

KAMAL SANDESH

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16-31 May, 2018 (Fortnightly)

₹20



**PROPER MANAGEMENT OF BILATERAL
RELATION IMPORTANT FOR 'ASIAN CENTURY'**



Every village “powered and empowered” now

**'MODERN, PROGRESSIVE AND DEVELOPED
KARNATAKA IS THE BJP'S VISION'**

**THE IMPEACHMENT FIASCO – ANOTHER
EXAMPLE OF CONGRESS ADOPTING A
FRINGE POSITION**

**TMC UNLEASHES CYCLE OF
VIOLENCE IN WEST BENGAL**

GLIMPSES OF BJP NATIONAL PRESIDENT SHRI AMIT SHAH'S BHOPAL (MADHYA PRADESH) PRAVAS



Madhya Pradesh BJP welcoming Party National President Shri Amit Shah and other BJP senior leaders to the meeting venue, Bhopal



Shri Amit Shah addressing the state BJP extended meeting in Bhopal, MP



Grand views of karyakartas participating in the meeting in Bhopal

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A HISTORIC MILESTONE IN DEVELOPMENT JOURNEY OF INDIA

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twitter



@narendramodi

Congress can win Gold Medals in corruption, telling lies and making false promises.

@ChouhanShivraj



Under PM @narendramodi's leadership, BJP Govt. rolled out numerous measures for farmer welfare, including spending Rs 1,200 crore to turn Chambal ravines into cultivable land and opening of customized processing and service centres that will be run by farmers. #NaavuModiJotho.



@myogiadityanath

'Beej Se Bazaar Tak' by PM @narendramodi led BJP Govt, brings technology to farming with initiatives like, Soil Health Cards, 100% Neem Coated Urea & 'Per Drop-More Crop' micro-irrigation and many more. #FarmerswithModi.

facebook

Wherever I go in Karnataka, I see huge anger among people against the corrupt Siddaramaiah govt. But this corrupt regime is a matter of few days, on 12th May, Karnataka will vote for development.



— **Amit Shah**

National Health Mission (NHM) has decided to roll out 'Integrated initiative for prevention & control of viral hepatitis' with a budget of 517.39 crores for three years with various components such as surveillance, awareness generation, immunization etc.



— **J.P. Nadda**

Highest Revenue Growth in 3 years: Indian Railways has attracted 6.75 crore more passengers in 2017-18 than it did in 2016-17, which helped it earn ₹48,643 crore, an increase of 5.1% from the previous year.



— **Piyush Goyal**



Courtesy: Social Media



Kamal Sandesh Parivar
wishes a very happy
'GANGA DUSSEHRA'
to its readers

EVERY VILLAGE GETS ELECTRICITY NOW

Leisang in Manipur became the last village to get electricity in India. A village housing around 38 families with a population little more than 200 people finds itself connected to the vast field of opportunities awaiting it. As the first bulb is switched on, a new sense of empowerment and relief was evident on the face of the people. The excitement of the villagers reported in a newspaper sums up the mood in the words of village secretary Lalboi, "That night, none of us, including the children, slept due to the excitement. The children kept running around in the fields. We are very thankful to the government. No words can express how happy we are." People are celebrating newfound status of their village which can now leap forward to write its own story of development transforming the lives of all the villagers.

Leisang is not alone in feeling this excitement while getting ready to welcome a new future. All the census villages numbering 18,452 are now electrified and now feeling a new sense of empowerment. There was no hope for these villages to get electricity until the Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced from the ramparts of the Red Fort during his Independence Day address to the nation in 2015 that all these villages were

going to be electrified within 1000 days. These villages situated in far flung areas, having difficult terrain and connectivity, were left behind in the country's march to development. As they remained isolated due to their geography, they were pushed down even in the priority list of the government. A sense of hopelessness gripped the inhabitants of these villages who could not see a bright future for themselves in the absence of electricity. The doors of a number of opportunity remained shut for these large number of people which was to be unlocked only by connecting them to the electricity grid of the country. At the normal pace it might have taken years for these villages to get electricity, but it was mainly owing to the special emphasis of the prime Minister that these villages are able to get electricity even before the target period of 1000 days.

The approach of the Prime minister in taking these hitherto neglected villages along in the development journey symbolises the spirit behind the mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'. The concept of development under this mantra is not only all-embracing and holistic but it also has special focus on the poor, deprived and oppressed sections of the society. BJP has an integral approach towards the comprehensive development of the country and as long as any part or constituents of our nation remains deprived, the journey cannot find its fulfilment in its idea of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'. Connecting 18,452 villages to electricity has enabled this hitherto neglected section of society to reap the fruits of development and march along with the country with newly acquired confidence and hope.

While nation is celebrating this unique achievement of our country, a section of opposition led by Congress is indulging in ludicrous criticism making themselves a laughing stock. The Congress should realize that it's not an achievement of any party but of the entire nation and it should ready itself to join such milestones or it will find itself isolated in these kinds of national celebrations which are sure to increase in the coming days. After connecting all the villages to the electricity grid, the government's focus has now shifted to provide electricity connection to all the homes which still remains unconnected. It will further revolutionise Indian growth story and transform the lives of millions of people. In the world today, without making electricity available development remains a distant dream. Prime Minister Narendra Modi should be congratulated for taking this visionary initiative to make electricity available to every home while writing a new saga of development in transforming the lives of millions. ■

 shivshakti@kamalsandesh.org

THE CONGRESS SHOULD REALIZE THAT IT'S NOT AN ACHIEVEMENT OF ANY PARTY BUT OF THE ENTIRE NATION AND IT SHOULD READY ITSELF TO JOIN SUCH MILESTONES OR IT WILL FIND ITSELF ISOLATED IN THESE KINDS OF NATIONAL CELEBRATIONS WHICH ARE SURE TO INCREASE IN THE COMING DAYS.

A historic milestone in development journey of India

India fully electrified after the last village 'Manipur's Leisang' gets power

On April 28, 2018 Leisang in Manipur, became the last village to be added to the national power grid in India. Following that achievement the whole country celebrated on that day after the target to bring electricity to all villages was achieved. Village electrification targets of the Modi government under 'Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna' (DDUGJY) have been achieved well before time.

The rural electrification scheme, to supply power to 18,452 census villages of the country that had never seen power since Independence, has been one of the pet schemes of the BJP led NDA government at the Centre. In his 2015 Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced that his government would supply power to all the remaining villages in the next 1,000 days but fulfilled the target in 987 days.

After this success, the Prime Minister tweeted that "Saturday 28 April would be "remembered as a historic day in the development journey of India". He said the Union Government, State agencies and all other stakeholders involved directly or indirectly in this program deserve appreciation and applause for putting in unprecedented efforts to ensure completion of task within the targeted time frame.

Shri Narendra Modi further tweeted, "I salute the efforts of all those who worked tirelessly on the ground, including the team of officials, the technical staff and all others, to make this dream of a #PowerfullIndia a reality. Their efforts today will help generations of Indians in the

coming years". "We fulfilled a commitment due to which the lives of several Indians will be transformed forever", he said, announcing every village in the country was "powered and empowered".

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said, "Today, the entire nation is celebrating power for every single village while the Congress is mourning the loss of power for one family."

Former Minister of Power and presently the Minister of Railways and Coal Shri Piyush Goyal wrote, "Under the decisive leadership of PM @NarendraModi India has finally been able to electrify all its villages before the set target date. With elimination of darkness from the lives of fellow Indian villagers, we commit ourselves to building a new and #PowerfullIndia."

Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy Shri R. K. Singh said, "PM @NarendraModi made a promise from the rampart of the Red Fort on 15th Aug 2015, to electrify all unelectrified villages. We have electrified all the villages reported by the states & achieved the milestone 12 days before the deadline. Thank you Prime Minister. #PledgeRedeemed"

He said we congratulate the thousands of officers and staffs of Ministry of Power of Government of India and DISCOMS of the States for achieving this huge milestone of connecting every village in the country well within time and making the PM Shri Narendra Modi's dream a reality.

Villager Surjit Singh Ningthoujam, who runs

computer literacy programmes in the remote district of Manipur, where the last village to receive electricity is located, said progress in the area will now be visible. "When electricity comes, people usually buy a TV and that will totally change their lives. It is also a hilly area, so with lights people can move from place to place even at night-time," he said.

The government has said all of India's 180m rural Indian households will have electricity by 2019. About 82% have electricity as of 30 April, 2018, according to its tracker.

It is worthwhile to mention that the progress of village electrification in three years from 2012-13 to 2014-15, prior to commencement of 'Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna' on an average was only 1730 villages per year, including lowest ever figure of 1197 villages in 2013-14.

To provide power connection to India's 180m

INDIA IS DOING "EXTREMELY WELL" ON ELECTRIFICATION: WORLD BANK

India is doing "extremely well" on electrification with nearly 85 per cent of the country's population having access to electricity, the World Bank has said in its report on May 4, 2018. The report said that nearly 85 per cent of the country's population now has access to electricity said Foster, lead World Bank author of the latest report on Energy Progress.

"In absolute terms, India is doing more on electrification than any other countries. Thirty million a year, is really an astounding performance and it stands out from the crowd," Foster said.

"You are already well over 80 per cent, so you're getting into the more difficult aspects of electrification: the more remote population, the harder to reach people," she explained.

Referring to India's tremendous electrification effort, the report said it expects 250 million people gaining electricity access between now and the early 2020s, when the country reaches full access.

The rapid growth of electricity access in India is propelled by the country's USD 2.5 billion electrification programmes to reach universal electrification, the report said.

@narendramodi 

"28th April 2018 will be remembered as a historic day in the development journey of India. Yesterday, we fulfilled a commitment due to which the lives of several Indians will be transformed forever! I am delighted that every single village of India now has access to electricity".

@ AmitShah 


"BJP president Amit Shah tweeted: "Today, the entire nation is celebrating power for every single village while the Congress is mourning the loss of power for one family."

@nitin_gadkari 

The biggest life altering journey is the one from darkness to illumination. Congratulations @narendramodi ji for achieving 100 percent village electrification and transforming the lives of 18k villagers who continued to live in darkness n apathy. #PowerfullIndia

@ Prakash Javadekar 

"After 70 years of independence, #Electricity now reached all Indian villages because of 4 years focused efforts of @narendramodi Government".

@ Piyush Goyal 

"Under the decisive leadership of PM @NarendraModi India has finally been able to electrify all its villages before the set target date. With elimination of darkness from the lives of fellow Indian villagers, we commit ourselves to building a new and #PowerfullIndia."

@RajKSinghIndia 

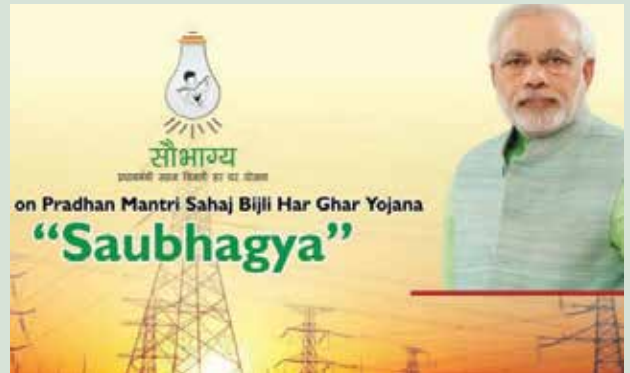
PM @NarendraModi made a promise from the rampart of the Red Fort on 15th Aug 2015, to electrify all unelectrified villages. We have electrified all the villages reported by the states & achieved the milestone 12 days before the deadline. Thank you Prime Minister. #PledgeRedeemed.

households the BJP led NDA Government has already launched 'Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana'- 'Saubhagya' to provide last mile connectivity and service connections to all remaining households in both rural and urban areas to achieve universal household electrification. All the remaining habitations, hamlets, Dhanis, Majras, Tolas including households attached to urban settlements would be covered under 'Saubhagya'. ■

“SAUBHAGYA” TO ENSURE ELECTRICITY CONNECTION TO EVERY HOUSEHOLD

Under Deen dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana not a single village which comes under census is left for connectivity. To provide electricity to every household be it in rural areas or urban areas in the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a new scheme ‘Saubhagya- Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana’. The new scheme launched in September 25, 2017 also aims to electrification of all remaining hamlets, tolas, Dhanis , Majras which are not the Census village.

Saubhagya has set the target to provide electricity connections to more than 4 crore families across the country by 2018 end. On October 11, 2017 total remaining households were 3,62,15,531 to be electrified. By 5th of May,



2018 total 52,80,533 households were electrified. It means till now electrification of 14.58% of targeted households has been achieved.

NEWS PAPER EDITORIALS CELEBRATE SUCCESS

NOW TO MAKE POWER FLOW TO THE VILLAGES

It is hugely welcome that power supply has finally reached all inhabited villages in India. The goal should now be to reach every home in every village and, further, to ensure quality power supply in rural areas during the day, so that some minimal value addition of village produce making use of electric motors and machinery would be possible. This still remains a far cry. A village is officially classified as electrified if at least 10% of its dwellings have an electric connection. This means that even with a ‘fully electrified’ countryside, millions of villagers could go without power....

— (The Economic Times)

ALL VILLAGES HAVING ELECTRICITY IS GOOD NEWS

Leisang in the hills of Manipur became the 597,464th and the last census village in India to get connected to the electricity grid of the country. This is a remarkable achievement and although work had been going on over the last two decades at a constant pace, it must be said that the Narendra Modi Government had the toughest challenge to connect some of India’s remotest and furthest habitations. This achievement should not be mocked.....

— (The pioneer)

GETTING AFFORDABLE ELECTRICITY TO EVERY HOUSEHOLD NEEDS SUSTAINED POLICY SUPPORT

Access to electricity drives the productivity of households, empowers women and enables education and communication. Millions of homes still lack this vital resource in India. And as of April 1, 2015, the official count of unelectrified villages was 18,452. So when Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently announced that all inhabited villages now enjoy electrification, it signalled a significant milestone in the country’s development. It is an achievement that will raise aspirations in the remotest districts.....

— (The Hindu)

AFTER 100% ELECTRIFICATION, FOCUS ON GENERATION, DISTRIBUTION, PRICING

The fact that all of India’s nearly 600,000 villages are electrified is an achievement worth celebrating. That this milestone was achieved 12 days ahead of a 1,000-day target set by the prime minister in 2015 is commendable, and shows that it’s possible for ambitious government programmes to meet their deadlines. Electricity improves quality of life, work, and just about everything else. It also powers the information superhighway which allows even remote villages to be mainstreamed; it is what economists call a force multiplier.....

— (Hindustan Times)



Defeating BJP in Madhya Pradesh is beyond Congress' capabilities: Amit Shah

Addressing a huge gathering of BJP Karyakartas BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said that after coming to power at the Centre in 2014, BJP won 15 states under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and now Karnataka and MP are the next. He said Congress cannot defeat BJP in its bastion, Madhya Pradesh. "Since 2014 under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, BJP won 15 states including those where BJP had never dreamt of making a government. Let's wait for May 15 for Karnataka assembly results. Congress will be wiped out again", said Shri Shah while launching the BJP's official campaign in front of a huge gathering of lakhs of BJP workers at BHEL Dussahera Maidan, in Bhopal on 04 May, 2018 .

The BJP President who arrived after taking a break from Karnataka election campaign to motivate

workers after recent changes in the state Congress said that Congress dream to form government in Madhya Pradesh would never be fulfilled. He said Madhya Pradesh is the heart of the nation and a pilgrimage for the BJP workers. It is the power of workers which can once again keep the Congress out of the regime.

Speaking to the gathering the BJP National President drew an analogy between the Madhya Pradesh government led by Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Ramayana's Angada, saying defeating BJP in Madhya Pradesh would be akin to lifting Angada's foot. He said that defeating BJP in Madhya Pradesh was beyond Congress' capability and equated the BJP government to 'Angad ka pair' (Angada's foot).

He said that the state was a fortress of the BJP

“I was listening to CM Shivraj Singh, Narendra Singh Tomar and state President Rakesh Singh who all spoke about women, farmers, students, Dalits and tribals. But look at the Congress, which has chosen the apple of corporates’ eye as the state president.”

where the party's government and organisation had stood their ground, claiming that his party would win in 2018 as well as 2023.

Shri Shah also launched a veiled attack on Congress by claiming the fight in Madhya Pradesh was between the BJP government of farmers and the corporates.

The BJP President said, “I was listening to CM Shivraj Singh, Narendra Singh Tomar and state President Rakesh Singh who all spoke about women, farmers, students, Dalits and tribals. But look at the

Congress, which has chosen the apple of corporates’ eye as the state president.”

He added, “So it has been reduced to a fight between the farmers, represented by the BJP, and the Congress, which represents the corporate.”

He also did not spare Congress Campaign Committee chairman Jyotiraditya Scindia and AICC general secretary Digvijay Singh, saying “rajamaharajas” have taken to the poll field on behalf of Congress, “but we need not be apprehensive as even a booth-level worker of BJP is capable of defeating the Congress”.

Remembering the contribution of Kushabhau Thackrey and Vijaya Raje Scindia in the formation of BJP's organization in MP, Shri Shah added that the party was the strongest in MP.

Reposing faith in the BJP unit ahead of the 2018 elections, he called for the party brass to push for a victory margin so huge that the “enemies get a heart attack while watching the election results on TV”.

The BJP President ridiculed Congress president Rahul Gandhi's claims of winning the upcoming elections here saying, “Even if Rahul Baba uses a binocular, he won't be able to find victory for Congress, so I don't know how he manages such dreams.”

Shri Shah praised Shivraj Singh government, his rule and the commendable growth across sectors. “I



am not saying this out of my association with him for long years but as an independent political observer, that the achievements of CM Shivraj would find a special mention in the democratic history of this country.”

Shri Shah also touched upon the issue of saffron terrorism, a contentious phrase allegedly coined by Congress during the UPA rule and sought apologies from Rahul Gandhi for defaming the Hindu culture.

He accused Congress of resorting to divisive politics and stalling the OBCs Commission Bill in Rajya Sabha and depriving backward classes their Constitutional right.

He said after Karnataka elections, he would visit every district of the state and discuss with the party workers. The state leadership has promised to win all 29 Lok Sabha seats during 2019 elections and workers must dedicate themselves to achieve this target, Shri Shah added.

Addressing the gathering CM Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, showered praises on BJP National President Shri Amit Shah and called him a miraculous leader who took the party to unimaginative heights.

Sharing details of the welfare programmes to



be undertaken by the BJP in the next few months for different sections of the society, Shri Chouhan mocked the Congress saying the opposition was busy with rallies, road shows and making tall claims.

Among others MP BJP State President Shri Rakesh Singh, Former State BJP President Shri Nand Kumar Singh Chauhan, Union Ministers & Senior Leaders of the State also addressed the gathering. ■

Rakesh Singh is new Madhya Pradesh BJP President

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Amit Shah on April 18, 2018 nominated Jabalpur Lok Sabha MP Rakesh Singh as the new BJP President of Madhya Pradesh. He has succeeded former State BJP President Shri Nand Kumar Singh Chauhan.

Former State BJP President Shri Nand Kumar Singh Chauhan, along with Rajasthan BJP President and Jaipur city MLA Shri Ashok Parnami and Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) Lok Sabha MP Shri K. Hari Babu, were nominated as members of the BJP National Executive Council by the BJP National President.

BRIEF PROFILE

Shri Rakesh Singh (Born on 04 June, 1962) is a dynamic leader of the Bhartiya Janta Party with vast organizational experience. Shri Rakesh Singh a three term MP representing Jabalpur Loksabha.

He is presently a member of the 16th Lok Sabha. He has been representing the Jabalpur constituency of Madhya

Pradesh since 2004 General Elections. He has been appointed as the BJP State President of Madhya Pradesh unit on 18th April, 2018 replacing former State BJP President Shri Nandkumar Singh Chauhan, who had been at the helm since August 2014.

He has been appointed as the Chief Whip of Bhartiya Janta Party in Loksabha in 2016. He is working as the Chairman of the Parliament Standing Committee on Coal and Steel. Shri Rakesh Singh is also an active member of various other parliamentary committees. He also holds the position of Co-Incharge of Maharashtra unit of BJP. Apart from political activities, he is known for his public agitation, such as water travel aka Jal Yatra. ■



PM launches Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan; unveils roadmap for overall development of Tribals

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan on 24 April, 2018, at a public meeting in Mandla in Madhya Pradesh. He unveiled a Road Map for overall development of tribals during the next five years.

He laid the foundation stone of an LPG bottling plant of Indian Oil Corporation at Maneri, Mandla District. He also launched a Local Government Directory.

The Prime Minister felicitated the Sarpanches of villages which have achieved 100 percent smokeless kitchens, 100 percent vaccination under Mission Indradhanush, and 100 percent electrification under Saubhagya Scheme.

He urged people to focus on the education of their children, and added that this is essential for the child's

future.

The Prime Minister underscored the efforts towards self-reliance in the agriculture sector. He urged the Panchayat representatives to pay attention to water conservation, and to ensure that every drop of water is conserved.

Shri Narendra Modi spoke of the importance of Jan Dhan Yojana for financial inclusion; Van Dhan Yojana for empowering tribal communities; and Gobar-Dhan Yojana for making farmers more self reliant, besides converting waste into energy.

He said that a transformation of villages would ensure a transformation of India. The Prime Minister also said that the recent steps taken by the Union Government will be beneficial in furthering the safety of women. ■

Cabinet approves restructured Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan Scheme

T he Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave its approval for restructured Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) on 21 April, 2018.

The Scheme will be implemented during the period from 01.04.2018 to 31.03.2022 at the total cost of Rs. 7255.50 crore with the Central Share of Rs. 4500 crore and that of State Share of Rs. 2755.50 crore.

- (i) This scheme will extend to all States and UTs of the Country and will also include institutions of rural local government in non-Part IX areas, where Panchayats do not exist,
- (ii) The scheme will have both Central Component - National Level activities including "National Plan of Technical Assistance", "Mission Mode project on e-Panchayat", "Incentivization of Panchayats" and State component - Capacity Building of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs),
- (iii) The Central Component will be fully funded by the Government of India. However, Centre:State funding pattern for State Component will be 60:40 for all States, except North East and Hill States where Centre:State

funding pattern will be 90:10. For all Union Territories (UTs) (with and without legislatures), the Central share will be 100%.

- (iv) The implementation and monitoring of the activities of the scheme will broadly be aligned for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with main thrust on Panchayats identified under Mission Antyodaya and 115 Aspirational districts as identified by NITI Aayog.
- (v) The Scheme will converge capacity building initiatives of other Ministries with particular focus on those Ministries which will be impacted substantially by this Scheme,
- (vi) Sunset date for RGSA will be 31.03.2030.

The approved scheme of RGSA will help more than 2.55 lakh Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to develop governance capabilities to deliver on SDGs through inclusive local governance with focus on optimum utilisation of available resources. The key principles of SDGs, i.e. leaving no one behind, reaching the farthest first and universal coverage, along with gender equality will be embedded in the design of all capacity building interventions including trainings, training modules and materials. ■

TO INCREASE THE INCOME OF FARMERS Cabinet approves continuation of 'Green Revolution — Krishonnati Yojana' in Agriculture Sector

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on May 2 gave its approval for the Umbrella Scheme, "Green Revolution – Krishonnati Yojana" in agriculture sector beyond 12th Five Year Plan for the period from 2017-18 to 2019-20 with the Central Share of Rs. 33,269.976 crore.



The Umbrella scheme comprises of 11 Schemes/ Missions. These schemes look to develop the agriculture and allied sector in a holistic and scientific manner to increase the income of farmers by enhancing production, productivity and better returns on produce. The Schemes will be continued with an expenditure of Rs.33,269.976 crore for three financial years, i.e., 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20.

The Schemes that are part of the Umbrella Schemes are :- Mission for Integrated Development

of Horticulture (MIDH, National Food Security Mission (NFSM), including National Mission on Oil Seeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP),) National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Submission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE), Sub-Mission on Seeds and Planting Material (SMSP), Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanisation (SMAM), Sub Mission on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine (SMPPQ), Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census, Economics and Statistics (ISACES), National e-Governance Plan (NeGP-A), Integrated Scheme on Agricultural Cooperation (ISAC),) and Integrated Scheme on Agricultural Marketing (ISAM).

All these schemes/missions were appraised and approved independently as separate scheme/mission. In 2017-18, it has been decided to club all these schemes / missions under one umbrella scheme 'Green Revolution - Krishonnati Yojana'. ■

17.9% Growth in Foreign Exchange Earnings in March 2018 over March 2017

Under Modi government tourism sector is growing continuously. The sector is also enriching Foreign Exchange reserve. Based on the credit data of Travel Head from Balance of Payments of RBI, Ministry of Tourism estimates monthly Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) through tourism in India, both in rupee and dollar terms.

FEEs during the month of March 2018 were Rs.17,294 crore as compared to Rs. 14,667 crore in March 2017 and Rs. 12,985 crore in March 2016.

The growth rate in FEEs in rupee terms in March 2018 over March 2017 was 17.9%, compared to the growth of 13.0% in March 2017 over March 2016.

FEEs during the period January- March 2018 were

Rs. 52,916 crore with a growth of 15.5%, as compared to the FEE of Rs. 45,819 crore in January-March 2017 with a growth of 13.6% over January- March 2016.

FEEs in US\$ terms during the month of March 2018 were US\$ 2.659 billion as compared to FEEs of US\$ 2.224 billion during the month of March 2017 and US\$ 1.938 billion in March 2016.

The growth rate in FEEs in US\$ terms in March 2018 over March 2017 was 19.6% compared to the growth of 14.8% in March 2017 over March 2016.

FEEs during the period January-March 2018 were US\$ 8.228 billion with a growth of 20.4% as compared to the FEE of US\$ 6.833 billion in January- March 2017 with a growth of 14.4% over January- March 2016. ■

GST Revenue collection in the month of April 2018 exceeds Rs. 1 Lakh Crore

The total Gross GST revenue collected in the month of April 2018 is Rs.1,03,458 crore of which CGST is Rs.18,652 crore, SGST is Rs.25,704 crore, IGST is Rs. 50,548 crore (including 21,246 crore collected on imports) and Cess is Rs.8554 crore (including Rs.702 crore collected on imports). The total number of GSTR 3B Returns filed for the month of March up to 30th April, 2018 is 60.47 lakh as against 87.12 lakh, who are eligible to file the Return for the month of March, which is 69.5%.

April was also the month for filing of Quarterly Return for Composition Dealers. Out of 19.31 lakh Composition Dealers, 11.47 lakh have filed their Quarterly Return (GSTR 4) which is 59.40% and have paid total tax of Rs.579 crores, which is included in the above figure of Rs.1.03 lakh crore of total GST collection.

The buoyancy in the tax revenue of GST reflects



the upswing in the economy and better compliance. However, it is usually noticed that in the last month of the Financial Year, people also try to pay arrears of some of the previous months also and, therefore, this month's revenue cannot be taken as trend for the future. The total revenue earned by the Central Government and the State Governments after settlement in the month of April, 2018 is Rs.32,493 crore for CGST and Rs.40,257 crore for the SGST. ■

Swachh Bharat Mission launches **GOBAR-DHAN** to promote wealth and energy from waste

Union Minister for Drinking Water and Sanitation, Sushri Uma Bharti on April 30 launched the GOBAR (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources - DHAN) scheme at the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) Auditorium, Karnal in the presence of the Chief Minister of Haryana, Shri Manohar Lal Khattar. The scheme aims to positively impact village cleanliness and generate wealth and energy from cattle and organic waste. The scheme also aims at creating new rural livelihood opportunities and enhancing income for farmers and other rural people.

The Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) comprises two main components for creating clean villages – creating open defecation free (ODF) villages and managing solid and liquid waste in villages. With over 3.5 lakh villages, 374 districts and 16 States/UTs of the country being declared ODF, the stage is set for



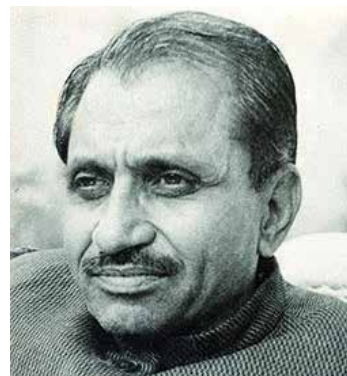
ODF-plus activities, including measures to enhance solid and liquid waste management. The GOBAR-DHAN scheme, with its focus on keeping villages clean, increasing the income of rural households, and generation of energy from cattle waste, is an important element of this ODF-plus strategy. The scheme envisages the implementation of 700 bio-gas units in different states of the country in 2018-19. ■

Jinnah wanted partition on the basis of Muslims and non-Muslims

I PANDIT DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA

The Speeches of Sir Mohammed Zafrullah in the Security Council on the Kashmir issue contained little that might enlighten the world powers and add to their knowledge of facts. The lengthy harangue was full of invectives and threats, and did little credit to the personality of one who had the privilege and honour of being a judge of the world court. It might be that the exhibition of emotion was deliberate because Pakistan's case on Kashmir cannot be pleaded on the basis of reason and arguments. The only argument that Pakistan earlier put forward was that the majority of the people in Kashmir being Muslims, the state should belong to Pakistan. It deceived those who had thought India was partitioned on the basis of Muslims and non-Muslims and that there were no Muslims in the Indian Union. If it were so there would not have been a single Muslim in India or a single Hindu in Pakistan. It is true, that Jinnah wanted partition on that basis. He might have succeeded in getting Pakistan, but not on the basis on which it was conceived. Pakistan's insistence now has shifted from its claim on Kashmir on the basis of religion to that of the right of self-determination to be given to the people of Kashmir. Without going into the question of the reasonability and necessity of such a right it can be obviously stated that Pakistan has no *locus standi* in the matter. What relationship should exist between the people of India and how it should be determined is a decision which India alone in her sovereign right can and has to take. Interference by any other power cannot be tolerated. Pakistan cannot also justify its aggression on Kashmir on that count. Pakistan might have failed to create any impression, but events preceding and following the Kashmir debate require a rethinking on the part of the World powers and the people in India. The strongest point in favour of Pakistan had been the support and sympathy that it had been receiving from the Western democracies. But this strength of Pakistan has not helped her, for Soviet Russia as a reaction had thought it fit to back India. Last time it was Russia's veto that foiled Pakistan's conspiracy for stationing UN forces in Kashmir. This time, too, the Soviet delegate has unequivocally supported India's stand. Pakistan being a military ally of

the West, their natural sympathies is with that country and irrespective of the merits of the case India does not get the just support that it should get from powers that claim to be the champions of the free world wedded to democracy and justice. Their personal prejudice against Sri V.K. Krishna Menon, who had always represented us at the UN, has also been successfully exploited by Pakistan to defeat India's just cause. Thus Kashmir has so far been unnecessarily dragged into the cold war between the two power blocs.



It however seems that the Western democracies had realised that this sort of treatment of the Kashmir issue would only alienate the sympathies of the people of India. India's support by Soviet Russia, whatever her motives are, can be exploited by the Communists in the country and the people of India made to feel that in whole world their only friend is Soviet Russia and the Western democracies are out to act against India's interests. It is on this account perhaps that the Western powers advised Pakistan to refrain from reopening the issue in the Security Council. But Pakistan did not heed their counsel. Evidently their confidence in Pakistan was misplaced.

Pakistan has not only paid scant respect to the saner advice of her allies but with a desire to black mail, entered into a conspiracy with communist China for negotiating an agreement in respect of the border between sinking and part of Kashmir under her occupation. That a proposal for starting such negotiations as made by Communist China was known months ago. Pakistan, however, had not accepted the proposals then. But just when the Kashmir debate in the Security Council started, Pakistan made an official announcement accepting this proposal. Evidently it was a threat to the Western World that Pakistan would join hands with Communist China if they failed her in the matter of grabbing Kashmir. It may be recalled that earlier too when Suhrawardy was Pakistan's Prime Minister, he

tried to seek support from China on the Kashmir issue. But then relations between India and China at that time were different. Things have, however, changed now. There is every probability of China and Pakistan both joining together to invade Kashmir and divide the spoils. For it is not the official announcement alone that is indicative. China on its part has seemed to oblige Pakistan by its latest protest note threatening India with armed action if she is not vacating some of the checkpoints in Ladakh. The whole thing cannot be dismissed as coincidence. The fact is that China and Pakistan have both acted in liaison and intend to browbeat India.

With the same end in view Pakistan has also tried to give a practical indication of what the threat of Sir Mohammad Zafrullah of disturbing the peace of the whole region would be like, by organising riots in the two Bengalis. It is plain

Whether it is Jabalpur or Bhopal, the Communists have always been in the vanguard of the Communal trouble. It is a widely known fact that the Communist MLA who visited Malda was hand in glove with the Muslim trouble-shooters in the area.

that riots in Rajshahi and Dacca were not results of any reaction of an agitated people, but parts of a conspiracy hatched at high level. The Pak president and the East Bengal Governor made inflammatory speeches and incited the people against Hindus. Exaggerated and false reports of the Malda incidents were published. And now it is known that there was a Pakistani hand behind some of the tragic happenings of Malda too. The manner in which the Pak Deputy High Commissioner behaved is not only objectionable but suspicious. It seems that the Pakistani authorities were out to create some trouble in India to provide an excuse for starting the well-planned program against Hindus in East Bengal. An uncalled for protest demonstration against Manohar Kahanivan was organised in Calcutta. It resulted in some aggressive acts by the demonstrators. But the authorities in Calcutta were cautious and controlled it. But in Malda it seems that Pakistani

elements were able to create trouble by instigating some simple tribal people to retaliate in defence of the honour of their women folk. The truth is that the Hindus here suffered equally, if not more. But the Pakistani press gave a distorted version of the whole incident only to serve their nefarious designs.

And now the most wonderful things are that Pakistan Government is reported to have instituted an enquiry against our Deputy High Commissioner at Dacca for his alleged communal activities at Rajasthi. All this is because the press in India has exposed the undiplomat-like activities of the Pak Deputy High Commissioner at Calcutta.

We have also the news of Naga Hostiles entering Pakistan to meet Phizo expected to reach Dacca. While on one hand Pakistan had manoeuvred their entry, on the other, she has protested against this act.

All this shows to what length Pakistan and Communist China can go. Despite their alliances with the different power blocs, in the international political scene, both of them can, and have joined against India. As things are, it is clear the USA will not be able to exercise any restraint on Pakistan. Similarly Soviet Russia many also fail. Apprehensions of India that military aid given to Pakistan instead of being used against a Communist country may be used to further aggressive designs against a democratic India have proved correct. It is time that the Western powers give second thought to their policy of arming Pakistan.

In India this alliance will not surprise those who had seen since 1947 the Communist Pain of India providing asylum platform to the entire fanatic Muslim Leaguers. The conspiracy between the Communist and the Communalists has not become so very patent. The extra attention paid to the Muslim Communal elements needs no explanation now. Whether it is Jabalpur or Bhopal, the Communists have always been in the vanguard of the Communal trouble. It is a widely known fact that the Communist MLA who visited Malda was hand in glove with the Muslim trouble-shooters in the area. The writings on the wall are clear. If these events and misdoings of the Pak authorities and Pak elements, together with the aggressive acts of the Communist China and their henchmen in India could awaken democratic forces throughout to a sense of realism and urgency, the Kashmir debate will surely make us wiser. That alone will provide the necessary will and strength to back the determination of the people to defend India's sovereignty and maintain democratic form and freedom. ■

(Political Diary-Organiser, 14 May, 1962)

JAYANTI: 24 MAY

K. Jana Krishnamurthi

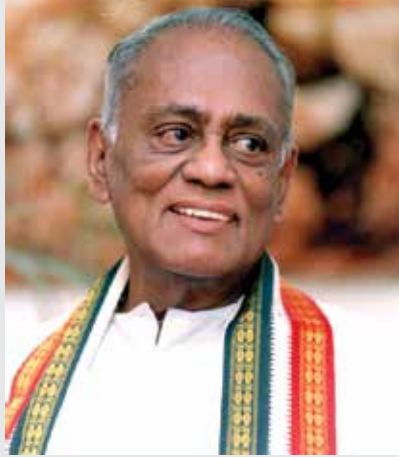
(24 MAY, 1928 – 25 SEPTEMBER, 2007)

Shri K. Jana Krishnamurthi (24 May, 1928 – 25 September, 2007) was the former National President of the Bharatiya Janata Party in 2001. A former Union Law Minister Shri Krishnamurthi was the second person from Tamil Nadu to head a National Party in India after Kamaraj.

He was born in Madurai in Tamil Nadu. An alumnus of the Chennai Law College, he gave up his successful law practice in Madurai High Court in 1965. He was persuaded by M. S. Golwalkar Ji, the then Sarsanghchalak of the RSS, to enter politics.

An active member of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh from 1940, Shri Krishnamurthi took over as the General Secretary of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) in Tamil Nadu at the instance of Shri Atal Behari Vajpayee. He played an active part in building equity for the relatively unknown BJS in South India.

In 1975 when emergency was declared, he was the secretary of the resistance movement in Tamil Nadu. In 1977 when BJS merged with the Janata Party, he became the General Secretary of that party's Tamil



Nadu unit. In 1980, he helped found the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) along with Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Shri SS Bhandari, Shri Kushabhau Thakre and Shri Jaganatha Rao Joshi. He was the founder National Secretary. In 1983 he became the General Secretary and from 1985 he was the Vice-President of the Party. From 1980 to 1990, he helped the BJP expand in the four Southern states of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

In 1993 he moved to Delhi at the request of Shri L. K. Advani and set up

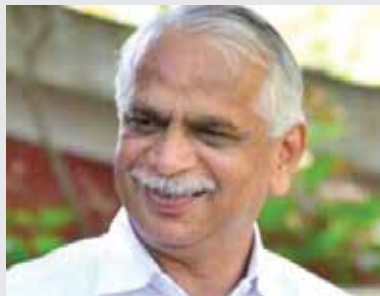
the Intellectual Cells of the BJP on Economic, Defence and Foreign Affairs. From 1995 onwards he was in charge of the BJP Headquarters. He also served as the Spokesperson of the Party. He then became the Union Law Minister in the cabinet of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and on 14 March 2001 he assumed the responsibility of the National President of the BJP. He held office until June 2002.

Shri K. Jana Krishnamurthi died on 25 September, 2007. We pay our respect to him on his jayanti. ■

Karnataka MLA B N Vijay Kumar passes away

BJP leader BN Vijay Kumar passed away of a massive heart attack in Bengaluru on May 3, 2018. He was sitting MLA of Jayanagar. A candidate for the Assembly polls, Vijaykumar had collapsed during an election campaign in Jayanagar constituency in the city and was shifted to government-run Jayadeva Institute of Cardiology, where efforts to save him failed.

The BJP National President Shri Amit Shah visited the home of Late Shri B N Vijay Kumar & paid condolence to the bereaved family. Shri Shah



said he had devoted his entire life for the welfare of the people of his constituency. His passing away is an irreparable loss to Karnataka BJP.

In a tweet BJP's Karnataka unit offered condolences to Shri Vijay Kumar's family. The tweet said, Shri Vijay Kumar's commitment to the party and people will be

remembered. His demise is a great loss for us.

Shri Vijay Kumar, aged 59, was a two-time MLA from Jayanagar. He was a civil engineering graduate and a bachelor. ■

The Impeachment Fiasco – Another Example of Congress Adopting a Fringe Position

ARUN JAITLEY

The Congress was regarded as the grand old party of Indian politics. For five decades after Independence it dominated the political centre-stage of India. Its ouster from power, either from Centre or States, was considered an exception. Its evolution witnessed the Party recede from a conventional political party to a dynastic organisation. It became a crowd around a family. A challenge which dynastic organisations face is that their popular appeal or acceptability is co-existent with the current generation of the dynasty. The fact that the Congress has been reduced to a two digit party and is being ousted from State after State, demonstrates the non-acceptability of its current leadership.

However, the most alarming aspect of the Party has been that from a grand old Party which occupied centre-stage, it is being pushed to the fringe. It is not only electoral arithmetic that it occupies the fringe position but also the position that it adopts on several mainstream issues.

When its current President alongwith certain Left



Party leaders visited the Jawahar Lal Nehru University when the slogans of “Tukde Tukde” threatening India’s geographical integrity were raised, I had questioned its leadership in a Parliamentary debate whether its earlier leaders would have ever allowed a Congressmen to identify itself with the national disintegration campaign. But its current leader preferred a fringe position. On use of technology he opposes the EVMs and wants to go back on ballot paper. On digitization he prefers cash over the digital mode of transaction and having the pioneered the original idea of a Unique Identity Number, he has allowed his Party to question it both in Parliament and in the Courts. On economic reforms, the Party takes a position hostile to any reform measure and wants to go back on the retrograde policies. The leader has no qualms of releasing his photographs with a convicted ally whom he had once opposed. The fringe Party having got a miniscule number of votes in Gorakhpur and Phoolpur bye-elections celebrates the victory of Samajwadi Party.

THE LATEST ATTACK ON THE JUDICIARY

The Congress Party’s impeachment motion against the Chief Justice of India was wholly misconceived. It is poorly drafted and lacked in substance. Many of its traditional allies were not willing to take on this confrontation with the judicial institutions. Finding

The most alarming aspect of the Party has been that from a grand old Party which occupied centre-stage, it is being pushed to the fringe. It is not only electoral arithmetic that it occupies the fringe position but also the position that it adopts on several mainstream issues.

a divided court, the Congress wanted to fish in troubled waters. If the motion for impeachment was unsustainable, the writ petition challenging the order of the Chairman, Rajya Sabha, was unarguable. The rejection of a motion by a Speaker or the Chairman is a part of the legislative process. It was a well-reasoned order. The rulings of the Chair on whether to admit a motion or otherwise, are not subject to judicial review. But wanting to fish in troubled waters, the Congress conceived of a strategy to chose a court of its choice for mentioning for constitution of the bench to hear the matter so that an unarguable matter could be arguable before a more receptive court. The Congress Party was looking for a friendly pitch to bowl on.

The judgment in the unfortunate death of Judge Loya has already exposed the false hallucination of

the Congress Party where it concocted the unnatural death theory. It now wanted a continuing sword to hang on the Chief Justice and hence on the Apex Court. Its efforts of a "foreign shopping" having failed, it refused to argue its unarguable case on merits.

Does it behove a national party to deviate from the mainstream and take such fringe position? Fringe organisations have no hope of ever coming to power. They can, therefore, afford to take positions which they will never have to implement. But can a Party having ruled India for such a long tenure, push itself to take fringe position one after the other? This in reality is the price which each Congressman will pay because its leader has decided that fringe position are better than the mainstream one. The Congressmen in Karnataka will be the immediate victims. ■

(The writer is Union Minister of Finance, GoI)

Govt. launches Pilot scheme to Procure Aggregate Power of 2500 MW for three years

The Government kicked off on April 30 a Pilot Scheme for Procurement of Aggregate Power of 2500 MW on competitive basis for 3 (three) years under medium term i.e. from generators with commissioned projects but without Power Purchase Agreement. The Ministry of Power had recently issued the model bid documents, model PAPP and PPSA on 6th April, 2018. The Guidelines for the said scheme were issued on 10th April, 2018.

PFC Consulting Limited (A wholly owned subsidiary of PFC Ltd) has been appointed as Nodal Agency and PTC India Limited as the Aggregator. PTC India would sign three-year (mid-term) Agreement for Procurement of Power with successful bidders and Power Supply Agreement with the Discoms.

Under the scheme a single entity can be allotted maximum capacity of 600 MW. The Scheme assures a minimum off-take of 55 per cent of contracted capacity. The Tariff will be fixed for three years without any escalation.

PFC Consulting Limited is in process of inviting

the bids in first week of May, 2018 under the scheme. The bidding will be conducted on the DEEP e-Bidding Portal and with L1 matching for bucket filling without



reverse auction.

This scheme is expected to revive the power demand which has affected the generators not having Power Purchase Agreements. ■



PUBLIC MEETING AT TUMAKURU & GADAG, KARNATAKA

Modern, Progressive and Developed Karnataka is the BJP's Vision: PM Modi

AS THE POLL DATES FOR THE KARNATAKA ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS ARE COMING CLOSER, CAMPAIGNING HAS STARTED PEAKING UP IN THE POLL-BOUND STATE. CONTINUING HIS CAMPAIGN TRAIL ACROSS KARNATAKA, PM SHRI NARENDRA MODI HAS ADDRESSED MULTIPLE RALLIES IN VARIOUS CONSTITUENCIES OF THE STATE IN FAVOUR OF THE BJP CANDIDATES.

SPEAKING TO THE PEOPLE PM SHRI MODI SAID A PROGRESSIVE, DYNAMIC AND MODERN KARNATAKA IS OUR AIM AND WE WANT OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE. THE PM SAID KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT IS IN DEEP SLUMBER SO; IT CAN NEVER FULFILL ITS PROMISES. HE FURTHER SAID PRESS THE LOTUS BUTTON ON MAY 12 TO MAKE KARNATAKA BETTER, SAFER AND DEVELOPED. EXCERPTS OF HIS SPEECH;

PM Shri Narendra Modi on May 05, 2018 addressed public meetings at Tumakuru and Gadag. The PM said that Tumakuru was the land to several greats and Saints, Seers and Mutts here played a strong role in the development of our

nation.

Attacking the Congress, he said, "For years, the Congress kept saying Gareeb, Gareeb, Gareeb. However, nothing came out of this rhetoric. They failed to transform the lives of the poor of India. Now, the

Congress has stopped saying 'Gareeb' because the people of India have elected a person belonging to a poor family as their Prime Minister."

The PM alleged that the Congress was trying to offer false rhetoric and empty promises to the farmers. He remarked that the Congress' neglect of the agriculture sector was very well known. "Which Congress government, either in Delhi, when they were in power for so long or here in Karnataka ever thought about solving the water problem in Tumakuru? Sadly, they do not bother about the farmers", he added.

He questioned the Congress for not ensuring water of Hemavati River to farmers in the region. Stating that the BJP was working on water conservation, micro-irrigation and linking the waterways, which was a dream of the beloved Atal Ji, he said, "Our Government at the Centre has worked on irrigation projects on which no work had happened for 30 years. Some of these key projects are also in Karnataka."

Taking a jibe at the JD(S), Shri Modi remarked, "Our respected former PM Deve Gowda Ji said so much during the 2014 campaign about me, made several personal attacks. After the elections I said that he need not remember all that he said."

Stating that there was an unspoken alliance between Congress and JD(S), Shri Modi opined that people of Karnataka needed to know the "tacit alliance between Congress and JD(S)". He said that the Congress and JD(S) pretended to fight in parts of Karnataka but in Bengaluru the JD(S) supported a Congress mayor, who was sitting in office. The PM questioned, "What is the deal between these two parties?"

PM ADDRESSES PUBLIC MEETING AT KALABURAGI, BALLARI & BENGALURU

Addressing a public meeting at Kalaburagi, Karnataka on May 03, 2018 PM Shri Narendra Modi said that election in the state was going to decide the future of Karnataka. "It is about the safety of women, the wellbeing of farmers. Do not assume this is only about electing MLAs, it is way beyond that", said the Prime Minister.

Remembering Saradar Patel, the Prime Minister remarked, "Who can forget the role of Iron Man Sardar Patel who forced the Nizam of Hyderabad and ensured this land is a part of India?" "What the Nizam of Hyderabad did can compare with the Jallianwala Bagh

HIGHLIGHTS

- For years, the Congress keeps saying- Gareeb, Gareeb, Gareeb. However, nothing came out of this rhetoric. They failed to transform the lives of the poor of India. Now, the Congress has stopped saying 'Gareeb' because the people of India have elected a person belonging to a poor family as their Prime Minister.
- Now, the Congress is trying to offer false rhetoric and empty promises to the farmers. The Congress' neglect of the agriculture sector is very well known. I wish they were serious about the welfare of the farmers.
- Now, the Congress is trying to offer false rhetoric and empty promises to the farmers. The Congress' neglect of the agriculture sector is very well known. I wish they were serious about the welfare of the farmers.
- Our Government at the Centre has worked on irrigation projects on which no work had happened for last 30 years.
- We are working on water conservation, micro-irrigation and linking our waterways, which was a dream of the beloved Atal Ji.
- The Central Government has worked substantially to improve connectivity and ensure better roads for the people of Karnataka.
- I have initiated a full-fledged battle against corruption and black money. There is no way we can tolerate corrupt practices.
- Congress is not bothered about the depletion of natural resources here. As long as the pockets of their leaders are full, Congress is happy. Congress sees corruption opportunities in the forests of Karnataka. Corruption is key to the existence of the Congress.

massacre. I applaud the team of people who worked on a memorial for martyrs. This was something the Congress could have done but they dislike anything to do with Sardar Patel", he added further.

The PM accused the Congress for having no respect for the country's brave soldiers. He exclaimed, "When our soldiers did surgical strikes, the shameless Congress party questioned the strikes. They kept asking us for the proof!" The PM also blamed the Congress leaders for disrespecting the National Song. He also questioned the Congress for mistreating Field Marshall Cariappa and General Thimayya. ■

BJP releases manifesto for Karnataka, Promises up to 1 lakh loan waiver for farmers

Reaching out to farmers, the BJP manifesto for the Karnataka assembly polls on May 4, 2018 promised allocation of Rs 1.5 lakh crore for irrigation projects and waiver of farm loan up to Rs. 1 lakh borrowed from nationalized and cooperative banks in the very first cabinet meeting if it's voted to power in Karnataka.

The manifesto, unveiled by BJP State President and the party's Chief Ministerial candidate, Shri B S Yeddyurappa also said if voted to power, BJP would bring out a 'white paper' on the financial health of the state under the Congress rule.

A scheme to provide Rs 25,000 and three grams of gold for brides coming under the BPL category during the marriage and opening of Annapoorna Canteens has also been promised. BJP also offers smart phones to women.

The manifesto said Rs 25,000 and 3 gm of gold will



be provided to brides of families living Below Poverty Line (BPL) at the time of marriage under the 'Vivaha Mangala' scheme.

Targeting the vast constituency of women, the party promised sanitary napkins for BPL women at Re 1 under the 'Stree Suvidha' Scheme. ■

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BJP MANIFESTO FOR KARNATAKA:

- Scheme to provide accidental insurance cover up to Rs 2 lakh for landless, agricultural labourers.
- Crop loan waiver up to Rs 1 lakh, including all loans from nationalized banks and co-operatives
- Farmers will receive 1.5 times the cost of production as Minimum Support Price (MSP)
- To launch Negilayogi Yojane to provide direct income support of Rs 10,000 to 20 lakh small and marginal dry land farmers.
- Rs 25,000 and 3 gm gold for brides of families under Vivaha Mangala scheme
- 300 Mukhya Mantri Annapoorna canteens to provide affordable meals
- Rs 5000 crore 'Raitha Bandhu Market Intervention Fund' to provide safety net for farmers
- Department to be monitored directly under CMO to monitor implementation of schemes
- Pledge to develop 6 'K-Hubs' as incubators and co-working spaces for start-ups at Hubballi, Bengaluru, Raichur, Mysuru, Mangaluru and Kalaburgi
- To set up Rs 10,000 crore Stree Unnati Fund to set up women cooperative and establish Stree Unnati Stores
- To launch Mukhyamantri Smartphone Yojna for women below BPL
- Free sanitary napkins to BPL women and girl students, and at Rs 1 for other women under Stree Suvidha Scheme
- Hyderabad-Karnataka Industrial Mega Corridor to be built from Hosapete to Hyderabad
- Rs 2500 crore fund to clean and revive lakes and rivers of Bengaluru and 'free Bangaloreans from water tank mafia'
- To form flying squads to attend to distress calls of women in Bengaluru
- To organize a summit for Hyderabad-Karnataka region every 2 years to attract investment
- To form special investigation cell led by a female police officer with 1000 policewomen to investigate pending crimes against women.
- Rs 1.5 lakh crore budget to complete all irrigation projects by 2023

India will be world's fastest growing economy in coming decade: Harvard Report

CHINA PROJECTED TO GROW AT 4.9 % ANNUALLY, US 3.0% AND FRANCE 3.5 %

India tops the list of the fastest growing economies in the world for the coming decade and is projected to grow at 7.9 per cent annually, ahead of China and the US, according to a Harvard University report published on 04 May, 2018.

The Centre for International Development at Harvard University (CID) said in new growth projections that countries that have diversified their economies into more complex sectors, such as India and Vietnam, are those that will grow the fastest in the coming decade.

"India tops the list as the fastest growing country for the coming decade, at 7.9 per cent annually, in the economic complexity growth projections. India has made inroads in diversifying its export base to include more complex sectors, such as chemicals, vehicles, and certain electronics," the report said. It said that India's productive capabilities far exceed expectations

for its current income level, which contributes to the projection of rapid growth for the coming decade.

The researchers also find India ranks the best on the criteria termed the Complexity Opportunity Index (COI), which measures how easy it is to redeploy existing knowhow to enter new complex products.

China is projected to grow at 4.9 per cent annually to 2026, the US 3.0 per cent and France 3.5 per cent. The top ranking in COI means India has many "unrealised opportunities" to diversify into related, high-value sectors to continue to drive productivity growth and job creation.

"Up to now, that potential remains unrealised, however, as India's complexity has not changed over the past decade. The rapid growth that is predicted is effectively capitalizing on previous gains in complexity," the report added.

The report projected China's growth at 4.9 % annually, US 3.0% and France 3.5 %.

Modi Govt increases Investment Limit for Senior Citizens from Rs. 7.5 lakh to Rs.15 lakh under PMVY

The Union Cabinet on May 2 chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave its approval for extending the investment limit from Rs 7.5 lakhs to Rs 15 lakhs as well as extension of time limits for subscription from 4th May 2018 to 31st March, 2020 under the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVY) as part of Government's commitment for financial inclusion and social security.

Further, as a boost to the Social Security initiatives for senior citizens, the investment limit of Rs 7.5 lakh per family in the existing scheme is enhanced to Rs 15 lakh per senior citizen in the modified PMVY, thereby providing a larger social security cover to the Senior citizens. It will enable upto Rs.10000 Pension per month for Senior Citizens.

As of March, 2018, a total number of 2.23 lakh

senior citizens are being benefited under PMVY. In the previous scheme of Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana-2014, a total number of 3.11 lakh senior citizens are being benefited.

The PMVY is being implemented through Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to provide social security during old age and protect elderly persons aged 60 years and above against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions. The scheme provides an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8% per annum for ten years, with an option to opt for pension on a monthly / quarterly / half yearly and annual basis. The differential return, i.e. the difference between the return generated by LIC and the assured return of 8% per annum would be borne by Government of India as subsidy on an annual basis.

DIALOGUE OF DEMOCRACY

MANN KI BAAT

(Continue from Last Issue...)

VINAY SAHASRABUDDHE
& DHIRAJ NAYYAR

India has a rich tradition of excellent public communicators and speakers. Mahatma Gandhi used all communication channels at his command. He wrote books, sung songs and bhajans, penned articles in journals run by him, addressed huge public meetings and also gave strong messages through his simple actions. We have also witnessed several politicians known for their exceptional oratory. They include the likes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, VD Sawarkar and Jayaprakash Narayan. Amongst the leaders from south, listening to Dr CN Annadurai and Jagannathrao Joshi used to be a pure delight. In the Parliament, fellow members would always enjoy speeches and interventions by impressive orators like Pilloo Modi, Dr Bhai Mahavir, Madhu Limaye, Bhupesh Gupta and many more.

Similarly, from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi to Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Narendra Modi, India has seen prime ministers with an exceptional ability to communicate, mainly through their public addresses. But almost all prime ministers went by the



trodden path and used occasions like Independence Day and Republic Day for their customary address to the nation. The first one to think and speak out of the box as well is unquestionably Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Moving beyond oratorical skills, he has used radio address for establishing an emotional bond with fellow Indians. He has used radio communication very creatively and converted his monthly conversation with the countrymen, Mann ki Baat, into an event villagers and city-dwellers keenly await.

Pop culture events are known to 'break the internet' on occasion. A governance initiative did so for the first time on 28 June 2015, when the Prime Minister called for #SelfieWithDaughter on Mann ki Baat. Part of his pitch for the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign aimed at promoting gender parity, it went viral, emerging as a top trend on social media worldwide. The Prime Minister made it a point to credit the sarpanch of a small village in Haryana, a state with a severely skewed sex ratio, with the original concept.

'I request you all to take a selfie with your daughter and post it on #SelfieWithDaughter. And do not forget to post a tagline around the theme "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao"...I promise to retweet the most inspirational

when the Prime Minister called for #SelfieWithDaughter on Mann ki Baat. Part of his pitch for the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' campaign aimed at promoting gender parity, it went viral, emerging as a top trend on social media worldwide. The Prime Minister made it a point to credit the sarpanch of a small village in Haryana, a state with a severely skewed sex ratio, with the original concept.

tagline with you and your daughter's selfie,' he said and thousands in India and abroad responded. 'Love Indian PM's concept of #SelfieWithDaughter,' gushed a Canadian citizen.

Mann ki Baat, an innovative means of broadening the government– citizen interface, is arguably All India Radio's most popular show. A December 2016 survey by AIR's audience research wing says that two out of every ten Indians over the age of fifteen are Mann ki Baat regulars, while five out of ten have listened in at least once in the last two years. AIR estimates that 271 million people tune into the show, more than the audience of entire electronic media clubbed together.

The programme's maximum reach is in Gujarat, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, where 70 per cent of the people have heard the broadcast at least once. Its success can also be judged from the fact that a ten-second advertisement on AIR during the programme costs over a hundred times as much as other prime time slots. Tens of thousands of audio recordings have been downloaded, letters received and suggestions posted.

It was the Prime Minister who came up with the idea of a radio show in August of 2014. He told his aides that he wanted a platform where 'kuchh halki phulki mann ki baatein karoonga'. The fact that he opted for a radio show was significant in itself; radio reaches the poorest of households. The audience listens to the message, without visual distractions.

The recognition from UNEP was multiplied a thousand-fold by Mann ki Baat. The Prime Minister observed: 'A few days ago, you must have heard that the Versova beach in Mumbai, which was infamous for its filth, has now transformed into a clean and beautiful beach. People toiled unceasingly for about eighty to ninety weeks and turned Versova beach around by extracting thousands of tonnes of waste materials and today Versova beach is clean and beautiful....'

The first episode was aired on 3 October 2014 (Vijaydashami), a day after Gandhi Jayanti. The Prime Minister made a strong pitch for khadi, which dramatically boosted sales of the fabric in subsequent months (by 29 per cent in 2015-16, a trajectory that has been maintained since). He also commended Indian scientists on the Mars Mission and spoke of skill development and Swachh Bharat. That first episode lasted for around thirteen minutes; subsequently, the length increased to about thirty minutes. The programme airs on the last Sunday of every month.

Many unsung heroes, ordinary people doing extraordinary things, have featured on Mann ki Baat. Aroz Shah, for example, is chuffed that the Prime Minister knows his name. Not just that, the Prime Minister has made sure that the country knows it, too. In the programme aired on 28 May 2017, he congratulated the Mumbai-based lawyer on his efforts to clean the city's Versova beach. Afroz, who began his mission in October 2015—removing 5.5 million kilos of waste in eighty-five weeks with the help of his team of volunteers—had received the 'Champion of the Earth' award from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The recognition from UNEP was multiplied a thousand-fold by Mann ki Baat. The Prime Minister observed: 'A few days ago, you must have heard that the Versova beach in Mumbai, which was infamous for its filth, has now transformed into a clean and beautiful beach. People toiled unceasingly for about eighty to ninety weeks and turned Versova beach around by extracting thousands of tonnes of waste materials and today Versova beach is clean and beautiful.... The manner in which Shri Afroz Shah gathered the citizens of the area into a collective and gave it the shape of a people's movement is in itself an inspiring example.' Afroz tweeted his thanks to the Prime Minister and said that the commendation had encouraged him to expand his 'swachh' beach mission across the country. He has now kicked off a drive to green Versova beach, starting with a plantation of 400 coconut trees. On World Environment Day (5 June), Afroz was flooded with congratulatory tweets and volunteers from across Mumbai, who showed up at Versova to help with his campaign. ■

(Continued...)

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

TMC unleashes cycle of violence in West Bengal

DR. ANIRBAN GANGULY

Elections are the life-blood of democracy and free and fair elections are imperative to bring the voice of the people into effect. In West Bengal, Panchayat Elections had been notified to be held on 01st, 03rd and 05th May of 2018 where the last date of nominations is 09th of April 2018.

Mamata Banerjee led TMC unleashed a cycle of violence against the BJP candidates as well as their family members. In a typically fascist manner, following the methods once used by the left front cadres to threaten and subdue opposition candidates, the TMC lumpens too began threatening dissuading opposition candidates from filing their nominations. The main target of their attacks and intimidation have been BJP workers whom they tried to forcefully prevent from contesting the Panchayat elections.

So gruesome has been the TMC violence, that it has seen workers being killed, women being molested and manhandled – in fact, TMC goons have gone



around villages threatening BJP workers, that if they dare contest, they should first buy for their women the white cloth used to cover cadavers and then proceed for filing their nominations. This was the exact modus operandi adopted by the communist harmads who would, at gun point, threaten opposition workers and make a mockery of democracy. The TMC cadres and lumpens, with express support of the TMC supremo have unleashed exactly such a cycle of violence.

So successful has been TMC in terrorising democracy and eventually murdering it that in Mamata's nephew Abhishek Banerjee's Lok Sabha constituency, Diamond Harbour, that the opposition was unable to file nominations in over 93% of the seats, while in Birbhum, overseen by Mamata's favourite henchmen, the district president Anubrata Mondol, the picture is similar. In fact, Anubrata has also coerced and threatened candidates from withdrawing their nominations or having filed them, to switch over to the TMC. Both Abhishek and Anubrata – Mamata's favourites in her control for Bengal – have actually lived up to her hope of controlling Bengal through terrorising the people and by ensuring that the democratic space in the state keeps shrinking. In this she has surpassed the communists, who adhered to the philosophy of limited terror and limited violence in order to keep the proletariat in line and disciplined.

Anubrata has also coerced and threatened candidates from withdrawing their nominations or having filed them, to switch over to the TMC. Both Abhishek and Anubrata – Mamata's favourites in her control for Bengal – have actually lived up to her hope of controlling Bengal through terrorising the people and by ensuring that the democratic space in the state keeps shrinking.

By resorting to violence with the help of anti-social elements the TMC has distorted the level playing field and has defiled the sanctity and purity of the election process. TMC goons and lumpens with country made arms, batons, iron rods have been knifing, bombing BJP workers, vandalising shops, manhandling women workers and terrorising localities. BJP offices across the state, especially in rural areas are being vandalised and torched. The case of Raiganj was for all to see, where TMC harmad groups went on a rampage, breaking shops, openly wielding arms, hurling bombs and expletives in equal measure.

In addition the BDOs who have been appointed as the Assistant Panchayat Electoral Registration Officer by the West Bengal State Election Commission, have refused to give the nomination forms to the candidates of the Bharatiya Janata Party. Thus, the entire election process is being reduced to a farce.

BJP workers were beaten up inside the SDO offices while going to file their nominations or are being prevented from entering the SDO offices for filing their nomination. A case in point, is that of Bilash Lakshman, BJP leader from Khanakul's Gobindapur in Hooghly. Lakshman had come to collect his nomination paper for the No.49 Zilla Parishad seat of Khanakul. He was accompanied by BJP Kisan Morcha leader of Khanakul Tapan Mondal. They were physically lifted in front of the Deputy Magistrate, taken out of the office and badly beaten up and manhandled by TMC goons. Keshab Koyal of Sandeshkhali-1, of Basirhat Subdivision, in N.24 Parganas, faced a similar situation when armed TMC goons picked him up from the BDO's office. BJP workers who were filing the nomination form sitting in the BJP office at Minakhan, Basirhat Subdivision, N.24 Parganas were attacked, and their forms torn, the party office vandalised and workers badly beaten up. The Minakhan BJP office is next to the police station. BJP worker in Purulia, Bhim Sen Nandi had to be hospitalised after being severely beaten by TMC goons.

Such incidents have occurred and are occurring in large numbers across the state. Incidents of knifing and bombing has become rampant, the police forces are unable to or are unwilling to bring the situation in control. The High Court stepped in and in an indication of the deterioration has ordered that nominations can be e-filed.

With the rise in nominations on BJP symbol, the TMC got rattled and resorted to unleashing violence against BJP workers and their families. But BJP workers have also been resisting TMC lumpenism and have, in areas, recovered inch by inch lost ground, it is this that makes the TMC and its leaders nervous, they wish to control Bengal unchallenged but lack the capacity to do it in a democratic manner and are hence resorting to terrorist methods. TMC is a party which has failed the Indian constitution and the struggle against it must be further strengthened for democracy in Bengal to survive.

But the most deafening silence on this is from those who have consistently spread false and malicious propoganda against Prime Minister Modi and the BJP,

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those placard carrying professional protestors and marchers, those five star activists, who have always created false narratives, have been conspicuously silent, they do not have the gumption to challenge Mamata, they are comfortable with attacking Modi and will be well taken care off if they continue with their tirade against him, and therefore when democracy is being throttled in West Bengal, when women political workers are being molested, when political workers are being killed, they look the other way such is their duplicitous spirit. ■

(The writer is Director of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation)



Proper management of bilateral relation important for ‘Asian Century’

BOTH COUNTRIES AGREE TO IMPLEMENT A JOINT ECONOMIC PROJECT IN WAR-TORN AFGHANISTAN

Two-day (April 27-28) informal summit between India and China held in Wuhan, the capital city of Central China’s Hubei province. Prime Minister Shri Narendra and President of People’s Republic of China, Shri Xi Jinping exchanged their views on overarching issues of bilateral and global importance, and elaborated their respective visions and priorities for national development in the context of the current and future international situation. The summit witnessed groundbreaking outcome. Both leadership agreed for the first time to implement a joint economic project in war-torn Afghanistan. Indian and Chinese officials will identify the project and work out the modalities of cooperation. The strategic analysts see the move as a setback to Pakistan. China’s Global times remarked the informal summit

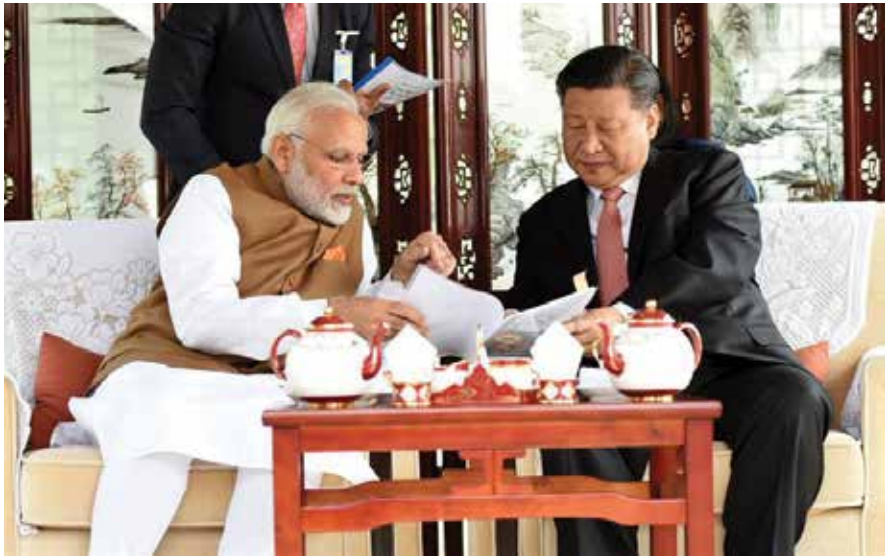
as the most inspiring diplomatic endeavor made by the two countries to mend ties since last year’s Doklam standoff and would exert enormous influence on Asia and the world.

The conclusion of the informal summit is that both leaders believe that the simultaneous emergence of India and China as two large economies and major powers with strategic and decisional autonomy, has implications of regional and global significance. They shared the view that peaceful, stable and balanced relations between India and China will be a positive factor for stability amidst current global uncertainties. They also agreed that proper management of the bilateral relationship will be conducive for the development and prosperity of the region, and will create the conditions for the Asian Century. To this end,

they decided to strengthen the Closer Development Partnership in a mutually beneficial and sustainable manner, in pursuit of national modernization and greater prosperity for their peoples.

Shri Narendra Modi said during the talk, China talks about a new era and I am working for a new India. World peace is important and both India and China have to work for the same and make all possible contributions. He also said in the delegation level talk “The five positive elements of this relationship are thought, communication, support, commitment and shared vision. These can be the basis for world peace and stability.”

Prime Minister Modi and President Xi reviewed developments in India-China relations from the strategic and long-term perspective. They agreed to significantly enhance efforts to build on the convergences through the established mechanisms in order to create the broadest possible platform for the future relationship. They also agreed that both sides have the maturity and wisdom to handle the differences through peaceful discussion within the context of the overall relationship, bearing in mind the



importance of respecting each other’s sensitivities, concerns and aspirations.

The two leaders expressed their support for the work of the Special Representatives on the India China Boundary Question and urged them to intensify their efforts to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement. The two leaders underscored the importance of maintaining peace and tranquility in all areas of the India-China border region in the larger interest of the overall development of bilateral relations. To this end, they issued strategic guidance to their respective militaries to strengthen communication in order to build trust and mutual understanding and enhance predictability and effectiveness in the management of border affairs. The two leaders further directed their militaries to earnestly implement various confidence building measures agreed upon between the two sides, including the principle of mutual and equal security, and strengthen existing institutional arrangements and information sharing mechanisms to prevent incidents in border regions.

Prime Minister Modi and President Xi underlined that as two major countries India and China have wider and overlapping regional and global interests. They agreed on their need to strengthen strategic communication through greater consultation on all matters of common interest. They believe that such strategic communication will have a positive influence on enhancing mutual understanding and will contribute to regional and global stability. ■

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Congress bubble to impeach CJI punctured

AMBA CHARAN VASHISHTH

The Congress bubble to impeach Chief Justice of India, Justice Deepak Mishra, got punctured on May 8, 2018 in the Supreme Court. Two Congress Rajya Sabha MPs, Pratap Singh Bajwa and Ameer Yagnik, had moved the Supreme Court (SC) challenging Rajya Sabha chairman Venkaiah Naidu's rejection of an opposition motion seeking the removal of the CJI. They were left with no option but to withdraw the petition. After this the court dismissed the petition as withdrawn.

The Congress and six other opposition parties had last month moved a motion in the Rajya Sabha for the removal of Chief Justice Dipak Misra alleging five grounds of "misbehaviour". However, Naidu rejected the notice holding that the allegations lacked merit.

It is not clear why only Congress seemed disturbed by Naidu's order and not its other five associates.

The provocation for the impeachment move apparently looked not legal or constitutional but purely political. It seems to have been triggered



by the CJI's intention to take up the Ayodhya Ram Mandir-Babri masjid case on priority and decide early. Dushyant Dave, who was the counsel for the petitioner in the judge Loya case, had questioned the "hurry" of the court in deciding the Ayodhya dispute.

The most interesting coincidence is that on 15 January this year four senior-most SC judges after the CJI — Justices J Chelameswar, Ranjan Gogoi, Madan B Lokur and Kurian Joseph — addressed a press conference questioning the CJI allocating the cases to the "junior" judges.

On the same afternoon, one of the four judges was reported to have met CPI leader and Rajya Sabha MP D Raja. Politics for the Chief Justice's impeachment appears to have got impetus from there.

It remains unexplained why a judge should be interested to hear (or not hear) a particular cases/s.

It was for the first time in the history of independent India that such a motion against the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court had been initiated. Also, no SC judge has even been impeached.

Article 124 (4) of the Constitution governing impeachment says "Judge of the Supreme Court

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shall not be removed from his office except by an order of the President passed after an address by each House of Parliament supported by a majority of the total membership of that House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting has been presented to the President in the same session for such removal on the ground of proved misbehavior or incapacity."

It is only on the ground of "proven misbehaviour or incapacity" and no other ground on which impeachment proceedings can be taken up by either House of Parliament. This vital element was missing in the opposition motion for impeachment.

It is interesting to note that on the one hand, the Congress led opposition, which did not allow both houses of Parliament to function during budget session, was willing to go peaceful and not on other important matters concerning public interest, decided to file a petition signed by 64 members in the Rajya Sabha and not in the Lok Sabha where opposition is numerically weak.

Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu rejected the notice given by opposition parties led by the Congress for impeachment of CJI Dipak Misra citing lack of substantial merit in it. Naidu, according to reports, held extensive consultations with top legal and constitutional experts, including former chief justices and judges, before taking the decision.

In his order Venkaiah Naidu said that he had detailed personal conversation on all the aspects arising from the notice and had considered each of the allegations made in it individually as well as collectively. "Based on all this, I have come to the conclusion that this motion does not deserve to be admitted...On careful analysis and reflection, I find there is virtually no concrete verifiable imputation".

"We cannot allow any of our pillars of governance to be weakened by any thought, word or action," Naidu said. The RS that he was "satisfied that admission of this Notice of Motion is neither desirable nor proper".

"In passing, I am constrained to observe that in this matter, the well established parliamentary customs and conventions as have been delineated in para 2.2 of the Handbook for Members of Rajya Sabha have been disregarded," Naidu said. "I have

considered the material contained in the Notice of Motion and reflected upon the inputs received in my interaction with legal luminaries and constitutional experts, I am of the firm opinion that the Notice of Motion does not deserve to be admitted. I refuse to admit the Notice of Motion," he said.

"In passing, I am constrained to observe that in this matter, the well established parliamentary customs and conventions as have been delineated in the paragraph 2.2 of the Handbook for Members of Rajya Sabha have been disregarded. This provision prohibits publicity of any Notice submitted by a member till it has been admitted by the Chairman and circulated to the members. In the instant case

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immediately after submitting the Notice to me on 20th April, 2018, Members addressed a press conference and shared the statements contained in the Notice which included some still unsubstantiated charges against the CJI. This act of Members of discussing the conduct of the CJI in the press is against propriety and parliamentary decorum as it denigrates the institution of CJI. I am also aware that there has been a spate of statements in the press that seem to vitiate the atmosphere. I thought I should, therefore, expedite my decision and end needless speculation". ■

India's performance in the Commonwealth Games was par excellence: PM

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the people of country in his monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat on April 29, 2018. He said "Just a while ago, from the 4th of April to the 15th of April, the 21st Commonwealth Games were held in Australia. 71 countries, including India, participated therein. With an event of such scale & magnitude, which saw the participation of thousands of sportspersons from myriad corners of the world, can you imagine the mood that must have pervaded the atmosphere there? An air of excitement, zeal, enthusiasm, hope, aspirations, the determination to achieve – who would want to stay away from an atmosphere like that? These were the times when people all over the country pondered eagerly everyday on the line-up of sportspersons, scheduled for their respective performances. How will India's performance be, what will our medal tally look like? These questions were but natural. Our sportspersons too lived up to the countrymen's expectations and displayed stellar performances, winning one medal after another. Shooting or Wrestling, Table Tennis or Badminton, it was a record performance for India. 26 Gold, 20 Silver, 20 Bronze, India bagged a tally of around 66 medals. This success makes every Indian swell with pride." Further he said "India's performance in the Commonwealth Games was par excellence. At the same time, it was special. This edition of the games was special on one more count- a majority of the medalists was women athletes.

He added "Last month during 'Mann Ki Baat', I had urged our countrymen, especially the youth to espouse 'Fit India'. I had invited everyone to join 'Fit India', lead 'Fit India'. I was overjoyed to see people getting connected to it with a lot of enthusiasm. Expressing support for this, many people have written to me, sent me letters, shared 'Fitness Mantra- Fit India' stories on social media.

Through the radio programme the prime minister invited youngsters in Swachh Bharat Summer



Internship 2018'. He said "My young friends, you now must be out of the tread mill of exams, exams & more exams; you must be wondering about spending your holidays. You must be contemplating on ways to enjoy your vacations and places to travel to! I would like to talk to you today, to invite you on a new task. I've seen a lot of young people these days, spending time in learning new things. The significance of Summer Internship is soaring; as it is, an altogether new experience in itself. One gets an opportunity to experience life anew, away from closeted walls, away from paper & pen and computers. Dear young friends, today I urge you to undergo a special internship. Three Ministries of the Government of India; maybe four- Sports, HRD, Department of Drinking water have come together to launch a 'Swachh Bharat Summer Internship 2018'. College students, young people from the NCC and Nehru Yuva Kendra, whoever want to do something substantial & learn something for the sake of society, & the country, those who want to get connected with transforming the country and be a reason for it, those who want to do something or the other for society with a positive energy- for them, there is a great opportunity! Even the cause of the cleanliness campaign will get a boost, and when we celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma

Gandhi, we'll surely attain a sense of fulfillment. And let me tell you, the best out of the best interns who have strived in schools & colleges with excellent work will be rewarded with recognition at the national level. Not just that, those interns who accomplish their tasks well, will be awarded two credit points each, by the UGC. Once again, I invite students & young people, boys & girls to avail of the benefits of the internship. You can register yourselves for the 'Swachh Bharat Summer Internship' on Mygov. I hope our youth will lend a hand in taking this movement of cleanliness forward. I too am eager to know more about your efforts. Do send in your learning experience, do post your stories, photos and videos. Come. Let us turn this vacation into a learning opportunity, for a totally new experience.

He appealed to the countrymen to watch "Good News India" programme. He said, "Whenever I get a chance, I watch the programme. In Good News India" programme we get to know as to how many people in various parts of our country are doing many good things and that such good things are happening.

He added "Recently, I saw that they were presenting the story of some youth from Delhi who are selflessly working in a dedicated manner to help in educating the poor children. This group of youngsters has started a big campaign in Delhi for providing education to the street children and slum dwellers. Initially, shocked to see the condition of children begging around or doing some menial jobs that this group of youngsters got dedicatedly, selflessly involved into this creative mission. Starting with just 15 children from the slums near Geeta Colony in New Delhi it is now being run at 12 places and two thousand children have been brought under its fold. Young teachers associated with this campaign find out a free time of two hours from their busy schedule and contribute in this stupendous mission of bringing out a social transformation."

He said "Dear brothers and sisters, in this very way, some farmers from hilly areas of Uttarakhand have become a source of inspiration for the farmers across the country. With their collective efforts, they have not only changed their own fortunes but have changed fortunes of the whole region. In Bageshwar in Uttarakhand, main crops sown are Mandwa, Chaulai, Corn or Barley. This being a hilly area, the farmers did

not get a fair price of their produce. But, the farmers in Kapkot tehsil decided to come out of this situation and adopted a value-addition process and changed the loss incurring equation into a profit-earning one. What they did was that they started production of biscuits from their agricultural produce and sold those biscuits directly in the market. Consequently, Chaulai which the farmers were forced to sell at Rs. 25 per Kg was now selling at Rs. 50 per Kg as biscuits."

He said "You must remember, 20 years ago today, on 11th May 1998, the Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had said while addressing the nation and his words filled the whole country with pride, courage and elation. The Indian diaspora was infused with new confidence. That day also was the day of Buddha Purnima. On May 11, 1998, at India's western end a nuclear test was conducted in Pokhran, Rajasthan. It has been 20 years since Pokhran and this test was done on Buddha Purnima with the blessings of Lord Buddha. India's test was not only successful but in a way, India had demonstrated its might in the field of science and technology. We can also say 11 May 1988 is engraved in the history of India as a demonstration of her military power. Lord Buddha has shown the world- that the power of inner strength or that of the soul is necessary for peace. Similarly, when you are sturdy as a nation, you can be at peace with others. The month of May, 1998 is not just important for the country from the aspect that nuclear tests were conducted this very month, but the manner in which they were carried out is also important. It has revealed to the entire world that India is the land of great scientists and with a strong leadership, India can reach loftier destinations and earn new laurels. On that day, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji had given the mantra - "Jai-Jawan Jai-Kisan, Jai-Vigyan."

"Now that when we are going to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Pokhran test conducted on May 11, 1998, I ask the younger generations of our nation to imbibe the mantra of 'Jai-Vigyan' given by Atalji for enhancing the might and the power of India, to build a modern India, a powerful India and a self-reliant India. Synergize your energy with the strength of India. Witnessing the journey that Atal ji started, we while continuing onwards on that very path with a renewed joy will derive great satisfaction in getting ahead." ■



THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI AND
 BJP NATIONAL PRESIDENT SHRI AMIT SHAH
 BECOME LIFE MEMBERS OF KAMAL SANDESH

BECOME PART OF A VIBRANT IDEOLOGICAL MOVEMENT

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Note : * DD/Cheque will be made in favour of "Kamal Sandesh"
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KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE



PM Shri Narendra Modi at the Indo-China bilateral meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping in Wuhan, China.



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi being welcomed on his arrival in Wuhan, China



PM Shri Narendra Modi discussing multiple aspects of bilateral ties with President Xi Jinping at Wuhan's East Lake.



PM's discussions on economic as well as people-to-people relations with China over tea.



PM Shri Modi and President Xi Jinping at the Hubei Provincial Museum, a home to great facets of Chinese history and culture.

Significant drop in LPG price

Category	DEC 2017	MAY 2018
Non-subsidized LPG price	₹ 747.00	₹ 650.50
Subsidized LPG price	₹ 495.69	₹ 491.21

Subsidy to LPG consumers is directly transferred into their bank accounts under **PAHAL** scheme.

#PetroleumMinIndia #Petroleum

Digital Payments

BHIM UPI

Growth in the number of digital payments through BHIM UPI

Month	Number of Digital Payments (Million)
Feb 2018	171.40
March 2018	178.05
April 2018	190.08

INDIA POST
 Ministry of Communications
 Government of India

DARPAN-PLI* APP
 Towards Achieving Total Digitalisation of Postal Operation
 Launched on 17 April 2018

To connect all **1.29 lakh rural Branch Post Offices** for online postal and financial transactions.

Facilitate **Postal Life Insurance (PLI)** and Rural PLI premium collection, indexing of maturity claims and online updation of policies.

61,941 Branch Post Offices rolled out under the project.

Total project cost of more than **₹1300 crores**.

*Digital Advancement of Rural Post Offices - Postal Life Insurance

Volunteer to nurture a life with
Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan

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 Log on to www.pmsma.nhp.gov.in

www.mohfw.gov.in