may be hailed by some, but it confuses the masses, especially when the top leaders of these parties can hardly give cogent reasons for their new step. It is not polarisation. Alliances at the top hardly broaden the base. All party fronts or national coalitions will only lead to greater chaos in the political field, will not educate the people, and will thus harm the cause of democracy.

Besides principles, policies and programmes, the personal of the party also matters to the people. More than the Congress policies and programmes, it is the behaviours of the individual Congressman that has discredited the organisation. The people have, to utter disgust, discovered that the gods they worshipped are tin gods with feet of clay. They have lost faith in political workers. Jana Sangh has to re-establish this faith. Idealism and steadfast devotion of our workers to their cause can do this miracle. Acts of apostasy though rare and ineffective as far as the organisational strength is concerned, greatly diminish people's confidence in the organisation. While, therefore, recognising the need of increasing its numerical strength, Jana Sangh emphasises more on qualitative aspect of its cadre. Discipline in the party will lead to discipline in the nation.

The problems before the nation may be great and many, the danger imminent and grave, but there is no short cut to tide over them. It may be possible to achieve some electoral victories by political alliances and adjustments. Congress may be replaced in some provinces, or even at the centre. But that will not lead to better results unless the new comers can place before the people principles and programmes in line with the national ethos and inspire them by their example of service and sacrifice. Jana Sangh intends to combat the present situation in this positive manner, and from the support that it is getting from the people, it should not be surprising if its seemingly long cut may turn out to be the shortest cut possible. ■

(The article was published in *The Organiser* on 23 January, 1960)

# SUNDERLAL PATWA no more

**S**enior BJP leader and former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Sunderlal Patwa is no more. He passed away on 28 December, 2016 after a brief illness. The 92-year-old, a former Union Minister, suffered a heart attack in the morning of the day. He was declared dead when he was rushed to the hospital in Bhopal. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi rushed to Bhopal to pay tribute to the departed soul. In his tweet BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said “My heartfelt condolences on the demise of senior party leader & former CM of Madhya Pradesh Sh Sunder Lal Patwa ji.”



On his death The Madhya Pradesh government announced a three-day State mourning.

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and several leaders paid tribute to the departed leader.

In a tweet, Shri Chouhan recalled Shri Patwa's lifelong contribution for the development of Madhya Pradesh and said his death is an irreparable loss to the

state.

Shri Patwa's last rites were held at Kukdeshwar town, the native place of the departed leader in Neemuch district of the state.

He was Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh twice, from 20 January, 1980 to 17 February, 1980 as member of Janata Party and from 5 March, 1990 to 15 December, 1992 as leader of Bharatiya Janata Party. He began his political career with Jana Sangh which merged with Janata Party in 1977. Later members

owing allegiance to Jana Sangh formed Bharatiya Janata Party in 1980.

Shri Patwa was first elected to Lok Sabha via bye-poll in Chhindwara in 1997 by defeating Congress strongman Kamal Nath in his home turf. He lost from Chhindwara in 1998 General Election.

In 1999, he was elected to the Lok Sabha from Hoshangabad constituency, and was minister in Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government from 1999 to 2001. As a legislator, he was known as strict disciplinarian.

He was associated with Indore Rajya Praja Mandal since 1941, R.S.S. since 1942 and R.S.S. Vistarak, 1947-51. He was imprisoned for seven months for participating in R.S.S. movement in 1948 and was an active member of Jana Sangh since 1951, Chairman of District Cooperative Bank, Director, State Cooperative Bank and State Cooperative Marketing Sangh and Treasurer, Jana Sangh from 1967-74. He was detained under M.I.S.A. during Emergency from June 1975 to January 1977. He was awarded the “Vidhan Gaurav” in the All India Conference of Presiding Officers, 1989. His wife had died a few years ago and they had no children. He is survived by a full fledged joint family of 4 brothers and their sons and daughters. His mortal remains were cremated at his home village Kukdeshwar in the presence of several veteran BJP leaders and the public who had gathered to pay last tributes to their departed leader. ■

 @narendramodi

**Saddened on the passing away of Shri Sunder Lal Patwa. He was a hardworking & dedicated leader whose good work as MP CM will be remembered.**

 @AmitShah

**Patwa ji held various responsibilities from Jansangh to BJP, his hard work and dedication will continue to inspire our karyakartas.**

# Country cannot forget Atalji's contributions: PM Modi

**O**n December 25 Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Nation in his monthly radio programme. In the programme he said that the country can not forget former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's contribution to the nation. He also extended Christmas greetings to the nation and paid tribute to Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya on his Jayanti. Here, we are giving highlights of his address for our esteemed readers:

▶ Jesus had said - "The poor do not need our favours but our acceptance with affection." In the Gospel According to Saint Luke, it is written that - "Jesus not only served the poor but also praised the service done by the poor," and this is what real empowerment is.

▶ Today, 25th December, is also the birth anniversary of Mahamana Madan Mohan Malviyaji, who kindled resolve and self confidence in the psyche of the Indian people. My most sincere and heartfelt tributes to Malviyaji on his birth anniversary.

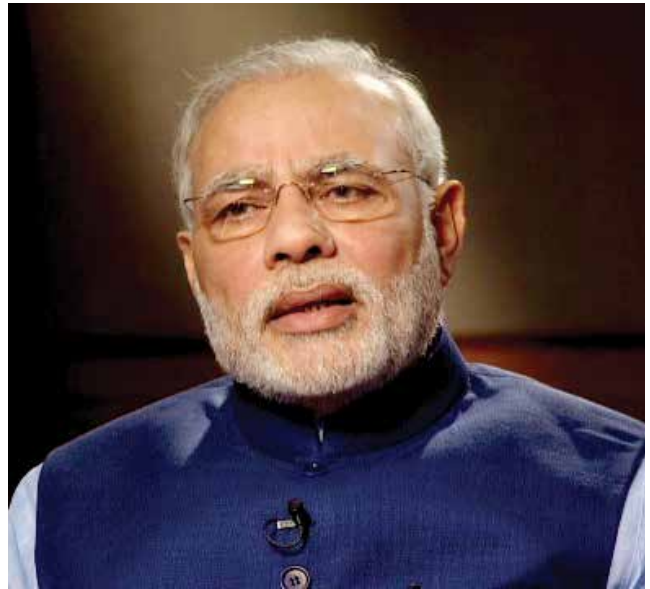
▶ Today is also the birthday of Bharat Ratna and former Prime Minister Venerable Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji. This country can never forget Atalji's contributions. Under his leadership, the country proudly grew in stature in the field of nuclear power also.

▶ Today, on Christmas Day, as a gift the countrymen are going to get the benefit of two schemes. In a way it is the beginning of two new schemes. Throughout the entire country, be it villages or towns, the educated or the illiterate, there is an atmosphere of curiosity as to what is cashless, how cashless business can take place, how can one make purchases without using cash! Everybody wants to understand and learn from each other.

▶ 'Digi Dhan Vyapar Yojana' is mainly for traders and businessmen. Traders should adopt this scheme themselves and should encourage their customers too in order to make their business cashless.

▶ During the past few days, the cashless transactions, or cashless trading has increased by 200 to 300%. To give cashless trading a big impetus, Government of India has taken a very major decision.

▶ The informal sector occupies a major segment in our economy and in our pattern of life and mostly these people are paid wages for their labour and hard work in cash. They are paid their salaries in cash and



we know that due to this, they are exploited also. If they are to receive 100 rupees, they get only 80 rupees, if they are to be paid 80 rupees, they are given only 50 rupees. They are deprived of facilities like insurance and those associated with health sector. But now the practice of cashless payment is being adopted; the money is being directly deposited into banks. In a way, the informal sector is getting converted into the formal sector, exploitation is coming to an end, the cut, which had to be paid earlier, has stopped now and it has become possible for the worker, the artisan, such poor persons to get their full amount of money

▶ I had mentioned in last month's 'Mann Ki Baat' that even amidst these hardships our farmers toiled tirelessly and broke last year's record in sowing. It is a sign of good times for the agricultural sector. The diligent hard work by this country's workers, and farmers, and youth has scripted a new chapter of success with flying colours.

▶ Recently India proudly inscribed her name in various sectors of the global economic scenario. It is solely on account of the tireless exertions of our countrymen that on myriad indicators, India has charted an upward trajectory in global rankings. India's ranking has gone up in the Doing Business Report of the World Bank. ■



# DEMONETISATION – A LOOK BACK AT THE LAST TWO MONTHS

The Narendra Modi Government had absolute clarity from day one that it would move against the shadow economy and black money. Its first decision was to constitute SIT under the directions of the Supreme Court. The Prime Minister had proposed to the G-20 at Brisbane that international cooperation in sharing information with regard to base erosion and profit shifting should be expedited. The arrangement with the United States furthered this object.

| ARUN JAITLEY

**T**wo months have passed since the Prime Minister announced the decision that high denominational currency notes would cease to be a legal tender. Subsequently those notes have been demonetised. When 86% of a country's currency constituting 12.2% of its GDP, is squeezed out of the market and sought to be replaced by a new currency, there would obviously be significant consequences of that decision. Now that the queues outside the banks have disappeared and the remonetisation has moved ahead, it would be worthwhile to analyse the rationale behind the decision and its impact.

## STEPS AGAINST BLACK MONEY

The Narendra Modi Government had absolute clarity from day one that it would move against the shadow economy and black money. Its first decision was to constitute SIT under the directions of the Supreme Court. The Prime Minister had proposed to the G-20 at Brisbane that international cooperation in sharing information with regard to base erosion and profit shifting should be expedited. The arrangement with the United States furthered this object. The NDA Government completed its agreement with Switzerland that w.e.f. 2019, details of assets held by Indian citizens in Switzerland and vice versa would be provided to each other. Since 1996, the Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty with Mauritius was being renegotiated. The treaty effectively incentivised round-tripping. It was renegotiated. Similar treaties with Cyprus and Singapore have also been renegotiated. The Black Money Law dealing with illegal assets outside India opened a window for disclosure with 60% tax and provides a ten year imprisonment.

The Income Declaration Scheme (IDS) 2016



was highly successful with a 45% tax. The PAN card requirement for cash transaction beyond rupees two lakhs put hurdles on expenditure through black money. The Benami law legislated in 1988 and never implemented. It was amended and has been put into action. The GST, which is scheduled to be implemented this year, will provide for better indirect tax administration and being a more efficient law will check tax evasion. The demonetisation of high denominational currency notes was the big step in the same direction.

## THE NEW NORMAL

In the year 2015-16, 3.7 crore assesses of the total population of over 125 crores, filed income tax returns. Out of these, 99 lakhs declared income below Rs.2.5 lakhs and paid no taxes; 1.95 crores declared income less than Rs.5 lakhs; 52 lakhs declared income between Rs.5 to 10 lakhs, and only 24 lakhs declared income above Rs.10 lakhs. No better evidence is required to substantiate that both in the matter of direct and indirect taxes India continues to suffer being a hugely tax non-compliant society.



Expenditure required for poverty eradication, national security and economic development have to be compromised with on account of tax non-compliances. For seven decades the Indian “normal” has been to undertake transactions partly in cash and partly in cheque. “Pucca” and “Kachha” accounts are a part of the business language. Tax evasion has been considered as neither unethical nor immoral. It was just a way of life. Several Governments have allowed this “normal” to continue even though this compromised with larger public interest. The Prime Minister’s decision is intended to create a new “normal”. It seeks to change the expenditure pattern of India and Indians. It is obviously disruptive. All reforms are disruptive. They change the retrograde status quo. The demonetisation puts a premium on honesty and penalises dishonest conduct.

### **THE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES OF CASH**

Paper currency is a zero interest anonymous bearer bond. It has no name or history attached to it. Crime can take place with or without cash but excessive cash as a medium of exchange is favoured by the underground economy. It results in non-compliance in the matters of tax payments which creates an unjust enrichment in favour of the evader as against the poor and the deprived. Mountains of cash money reach tax havens through the hawala route from the original paper currency. Cash facilitates real time untraceable payments. Cash is the medium which funds bribery, corruption, counterfeit currency and terrorism. Ethical and developed societies aided by technology have consistently moved towards banking and digital transactions as against the excessive use of cash. Paper currency opens the doors for many vices. When Governments are able to collect more tax from tax evaders, they are in a better position to collect less tax from everyone else. Reducing cash may not eliminate crime and terrorism but it can inflict serious blow on them. States have shown that the stores of cash do not disappear on their own till Governments take active steps to reduce the quantum of paper currency.

### **THE MAGNITUDE OF THE DECISION**

The Prime Minister’s decision to replace the high denominational currency and eventually demonetise it required both courage and stamina. The implementation of the decision carried pain. It can lead to short term criticism and inconveniences. Drop in economic activity on account of the currency squeeze during the remonetisation period would have a transient impact on the economy. The decision involves high level of secrecy and printing substantial amounts of paper currency, distribution through banks, post offices, banking mitras and ATMs.

The fact that large quantum of high denominational currency has been deposited with the banks does not render this money to be legitimate cash. Black money does not change its colour merely because it is deposited in bank. On the contrary, it loses its

LAKHS OF CRORES, WHICH WERE FLOATING IN THE MARKET AS LOSE CURRENCY, HAVE NOW ENTERED THE BANKING SYSTEM. NOT ONLY HAS THE MONEY LOST IS ANONYMITY, IT’S OWNERS, AFTER BEING TAXED, ARE ENTITLED TO PUT IT TO MORE EFFECTIVE USES. THE SIZE OF THE BANKING TRANSACTIONS AND CONSEQUENTLY THE SIZE OF THE ECONOMY IS BOUND TO INCREASE. IN THE MEDIUM AND LONG RUN, THE GDP WOULD BE BIGGER AND CLEANER.

anonymity and can now be identified with its owner. The Revenue Department would thus be entitled to tax this money. In any case, the amendment to the Income Tax Act itself provides that the said money, if voluntarily declared or if involuntarily detected, would be liable for differential and high rates of taxation and penalty.

### **THE SITUATION TODAY**

The period of pain and inconveniences is getting over. Economic activity is being restored. The banks today admittedly have a lot more money available in order to lend for growth. Since this money constitutes low cost deposits with the banks, it is bound to bring down the rate of interest. Both these things have already happened. Lakhs of crores, which were floating in the market as lose currency, have now entered the banking system. Not only has the money lost is anonymity, it’s owners, after being taxed, are entitled to put it to more effective uses. The size of the banking transactions and consequently the size of the economy is bound to increase. In the medium and long run, the GDP would be bigger and cleaner. Money entering into the banking system and officially transacted would give an ample scope for higher taxation – both direct and indirect. The Centre and the State Governments would both stand to gain.

The economy would also be serviced by both cash and highly digitized transactions.

### THE OPPOSITION

There was no social unrest while implementing such a major decision. All opinion polls conducted by independent media organizations have shown that an overwhelmingly large percentage of people have supported the Government's decision. The opposition disrupted a full Session of Parliament. Their protests have been ineffective. Their exaggerated claims on the disruption of the economy have proved wrong. It is a tragedy that a national party like the Congress decided to adopt a political position, opposing both technology, change and reforms. It sided with black

money friendly status quo.

### THE MARKED DIFFERENCE

There was a marked difference in the approach of the Prime Minister and his opponents. The Prime Minister was being futuristic, and thinking of a more modern, technology driven cleaner economy. He is now speaking of cleaning the political funding systems. His opponents want a cash dominated, cash generating and cash exchange system to continue. The difference between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Rahul Gandhi was clear - the Prime Minister was thinking of the next generation while Rahul Gandhi was only looking at how to disrupt the next Session of Parliament. ■

## EC declares poll dates for Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Manipur, Uttarakhand and Goa

**T**he Election Commission announced the dates for the Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Manipur, Uttarakhand and Goa at a press conference on 04 January, 2017. As per EC, the counting of votes in all five States will happen on March 11, 2017.

### UTTAR PRADESH

#### 73 constituencies will go to polls in first phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Jan. 24; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Jan. 27; Poll date: Feb. 11

#### 67 constituencies will go to polls in second phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Jan. 27; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Jan. 30; Poll date: Feb. 15

#### 69 constituencies will go to polls in third phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Jan. 31; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Feb. 4; Poll date: Feb. 19

#### 53 constituencies will go to polls in fourth phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Feb. 6; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Feb. 9; Poll date: Feb. 23

#### 52 constituencies will go to polls in fifth phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Feb. 9; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Feb. 13; Poll date: Feb. 27

#### 49 constituencies will go to polls in sixth phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Feb. 15; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Feb. 18; Poll date: March 4

#### 40 constituencies will go to polls in seventh phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Feb. 18; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Feb. 22; Poll date: March 8

### MANIPUR

- ▶ 38 constituencies will go to polls in first phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Feb. 15; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Feb. 18; Poll date: March 4

- ▶ 22 constituencies will go to polls in second phase

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Feb. 18; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Feb. 22; Poll date: March 8

### UTTARAKHAND

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Jan. 27; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Jan. 30; The State will go to polls on February 15.

### PUNJAB

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Jan. 18; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Jan. 21; The State will go to polls on February 4.

### GOA

- ▶ Last date for filing nomination Jan. 18; Last date for withdrawal of candidates Jan. 20; The State will go to polls on February 4. ■



# PM launches BHIM app for digital payments

**P** rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched mobile payment app BHIM (Bharat Interface for Money) at DigiDhan Mela in New Delhi's Talkatora Stadium. The app is based on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI). The app is currently available only on Android. BHIM is also supposed to support Aadhaar-based payments, where transactions will be possible just with a fingerprint impression.

On the occasion Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said, Two initiatives, Lucky Grahak Yojana and DigiDhan Vyapar Yojana are a Christmas gift to the nation. He added all transactions will soon happen through the BHIM app, which is named after Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar, a towering personality who worked tirelessly for Dalits and the poor. He said "The BHIM app will have strong security features. Transactions can be made using one's fingerprint. Furthering digital connectivity would do wonders for our nation.

"So far fingerprint stood for illiterate people and is looked down upon. But in a role reversal, fingerprints



 @narendramodi

**BHIM App has made transactions faster & easier, thus making it popular among the youth. The App is also beneficial for traders.**

## PM delighted over 10 million downloads of BHIM App in 10 days

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has expressed delight over 10 million downloads of BHIM App in a span of 10 days. "Delighted to know that in a span of 10 days there have been over 10 million downloads of the BHIM App. BHIM App has made transactions faster & easier, thus making it popular among the youth. The App is also beneficial for traders.

The BHIM App is a fine example of Make in India & how technology is being effectively used to end the menace of corruption & black money", the Prime Minister said.

will now be your bank, identity and business. The Prime Minister exhorted citizens to do at least five digital transactions daily from January 1 to promote cashless economy."

He said, India is a young nation where 65 per cent of the population is below 35 years of age. If all of them shift to digital transactions, it will be historic and change the face of India.

"The BHIM app will empower the poor, Dalits, farmers and tribals, he added. World over people were amazed at a poor country like India using electronic mode for elections. Now we are moving to create a digital payment revolution. Technology is the biggest power and it will empower the poorest of the poor. I can bring a lot of opportunities for the optimistic, but I have nothing to offer to the pessimistic people."

He added, Earlier, the conversation was about money being siphoned off from the system through scams in 2G auction and coal auction. But now the conversation is about money coming into the system and in poor people's bank accounts

Some politicians had criticised the demonetisation exercise saying the government broke a mountain only to catch rats. They are right. We want to catch the rats who are stealing the poor people's hard-earned money, he added. ■

# Capital mobilization is the crux of growth dynamics

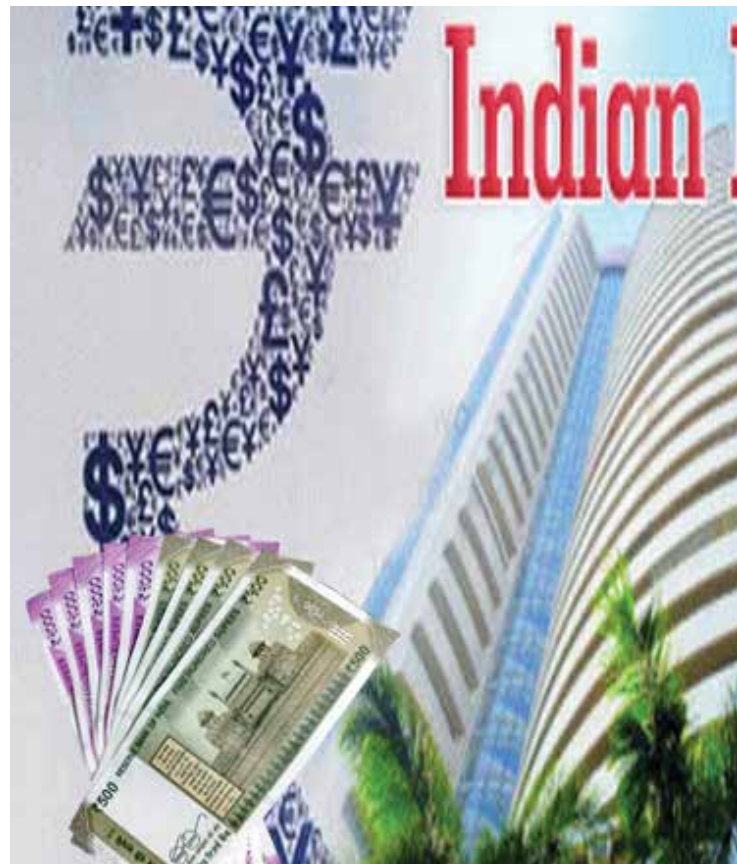
Noted economist Robert Barro in his highly rated work explained the conditions for growth. He found that growth is stimulated by a set of core factors, macroeconomic stability, institutional capacity, openness, and education. Maintenance of law and order, lower government consumption, longer life expectancy, better higher education, sound macroeconomic policy framework, low inflation, low debt and lower taxes are the other ingredients of growth for Barro.

DR R BALASHANKAR

**G**rowth is the function of just one factor—Capital. This used to be the refrain of many influential economists in the aftermath of the 2008 economic devastation in the West when real capital squeeze crippled growth in the developed world. For the sake of argument if that view is taken in the Indian context, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released most potential growth multiplier in record breaking fifty days of note ban by attracting over Rs 13 lakh crore into the public view that was largely hoarded for decades by corrupt money sharks.

This has enriched the national treasury by about Rs four lakh crore, reduced lending rates, brought down inflation and prices of essential goods and will eventually help recapitalize the banks which will help

ENRICHED THE NATIONAL TREASURY BY ABOUT RS FOUR LAKH CRORE, REDUCED LENDING RATES, BROUGHT DOWN INFLATION AND PRICES OF ESSENTIAL GOODS AND WILL EVENTUALLY HELP RECAPITALIZE THE BANKS WHICH WILL HELP THEM RELEASE EASIER LOANS FOR ACCELERATING INVESTMENT AND PROPELLING PUBLIC CONSUMPTION.



them release easier loans for accelerating investment and propelling public consumption.

Noted economist Robert Barro in his highly rated work explained the conditions for growth. He found that growth is stimulated by a set of core factors, macroeconomic stability, institutional capacity, openness, and education. Maintenance of law and order, lower government consumption, longer life expectancy, better higher education, sound macroeconomic policy framework, low inflation, low debt and lower taxes are the other ingredients of growth for

Barro. The result of the two months of demonetization show that India is fast moving in this direction. That one per cent of additional growth is likely to create one million jobs is given. In a situation where almost one third of the currency in the market was out of



bottom, essential commodities became unapproachable for the common man, growth declined to four per cent almost half of what the UPA inherited and the refrain was “don’t sit, he will tax”. Yet this audacity to condemn note ban, which the overwhelming majority of Indians have welcomed as a national yagna.

The former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh attacked the note ban, spreading all kinds of rumours and canards. The crap they blurted, that there will be massive layoffs, there will be riots, the long queues and starvation deaths proved wrong. Chidambaram said the PM must admit that it was a “mistake” and that it will lead to huge losses for the country. All this was pooh poohed by the masses. Demonetization has really led to huge losses for the corrupt politician, hawala racketeers, drug peddlers and terrorists. The Economic Times on January 7 reported on its front lead, “demonetization takes wind out of terror sails”. Pak presses printing counterfeit Indian currencies shut shop, it screamed. There is 60 per cent drop in terror violence in Kashmir. That it has broken the back of the Maoists is also well known.

With cash crunch easing, economy will hit a happy new turn, captioned the ET a day earlier. Sixty seven per cent of the cancelled note will be back by month end and by February end this will be up to 89 per cent it said quoting the RBI. Fact is, things have already become normal in most parts of the country. There has been three-fold increase in digital transactions. The Rabi growing has seen an all time high of 11 per cent more. The so-called rural distress has actually turned out to be agrarian boom and rural prosperity. The sugar

cane farmers have whole heartedly supported the new normal. All opinion polls have shown big thumbs up for the war on black money. Digitization will drastically bring down the scope for corruption. Such a sweeping financial inclusion and reform in such a huge country, three times the population of

the US is no small deal. People comparing Indian experiment with tiny African and Latin American tin-pot dictatorships should hang their head in shame. For sure, it can now be safely said, Achhe din aagaye. ■

*(Writer is Member, BJP Central Committee on Training, and Committee on Publications. He can be contacted at Balashankar12@gmail.com Tweeter @drbalashankar. Ph.09811971071).*

circulation and unscrupulously hidden by corrupt tax evaders and that the gap between the richest one per cent and the poorest ten per cent is 20 per cent higher than the rich poor ratio in the US (37 per cent) in itself made a strong case for high denomination note ban.

The most critical of the note ban were those who perpetuated and nurtured this gap in the last few decades. Now Shri P Chidambaram says he was worried about the autonomy of the RBI. Nobody has forgotten the constant turf war he had with his RBI

Governor during the eight years of the UPA’s ten year regime. It was during this period the country witnessed massive and colossal loot of the PSU banks and their decapitalisation. The rate of inflation, lending rate were in double digit, investment fell to an all time low, policy paralysis coupled with flight of capital became the order of the day, FDI inflow came down to record

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# Shunning previous practices; Beginning of Budget-ization

the new announcements will usher new waves for budgetary reform in India which was absent since last 70 years. Inter-ministerial cooperation-coordination-convergence will be the new approach for Indian economy and new gift for Indian masses in coming 2017-18 year.

**I VIKASH ANAND**

**A**fter the successful demonetization, now it's time for governance reform through budget-ization by NDA government under vibrant leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley has announced to present union budget on 1st of February thus shunning the colonial era practice of presenting Union budget on last day of February. It will be one month in advance of previous practices. The new budgetary process involves completion of the whole budget exercise including passing of Appropriation Bill and the Finance Bill before beginning of new financial year. And second announcement related budget exercise is decision of scrapping the separate presentation of budget for Railways and merging it with Union budget.

Both decisions will have positive impact on overall governance and ensure economic growth. The decision enables speedier implementation of government schemes.

According to traditional practices Government presents General budget in last month of February. Due to the presenting of budget in last working day of February, Parliament is not able to discuss and vote on the entire budget before the commencement of the new fiscal year, month of April. It is necessary to keep enough financial resources at the disposal of Government in order to allow it to run the administration of the country. To counter the necessary financial disbursement for next 3 months, there is tradition of 'Vote on Account' by which Government obtains the Vote of Parliament for a sum sufficient to incur expenditure on various items for a part of the year. The advancing the date of the budget presentation



ensures that Finance Bill will be passed before the start of the new fiscal year on April 1. Also, there will be no need of using special provision of Vote on account to obtain expenditure of 2-3 months. It means all central government ministry will have their full allocations from day one of the new fiscal year. As a result ministries and various departments of the government, public sectors units etc. will be able to implement the schemes timely. In earlier practice the ministries gets their full allocation by end of May. In a way, earlier practice was hurdle in speedier implementation of schemes.

Simultaneously, new thing in coming union budget is there will be no distinction between plan and non-plan expenditure. It will increase independence of ministries in addressing expenditure related decisions.

While discussing the new budget schedule Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also advised the states to align their plans with this new schedule, so that they could take maximum advantage of this move.

Commenting on the move N.R. Bhanumurthy, a professor at New Delhi-based think tank National Institute of Public Finance and Policy said “Advancing state budgets will allow states to complete legislative procedures before the start of the new finance year and start spending on time. He added, the Prime Minister is suggesting that the Union budget should serve as an input to state budgets so that they can plan and conceptualize their budgets better.”

ACCORDING TO RAILWAYS MINISTER SHRI SURESH PRABHU, THE MERGER WILL HELP THE RAILWAYS RAISE EXTRA CAPITAL EXPENDITURE THAT WILL ALLOW THEM TO ENHANCE CONNECTIVITY IN THE COUNTRY AND BOOST ECONOMIC GROWTH.

It is said as the move is a comprehensive enhancement in Centre-State relations. Now State governments will get 12 months to analyze, use and address centre financial allocations. As a result There will be effective implementation, monitoring by state governments on centre schemes.

Decision of merger of Rail Budget with General budget is part of finalizing budget exercise before new fiscal year. Also will reduce procedural burden of railways ministry. According to Railways Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu, the merger will help the Railways raise

extra capital expenditure that will allow them to enhance connectivity in the country and boost economic growth. A committee headed by NITI Ayog member Bibek Debroy, recommending the merger, points out that the unified budget will help present a holistic picture of the

financial position of the government and will facilitate multimodal transport planning between highways, railways and inland waterways. It will allow Ministry of finance greater elbow-room at the time of mid-year review for better allocation of resources etc.

Thus, the new announcements will usher new waves for budgetary reform in India which was absent since last 70 years. Inter-ministerial cooperation-coordination-convergence will be the new approach for Indian economy and new gift for Indian masses in coming 2017-18 year. ■

[vikashanand@kamalsandesh.org](mailto:vikashanand@kamalsandesh.org)

## India signs financing agreement with World Bank for US\$50 Million for Nai Manzil Education & Skills Training for Minorities

**A** financing agreement for IDA credit of US\$ 50 million (equivalent) for the “Nai Manzil-Education and Skills Training for Minorities” was signed by Ministry of Minority Affairs with the World Bank on January 1. The total project size is USD 100 million, out of which USD 50 million will be available as IDA credit, and the balance funding from the Union Budget.

The project takes an integrated and holistic approach towards education and skill development of the minority youth, to address the high dropout and unemployment rate among them. Minority BPL

(below poverty line) youth in the age group of 17-35 years will be the main beneficiaries of the project. Improvement in the education attainment of the minority youth in the project area and improvement in their employability skills are among the expected outcomes of the project. The project will follow result based financing modality, and project funds will be disbursed on achievement of specific results such as number of student enrolled, number of students successfully completing education and skill components etc. The closing date of the project is 31st October, 2021. ■

# Tax collection for 2016 shows a positive growth; Direct Taxes grow by 12.01% and Indirect Taxes by 25%

**D**irect Tax and Indirect tax collection figures for the period April 2016 to December 2016 have shown a positive trend as Direct Taxes grow by 12.01% and Indirect Taxes grow by 25% over the corresponding period last year i.e. April-December 2015.

The details in this regard are as follows:

## DIRECT TAXES

The figures for Direct Tax collections up to December, 2016 show that net collections are at Rs. 5.53 lakh crore which is 12.01% more than the net collections for the corresponding period last year. This collection is 65.3% of the total Budget Estimates of Direct Taxes for F.Y. 2016-17.

As regards the growth rates for Corporate Income Tax (CIT) and Personal Income Tax (PIT), in terms of gross revenue collections, the growth rate under CIT is 10.7% while that under PIT (including STT) is 21.7%. However, after adjusting for refunds, the net growth in CIT collections is 4.4% while that in PIT collections is 24.6%. Refunds amounting to Rs.1,26,371 crore have been issued during April-December, 2016, which is 30.5% higher than the refunds issued during the corresponding period last year.

After accounting for the third instalment of advance tax received in December, 2016, the collections under advance tax stand at Rs.2.82 lakh crore, which is 14.4% higher than the figures for the corresponding period of last year. CIT advance tax is growing at 10.6% while PIT advance tax has registered a growth of 38.2%.

## INDIRECT TAXES

The figures for indirect tax collections (Central Excise, Service Tax and Customs) up to December 2016 show that net revenue collections are at Rs 6.30 lakh crore, which is 25% more than the net collections for the corresponding period last year. Till December 2016, about 81% of the Budget Estimates of indirect taxes for Financial Year 2016-17 has been achieved.

As regards Central Excise, net tax collections stood at Rs. 2.79 lakh crore during April-December, 2016 as compared to Rs.1.95 lakh crore during the



corresponding period in the previous Financial Year, thereby registering a growth of 43%.

Net Tax collections on account of Service Tax during April-December, 2016 stood at Rs. 1.83 lakh crore as compared to Rs.1.48 lakh crore during the corresponding period in the previous Financial Year, thereby registering a growth of 23.9%.

Net Tax collections on account of Customs during April-December 2016 stood at Rs. 1.67 lakh crore as compared to Rs. 1.60 lakh crore during the same period in the previous Financial Year, thereby registering a growth of 4.1%.

During December 2016, the net indirect tax (with ARM) grew at the rate of 14.2% compared to corresponding month last year. The growth rate in net collection for Customs, Central Excise and Service Tax was -6.3%, 31.6% and 12.4% respectively during the month of December, 2016, compared to the corresponding month last year. The de-growth in customs collections appear to be on account of a decline of gold imports by about 46% (in volume terms) in December 2016 over December 2015. ■



# Swachh Bharat-Health Ministry collaborate for sanitation in health centres

**'S**wachh SwasthSarvatra', an inter-ministerial joint initiative between the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was launched in the Capital on December 29. The objective of the 'Swachh Swasth Sarvatra' initiative is to build on and leverage achievements of two complementary programmes – Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) and Kayakalp – of the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, respectively. Under this initiative, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation has declared over 700 blocks as Open Defecation Free (ODF). Community Health Centres (CHCs) in ODF blocks of the country will be allocated Rs 10 lakhs under National Health Mission (NHM) to focus on sanitation and hygiene.

Under Kayakalp, one Primary Health Centre (PHCs) in each district is awarded for meeting quality standards including sanitation and hygiene. Under SBM, the Gram Panchayat in which the PHC which gets awarded under Kayakalp for that district will be noted, and special focus will be given to make it ODF at the earliest.

Speaking at the launch event, the Union Minister



of Health and Family Welfare, Shri JP Nadda, said that this initiative would be a very important step towards convergence of various government schemes and programmes. He said that by merging the goals of Swachh Bharat with his Ministry's focus on health, the two will be able to move the needle from hospital-care to healthcare, i.e. from treatment of diseases to prevention of diseases by focussing on improved overall health. ■

## 'India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians' set up

**G**overnment of India has set up India 'Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF-OI)' a not-for-profit Trust to facilitate philanthropic contributions by Overseas Indians to social and development projects in India.

Presently, IDF-OI is promoting flagship programmes of Government of India- Swachh Bharat Mission and National Mission for Clean Ganga; and projects identified by the State Govts, for funding by Overseas Indians.

Working with State Governments in areas such as sanitation; education; drinking water; women's empowerment et/c, IDF-OI is offering projects for funding by Overseas Indians. Overseas Indians can contribute as an individual, or a group of individuals or even through their respective Indian Associations.

IDF-OI does not recover any administrative cost from contributions received from Overseas Indians.

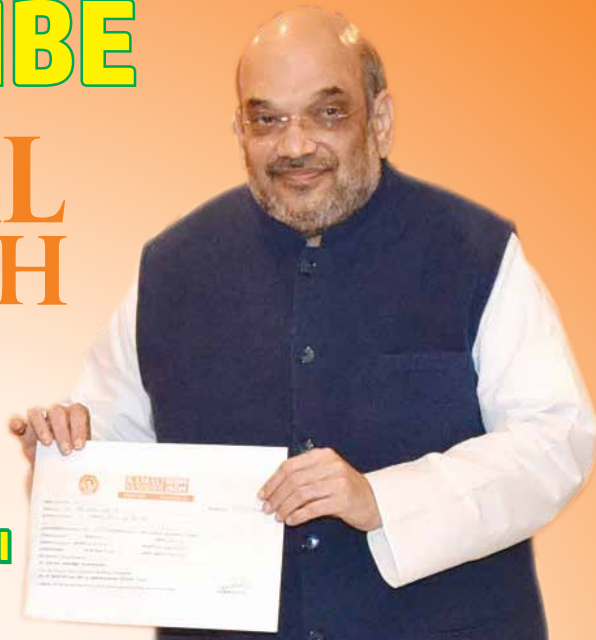
At the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention



2017 the Plenary Session I focused on The Indian Diaspora- Catalyst for Realising India's Development on 08 January 2017, chaired by Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri M.J Akbar. The session discussed how IDF-OI can effectively enable Overseas Indians to reconnect and contribute to India's social and development efforts. They expressed interest in working with IDF-OI and highlighted the need for credibility i.e. accountability, efficiency, and transparency in project implementation and fund utilisation. ■

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### KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE



# PM Shri Narendra Modi, BJP National President Shri Amit Shah and other senior leaders addressing Parivartan Rallies in Lucknow and Dehradun







## PM Modi announces major decisions to benefit poor, neo-middle class & middle class

- ★ **Interest subvention for loans of upto Rs 12 lakhs.** The number of houses being built under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana in rural areas increased by 33 per cent.
- ★ **Farmers who have taken loans for Rabi crop exempted from interest for 60 days.**
- ★ **Government adds Rs 20,000 crore to NABARD fund to ensure cheap credit to farmers.**
- ★ **3 crore Kisan Credit Cards will be upgraded to RuPay debit cards.**
- ★ **Govt. will also under-write loans given by NBFCs & has asked banks to raise credit limit for small industry from 20 per cent of turnover to 25 per cent.**
- ★ **Government aims to double Mudra allocations, giving priority to Dalits, Tribals, Backward Classes & Women.**
- ★ **Rs 6000 will be transferred directly to bank accounts of pregnant women who undergo institutional delivery and vaccinate their children.**
- ★ **Senior citizens will receive a fixed interest rate of 8% for a period of 10 years, on deposits upto Rs 7.5 lakh.**