

KAMAL SANDESH

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₹20



"DREAM BIG AND ACHIEVE BIGGER SUCCESS"



TOWARDS A NEW INDIA...

ATALJI: A UNIQUE PARLIAMENTARIAN

INDIA'S RURAL SECTOR: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE PERFORMANCE OF THE UPA AND NDA GOVERNMENTS

SAUBHAGYA HAVING SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN THE LIVES OF WOMEN



The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi with the Officers of the Kendriya Sainik Board, on the occasion of the Armed Forces Flag Day in New Delhi



The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at an all party meeting, ahead of the Winter Session of Parliament in New Delhi



The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi releasing the Commemorative Postage Stamp, on the occasion of the 75th anniversary celebrations of Dainik Jagran in New Delhi



BJP National President Shri Amit Shah paying floral tributes on the Punyatithi of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar

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'MANMOHAN SINGH LEFT THE ECONOMY AT NINTH POSITION IN 10 YEARS BUT PM MODI BROUGHT IT TO SIXTH POSITION IN FIVE YEARS'

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, "a chaiwala", has done...

VAICHARIKI

Pure Indian 13

SHRADHANJALI

Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya 15

ARTICLE

Atalji: A Unique Parliamentarian 16

India's Rural Sector: A comparative study of the performance of the UPA and NDA Governments 20

OTHERS

Nine out of 10 Indian homes now use cleaner cooking gas 12

'Economy doing better under NDA' 18

ISRO's PSLV-C43 successfully places into orbit HysIS along... 19

Saubhagya having significant impact in the lives of women 22

"Work on Clean Ganga Mission is going on war footing" 24

UN Secretary-General thanks PM Modi for raising India's... 25

PM Narendra Modi is most popular global leader on social... 26

PM Narendra Modi's LPG scheme reduced household air... 27

Cabinet approves implementation of Shahpurkandi Dam ... 28

Kolkata-Patna becomes India's second container cargo... 29

PM presents Nine Point Agenda to G-20 for Action against... 30

Vijay Mallya's extradition is a major boost to Indian agencies 31

"Dream big and achieve bigger success" 32



07 BJP NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 11-12 JANUARY 2019

A meeting of the BJP national office-bearers, State Presidents, General Secretaries (organization) was held at...

08 WE ACCEPT PEOPLE'S MANDATE WITH HUMILITY: PM

The result of five states assembly elections came on December 11 has thrown hung assembly in two major...



10 'INDIA'S FOUR PETROCHEMICAL REGIONS ATTRACT 1.83 LAKH CR INVESTMENTS, CREATE 3 LAKH JOBS'

Around Rs 1.83 lakh crore has been invested and over 3 lakh people have been employed so far...

11 14 STATES NOW HAVE 100% HOUSEHOLD ELECTRIFICATION

Under ambitious Saubhagya Yojana, the Narendra Modi government has now achieved 100% household electrification in 14 states. This year, in April, the NDA government got each village in...



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@narendramodi

A major milestone for our space programme, which will transform the lives of crores of Indians by connecting remote areas! Congrats to @isro for the successful launch of GSAT-11, which is the heaviest, largest and most-advanced high throughput communication satellite of India.

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Mumbai has great potential but is unused & we are trying to unlock that potential! We are also reinvesting Government's assets & income for more & more development! Providing housing particularly to slum dwellers is one more imp way of transforming the city into global standards!

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The armed forces personnel make the greatest of all the sacrifices. A little gesture from us to honour those sacrifices can make a big difference in the lives of their families. So take part in the #ArmedForcesWeek2018 and contribute whatever you want towards the AFFD Fund.

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On the contrary SC held that govt had no role in selecting offset partners & found no merit in the demand for a probe based on mere perception of individuals. It therefore raises obvious questions on the motive of those working to discredit the deal, which is important for India.



— **Amit Shah**

There has been increased investment in agricultural research and education. Investment in irrigation has substantially increased. To help the poorest, under the Rural Job Employment Scheme this year close to Rs. 60,000 crore, if not more, would be spent on MGNREGA.



— **Arun Jaitley**

We are committed to our cause of Clean Ganga. I urged participants especially scholars, researchers and scientists to deliberate on concept and means of 'waste to wealth' & come up with ideas of utilization of organic waste for being used in biodigesters for making methane, biogas.



— **Nitin Gadkar**



Courtesy: Social Media

BJP dedicated to service of nation

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi while accepting the verdict of the assembly elections with all humility has thanked the people of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh for giving opportunities to BJP to serve them. He has also congratulated Congress, TRS and Mizo National Front for results in their favour. He has rightly applauded the party karyakartas for their tireless efforts in the elections who worked day and night for state elections. While pointing out that victory and defeat are integral part of democracy he has called for strengthening resolve to serve the people and work harder for the development of the country.

The Prime Minister saluted the karyakartasa who are the backbone of the party. BJP is a party having organisation based on the strength of large number of dedicated karyakartas. The karyakartas are committed to the ideology which inspires them to continuously remain devoted in the service of Maa Bharati. While the party believes in principled politics, its karyakartas have the interest of nation paramount in their minds. Sometime principled stands get drowned in the din of electoral politics but ultimately such stands are appreciated by the people at large. BJP believes in a vision for the nation and refuses to engage in vote bank politics for immediate electoral gains. It has been the strength of the

party and its karyakartas have proven their mettle with tireless efforts in winning the support of the people in the country again and again.

The assembly results in the five states have given mixed messages. While Congress lost in Mizoram, in Telangana TRS has registered a thumping victory beating Congress-TDP alliance. In Chhattisgarh Congress came out victorious but in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan it was a very close call. There is little for Congress to draw solace from these results as it could not create an anti-incumbency wave like situation even after 15 year long BJP government in Madhya Pradesh. It appeared during the counting of votes that the results could have swung either side and in the final outcome congress could not secure full majority on its own. The elections also saw extremely close contest in terms of vote percentage in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. No one will deny the fact that these elections were dominated by local issues having repercussions in some selected pockets of these states. The BJP government in these states have led them strongly on the path of rapid growth and development and now in opposition BJP leadership will have to ensure that these states continue to tread on the path of good governance and development.

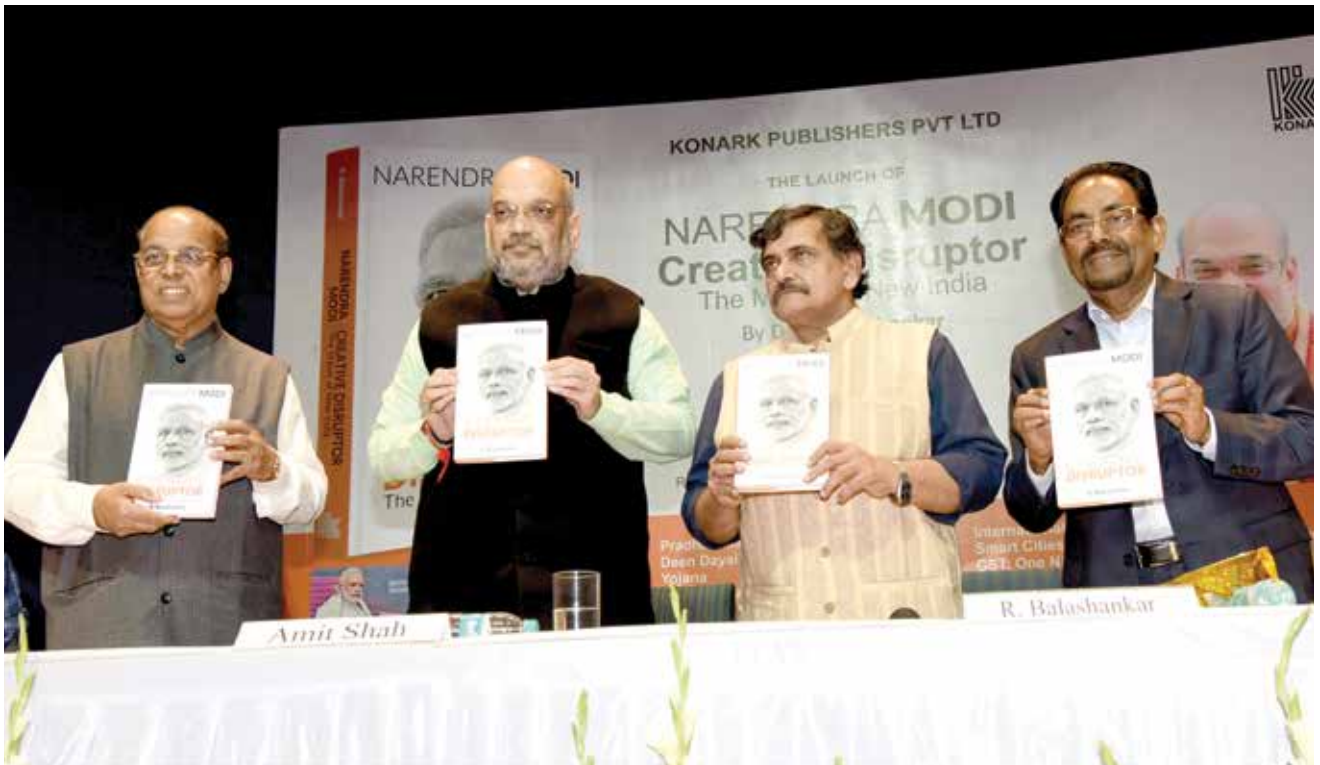
The task before the nation is huge. The BJP was given massive mandate by the people under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in 2014. The country was facing declining economic growth, policy paralysis, misgovernance, massive corruption and loot of public money under Congress led UPA rule. There was negativism in the atmosphere and India's image in the international forums had taken a beating. Under such circumstances people of India elected Shri Narendra Modi as prime minister of the country. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken

the country to new heights and earned respect for India on almost every international forum. India's performance on almost every parameter of good governance and development is now being acknowledged by all international rating agencies and experts. The country has become fastest growing major economy in the world and become sixth largest economy in the world improving its ranking from ninth. India's economic credibility has not only been restored but the world is looking at India with hope and expectations. The work for poor, farmers, Dalits, Tribals, OBCs, youth and women is transforming the rural landscape and bringing massive change in the lives of the people. The BJP karyakartas are working day and night to take government programmes to the people. The nation is witnessing huge transformation and in such a time the opposition is trying to create false issue to mislead the people. It is time that BJP Karyakrtas move ahead with confidence to serve the people with full commitment and vigour. Only honest and rigorous work for the poorest of the poor of the country will be a real answer to the opposition's propaganda and false issues. Let BJP karyakartas move with resolve and dedicate oneself in the service of Maa Bharati. ■

 shivshakti@kamalsandesh.org

BJP BELIEVES IN A VISION FOR THE NATION AND REFUSES TO ENGAGE IN VOTE BANK POLITICS FOR IMMEDIATE ELECTORAL GAINS. IT HAS BEEN THE STRENGTH OF THE PARTY AND ITS KARYKARTAS HAVE PROVEN THEIR METTLE WITH TIRELESS EFFORTS IN WINNING THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY AGAIN AND AGAIN.

‘MANMOHAN SINGH LEFT THE ECONOMY AT NINTH POSITION IN 10 YEARS BUT PM MODI BROUGHT IT TO SIXTH POSITION IN FIVE YEARS’



P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, “a chaiwala”, has done a better job at managing the economy than his predecessor Manmohan Singh, a noted “economist”, BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said.

Speaking at a book launch at Teen Murti Bhawan, New Delhi on 10 December, 2018, Shri Shah said PM Shri Narendra Modi and his team have succeeded in keeping fiscal deficit and inflation under control.

The book on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi titled “Narendra Modi Creative Disruptor: The Maker of New India” is written by R Balashankar . The book gives a solid rejoinder to all the criticism for PM Modi’s work, including GST, demonetisation, Rafale, lynching, intolerance and many others.

Shri Amit Shah said “Manmohan Singh left the economy at the ninth position in 10 years. PM Shri Modi brought it to the sixth position in five years and in less than six months, by March, it will become the fifth largest. We have no issues with the depth of your knowledge and praise it, but a chaiwala did a better job in running the country,” .

He said, “Anyone who is firm on his decisions and works with vigour is not an autocrat. There have been people who were prime minister for 16 years, 17 years. During the tenure of governments that ran for 30 years, there were only 4-5 decisions that can be termed historic. This government has been there for only five years and I can list 30 decisions which have secured a place in the history — whether surgical strike, GST or demonetization.” ■

BJP NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 11-12 JANUARY 2019

A meeting of the BJP national office-bearers, State Presidents, General Secretaries (organization) was held at party Central Headquarters in Delhi on 13 December 2018. The meeting was presided by BJP National President Shri Amit Shah. The main focus of the meeting was preparation of 2019 Lok Sabha elections. BJP National General Secretary Shri Bhupendra Yadav addressed the media on the decisions taken in the meeting. He conveyed that the BJP National Council meeting will be held on January 11- 12 January 2019 at Indira Gandhi Stadium in New Delhi. He further said that in order to garner support from the youth, the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) will conduct a workshop for its national, state and district office bearers at the civic centre on December 15 -16, 2018.

In this organizational meeting attended by all central office-bearers as well as state presidents and organizational general secretaries of state units, BJP National President chalked out an extensive programme to kick-start preparations for the 2019 polls. It was decided that all Morchas will organize programmes at national level in the months to come.

The first in a series of morcha-level meetings will be the national executive of the Bharatiya Janata



Yuva Morcha on December 15- 16 2018 in New Delhi which will be addressed Shri Amit Shah.

The Scheduled Caste Morcha will meet in Nagpur on January 19-20, 2018. Office-bearers from the district level upwards will attend the meeting to be addressed by Shri Shah and Union Ministers Shri Nitin Gadkari and Shri Thawarchand Gehlot.

The OBC Morcha meeting will be held on 15 and 16 February in Patna. Former Madhya Pradesh CM Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan will be the chief speaker at a public rally by the OBC Morcha in Patna's Gandhi Maidan on February 16, after the national executive meet of the BJP's OBC Morcha.

BJP National Minority Morcha meeting will be organized on 31st January & 1st February, 2019. It will be addressed by BJP National President Shri Amit Shah.

The Party Mahila Morcha's national conference will held at Ahmadabad in Gujarat on December 21 & 22, 2018. A rally of women will be addressed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on December 22 at Adalaj in Gujarat.

The series of Morcha and related programmes across the country will conclude with a meeting of the Kisan Morcha on February 21-22, 2019, which will be addressed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. ■

BJYM Workshop	15-16 Dec, 2018
Mahila Morcha National Conference	21-22 Dec, 2018
BJP National Council	11-12 Jan, 2019
SC Morcha National Conference	19-20 Jan, 2019
Minority Morcha National Conference	31 Jan-1 Feb, 2019
ST Morcha National Conference	2-3 Feb, 2019
OBC Morcha National Conference	15-16 Feb, 2019
Kisan Morcha National Conference	21-22 Feb, 2019

WE ACCEPT PEOPLE'S MANDATE WITH HUMILITY: PM

The results of five state assembly elections which came on December 11 saw close contests in two major states- Madhya Pradesh & Rajasthan. Three other states where the elections held were Chhattisgarh, Telangana and Mizoram won by comfortable majority by the Congress, TRS and NDA's constituent MNF respectively.

In Madhya Pradesh in spite of anti-incumbency of 15 years the BJP government led by Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan gave neck to neck fight to the Congress. As a result, BJP won 109 seats while Congress managed 114 seats, 2 seats went to BSP and others snatched 5 seats. The BJP decided to sit in opposition. The Congress with support of BSP and others formed a coalition government in the State. The BJP got (41%) the highest percentage of votes share. Congress got 40.9%.

In Rajasthan, total seats were 199. The Congress had to face tough fight from the BJP. Congress became largest party by winning 99 seats and BJP grabbed 73 seats in its kitty. In Rajasthan also, the Congress needs 100 seats to form simple majority government.

Riding on anti-incumbency wave of 15 years against Raman government, the Congress in Chhattisgarh got comfortable majority by winning 68 seats, BJP got 15 seats, Janata Congress Chhattisgarh (J) in alliance with BSP snatched 7 seats.

TRS got two-thirds majority in Telangana by winning 88 seats. Indian National Congress won 19 seats and All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen contested secured 7 seats, Chandra Babu Naidu contested the assembly elections in alliance with Congress party, won 2 seats. BJP won single seat in Telangana.

Mizo National Front (MNF), a NEDA constituent, came back to power after 10 years by reducing Congress to single figures. MNF won 26 of the 40 assembly seats. Congress could get only five seats.



@NARENDRAMODI

We accept the people's mandate with humility. I thank the people of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan for giving us the opportunity to serve these states. The BJP Governments in these states worked tirelessly for the welfare of the people.

"The family of BJP Karyakartas worked day and night for the state elections. I salute them for their hardwork. Victory and defeat are an integral part of life. Today's results will further our resolve to serve people and work even harder for the development of India."

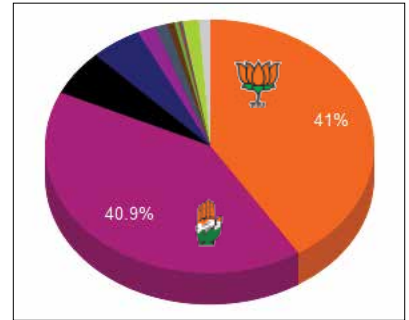
Five-time sitting Congress Chief Minister Lal Thanhawla lost both the seats — Serchhip and Champhai South — that he had contested.

On MNF's victory, Himanta Biswa Sarma, who heads the North East Democratic Alliance (Neda), tweeted:

"With Mizoram, constituents of #NEDA will head govt in entire northeast. We worked towards it tirelessly for last three years under leadership of @narendramodi. Congratulations to Pu Zoramthanga for historic win of #MNF in #Mizoram. Meanwhile, @BJP4India also opens its account in Mizoram." ■

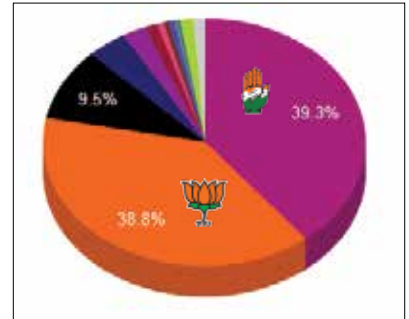
Madhya Pradesh

Party	Won	Total
Bahujan Samaj Party	2	2
Bharatiya Janata Party	109	109
Indian National Congress	114	114
Samajwadi Party	1	1
Independent	4	4
Total	230	230



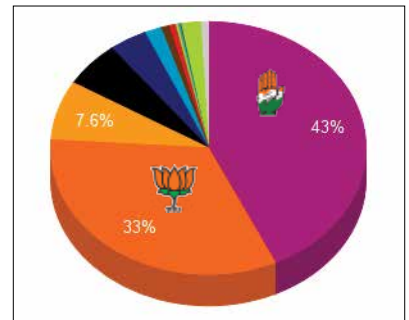
Rajasthan

Party	Won	Total
Bahujan Samaj Party	6	6
Bharatiya Janata Party	73	73
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	2	2
Indian National Congress	99	99
Bhartiya Tribal Party	2	2
Rashtriya Lok Dal	1	1
Rashtriya Loktantrik Party	3	3
Independent	13	13
Total	199	199



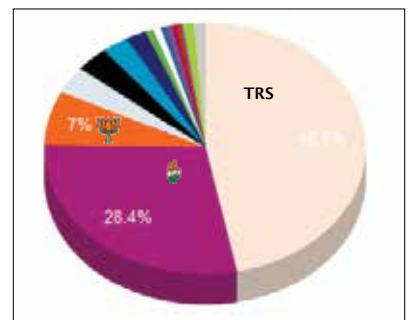
Chhattisgarh

Party	Won	Total
Bahujan Samaj Party	2	2
Bharatiya Janata Party	15	15
Indian National Congress	68	68
Janta Congress Chhattisgarh (J)	5	5
Total	90	90



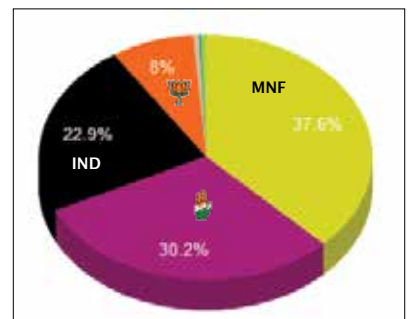
Telangana

Party	Won	Total
Bharatiya Janata Party	1	1
Indian National Congress	19	19
All India Majlis-E-Ittehadul Muslimeen	7	7
Telangana Rashtra Samithi	88	88
Telugu Desam	2	2
All India Forward Bloc	1	1
Independent	1	1
Total	119	119



Mizoram

Party	Won	Total
Bharatiya Janata Party	1	1
Indian National Congress	5	5
Mizo National Front	26	26
Independent	8	8
Total	40	40



'INDIA'S FOUR PETROCHEMICAL REGIONS ATTRACT 1.83 LAKH CR INVESTMENTS, CREATE 3 LAKH JOBS'

Around Rs 1.83 lakh crore has been invested and over 3 lakh people have been employed so far in four petrochemical investment regions being developed in Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Tamil Nadu, the government said on November 29, 2018.

In an official statement, Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilisers Shri Mansukh L Mandaviya said the department of chemicals & petrochemicals has registered good progress by facilitating increased investments in Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIRs) for boosting industrial development and employment generation.

Under the cluster-based development model, the department has identified four PCPIRs - in Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and Tamil Nadu - that are in advanced stages of implementation.

Upon completion, these PCPIRs will have an estimated investment of approximately Rs 8 lakh crore and are expected to generate employment for approximately 40 lakh people. So far, around Rs



1,83,000 crore have been invested in these PCPIRs and more than 3 lakh people have been employed," the minister said. ■

INDIA'S GROWTH 'VERY SOLID' OVER THE PAST 4 YEARS: IMF

India's growth has been "very solid" over the past four years, IMF's Chief Economist Mr. Maurice Obstfeld on 09 December, 2018 said, praising the fundamental economic reforms like the GST and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code carried out by the government.

India under the government of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has carried out some really fundamental reforms. These include the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. A lot of what they have done on financial inclusion has been really important," Mr. Obstfeld told.

Summing up his impression of India's economy in the last four-and-a-half years of the Modi government, the top IMF economist said the country's "growth performance has been very solid". ■



14 STATES NOW HAVE 100% HOUSEHOLD ELECTRIFICATION

Under ambitious Saubhagya Yojana, the Narendra Modi government has now achieved 100% household electrification in 14 states. This year, in April, the NDA government got each village in India electrified. The government had set the target of 100% household electrification by March 2019. But the power ministry reiterated on several occasions that it will achieve the aim by the end of this year.

According to Saubhagya Yojana real-time dashboard, 20,77,57,408 households have been electrified, while 95,77,641 are yet to be electrified. With 1,50,57,882 households, West Bengal has topped the list highest house electrification. So far, 14 states have achieved 100% household electrification; here's the list:

- West Bengal: 1,50,57,882 households
- Bihar: 1,39,73,122 households
- Madhya Pradesh: 1,26,21,007 households
- Andhra Pradesh: 1,14,25,248 households
- Gujarat: 1,14,14,532 households
- Tamil Nadu: 1,02,85,848 households
- Kerala: 98,13,032 households



- Telangana: 65,13,375 households
- Punjab: 36,89,970 households
- Jammu & Kashmir: 24,39,547 households
- Tripura: 7,88,783 households
- Mizoram: 2,41,682 households
- Goa: 1,28,208 households
- Puducherry: 95,616 households

According to the government, each day 1 lakh households are getting electrified. If the government accelerates the process from the current 1.1 lakh to 1.9 lakh households a day, the December-end deadline can be achieved. ■

Over 4.6 lakh people benefited under Ayushman Bharat

Over 4.6 lakh people have availed the benefits of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) in the first 10 weeks of the implementation of the scheme, for which over Rs 600 crore has been authorized so far, Ayushman Bharat Mission CEO said on 07 December, 2018.

Addressing the '5th India Health & Wellness Summit, 2018,' he said over 10,000 people are getting benefits of the scheme daily and once it is well placed, the number will go up to 30,000. "Out of the 4.6 lakh beneficiaries, over two-third went to private sector hospitals. The amount authorised so far is over Rs 600 crore and this number is going up exponentially".

The PMJAY, touted as the world's largest government-funded healthcare programme, was



launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in Ranchi, Jharkhand, on 23 September, 2018. Under the scheme, over 10 crore families will be provided health insurance worth Rs five lakh each, every year. ■

Nine out of 10 Indian homes now use cleaner cooking gas

Nine out of 10 Indian homes now use cleaner cooking gas, a record improvement over just about five in 10 homes four years ago, as a result of the Modi government's relentless effort at popularizing cleaner fuel and subsidizing subscription to poor families.

State oil companies, pushed by the oil ministry, have added record 10 crore consumers since April 2015, expanding the active consumer base by two-thirds. This has increased access to cooking gas, or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), to 89% of the country's households by October end, a sharp jump from 56.2% on April 1, 2015.

The increased LPG coverage has primarily been

customers do not entirely give up polluting fuels as they are forced to fall back on their traditional fuel while refill is on way.

Northern states have the highest 99.9% LPG coverage ratio, with Punjab (136%) and Delhi (126%) leading the table. Chandigarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, and Uttarakhand have recorded more than 100% subscription while Rajasthan (95.4%) and Uttar Pradesh (89.7%) have lower coverage.

The government calculates LPG coverage ratio by factoring in the number of subscribers and the current population, which is estimated by adding certain growth rate to 2011 census figures. Due to increased migration, some of the states like Delhi and Punjab end up having population that's higher than the estimates, resulting in an LPG coverage ratio of more than 100%, an official said.

Overall, Goa has the highest coverage ratio of 139%. Telangana, Puducherry, Kerala and Mizoram are other states with higher than 100% coverage. Southern states together have coverage of 99.7% while



driven by the government's determination to take cleaner fuel to more and more homes, which forced state oil companies to reach out to potential customers and simplify subscription process. A subsidy for fresh LPG connection to poor families helped fuel demand.

Rural areas still have untapped potential with more than half of all consumers, or about 13.6 crore, residing in urban areas. India has a total of 24.9 crore active customers, of which 22.9 crore receive subsidy. Those with double cylinders comprise barely half of the consumer universe—one reason why new

western states have 81.9%.

With 74.6% coverage, the eastern states are at the bottom of the pile although they have come a long way from their traditionally poor access to clean energy.

The worst among major states are Jharkhand (65.4%), Bihar (67%) and Odisha (66.9%). In Gujarat too, the LPG coverage ratio is 66.6% but that's more because the state is already well connected to the alternative piped natural gas. Most north-eastern states have less than 80% coverage. ■

PURE INDIAN

DHARMA VEER BHARATI

I WAS born in a family that took active part in the Arya Samaj movement. I grew up in the, shadow of that fierce agitation. This has certain advantages as well as disadvantages. On the advantage side it can be said that very early in life I became conscious of the Value of free thinking and developed a sense in the light of which I judged truth from falsehood and learnt to accept the former and reject the latter. It gave me courage to stand against rotten customs even in my boyhood. But the disadvantages, too, are not less important. Every reformist and aggressive movement creates its own customs and traditions, and though it remains progressive and active in a limited part, it loses initiative beyond it and becomes conservative and entrenched.

This conservatism too needs to be challenged in time, otherwise radical reformists themselves become helpless victims of a new superstructure of customs and traditions. This has happened in the history of every people, and the Hindu society is not an exception.

I do not form my opinion about a political party by its manifesto and declared intentions. Every party should have some persons who can think for themselves, going beyond the usual claptrap of its formal ideology, which only serves as handcuffs and masks for its members, and think in depth. It is they who save their party from being enmeshed in new forms of stagnation, heresy and opportunism, and who extend its vision towards a new horizon. All such men, whether infra-rightists, middle- coursers or ultra-leftists, attract me.

This is why I hope my frank expression will be pardoned. I could never feel attracted by the R.S.S. movement. Discipline, spirit of service, patriotism, readiness for sacrifice, organization etc. are good in themselves, but besides these I never found any original thinking on the subject of culture or any new insight into cultural values. The Jana Sangh thanking

on many matters has always struck me as one-sided, and being aware that its leadership is in the final analysis greatly influenced by the R.S.S. view of things has not helped to restore my confidence in the party.

I had the opportunity to meet Deendayal Upadhyaya for a couple of times. But I had heard that he was a staunch R.S.S. worker. So we kept at a gentlemanly distance from each other.

My first pleasant surprise came in 1965, Enraged by Indo-Pak hostilities, the U.S.A. had threatened to stop its food aid to India. I read a brilliant fiery speech made by Deendayalji in the papers. He had strongly



condemned the U.S. Government for its anti-Indian attitude and had urged the people to attain self-sufficiency, not only in the matter of food but in all walks of national life. It was a speech in which there was no mere political slogan-mongering; no parading of cheap patriotism; no narrow communalism. On the contrary, It expressed a deep faith in the destiny of the nation and gave evidence of a sincere effort to understand the problem not only in its conventional aspect but by 'reaching its very foundations.

I felt that he had broken through the limits of his party and R.S.S. background; that he was standing altogether on a new elevation and thinking in depth.

His thoughts commanded respect, though, maybe, not acceptance.

After that experience I read many of his articles on a number of subjects like planning, medium of instruction, the dangers that faced the nation etc., and a new awareness of his personality dawned in my mind. I began to think of him not as a power-hungry politician, or disciplined party worker but as a person capable of deep thinking and one who is struggling to escape from the old forms of thought and searching for a new enlightenment. I found that every day he was attaining a new stage on the way to intellectual freedom.

I felt that I should see him and have a free discussion on many matters. I have been always fortunate in having friends in most of the parties, whether Communist or Congress, S.S.P. or C.P.M. They are staunch in their beliefs, yet these have never come in the way of our friendship. I am always able to establish a contact with them on a non-party level. So I thought, "Why not see this deep-thinking personality of Deendayalji from close quarters?"

I got the opportunity after about two years. On an invitation from Shri P. Ratnam, then Indian Ambassador in Indonesia, I paid a visit to that country. It was just after the Communist rising which had fabled, and though Dr. Sukarno was still holding the highest office power had passed into the hands of Suharto. A civil war had almost broken out. The Bali island was the stronghold of Communists. It is also the centre of Hindu culture. It had then witnessed a bloodbath unprecedented in history.

I travelled between Jakarta and Den Pasar, and saw trains being looted, tanks guarding the streets, and all foreigners living in the shadow of death. As Sukarno had consistently supported Pakistan, the Indians ran more risk than others. But I travelled from city to city, meeting officers, artists, writers, students, traders. I reached Bali and attended a session of the

Hindu Vishwa Parishad, which was then being held there. I observed that the Hindu officers, scholars and students of Bali had some reservations and doubts in their minds. I had a heart-to-heart talk with them and they requested me to place their views before some responsible leader of the Parishad

Somehow I felt that the bitter things they had said could be communicated usefully only to Deendayalji.

After a few months I went to see him when he was on a visit to Bombay He was living with a friend in Worli. When I reached there I found him surrounded by party workers. He finished his work with them and then turned to me. I was surprised by his attention and friendliness. He heard all the bitter things I had to say with courage and patience. I was impressed by his sincerity there was no pretence of any kind about

him. His modesty and tolerance were natural, not a mask I felt that he sincerely understood the problems.

On some points we agreed, on some he vehemently opposed what I said. He was then, busy with some election work. He promised that he would think of the problem and its international aspect after the election business was

over and when he had more time and peace of mind.

That day, however, never dawned. His life was cut short by death and we lost a great thinker.

I shall not say what we talked about. I do not believe that such problems of cultural conflict will ever be solved under the leadership of Maharajas or Mahants. Deendayalji was different in this respect. He was nearer to the common man of India to the peasants of the land. He was fortunately free from the hypocrisy of the Khadi Kurta and dhoti and limpet-like hold on the seats of power. Only three personalities were purely Indian without being burdened by the weight of dead tradition :Ram Manohar Lohia, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Deendayal Upadhyaya.

Alas, all the three have now left us. ■

(Source: deendayalupadhyay.org)

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Bharat Ratna Mahamana Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya

Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya or Mahamana Malaviya, as he was popularly known, was born on 25th December 1861 at Prayag, in a family of six brothers and two sisters. His grandfather Pt Premdhar and father Pt Baijnath were Sanskrit scholars. His father, Pt Baijnath, was also an excellent Kathavacak (narrator of the stories from Bhagawat). After initial training in Sanskrit, Malaviyaji joined the Saraswati School for study in English. He passed his B.A. from Muir Central College in 1884. He was married in 1878 to Kumari Devi of Mirzapur. Circumstances forced him in 1884 to join the Government School as a teacher for a salary of Rs.40 per month.

After his graduation and the job of a teacher in 1884, Malaviyaji could pursue his education only from 1889 and passed LLB course in 1891. He first practiced in the District court in 1891 and then in the High Court from 1893. He decided to give up his roaring practice during his 50th birthday and retired in 1913 to serve the country. Gopala Krishna Gokhale said "Malaviyaji's sacrifice is a real one. Born in a poor family, he started earning thousands monthly. He tasted luxury and wealth but giving heed to the call of the nation, renouncing all he again embraced poverty".

Malaviyaji worked in the editorial of Hindi daily 'Hindusthan' (1887-1889), English daily 'Indian Opinion' (1889-), started Hindi weekly 'Abhyuday' (1907-1909 under his editorship). Started English daily with the help of Motilal Nehru 'Leader' When the English Government tried to bring in the Press Act and Newspaper Act in 1908, Malaviyaji started a campaign against the Act and called an All India Conference in Allahabad. He then realized the need of an English Newspaper to make the campaign effective throughout the country. As a result, he started the English daily 'Leader' in 1909 with the help of Pt. Motilal Nehru. He was associated with 'Leader' as Editor 1909-1911 and as the President 1911-1919. In

1910, Malaviyaji started the Hindi paper 'Maryada'. He took active control of 'Hindusthan Times' from Delhi in 1924. 'Sanatana Dharma', a magazine dedicated to religious, dharmic interests, was started in 1933 from BHU.

Malaviyaji's firm grounding in the tenets of Hindu Dharma led him to strong beliefs on right attitude, right thinking, right expression and right actions in every field of his activity.

He was catapulted into the political arena immediately after his first thrilling speech at the Second Congress Session in Calcutta, held in 1886.

He served the Congress for almost 50 years and worked with 50 Congress Presidents. He was the Congress President for a record of four times.

He visualized the importance of education and the hardships of the students early in life. He set up the 'MacDonald Hindu Boarding House' to accommodate 230 students in 1903 in Allahabad, by collecting a public donation of Rs 1.3 lakhs. This appears to be the precursor for his grand vision of the Banaras Hindu University, which he built up from a vision in 1900 to a reality in 1916.

These examples show his keen analysis of a problem, ability to think of a workable solution, motivate a team to work, collect large amount of funds for a public cause and realize the dream.

Pt. Malaviya ji was one of the founders of Scouting in India. He also founded a highly influential, English-newspaper, The Leader published from Allahabad in 1909. He was also the Chairman of Hindustan Times from 1924 to 1946. His efforts resulted in the launch of its Hindi edition named Hindustan Dainik in 1936.

This great son of this soil passed away on 12 November 1946 (aged 84) at Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, India

Pandit ji was posthumously conferred with Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian award, on 24 December 2014, a day before his 153rd Birth Anniversary. ■



Atalji: A Unique Parliamentarian

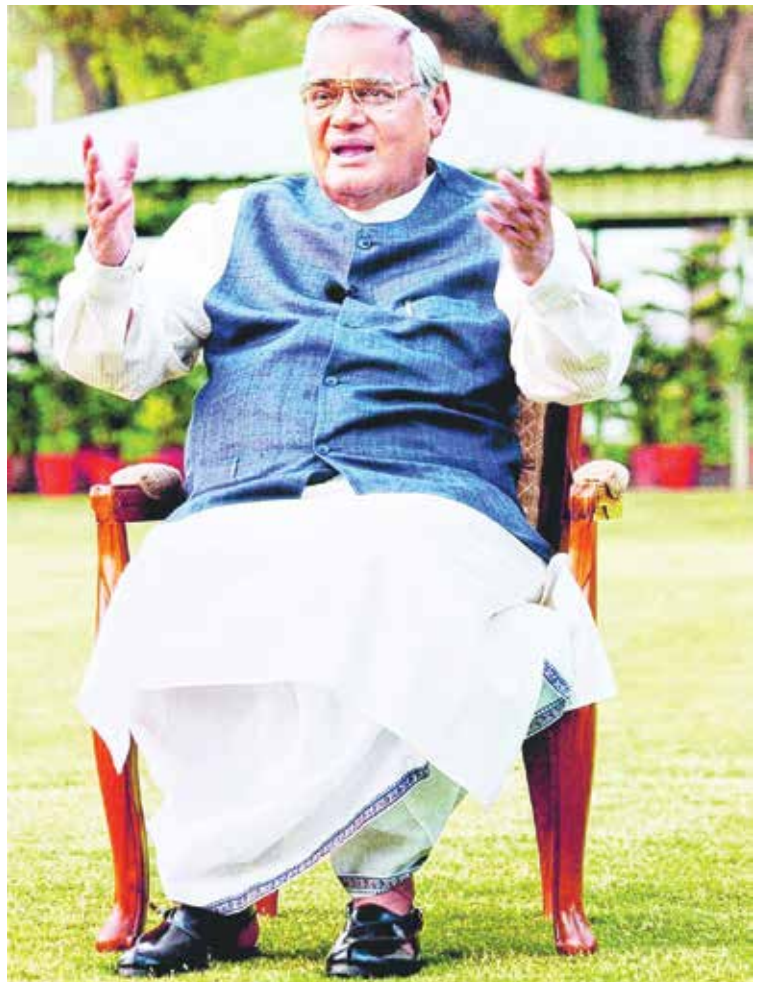
| L.K. ADVANI

If I have to single out one person who has been an integral part of my political life almost from its inception till now, one who has remained my close ally in the party for well over fifty years, and whose leadership I have always unhesitatingly accepted, it would be Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Many political observers have noted that it is not only rare but, indeed, unparalleled in independent India's political history for two political personalities to have worked together in the same organisation for so long and with such a strong spirit of partnership. I regard this long comradeship with Atalji a proud and invaluable treasure of my political life.

Experience has taught me that long-lasting and fulfilling relationships in politics are possible only on the basis of mutual trust, respect and commitment to certain shared lofty goals. Politics driven by power play is, by its very nature, competitive and conflict-ridden. But politics driven by a common ideology and nurtured by common ideals and *samskaras* is a different matter altogether. When a higher purpose brings a set of people together, they learn to overlook and sideline small matters and personality related issues. Many people have asked me, 'How did your partnership with Atalji endure for over fifty years? Did you never have any differences or problems with him?'

I can well understand the puzzlement in this question. But I can also say, in all honesty that, contrary to what some people have been speculating since decades now, the relationship between Atalji and me was never competitive, much less combative. I do not imply that we never had any difference of opinion. Yes, we have sometimes had divergent views. Our personalities are different and, naturally, our

judgements on individuals, events and issues have differed on many occasions. This is natural in any organisation that values internal democracy. However, what lent depth to our relationship were three factors. We both were strongly moored in the ideology, ideals and ethos of the Jana Sangh



and the BJP, which commanded all its members to put Nation first, Party next, and Self last. We never allowed differences to undermine mutual trust and respect. But there was also a third and very important factor: I always implicitly and

unquestioningly accepted Atalji to be my senior and my leader. From the very early stages of our association, I always used to submit whatever Atalji decided with regard to organisational and political matters.

I would put forth my views but once I sensed that Atalji wanted, I would invariably go along with his viewpoint or preference. My responses were so predictable that sometimes my colleagues in the party, or leaders in the RSS, would express their displeasure over what they perceived as my inability or unwillingness to disagree with Atalji's decisions. This, however, made no difference to my conviction that Atalji's must be the last word in all party-related—and, later, in government-related—matters. Dual or collective leadership is a poor substitute to unity in command. I used to tell my colleagues, 'No family can stay together without a mukhiya (head), whose authority is unquestionably accepted by all its members. After Deendayalji, Atalji is the mukhiya of our family.'

Here I must also add that Atalji had an accommodative approach towards me. If he knew what my thinking was on a certain issue, and if he did not have serious disagreements over it, he would readily say, Jo Advaniji kehte hain, voh theek hai. (What Advani says is right). Thereafter, the matter under discussion would be immediately clinched.

Throughout the six years of the NDA government, speculation about the non-existent Atal-Advani conflict' was a favourite pastime for few in the media and political circles. Atalji refuted this speculation on numerous occasions, both within Parliament and outside. In an interview given to India Today, he was asked: 'How are your relations with Home Minister L.K. Advani? Is the BJP pulling in different directions?' His reply was forthright: 'I talk to Advaniji each day. We consult each other daily. Yet you people speculate. Like a record stuck

in a groove. One more time, let me say there is no problem. When there is, I'll let you know'.

In his nearly six decades of political life, Atalji has influenced his thoughts and ideologies not only on his Vichar-Parivar; but his wit, presence of mind, political foresight and strategy is respected in all political parties as well. His amazing oratory skills have left an impact not only in the Parliament, but on every platform of public life. His thunderous voice continues to reverberate in the Parliament. Atalji never hesitated to voice the opinion of the man standing on the lowest rung of the society. He presented many bills in the Parliament, for the welfare of this common man. It gives me great pleasure that the original forms of the bills presented by Atalji in the Parliament and the debate on them, after being

edited by Appa Ghatare, are being published. With the publication of this edition, viewpoints of Atalji and his contemporary Parliamentarians will be available for generations to come.

Before I embarked upon Jana Chetna Yatra on 11 Oct, 2011, I met Atalji the previous evening and sought his blessings. In comparison to all of my previous Yatras, the thing I missed the most in this

yatra was Atalji's active participation due to his bad health. But with his support and blessings, this yatra, aimed at eradicating corruption and bringing back the black money stashed in Swiss Banks and abroad, also received overwhelming response in every part of Bharat.

Atalji, I and my whole party have been against rampant corruption and black money; and other evils in the society. The bills presented by Atalji show his determination and willpower to go all out to support the cause of a common man. My heartfelt good wishes to Atalji for a long and healthy life. ■

(From the Foreword of the book 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee : A Constructive Parliamentarian')

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‘Economy doing better under NDA’

The Central Statistical Office (CSO), which is responsible for releasing official GDP data, has released official back series of the 2011-12 GDP series up to 2004-05 on November 29, 2018. These numbers will allow the comparison of economic performance under the Modi government with the Congress led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government, which was in office from 2004 to 2014. The big take away from the numbers is that the economy has performed much better under the present government. Compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of GDP at market prices (2011-12 series) was 7.3% between 2014-15 and 2017-18, higher than the 6.7% and 6.4% between 2004-05 and 2009-10 (UPA I) and between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (UPA II). This is a departure from the wisdom based on old GDP series (2004-05), which showed the economy booming under UPA I. According to the old series, CAGR of GDP at market prices was 8% and 6.6% under the UPA I and UPA II.

These estimates are a revision over the ones given by a committee formed by the National Statistical Commission (NSC) in August, which showed that the Indian economy actually touched double digit growth in 2006-07 under the UPA I government. The NSC’s estimates were “not as per the methodology recommended by the United Nations System of

National Accounts, 2008” which is the internationally accepted methodology for compiling GDP estimates, Niti Aayog said.

“The revised data for 2004-05 – 2011-12, that is based on 2011-12 base year is a significant improvement both in terms of coverage and methodology. The new series, with its supporting



back series, is internationally comparable and in sync with the UN Standard National Account 2008...The recalibration exercise led to a change in growth rates in back series and our methodology was checked twice by renowned statisticians. ■

India Sweeps all Top Ten in List of World’s Fastest-Growing Cities

When it comes to the top 10 cities for economic growth, India is set to dominate over the next two decades, according to Oxford Economics report published on 06 December, 2018. Surat, a diamond processing and trading center in the western state of Gujarat, will see the fastest expansion through 2035, averaging more than 9 percent, Mr. Richard Holt, Oxford’s head of global cities research, wrote in a report. All of the 10 fastest

over that period will be in India.

While economic output in many of those Indian cities will remain rather small in comparison to the world’s biggest metropolises, aggregated gross domestic product of all Asian cities will exceed that of all North American and European urban centers combined in 2027. By 2035, it will be 17 percent higher, with the largest contribution coming from Chinese cities. ■

ISRO's PSLV-C43 successfully places into orbit HysIS along with 30 satellites

ISRO's workhorse rocket PSLV-C43 on November 29, 2018 successfully injected into orbit India's earth observation satellite HysIS along with 30 satellites from eight countries. The HysIS was placed into orbit 17 minutes and 27 seconds after lift-off. A similar operation was undertaken when scientists injected eight different satellites including the country's weather satellite SCATSAT-1 and five from other nations in two different orbits on September 25, 2016. The primary mission of the Hyper Spectral Imaging Satellite (HysIS), whose life is five years, is to study the earth's surface in visible, near infrared and shortwave infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum. ■



'70% Indians confident about finding better opportunities'

70 per cent of people in India are confident of finding better opportunities next year, according to a LinkedIn survey on November 28, 2018. Nearly two out of three Indians (62 per cent) are optimistic about the general economic situation improving in the next 12 months, according to the inaugural edition of the LinkedIn Opportunity Index in Asia Pacific (APAC) region. The index is a composite measure that seeks to understand how people perceive opportunity and the barriers that prevent them from getting those opportunities.

The research by the professional networking platform surveyed more than 11,000 respondents in nine markets in the Asia Pacific region - India, Australia, Chinese Mainland, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Singapore.

The more developed markets such as Japan, Hong Kong and Australia trail on the Index as people

in these markets expressed concerns over economic outlook, and generally felt more cautious about their chances of achieving success with opportunities relevant to them.

Much like in the rest of APAC, Indians consider career advancement as their main opportunity. Along with career advancement, most Indians consider learning a new skill as one of the main opportunities, and they feel working hard can help them get ahead in life.

Starting one's own business is also seen as one of the top three opportunities for Indians, according to the LinkedIn Opportunity Index. In digital India, 90 per cent feel that digital and social media equip them with material relevant to the opportunity they seek, and 89 per cent feel that digital and social media have helped them to learn new skills, according to the findings. ■



INDIA'S RURAL SECTOR

A comparative study of the performance of the UPA and NDA Governments



ARUN JAITLEY

Last week multiple farmer organizations, predominantly owing affiliation to several opposition parties and ultra-left fronts organised a protest march in Delhi. They were concerned with the rural distress. They accused the Government of ignoring rural India and the agricultural sector.

WHAT ARE THE FACTS

The Narendra Modi Government assumed office on 26th May, 2014. Stress in the agricultural sector was not born thereafter. It was inadequacy of the resources pumped into the agricultural sector by the Congress that had led to both an agrarian distress and an inadequate quality of life in the rural areas. The NDA Government planned a multi-pronged strategy to improve the quality of life in Indian villages, to enlarge quantum of investment and to make the Indian farmer self-sufficient and farming remunerative rather than be only dependent on State agencies.

VILLAGE INFRASTRUCTURE

The roads in the rural areas on which depends the access of

farmers who bring their produce to market but also connect rural population to the cities. Before Prime Minister Modi assumed office, 3.8 lakh kms. of regular roads existed in the first 67 years after India's independence. As of November, 2018, this figure has already touched 5.7 lakh kms. of roads. In the past four and a half years, close to 1.9 lakh kms. of roads have been built in India's rural areas. The investment in rural roads has increased three fold. Very soon we will be close to the destination of connecting every village with a pucca road.

There are 16.53 crore rural

households in India. As of 2013-14 only about 70% had been electrified in the first 67 years of India's independence. Today as of November, 2018, 16.53 crore households (95%) have already been electrified and over the next few weeks rural electrification programme would be completed.

As far as rural housing is concerned, during the UPA's final year, about 10 lakh houses were built in a year for the poor in the rural areas. This figure has increased four and a half times and now about 45 lakh houses are being constructed. The Awas Yojana in rural areas has been



an unprecedented success. By 2022 every rural Indian will live in a regular house.

As of 2nd October, 2014, 38.7% of the rural households had a sanitation coverage. This was when the PM announced the Swachha Bharat Yojana. As of November, 2018, rural sanitation has moved to 96.72%.

As of 21st November, 2018, 33.3 Crore Jan Dhan Accounts have been opened, virtually linking every person to the banking system in India.

In 2017, the Ujjwala Yojana to provide cooking gas connection to poor households was launched. In just over one and a half years, 5.8 crore households have already been provided with cooking gas connections. This figure is likely to touch 8 crore by 31/03/2019.

Thirteen crore households have been given the benefit of Mudra Loans. 54% of the recipients are women.

For Healthcare of India's poor, more particularly, rural poor who had for 67 years after Independence inadequate medical facilities available, the 10 crore of the poorest households in

India (40% of India's population) would get the benefit of Ayushman Bharat where the treatment of family in hospital for specified diseases upto Rs. 5 lakh per year would be at the cost of the Government scheme. For the last two months since the scheme has been in operation, about 3.8 lakh number of people have got the advantage of this.

ON FARMER INCOME

To increase the productivity of the farmers and to enhance their income, the Government has already increased its expenditure on animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries. There has been increased investment in agricultural research and education. Investment in irrigation has substantially increased. To help the poorest, under the Rural Job Employment Scheme this year close to Rs. 60,000 crore, if not more, would be spent on MGNREGA. This is almost twice the amount spent by the UPA Government. For the poorest including rural poor, Rs. 1.6 lakh crore has been set aside for food subsidy. The MSP has already been increased on several

specified products to ensure cost plus 50%. The amount sanctioned for interest subvention has been doubled. Last year (2017-18) a phenomenal amount of Rs. 3,96,831 crore was spent on the poor and rural areas. This year the expenditure is likely to be around Rs.4,38,741 crore. UPA had spent Rs. 2,41,602 crore in its last year.

Removing the agrarian distress and improving the quality of life in rural areas cannot be done by slogans alone. From 1971 onwards, the Congress policy was slogans and not resources. The NDA has pumped in resources into the rural areas. These resources have improved our infrastructure, are improving the quality of life of people living therein, have increased agricultural productivity and are intended to give a remunerative price to the farmers. The past four and half years is just the beginning. If this level of investment with its annual increase is continued in the rural areas for at least the next two decades, we will be close to providing a quality of life and infrastructure in rural areas which is more urban like. ■

(The writer is Finance Minister, GoI)



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BECOME PART OF A VIBRANT IDEOLOGICAL MOVEMENT

Saubhagya having significant impact in the lives of women



Saubhagya Yojana is a scintillating example of SabkaSaathSabka Vikas. When the present government took charge in 2014, there were 18,000 unelectrified villages in the country, which were successfully electrified well ahead of the deadline. While we were well on course, the prime minister decided to dream bigger and took on the mission of ensuring that power reaches every single household for greater impact on society.

Whereas previous initiatives had defined electrification in limited terms – like electrifying key institutions like schools and hospitals or a certain percentage of households – Saubhagya Yojana boldly defines electrification in its original tenor for the first time: providing electricity to every single household in India regardless of its geographical

location or accessibility. Since 11th October 2017 to 16th November 2018 i.e. just 401 days, the current government electrified 1,98,93,727 households.

The focus of Saubhagya Yojana is far-reaching and is designed to impact every person equally in this country. This impact of Saubhagya Yojana is, unlike any other scheme before, incomparable in magnitude, profound in reach and capable of propelling the society into a higher order of development leaving none behind.

The research study conducted by Public Policy Research Centre, assesses this last mile impact and how electrification with its collateral impact on various socio-economic dimensions, is unleashing a chain of events leading to improvement in standard of living. The study was conducted across seven districts in

MP, right from the western to eastern periphery of the state.

The research taps into several intricate aspects of people's lives which are undergoing a tremendous change with electrification. Important areas covered in the research were enhanced comfort and ease of living, an average increase of 1.5 hours devoted to studies at home, enhanced security and reduced fear of crime. An unfortunate incident, which could have been averted with lighting, as recounted by people of a village near Guna, where a child lost his life to snake bite in the dark, illustrates the fact.

A case study of a remote and geographically secluded village in MP, illustrates the irreplaceable role of electrification in enhancing living condition of people. People had to travel all the way to a village in a neighboring state for charging their mobiles, which required at least 9 hour travel to and fro, restricting usage to only emergency requirements. Further, for lighting they had to source kerosene from the nearest town, which was about 2 hours boat ride away, taking away time and the boat cost. Post Saubhagya, there is increased usage of mobile phones, access to information and entertainment, enhanced productivity by elimination of unnecessary efforts and redundant tasks.

The research finds increased social cohesion among people post electrification with people organizing community celebration with illuminated Pandals for Garba or a family buying music systems, the first thing after electrification, for celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi, like the rest of the nation. Further, the research also documents impact of Saubhagya on avenues for income generation through availability of infrastructure in the village and with illumination of home run businesses. A case in point being that of a farming community who have since bought electric pumps for irrigating their fields instead of the costly diesel pumps. Not only the monthly cost has come

down to nil, the agricultural output has also multiplied.

Electrification post Saubhagya has also had a significant impact in the lives of women, relieving them hours of drudgery and opening prospects for enhances social and personal development. With ability to pace out their chores, they find more time for pursuing jobs opportunities, social interactions and increased awareness with through TV/mobile. Health was yet another sector that was found to have a positive impact. Zero reliance on kerosene and firewood for lighting has decreased harmful emissions of carcinogen black carbon and also improved the indoor air quality. To mention a case in point, pregnant women and newborns suffered the most prior to electrification. As recounted by an 8 month old pregnant woman, in her previous pregnancy she suffered from much physical stress and mental anxiety, however now, she feels much more comfortable with availability of LED lighting and fan and stays stress free with TV, which they bought just days after electrification.

Apart from the above effects, electrification post Saubhagya has also enhanced self esteem among the beneficiaries. They felt relieved as

there was no need to illegally obtain firewood for electrification. Legal ownership of metered electricity ensured a sense of pride amongst the consumers and they felt entitled to demand better services, affording social upliftment and equity. Putting it in context, men of a previously unelectrified village were unable to find brides from neighboring electrified villages for the same reason!

The impact of electrification has been on those basic elements of daily life that have a larger bearing on the entire society. The research in such villages, which have been bereft of electricity since independence, presents such simple facts and attempts to assess how the Saubhagya Yojana is changing lives. ■

Legal ownership of metered electricity ensured a sense of pride amongst the consumers and they felt entitled to demand better services, affording social upliftment and equity. Putting it in context, men of a previously unelectrified village were unable to find brides from neighboring electrified villages for the same reason!

“WORK ON CLEAN GANGA MISSION IS GOING ON WAR FOOTING”

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO BE VISIBLE ON GROUND AFTER MARCH 2019

Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Nitin Gadkari expressed his satisfaction over the positive feedback being received for Clean Ganga Mission and assured the people of the country that their dream of rejuvenated Ganga will soon be fulfilled. He said that with the support of all stakeholders, the work on Clean Ganga Mission is going on war footing and the hard work of all stakeholders has started to show visible results on ground. “The government has freed Kanpur from the ill effects of Sisamau drain after 128 years, which was infamous for the pollution it was causing to River Ganga,” Gadkari said, adding, “140 MLD of waste water has been stopped from flowing into River Ganga.” Shri Gadkari was speaking at the three-day long India Water Impact Summit 2018 (5th to 7th December 2018) being organized at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Six reports prepared by cGanga were released on the occasion regarding flow regimes and Ganga River Basin Management Plan of five main stem Ganga basin states. Green Ganga App, developed by Remote Sensing Centre of ISRO was also launched during the occasion. Green Ganga App is used for geo-tagging of saplings and delineation of plantation boundaries under ongoing afforestation activities of Namami Gange programme. The touch-enabled information kiosk about Namami Gange programme, developed jointly by NMCG and ISRO, was also launched.

Shri Gadkari said that since inception of Ganga cleaning programme (1985) till 2014, central government had spent less than Rs. 4000 crore. With the launch of Namami Gange programme, provision of Rs. 20,000 crore have been made for 5 years. So far, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has sanctioned 254 projects for more than Rs 24,000 crore and has spent about Rs. 5,000 crore in the last 4 years. He said that not only has the pace of expenditure increased manifold, results are visible on the ground as well. “Out of these 254 projects, 133



are for sewerage management, 11 bioremediation, one modular STP, 1 rural sanitation, 64 ghat and crematoria, 6 bio-diversity and 16 afforestation projects,” Shri Gadkari informed the gathering. He added that 133 sewerage infrastructure projects costing Rs. 19,789 crore will create 3969 MLD of sewage treatment capacity and lay down 4871 kilometer of sewerage network. ■

UN Secretary-General thanks PM Modi for raising India's contribution to climate change pact

UN Secretary-General Mr. Antonio Guterres has thanked Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for increasing India's contribution to the Paris Agreement for reducing greenhouse emissions and fighting climate change. When they met on December 1, 2018 in Buenos Aires, "They discussed the upcoming UN climate change conference (COP24) and the importance of the completion of the Paris Agreement Work Programme, its transparency framework and climate finance," Guterres's Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric told reporters.

"The Secretary-General also thanked Shri Modi for his commitment to increase India's nationally determined contributions to the Paris Agreement," he added.

India has committed itself to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions intensity of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 33 per cent to 35 per

cent below the 2005 levels by 2030, according to the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). A UNEP report last month said that India was on its way to



meeting its target and was projected to be even more than 10 per cent below its target of greenhouse gas emissions. ■

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) subsidy availed by 2.75 lakh home buyers

Around 2.75 lakh beneficiaries have availed a subsidy scheme under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), with Gujarat topping the chart, the government said on 30 November, 2018. Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh had the most number of beneficiaries under the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) after Gujarat.

Over 88,000 beneficiaries have been disbursed CLSS in Gujarat, while 74,000 people have availed the subsidy in Madhya Pradesh in three categories - economically weaker section (EWS), low income group (LIG) and middle income group (MIG) categories under the PMAY (U).

Union Housing and Urban Affairs Secretary said more than 15,000 beneficiaries have got CLSS in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh each, followed by Tamil Nadu with 12,000 beneficiaries. Under the CLSS, the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry provides a subsidy of up to Rs 2.67 lakh to the beneficiaries.

The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) has four components -- CLSS, In Situ Slum Redevelopment (ISSR), Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP) and Beneficiary Led Construction (BLC). Under these the government provides central assistance to beneficiaries to construct their own houses. ■

PM Narendra Modi is most popular global leader on social media platform

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is the numero uno on photo-sharing platform Instagram. Shri Modi is the most popular global leader on Instagram with 14.8 million followers, according to a list published by online platform twiplomacy. He is closely followed by Indonesian President Joko Widodo with 12.2 million followers. With 10 million followers US President Donald Trump is in the third position.

The picture of PM Shri Narendra Modi standing at a bust stop in snowy Davos ahead of the World Economic Forum



2018 is the second most liked picture with a total of 1,635,978 likes.

The Prime Minister is also very much active on Twitter and Facebook. With more than 43 million followers on his Twitter account and more than 40 million likes on Facebook, he is one of the most popular global leaders on social media platforms.

PM Shri Modi has a tech-savvy reputation. In 2015, He launched NaMo app to give his followers all the latest information, updates and his day-to-day activities. ■

Around 30,000 visitors come daily to Statue of Unity

7.5 CRORE PER YEAR VISITORS EXPECTED BY 2020

W inters are considered to be “Goa-time” in Indian tourism circuits but the country now has a new attraction which is drawing huge number of tourists every day. It is not Taj or Udaipur’s palaces but the 182-metre tall Statue of Unity. The world’s tallest statue, which is dedicated to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel stands tall in a river valley in Gujarat’s Narmada district, is fast becoming one of the country’s top tourist attractions drawing about 30,000 people every day. In Narmada river valley near the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Gujarat’s Kevadiya, the statue was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi on October 31. According to media reports 2.79 lakh visitors came to see the statue in a month and its ticket sale generated a revenue of Rs 6.38 crore.

The number of tourists visiting Gujarat is expected to grow by 2.5 crore per year and touch the figure 7.5

crore per year by 2020. Presently, five crore tourists visit the state every year, Tourism Corporation of Gujarat head said to media persons.

On 05 December, 2018 United States Consul-General Edgard Kagan also visited the statue site and spent time at the 153-metres-high viewing gallery. The experience of watching from that gallery is breathtaking as it gives a vast view of the nearby attractions including Sardar Sarovar Dam as well as the Vindhya and Satpura mountain ranges. “It is a very impressive statue and I’m happy to learn the purpose behind its construction,” Kagan said after his visit.

The statue is built to pay tribute to Independent India’s first Home Minister who was instrumental getting 562 princely states to accede to the Indian Union after Independence. ■

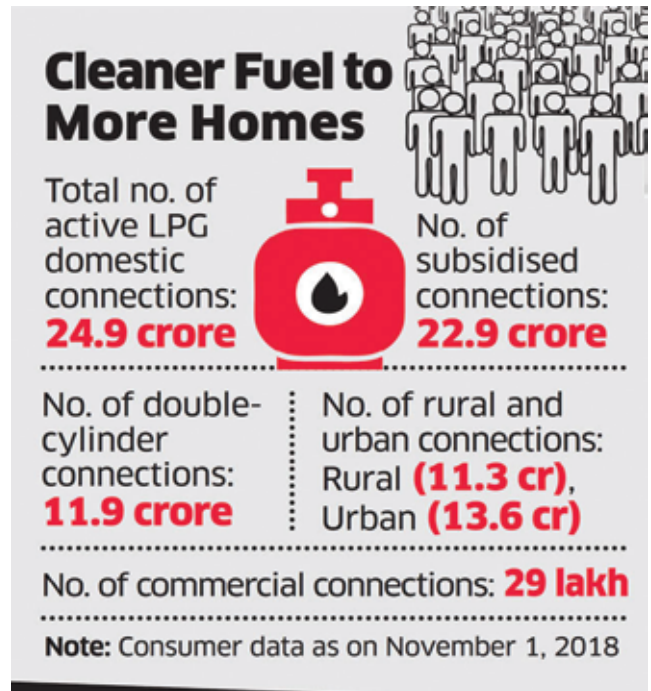
PM Narendra Modi's LPG scheme reduced household air pollution: Study

The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), a pet project of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi that aims to provide every household Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) replacing wood or coal fuel, has been found useful in tackling household air pollution, a report said.

The study, "The India State-Level Disease Burden Initiative", released by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and The Lancet, stated that in 2017 in India 12.4 lakh deaths were caused due to air pollution, of which 4.8 lakh were due to household air pollution.

"There is increasing political momentum in India to address air pollution. Household air pollution is reducing in India facilitated by the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. The findings systematically document the variations among states, which would serve as a useful guide for making further progress in reducing the adverse impact of air pollution in the country," said Director General of ICMR.

According to the report, reasons for the household air pollution are mainly residential burning of solid fuels for cooking and to some extent heating. The major types of such fuel are wood, dung, agricultural residues, coal and charcoal. The study found that states like Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Assam, Madhya



Pradesh, Rajasthan and Meghalaya, who stood low in Semi Demographic Index (SDI - a composite measure based on per capita income, average educational attainment and fertility rate), were using more solid fuels. ■

“Government starts several schemes to boost pulse and oil seeds self sufficiency”

Government has undertaken various interventions to boost the pulse and oilseeds production during last four and a half years to achieve self-sufficiency in the country. The country has reported production of 25.23 Million Tonnes of pulses during 2017-18 against production of 14.66 Million Tonnes in the year 2009-10, an increase of 72.10%. Similarly, the production of oilseeds has increased from 24.88 Million Tonnes to 31.3 Million Tonnes during the same period, registering an increase of 25.80%.

The Govt. of India has supported the growers' with

record procurement of pulses at MSP. Further, the Govt. of India's decision to create buffer stock of pulses has also led to the increase of pulses production in the country. The bold step to raise Minimum Support Price to 1.5 times of cost of production undertaken this year will further encourage the farmers to grow more pulses and oilseeds. Notably, the MSP of Moong has increased from Rs. 4500 per quintal in 2013-14 to Rs. 6979 in 2018-19. Similarly for Urad from Rs. 4300 to Rs. 5600 per quintal and for Sunflower from Rs. 3700 to Rs. 5388 per quintal. ■

Cabinet approves implementation of Shahpurkandi Dam project in Punjab

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on December 6 approved implementation of Shahpurkandi Dam Project, Punjab on river Ravi. For this, Central Assistance of Rs. 485.38 cr (for irrigation component) would be provided over five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23.

Implementation of this project would help minimising some of the water of the River Ravi which at present is going waste through the Madhopur Headworks downstream to Pakistan.

On completion of the project an Irrigation Potential of 5,000 ha in Punjab State and 32,173 ha in J&K State would be created. ■



Cabinet approves MoC between India and Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave its ex-post facto approval to the signing of Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and the Kanagawa Prefectural Government of Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness.

The activities between the two sides will start after the receipt of copy of the signed MoC. The initiatives taken between the two countries will be as per the terms of reference of the MoC signed and will be a continuing process till the MoC remains in operation.

The MoC, will enhance bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the areas of Traditional Systems of Medicine. This will be of immense importance to both countries.

Expenditure involved: There are no additional financial implications involved. The financial resources necessary to conduct research, training courses, conferences/ meetings and deputations of experts will be met from the existing allocated budget and existing plan schemes of Ministry of AYUSH.

Background: India is blessed with well-developed systems of Traditional Medicine, which holds tremendous



potential in the global health scenario. The Ministry of AYUSH of the Republic of India having the mandate to promote, propagate and globalize these Traditional Systems has taken effective steps by entering into MoU with 14 countries for Cooperation in the field of Traditional Medicine.

The bilateral relations between India and Japan have a long history rooted in spiritual affinity and strong cultural and civilizational ties. The political, economic, scientific and cultural interaction between India and Japan has been substantial. Having a background of strong traditional medicine, there is a growing interest towards Ayurveda and Yoga in Japan. ■

Kolkata-Patna becomes India's second container cargo sector on Inland Waterways

After the success of container cargo being shipped from Kolkata to Varanasi earlier this year, Bihar's capital Patna will be witness to a new landmark in India's Inland Water Transport (IWT) sector with 16 TEUs of container cargo (equivalent to 16 truckloads) belonging to food giants PepsiCo India and Emami Agrotech Ltd from Kolkata reaching the city's Gaighat IWT terminal on river Ganga next week.

Inland Waterways Authority of India's (IWAI) vessel MV RN Tagore sailed from Kolkata's Garden Reach Jetty today with the PepsiCo and Emami Agrotech products. It will reach the IWT terminal at Patna in 6-7 days after an 815 kms long voyage on river Ganga (National Waterway-1). The cargo will be unloaded at IWAI's inter-modal terminal at Gaighat in Patna from where onward cargo will be loaded. Earlier, on November 12, 2018, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had received the country's first IWT containerised cargo that reached Varanasi from Kolkata.

Kolkata-Patna is India's new IWT origin-destination

pair for containerised cargo movement on the National Waterway-1. Plans are at an advanced stage to operationalise Patna-Varanasi sector of NW-1 for container cargo movement. Container cargo transport comes with several inherent advantages. Even as it reduces the handling cost, allows easier modal shift, reduces pilferages and damage, it also enables cargo owners to reduce their carbon footprints.

The Ministry of Shipping is developing NW-1 (River Ganga) under Jal Marg Vikas Project (JMVP) from Haldia to Varanasi (1390 Km) with the technical and financial assistance of the World Bank at an estimated cost of Rs 5369 crore. The project would enable commercial navigation of vessels with capacity of 1500-2,000 DWT.

The movement will give a fillip to the region's growth and employment. According to the World Bank economic analysis, of the 1.5 lakh direct and indirect employment opportunities to be created due to interventions under JMVP, 50,000 will be in Bihar alone. ■

UPI transactions cross 500 million in November

Monthly transactions through the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) crossed the 500 million mark for the first time in November, data released by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) on 01 December, 2018 showed.

Under the UPI, 524.94 million transactions amounting to Rs 82,232.21 crore were carried out during the month, a 9% increase in transaction volume, compared with 482.36 million transactions worth Rs 74,978.27 crore in October.

In a move aimed at curbing fake transactions and regulating fintech companies from inflating their UPI numbers, the NPCI had asked banks to stop transactions originating from different UPI applications with the debit and the credit happening in the same account, from 01 August. In September, the monthly transactions through UPI had crossed 400 million for the first time. On 16 August, NPCI launched UPI 2.0,

an upgraded version of UPI, with several new features, including an overdraft facility enabling customers to link their overdraft accounts to the UPI. Also, a one-time feature allowing customers to pre-authorise a transaction and pay at a later date, and the invoice-in-the-box feature allowing customers to check the invoice sent by merchants before making a payment were introduced. The signed intent and QR feature enables customers to check the authenticity of merchants while scanning the QR codes.

Of the total UPI transactions in November, 17.35 million amounting to Rs 7,981.82 crore took place through the Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) platform. Transactions through the UPI received a major stimulus after Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the BHIM app on 30 December 2016. In the last one year, the monthly UPI transaction volume has gone up by more than 2,000%, according to NPCI data. ■

PM presents Nine Point Agenda to G-20 for Action against Fugitive Economic Offences and Asset Recovery



P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended G20 summit at Buenos Aires in Argentina. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressing the second session of the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires presented a nine-point agenda aimed to take action against fugitive economic offenders. “There is need to work together against financial fraudsters and fugitives. This problem may manifest as a serious threat to the global financial stability,” PM Shri Modi said. India also called for joint efforts by G-20 countries to form a mechanism that denies entry and safe havens to fugitive economic offenders.

NINE-POINT AGENDA

Cooperation in the legal processes such as effective freezing of the proceeds of crime; early return of the offenders and efficient repatriation of the proceeds of crime should be enhanced and streamlined.

Joint effort by G-20 countries to form a mechanism that denies entry and safe havens to all fugitive economic offenders.

Principles of United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNOTC),

RUSSIA-INDIA-CHINA TRILATERAL ON SIDELINES OF G20

On the sidelines of G20 summit, Prime Minister Modi, President Vladimir V Putin of Russian Federation and President Xi Jinping of the People’s Republic of China, held a Trilateral Meeting in Buenos Aires on November 30.

The three leaders exchanged views on expanding mutual cooperation in international forums, and to encourage greater interaction among the three countries. They agreed on the importance of reform and strengthening of multilateral institutions which have benefitted the world, including the United Nations, WTO and well-established as well as new global financial institutions. They underscored the benefits of a multilateral trading system and an open world economy for global growth and prosperity.

The three leaders also agreed to have regular consultations at all levels to jointly promote international and regional peace and stability, to strengthen cooperation through BRICS, SCO and EAS mechanisms, to address global challenges such as terrorism and climate change, and to encourage peaceful resolution of all differences.

The three leaders acknowledged the importance of cooperation in RIC format and have agreed to hold further such trilateral meetings on multilateral occasions.

especially related to “International Cooperation” should be fully and effectively implemented.

FATF should be called upon to assign priority and focus to establishing international co-operation that leads to timely and comprehensive exchange of

information between the competent authorities and FIUs.

FATF should be tasked to formulate a standard definition of fugitive economic offenders.

FATF should also develop a set of commonly agreed and standardized procedures related to identification, extradition and judicial proceedings for dealing with fugitive economic offenders to provide guidance and assistance to G-20 countries, subject

to their domestic law. Common platform should be set up for sharing experiences and best practices including successful cases of extradition, gaps in existing systems of extradition and legal assistance, etc.

G-20 Forum should consider initiating work on locating properties of economic offenders who have a tax debt in the country of their residence for its recovery. ■

VIJAY MALLYA'S EXTRADITION IS A MAJOR BOOST TO INDIAN AGENCIES

Vijay Mallya, wanted in India on charges of fraud and money laundering amounting to around Rs 9,000 crore, has been extradited by the the Westminster Magistrates' Court in London where his extradition case was heard on December 10.



Mallya's extradition comes just a week after AgustaWestland middleman Christian Michel was extradited by UAE. The Westminster Court has ordered his extradition in a major victory for Indian agencies.

UK court extradites Vijay Mallya to India came as a major boost to Indian investigating agencies probing Mallya's case.

The BJP National President Shri Amit Shah tweeted "Vijay Mallya's extradition is a very significant development in India's fight against corruption. The credit for

this goes entirely to Prime Minister @narendramodi, who ensured that the agencies were unrelenting in their pursuit of the man who had bled Indian banks and fled." ■

CHRISTIAN MICHEL, THE MIDDLEMAN IN THE VVIP CHOPPER BROUGHT TO INDIA

Christian Michel, the middleman in the VVIP chopper scam case, was brought to India by Modi government. India government won a politically significant extradition battle in Dubai.

According to report published in ET the Indian government, it may be noted, was never a party to the legal proceedings pending in the Dubai courts. However, CBI's special investigation team (SIT) probing the Agusta Westland case under special director Rakesh Asthana constantly supplied incriminating evidence" against Michel to Dubai prosecutors. This mechanism was established after



the Dubai authorities informed India in February 2017 that there was no evidence of a Dubai company facilitating the payment of kickback ■

“DREAM BIG AND ACHIEVE BIGGER SUCCESS”

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on November 25 addressed his the 50th episode of monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat' and discussed how the idea of the programme came into being. We are giving heighlights of the programme for our esteemed readers:

- On the 3rd of October, 2014, the pious occasion of Vijayadashmi, we embarked upon a journey together through the medium of 'Mann Ki Baat'. This journey has reached its 50th episode today. Thus, this Golden Jubilee Episode is indeed gilt-edged in every sense of the term. Your letters and phone calls this time pertain mostly to these 50 episodes. Anshu Kumar & Amar Kumar from Delhi on Mygov, Vikas Yadav from Patna; on similar lines Monica Jain from Delhi, Prosenjit Sarkar from Bardhaman, West Bengal and Sangeeta Shastri from Nagpur converge in asking a shared question. They are of the view that broadly speaking, their Prime Minister being associated with the latest in technology, Social Media and Mobile Apps; WHY did he choose radio as a medium to connect with his countrymen? Your curiosity is but natural; in this age when Radio was fading into oblivion, why did Modi opt for the airwaves? Let me quote an incident.

The year was 1998. I was then a party worker with the Bharatiya Janata Party organization in Himachal. It was the month of May; and I was travelling to a certain place. Evenings tend to get cold in the hilly terrain of Himachal Pradesh, and I stopped by at a wayside tea stall and placed an order for tea. It was a tiny joint; there was only one person who would make & serve tea. He was not even adequately clad; it was a standalone kiosk on the edge of the road.



He first picked up a Laddoo from a glass container, offered the sweetmeat to me & said, “Sir, eat this before the tea get ready”. I was taken aback and asked him “What is the matter? Is it in celebration of an occasion like a wedding?” He replied, “No brother, nothing like that! Don’t you know? It’s a momentous, joyous occasion”. On seeing his rather jubilant exuberance, I asked him, “But what exactly happened?” And he replied, “India has exploded the bomb today!” I exclaimed, “India has exploded the bomb! I don’t get it!” Said he “Sir, just listen

to the radio”. Indeed, that exactly was the topic of discussion on the radio. It was then that he elaborated on how on the day of the nuclear test, the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had announced to the Media and how he broke into a dance on listening to it on the radio. It was matter of great intrigue to me to see a lone tea seller in a remote, snow - clad hilly place, who possibly kept listening to the radio the entire day... watching that particular effect of the news on radio led me to realize & internalise that this was a medium that was truly connected with the masses... and that it was a mighty means of getting across.

- In terms of the reach & depth of communication, radio has been incomparable. I have been nursing that feeling ever since, acknowledging its power & strength. Hence when I became the Prime Minister, it was natural for me to turn towards a strong, effective medium. And in 2014, when I took charge as the Pradhan Sevak, Principal Servant, it was my wish to reach out to the masses with the glorious saga of our country’s unity, her grand history, her valour, India’s diversity, our cultural diversity, virtues embedded in

our society such as Purusharth, Tapasya, Passion & sacrifice; in a nutshell, the great story of India. From remote villages to Metro cities, from farmers to young professionals ... the array just prompted me to embark upon this journey of 'Mann Ki Baat'.

- Every month, we would read letters to the tune of lakhs, listen to phone calls, watch comments on the App & Mygov. Weaving a common thread comprising them all into a fabric of informal conversation, we have been able to travel together, over this rather long distance of 50 episodes. Recently, All India Radio got a survey done on 'Mann Ki Baat'. I came across some feedback that is very interesting. Out of the designated sample in the survey, 70% of respondents on an average happen to be listeners who regularly tune in to "Mann Ki Baat". Most people believe that the greatest contribution of 'Mann Ki Baat' has been the enhancement of a feeling of positivity in our society. The medium of 'Mann Ki Baat' has promoted many a mass revolution.

#indiapositive has been the subject of quite an extensive discussion. This is an exemplary glimpse of the feeling of positivity, innate to our countrymen. People have shared their experiences, conveying the rise of selfless volunteerism as a consequence of 'Mann Ki Baat'. It is a change where

people are increasingly willing to contribute for the sake of service to society. I am overjoyed on account of the fact that through 'Mann Ki Baat', radio is rising as a popular medium, more than ever before. But it's not about just radio... people are connecting with this programme and ensuring their participation through T.V., FM Radio, Mobile, Internet, Facebook Live; along with periscope, through the NarendraModiApp too. I express my gratitude to the entire family of 'Mann Ki Baat' for being a part of it & trusting it wholeheartedly.

- Who would have imagined that a small campaign "selfie with daughter" starting from a small village in Haryana would spread not only throughout the country but also across other countries as well. Every section of the society including celebrities joined in to ignite a process of transformation in a new modern

language of change that the present generation understands and follows.

- The government has made a very important decision - that of opening Kartarpur Corridor, so that people of our nation can easily go to Kartarpur in Pakistan and visit the sacred place of Guru Nanak Dev.

- Today's youths have this special quality that they won't do anything which they do not believe themselves and whenever they believe in something, they follow that leaving everything else. People generally talk of a communication gap between the elders and teenagers in the family. In fact, the scope of discussion with teenagers is quite limited in most of the families. Most of the time these talks remain limited to studies, habits or life style and the "do's" and "don'ts". An open discussion without any expectations is gradually on the decline and this too is a matter of concern.

- It is good as it shows that they want to analyse everything from its very root. Some people say that the youth do not have patience but my belief is that the youth do not have any time to waste- this is the point which helps the present day youth become more innovative because they want to accomplish

The government has made a very important decision - that of opening Kartarpur Corridor, so that people of our nation can easily go to Kartarpur in Pakistan and visit the sacred place of Guru Nanak Dev.

things quickly. We feel that the youths are very ambitious today and they plan big. I feel it is good, dream big and achieve bigger successes; after all, this is "the New India". Some people say that the younger generation wants to accomplish a many things at a time. I say what is wrong in it. They do so because they are adept in multitasking. If we just look around, we find that it is the youth who are bringing in transformation of society in a big way, may it be social entrepreneurship, start-ups, sports or any other field. Those youth who have dared to ask questions and have had the courage to dream big. If we put these ideas of our youth into practice and provide them conducive environment to express themselves, they surely will bring about a constructive and a positive change in the country- they are already doing so. ■



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

SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS



Name :

Address :

Pin :

Phone : Mobile : (1)..... (2).....

E-mail :

SUBSCRIPTION TYPE	One Year	₹350/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Life Time (English or Hindi)	₹3000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Three Years	₹1000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>	Life Time (English+Hindi)	₹5000/-	<input type="checkbox"/>

(DETAIL OF THE PAYMENT)

Cheque/Draft No. : Date : Bank :

Note : * DD/Cheque will be made in favour of "Kamal Sandesh"
* Money order and Cash accepted with details

(Subscriber's Signature)



SEND YOUR DD/CHEQUE ON THIS ADDRESS
Dr. Mookerji Smruti Nyas, PP-66, Subramania Bharati Marg, New Delhi-110003
Ph.: 011-23381428 Fax: 011-23387887 E-mail: kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in

KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE



The PM Shri Narendra Modi attending the Guru Nanak Jayanti celebration in New Delhi



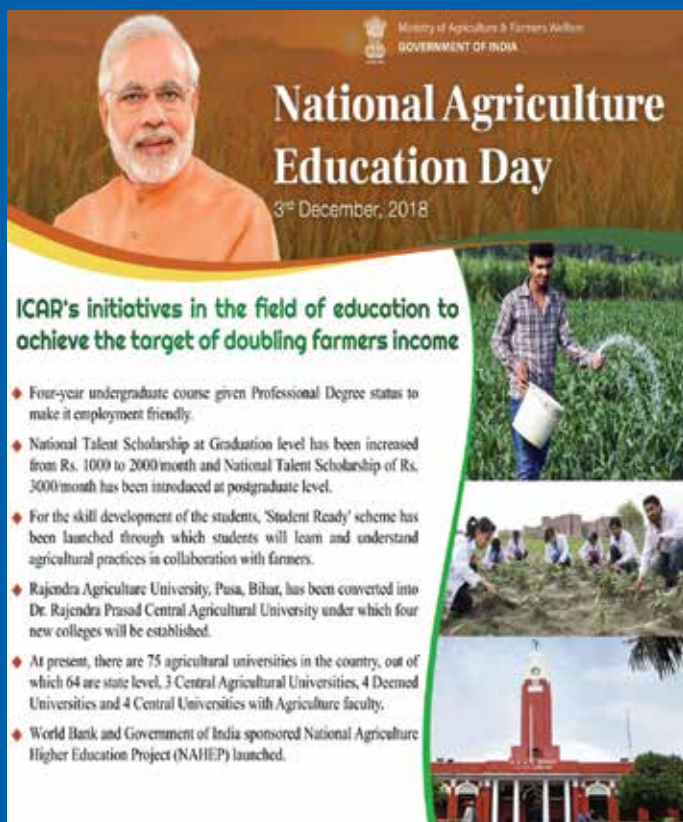
PM Shri Narendra Modi paying homage to Bodhisatva Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on his 63rd Mahaparinirvan Diwas, at Parliament House Complex, New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi meeting the President of European Commission, Mr. Jean-Claude Juncker and the President of European Council, Mr. Donald Tusk at the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires, Argentina



PM Shri Narendra Modi in a family photograph with other Leaders of the G-20 Nations in Buenos Aires, Argentina



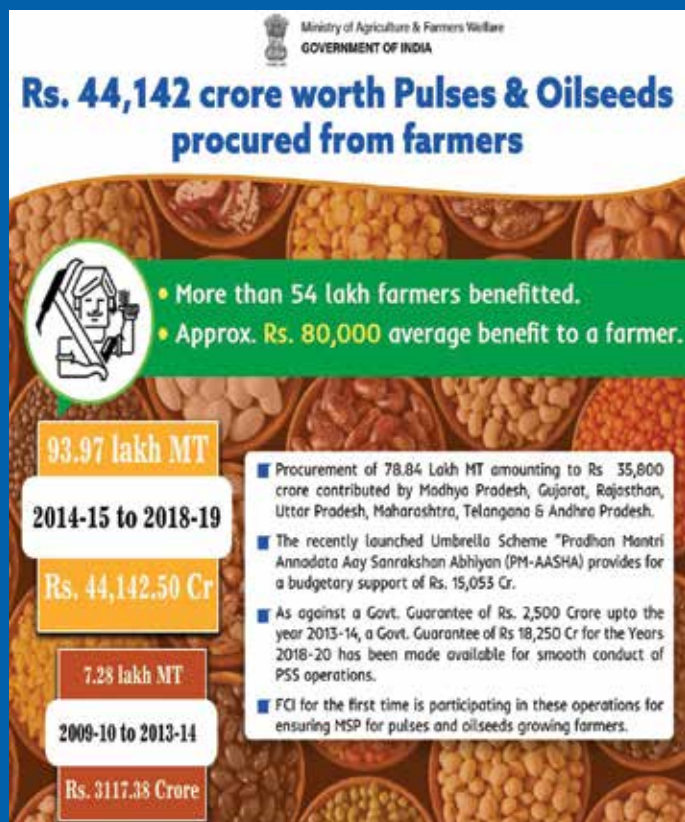
Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
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National Agriculture Education Day

3rd December, 2018

ICAR's initiatives in the field of education to achieve the target of doubling farmers income

- Four-year undergraduate course given Professional Degree status to make it employment friendly.
- National Talent Scholarship at Graduation level has been increased from Rs. 1000 to 2000/month and National Talent Scholarship of Rs. 3000/month has been introduced at postgraduate level.
- For the skill development of the students, 'Student Ready' scheme has been launched through which students will learn and understand agricultural practices in collaboration with farmers.
- Rajendra Agriculture University, Pusa, Bihar, has been converted into Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University under which four new colleges will be established.
- At present, there are 75 agricultural universities in the country, out of which 64 are state level, 3 Central Agricultural Universities, 4 Deemed Universities and 4 Central Universities with Agriculture faculty.
- World Bank and Government of India sponsored National Agriculture Higher Education Project (NAHEP) launched.



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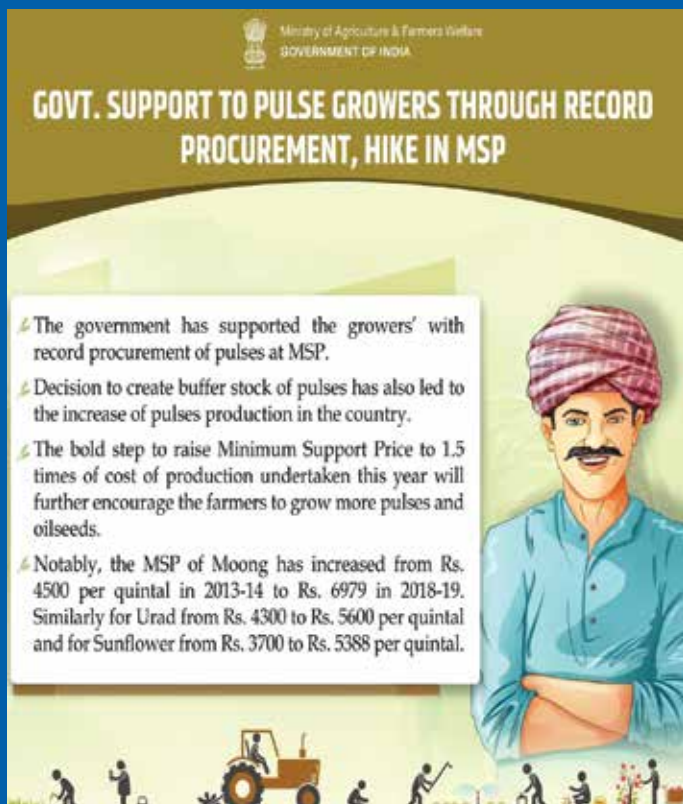
Rs. 44,142 crore worth Pulses & Oilseeds procured from farmers

- More than 54 lakh farmers benefitted.
- Approx. Rs. 80,000 average benefit to a farmer.

93.97 lakh MT
 2014-15 to 2018-19
Rs. 44,142.50 Cr

7.28 lakh MT
 2009-10 to 2013-14
Rs. 3117.35 Crore

- Procurement of 78.84 Lakh MT amounting to Rs. 35,800 crore contributed by Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana & Andhra Pradesh.
- The recently launched Umbrella Scheme "Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) provides for a budgetary support of Rs. 15,053 Cr.
- As against a Govt. Guarantee of Rs. 2,500 Crore upto the year 2013-14, a Govt. Guarantee of Rs 18,250 Cr for the Years 2018-20 has been made available for smooth conduct of PSS operations.
- FCI for the first time is participating in these operations for ensuring MSP for pulses and oilseeds growing farmers.



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GOVT. SUPPORT TO PULSE GROWERS THROUGH RECORD PROCUREMENT, HIKE IN MSP

- The government has supported the growers' with record procurement of pulses at MSP.
- Decision to create buffer stock of pulses has also led to the increase of pulses production in the country.
- The bold step to raise Minimum Support Price to 1.5 times of cost of production undertaken this year will further encourage the farmers to grow more pulses and oilseeds.
- Notably, the MSP of Moong has increased from Rs. 4500 per quintal in 2013-14 to Rs. 6979 in 2018-19. Similarly for Urad from Rs. 4300 to Rs. 5600 per quintal and for Sunflower from Rs. 3700 to Rs. 5388 per quintal.



Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

WORLD SOIL DAY

DECEMBER 5, 2018

SOIL HEALTH CARD
 REDUCES COST, INCREASES PRODUCTION

HIGHLIGHTS

- Soil Health Card Scheme (SHC), first-ever initiative by the Government to improve soil fertility.
- SHC has brought about a revolutionary change in the agrarian sector by providing information about soil fertility to farmers.
- By use of SHCs, fertilizers are used prudently enabling farmers to reap maximum production at low cost.
- As per NPC study (2016-17) consumption of fertilizers decreased by 8 to 10 percent and production increased by 10 to 12 percent by adopting SHC recommendations.
- 17.35 crore SHCs distributed to farmers so far. 10.73 crore in cycle-I (2015-17) and 6.62 crore in cycle-II (2017-19).
- During 2014-18, 9253 soil-testing laboratories were sanctioned as compared to 43 labs during 2010-14.