

# KAMAL SANDESH

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₹20



**'BJP WILL COME BACK WITH A BIGGER MAJORITY IN 2019 POLLS'**



**BJP MPs Meeting**  
**'EXPOSE OPPOSITION'S LIES'**

**FRONTIER BECOMES MAINLAND**

**'RISING INDIA MEANS THE RISE OF 125 CRORES INDIANS'**

**MARK & DEENDAYAL: THE TWO APPROACHES**



View of PM Shri Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron's boat journey in Varanasi, UP



PM Shri Narendra Modi visits the Deendayal Hastkala Sankul in Varanasi



PM Shri Modi along with other senior leaders visiting 'Kachra Mahotsav', a wonderful initiative of UP Govt. for Swachh Bharat Mission in Varanasi



PM Shri Narendra Modi receives the greetings of the gathering in Manipur



PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing the ISA Founding Conference in New Delhi

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## OUR AIM IS TO GIVE HOMES TO 8 LAKH FAMILIES IN UTTAR PRADESH: MODI

PM Narendra Modi launched various development projects and addressed a public meeting at the DLW Grounds in Varanasi on March 12, 2018. Shri Modi complimented the people of Kashi for extending a warm welcome...



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**twitter**



**@narendramodi**

Ayushman Bharat is going to transform the health sector. It will provide top quality healthcare to the poor.

**@Devendra Fadnavis**



We have taken all permissions and completed all processes for construction of grand memorial of BharatRatna Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar at Indu Mill, Mumbai. Maximum work will be completed in 2 years.

**@PiyushGoyal**



Railways has come out with a policy to ensure a fair, transparent & competitive recruitment process. Railways has reserved 20% posts for 'Course Completed Act Apprentices' along with an age relaxation equal to the period of apprenticeship, which will benefit them in the exam.

**facebook**

In the last four years, BJP's organisational network has reached till the booth level in Andhra Pradesh. Chandrababu Naidu's exit from NDA has given us an open ground to expand electorally too in the state.



— **Amit Shah**

BJP Achieved In four years what Congress Couldn't do in 50 years.



— **Nitin Gadkari**

We are committed & continuously working to provide better health care facilities in Jammu&Kashmir, in the series first Dialysis Centre made functional in Anantnag to provide free dialysis services to the BPL patients& subsidised to other patients.



— **J. P. Nadda**



Courtesy: Social Media



**Kamal Sandesh Parivar**  
wishes a very happy  
**VAISAKHI (14 April)**  
to its readers

## Congress plenary session

# A hopelessly futile exercise

**A**s Congress tried to find its way through its 84th plenary session, it further landed itself in more chaos and din. Acknowledging the fact that it is incapable of taking on BJP alone, it promised to build an alliance with what it calls as 'like minded' parties, whom it dubs as 'peripheral forces and political parties, with divisive agenda' who tried to influence national political discourse in mid 1990s in its political resolution. The arrogance of the Congress about its past makes it incapable of realizing that only alliance with some political parties will not help it in winning trust of the people unless it is ready to pledge itself to the nationalistic and democratic principles emanating from the legacy of the national movement collectively built by the people of this great nation. If Congress thinks that it can befool the people with its dynastic, corrupt and regressive communal-casteist-regional-divisive politics, it is in fact treading a suicidal path. Only negative politics cannot help it to bring closer to the people as it only underlines the fact that it has no positive agenda for the nation.

There is no doubt that Congress is at its lowest ebb in its history and there are strong possibilities that it may face further decline. Its repeated recourse to its 'role in freedom struggle' may not help it achieve anything as it is not the same Congress which represented the national aspiration to free the country from the foreign yoke. In the

post independence era it steeped itself in power-centric dynastic politics even at the cost of dividing the society on caste, religion and regional lines. It has discredited itself in the eyes of people with its long years of misrule, corruption, loot of public money, policy paralysis and regressive policies. While it is trying to sermonise BJP government today it fails to accept the fact that the problem nation facing today is the product of its own failed policies and divisive politics. It has failed the nation on almost all fronts. Its foreign policy cannot take India to establish itself as a leading power as most of its policies remained far from ground realities making India a soft state. Congress is also known for its half hearted and confused policies with regard to terrorism and internal security. As UPA government remained marred by policy paralysis, its economic policies were stung by its inability to act on crucial issues which were further compounded by large scale corruption and loot of public money. It was due to the neglect of agriculture sector that today farmers are facing distress with many irrigation projects remaining only in papers. The long neglect of agriculture by the successive Congress regimes led to a situation wherein large-scale migration from the viallges took place choking the urban centres while having a massive adverse impact on rural sector. Its belief in the policy of trickle-down effect and open loot of public sector making them economically unviable to continue led to a situation which created a crisis in the economy. It never generated any confidence in the people about the future and created a hopeless situation for every section of the society with double digit inflation and declining rate of growth.

It is not easy for the people to forget the betrayal of the congress. In order to perpetuate dynastic rule, it created a ruling oligarchy in every sector capturing institutions while blocking the entry for deserving people. Though today it feels compelled to speak highly about Hinduism and Rahul Gandhi visits temples during his political tours but no one can forget that it practiced the politics of minority appeasement in extremely naked form in the name of 'secularism'. How far it's committed to the glory of Hinduism is evident from the way its Karnataka government is trying to divide Hinduism for votes. It seems that it has learnt no lessons from AK Antony report on the defeat of Congress in 2014 elections which pointed out about its anti-Hindu image among the people. Instead of introspecting about its ideological deviation and discussing the means to rescue Congress from the clutches of dynastic and anti-democratic politics, Congress has unfortunately chosen to harp on anti-Modi and anti-BJP falsehood which no one believes in the country, not even the Congress people. It has made the Congress plenary session an exercise in vain and hopelessly futile. ■

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ANTI-BJP FALSEHOOD.

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# OUR AIM IS TO GIVE HOMES TO 8 LAKH FAMILIES IN UTTAR PRADESH: MODI

**P**M Shri Narendra Modi launched various development projects and addressed a public meeting at the DLW Grounds in Varanasi on March 12, 2018. Shri Modi complimented the people of Kashi for extending a warm welcome to French President Emmanuel Macron. He said the Government of India is committed to the continuous development and upgradation of DLW, which is a symbol of the industrial development of Varanasi.

He appreciated the efforts of the State Government in the housing sector, and to ensure that more people get access to housing facilities. He said, "I would like to appreciate the efforts of the Yogi Adityanath led UP Government in the housing sector and to ensure that more people get access to housing facilities".

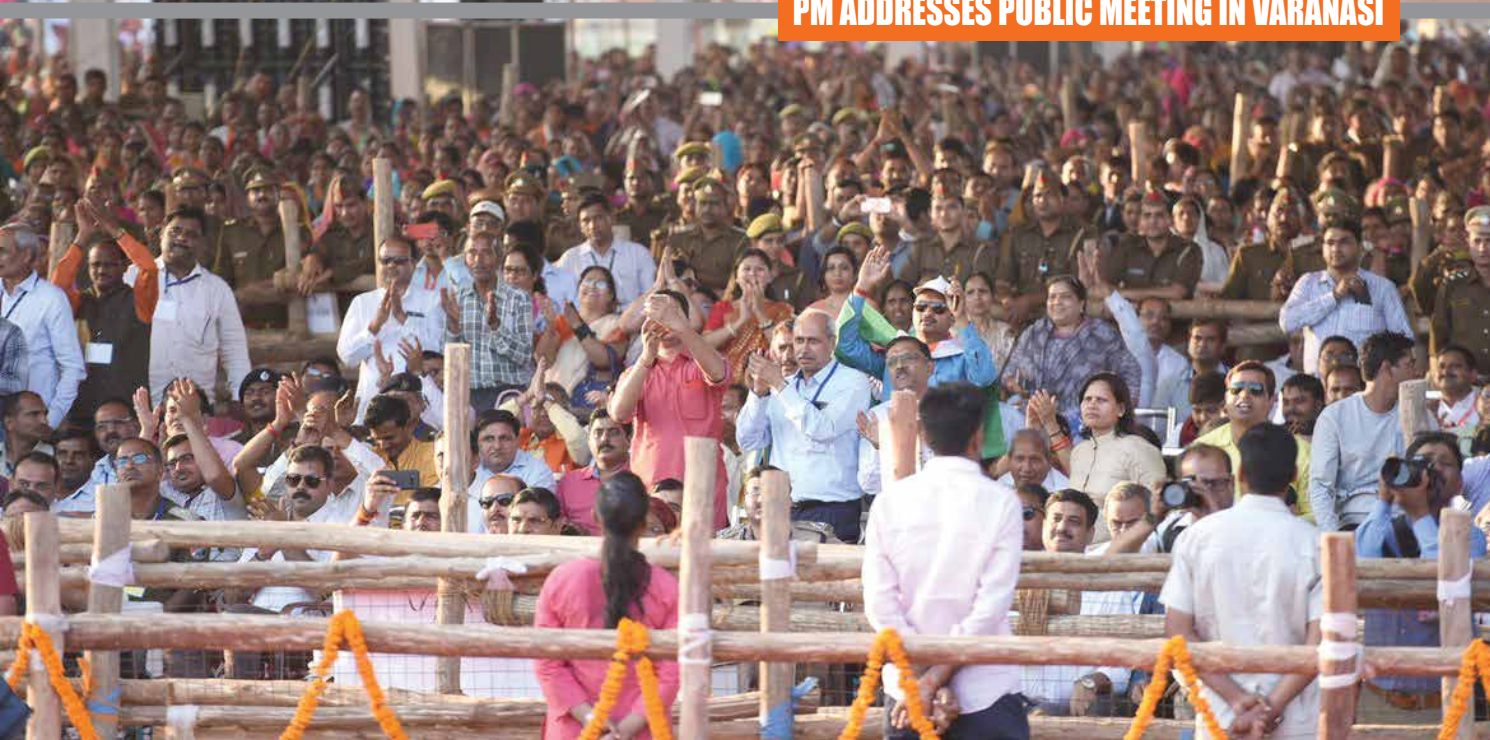
The PM also appreciated the exhibition on various

@narendramodi



I would like to appreciate the efforts of the @myogiadityanath-led UP Government in the housing sector and to ensure that more people get access to housing facilities

I went to a unique programme in Varanasi- a Kachra Mahotsav. Such festivals are vital to spread awareness on cleanliness.



"waste to wealth" initiatives that was set up at the venue. Shri Modi said, "I went to a unique programme in Varanasi- a Kachra Mahotsav. Such festivals are vital to spread awareness on cleanliness".

He said there is immense potential for tourism in Varanasi, and all efforts should be made to keep the city clean. The Prime Minister said that the recently announced Ayushman Bharat scheme is going to transform the health sector. It will provide top quality healthcare to the poor, he added.

The Prime Minister complimented the Uttar Pradesh State Government for implementing schemes extremely well. Prior to the meeting Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and visiting French President Emmanuel Macron jointly inaugurated 101 megawatt solar power plant at Dadar Kala village in Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh. It is one of the largest solar projects in the country and has been set up by French company ENGIE. The company was awarded the project in 2016 with the cost of Rs. 680 crore. Before inaugurating the plant both leaders visited several panels and inquired in detail about the project. Solar Energy Corporation of India has signed Power purchase agreement for 25 years with the company. 157 million Unit Power will be produced per year from the project and about one Lakh houses are likely to be served from this clean Power project. Commercial production will begin from next month.

Among others, UPCM Yogi Adityanath, Union Minister

## PM FLAGS OFF TRAIN BETWEEN VARANASI AND PATNA

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on March 12 flagged off a train between Manduadih Railway Station in Varanasi, and Patna. He also launched various development projects in Varanasi.



of Renewable Energy Shri RK Singh, Union Minister of Health Ms. Anupriya Patel, UP Finance Minister Shri Rajesh Agrawal and Renewable Energy Minister Shri Brajesh Pathak were present on the occasion. ■

# Let people know about the reality: Narendra Modi



**O**n March 23 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and BJP National President Shri Amit Shah addressed the BJP's parliamentary party meeting at party headquarters, 6A, Pt. Deendayal Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg in New Delhi. Addressing the meeting they asked the party MPs to expose the lies of Opposition parties who have been disrupting Parliament for last 15 days.

In the meeting Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said "Use technology optimally and let people know about the reality. The message should reach the common people about the desperate opposition resorting to canards and lies against the government." He added, Party leaders should try for instant sharing of information with people by using technology." In the three-hour meeting ministers gave presentations on the development projects including the focus on 115 least developed districts of the country. Taking a swipe at Congress party he said that the party's work culture should be reflected in all our headquarters from district level to national. We are not a party that runs out from someone's home. He also said the party should not be confined merely to electoral

politics but develop direct chord with the people.

"He also narrated anecdotes from the past, specifically about late leader Sundar Singh Bhandarji, who, Prime Minister Modi said, used to listen to the news on the radio, the only gadget available at that time and come up with ideas about how to take the party's work forward. In the same way, Shri Modi said, BJP leaders and workers should use whatever latest technology is available to them, be it social media or otherwise to tell people the true state of things.

With the Lok Sabha polls due next year, BJP National President Shri Amit Shah asked party MPs to work to strengthen booth-level organisation in their constituencies, asserting that BJP's ideology and Shri Modi's leadership have been a key reason for its string of electoral successes.

"All MPs should reach their respective constituencies and tell people through all possible means about the unprecedented deadlock in the parliament," he said. He also asked party MPs to reach out to the people to expose the lies of the opposition parties which have paralysed Parliament for three weeks over various issues. ■



# BJP will come back with a bigger majority in 2019 polls: Amit Shah

**B**JP National President Shri Amit Shah said the BJP will come back with a bigger majority than in 2014. "Elections are quite far off but I can assure you that we, both NDA and BJP, will get more seats than what we got in 2014 and return to form the government in 2019". In his interview to the Times Now on 22 March, 2018 Shri Shah said while the party has taken the recent setbacks seriously and is analyzing the reasons, but the outcome of the Lok Sabha polls in 2019, both in UP and the country will be good for us.

He rejected the suggestion that Rahul's aggression at the Congress convention where he launched a personal attack on the Prime Minister marked the beginning of new phase. "I don't believe the Congress president can bring about a change in political phases. One political phase has already been decided in the country. This country has moved away from the politics of caste, nepotism and appeasement. Now, politics of performance has begun under the leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi. Now, no matter what the Congress president says, this phase cannot be changed."

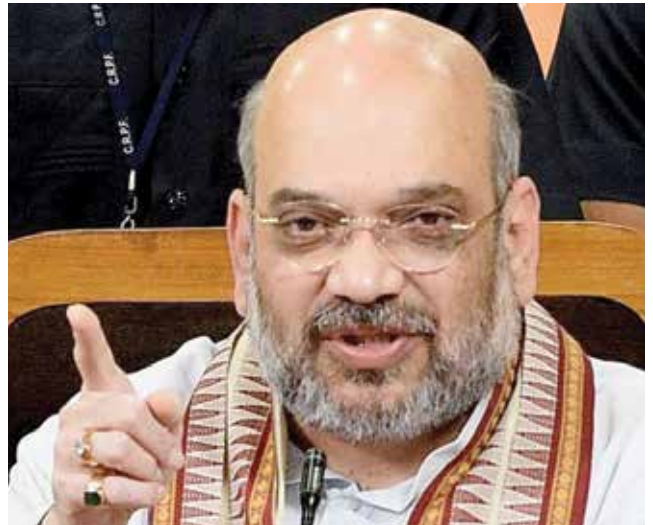
He said PM Shri Narendra Modi will stick to Varanasi as his Lok Sabha constituency. "Yes he will contest from Varanasi. There is no question of fighting from any other place, and let me tell you we will come back with the same majority," he said. The BJP President said the party will not be affected by TDP's recent exit from NDA. He stressed that going it alone might help BJP in some states, saying, "Maybe we are becoming bigger there."

He said there is a big difference in the values of BJP and Congress. As far as BJP is concerned, opportunism doesn't drive our alliances like Congress.

Answering, how to tackle the SP & BSP alliance challenge in UP, Shri Shah said the party has enough time to prepare for the challenge. He said, "The Modi government launched several schemes ranging from provision of free LPG connections to construction of toilets and reaching electricity to unlit villages, and they have benefited millions of people. The public support is with us, so we can overcome any challenge," Shri Shah added. On Rahul Gandhi's repeated jibes at PM

Shri Modi, Shri Amit Shah said, "Rahul's speech may form an impression on a few journalists, but not on the public. People understand everything. The opposition has not been able to make any charge against the Modi government. Can Rahul Gandhi prove the involvement of even a single minister of the BJP government in any scam? During UPA, the courts, the CAG came out with their observations."

Commenting on Rahul's performance after



assuming leadership of Congress, Shri Amit Shah said, "After becoming party president there were elections in five states — Gujarat, Himachal, Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya, Everywhere they have suffered huge defeats. He seems happy about bypolls, but what is the position of this party? Phulpur, deposit lost; Gorakhpur, deposit lost; Bihar, Congress fought one seat and lost it."

Shri Shah said Karnataka government's move to provide separate religion status to Lingayats would boomerang on Congress in the assembly elections in the state. "People of Karnataka see through all this. If they really had to accord that status to Lingayats, why didn't they do it earlier when they were in power? The UPA had rejected it." ■

## Cabinet approves Urea Subsidy Scheme till 2020

**T**he Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the proposal of Department of Fertilizers to continue Urea Subsidy Scheme from 2017 upto 2019-20 at a total estimated cost of Rs. 1,64,935 crores and for disbursement of fertilizer subsidy.

The continuation of Urea Subsidy Scheme will ensure the timely payment of subsidy to the urea manufacturers resulting in timely availability of urea to farmers. This decision also implies that there will be no increase in price of urea, till 2020.

Urea Subsidy is a part of Central Sector Scheme of Department of Fertilizers w.e.f 1st April, 2017 and is wholly financed by the Government of India through Budgetary Support. Urea subsidy also includes Imported Urea subsidy which is directed towards import to bridge the gap between assessed demand and indigenous production of urea in the country. It also includes freight subsidy for movement of urea across the country.

This is in continuation to farmer-friendly policies of the Central Government. Earlier, 100% Neem Coated Urea was made mandatory in 2015. A study conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) had found the effects of Neem Coating of Urea as follows:

- Improvement in soil health.
- Reduction in costs with respect to plant protection chemicals.
- Reduction in pest and disease attack.
- An increase in yield of paddy to an extent of 5.79 per cent.
- An increase in yield of sugarcane to extent of 17.5 per cent.
- An increase in yield of maize to the extent of 7.14 per cent.
- An increase in yield of Soybean to the extent of 7.4 per cent.
- An increase in yield of Tur/Red Gram to the extent of 16.88 per cent.

Neem Coating also had an additional positive impact – plugging the diversion of the subsidized Urea towards non-agricultural purposes. In light of the increased efficiency of Urea due to Neem Coating, Government had recently decided to bag Urea in 45kg bags. This will effectively help reduce the cost of fertilizers to the farmers. Government had earlier notified New Urea Policy, 2015, with the objectives of maximizing indigenous urea production; promoting energy efficiency in urea production; and rationalizing subsidy burden on the government. This led to the highest ever production of 245 LMT during 2015-16. ■

## Travel, tourism created 25.9 million jobs in India in 2017: Report

**T**he travel and tourism sectors together generated 25.9 million jobs in 2017, contributing \$75.8 billion (Rs 5 lakh crore, approximately) to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the same year, a report by Indian industry body FICCI and services firm KPMG said on March 21, 2018.

"Directly contributing 25.9 million jobs, travel and tourism sectors are among the largest employment generators in the country," said the report.

Titled "Expedition 3.0: Travel and hospitality gone digital", the report by the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Ficci) in

association with KPMG India assesses the trends and challenges in the twin sectors.

"Travel, tourism and hospitality are among the key sectors of the Indian economy and have registered a steady growth rate of 15.6 per cent (year-on-year) in Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in 2017," it said.

Mobile applications, social media, Big Data, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and virtual/augmented reality (VR/AR) are likely to shape the future of the travel industry, according to the report.

The online travel booking sales are likely to go up at a compound annual growth rate of 14.8 per cent from 2017 to 2021, it estimated. ■

# Farmer suicides dropped 10% in 2016: Govt tells Parliament

**I**ndia's high suicide rate among farmers fell 10% in 2016, according to figures revealed by the government in Parliament on 22 March, 2018.

The number of farmers who committed suicide in 2016 was 11,370, compared to 12,602 the previous year. According to the 2011 census, the suicide rate among farmers is 47% higher than the national average. Overall, more land-owning farmers than farm labourers took their lives, minister of state for agriculture Shri Parshottam Rupala said.

Maharashtra accounted for the highest number of farmer suicides in 2016, at 3,661. This was a fall from 4,291 in 2015. In Karnataka, the second-worst-

hit state, the number of suicides rose from 1,569 in 2015 to 2,029 the next year.

The drop could be because of several intervention policies over the years, says experts.

Agriculture contributes just 13.7% to India's GDP but employs two-thirds of its population. This points to 'disguised employment' (situation where more people are employed than is necessary for a given level of output) and low productivity in the sector.

The data cited in the reply showed that Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Karnataka continue to be farmer-suicide hotspots. Together, they account for almost 80% of all suicides. ■

# Lok Sabha passes bill to double tax-free gratuity to Rs. 20 lakh

**T**he Lok Sabha on March 15 passed the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) bill which seeks to empower the government to fix period of maternity leave and tax-free gratuity amount with an executive order. After the passage of the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill in the Rajya Sabha, the government would be able to enhance the ceiling of tax-free gratuity to Rs 20 lakh from existing Rs 10 lakh for employee under the Payment of Gratuity Act. After implementation of the seventh Central Pay Commission, the ceiling of gratuity amount for central government employees was increased from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh. The unions are demanding for inclusion of the change into the Act.

Moving the bill for passage, Labour Minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar said it is a very important legislation for employees, especially women.

Now, the bill will go to the Upper House for consideration and passage. At present, formal sector workers with five or more years of service are eligible

for Rs 10 lakh tax-free gratuity after leaving job or at time of superannuation. A senior government official said that the government wants to provide tax-free gratuity of Rs 20 lakh to organised sector workers at par with the central government.

The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, was enacted to provide for gratuity payment to employees engaged in factories, mines, oilfields, plantations, ports, railway companies, shops or other establishments. The law is applicable to employees, who have completed at least five years of continuous service in an establishment that has 10 or more persons.

The amendment will also allow the central government to notify the maternity leave period for "female employees as deemed to be in continuous service in place of existing twelve weeks". The proposal comes against the backdrop of the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017 enhancing the maximum maternity leave period to 26 weeks. ■

(With inputs from PTI)

## Disabilities Quota increased from 3% to 5%

**T**he Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on March 21 granted approval to amend the regulation for admission to PG medical courses in order to expand the scope of persons with disabilities getting benefit of reservation. The percentage of seats to be filled up by persons with disabilities was increased from 3% to 5% in accordance with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

Commenting on this decision, Shri J P Nadda stated that after twenty years the Government has taken a historical decision for welfare of divyang sisters and brothers in line with the Prime Minister's vision of 'sabka saath, sabka vikaas', ensuring that they are equal contributors to the progress of the nation. "Now all 21 benchmark disabilities as per the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 can register for admission to medical courses", Shri Nadda added.

According to the amended provision, 21 kinds of Disabilities (as per Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016) that includes Blindness, Low-vision, Leprosy Cured persons, Hearing Impairment (deaf and hard of hearing), Locomotor Disability, Dwarfism, Intellectual Disability, Mental Illness, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy, Muscular Dystrophy, Chronic



Neurological conditions, Specific Learning Disabilities, Multiple Sclerosis, Speech and Language disability, Thalassaemia, Hemophilia, Sickle Cell disease, Multiple Disabilities (including deafblindness), Acid Attack victim, Parkinson's disease, will now be considered under the reservation provided for persons with disabilities.

Accordingly, the software used by DGHS for central counseling has also been amended to allow registration of all such candidates. Registration/allotment of seats would be followed by a medical examination to ascertain. ■

## Aadhaar helps govt save over Rs. 1.5 bn in subsidy payment to khadi artisans

**A**adhaar-based payment of subsidies to khadi artisans has reduced the number of "ghost accounts" and saved the government over Rs 1.5 billion, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has said.

After implementation of the Aadhaar-seeded payment of the Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) or subsidy directly to the bank accounts of the Khadi artisans and craftsmen, the KVIC has so far saved over Rs 1.53 billion worth of public money in the 2015-16 and 2017-18 fiscals, a press note of the commission said. With the cleansing of the records, nearly 503 institutions have stopped claiming subsidies for non-existent artisans, it said.

"KVIC has entered the new digital era on March

1 this year with the implementation of the Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS)... (it) enables real-time transaction accounting, budgetary control and reconciliation systems, connecting all its field offices," the release quoted Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Giriraj Singh as saying.

"In 2015-16, MDA of around Rs 316 crore (3.16 billion) was claimed and given to 1,918 Khadi institutions. After the implementation of online Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system through Aadhaar-seeded bank accounts in January 2016, the MDA amount was reduced to Rs 172 crore (1.72 billion) for 1,759 institutions in the next fiscal 2016-17. In the present fiscal 2017-18, the KVIC has disbursed Rs 163 crore (1.63 billion) among 1,413 institutions," it said. ■ (PTI)

# Mookerjee and Tandon

| PANDIT DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA

**I**t is neither right nor safe to draw comparisons between great personalities for in a world so dissimilar, each individual has characteristics and distinctive traits, the parallel of which is not possible to find. In the case of great people these peculiarities are so pronounced and developed that each becomes a type by himself. Nevertheless Babu Purushottam Das Tandon and Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee both belonged to a category of great men who look great not only from a distance but grow greater still as you approach them. There are others and their tribe is legion today who is artificially elevated to the position of greatness. Through press and propaganda and by practising the art of leadership, they acquire greatness and remain great so long as you are fortunate enough not to see them from a point of acquaintance. A closer analysis will reduce these titans to tiny-gods. Too much contact with them might turn you into a cynic with no interest in life. On the other extreme are those whose fate has been mourned by Gray in his famous elegy. They are really great people, genius of the purest ray, serene, but they die unknown and unsung in the dark unfathomed depths of the ocean where they lived and worked. But Dr. Mookerjee and Tandon belonged to neither category. They had real worth coupled with public fame and name. But it is true that public recognition of their merit and services lagged far being the reality. They could acquit themselves well in any office they held. In fact in their case it was not office that gave them prestige but on the contrary they who lent glory to the office they held.

Dr. Mookerjee was honoured as a Minister of

the Central Cabinet but he rose much higher in the veneration of the people when he came out of the Cabinet.

## LIKE A TRUE KARMAYOGI

Tandon when he came the President of India National Congress lent a sublime halo to an office which today nobody is prepared to accept. That year there was a keen contest. And Tandonji won making it clear that he commanded a considerable and faithful following in the organisation. But when he relinquished office he gave evidence of his real greatness for he did so without any rancour. Like a true Karmayogi, without any attachment, he staked his all in the contest, but renounced the so eagerly coveted prize as if he had nothing to do with it.

Tandonji was great as the Speaker of the UP Legislative Assembly but became greater as an Ex-Speaker. He was great as President of the Congress and became greater as Ex-President after his resignation.

Tandonji and Mookerjee both represented and fought for upholding the cause of Bharatiya Sanskriti and Maryada. An effort was afoot to supplant the true culture of India by some hybrid variety. Tandonji and Mookerjee were both against this attempt. And they resisted it, one from within the Congress and the other from without. Whether through the Hindu Mahasabha or, due to changed circumstances, though Jana Sangh, Dr. Mookerjee sought to build up this resistance of the nationals of Bharat against the on slaughter of the 'composite culturists.' Tandonji fought this battle in the name of Hindi both before and after independence.



## TANDONJI & LANGUAGE

There is a great deal of misunderstanding about Tandonji's espousal of the cause of Hindi, specially amongst the non-Hindi speaking people. They think that Hindi is sought to be enforced throughout the country as a rival to, and ultimately to take the place of regional languages. In fact the issue has been, and is not. Hindi versus regional languages but Hindi versus Hindustani and Indian languages versus English. Those who take up the cause of English mistakenly harbour an idea that English as an all-India language will not harm the growth of regional languages. If English continues, the days of all the great languages of India are unnumbered.

What ever the English-maniacs may say, no power can retain English in India so long as the virile and rich languages of Bharat are there.

**These valiant fighters for these noble causes are no more with us, it is our duty to see that the fifth does not end. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee had bequeathed us an organisation that can legitimately strive to become a strong and fitting instrument of resisting subversion of our culture and heritage.**

The day of execution may be delayed but the judgement has been delivered the day when Britishers quit India.

## HINDUSTANI A COMPROMISE WITH SEPARATISM

The real issue is between Hindi and Hindustani. There has been, and is, no such language as Hindustani. It is the product of a policy of appeasement and compromise with the separatist and anti-national forces, culminating in the establishment of Pakistan.

A language is not simply a vehicle of expression but is also concerned with the life-values of the people who seek to use it. In this respect the national languages of India are so perfect that you can use any one of them without losing your cultural moorings.

If a man from Mathura goes to Madras and settles there and in the course of ages begins to speak Tamil instead of Hindi, he loses nothing in content. The final product will be the same. But not so with English or French.

And what is Hindustani? It is a language like Esperanto seeking to provide a vehicle of expression not to all the people of India but only to those the north that has a fairly large vocabulary of Arabic and Persian. Such a language if it can be artificially but up will be as far away from the people as English. To most of the Hindi people and to all the non-Hindi people it will be as unintelligible as Latin and Greek. Moreover, it is a part of the big schemes of deculturising the people of Bharat. If this attempt succeeds in the case of Hindi, it will not leave untouched and untrained other Bharatiya languages, for the basis and content of all of them is the same culture, which is being displaced from the Hindi region. It is a process of annihilation by degrees. Will not the protagonists of composite culture demand that Marathi and Bengali, Kannada and Tamil should also be overburdened with Arabic and Persian words and that they should also like Hindustani be written in two scripts? Tandonji believed in one culture and therefore he took up the cause of Hindi. The cause of Hindi is the cause of all the Indian languages.

## OUR DUTY

Now that these valiant fighters for these noble causes are no more with us, it is our duty to see that the fight does not end. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee had bequeathed us an organisation that can legitimately strive to become a strong and fitting instrument of resisting subversion of our culture and heritage. Unfortunately, Tandonji, fighting as he was from within the Congress, has not left any organised body to take up his cause.

So long as he was there Congressmen could rally round him. But today there is no such central figure.

There only homage to Rajarshi Tandonji can be to see that his services to Hindi and Bharatiya Culture do not go in vain, and now that the other side is resolutely trying to bypass the will of the people, they should organise themselves and in the tradition of Tandonji put up a fearless and successful fight. ■

[Organiser, 16 July, 1962]

# Dr. B R Ambedkar: A nation builder

**D**r Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar represents a multifaceted personality contributing immensely to enrich various facets of Indian national life. The people remember him as the chief architect of the Indian constitution, a social revolutionary and a Dalit thinker. So far, Babasaheb's writings in India have been selectively read within a particular framework showing him as a champion of deprived and oppressed sections of Indian society. He is seen as a chief architect of Indian constitution who laid the foundation of liberal democracy in the country expecting the state to take welfare measures in the interest of weaker sections of the society. But other side of his personality remains unexplored. He was a nationalist and a nation builder of highest order.

Speaking on the third reading of the draft constitution, Babasheb said in voice choked with emotion, "On 26th January 1950 India will be an independent country (cheers). What would happen to her independence? Will she maintain her independence or will she lose it again?"

This is the first thought that comes to my mind. It is not that India was never an independent country. The point is that she once lost the independence she had. Will she lose it a second time?" He further answers his own question emphasizing that these apprehensions were rooted in the history of India wherein the country had to face the ignominy of defeat and suffer at the hands of conquerors due to treachery of its own people. He said on the occasion, "What perturbs me greatly is the fact that not only India has once before lost her Independence, but she lost it by the infidelity and treachery of some of her own people. In the Invasion of Sind by Mahommed-Bin-Kasim, the military commanders of King Dahar accepted bribes from the agents of Mahommed-Bin-Kasim and refused to fight on the side of their King. It was Jaichand, who invited Mahommed Ghori to invade India and fight against Prithvi Raj and promised him the help of himself and the Solanki kings.

When Shivaji was fighting for the liberation of Hindus, the other Maratha noblemen and the Rajput kings were fighting the battle on the side



of Mughal emperors. When the British were trying to destroy the Sikh Rulers, Gulab Singh, their principal commander sat silent and did not help to save the Sikh kingdom.

He had very convincing answers on the question of whether the democratic Constitution will survive the test of time. He said, "It is not that India did not know what democracy is? There was a time when India was studded with republics and even where there were monarchies, they were either elected or limited. They were never absolute. It is not that India did not know Parliaments or Parliamentary procedure. A study of the Buddhist Bhikshu Sanghas discloses that not only there were Parliaments – for the Sanghas were nothing but Parliaments – but the Sanghas knew and observed all the rules of modern Parliamentary procedures, be it about seating arrangements, rules regarding Motions, Resolutions, Quorum, Whip, Counting of votes, voting by Ballot, Censure Motion, Regularization, Res Judicata, etc. Although these rules of Parliamentary Procedure were applied by the Buddha to the meetings of the Sanghas, he must have borrowed them from the rules of the political Assemblies functioning in the country in his time."

Exhorting the people of India to guard the hard earned independence, he said, "Will history repeat itself? It is this thought which fills me with anxiety. This anxiety is deepened by the realization of the fact that in addition to our old enemies in the form of castes and creeds, we are going to have many political parties with diverse and opposing political creeds. Will Indians place the country above their creed or will they place creed above country? I do not know. But this much is certain that if the parties place creed above country, our independence will be put in jeopardy a second time and probably be lost forever. This eventually we must all resolutely guard against." While the nation feels indebted for his immense contributions in the nation building process, we pay our homage to Babasaheb on his Jayanti. ■

# Sunder Singh Bhandari Shat-Shat Naman!

**S**hri Sunder Singh Bhandari was born on April 12, 1921 in a Jain family of Udaipur (Rajsthan). Originally his family belonged to Mandalgarh in Bhilwara but his grand father had shifted to Udaipur from there. Sh. Bhandari's father Dr. Sujan Singh Bhandari had used to work in medical field. That had always kept him moving. Sh. Bhandari got his education at several places. He had passed his High School from 'Sirohi', Intermediate from Udaipur and BA and MA from DAV College Kanpur. He passed his MA in Economics and later studied Law.

Sh. Bhandari was the embodiment of "Simple living and high thinking". A calm and cool, Sh. Bhandari had remained bachelor throughout his life and dedicated his life to the service of the nation. He after completing his education in 1942 had started legal practice in Mewar High Court. In 1937 he took admission in Intermediate in S.D. College Kanpur where Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay was his companion. In December 1937 one Balu Mahashabde of Indore took him to a RSS Shakha in Nawabganj near Kanpur. Since then he had remained Committed to R.S.S. ideology till his last breath.

In 1951 when Bhartiya Jansangh was founded, the prominent names which were sponsored by the RSS for Jansangh had also included the name of Sh. Bhandari. From 1951 to 1965 Sh. Bhandari had looked after the duties of Mahamantri in Rajasthan Jansangh. Moreover he was made All India Mantri of Jansangh in 1963 itself. After the death of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay, Sh. Bhandari ji was made All India Mahamantri (Sanghthan) in 1968.

He had worked as Jansangh Mahamantri till 1977. He has also been the member of the Rajya Sabha from Rajasthan during 1966- 1972 and he was once elected to Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh in 1976 while he was in custody under MISA. In 1998 when his Rajya Sabha term came to an end he was appointed governor of Bihar. In 1999 he was appointed Governor of Gujrat. Bhandari Ji presented before the



Karyakartas an example of simplicity, forbearance and austerity. The people might have found his way of working as hard but by nature he was very soft, so as to maintain the image of a disciplined party.

He used to ask the workers maintain decorum in the life style, he was a sculptor and efficient craftsman who had made the statue of man, society and the organization. He never desired to become KALASH. That is why he was frank by nature. Due to his hard nature and hard attitude towards work, Karyakartas used to call him as Head Master.

On June 22, 2005 he left for his heavenly abode. At 5 in the morning Shri Sunder Singh Bhandari, who had dedicated his whole life in the service of motherland and who had remained a RSS Pracharak through out his life, breathed his last in his Kalka Ji residence in New Delhi. In his death the country has lost an outstanding nationalist and the motherland has lost her distinguished son. The BJP has also lost its friend, philosopher and guide. ■



# ‘North-East can be the New Engine of India’s growth’

**T**he Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, launched number of development projects worth Rs. 750 crore in Manipur on 16 March, 2018. He laid the Foundation Stone of the National Sports University, 1000 Anganwadi Centres, and several other important development projects. He inaugurated the Luwangpokpa Multi Sports Complex, the Rani Gaidinliu Park, and other important development projects. He also addressed a public meeting at Luwangsangbam.

Addressing a huge gathering, the Prime Minister complimented the State Government for the work done by it over the past one year.

He said the projects launched today are related to the aspirations and talent of the youth, their employment, women empowerment and connectivity. He said the National Sports University is being established, keeping in mind the talent and sporting capability of the youth in the North East. He urged the youth of Manipur to take maximum advantage of the recently launched Khelo India Initiative. He also complimented Manipur for its good performance in the recently concluded Khelo India Games. He said the Multi Sports Complex would offer opportunities for training and competitions.

The Prime Minister said Manipur has shown how sports can become a means of women empowerment. He appreciated famous sportspersons of the State including Mirabai Chanu and Sarita Devi. He also appreciated other initiatives for women empowerment taken by the State Government. In this context, he also mentioned the 1000 Anganwadi Centers whose foundation stone was laid today. He spoke about the recently launched National Nutrition Mission.

The Prime Minister said that the Union Government’s vision for the North East has been ‘Transformation by Transportation.’ The Prime Minister said that the North-East can be the New Engine of India’s growth. He said the Government is addressing the special needs of the North East to



enable growth parity with the rest of the country. He remarked that he has himself visited the North East more than 25 times in the last 4 years.

He said that the Central Government has given a huge thrust on improving the infrastructure in the region. He spoke of initiatives taken for improving road and rail connectivity in the region.

Shri Narendra Modi appreciated the citizen-centric initiatives of the State Government, including for structured interaction and resolution of public grievances.

He said, “I have always maintained that India’s growth story shall never be complete until the eastern part of our country progresses at par with the western part. The North-East can be the New Engine of India’s growth. We are addressing the special needs of the North East Region to enable growth parity with the rest of the country”.

The Prime Minister said once Manipur decides something, no force can prevent it from happening. In April 1944, it was in this land of Manipur that Netaji Bose’s INA gave the clarion call for freedom. It energized the nation and gave much needed strength to the freedom struggle. He said that today Manipur has decided to play an important role in the rise of a New India. ■



## **‘World’s largest renewable energy expansion programme is going on in India’**

**P**M Shri Narendra Modi, French President Emmanuel Macron and other distinguished world leaders on 11 March, 2018 jointly inaugurated the Founding Conference of International Solar Alliance in New Delhi.

At the event, PM Shri Narendra Modi highlighted India’s target to achieve 175 GW of renewable energy, out of which 100 GW would be solar energy. He noted that 20 GW of solar energy had already been achieved.

PM Shri Modi said that it was essential to harness solar energy. In this context, he pointed towards developing latest technology, reducing solar tariffs, ensuring proper storage technology, mass manufacturing and innovation in the domain.

The PM laid out about ten action points including developing low cost solar energy, increasing scope of solar in energy mix, promoting solar energy based innovations and concessional financing for solar projects.

He said we have started the world’s largest renewable energy expansion programme in India. We will produce 175 gig watts of electricity from renewable sources and 100 gigawatts of electricity production of that will be from solar energy.

We have already achieved the target of 20 gigawatts of installed solar power capacity. In India, more capacity is being added through renewable sources than through the traditional sources of energy.

The objective of the Atal Jyoti Scheme in India is to install solar energy based street lights in those areas where there is a shortage of electricity. Solar Study Lamp Scheme has been providing light to

seven million school going children. The results can be even better if we link the solar energy with other technologies. For example, the distribution of 28 crore LED Bulbs by the government not only saved more than \$2 billion in the last three years but it also saved 4 gig wattsof electricity. It’s not just that, generation of carbon dioxide was also reduced by 30 million tones, he added.

Shri Modi said we will have to increase the proportion of solar energy in our energy mix. We have to provide concessional financing and less risky finance for solar projects. We will have to develop such regulatory aspects and standards that can provide a new momentum to the development and adoption of solar solutions. Development of consultancy support for bankable solar projects in developing countries will be essential, he said.

The PM said more inclusiveness and partnership should be stressed upon in our efforts. We should create a comprehensive network of centers of excellence that can take into account the local factors and situations. We should look at solar energy policy in the totality of development so that it can make the maximum contribution in achieving the SDGs. We should make the ISA Secretariat strong and professional.

The PM said, "I am confident that if we seek the betterment of the entire world, of the entire mankind then we will be able to forge unity and cohesion in our efforts and objectives like a family. This is the same path through which we can realise the prayer of ancient sages – Tamso MaJyotirgamay – it means ‘let’s move towards light from darkness’". ■



**P** rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched a campaign to eradicate tuberculosis (TB) from India by 2025, five years ahead of a globally-set deadline. After inaugurating the End-TB Summit in Delhi on 13 March, 2018 the Prime Minister launched the TB-free India Campaign to take the activities under the National Strategic Plan for TB Elimination forward in a mission mode for ending the epidemic by 2025.

"A target has been set to end TB globally by 2030. I would like to announce that we have set aim to eradicate it from India five years ahead by 2025," Shri Modi said.

He stressed on analyzing the situation and changing the approach, saying that efforts to curb tuberculosis has not yield successful results yet and said state governments have a major role to play in elimination of TB from the country.

He further said that front-line TB physicians and workers can make a major contribution in this direction. "State governments have a major role to play in elimination of TB from India. I have written to all Chief Ministers to join this mission," the PM said, adding it would boost the spirit of cooperative federalism.

He further said that TB was the most prevalent among communicable diseases in the country and the poor were the worst affected by it. Every step taken towards eradicating the disease is directly connected to their lives, he added.

Shri Modi said, "The End TB Summit in Delhi would be a landmark event towards the complete elimination of TB from India". He said every step taken towards the eradication of this disease, is also linked to the betterment of the lives of the poor.

He said the Government is working comprehensively towards this goal. The Prime Minister gave examples of Mission Indradhanush and Swachh Bharat, to show how the Union Government is speeding up progress towards desired targets.

Leaders from across the globe have converged in New Delhi for the summit, hosted by the Union Ministry of Health along with the WHO and the Stop TB Partnership. TB was responsible for 1.7 million deaths in 2016, despite most cases being curable while over 10 million people contract TB every year. The summit would set the stage for the September 2018 United Nations High-Level Meeting on TB, where for the first time, TB would be discussed in the UN General Assembly at the Heads of State level. ■

# Frontier becomes mainland

*PM's vision and development initiatives have led to integration of the Northeast with the rest of the country.*

| JITENDRA SINGH

**M**uch has been written in the past few days to analyse the assembly election results in Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya. Political “pundits” are splitting hair to unravel the secret of the BJP’s meteoric rise in the Northeast, that turned Tripura from red to saffron. Journalists who analyse election outcomes through tools developed to understand earlier regimes will find it difficult to fathom the BJP’s relentless efforts in the past three years — at the government as well as at the organisational levels — to achieve these results.

While Amit Shah is possibly the first-ever president of an Indian political party to have begun his tenure with an extensive tour of the Northeast — he spent not less than two days in each of the eight states — it is Prime Minister Narendra Modi who has set a record of sorts through his personal outreach. He has offered support to developmental activity and undertaken extensive tours, unmatched by any of his predecessors. The PM has undertaken 14 official



visits to the region and almost an equal number as a party leader to campaign during the assembly elections in Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland.

The PM’s tryst with the Northeast has been marked by several firsts. He is possibly the first PM in four decades to have visited Shillong to attend the North Eastern Council’s (NEC) plenary meet. It was after several years, if not decades, that a PM undertook a long visit to Mizoram. In three-and-a-half years, the PM visited Arunachal Pradesh twice — his immediate predecessor had visited the state only once in 10 years. His two-day visit to Sikkim was packed with official and public engagements that began at 7.30 am and went on till midnight, without any time for recreation — unlike most of his predecessors who visited this scenic state.

The PM’s visits were marked by the launch of historic projects and the initiation of schemes, aimed at providing livelihood to the people of the region. The people of Meghalaya had never seen a train before 2014, but today work is underway to lay a double-gauge railway line in the state. Tripura will have its first train to Bangladesh — a rail track from Agartala

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to the Bangladesh border is under construction with funding from the Ministry of Development of North East Region (DoNER).

Less than six months after assuming office, in November 2014, the PM embarked on a three-day tour of Meghalaya, Assam, Manipur, Tripura and Nagaland. He flagged-off of the first-ever train from Mendipathar in Meghalaya to Guwahati in Assam and dedicated Unit-II of the ONGC Tripura Company Ltd Power Plant to the nation. He also attended the inauguration of the “Sikkim Organic Festival” in January 2016, when Sikkim was declared the first “Organic State” of India. In the same month, the PM laid the foundation stone of IIIT Guwahati.

In May 2017, the PM inaugurated the Dholasadiya bridge across the Brahmaputra — also called the Bhupen Hazarika Setu. In Mizoram, in December 2017, he distributed the first lot of cheques of the Northeast Venture Capital Fund launched by the Ministry of DoNER. He inaugurated the Turial Hydro-Electric Power Plant at Aizawl, making Mizoram a power-surplus state.

One of the PM’s earliest statements after assuming office was, “we cannot ensure the wholesome growth of Mother India if only the West grows and the East does not.” This is the spirit behind his “Act East” policy. The first-ever Global Investors Summit he inaugurated at Guwahati in February is in line with that vision.

PM Modi’s personal initiative led to the culmination of the historic Indo-Bangladesh Agreement on the exchange of enclaves. He introduced the Cabinet note to amend the 90-year old Indian Forest Act. The amendment took bamboo grown in non-forest area out of the Act’s purview. This will enable the use of bamboo to generate livelihood. An exclusive Niti Aayog forum has been constituted for the Northeast.

Under the PM’s direction, a roster has been put in place, wherein eight Union ministers are expected to travel to the Northeast every fortnight. In other words, one Union minister visits each of the eight states in the region every fortnight. Inspired by PM Modi’s vision, the DoNER ministry initiated a unique experiment — it holds a “camp secretariat” in one of the eight Northeast states every month, by rotation.

The PM ensured the budget for the Northeast was increased and it currently stands at nearly Rs

49,000 crore. A separate North-East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS), one of its kind in India, was initiated for the region. A North-East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme” (NESIDS) that focuses on the region’s roads and its tourism potential is also underway.

Work on 15 new railway lines has been initiated, six double-gauge rail lines are being developed and three double-gauge rail lines are ready for use. A comprehensive telecom plan, amounting to Rs 5336 crore, is in place. In the power sector, six out of 19 projects were commissioned in less than four years. For the first time, in 2014, Rs 10,000 crore was sanctioned for laying transmission lines.

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Sikkim got its first airport at Pakyong as a result of PM Modi’s intervention. The Guwahati Airport has been upgraded to an international air-transport hub. Work on the upgradation of Agartala and Shillong airports has also begun.

The PM’s sincerity to uplift the Northeast has led to the blurring of the distinction between the so-called “hinterland” and “mainland”. The entire country, including the eight states of the Northeast today constitute the mainland. History will record this as one of the major contributions by any Indian prime minister. ■

**(The writer is Union Minister for Development of North East Region)**

# **Aim is to double farmers' incomes and make farmers' lives easier: Modi**



**T**he Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited the Krishi Unnati Mela at the IARI Mela Ground, Pusa Campus in New Delhi on March 17, 2018. He visited the theme pavilion, and the Jaivik Mela Kumbh. He laid the Foundation Stone for 25 Krishi Vigyan Kendras. He also launched an e-marketing portal for organic products. He gave away the Krishi Karman Awards and the Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Krishi Protsahan Puraskar.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Narendra Modi said that such Unnati Melas play a key role in paving the way for New India. He said that today, this is an opportunity for me to simultaneously speak to two

sentinels of New India – farmers and scientists. He said farmers and scientists have to work together to transform agriculture.

The Prime Minister specially mentioned the State of Meghalaya, which received an award for its achievements in agriculture, in the period under review.

He appreciated the spirit and the hard work of our farmers, for their achievements in agriculture since independence. He said that today, there is record production of foodgrains, pulses, fruits and vegetables, and milk. He said that there are important challenges in agriculture today, which reduce the

farmer's income, and increase his losses and expenditure.

The PM said the Government is working with a holistic approach to deal with these challenges. He said our aim is to double farmers' incomes, and make the farmers' lives easier.

Speaking about the progress towards this resolve, the Prime Minister said that more than 11 crore soil health cards have been distributed so far. 100 percent neem coating of Urea has also resulted in lowering expenditure on fertilizer, apart from raising productivity.

Shri Modi said that through the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, premiums have been lowered, capping on insurance removed, and claims amounts disbursed to farmers have gone up. He said the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana envisions water for every farm. 80,000 crore rupees are being spent to complete pending irrigation projects.

The PM said the Kisan Sampada Yojana is helping strengthen the supply chain from the farm to the market, and creating modern agriculture infrastructure. He said Operation Greens, announced in the recent budget, will be beneficial for farmers growing fruits and vegetables, especially Tomato, Onion and Potato.

He said several Model Acts related to farmers' welfare have been prepared, and States have been urged to implement them.

The Prime Minister said that the Government is working to ensure that farmers get modern seeds, adequate power supply, and easy market access.

Shri Modi said that the Union Government has decided that for all notified crops, MSP will be at least one and a half times the cost. He said that for this purpose the cost will include elements such as labour, rent for machinery, cost of seeds and fertilizers, revenue being given to State Government, interest on working capital, and rent of leased land.

The Prime Minister said comprehensive steps are being taken for Agriculture Marketing Reforms. It is important to connect Rural Retail Markets with wholesale and global markets. He said that in the recent Union Budget, Grameen Retail Agriculture Markets have been envisaged. 22,000 rural haats will be upgraded with necessary infrastructure, and integrated with APMC and the e-NAM platform.

He also emphasized the importance of Farmer Producer Organizations. He said Farmer Producer Organizations, would be given relief on income tax, on the lines of cooperative societies. He said a new chapter in Agriculture Marketing Reform is being added in this programme, with the e-marketing portal for organic products.

He said that along with the Green Revolution and White Revolution, we must stress on Organic Revolution, Water Revolution, Blue Revolution, and Sweet Revolution. He said the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) will play a key role in this regard.

The Prime Minister explained how honey-bees could be an important source of additional income

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for farmers. Similarly, he spoke of the benefits of solar farming. He said about 2.75 lakh solar pumps have reached farmers in the last three years. The Prime Minister also spoke of the Go-Bar Dhan Yojana for creating compost, bio-gas etc from bio-waste.

The Prime Minister said crop residue burning has harmful effects, and if the crop residue is instead returned to the soil through machines, it will have beneficial effects.

He said that the Government is working to ensure that adequate Agriculture Credit is available.

The Prime Minister said that such events should also be held in far-flung areas and there should be impact analysis of such events. ■

# E-WAY TO TRANSPARENCY GOVERNMENT E-MARKETPLACE

VINAY SAHASRABUDDHE  
& DHIRAJ NAYYAR

**A** small administrative innovation can have a transformative impact on governance. All it takes is a Gem of an idea. The Government e-Marketplace' was launched in August 2016, in keeping with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's stated goals of minimum government, maximum governance, corruption-free India, Make in India and empowering entrepreneurs. Its objective was to revolutionise government procurement of goods and services through a simple innovation.

The Government of India spends Rs. 4 lakh crore—almost double the value of India's entire e-commerce market—annually on procurement of supplies, according to estimates by the Ministry of Commerce. If we include the state governments, the amount would multiply several times. Historically, the procurement process has been opaque and riddled with corruption, inefficiency and quality issues. As a signatory to the United Nations Convention on Corruption since 2011, India is committed to a system of public procurement based on transparency, competition and objective criteria in decision-making that are effective in preventing corruption'. As experts in public financial management the world over acknowledge, this is easier proposed than done. By creating a world-class e-platform for government purchases, the Commerce Ministry has attempted to do just that.

GeM addresses minimum government by eliminating the direct interface between buyers (government departments/officials) and sellers. It aids maximum governance by ensuring that the government procures only the best available goods and services. By eliminating the discretion of officials, the system of government procurement becomes corruption free. The government can apply the principle of preferential market access in a transparent way to promote the purchase of goods made in India,

thus boosting manufacturing in the country. Most importantly, GeM levels the playing field; millions of small entrepreneurs can now sell their goods and services to the largest buyer in the country. Under the old system, the market was cornered by big players, leaving very little room for entrepreneurs.

GeM is resulting in substantial savings for the government, which can be deployed elsewhere for public benefit. Just recently, GeM saved the taxpayer Rs. 6.6 crore in a single transaction and has the potential to save at least 340,000 crore a year, which is roughly the size of the annual budget for MGNREGA. All it took for this change was motivation, imagination and digital tools.

The motivation was, in the words of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to minimise prices while maximising ease, efficiency and transparency. "The government is committed to curbing corruption. One of the key aspects...is to minimise government's human transactional interface. Accordingly, public procurement is being transformed by leveraging technology," he stated.

As a near-monopoly buyer, one would think that the government would have leveraged its position to obtain quality goods at floor prices. However, the system of public procurement, through direct purchases, tendering and rate contracts, was famously riddled with inefficiencies and scope for graft. Time-consuming and cumbersome, it offered no real-time price discovery mechanism, because comparative data on prices across departments or for previous purchases was not readily available.

The rate contract system, implemented through the Directorate General of Supplies & Disposal (DGS&D, a centralised procurement body under the Ministry of Commerce), was used by central government ministries, departments, public sector undertakings and state governments. It suffered from a lack of competition and the everpresent threat of cartelisation of suppliers, since only a limited number were registered with the department. Price and



product models were fixed for a whole year, quality issues abounded and negligence in delivery of small orders to remote places was a constant irritant.

An efficient, transparent and accountable system of procurement was needed to ensure timely purchase and delivery of products and services at reasonable prices. A group of secretaries to the Government of India came up with the idea of a market exclusively for government purchases. After all, as a buyer, the government was certainly big enough to command its own bazaar. Encouraging competition among manufacturers and wholesalers could ensure substantial savings to the exchequer in terms of bargain prices. However, streamlining and expediting purchases could not be at the cost of accountability and transparency.

Aggregators like Amazon and Flipkart had

**The GeM is a one-stop shop which offers vendors direct access to the whole range of government departments. They can market their goods, bid for orders placed online, suggest new products and monitor payments.**

shown the way to an online platform. By gathering and presenting information on specific goods and services from competing players, the interests of the goods/ service providers as well as the customers (in this case, government departments) could be served.

A national public procurement portal was an innovation that checked all the necessary boxes—speed, easy price, discovery and transparency. The additional advantages were low transaction costs and elimination of administrative overheads. So, when a central government department wanted to go shopping, say for a biometric scanner or a bus or a set of bed sheets, it could head to an e-supermarket, compare prices and product specifications and place an order.

The Ministry of Information Technology stepped in

and assigned the design of the platform to a group of young techies. The challenge was to build an e-commerce site which was user-friendly, but was in line with government financial rules (GFR) and lent itself to easy auditing. In some ways, it was easier than conventional e-commerce because inventory management and logistics were not the government's headache; all it had to do was to bring the players together. The deadline was tight but they delivered, and GeM was online by August 2016.

Of course, the GFR had to be amended by the Ministry of Finance. A new rule, 141-A, was inserted to provide for an online government e-Marketplace (GeM) for common use goods and services'. It allowed purchases of up to 150,000 without obtaining clearance from above, which was a time-intensive procedure. The crux of the e-bazaar, designed by the IT ministry, was minimising human interaction by digitising the buyer-vendor interface and severely limiting discretion. GeM made fixing of contracts to favour certain vendors very difficult, besides throwing open the doors to any and all vendors, regardless of geography and granting access to the corridors of power.

The GeM is a one-stop shop which offers vendors direct access to the whole range of government departments. They can market their goods, bid for orders placed online, suggest new products and monitor payments. The consumers have the advantage of being able to compare products and prices, buy as and when required and return products which don't match expectations. User-friendly dashboards display information on products and services available. Orders placed and contracts awarded are also open to public scrutiny.

As of 8 March 2017, it is mandatory for all ministries and central government departments to purchase supplies and services from GeM, if the desired items are available on the portal. The GFR has been suitably amended (Rule 149) to say, 'The procurement of goods and services by ministries or departments will be mandatory for goods or services available on GeM.' For items not available on GeM, the rate contracts system continues. ■

*(Continued...)*

*(The above article is taken from recently published book 'The Innovation Republic')*

# Rising India means the rise of 125 crores Indians: PM Modi



**T**he Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Rising India Summit on 16 March, 2018 in New Delhi. Speaking to the gathering the Prime Minister touched various issues and highlighted various initiatives, schemes and programmes taken up by the Bharatiya Janata Party led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government in the last four years at the Centre.

Shri Narendra Modi said that when we speak of a rise, in terms of a nation, it has a very broad context. He said that beyond the rise of the economy, the Rising India implies the rise of self-respect among the people of India. He said that with the collective willpower of the people, even the impossible can be accomplished.

Shri Modi said, "Today, this collective willpower, is working to accomplish the resolve of New India".

He said that contrary to the common perception in many nations, that Governments lead development and change, while citizens follow; in India the trend has been reversed in the last four years. Now citizens lead, and the government follows, he added.

He said the Swachh Bharat Mission has become

a mass movement in a short time. Citizens are using digital payments as a weapon against corruption and black money. He added the citizens of the country have inspired the Government to take big decisions and implement them. The transformational shift in India, is due to the resolve of its people. He said that as a vision, the Government is working to reduce the sense of imbalance at the national level. Through the help of a video, he explained how the Ujjwala Yojana is transforming not just kitchens, but entire families. This addresses a big imbalance in our social structures.

## **'ACT FAST FOR INDIA'S EAST'**

The PM said that he returned after spending the day in Manipur, where he inaugurated the Science Congress, laid the Foundation Stone for the Sports University, and initiated several other important projects for the North-East. He said the emotional integration and demographic dividend of Eastern India must be kept in mind. The Government is working with the Mantra of 'Act East And Act Fast For India's East.' He said, this

includes not just the North-East, but also Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Odisha etc.

Shri Narendra Modi gave examples of the gas cracker project in Assam; revival of fertilizer plants in Gorakhpur, Barauni and Sindri; the Jagdishpur Haldia gas pipeline; and the Dholu Sadia bridge, to show how emphasis is being given to kick starting projects in the region. He said 12 new airports are being constructed in eastern India.

The Prime Minister said that out of the 18,000 villages that had been left unelectrified, about 13,000 were in eastern India, and 5000 in the North-East. He said soon, the target of electrifying these villages will be accomplished. He said the Saubhagya Yojana would provide an electricity connection to each home. He said this march of Eastern India, from isolation, to integration, would give strength to "Rising India."

#### FOUR PILLAR OF HEALTH SECTOR

Turning to the health sector, the Prime Minister said the Government is focusing on four pillars in this sector:

- Preventive Health
- Affordable Healthcare
- Supply-side interventions
- Mission mode intervention

On preventive healthcare, Shri Modi said that there are toilets in 13 crore houses today, compared with 6.5 crore houses in 2014. He said sanitation coverage has risen from about 38 percent, to about 80 percent. He said Yoga has become a mass movement. He mentioned the Wellness Centres announced in the recent Union Budget. He also spoke about immunization.

The Prime Minister said more than 3000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras have been established across the country, where more than 800 medicines are available at low rates. He said the prices of stents and knee implants have also been regulated.

He said the Ayushman Bharat scheme would offer health assurance to nearly 10 crore families.

He said that to address the shortage of doctors, the number of seats in medical colleges is being substantially enhanced. He mentioned the National Nutrition Mission, launched on International Women's Day.

#### UNIQUE DEVELOPMENT MODEL FOR EVERY SECTOR

The Prime Minister explained how the Union Government

is working on a Unique Development Model for each sector.

On the power sector, the Prime Minister emphasized the importance of breaking silos, and finding solutions. He said the Power Ministry, Renewable Energy Ministry and Coal Ministry are now working as one unit. He said that India is moving from Power Shortage to Power Surplus, and from Network Failure to Net Exporter.

Shri Modi said that today people believe that India can leave its weaknesses behind, and march forward. He said this belief is the foundation of Rising India. He said that today, the whole world is acknowledging India's rise. He said India is giving a new direction, not just to its own development, but also to development of the whole world. He said India is leading the solar revolution today, as demonstrated by the recently held

**On the economic front, in the last three to four years, India has lent strength to global economic growth as well. He said the country is performing well on all macro-economic parameters. He said rating agencies are revising India's ratings upwards.**

Conference of the International Solar Alliance. He said that at international platforms, such as G-20 and United Nations, India has raised issues which affect the entire world, such as terrorism, black money and corruption.

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He said that the Government is working with a holistic approach keeping in mind the aspirations of the poor, lower-middle and middle classes. He said that the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana has become an effective means to empower youth and women. ■

# INDIA- FRANCE TO BOOST TIES IN RENEWABLE ENERGY, STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



**F**rench President Emmanuel Macron paid visit to India from March 10 to 12. He was received at the airport by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Mr. Macron was accompanied by his wife Brigitte Marie-Claude Macron, besides senior ministers from his Cabinet. The two leaders PM Modi and President Shri Emmanuel Macron co-hosted the Founding Summit of the International Solar Alliance in New Delhi on 11 March 2018. The leaders held wide ranging and constructive discussions and underlined the growing convergence between the two countries on regional and international issues. On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the strategic partnership between India and France, the first to be established by India, the two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to furthering it and decided to take it to a new level by agreeing to hold biennial summits between the Prime Minister of India and the President of the French Republic. Both leaders agreed to deepen and strengthen the bilateral ties based on shared principles and values of democracy, freedom, rule of law and respect for human rights. A major initiative from the visit is the 'International Solar Alliance' to be led by India and France, which will give impetus to the international effort to harness solar energy so as to provide the world with clean, non-polluting fuel and try to reduce threat of increasing carbon emission. President Emmanuel Macron reaffirmed support of France for India's candidature for a permanent membership of the

UN Security Council. France and India share common concerns and objectives in the field of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. During the French President visit, both countries signed an agreement to expedite the world's largest project Jaitapur nuclear power plant, with the aim of commencing work at the site around the year-end

**Both countries signed a number of mutual agreements and memorandum of understanding as follow:**

- Agreement between India and France on the Prevention of Illicit Consumption and Reduction of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Chemical Precursors and Related Offences
- India-France Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement
- Agreement between India and France to facilitate Mutual Recognition of Academic Qualifications
- Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Railways and SNCF Motilities, France on technical cooperation in the field of Railways.
- Letter of Intent between India and France for creation of a permanent Indo-French Railways Forum.
- Agreement between India and France regarding the provision of reciprocal logistics support between their Armed Forces
- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between

India and France on cooperation in the field of Environment

- Agreement between India and France on cooperation in the field of Sustainable Urban Development
- Agreement between India and France regarding the exchange and reciprocal protection of classified or protected information
- Implementing Arrangement between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Central National D'Etudes Spatiales (CNES) for pre-formulation studies of a Maritime Awareness Mission
- Industrial Way Forward Agreement between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd, and EDF, France
- Bilateral Arrangement between India and France on cooperation in the matter of Hydrography and Maritime Cartography
- Credit Facility Agreement between India and France of Euros 100 million for funding of the Smart City Projects through a Challenge Process
- Memorandum of Understanding between National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE), Ministry of New & Renewable Energy and the National Solar Energy Institute (INES), France.

**SOLAR POWER PLANT INAUGURATED IN VARANASI**

During the visit French President Emmanuel Macron along with Prime Minister visited Varanasi. Both leader jointly inaugurated the biggest solar power plant solar power plant of the state at Dadar Kalan village of Chhanvey block in Mirzapur district on March 12. Built at a cost of around Rs. 500 crore by French firm ENGIE, the 100 MW solar plant has come up at Dadar Kalan village on the hilly terrain of the Vindhyas range. Some 1,18,600 solar panels have been set up in over 380 acres. The solar plant will generate 15.6 crore units of electricity annually, which is about 1.30 crore units per month. The electricity would be transmitted to Mirzapur's Jigna sub-station which belongs to the Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd. Prime Minister Modi also pledged to generate 175 gigawatts (GW) of electricity in India from renewable energy sources by 2022, out of which 100 GW would be generated from solar power. After inauguration From the two leaders visited Deen Dayal Hastkala Sankul - a trade facilitation centre in Varanasi. President Macron and Prime Minister

Modi also visited the Varanasi's Assi ghat, where the two leaders took a boat ride on the ghats of the Ganga - from Assi to Dashashwamedh ghat.

**JOINT STATEMENT IN COOPERATION**

In a joint statement reaffirmed that the strengthening of the India-French technological cooperation on renewable energy was a common priority for encouraging the emergence and dissemination of innovation in all the sectors. They stressed the importance of mobilizing public and private funds to support the development of solar energy. In this regard, they welcomed the establishment, within the International Solar Alliance, of an international committee of chambers of industry, and the willingness of MEDEF, SER, FICCI and CII among others to join it. Prime Minister Modi and President Macron noted with satisfaction the excellent Indo-French cooperation on sustainable cities and Smart Cities, marked by numerous cases of innovation sharing and fruitful collaborations between French and Indian stakeholders. They welcomed the exemplary



cooperation programme in the three Smart Cities of Chandigarh, Nagpur, and Puducherry, and the extension of AFD's technical assistance programme under the framework of this Mission. They welcomed the signing of the loan agreement between the AFD and the Government of India for 100 million euros in support of the Smart Cities Mission. They also called upon all countries to work towards rooting out terrorist safe havens and infrastructure, disrupting terrorist networks and their financing channels, and halting cross-border movement of terrorists like Al Qaeda, Daesh/ISIS, Jaish-e-Mohammed, HizbulMujahideen, Lashkar-e-Tayabba, and their affiliates as well as terrorist groups threatening peace and security in South Asia and the Sahel region. ■

# IIP boost, Inflation eased

**T**he Quick Estimates of Index of Industrial Production (IIP) with base 2011-12 for the month of January 2018 were released on March 12 by the Central Statistics Office of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The Index of Industrial Production rose 7.5 percent in January, compared to the estimated 6.4 percent.

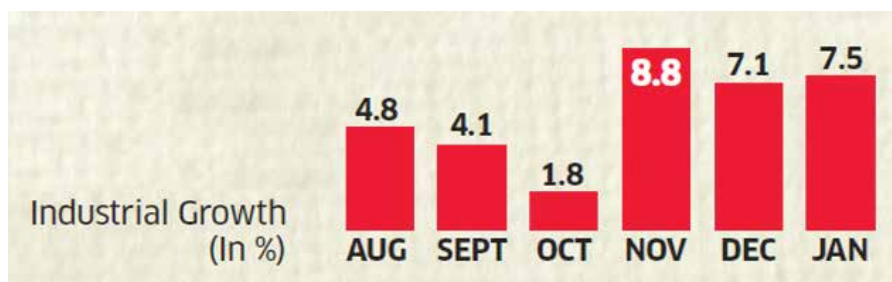
The General Index for the month of January 2018 stands at 132.3, which is 7.5 percent higher as compared to the level in the month of January 2017. The cumulative growth for the period April-January 2017-18 over the corresponding period of the previous year stands at 4.1 percent.

The Indices of Industrial Production for the Mining, Manufacturing and Electricity sectors for the month of January 2018 stand at 114.5, 133.8 and 149.5 respectively, with the corresponding growth rates of 0.1 percent, 8.7 percent and 7.6 percent as compared to January 2017 (Statement I). The cumulative growth in these three sectors during April-January 2017-18 over the corresponding period of 2016-17 has been 2.5 percent, 4.3 percent and 5.3 percent respectively.

In terms of industries, sixteen out of the twenty three industry groups (asper 2-digit NIC-2008) in the manufacturing sector have shown positive growth during the month of January 2018 as compared to the corresponding month of the previous year (Statement II). The industry group 'Manufacture of other transport equipment' has shown the highest positive growth of 33.1 percent followed by 27.8 percent in 'Manufacture

of furniture' and 26.6 percent in 'Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers'.

Some important item groups showing high positive growth during the current month over the same month in previous year include 'Bodies of trucks, lorries and trailers' (267.5%), 'Steroids and hormonal preparations (including anti-fungal preparations)' (102.9%), 'Stainless steel utensils' (89.2%), 'Axle' (58.8%), 'Separators including decanter centrifuge' (49.7%), 'Sugar' (40.9%), 'Two-wheelers (motorcycles/scooters)' (37.7%), 'Digestive enzymes and antacids (incl. PPI drugs)' (31.7%), 'Commercial Vehicles' (29.8%), 'Films of polythene, polyester, PVC & other forms of plastic' (22.0%) and



'Cement- all types' (21.5%).

Indian economy got another boost as consumer inflation fell more than expected. CPI inflation in India stood at 4.4 percent in February slowing for the second straight month from a 17-month high, according to data released by the Central Statistics Office on March 12.

India Inflation rates (on point to point basis i.e. current month over same month of last year, i.e., February 2018 over February 2017), based on General Indices and CFPIs are given as follows:

<b>All India Inflation rates (%) based on CPI (General) and CFPI</b>									
Indices	February 2018 (Prov.)			January 2018 (Final)			February 2017 (Final)		
	Rural	Urban	Combd.	Rural	Urban	Combd.	Rural	Urban	Combd.
CPI (General)	4.37	4.52	4.44	5.21	4.93	5.07	3.67	3.55	3.65
CFPI	3.62	2.45	3.26	5.05	4.06	4.70	2.08	1.87	2.01

# Marx & Deendayal: The Two Approaches

(Continue from Last Issue...)

I D.B. THENGDI

**O**n this point Marx was thoroughly wrong. Consider, for example, the resurgence of nationalism in all communist countries; patriotic uprisings in Eastern Europe; demand for complete internal autonomy by communist parties of the western Europe; conscious efforts in all countries, including India, to reconcile Marxism with national heritage; between Vietnam and Cambodia, and tussle between USSR and China prompted by the instinct of rational self-interest.

Marxism proclaims the disappearance of the 'Bourgeois family'. Engels' expounds in details the Marxist views on the development of family, which is one of the superstructures erected on the economic base. In an ideal society, the management of the individual household would be turned into a branch of social work. The family will lose all its social functions. It will die out. Being purged of its social content, the family will wither away.

Maoism does not view marriage with favour. Though Marx said, "we shall interfere in the private relations between men and women only insofar as

they disrupt our social structure," what disrupts social structure as to be decided finally by the Communist State only. Academic discussion on this point seems to be superfluous. Even under communist regimes, family has come to stay, and "official and open wife sharing instead of hypocritical and concealed wife-sharing," could not yet acquire any measure of respectability.

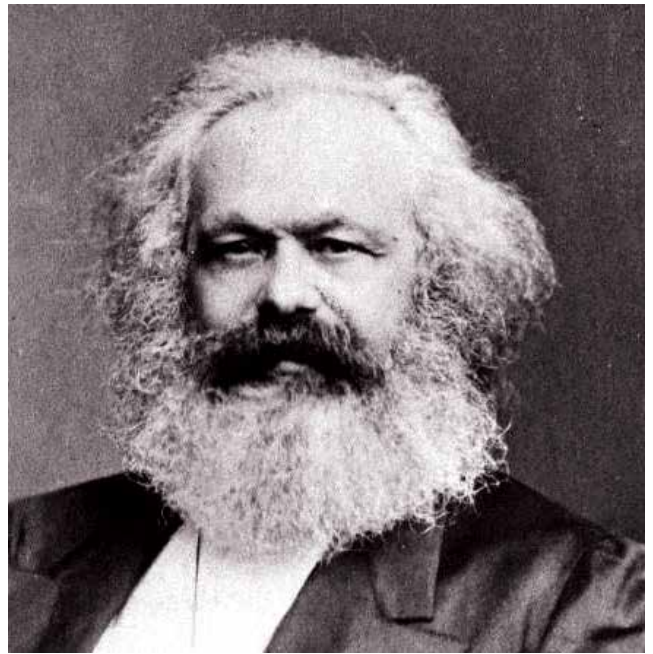
Though Marxism ultimately pleads for the full development of every individual, in the immediate context, the individuality of man. In practice, equality is turned into equivalence. Individual citizens are components of the state-apparatus. Individual relations between husbands and wives and between parents and children are to be destroyed. Children need not know that parents, and should be brought up by the state. The individual, family, marriage and the familial rearing of children should not exist.

Such a negation of individuality is bound to result in the destruction of Man. As Igor Shafarevich puts it, the basic problem is really that the establishment of a social order fully embodying the principles of socialism will lead to a complete alteration in man's relation to life and to a radical break in the structure of human individuality."

## VI. 'ISM'LESSNESS

The ideology of Deendayalji as well as of Marx is essentially humanistic. But unfortunately, the traditional prejudices of European intelligentsia, coupled with pressing requirements of the immediate and lack of adequate knowledge of the Hindu Darshana, contributed largely to the imbalance and compartmentalisation in Marxian thought system. Both of them were wise enough not to found any 'ism'. Deendayalji's use of the term 'ism' was a practical concession to the common man's level of understanding which could not comprehend the grand 'ism'-lessness of Santana Dharma; and Marx is reported to have once remarked, "Thank God! I am not a Marxist." Both of them were, again, mature enough not to present any elaborate blueprint, though they certainly provided the guidelines. Neither of them offered any precise description of the ideal

**Such a negation of individuality is bound to result in the destruction of Man. As Igor Shafarevich puts it, the basic problem is really that the establishment of a social order fully embodying the principles of socialism will lead to a complete alteration in man's relation to life and to a radical break in the structure of human individuality."**



socio-politico-economic institutions and their mutual relationships. This is as it should be. A clear-cut blueprint is necessarily evolved by pragmatic system-builders in course of time on the basis of practical len. and continuous appraisal of the situation. The maxim 'from each according to his ability; to each according to his needs' is quite consistent with the spirit of Integral Humanism. Both thought-systems consider freedom from want and production or action for the sake of self-fulfilment, as an ideal condition. The final stage of of communism consisting of 'socialised humanity' that is "a classless, stateless, and generally a structureless collectivity of complete individuals who live in harmony with themselves and with each other" is broadly compatible with the ultimate goal of Integral Humanism.

BM Marx was at a disadvantage in that he had no heritage to fall back upon, which would readily offer suitable instruments for achieving the end. How to raise complete individual? What precisely would constitute the sustaining force for the ideal society?

## VII. THE DESTINATION

The Hindu culture conceives of progress of man as simultaneous progress of the body, mind, intellect and soul. It places before us the ideal of

the fourfold responsibilities of catering to the needs of body, mind, intellect and soul with a view to achieving the integrated progress of man. The fourfold 'Purusharthak' i.e., Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha, in an integrated way, constitute the ultimate goal of individual life. In this scheme of Purusharthak, the Artha and the Kama are sandwiched between the Dharma and the Moksha. The material is happily, and in a balanced way, integrated with the spiritual. And among these the Dharma is basic, and supreme. It sustains society in its ideal condition. Dharma renders validity and stability to an ideal socio-economic structure and the various institutions functioning within its framework.

Thus, the Hindu heritage furnishes us with the tools of reconstruction at different levels. This is the destination envisaged by Integral Humanism. It would be superfluous to inquire about comparative merit of different thought-systems. Each system is great in its own way. The problem is how to make them mutually complementary. For us, it should not be an insoluble problem. An aptitude for synthesis, as manifested brilliantly by Vyas and Sankara, has been one of the unique features of our national genius. ■

*(The writer was an eminent thinker & Founder-General Secretary of Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh)*





## UGC GIVES FULL AUTONOMY TO 60 HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

University Grant Commission (UGC) in a historic decision has accorded autonomy to 60 higher education institutions, which have maintained high academic standards. HRD Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar made this announcement in New Delhi on March 20, 2018. He said of 60 institutions, five are Central Universities, 21 State Universities, 24 deemed, two Private Universities and eight colleges, which have been granted autonomy under the Autonomous Colleges Regulation. The Minister said autonomy was given to these institutions, in line with the vision of PM Shri Narendra Modi towards liberalized regulatory regime.

—(THE INDIAN EXPRESS, March 21, 2018)

## CONGRESS PLAYING WITH FIRE, SAYS BJP AS KARNATAKA RECOGNIZES LINGAYAT AS SEPARATE RELIGION

The BJP has criticized the Karnataka govt. for its decision to recommend separate religion status for the state's powerful and electorally crucial Lingayats in the Congress-ruled state. BJP has accused CM, Siddaramaiah of "playing with fire for vote bank politics". BJP national general secretary & in-charge of Karnataka Shri P Muralidhar Rao has accused the state's ruling Congress of practicing a "divide and rule" policy. Earlier, the Siddaramaiah government decided to declare Lingayats as a religious minority and include the Veerashaivas who follow Basavanna as a group within the community. The move had expected to have a huge impact on the assembly polls. The community makes up 17% of the state's population.

—(THE ECONOMIC TIMES, March 19, 2018)

## YOGI ADITYANATH LAUNCHES ANTI-GRAFT PORTAL, ANNOUNCES 4-LAKH JOBS

UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched an anti-graft portal as his government completed

its first year in office. CM also declared that his government will soon hire four lakh people in various government departments. "Through this portal, any official who is involved in corruption or is encouraging it at any level will not be spared. Effective action will be taken if a video or any other evidence is uploaded on the portal. This will deliver a lethal blow against the corrupt elements," Shri Adityanath said. UP government will come up with four lakh jobs in as many as 64 departments ranging from police constables to sub-inspectors, block development officers and revenue officials, he said. The CM said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has frequently referred to the alleged anomalies in recruitment by the UP Public Service Commission in the past. The election promise of ending the interview process for group-C and group-D during recruitment, which was encouraging corruption, has been implemented by us," he said.

—(ECONOMIC TIMES, March 19, 2018)

## GOVT. WORKS ON SOLUTIONS, NOT IN SILOS, SAYS PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said on March 16, 2018 that his government had taken bold decisions and removed social imbalances because it enjoyed the support of the people. Shri Modi announced the Centre will spend Rs 1 lakh crore on infrastructure, noting that his government works on providing solutions, and not in silos. "Political adversaries might say what they want but our government is able to take big decisions as they were supported by people," Shri Modi said.

He said, the government has received tremendous support in its efforts to curb black money and fight corruption. The Prime Minister said, in his opinion, Rising India means rising the confidence of 125 crore people of the country. He said, Rising India evokes the thought of light through the darkness.

—(TIMES OF INDIA, March 16, 2018)

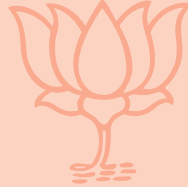
(Compiled by Pankaj Anand)



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**KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE**



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah addressing the BJP MPs meeting at 6A, Deendayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with BJP National President Shri Amit Shah, other senior leaders and MPs of the party at the BJP MPs meeting at New Delhi



BJP National General Secretary (Organization) Shri Ram Lal flanked by Assam CM Shri Sarbananda Sonowal and others at the Chakma Autonomous District Council Parivartan Rally, Mizoram

