

RAJASTHAN GAURAV YATRA **'BJP IS COMMITTED FOR BETTERMENT OF POOR,** FARMERS, DALITS, BACKWARD CLASSES, YOUTH AND WOMEN OF THE COUNTRY'

THIS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE Empowerment of OBC communities Across India'

NATIONAL REGISTER OF CITIZENS – Sovereignty VS vote Bank THE AGRICULTURE MISSION: HOW MODI Government is shaping the future of Farming and farmers



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah and Rajasthan CM Smt. Vasundhra Raje waving at the gathering after flagging off the 'Rajasthan Gaurav Yatra' in Rajsamand



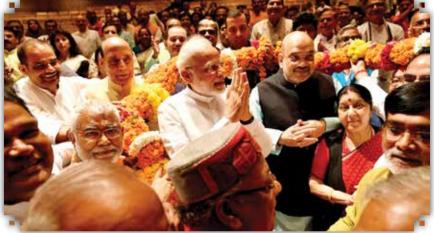
UP BJP welcomes BJP National President Shri Amit Shah, UP CM Yogi Adityanath and Union Minister Shri Piyush Goel during the renaming function of Mughalsarai Junction as Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Junction in UP



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah participating in Yamuna Aarti along with spiritual gurus in Prayag, UP



As the part of "Sampark for Samarthan" BJP National President Shri Amit Shah meets cricketer MS Dhoni in Ranchi, Jharkhand



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah along with other senior BJP leaders felicitate PM Shri Narendra Modi for the historic Bill giving constitutional status to National Commission for Backward Classes at BJP Parliamentary Party Meeting, New Delhi



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twitter



@narendramodi

A historic moment for our country! I am glad that the Parliament has passed the Constitution (123rd Amendment) Bill, which

grants Constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes. This will contribute to the empowerment of the OBC communities across India.

@AnanthKumar_BJP



Hon. PM @narendramodi ji announced that fortnight of Aug 15 to 30 this year would be celebrated as the 'Samajik Nyaya Pakhwada'

(Social Justice Fortnight). In the future August 1 to 9 would be celebrated as "Social Justice week " or Samajik Nyaya Saptaah every year.



@Devendra Fadnavis

In Maharashtra we have set up a separate Ministry for OBC. I am also happy that after 70 years of struggle, yesterday, our Parliament passed a bill to provide constitutional status to ckward Classes Commission

National Backward Classes Commission.

NRC is the soul of same Assam accord signed by former PM Rajiv Gandhi in 1985. Congress did not have the courage to implement it and now Modi government is doing what Congress could not.



— Amit Shah

By incentivising local production, Govt's #MakeInIndia programme is enhancing economic growth & job creation in the country, helping India become the centre of global manufacturing.



— Piyush Goyal

Now, farmers can buy and sell their agriculture and farming products online through Buyer Seller-mkisan available on UMANG App. This app provides 276 services from 62 departments in 14 states.



— Ravi Shankar Prasad



NRC – a culmination of long struggle of people of Assam

he publication of the draft NRC (National Register of Citizens) on 30 July 2018 has been widely welcomed in Assam in particular and nation in general. It is the culmination of long struggle of the people of Assam who waged an incessant fight against the illegal infiltration in the state mainly from Bangladesh. The unchecked infiltration led to change in demography in the bordering districts raising alarm in the entire nation making it a sensitive issue while posing a threat to the national unity and integrity. It was highly unfortunate to note that the Congress at the centre and in state chose to ignore the looming danger of infiltration throughout its tenure. Even while committing itself to Assam accord in 1985, it lacked sincerity in addressing this mounting problem. It was the result of the long struggle and indomitable spirit of the people of Assam that the process of preparing NRC has gained momentum and a solution of the problem appears to be in sight.

The infiltration issue has been at the core of Assam people's struggle since 1979 when the large scale

THE PEOPLE OF **ASSAM SHOULD BE SALUTED FOR** THEIR INCESSANT **STRUGGLE AND** THE SUPREME **COURT SHOULD BE** CONGRATULATED FOR TAKING UP THIS **ISSUE EARNESTLY.** THE CONGRESS AND **ITS ALLIES WHO NOW STAND REJECTED BY** THE PEOPLE SHOULD NOW INTROSPECT AND TAKE A CLEAR **STAND ON THE ISSUE OF ILLEGAL** INFILTRATION.

demographic changes were seen to be acting against the interests of the people of the state. While the people in the state were engaged in their struggle, the IMDT Act passed in 1983 further complicated the issue by remaining silent on the manner to identify the infiltrators/foreigners. The Assam Accord 1985 which was signed in the presence of the then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi promised to identify and deport those who entered Assam after 25 March 1971, while the names of those who entered after 01.01.1966 were to be removed from electoral rolls of the state and their citizenship issues were to be dealt accordingly. But nothing progressed and it proved to be a huge betrayal for the people of Assam. It was to the great relief of the people of Assam that while hearing a PIL filed by Sarbanand Sonowal, the Supreme Court repealed the IMDT Act and paved the way for the determination of illegal infiltrators. As now Sarbanand Sonowal is the chief minister of Assam, the people can see his commitment to the illegal infiltrators issue as NRC work is expedited with the centre extending all kinds of support to the Supreme Court monitored process.

It is highly unfortunate to note that some political parties have chosen to play politics on this sensitive issue as well with West Bengal chief minister Mamta Banerjee openly opposing the NRC. The compulsion of vote bank politics makes Mamta Banerjee to raise hue and cry on the issue but she fails to understand that the issue is not related to Assam alone but it is a national issue. The illegal infiltration has taken place in the entire country with Assam and West Bengal being the prime targets of the infiltrators. The then Home Minister Indrajit Gupta in 1997 and the then MoS, Home Shriprakash Jaiswal in 2006 in

parliament accepted that apart from Assam, more than 5 million Bangladeshis have infiltrated West Bengal also. This is the vote bank which Mamata Banerjee is banking upon for her political survival. Such vote bank politics should be defeated in the country.

While NRC work is in progress it is to be borne in mind that the infiltration problem is increasingly becoming crucial for India and without addressing this problem with urgency and sincerity, the issue cannot be resolved. The people of Assam should be saluted for their incessant struggle and the Supreme Court should be congratulated for taking up this issue earnestly. The Congress and its allies who now stand rejected by the people should now introspect and take a clear stand on the issue of illegal infiltration. It is time that the nation takes a stand on this issue before it is too late. The country under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is now set to resolve these longstanding issues and pave the rise of 'New India' through clear cut policies and political will to act in national interest.

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'Give 'hisab' of what Congress did for four generations'



icking off BJP's election campaign in Rajasthan, BJP National President Shri Amit Shah flagged off the 'Rajasthan Gaurav Yatra' from the Charbhujanath temple in Rajsamand district on 04 August, 2018. Chief Minister Smt. Vasundhara Raje is embarking on a 58-day Yatra across the state to interact with the electorate ahead of the Assembly election this year. The extensive 'Gaurav Yatra' will tour across the state and cover 165 of 200 constituencies. The Yatra is scheduled to end on 30 September in Ajmer.

Before the flagging off of the Yatra Shri Amit Shah and Smt. Vasundhara Raje offered prayers at the Charbhujanath temple and set off to Kankroli where they addressed the first rally.

Speaking at the first public meeting, BJP President Shri Shah said Rahul Baba should go and see the villages where no development had taken place in the 50 years of the Congress rule. However, the situation has changed under the BJP rule and now development works are happening there. Shri Shah said, "Rahul Gandhi asks us what we did in four years; instead, he should answer questions asked by the people about what they did for the last four generations".

Further attacking the Congress, he said, "Rahul baba if you know counting then count, I don't know Italian else I would have told you in Italian how much we have given to public. Modi Government has brought 116 schemes for Rajasthan populace and still Congress asks what has BJP done?"

Talking about the various schemes and programmes of the Rajasthan government, Shri Shah said that the central government brought 116 schemes for people and the Raje government has touched upon all sections of the society in the state and carried out developmental works.

Congress did nothing for development. Rajasthan which has been a glorious state became a BIMARU state because of Congress but now under the leadership of Smt. Raje, the state is progressing and going to become a developed state. We have committed to form the government again, he said.

The BJP President said that the Narendra Modi government released two-and-a-half-times more funds to the state government as compared to the previous UPA government.

Targeting the Congress over the National Register of Citizens (NRC) issue in Assam, he said that the Congress was seeing illegal Bangladeshi residing in India as its vote bank and asked people to pose a question to Rahul Gandhi whether the illegal Bangladeshi people should live in India or not.

Congress President should tell the people whether illegal Bangladeshi should be in India or not. Congress is actually looking at vote bank in this issue but the Modi government does not run on the basis of vote bank, he said.

Shri Shah also said that BJP did not dilute the SC/ST Act and instead the BJP government has strengthened it.

No Congress government have the courage to give account of their work to the public of India but we have the courage always because Bharatiya Janata Party is committed for the betterment of our poor, farmers, Dalits, backward classes, youth and women of the country, he said.

He said Rajasthan is going to reject the Congress once again because it has no direction and its pathetic condition is no longer hidden from the country.

While addressing the rally, CM Smt. Vasundhara Raje said BJP government has worked towards helping women, farmers and youth for the last four years. Targeting the Congress, she said the party has not made false promises to the people.

Smt. Raje said that it was her third Yatra and



exuded confidence that the party will secure victory again. "Five years back, I had begun 'Suraj Sankalp Yatra' and 'Parivartan Yatra' in 2003 from here and people gave us their mandate. We worked hard, I conducted visits and tours of the state to know people's problems and provided them with what they wanted," Smt. Raje said.

She said that the government launched programmes and worked to enhance the dignity of women by launching schemes such as Bhamashah scheme and others.

She said Congress always tried to create rift among castes but we want to take every section along with us. It is our aim to launch public welfare schemes and

Targeting the Congress over the National Register of Citizens (NRC) issue in Assam, he said that the Congress was seeing illegal Bangladeshi residing in India as its vote bank and asked people to pose a question to Rahul Gandhi whether the illegal Bangladeshi people should live in India or not.

transfer the benefit to people. Development works have taken place in last four years in every panchayat and district.

She said that the state is no more a BIMARU state. In the coming years, she said, industries will be set up, development will pick up pace for a progressive Rajasthan.

The Chief Minister said there is a need to end 'One time Congress, one time BJP' trend to push Rajasthan among fastest developing states. Development took place at fast pace in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat where the BJP is in power.

She also asked the Congress to give a list of works done by them in the past 50 years. "People should analyze who served the nation best," she said.

'A very important day for every BJP karyakarta'

MUGHALSARAI RAILWAY JUNCTION RENAMED AS DEENDAYAL UPADHYAY JUNCTION

ts a very important day for every BJP Karyakarta because Mughalsarai junction is named after Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Ji'

While addressing a public meeting during inaugurating the Deendayal Upadhyay Junction earlier known as Mughalsarai Junction at Mugalsarai, UP BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said it is a very important day for every BJP Karyakarta because Mughalsarai junction is named after Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Ji, a great visionary, pillar of our ideology and promulgator of 'Integral Humanism', who was brutally murdered here in 1968.

Shri Amit Shah said with the help of the Central Government and the UP Government is doing a big work of establishing a grand memorial and research center in memory of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Ji and for this I thank Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Shri Yogi Adityanath from the bottom of heart.

Shri Shah said even if Rahul Gandhi joins the Bua-Bhatija (SP-BSP), yet the BJP's seats in Uttar Pradesh will increase from 73 to 74, not 72. Opposition is dreaming of forming a new government in Uttar Pradesh but even today, only BJP has the UP's mandate, no one else has.

I am asking Rahul Gandhi for past seven days that you must clear your stand whether 'NRC' should be implemented in the country or not, but he has no answer. Congress & Co do not want 'NRC' to be implemented and they Bangladeshi infiltrators should remain in the country to serve their politics of vote bank, Shri Shah said.

The SP, the BSP and the Congress should decide whether they want Bangladeshi infiltrators out of the country or not. I know the opinion of the people of the country, consensus of the whole country is that not a single infiltrator should be kept in the country.

The BJP President said the Modi government has spent more in 4 years for development of Purvanchal compared to 70 years' of Congress. BJP government has opened this region to whole new dimensions of development. He said in 15 years, under the rule of SP-BSP, UP's law and order was extremely pathetic, criminals were dominating and the chaos was at the peak, while in the Yogi government, criminals in the state were forced to run away from Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Amit Shah said the Congress government of Sonia-Manmohan provided central assistance of just Rs 3,30,000 crore to UP during the 13th Finance Commission while the Modi government allocated an amount of Rs 8,08,000 in the 14th Finance Commission. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the central government has decided to increase the minimum support price of crops by one and half times to the cost price, fulfilling the much anticipated demand of the farmers of the country for 70 years.

Even Modi Government has decided to provide



health insurance of five lakh rupees per annum to 10 crore families i.e. approx 50 crore people of the country free of cost under the 'Ayushman Bharat'

The Modi government has made crores of toilets, given gas connections to the poor women, provided electricity to the villages, build homes for homeless people, given self-employment to the youth, vaccinated 18 million poor children in 4 years, but Rahul Gandhi should tell the country what did the Congress party in 55 years of their rule, he asked.

As national president of the Bharatiya Janata Party, I assure the people of Uttar Pradesh, when we come to the people of Uttar Pradesh seeking their votes after five years, then UP will be the number one state in the country no doubt.

SC/ST Amendment Bill 2018 unanimously passed by Lok Sabha

'Amendment will strengthen the legislative provisions to protect the SC/ST'

he Modi government introduced the SC/ST amendment Bill 2018 in Lok Sabha on 03 August, 2018. It was unanimously passed by the Lok Sabha on 06 August. The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill 2018 was introduced in Lok Sabha by the Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot.

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill 2018 rules out any provision for anticipatory bail for a person accused of atrocities against SC/STs, notwithstanding any court order.

It also provides that no preliminary enquiry will be required for registering a criminal case and an arrest under this law would not be subject to any approval.

Replying to the debate on the bill, Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot asserted that the NDA government favoured reservation "and will continue to be in favour of reservation for SC/ST". The amendment, he said, will strengthen the legislative provisions to protect SC/ST.

Shri Gehlot said after the Supreme Court put some restrictions on Article 18 of this Act, the law lost its importance. "The review petition filed by the government is still pending. Due to delay in the Supreme Court and rising anger among the Dalit community, there was a need to amend Article 18," the Minister said.

He accepted that 6-7 per cent cases under the Indian Penal Code and 10-12 per cent cases under Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act were misused. "But citing the misuse of the Act, we can't allow 88 per cent of Dalits to suffer," Shri Gehlot asserted.

In 2018, the Supreme Court stated that for persons accused of committing an offence under the Act, approval of the Senior Superintendent of Police will be required before an arrest is made. Further, the Deputy Superintendent of Police may conduct a preliminary enquiry to find out whether there is a prima facie case

BROUGHT 'AUGUST KRANTI' WITH OBC, SC/ST BILLS FOR 'SOCIAL JUSTICE'

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi told BJP MPs that the NDA government has brought in "August Kranti", in reference to the passage of two Bills to empower people from backward communities, and Dalit and tribal background.

PM Pointing out that the government was quick in bringing the legislation to strengthen the law to prevent atrocities against Dalits, Shri Modi told party MPs during BJP Parliamentary Party meeting that the ongoing Monsoon Session will be remembered for steps taken by his government for social justice.

'A BIG STEP TOWARDS MAKING AN EQUITABLE SOCIETY'

BJP President Shri Amit Shah termed the passage of SC/ST amendment Bill 2018 in Lok Sabha a big step towards making an equitable society. It is a move towards creating a new India where all sections of society live with dignity and harmony. Hailing the Narendra Modi government for the bill's passage, Shri Shah said it has always been the BJP's goal to create an egalitarian and just society as its mantra is 'sabka saath sabka vikas'.

under the Act.

The Bill states that the investigating officer will not require the approval of any authority for the arrest of an accused. Further, it provides that a preliminary enquiry will not be required for the registration of a First Information Report (FIR) against a person accused under the Act.

The Act states that persons accused of committing an offence under the Act cannot apply for anticipatory bail. The Bill seeks to clarify that this provision will apply despite any judgments or orders of a court that provide otherwise.

WHO praises accelerated sanitation coverage in India

ccording to a report published in Financial Express,International public health body World Health Organisation(WHO) has praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first ever scheme Swachh Bharat Mission, saying that if it achieves the October 2019 target, it could avert up to 3 lakh deaths due to diarrheal disease and protein-energy malnutrition (PEM) since its launch in October 2014.

Through this scheme, the government aims to make India open defecation free by October 2019, and the latest data show that, so far, 69.4% of the target has been achieved. WHO said that this initiative could be remarkable as before 2019 unsafe sanitation caused an estimated 199 million cases of diarrhoea annually.

"India's commitment and progress towards these outcomes is reflected in the fact that household sanitation coverage has dramatically increased from an estimated 2% per year before the initiative to more than 13% annually between 2016 and 2018," the WHO said in a statement.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his first Independence Day speech from the ramparts of of the Red Fort announced the Swachh Bharat Mission. Government's recent decision to provide Extra Budgetary Resources of Rs 15,000 crore to the scheme for constructing more toilets has also been acknowledged by the WHO as well.

"According to calculations, if all sanitation services are used, the initiative could result in over 14 million more years of healthy life in the period measured, with the benefits accruing yearly thereafter," WHO



said, adding that the cases of diarrhoea will almost be eliminated when universal use of safe sanitation facilities is achieved.

Over 4 lakh villages all over India have been declared open defecation-free (ODF). While the effort of government is being lauded, the latest data show that five — Tripura, Goa, Bihar, Odisha, and Uttar Pradesh — are yet to catch-up with the progress made in other states.

61.12 Lakh Benefited Through PMRPY

1.12 lakhs of people has been benefitted under Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) till 25 July, 2018. PMRPY has been initiated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the year 2016-17 for incentivizing employers by paying the entire employer's contribution (12 % or as admissible) towards the EPS and EPF for all sectors w.e.f. 01.04.2018 to all eligible new employees and is applicable for all sectors for the next 3 years. Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Union Minister of State (I/C) for Labour and Employment said in written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha on August 1.



Govt achieves target of 5 cr free LPG connections

ok Sabha Speaker Smt Sumitra Mahajan on august 4 handed over papers for an LPG connection under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana which was launched on May 1, 2016 with a target to give 5 crore connections by March 2019 to Takrdiran who is a resident of Sangam Vihar of the national capital. Speaking on the occasion, Mahajan said the scheme has not just saved eyes and money of the poor women but also their "honour" as they would now not be required to venture into forests to collect firewood.

Pradhan said the target has been achieved in 27 months instead of 35 months. As many as 3 crore additional free cooking gas (LPG) connections will be given to poor households by March 2020, he said. Under the scheme, the government provides a subsidy of Rs 1,600 to state-owned fuel retailers for every free LPG gas connection that they install in poor rural households. This subsidy is intended to cover the security fee for the cylinder and the fitting charges. The beneficiary has to buy her own cooking stove.

To reduce the burden, the scheme allows beneficiaries to pay for the stove and the first refill in monthly installments. However, the cost of all subsequent refills has to be borne by the beneficiary household. Pradhan said the most number of LPG connections were given in Uttar Pradesh, where 87 lakh connections were released, followed by West Bengal (67 lakh), Bihar (61 lakh), Madhya Pradesh (45 lakh), Rajasthan (37 lakh) and Odisha (30 lakh).

About 47 per cent of the beneficiaries are from



the weaker sections of the society SC/STs. PMUY, which aims to provide clean-cooking fuel to the poor households which are otherwise vulnerable to various health hazards associated with indoor air pollution, has been recognised by World Health Organisation as one of the decisive interventions by the government to address the indoor air pollution which accounts for nearly 10 lakh deaths in a year in the country, an official statement issued on the occasion said. While till now the connections were given based on the 2011 Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC), the list has been expanded to include providing free cooking gas connection to all SC/ST households, forest dwellers, most backward classes, inhabitants of islands, nomadic tribes, tea estates and beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and Antyodaya Yojana.

Services sector grows at a 21-month high in July: PMI

he services sector expanded at a 21-month high in July, showed widely-tracked purchasing managers' index (PMI), justifying the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) move to hike the policy rate to contain inflation. The PMI rose from 52.6 in June to 54.2 in July, as new businesses rose at the fastest rise since June 2017. Before this, the PMI was at its peak at 54.5 in October 2016.



Fundamentals of Democracy

PT. DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA

GOVERNMENT BY DEBATE

FMOCRACY has been defined as government by debate. The tradition of debate is old in our country. But such a debate can be fruitful only when each party carefully listens to what the other has to say and has the desire to accept the truth in it. If instead of trying to understand the other person's point of view we insist upon our own point of view such a debate must remain fruit-less. When Voltaire said, "I do not agree with what you say, but I' shall defend to death your right to say it," he was only accepting the fruitless part of the debate. Bharatiya culture goes beyond this and looks at debate as a means for the realization of truth. We believe that truth is not one-sided, and that its various facets can be seen, examined and experienced from various

There is no conflict between the individual and society; If it is present, it is an aberration. It is not necessary to curb the freedom of the individual in the interest of society. In fact unbridled liberty does not lead to the development of the individual, it leads to his ruin. Complete identification of the individual with society is itself a state of complete development for the individual.



angles.Hence he who has the capacity to have a comprehensive view of the unity underlying all such diversities is a seer.

DEMOCRACY WITHOUT SANSKARAS

There is no conflict between the individual and society; If it is present, it is an aberration. It is not necessary to curb the freedom of the individual in the interest of society. In fact unbridled liberty does not lead to the development of the individual, it leads to his ruin. Complete identification of the individual with society is itself a state of complete development for the individual. The individual is the medium and the measure of the completeness of society. The freedom of the individual and the interest of society are not contradictory. Democracy is but an instrument for the fulfilment of the duty of the people. The effectiveness of the instrument depends upon the feeling for the nation in the life of the people, consciousness of responsibility, and discipline. If these Sanskaras are absent in the citizen, democracy degenerates into an instrument of individual, class and party interest.

CENTRALISATION OF POWER

The centralization of political, economic and social powers in one individual or institution is a hindrance

in the way of democracy. Generally when power in a certain field gets concentrated in one individual that individual tries directly or indirectly to concentrate in his hands power in other fields also. It is thus that the dictatorial governments of the Communists and the Khilafat were set up. Even when human life is integral and its various fields complementary to each other the units representing these various fields should remain separate. Normally speaking the various units of the administration should concern themselves with administration and should not enter the field of economics. A capitalist economy first acquires power in the economic field and then enters the political field, while socialism concentrates power over all means of production in the hands of the State. Both these systems are against the democratic rights of the individual and their proper development. Hence along with centralization we shall have to think of division of powers.

DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM

DURING Pandit Nehru's time India also raised the slogan of democratic socialism. We did not succeed in this because today the democracy and the socialism that we had been trying for are basically resting on a Western foundation and are therefore incomplete. These two thoughts express different aspects of life and the truths related to them. Their synthesis is possible, but only when our point of view is synthesizing. It would not be proper to press our entire life into the institutions and traditions of democracy as developed in the West, or into the ready-made moulds of socialism propounded by Marx and practised by Lenin, Stalin etc. The life of this country is higher than both these ideas. Instead of foisting Western politics on India we will have to develop our own political philosophy. While doing this we can benefit from the thinking done in the West. But we must neither be over- whelmed by it nor must we consider it the eternal truth.

DEMOCRACY AND POLITICAL PARTIES

The definition of Swaraj includes three main things. The first is that the Government should be in the hands of those who are a part of the nation. The second special point is that the Government should be conducted In the Interest of the nation, which meads its policies should be oriented towards national interest. And the third point is that such a Government should have its own strength to achieve the good of the nation. In other words it is wrong to even think of Swaraj without self-reliance.

DURING Pandit Nehru's time India also raised the slogan of democratic socialism. We did not succeed in this because today the democracy and the socialism that we had been trying for are basically resting on a Western foundation and are therefore incomplete. These two thoughts express different aspects of life and the truths related to them. Their synthesis is possible, but only when our point of view is synthesizing.

Even when the Government is in the hands of the nationals Swaraj would become meaningless if the Government comes under pressure or becomes a follower of some other nation. If the State is not self-reliant in respect of defence, free in respect of its policies and self-contained in respect of economic planning it could be pressurized into working against the interest of the nation. Such a dependent State leads to ruination.

(Excerpts from the book - "Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya A Profile" edited by Sudhakar Raje.)

SHRADHANJALI

M. Karunanidhi is no more

ormer Chief Minister of TamilnNadu and DMK President Shri Muthuvel Karunanidhi died at the age of 94 on 07 August, 2018. He was suffering from urinary tract infection for over a week. He had been hospitalised since 27 July. Fondly called Kalaignar, Karunanidhi became 5 time chief minister of Tamilnadu.

KALAIGNAR KARUNANIDHI WILL LIVE ON IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF THE MILLIONS OF **PEOPLE: PM**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid tributes to M. Karunanidhi in Chennai. Shri Modi said that he was extraordinary leader and a veteran administrator welfare stood out. Firmly committed to democratic ideals, his strong opposition to the Emergency will always be remembered." He added "Kalaignar Karunanidhi stood for regional aspirations as well as national progress. He was steadfastly committed to the welfare of Tamils and ensured that Tamil Nadu's voice was effectively heard."

'NO ONE CAN FORGET HIS STRUGGLE DURING EMERGENCY'

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah expressed deep condolence on the demise of the leader. He said "Anguished to learn about the demise of veteran politician, M Karunanidhi ji. He had an impressive life

> journey, starting as a screen writer in Tamil film industry to being five term Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. No one can forget his struggle during Emergency, imposed in 1975."

KARUNANIDHI WAS A MAN OF COMMITTED IDEALS: ADVANI

BJP Senior Leader Shri L.K. Advani in his condolence message said, "I am extremely sad to learn about the demise of Sh. M. Karunanidhi In Chennai. He was a doven of Indian Politics who had started his career after Independence. Mr. Karunanidhi was a man of

committed ideals, he excelled in the field of politics & had also made valuable contributions to the Tamil Literature, having written, stories, novels and a multiple volume of memoirs."

He had the honour of serving the state of Tamil Nadu as Chief Minister on five separate occasions between 1969-2011. He was the prime pillar of Dravida Munnetra liathagarn Political Party.

I offer my heartfelt condolences to all the family members of Shrl M. Karunanidhi & pray to the Almighty to rest his soul in peace.



are with the family and the countless supporters of Karunanidhi Ji in this hour of grief. India and particularly Tamil Nadu will miss him immensely. May his soul rest in peace.

He said "I have had the opportunity of interacting with Karunanidhi Ji on several occasions. His understanding of policy and emphasis on social

Final draft of National Register of Citizens (NRC) released in Assam

n a big move against illegal immigration, the Assam government released the second and final draft of National Register of Citizens (NRC) on 30 July, 2018, which declared over 40 lakh citizens outsiders. The final draft NRC included 2 crore 89 lakh 83 thousand 677 people as eligible, out of total applicants of 3 crore 29 lakh 91 thousand and 384.

"Out of 3.29 crore people, 2.89 crore have been found eligible to be included. This is just a draft, and not the final list. The people who are not included can make claims and objections. I must emphasise that this is a

EVERYONE WILL HAVE FULL OPPORTUNITY TO FILE CLAIMS: RAJNATH SINGH

On July 30 Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh speaking on NRC said, "Today NRC Draft List has been published in Assam. I want to emphatically say that this is only a draft and not the Final NRC."

"Everyone will have full opportunity to file Claims / Objections as per provision in law. Only after the disposal of claims and objections, the Final NRC will be published. Some people are unnecessarily trying to create an atmosphere of fear. I want to assure all that there is no need for any apprehension or fear. Some misinformation is also being spread. NRC process has been done impartially. Some people may not have been able to submit necessary documents. They will get full opportunity through Claims and Objections process."

He said clarified that even after the Final NRC, every person would get an opportunity to approach the Foreigners Tribunal.

He added "This means that even those whose names do not figure in the Final NRC will get an opportunity to approach the Tribunal. There is no question of any coercive action against anyone. NRC process is being carried out with complete fairness and transparency. It has been monitored by the Honourable Supreme Court.

NRC THE ONLY WAY TO EVICT ILLEGAL BANGLADESHIS: AMIT SHAH

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah asked

Samajwadi Party, Congress and BSP to clear their stand on Assam's NRC.

He added that BJP brought NRC complying with the orders of the



Supreme Court. He said NRC is the only way to evict illegal Bangladeshi immigrants. He further questioned Congress, SP and BSP on whether they want illegal Bangladeshis in Assam or not.

draft, not the final one," said Assam Registrar General Sailesh while releasing the final NRC draft in Guwahati.

The NRC is being updated under the Supreme Court supervision with 24 March, 1971 as the cut-off date for genuine Indian citizens in Assam.

The first draft of the ongoing NRC process was released at the midnight of December 31, 2017. It comprised 1.9 crore names out of the total application of 3.29 crore people in Assam.

Assam is the first Indian state where the NRC is being updated after 1951, with March 24, 1971, as the cut-off date, to include names of genuine Indian citizens.

"Based on this draft, there is no question of anyone being taken to detention centres or foreigners' tribunal," Census Commissioner, who is also the Registrar General of India, told in Guwahati.

Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh said the exercise was carried out in an "impartial and transparent" manner. "No coercive action will be taken against anyone. Hence, there is no need for anyone to panic".

Chief Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal congratulated the people of the state and said the "historic day will remain etched in their memories forever".

'National Commission for Backward Classes' bill got parliamentary approval

This will contribute to the empowerment of OBC communities across India: PM

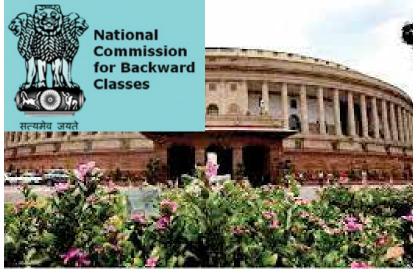
key bill to provide constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) secured Parliament's approval on 06 August with the Rajya Sabha passing the measure that will give the panel full powers to safeguard the rights and interests of the Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

The Constitution (123rd Amendment) Bill 2017 was passed after a spirited debate during which several members urged the Centre to make public the findings of the caste census and implement reservation accordingly. It was cleared by the Lok Sabha on 02 August superseding the amendments earlier carried out by the Rajya Sabha.Prime Minister

@narendramodi 🕒

"A historic moment for our country! I am glad that Parliament has passed the Constitution (123rd Amendment) Bill, which grants Constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes. This will contribute to the empowerment of the OBC communities across India,"

given limited powers - only to recommend to the government inclusion or exclusion of a community in the central list of OBCs. Also, the power to hear complaints of the OBCs and protect their interests remained with the National Commission for



Narendra Modi and BJP President Shri Amit Shah termed as "historic" the passage of the bill.

The bill was passed after the Upper House repealed the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993.

The NCBC, a statutory body created in 1993, was

Scheduled Castes.

The Rajya Sabha adopted the bill along with the amendments made by the Lok Sabha, by 156 votes to nil. Over two-thirds majority of those present voted in favour of the bill, which is a necessity for amending the Constitution.

It earlier passed the measure on July 31 last year along with an amendment and sent it to the Lower House. The Lok Sabha approved the bill on August 2with alternative amendments as well as some more changes unanimously with over two-thirds majority.

Replying to the debate, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister

Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot said the bill would help the backward classes people fight atrocities against them and ensure quick justice to them. "This bill would provide justice to the OBC people, it is the need of the hour," he added,

The bill seeks to bring the NCBC on par with the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and the

"A historic moment for our country! I am glad that Parliament has passed the Constitution (123rd Amendment) Bill, which grants Constitutional status to the National Commission for Backward Classes. This will contribute to the empowerment of the OBC communities across India".

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

In his reply, Shri Gehlot also assured members that the legislation would not encroach upon the rights of state governments as they would have their own backward class commissions. "This commission has no relation with the state governments but is related to the Centre only."

He said the state governments had their own lists of castes of OBC people, while the Centre had its own. The NCBC would recommend only to the central government regarding inclusion or deletion of a particular caste in the list.

"This is an important issue. There was a demand for a constitutional status to the OBC Commission from the 1980s and Parliament had held discussions several times. It has been discussed by the Standing Committee," Shri Gehlot said, urging the members to pass the bill expeditiously.

He said once the bill is passed by Parliament, the government would immediately form the Commission.

Participating in the debate, Shri Bhupender Yadav (BJP) urged political parties to shun "vote bank politics" and support these measures.

He said the Bill is long overdue and lamented that many states have not implemented 27 per cent reservation to the OBCs, adding that parties should "rise above vote bank politics and work towards social justice".

'HISTORICAL STEP TO FULFILL THE ASPIRATIONS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE OF THE COUNTRY'

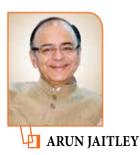
BJP National President Shri Amit Shah congratulated Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and BJP-led NDA government on passing of the OBC Commissions Bill giving the constitutional recognition, he said that it was huge historical step to fulfill the aspirations of millions of people of the country.

"Whenever the history of the uplift and self-respect of the Dalit, tribal and backward class society of this country will be written, then this work of Modi Government will always be marked in gold, because with the same motivation, Modi Government is serving for them. At the center point of every plan and every program of the Modi government, there are Dalits, Tribal, backward and poor of the country. Mission Antyodaya is the resolution of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and his objective is to establish an equitable society in the country. With the passing of this bill, a new chapter has been initiated for the up gradation of the backward class society in the country. Now many issues of the people of the backward classes can be resolved through the constitutional forum of the OBC Commission.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Bharatiya Janata Party government has undertaken many schemes to uplift the Dalit, tribal, backward, village, poor, farmer of the country, and has brought about a new light in their lives.

Since 1955, the backward class society of the country was demanding constitutional recognition of the OBC Commission, today this historic work has been done by the Bharatiya Janata Party government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, in 2018 and we all feel proud."

National Register of Citizens – Sovereignty vs Vote Bank



ARTICLE

erritory and citizens are the two most important aspects of a sovereign State. The principal duty of any Government is to defend the borders of the country, prevent any trespass and make the life of its citizens safe and secure. Independent India has faced a major challenge to protect its sovereignty in Jammu and Kashmir. At the time of Independence and partition of India, Assam was also a sore issue for Pakistan. They resented the fact that like Kashmir, Assam became a part of Independent India. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, in his book 'Myth of Independence' wrote:

"It would be wrong that Kashmir is the only issue that divides India and Pakistan, though undoubtedly the most significant. One at least is nearly as important as the Kashmir dispute, is that of Assam and some districts of India adjoining the East Pakistan. To these Pakistan has very good claims."

Similarly, in the pre-1971 era, till he became more favourably inclined to India, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the then East Pakistan leader, in his book 'Eastern Pakistan, its Population and Economics' had observed:

"Because Eastern Pakistan must have sufficient land for its expansion and because Assam has abundant forest and mineral resources, coal, petroleum etc., Eastern Pakistan must include Assam to be financially and economically strong."

Ever since Independence, we had a significant influx of illegal migrants from East Pakistan. Because of ethnic and linguistic similarity and religious commonality, it was possible for these people together to avoid detection and find a shelter in Assam.

WHO ARE CITIZENS OF INDIA?

The citizenship of India is recognized from Articles 5 to 11 of the Constitution of India. No citizenship can be granted in violation of these provisions. The law relating to citizenship which regulates the grant of citizenship by birth, by registration, descent and naturalisation. Section 6(A) deals with the special provisions of citizenship covered by 1985 Assam Accord.

CONSEQUENCES OF ILLEGAL MIGRATION

Twenty-one years ago, on May 6, 1997, the then Home Minister Shri Indrajit Gupta, told Parliament that there were over 10 million illegal immigrants residing



in India, of which 5.4 million were in West Bengal and 4 million in Assam. Needless to say that this figure has increased ever since. The consequence of this was analysed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in a case filed by the present Chief Minister of Assam, Sarbananda Sonowal vs UOI (2005), where the court held:

'The dangerous consequences of large scale illegal migration from Bangladesh, both for the people

of Assam and more for the Nation as a whole, need to be emphatically stressed. No misconceived and mistaken notions of secularism should be allowed to come in the way of doing so. As a result of population movement from Bangladesh, the spectre looms large of the indigenous people of Assam being reduced to a minority in their home State. Their cultural survival will be in jeopardy, their political control will be weakened and their employment opportunities will be undermined. The silent and invidious demographic invasion of Assam may result in the loss of geostrategically vital districts of lower Assam. The influx of these illegal migrants is turning these districts into a Muslim majority region. It will then be a matter of time when a demand for their merger with Bangladesh may be made. The rapid growth of international Islamic fundamentalism may provide for driving force for this demand. In this context, it is pertinent that Bangladesh has long discarded secularism and has chosen to become an Islamic State. Loss of lower Assam will severe the entire land mass of North-East, from the rest of India and the rich natural resources of that region will be lost to the Nation."

NOBODY COULD HAVE PUT IT BETTER.

The two accords by Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi

Subsequent to the creation of Bangladesh in 1971, the Indian and the Bangladeshi Prime Ministers entered into an arrangement in February, 1972. The Government of India, on 30th September, 1972, set out a circular that those Bangladeshi nationals who had come to India before 25th March, 1971 were to be detected but those who entered India in or after the said date were to be repatriated. This is what Mrs. Indira Gandhi's commitment to India and the people of this nation was.

Under the Assam Accord signed on 15th August, 1984, the Rajeev Gandhi Government committed to three categories. Those who came prior to 1.1.1966 will continue to be on India's electoral rolls and they would be regularised. Foreigners who came to Assam after 1.1.1966 but before 24.3.1971 would be dealt with under the provisions of the Foreigners Act and Foreigners Tribunal Order 1964. If detected, their name would be deleted from the electoral rolls and they would have to register themselves as foreigners. Those who came on or after 25.3.1971 were to be detected, deleted and expelled in accordance with law. "Immediate and practical steps should be taken to expel such foreigners".

Thus historically, both Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Mr. Rajeev Gandhi, through the Congress Government that they headed, committed to this nation that post 25th March, 1971 migrants would be detected, identified and deported.

Under the Foreigners Act, the onus of proof lies on the persons claiming to be a citizen. It would otherwise be impossible for the State to establish when the person surreptitiously entered the Indian

Under the Assam Accord signed on 15th August, 1984, the Rajeev Gandhi Government committed to three categories. Those who came prior to 1.1.1966 will continue to be on India's electoral rolls and they would be regularised. Foreigners who came to Assam after 1.1.1966 but before 24.3.1971 would be dealt with under the provisions of the Foreigners Act and Foreigners Tribunal Order 1964.

territory. However, the Congress Government legislated the IMDT Act which remained silent on the issue of burden of proof. This virtually made detection, deletion and deportation impossible. The Supreme Court, on 12th July, 2005 struck down the IMDT Act and unconstitutional and, therefore, decided that the detection would be under the Foreigners Act and the rules made thereunder. It is, thereafter, that tribunals for preparing the register of members have been functioning in the districts of Assam.

WEST BENGAL IS NOT FAR BEHIND

To put it in the words of the Trinamool Congress leader and the West Bengal Chief Minister, Mamata

Banerjee has stated in the Lok Sabha on 4.8..2005:

"The infiltration in Bengal has become a disaster now. You can see the Bangladeshi as well as the Indian names in the list. I have both the Bangladeshi and the Indian voters list. This is a very serious matter. I would like to know when would it be discussed in the House?"

India's sovereignty is paying a heavy price because of the quality of its political discourse. Though Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi took a particular position in 1972 and 1985 for the deletion and deportation of foreigners, Rahul Gandhi takes a contrarian position and his party turns turtle. Similarly, the BJP ally of 2005, Ms. Mamata Banerjee, took a particular position. As a federal front leader, she now talks to the contrary. Can India's sovereignty be decided by such fickle minds and fragile hands?

The result of this has been that in the 50 years between 1961 and 2011, the majority community in Assam has grown 2.4 times; the minority has grown 3.9 times. This has caused a major demographic impact.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CITIZEN, REFUGEE AND AN ILLEGAL MIGRANT

There is a fundamental difference between a citizen and a refugee. Citizenship is regulated by the Constitution. Those who are compelled on account of certain circumstances to leave their country and take refuge in another country for fear of persecution, are refugees. The receiving nation can, on humanitarian ground, be considerate to these refugees in terms of providing them the basics of life. Refugees are not conferred citizenship. The refugees don't become a voter. Some pre-1971 migrants may have moved for reasons of persecution, the same is not true of all post 1971 migrants who have illegally entered India. There is a third category who are neither citizens nor refugees, who come for reasons of economic opportunities. These are illegal migrants. Their entry is silent invasion in the country to which they move. One of the world's most celebrated liberal judges, Lord Denning, in his book 'The Due Process of Law' has written as introduction to part 5 'Entrances and Exits' where the opening paragraph reads:

"In recent times England has been invaded not by enemies nor by friends but by those who see England as haven. In their own countries, there is poverty, disease and no homes. In England there is social security, a national health service and guaranteed housing. All to be had for the asking without payment and without working for it. Once here, each seeks to bring his relative to join him: so they multiply exceedingly."

Ironically even Lord Denning calls it an invasion. It must be remembered that citizenship does not accrue by illegal migration. It comes under the conditions prescribed in the Constitution and the Citizenship Act.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS UNDER ARTICLE 19 AND 21

A desperate argument has been given that this is a human rights cause. A refugee on account of persecution may have a humanitarian consideration. Illegal migration does not have it. There is not fundamental right to any person to do so. The wise men who framed India's Constitution made a clear distinction in the phraseology of Article 19 which guarantees the right to move freely throughout the territory of India and to reside and settle in any part of territory of India. It is a right available only to a citizen. However, the right to life and liberty and a protection against its deprivation under Article 21 is available to any person - citizen and non-citizen alike. A right of a citizen or a non-citizen to life and liberty can be taken away only by due process of law. That is a right available to him under India's constitution. That is his human right. But the framers of the Constitution did not confer on a non-citizen the right to move throughout the territory of India or to reside or settle in any part or territory in India. While the constitution framers make Article 19 applicable to a ''citizen' only, the rights under Article 21 were made available to a 'person'. There is a method in this distinction.

I reiterate what I have stated earlier. The Congress was the mainstream party on Indian politics. It has increasingly started taking fringe position. Siding with the 'Tukde Tukde' gang was one such illustration. It is now compromising the sovereignty of India. Leaders like Rahul Gandhi and Mamata Banerjee must realise that India's sovereignty is not a play thing. Sovereignty and citizenship are the soul of India. Imported vote banks are not.

(The writer is Union Minister, Gol)



'NEW PROJECTS WOULD PROVIDE NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES'

he Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on July 29 visited Lucknow. He attended the groundbreaking ceremony of 81 projects in Uttar Pradesh, with a total investment of over 60,000 crore rupees.

These projects have materialised within a few months after the UP Investors Summit, which was organized in February 2018, in an effort to attract investments and promote industrialisation in the State.

The Prime Minister referred to the heavy rain in some parts of the country. He said the Union Government is monitoring the situation and working with the State Governments to provide assistance to all affected people.

He said that as a caring government, the objective is to ease the difficulty in the lives of people, and improve ease of living. He said that the gathering today is part of the effort to transform the State of Uttar Pradesh. He said the speed with which these projects have moved (from proposal to groundbreaking) within five months, is outstanding.

He congratulated the State Government for this achievement. He noted that these projects are not restricted to certain parts of the State, but will enable balanced development.

He praised the new work culture of the State Government. He said the changed investment climate in the State is bringing opportunities for employment, trade, good roads, adequate power supply, and a bright future. He said these projects would provide many new employment opportunities, and benefit various sections of society. He said that flagship programmes such as Digital India and Make in India, would receive a big boost through these projects.

The Prime Minister said that three lakh Common Service Centres spread across the rural areas today, are transforming lives in the villages, by enabling efficient and transparent service delivery.

The Prime Minister said that the Union Government is ending silos, and focusing on solutions and synchronization.

He said India has become the world's second largest producer of mobile phones, and Uttar Pradesh is leading this manufacturing revolution.

The Prime Minister said that as infrastructure projects get completed, it will become even easier to do business in India, and expenditure incurred on logistics will reduce. He urged entrepreneurs and



traders to move towards digital transactions.

The Prime Minister outlined the steps taken to improve electricity supply in the country. He said the country is moving from conventional energy to green energy, and Uttar Pradesh will become a hub of solar energy. He said India's energy deficit has reduced from 4.2 percent in 2013-14, to less than one percent today.

The Prime Minister said that the roadmap for New India, is the fulfillment of the aspirations of its people, through Jan Bhagidaari (people's participation).

WORKING ON ENSURING 5ES: EASE OF LIVING, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, ECONOMY AND ENTERTAINMENT, SAYS PM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi also addressed on July 28 an event in Lucknow on "Transforming Urban Landscape," which marked the third anniversary of three key Government initiatives related to Urban Development. These include: Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban); Atal Mission for Rejuvenation of Urban Transformation (AMRUT); and the Smart Cities Mission.

The Prime Minister visited an exhibition on Flagship Missions of Urban Development. He interacted with 35 beneficiaries of PMAY (U) - one from each State/ UT.

He received feedback from PMAY beneficiaries, via video link, from different cities of Uttar Pradesh.

He laid the Foundation Stone for various projects under Flagship Missions, in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that urban administrators present in the gathering, are representatives of the cities which symbolize the hopes and aspirations of New India, and the new generation.

The Prime Minister noted that under the Smart City Mission, projects worth Rs. 7000 crore have been completed, and projects worth Rs. 52,000 crore are under implementation. He said this mission aims to provide the lower, lower middle and middle class with better civic amenities, and make their lives simpler. He said Integrated Command Centres are an important part of this mission. He said these Centres have started functioning in 11 cities, and work is underway in many more cities.

Recalling the efforts of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Narendra Modi said that the vision to Transform the Landscape of Urban India is closely connected with Lucknow, from where Shri Vajpayee was an MP.

Appreciating the various initiatives taken by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Prime Minister said that the Union Government has worked to augment the speed, scale, and quality of living, keeping the spirit of those initiatives intact. He said the Government wishes to provide Housing for All by 2022. Giving statistics, the Prime Minister explained how a lot of work has already been done in this direction. He said the houses being made today have a toilet and an electricity connection. He said these houses are also a symbol of women empowerment, as they are registered in the name of women.

Responding to recent criticism, in an impassioned statement the Prime Minister asserted that he is a partner for the poor and underprivileged; the farmers and the jawans, in their misery and hardship; and wants to decisively end their suffering.

The Prime Minister said that India once had well planned urban spaces. But lack of political will, and clear thinking, especially after independence, had caused immense damage to our urban centres.

He said India is growing rapidly today, and the cities which are its growth engines, cannot continue to develop haphazardly. He said the Smart City Mission will help prepare our cities to take up the challenges of New India; and prepare world class intelligent urban centres in India, for the 21st century. He said living spaces should be characterized by the 5 "E"s: Ease of Living; Education, Employment, Economy and Entertainment.

The Prime Minister also said that the Smart City Mission is based on civic participation, civic aspiration, and civic responsibility. He said the cities of Pune, Hyderabad and Indore have raised significant sums of money through Municipal Bonds; and other cities such as Lucknow and Ghaziabad would soon follow suit. He said that as civic services become available online, queues, which were a source of corruption, are being eliminated. He said smart, secure, sustainable and transparent systems are transforming the lives of crores of people.

India breaks into top 100 again in Modi era! After Ease of Doing Business, it is UN's E-Government index

fter breaking into top 100 on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Index under the Narendra Modi era last October, India has marked a similar success on United Nation's E-Government Index, jumping 22 ranks in last four years and 11 ranks in last two years. India, which was ranked 118 in 2014, is now at 96th rank on the index,

which maps how digital technologies and innovations are impacting the public sector and changing people's everyday lives.

The survey, released by the United Nations every two years, noted that India has scored 100% in the first stage of the E-Participation sub-index, followed by 95.65% in the second stage and 90.91% in the third stage. The overall score of 0.9551 on the E-Participation sub-index has put India among top 15 countries

in the list of 193 counties surveyed. In this category, India has emerged as sub-region leader. Denmark is the world leader, both on E-Government index and E-Participation sub-index.

While India scores well on Online Services subindex as well with a score of 0.9514, it ranks poorly on Telecommunication Infrastructure Index with a mere score of 0.20091. On Human Capital Index as well, India is far below the world average of 0.6627. India's score on this index is just 0.5484, barely touching the regional index.

Nevertheless, an improvement of 22 ranks is indeed a big shot in the arm of Prime Minister Narendra Modi



who has been extremely vocal about digitising India. In October 2017, India's leapfrog jump on the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business also helped the country to gain significance on world platforms, as a result of which rating agency Moody's upgraded sovereign rating Baa2 from Baa3 after a gap of 14 years.

The agriculture mission: How Modi government is shaping the future of farming and farmers



ARTICLE

🎦 MS SWAMINATHAN

nder then agriculture minister Rajnath Singh, in 2004 for the first time in the history of independent as well as colonial India, a National Commission on Farmers (NCF) was set up by the Government of India for looking into the problems of farm families and suggesting methods for making farming more remunerative as well as attractive to the younger generation.

This commission's report in 2006 not only contained suggestions for the advancement of agriculture but also for the economic wellbeing of farming families. An important goal set for farmers' welfare by NCF is to improve the economic viability of farming by ensuring that farmers earn a "minimum net income" and that agricultural progress is measured by the advance made in improving that income.

Other significant goals include mainstreaming the human and gender dimension in all farm policies and programmes and giving explicit attention to sustainable rural livelihoods; completing the unfinished agenda in land reforms and initiating comprehensive asset and aquarian reforms; and developing a social security system and support services for farmers.

Furthermore, protecting and improving the land, water, biodiversity and climate resources essential for sustained advances in the productivity, profitability and stability of major farming systems by creating an economic stake in conservation. Strengthening the biosecurity of crops, farm animals, fish and forest trees would safeguard the work and income security of farmer families, and the health and trade security of the nation. Likewise fostering community-centred food, water and energy security systems in rural India would help ensure nutrition security at the level of every child,

woman and man.

In terms of the goal of attracting youth to farming, NCF suggests intellectually making it both economically stimulating and rewarding, by conferring the power and economy of scale to small and marginal farmers both in the production and post-harvest phases of farming. Emphasis is also put on restructuring agricultural curriculums and pedagogic methodologies for enabling every farm and home science graduate to become an entrepreneur and to make agricultural education gender sensitive.

Finally there is the goal of making India a global outsourcing hub for the production and supply of inputs needed for sustainable agriculture, and products and processes developed through biotechnology and ICT.

Designation of the agriculture ministry as the agriculture and farmers' welfare ministry has stressed keeping farmers' welfare as the measure of agriculture progress. Issuance of soil health cards to all farmers has been critical because soil health is basic to plant health and plant health is basic to human health. But although the NCF report was submitted in 2006 very little action was taken until the present government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office. Fortunately over the last four years, several significant decisions have been taken to improve the status and income of farmers.

Designation of the agriculture ministry as the agriculture and farmers' welfare ministry has stressed keeping farmers' welfare as the measure of agriculture progress. Issuance of soil health cards to all farmers has been critical because soil health is basic to plant health and plant health is basic to human health.

Both budgetary and nonbudgetary resources have been allocated for promoting microirrigation through the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana. Conservation and sustainable use of indigenous breeds of cattle is being encouraged through a Rashtriya Gokul Mission. The Prime Minister also inaugurated the first ever International Agrobiodiversity Congress.

Promotion of the electronic national agriculture market is helping bring together different agriculture markets. Likewise the creation of Gramin Agriculture Markets will provide scope for direct sales to consumers in both retail and bulk form. Notable in this context is also the introduction of the Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing Act, 2017 and Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming Services Act, 2018 supported by electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt system for increased institutional credit to the farm sector.

Also notable is the determination of MSP on the basis of NCF recommendations and assured procurement at MSP of more crops. Integration of protein rich pulses and nutri-rich millets into welfare programmes including PDS, midday meals and ICDS is important too.

Activities like apiculture, mushroom cultivation, bamboo production, agro-forestry, vermicomposting and agroprocessing are being promoted to generate additional jobs and income for farm families. The prime underline, government has ensured in its notification that from kharif 2018 onwards MSP of the notified crops would be minimum of 150% of the cost of production; it ranges from 150-200% for coarse cereals.

As for farmers' agitations still continuing, a major demand is the waving of loans and the implementation of the NCF recommendations on MSP. Both these problems are now receiving attention and appropriate action.

These are only some of the steps being taken to realise the concept of Jai Kisan. If all the above schemes are implemented

Activities like apiculture, mushroom cultivation, bamboo production, agroforestry, vermicomposting and agroprocessing are being promoted to generate additional jobs and income for farm families. The prime minister has also suggested that we should develop methods by which farmers' income can be doubled within five years.

minister has also suggested that we should develop methods by which farmers' income can be doubled within five years. Plus several corpus funds are being set up to complete ongoing irrigation productions, modernise the infrastructure in dairy cooperatives, and strengthen the adoption of inland and marine aquaculture.

Above all, the recent announcement of a remunerative price based essentially on the recommendation of NCF is a very important step to ensure the economic viability of farming. To effectively by the state and central governments, the future of farming and farmers can be shaped to also help India become a leader in both food and nutrition security. In addition the Prime Minister has launched a National Nutrition Mission with a three year budget of Rs 9,000 crore. His emphasis on agriculture as the prime industry of rural India urges doing everything possible to make agriculture both a source of income and the pride of our nation.

(The Writer is a Renowned Agriculture Scientist) Courtesy: TOI

NDA candidate Harivansh Narayan Singh elected as Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman

DA candidate and JD(U) member Shri Harivansh Narayan Singh was elected as Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman, defeating opposition candidate B K Hariprasad on 09 August 2018 . Rajya Sabha Chairman Shri M Venkaiah Naidu initiated the process of the election by calling for division of votes in the House. While Harivansh Narayan Singh secured 125 votes, Hariprasad got 105. The post of Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman has been lying vacant since the retirement of P J Kurien on 01 July. After the election Shri Harivansh thanked the Members for electing him. He promised that he will fulfill his duties to the best of his abilities. Leader of the House Shri Arun Jaitley and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri Ananth Kumar escort Shri Harivansh to his seat next to Leader of the Opposition Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad.

Rajya Sabha Chairman Shri M Venkaiah Naidu then invited Shri Harivansh to preside over the House.



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his speech congratulated Shri Harivansh for his victory. The PM said Shri Harivansh, who was a journalist, has worked with many scions. Leader of the House Shri Arun Jaitley attended the proceedings and said Shri Harivansh, whenever spoke about anything, did complete research on the subject.

BJP EMERGES VICTORIOUS IN MAHARASHTRA MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

PM & BJP President thank people for their continued faith in BJP

rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 03 August, 2018 thanked the people of Maharashtra for their continued "faith" in the BJP following the party's win in two civic polls. The BJP scored a big win in the Sangli municipal elections by defeating the Congress-NCP alliance and also swept the Jalgaon civic body in Maharashtra where it trounced the Shiv Sena.

"Impressive victories for @BJP4Maharashtra! Great performance in Jalgaon and outstanding win in Sangli. I thank the people of Maharashtra for the continued faith," he tweeted.

"I also appreciate the hardwork of CM @Dev_ Fadnavis, @raosahebdanve and the entire team of Maharashtra BJP," the Prime Minister added.

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah also hailed



the win.

"This continued support for BJP in Maharashtra reflects people's desire for a better quality of life, being delivered by the state government led by CM Devendra Fadnavis, and Modi government's commitment to take Maharashtra to greater heights," he said.

Startup India Yatra begins in Chhattisgarh

he Startup India Yatra was launched on July 30th in Raipur. Students queued up in large numbers to register for the first boot camp at Raipur. On the launching day on 31st July, the yatra traveled to Bilaspur for the second boot camp at the Government Engineering College in Bilaspur. The Startup India van will also travel to other cities of Chhattisgarh like Korba, Koria, Surguja, Jashpur, Raigarh, Balodabazar, Durg, Rajnandgaon,

Balod, Dhamtari, Kanker, Kondagaon, Jagdalpur and Dantewada and hold boot camps in the Government Engineering colleges and Polytechnic Institutes.

Startup India Yatra van is equipped with facilities for individuals and startups to pitch their ideas. The boot camps will include presentations on Startup India and Chhattisgarh Startup Policy followed by extensive ideation workshops. An idea pitching session will be held to select the foremost ideas and Startups. Aspiring entrepreneurs will have to register at www.startupindiahub.org.in to participate in the Yatra.

Startup India Yatra has already been

held in Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Uttarakhand and Madhya Pradesh and now it begins in Chhattisgarh.

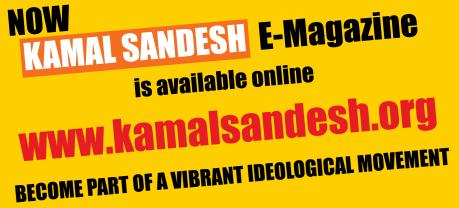
To promote job creation in tier 2 and tier 3 towns and cities, Startup India organizes the Startup India Yatra in one state every month. The Yatra conducts boot camps where students are taught lessons in business planning followed by a pitch fest where ideas are invited. Shortlisted business ideas get incubated in State run incubators. A total of 19,000 students across 40 districts have benefitted from the Yatra through the boot camps, with over 90 received grants or incubation offers from the State governments.

The Startup India initiative of the Government of



India envisages to build a robust startup ecosystem in the country for nurturing innovation and providing opportunities to budding entrepreneurs. In tandem with this mission, the program has been able to gather registration of 10,999 startups, generating employment to 1,09,869 people.





EVERY INDIAN SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO GOOD GOVERNANCE AND POSITIVE RESULTS OF DEVELOPMENT

rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in 46th episode of Mann Ki Baat on July 29 paid tribute to recently died poet, author of Hindi literature and lyricist Gopaldas Saxena 'Neeraj' at age of 93. PM remembered Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Chandrashekhar Azad, both great man born on July 23rd.Here, we are giving highlights of the address for our esteemed readers:

- A few days ago, the country's beloved poet Neeraj Ji left us forever. Neeraj ji was blessed with a special guality... it was a combination of hope, faith, a firm resolve and self-confidence. Every word of Neeraj ji's work can instill a lot of strength & inspiration in us Indians. He wrote
 - अंधियार ढलकर ही रहेगा आंधियाँ चाहे उठाओ बिजलियाँ चाहे गिराओ जल गया है दीप तो अंधियार ढलकर ही रहेगा The darkness shall be dispelled Whether you brew up storms Or make lightening strike Now that the lamp has been lit The darkness shall be dispelled
 - My heartfelt respectful tributes to Neeraj ji.
- Referring to the college season reminds me of someone I saw in the News recently... how Asharam Choudhury a student from an extremely poor family in Madhya Pradesh overcame life's many challenges to achieve success. In his maiden attempt, he cracked the Entrance exam for MBBS at AIIMS, Jodhpur. His father earns his daily bread by waste-picking. I congratulate him on his success.
- Any commendable incident from any part of the country infuses my heart with energy and inspires me. And when I mention the glorious journey of these youth, I am reminded of Neeraj ji's line which sum up the raison d'etre of life. Neeraj ji has said गीत आकाश को धरती का सुनाना है मुझे

हर अंधेरे को उजाले में बुलाना है मुझे

फूल की गंध से तलवार को सर करना है और गा-गा के पहाडों को जगाना है मुझे How I wish to make the sky listen to the song of the earth How I wish to inspire every strand of darkness to come to the radiance of light And I wish to conquer the might of the sword With the fragrance of flowers And to awaken the mountains with the Sweetness of sonas.

- Two IT Professionals from Rae Bareilly Yogesh Sahu ji and Rajneesh Bajpayee ji accepted my challenge and made a unique attempt. With their joint efforts, Yogesh ji and Rajneesh ji have developed a SmartGaonApp by utilizing their professional skills. This App is not only connecting the villagers with the whole world but now they can obtain any information on their own mobile phones. Residents of the village Taudhakpur in Rae Bareilly, village chief, District Magistrate, CDO and every one joined in to create awareness amongst the masses. This App is actually bringing in a Digital Revolution in the village.
- Visiting Vithoba temple in Pandharpur and its grandeur, beauty and spiritual bliss is a unique experience in itself. I request the listeners of "Mann Ki Baat" to visit Pandharpur Wari at least once, whenever they get a chance. Innumerable saints like Gyaneshwar, Namdev, Eknath, Ram Dass, Tukaram are relevant even today in educating the masses. They are imparting energy to fight against superstition in each and every corner across the country. May they be compositions like Bharud (Hkk:M) or Abhang (vHkax), we get a great message of amity, love and brotherhood. We get the mantra to enable the society to fight against blind-faith through devotion and bhakti. These were the people who, at times restrained and corrected the society, even showed a mirror and ensured that old evil

traditions get eradicated from the society and that people inculcated a culture of compassion, equality and righteousness. Our mother India is a land full of gems and treasures and the tradition of these great saints that adorned our land are at the same level as the great men who dedicated and sacrificed their lives for our Mother India. One such great man has been Lok Manya Tilak who has left a very deep impression on the hearts of a large number of Indians. We remember and pay our homage to Tilak ji on his birth anniversary on 23rd July and his death anniversary on 1st August.

• Every Indian should have access to good governance and positive results of development. It is the factoring in of this outreach that will create a new India. After 50 years of Tilak's birth, on the same



day i.e. on July 23, another son of Mother India was born, who sacrificed his life so that his countrymen could breathe freely in an atomsphere of freedom. I am talking about none other than Chandrasekhar Azad. Where will you find a young man in India who will not be inspired listening to these lines -

 Sarfaroshi ki tamanna ab hamare dil mein hai Dekhna hai zor kitna baazu-e-qaatil mein hai (The desire for martyrdom is now in our hearts Let us see the strength in the arms of my executioner)

- These lines inspired many young people like Ashfag Ullah Khan, Bhagat Singh, Chandrashekhar Azad and many others. Azad's courage and passion for freedom inspired the youth of the day. Chandrashekhar Azad put his life on the stake, but he never bowed in front of the foreign rule. It was my privilege and good fortune that I had the opportunity of going to Chandrasekhar Azad's native village of Alirajpur in Madhya Pradesh. I had the opportunity to pay homage in Chandrashekhar Azad Park in Allahabad, Chandrasekhar Azad Ji was a brave man who did not wish to die by the bullet of foreigners he wished to fight for independence as a free man and if he had to die, he wished to remain a free man! This is what was so special about him. Once again, I bow and pay tributes to the two great sons of Bharat Mata – Lokmanya Tilakji and Chandrasekhar Azad ji.
- Just a few days ago, in the Junior Under-20 World Athletics Championship in Finland, India's brave daughter and a farmer daughter Hima Das made history by winning the gold medal in the 400-meter race event. Ekta Bhyan, another daughter of the country, in response to my letter, has emailed me from Indonesia, where she is now preparing for the Asian Games. Ekta in her e-mail writes - 'The most important moment in the life of any athlete is that when he or she holds the tricolor and I am proud that I could do that.' Ekta, we all are proud of you. You have brought glory to the Nation. Ekta has won the gold and bronze medals in World Para Athletics Grand Prix 2018 held in Tunisia. Her achievement is all the more special because she has made the imposing challenges in her life the key to her success.
- Daughter Ekta Bhyan in 2003, lost the use of half of her lower body due to road accident, but this daughter did not lose courage and made herself all the more stronger to perform this grand feat. Another Divyang, Yogesh Qathuniaji, has won the gold medal in the discus throw in Para Athletics Grand Prix in Berlin and in the process bettered the world record, along with Sundar Singh Gurjar who also won the gold medal in javelin. I salute Ekta Bhyanji, Yogesh Qathuniaji and Sundar Singh Ji, all of you for your fortitude and passion, and congratulate you! May you go further than these successes, keep on playing and keep on blooming.



GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES SEVA BHOJ YOJNA

he Ministry of Culture, Government of India launched on August 1 the new scheme namely Seva Bhoj Yojna with a total outlay of Rs. 325.00 Crores for Financial Years 2018-19 and 2019-20. The scheme envisages to reimburse the Central Government share of Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) and Integrated Goods and Service Tax (IGST)so as to lessen the financial burden of such as Religious / Charitable Institutions who provide Food/ Prasad/Langar (Community Kitchen)/Bhandara free of cost without any discrimination to Public/Devotees.

The Religious / Charitable Institutions such as Temples, Gurudwara, Mosque, Church, Dharmik Ashram, Dargah, Matth, Monasteries etc. which have been in existence for at least Three years before applying for financial assistance/grant and who serve free food to at least 5000 people in a month and such institutions covered under the provisions of section 10 (23BBA) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 (as amended from time to time) or registered under the provisions of section 12AA of the Income Tax Act, 1961, for Religious / Charitable purposes, or a company formed and registered under the provisions of section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 or section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956, as the case may be, for Religious / Charitable Ipurposes, or a Public Trust registered as such for charitable/religious purposes under any Law for the time being in force, or a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, for Religious / Charitable purposes shall be eligible for grant under the scheme.

Ministry of Culture will enrol the eligible Religious / Charitable Institutions for a time period ending with financial year 2019-20 and subsequently the enrolment may be renewed by the Ministry, subject to the performance evaluation of the institutions. The details of registered institutions will be available on an online portal for the viewership of public, GST authorities and entity / institution itself.

Religious / Charitable Institution shall first register with Darpan Portal of NITI Aayog and get Unique ID generated by Darpan Portal . Thereafter, the institution shall enrol itself in CSMS Portal (http:// csms.nic.in/login/sevabhoj.php) on the Ministry of Culture's website in a prescribed format. Followed by the enrolment , the Charitable/Religious Institution shall apply online in the prescribed application form and upload required documents as listed below in CSMS Portal of Ministry of Culture's website (www.indiaculture.nic.in)

BPCL & HPCL DECIDED TO SET UP OF INTEGRATED REFINERY-CUM-PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX

nion Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan has said that oil PSUs namely Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have decided to set up an integrated refinery-cumpetrochemical complex with a refining capacity of 60 MMTPA (million metric tonnes per annum) at Babulwadi, Taluka Rajapur in Ratnagiri district in the state of Maharashtra with an estimated investment of Rs. 3 lakh crore. A Joint Venture (JV) Company, 'Ratnigiri Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (RRPCL)' has been formed to execute the project. Global Oil and Gas majors, Saudi Aramco & ADNOC have also partnered with the JV Company. In a written reply in Lok Sabhaon July 30, the Minister said that the proposed refinery site has been identified by Oil PSUs in consultation with Government of Maharashtra. IOCL has informed that the land is mostly barren, rocky and undulating and outside eco-sensitive area. Mango trees and agricultural cultivation are present in small pockets. Government of Maharashtra vide Gazette Notification on 18.05.2017 has declared the said site as an industrial area under MIDC Act, 1961.

IOCL has reported that there is some opposition to the project due to concerns relating to the effect on environment. However, as per IOCL, the impact of the refinery operations on the agricultural crops of the region would not be very high. The refinery would meet the stringent environmental standards followed worldwide.



LOK SABHA PASSES BILL TO SET-UP SPORTS VARSITY IN MANIPUR

Bill to establish a National Sports University in Manipur to promote sports education was passed by the Lok Sabha on August 3, as several members sought the inclusion of sports as part of a comprehensive education curriculum.

The National Sports University Bill, 2018, which seeks to replace an ordinance promulgated on May 31, was passed by a voice vote.

Replying to the debate, Sports Minister Shri Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore said the university would be set up in Manipur at a cost of Rs. 524 crore to promote sports coaching and research.

The legislation was earlier introduced in the Lok Sabha in August 2017, but could not be passed. Hence, the government had to come out with an ordinance, the Minister said. A sportsperson will be the university vice chancellor, while its academic council will also comprise sports personalities, Shri Rathore said. The Bill seeks to set up a specialised university in Manipur, which would be the first of its kind, to promote sports education in the areas of sports sciences, sports technology, sports management and sports coaching.

Besides, the proposed university would also function as the national training centre for select sports disciplines by adopting best international practices. Among other things, the legislation proposes to empower the university to establish 'Outlying Campuses' throughout the country and also outside India.

"Apart from academic programmes and research, the university and its Outlying Campuses' will also impart training to elite athletes, sports officials, referees, and umpires and evolve as centres of excellence in the various discipline of sports," said the statement of objects and reasons of the Bill.

In order to make the university a world-class institution, the government has signed an agreement with two Australian universities — University of Canberra and Victoria University — for development of curriculum, research facilities and laboratories, among others.

GOVT. IMPLEMENTING A SCHEME FOR REHABILITATION OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS

inistry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, 'Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers' (SRMS) under which identified manual scavengers and their dependents are provided the following rehabilitation benefits:

- Onetime cash assistance of Rs.40000/-.
- Loans upto Rs. 15.00 lacs at concessional rate of interest.
- Credit linked back end capital subsidy upto Rs. 3,25,000/-.
- Skill Development Training upto two years with stipend of Rs.3000/- per month.

Ministry is also implementing a Scheme titled "Pre-Matric Scholarship scheme to the Children of those engaged in occupations involving cleaning and prone to health hazards". Children of manual scavengers are also eligible for this scholarship.

13 States have identified 13,657 manual scavengers up to 30.06.2018. State-wise details are given below. In addition, a National Survey of manual scavengers has been undertaken in 170 districts of 18 States to identify all those persons who were cleaning the insanitary latrines prior to their conversion into sanitary latrines under Swachh Bharat Mission. The survey also identifies those who are continuing to work as manual scavengers in some places. The process of survey has been completed in 155 of the 170 identified districts. In some States like Karnataka and West Bengal, the survey could not be undertaken as scheduled. On the basis of this survey 14,678 manual scavengers have been identified up to 23.7.2018.



DEPOSITS OF INDIANS IN SWISS BANKS DECREASES BY 34.5% IN THE YEAR 2017

n respect of the rise in 2017 of the Swiss Bank deposits from India, as reported by the media recently, the Swiss authorities have shared the following information about the Swiss National Bank (SNB) figures quoted in the media:

"To analyze Indian residents' deposits held in Switzerland, another data source should be used. This is the so-called "locational banking statistics", which the SNB collects in collaboration with the Bank for International Settlements (BIS)."

The data collected by Swiss National Bank in collaboration with Bank for International Settlements (BIS) shows that the loans and deposits of Indians, other than Banks, in the Swiss banks decreased by 34.5% in the year 2017 as compared to 2016. Further, there has been significant reduction in Swiss non-



bank loans and deposits of Indians by 80.2% between 2013 and 2017. This was stated on July 31 by Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla, Minister of State for Finance in written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR BEEDI ROLLERS

he Ministry of Labour & Employment has initiated a Skill Development Programme through Ministry of Skill Development for Beedi workers and their dependents to engage them in alternative jobs/livelihoods for enhancing their income.



UNEARTHING OF BENAMI PROPERTIES WORTH RS. 4,300 CRORE

ue to intensive efforts undertaken by the Income-tax Department, provisional attachment has been made in more than 1600 cases of properties under the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988. These include plots of land, flats, shops, vehicles, deposits in bank accounts, fixed deposits etc. The value of properties under attachment is more than

Rs. 4,300 crore including immovable properties of more than Rs. 3400 crore.

Suitable action under the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988, inter alia, against the benamidars and the beneficial owners



has been taken by the Income-tax Department. However, it may be mentioned here that category wise details of the persons are not maintained by the Income-tax Department. This was stated by Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla, Minister of State for Finance in written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha on july 31.

Under Mudra Yojana 3.49 cr new entrepreneurs benefited, 12.27 cr number of loans sanctioned

nder Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) as many as 3.49 crore new enterprises had benefited between 2015-20 to 2017-18 and as many as 12,27 crore accounts/ number of loans were sanctioned.

Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, Union Minister of State (I/C) for Labour and Employment, in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha on August 01 said, "Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) is a scheme to extend collateral free loans by Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) to Small/Micro business enterprises and individuals in the nonagricultural sector to enable them to setup or expand their business activities and to generate selfemployment."

Under PMMY, the number of accounts/ number of loans sanctioned during 2015-16 to 2017-18 were 12.27 crore, out of which 3.49 crore were new entrepreneurs.

He said Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protshan Yojana (PMRPY) has been initiated by the Ministry of Labour

& Employment in the year 2016-17 for incentivizing employers by paying their entire contribution of 12% (or as admissible) towards the EPS and EPF for all sectors w.e.f. 01.04.2018 to all eligible new employees and is applicable for all sectors for the three years.

Till July 25, 2018, the scheme has 61.12 lakh beneficiaries. Besides this, Government has been taking various steps to boost industrial development, capital formation and employment generation in the country like Make in India, Startup India and Ease of Doing Business initiatives.

Government has initiated labour reforms to create an enabling environment to facilitate ease of doing business, ease of compliance, transparency, accountability and extending the social security coverage of the unorganised workers.

Ministry of Labour & Employment is also implementing National Career Service (NCS) Project for transforming the employment services in the country using technology to bring more employment opportunities to jobseekers, Shri Gangwar informed.

Shripad Naik lays foundation stone of the 2nd Phase of construction of NEIAH in Shillong 'NEIAH can become the hub for medical Research & Development for the Entire Southeast Asia'

nion Minister of State (Independent Charge) for AYUSH Shri Shripad Yesso Naik laid the foundation stone of the 2nd Phase of Construction of North East Institute of Ayurveda & Homeopathy (NEIAH) at NEIAH Campus, Mawdiangdiang, Shillong on 29th July 2018. The approximate estimated cost of the construction is Rs 40.80 crore for an area of 10481.53 sqm and will comprise of residential accommodation for students, doctors and staff and guest house.





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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KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE



A delegation of OBC MPs and leaders calling on the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in New Delhi



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacting with the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), during the event "Transforming Urban Landscape: Third Anniversary of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation of Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and the Smart Cities Mission" in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh



PM Shri Narendra Modi in the BRICS Family Photograph with other Leaders at the 10th BRICS Summit at the Sandton International Convention Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa



PM Shri Narendra Modi meeting the President of Rwanda Mr. Paul Kagame at Kigali, Rwanda during his Africa visit

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