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₹20



'RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY IN JAMMU
AND KASHMIR IS THE TOP PRIORITY'

सदस्यता अभियान-2019

शुभारम्भ



PM LAUNCHES 'BJP MEMBERSHIP DRIVE'

GIVE A MISSED CALL ON 8980808080

FOR #BJPMEMBERSHIP



BJP National President and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah addressing a gathering of Karyakartas after launching BJP Membership Drive in Telangana



BJP National President and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah along with other leaders planting a Peepal sapling in Rangareddy, Telangana



BJP National President and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah paying tributes to Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his jayanti



BJP National Working President Shri JP Nadda being welcomed by BJP Karyakartas after his arrival in Varanasi, UP



BJP National Vice President and National Membership Pramukh Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan, BJP National General Secretary Shri Ramlal and other senior leaders of the party launching the BJP Membership Drive in Delhi



Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways and MSME Shri Nitin Gadkari initiating the BJP Membership Drive from Nagpur, Maharashtra

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BUDGET LAID FOUNDATION TO BUILD INDIA A \$5 TRILLION ECONOMY



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twitter

@narendramodi



The @DigitalIndia initiative is a people's movement, powered by people's strength and their efforts to learn as well as innovate. I salute all those assiduously working to strengthen Digital India and wish them the very best for their future efforts. #DigitalIndiaNewIndia.

@nitin_gadkari

The promotion of electric vehicles and allied infrastructure is set to transform the economy and logistic sector. It is one of the biggest step to curb pollution and move towards sustainable development.#BudgetForNewIndia.



@DrRPNishank



New National Educational Policy to be brought in to transform Indian educational system; major changes in higher as well as school system to be brought.

facebook

The #BudgetForNewIndia clearly reflects PM @narendramodi's vision for India's development, where the farmers prosper, poor lead a life of dignity, the middle class get the due for their hardwork and Indian enterprise gets a boost. This is truly a budget of hope and empowerment. — **Amit Shah**



Under the visionary leadership of Hon. PM Sh @narendramodi Ji, India is now producing the world's cheapest solar power. The costs of building large-scale solar installations in India fell by 27% year-on-year. — **Jagat Prakash Nadda**



For the welfare of SC, ST, Women, Children, and North East region huge allocations made in the Budget 2019-20. — **Nirmala Sitharaman**



Connectivity is the life-blood of our economy. The Government has given a massive push to all forms of physical connectivity. — **Piyush Goyal**



Courtesy: Social Media



KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR
wishes a very happy
GURU PURNIMA (16 JULY)
to all of its readers

INDIA TO BECOME A 5 TRILLION ECONOMY

The first budget of the second Modi government can be rightly said to be representing Aasha, Vishwas and Aakansha of the entire nation. As the Prime Minister had said that the mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' should be reinforced with the commitment to win 'Sabka Vishwaas', budget shows an inclusive and futuristic approach in taking India to newer heights. The hope and trust of the nation reposed on Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi through a massive mandate is also fuelled by an aspirational India which want to see new dreams and work tirelessly to realise them. As Prime Minister had said that he dedicated his last five years in addressing the basic needs of the people, the next five years will cater to the aspirations of the nation, the budget takes that commitment forward in meeting the expectations of every section of the people in all walks of life. The Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman should be congratulated for presenting a 'citizen, development friendly, future oriented and a budget for new India' in the words of the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The budget has come out as a comprehensive, inclusive and visionary document for achieving the target of making India a 5 trillion economy in the coming years.

AS PRIME MINISTER HAD SAID THAT HE DEDICATED HIS LAST FIVE YEARS IN ADDRESSING THE BASIC NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE, THE NEXT FIVE YEARS WILL CATER TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE NATION, THE BUDGET TAKES THAT COMMITMENT FORWARD IN MEETING THE EXPECTATIONS OF EVERY SECTION OF THE PEOPLE IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE.

The budget departs from being a conventional document submerged in a plethora of data to the one expounding a new path of development while meeting emerging challenges on almost all fronts. While it has reinforced government's focus on MSMEs, Start-Ups and Make in India in all crucial sectors, it has further strengthened its resolve on health and wellness of the people particularly focussing the women and children in pursuance of its goal to achieve a healthy society. It has also aimed to make our farmers exporters by focussing on self sufficiency and export of food grains, pulses, oilseeds, fruits and vegetables. The other most striking feature of the budget is its commitment towards a pollution free India by achieving green Mother Earth and blue skies. The cleaning of rivers and water management are also supposed to take India towards a new future wherein scarcity of clean water can be addressed through integrated approach. Apart from its continued focus on quality infrastructure, the emphasis on Digital economy and launching of Gaganyaan, Chandrayan and other satellites shows commitment towards building an India of future which can lead the world in the field of science and technology. In addition to all these innovative measures, the emphasis on people's participation in line with the mantra of 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance' has made this budget adhere to the democratic principle of governance.

While charting a course for the future, the budget seeks to build on the gains from the last five budgets of the first tenure of the Modi government. It has further strengthened the approach towards, simplification of tax structure, modernization of infrastructure, enhancing people's participation, making the system more transparent and accountable

and keeping focus on the poor, exploited and deprived sections of the society. BJP National President Shri Amit Shah has rightly said, "In the last five years, our government took various steps to empower farmers, poor people, Dalits and others. In the next five years, this empowerment will now make them the country's powerhouse. The country will get the energy of becoming the 5 trillion economy through this powerhouse." As India is scaling new heights under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the emphasis on the mantra of 'Antyodaya' has made the BJP realise its dream of emancipating the poorest of the poor by empowering them through various means. The successive budgets of the Modi government has made this happen as per the commitment of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to the poor, deprived and exploited sections of the society. As people in India look forward for a New India, the budget meets the expectations of the nation in making India a 5 trillion economy. ■

 shivshakti@kamalsandesh.org



BUDGET LAID FOUNDATION INDIA A \$5 TRILLION



ON TO BUILD ECONOMY

Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman presented her maiden Union Budget (Bahi-Khata) of Modi government 2.0 on 05 July, 2019 before the Parliament for the financial year 2019-20 and laid the foundation to build India a \$5 trillion economy in the next few years.

Amid an expectation of strong economy, developed rural India and huge employment, a big package for infrastructure will certainly prove to be a shot in the arm. At the same time, the proposal to reduce the fiscal deficit to 3.3 percent of GDP from 3.4 percent is a welcome move.

The Union Budget for financial year 2019-20 was clearly a strategic budget with the emphasis placed on maintaining the long-term goals of fiscal consolidation and infrastructure creation.

The Budget also had plenty for the markets. Moves such as government's commitment to restrict fiscal deficit to 3.3 percent of GDP, opting for partial external borrowings, divesting stake in PSUs and recapitalizing PSU banks are some of the major steps for the market. The progressive and inclusive intent of the government is quite heartening and the roadmap turning India into a \$5 trillion economy in next few years looks promising.

FM DISCARDS BRIEFCASE, CARRIES 'BAHI-KHATA'

In a departure from the past, India's first full-time woman Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman carried the Union Budget documents in a red bag, reminiscence of the traditional 'Bahi-Khata'. Earlier, finance ministers in different governments used to carry a briefcase to present budget, which was considered as a tradition of colonial past.

During the Atal Behari Vajpayee Government, the then Finance Minister broke the one colonial tradition of budget presentation at 5 pm. Since then all governments have been presenting the budget at 11 am.

'INDIA SET TO REACH \$3 TRN ECO THIS FISCAL; NEED STRUCTURAL REFORMS TO BE \$5 TRN'

India is set to become USD 3 trillion economy in the current fiscal, and structural reforms are needed to reach USD 5 trillion in next few years, Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said in the Union Budget 2019-20.

She said the Indian economy, which stood at USD 1.85 trillion five years back, has reached USD 2.7 trillion now, and is within capacity to reach USD 5 trillion in the next few years. "The Indian economy will grow to become a 3 trillion dollar economy in the current year. It is now the sixth largest in the world. Five years ago, it was at the 11th position. In Purchasing Power Parity terms, we are in fact, the 3rd largest economy already, only next to China and the USA.

To attain USD 5 trillion economy and more, India needs to continue undertaking many structural reforms, She said in her first ever Budget presentation.

The Finance Minister said the government in the last five years brought about many big reforms in particular, in indirect taxation, bankruptcy and real estate.

"While these reforms were happening here in the Parliament, the common man's life was being changed through Mudra loans to help him do his business, and through several programmes it was being ensured that his/her kitchen become smokeless, his/her house got electricity connection and women's dignity was respected with the provision of toilets in homes," she said.

The common man was served even as major transformational reforms were being rolled out. "And for this to continue, we need to invest heavily in

infrastructure, in digital economy and on job creation in small and medium firms.

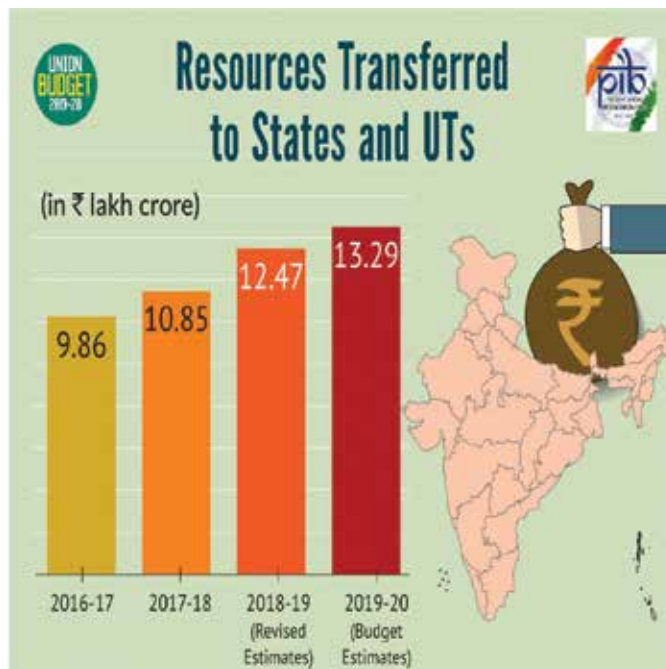
"It took over 55 years for the Indian economy to reach 1 trillion dollar but when the country and her people's hearts are filled with *Aasha*, *Vishwas* and *Aakansha* that is, when hearts are filled with hope, trust and aspirations, we, in 5 years, added 1 trillion dollar. Today we are nearing a 3 trillion dollar level," she said.

The minister said the target of reaching a USD 5 trillion economy is eminently achievable on the back of hard labour of the people of the country. "...Their goals of human pursuit filled with their inherent desire to progress led by the dedicated leadership present in this House, the target is eminently achievable," she said.

She also recognized that India's private sector industries, be it small, medium or large, have played a substantial role in growing the economy. "I recall the words of an eminent industry leader, who said that his company's growth has always aligned itself with India's growth, before and post-independence. So if before-independence, India Inc understood 'Swadeshi', today they understand 'Make in India'. "We do not look down upon legitimate profit-earning. Gone are

the days of policy paralysis and license-quota-control regimes. India Inc is India's job-creator. They are the nation's wealth-creators," Smt. Sitharaman said.

The minister said, together, with mutual trust, India can gain, catalyze fast and attain sustained national growth. "I wish to propose a number of initiatives as part of a framework for kick-starting the virtuous cycle of domestic and foreign investments," she said in her speech.



CITIZEN, DEVELOPMENT FRIENDLY, FUTURE ORIENTED AND BUDGET FOR 'NEW INDIA': PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi described the Union Budget as citizen friendly, development friendly and future oriented, and one which will empower the poor and provide better future to the youth.

Shri Modi said the first Budget of his second term is for a "New India".

Terming the Budget a "green budget", he said it focuses on the environment and pitches for green and clean energy. In a televised address after the Union Budget was tabled in Parliament, Shri Modi said the policies of the government will empower the downtrodden and turn them into a power house for the development of the country.

He said, "I want to congratulate Nirmala Sitharaman for the citizen-friendly, development-friendly and future-oriented Budget. It will make the nation *Samruth* and make the people *Samarth*".

"With this Budget, the poor will be strengthened and youth will get a better tomorrow. The middle class will progress with this Budget and development work will expedite even more. The tax structure will be simplified and infrastructure will modernize. In the last five years, the country has left behind the atmosphere of depression. It has come out of that atmosphere. Today, it is filled with confidence... Today, in people's lives, there are new desires and many expectations. This Budget is giving an assurance to the nation, that these [desires and expectations] can be fulfilled. This is a Budget of hope



and expectations," he stated.

The Budget would boost the country's development in the 21st century. It had a road map to transform the agriculture sector. It would help in fulfilling the commitments made for the 75th Independence Day in 2022. It had outlined new initiatives for structural reforms in the agriculture sector by investing in rural infrastructure and opportunities for jobs in villages, he stressed.

"In the last five years, our government took various steps to empower farmers, poor people, Dalits and others. In the next five years, this empowerment will now make them the country's powerhouse. The country will get the energy of becoming the \$5 trillion economy through this powerhouse," he observed.

Here we are presenting the key highlights of the Union Budget 2019-20 for the benefit of our esteemed readers:

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF UNION BUDGET 2019-20

10-POINT VISION FOR THE DECADE

- Building Team India with Jan Bhagidari: Minimum Government Maximum Governance.
- Achieving green Mother Earth and Blue Skies through a pollution-free India.
- Making Digital India reach every sector of the economy.

- Launching Gaganyaan, Chandrayan, other Space and Satellite programmes.
- Building physical and social infrastructure.
- Water, water management, clean rivers.
- Blue Economy.
- Self-sufficiency and export of food-grains, pulses, oilseeds, fruits and vegetables.
- Achieving a healthy society via Ayushman Bharat, well-nourished women & children, safety of citizens.
- Emphasis on MSMEs, Start-ups, defence manufacturing, automobiles, electronics, fabs and batteries, and medical devices under Make in India.

BUDGET FUTURISTIC, IGNITES SPIRIT OF HOPE FOR INDIA TO BE USD 5 TRILLION ECONOMY: AMIT SHAH



Praising the Union Budget as futuristic, BJP National President and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said it reflects Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision where farmers prosper, the poor lead a life of dignity, the middle class gets its due and Indian enterprise a boost.

Shri Shah said the budget highlights the "exemplary" work done in key sectors relating to the economy, housing, infrastructure and the social sectors over the last five years. It ignites a spirit of hope that India can become a USD 5 trillion economy in the coming years, he said.

"The budget presented by Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman is a futuristic one. It provides a coherent roadmap for sectors that will drive growth and innovation among our citizens. The emphasis on clean energy and cashless transactions are also steps in the right direction," he said in a series of tweets.

It also sets the stage for fulfilling our collective dreams of water for every citizen, ensuring electricity connectivity across India and boosting manufacturing especially in sunrise sectors, Shri Amit Shah said, adding that the budget will enable India to become a more vibrant start-up hub. "The budget for new India clearly reflects PM Shri Narendra Modi's vision for India's development, where the farmers prosper, poor lead a life of dignity, the middle class get the due for their hardwork and Indian enterprise gets a boost. This is truly a budget of hope and empowerment," he said.

TOWARDS A 5 TRILLION DOLLAR ECONOMY

- "People's hearts filled with Aasha (Hope), Vishwas (Trust), Aakansha (Aspirations)", says FM.
- Indian economy to become a 3 trillion dollar economy in the current year.
- Government aspires to make India a 5 trillion dollar economy.
- "India Inc. are India's job-creators and nation's wealth-creators", says FM.
- Need for investment in:
 - o Infrastructure.
 - o Digital economy.
 - o Job creation in small and medium firms.
- Initiatives to be proposed for kick-starting the virtuous cycle of investments.
- Common man's life changed through MUDRA loans for ease of doing business.
- Measures related to MSMEs:
 - o Pradhan Mantri Karam Yogi Maandhan Scheme
 - o Pension benefits to about three crore retail traders & small shopkeepers with annual turnover less than Rs. 1.5 crore.
 - o Enrolment to be kept simple, requiring only Aadhaar, bank account and a self-declaration.
 - o Rs. 350 crore allocated for FY 2019-20 for 2% interest subvention (on fresh or incremental loans) to all GST-registered MSMEs, under the Interest Subvention Scheme for MSMEs.
 - o Payment platform for MSMEs to be created to enable filing of bills and payment thereof, to eliminate delays in government payments.
- India's first indigenously developed payment ecosystem for transport, based on National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) standards, launched in March 2019.
- Inter-operable transport card runs on RuPay card and would allow the holders to pay for bus travel, toll taxes, parking charges, retail shopping.
- Massive push given to all forms of physical connectivity through:
 - o Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana.
 - o Industrial Corridors, Dedicated Freight Corridors.
 - o Bharatmala and Sagarmala projects, Jal Marg Vikas and UDAN Schemes.
- State road networks to be developed in second phase of Bharatmala project.
- Navigational capacity of Ganga to be enhanced

via multi modal terminals at Sahibganj and Haldia and a navigational lock at Farakka by 2019-20, under Jal Marg Vikas Project.

- Four times increase in next four years estimated in the cargo volume on Ganga, leading to cheaper freight and passenger movement and reducing the import bill.
- Rs. 50 lakh crore investment needed in Railway Infrastructure during 2018-2030.
- Public-Private-Partnership proposed for development and completion of tracks, rolling stock manufacturing and delivery of passenger freight services.
- 657 kilometers of Metro Rail network has become operational across the country.
- Policy interventions to be made for the development of Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO), to achieve self-reliance in aviation segment.
- Regulatory roadmap for making India a hub for aircraft financing and leasing activities from Indian shores, to be laid by the Government.
- Outlay of Rs. 10,000 crore for 3 years approved for Phase-II of FAME Scheme.
- Upfront incentive proposed on purchase and charging infrastructure, to encourage faster adoption of Electric Vehicles.
- Only advanced-battery-operated and registered e-vehicles to be incentivized under FAME Scheme.
- National Highway Programme to be restructured to ensure a National Highway Grid, using a financeable model.
- Power at affordable rates to states ensured under 'One Nation, One Grid'.
- Blueprints to be made available for gas grids, water grids, i-ways, and regional airports.
- High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC) recommendations to be implemented:
 - o Retirement of old & inefficient plants.
 - o Addressing low utilization of gas plant capacity due to paucity of Natural Gas.
- Cross subsidy surcharges, undesirable duties on open access sales or captive generation for industrial and other bulk power consumers to be removed under Ujjwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY).
- Package of power sector tariff and structural reforms to be announced soon.



Jagat Prakash Nadra @JPNadra

भारत के सर्वांगीण विकास में समाज के सभी वर्गों की भागीदारी को सुनिश्चित करने वाले तथा 'नए भारत' के सपने को साकार करने वाले इस ऐतिहासिक समावेशी #BudgetForNewIndia के लिए मैं आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री @narendramodi जी एवं वित्त मंत्री @nsitharaman जी को हृदय से बधाई देता हूँ।



- Reform measures to be taken up to promote rental housing.
- Model Tenancy Law to be finalized and circulated to the states.
- Joint development and concession mechanisms to be used for public infrastructure and affordable housing on land parcels held by the Central Government and CPSEs.
- Measures to enhance the sources of capital for infrastructure financing:
 - o Credit Guarantee Enhancement Corporation to be set up in 2019-2020.
 - o Action plan to be put in place to deepen the market for long term bonds with focus on infrastructure.
 - o Proposed transfer/sale of investments by FII/FPIs (in debt securities issued by IDF-NBFCs) to any domestic investor within the specified lock-in period.
- Measures to deepen bond markets:
 - o Stock exchanges to be enabled to allow AA rated bonds as collaterals.
 - o User-friendliness of trading platforms for corporate bonds to be reviewed.
- Social stock exchange:
 - o Electronic fund raising platform under the regulatory ambit of SEBI.
 - o Listing social enterprises and voluntary organizations.
 - o To raise capital as equity, debt or as units like a mutual fund.
- SEBI to consider raising the threshold for minimum public shareholding in the listed companies from 25% to 35%.
- Know Your Customer (KYC) norms for Foreign Portfolio Investors to be made more investor friendly.
- Government to supplement efforts by RBI to get retail investors to invest in government treasury

bills and securities, with further institutional development using stock exchanges.

- Measures to make India a more attractive FDI destination:
 - FDI in sectors like aviation, media (animation, AVGC) and insurance sectors can be opened further after multi-stakeholder examination.
 - Insurance Intermediaries to get 100% FDI.
 - Local sourcing norms to be eased for FDI in Single Brand Retail sector.
- Government to organize an annual Global Investors Meet in India, using National Infrastructure Investment Fund (NIIF) as an anchor to get all three sets of global players (pension, insurance and sovereign wealth funds).
- Statutory limit for FPI investment in a company is proposed to be increased from 24% to sectoral foreign investment limit. Option to be given to the concerned corporate to limit it to a lower threshold.
- FPIs to be permitted to subscribe to listed debt securities issued by REITs and InvITs.
- NRI-Portfolio Investment Scheme Route is proposed to be merged with the Foreign Portfolio Investment Route.
- Cumulative resources garnered through new financial instruments like Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs), Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) as well as models like Toll-Operate-Transfer (ToT) exceed Rs. 24,000 crore.
- New Space India Limited (NSIL), a PSE, incorporated as a new commercial arm of Department of Space.
- To tap the benefits of the Research & Development carried out by ISRO like commercialization of products like launch vehicles, transfer to technologies and marketing of space products.

DIRECT TAXES

- Tax rate reduced to 25% for companies with annual turnover up to Rs. 400 crore
- Surcharge increased on individuals having taxable income from Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 5 crore and Rs. 5 crore and above.
- India's Ease of Doing Business ranking under the category of 'paying taxes' jumped from 172 in 2017 to 121 in the 2019.
- Direct tax revenue increased by over 78% in past 5

years to Rs. 11.37 lakh crore

- Tax Simplification and Ease of living - making compliance easier by leveraging technology:
- Interchangeability of PAN and Aadhaar
 - Those who don't have PAN can file tax returns using Aadhaar.
 - Aadhaar can be used wherever PAN is required.
- Pre-filing of Income-tax Returns for faster, more accurate tax returns
 - Pre-filled tax returns with details of several incomes and deductions to be made available.
 - Information to be collected from Banks, Stock exchanges, mutual funds etc.
- Faceless e-assessment
 - Faceless e-assessment with no human interface to be launched.
 - To be carried out initially in cases requiring verification of certain specified transactions or discrepancies.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- Additional deduction up to Rs. 1.5 lakhs for interest paid on loans borrowed up to 31st March, 2020 for purchase of house valued up to Rs. 45 lakh.
 - Overall benefit of around Rs. 7 lakh over loan period of 15 years.

BOOST TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES

- Additional income tax deduction of Rs. 1.5 lakh on interest paid on electric vehicle loans.
- Customs duty exempted on certain parts of electric vehicles.

OTHER DIRECT TAX MEASURES

- Simplification of tax laws to reduce genuine hardships of taxpayers:
 - Higher tax threshold for launching prosecution for non-filing of returns
 - Appropriate class of persons exempted from the anti-abuse provisions of Section 50CA and Section 56 of the Income Tax Act.

RELIEF FOR START-UPS

- Capital gains exemptions from sale of residential house for investment in start-ups extended till FY21.
- 'Angel tax' issue resolved- start-ups and investors

RS 1.5 LAKH MORE TAX DEDUCTION TO MAKE HOUSES AFFORDABLE

In a big relief to homebuyers and boost the affordable housing segment, the Narendra Modi Government 2.0 in its Budget 2019-20 on 05 July, 2019 announced an additional tax deduction of Rs 1.50 lakh on interest paid on home loans taken up to March 31, 2020. This will raise the tax deduction limit to Rs 3.5 lakh and will be applicable on interest paid on housing loan (having carpet area of up to 60 sqm in metros and 90 sqm in non-metros and having value up to Rs 45 lakh).

This will translate into a benefit of around 7 lakh to the middle class homebuyers over their loan period of 15 years. The Centre is also working on a model tenancy law to do away with tenancy troubles across the country. The model tenancy law will be soon circulated to the States for their comments.

filing requisite declarations and providing information in their returns not to be subjected to any kind of scrutiny in respect of valuations of share premiums.

- Funds raised by start-ups to not require scrutiny from Income Tax Department
 - E-verification mechanism for establishing identity of the investor and source of funds.
- Special administrative arrangements for pending assessments and grievance redressal
 - No inquiry in such cases by the Assessing Officer without obtaining approval of the supervisory officer.
- No scrutiny of valuation of shares issued to Category-II Alternative Investment Funds.
- Relaxation of conditions for carry forward and set off of losses.

NBFCs

- Interest on certain bad or doubtful debts by deposit taking as well as systemically important non-deposit taking NBFCs to be taxed in the year in which interest is actually received.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SERVICES CENTRE (IFSC)

- Direct tax incentives proposed for an IFSC:
 - 100 % profit-linked deduction in any ten-year block within a fifteen-year period.
 - Exemption from dividend distribution tax from current and accumulated income to companies and mutual funds.
 - Exemptions on capital gain to Category-III Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs).
 - Exemption to interest payment on loan taken from non-residents.
- Securities Transaction Tax (STT)
- STT restricted only to the difference between settlement and strike price in case of exercise of options.

INDIRECT TAXES

MAKE IN INDIA

- Basic Customs Duty increased on cashew kernels, PVC, tiles, auto parts, marble slabs, optical fibre cable, CCTV camera etc.
- Exemptions from Custom Duty on certain electronic items now manufactured in India withdrawn.
- End use based exemptions on palm stearin, fatty oils withdrawn.
- Exemptions to various kinds of papers withdrawn.
- 5% Basic Custom Duty imposed on imported books.
- Customs duty reduced on certain raw materials such as:
 - Inputs for artificial kidney and disposable sterilised dialyser and fuels for nuclear power plants etc.
 - Capital goods required for manufacture of specified electronic goods.

DEFENCE

- Defence equipment not manufactured in India exempted from basic customs duty
- Other Indirect Tax provisions
- Export duty rationalised on raw and semi-finished leather
- Increase in Special Additional Excise Duty and Road and Infrastructure Cess each by Rs. 1 per litre on petrol and diesel
- Custom duty on gold and other precious metals

increased

- Legacy Dispute Resolution Scheme for quick closure of pending litigations in Central Excise and Service tax from pre-GST regime

GRAMEEN BHARAT / RURAL INDIA

- Ujjwala Yojana and Saubhagya Yojana have transformed the lives of every rural family, dramatically improving ease of their living.
- Electricity and clean cooking facility to all willing rural families by 2022.
- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) aims to achieve “Housing for All” by 2022:
 - Eligible beneficiaries to be provided 1.95 crore houses with amenities like toilets, electricity and LPG connections during its second phase (2019-20 to 2021-22).
- Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)
 - A robust fisheries management framework through PMMSY to be established by the Department of Fisheries.
 - To address critical gaps in the value chain including infrastructure, modernization, traceability, production, productivity, post-harvest management, and quality control.
- Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)
 - Target of connecting the eligible and feasible habitations advanced from 2022 to 2019 with 97% of such habitations already being provided with all weather connectivity.
 - 30,000 kilometers of PMGSY roads have been built using Green Technology, Waste Plastic and Cold Mix Technology, thereby reducing carbon footprint.
 - 1,25,000 kilometers of road length to be upgraded over the next five years under PMGSY III with an estimated cost of Rs. 80,250 crore.
- Scheme of Fund for Upgradation and Regeneration of Traditional Industries’ (SFURTI)
 - Common Facility Centres (CFCs) to be setup to facilitate cluster based development for making traditional industries more productive, profitable and capable for generating sustained employment opportunities.
 - 100 new clusters to be setup during 2019-20 with special focus on Bamboo, Honey and Khadi, enabling 50,000 artisans to join the economic

RS 3.18 LAKH CRORE ALLOCATED TO DEFENCE BUDGET

An allocation of Rs 3.18 lakh crore was made in the Union Budget to the defence sector for 2019-20 as against last year’s Rs 2.98 lakh crore. Out of the total allocation, Rs 1,08,248 crore has been set aside for capital outlay to purchase new weapons, platforms and military hardware. The revenue expenditure which includes expenses on payment of salaries and maintenance of establishments has been pegged at Rs 2,10,682 crore as against Rs 1,88,118 crore for 2018-19.

The outlay for defence sector almost remained unchanged compared to what was allocated in the interim budget on February 01. The allocation of Rs 3,18,931 represents a growth of 7.93 per cent over budget estimates of Rs 2.95 lakh crore and 6.87 per cent over revised estimates Rs 2.98 lakh crore respectively for 2018-19, according to Defence Ministry office.

value chain.

- Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industry and Entrepreneurship’ (ASPIRE) consolidated.
 - 80 Livelihood Business Incubators (LBIs) and 20 Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) to be setup in 2019-20.
 - 75,000 entrepreneurs to be skilled in agro-rural industry sectors.
- Private entrepreneurs to be supported in driving value-addition to farmers’ produce from the field and for those from allied activities.
- Dairying through cooperatives to be encouraged by creating infrastructure for cattle feed manufacturing, milk procurement, processing & marketing.
- 10,000 new Farmer Producer Organizations to be formed, to ensure economies of scale for farmers.
- Government to work with State Governments to allow farmers to benefit from e-NAM.
- Zero Budget Farming in which few states’ farmers are already being trained to be replicated in other states.
- India’s water security
 - New Jal Shakti Mantralaya to look at the management of our water resources and water

- supply in an integrated and holistic manner
- o Jal Jeevan Mission to achieve Har Ghar Jal (piped water supply) to all rural households by 2024
- o To focus on integrated demand and supply side management of water at the local level.
- o Convergence with other Central and State Government Schemes to achieve its objectives.
- o 1592 critical and over exploited Blocks spread across 256 District being identified for the Jal Shakti Abhiyan.
- o Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) fund can be used for this purpose.
- Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
 - o 9.6 crore toilets constructed since Oct 2, 2014.
 - o More than 5.6 lakh villages have become Open Defecation Free (ODF).
 - o Swachh Bharat Mission to be expanded to undertake sustainable solid waste management in every village.
- Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan,
 - o Over two crore rural Indians made digitally literate.
 - o Internet connectivity in local bodies in every Panchayat under Bharat-Net to bridge rural-urban divide.
 - o Universal Obligation Fund under a PPP arrangement to be utilized for speeding up Bharat-Net.

SHAHREE BHARAT/URBAN INDIA

- Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-Urban)-
 - o Over 81 lakh houses with an investment of about Rs. 4.83 lakh crore sanctioned of which construction started in about 47 lakh houses.
 - o Over 26 lakh houses completed of which nearly 24 lakh houses delivered to the beneficiaries.
 - o Over 13 lakh houses so far constructed using new technologies.
- More than 95% of cities also declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).
- Almost 1 crore citizens have downloaded Swachhata App.
- Target of achieving Gandhiji's resolve of Swachh Bharat to make India ODF by 2nd October 2019.
 - o To mark this occasion, the Rashtriya Swachhata Kendra to be inaugurated at Gandhi Darshan,

Rajghat on 2nd October, 2019.

- o Gandhipedia being developed by National Council for Science Museums to sensitize youth and society about positive Gandhian values.
- Railways to be encouraged to invest more in suburban railways through SPV structures like Rapid Regional Transport System (RRTS) proposed on the Delhi-Meerut route.
- Proposal to enhance the metro-railway initiatives by:
 - o Encouraging more PPP initiatives.
 - o Ensuring completion of sanctioned works.
 - o Supporting transit oriented development (TOD) to ensure commercial activity around transit hubs.

YOUTH

- New National Education Policy to be brought which proposes
 - o Major changes in both school and higher education
 - o Better Governance systems
 - o Greater focus on research and innovation.
- National Research Foundation (NRF) proposed
 - o To fund, coordinate and promote research in the country.
 - o To assimilate independent research grants given by various Ministries.
 - o To strengthen overall research eco-system in the country
 - o This would be adequately supplemented with additional funds.
- Rs. 400 crore provided for "World Class Institutions", for FY 2019-20, more than three times the revised estimates for the previous year.
- 'Study in India' proposed to bring foreign students to study in Indian higher educational institutions.
- Regulatory systems of higher education to be reformed comprehensively:
 - o To promote greater autonomy.
 - o To focus on better academic outcomes.
- Draft legislation to set up Higher Education Commission of India (HECI), to be presented.
- Khelo India Scheme to be expanded with all necessary financial support.
- National Sports Education Board for development of sportspersons to be set up under Khelo India, to popularize sports at all levels

- To prepare youth for overseas jobs, focus to be increased on globally valued skill-sets including language training, AI, IoT, Big Data, 3D Printing, Virtual Reality and Robotics.
- Set of four labour codes proposed, to streamline multiple labour laws to standardize and streamline registration and filing of returns.
- A television program proposed exclusively for and by start-ups, within the DD bouquet of channels.
- Stand-Up India Scheme to be continued for the period of 2020-25. The Banks to provide financial assistance for demand based businesses.

EASE OF LIVING

- About 30 lakh workers joined the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Scheme that provides Rs. 3,000 per month as pension on attaining the age of 60 to workers in unorganized and informal sectors.
- Approximately 35 crore LED bulbs distributed under UJALA Yojana leading to cost saving of Rs. 18,341 crore annually.
- Solar stoves and battery chargers to be promoted using the approach of LED bulbs mission.
- A massive program of railway station modernization to be launched.

'NAARI TU NARAYANI' / WOMEN

- Approach shift from women-centric-policy making to women-led initiatives and movements.
- A Committee proposed with Government and private stakeholders for moving forward on Gender budgeting.
- SHG:
 - o Women SHG interest subvention program proposed to be expanded to all districts.
 - o Overdraft of Rs. 5,000 to be allowed for every verified women SHG member having a Jan Dhan Bank Account.
 - o One woman per SHG to be eligible for a loan up to Rs. 1 lakh under MUDRA Scheme.

INDIA'S SOFT POWER

- Proposal to consider issuing Aadhaar Card for NRIs with Indian Passports on their arrival without waiting for 180 days.
- Mission to integrate traditional artisans with global

markets proposed, with necessary patents and geographical indicators.

- 18 new Indian diplomatic Missions in Africa approved in March, 2018, out of which 5 already opened. Another 4 new Embassies intended in 2019-20.
- Revamp of Indian Development Assistance Scheme (IDEAS) proposed.
- 17 iconic Tourism Sites being developed into model world class tourist destinations.
- Present digital repository aimed at preserving rich tribal cultural heritage, to be strengthened.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL SECTOR

- NPAs of commercial banks reduced by over Rs. 1 lakh crore over the last year.
- Record recovery of over Rs. 4 lakh crore effected over the last four years.
- Provision coverage ratio at its highest in seven years.
- Domestic credit growth increased to 13.8%.
- Measures related to PSBs:
 - o Rs. 70,000 crore proposed to be provided to PSBs to boost credit.
 - o PSBs to leverage technology, offering online personal loans and doorstep banking, and enabling customers of one PSBs to access services across all PSBs.
 - o Steps to be initiated to empower accountholders to have control over deposit of cash by others in their accounts.
 - o Reforms to be undertaken to strengthen governance in PSBs.
- Measures related to NBFCs:
 - o Proposals for strengthening the regulatory authority of RBI over NBFCs to be placed in the Finance Bill.
 - o Requirement of creating a Debenture Redemption Reserve will be done away with to allow NBFCs to raise funds in public issues.
 - o Steps to allow all NBFCs to directly participate on the TReDS platform.
- Return of regulatory authority from NHB to RBI proposed, over the housing finance sector.
- Rs. 100 lakh crore investment in infrastructure intended over the next five years. Committee proposed to recommend the structure and

BIG RELIEF FOR HOME BUYERS

Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman gave a big tax benefit to homebuyers by announcing additional deduction of up to Rs 1.50 lakh for interest paid on home loans up to Rs 45 lakh, which means people will now get the total interest deduction of Rs 3.5 lakh on home loans. The FM also said the step had been taken for realization of 'Housing for All' goal and affordable housing. Also, interest paid on housing loans is allowed as a deduction to the extent of Rs 2 lakh in respect of self-occupied property, she said.

"In order to provide a further impetus, I propose to allow an additional deduction of up to Rs 1,50,000/- for interest paid on loans borrowed up to 31st March 2020, for purchase of an affordable house valued up to 45 lakh. Therefore, a person purchasing an affordable house will now get an enhanced interest deduction up to 3.5 lakh. This will translate into a benefit of around Rs 7 lakh to the middle class home-buyers over their loan period of 15 years," Smt. Sitharaman said in Parliament.

Housing has been an area of concern for middle and lower-middle class, said the FM, adding that the real domain sector also played a significant role in generating employment in the economy.

required flow of funds through development finance institutions.

- Steps to be taken to separate the NPS Trust from PFRDA.
- Reduction in Net Owned Fund requirement from Rs. 5,000 crore to Rs. 1,000 crore proposed:
 - o To facilitate on-shoring of international insurance transactions.
 - o To enable opening of branches by foreign reinsurers in the International Financial Services Centre.
- Measures related to CPSEs:
 - o Target of Rs. 1, 05,000 crore of disinvestment receipts set for the FY 2019-20.
 - o Government to reinitiate the process of strategic disinvestment of Air India, and to offer more CPSEs for strategic participation by the private sector.
 - o Government to undertake strategic sale of PSUs

and continue to consolidate PSUs in the non-financial space.

- o Government to consider going to an appropriate level below 51% in PSUs where the government control is still to be retained, on case to case basis.
- o Present policy of retaining 51% Government stake to be modified to retaining 51% stake inclusive of the stake of Government controlled institutions.
- o Retail participation in CPSEs to be encouraged.
- o To provide additional investment space:
 - o Government to realign its holding in CPSEs
 - o Banks to permit greater availability of its shares and to improve depth of its market.
- o Government to offer an investment option in ETFs on the lines of Equity Linked Savings Scheme (ELSS).
- o Government to meet public shareholding norms of 25% for all listed PSUs and raise the foreign shareholding limits to maximum permissible sector limits for all PSU companies which are part of Emerging Market Index.
- Government to raise a part of its gross borrowing program in external markets in external currencies. This will also have beneficial impact on demand situation for the government securities in domestic market.
- New series of coins of One Rupee, Two Rupees, Five Rupees, Ten Rupees and Twenty Rupees, easily identifiable to the visually impaired to be made available for public use shortly.

DIGITAL PAYMENTS

- TDS of 2% on cash withdrawal exceeding Rs. 1 crore in a year from a bank account
- Business establishments with annual turnover more than Rs. 50 crore shall offer low cost digital modes of payment to their customers and no charges or Merchant Discount Rate shall be imposed on customers as well as merchants.

MEGA INVESTMENT IN SUNRISE AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AREAS

- o Scheme to invite global companies to set up mega-manufacturing plants in areas such as Semi-conductor Fabrication (FAB), Solar Photo Voltaic cells, Lithium storage batteries, Computer

Rajnath Singh @rajnathsingh

Congratulations to Finance Minister @nsitharaman ji for presenting Budget 2019-20 which outlines the Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi's vision of building a new and confident India.

This is a futuristic budget focusing on India's socio-economic transformation in coming years.

Nitin Gadkari @nitin_gadkari

Heartiest congratulations to Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi ji and Finance Minister @nsitharaman ji. This budget will prove as the foundation for #NewIndia. From rural to urban development, infrastructure to startups, from education to industry, #BudgetForNewIndia.

Arun Jaitley @arunjaitley

The Union Budget 2019-20 gives a political direction for an aspirational India. The economically weaker sections get the basic amenities of life. The Prime Minister's first tenure witnessed the blending of good economics & good politics. The trend continues in this Budget.

The present Budget maintains the path of fiscal discipline based on the premise that economies which are fiscally prudent eventually get rewarded as against those who indulge in fiscal adventurism.

The Budget contemplates massive infrastructure creation which will generate employment and attract investment. Similarly gives a boost to the construction and real estate sector. With this India will continue to be the fastest growing major economy in the world.

Sushma Swaraj @SushmaSwaraj

Heartiest Congratulations to Prime Minister and Finance Minister. This Budget will substantially contribute towards an unprecedented development of India particularly the empowerment of women and self employment of our youth. #Budget2019

Piyush Goyal @PiyushGoyal

Congratulations FM @NSitharaman ji for delivering a #BudgetForNewIndia. It perfectly encapsulates PM @NarendraModi ji's vision of New India and will lead to investment, growth & economic development leading to welfare of farmers, poor & middle class of the country. Railways infrastructure will need an investment of 50 Lakh Cr between 2018-2030, given that capital expenditure outlay of Railways is around 1.5-1.6 Lakh Cr per annum. A public-private partnership is proposed to unleash faster development of Railways

Dharmendra Pradhan @dpradhanbjp

Guided by #ModiGovt's principles of Reform, Perform and Transform, #BudgetForNewIndia outlines a comprehensive roadmap to make India 5 trillion dollar economy and further fulfil Hon. PM's Shri @narendramodi's commitment of #SabkaSath_#SabkaVikas and SabkaVishwas.

Last mile delivery of developmental and pro-people schemes like #PMUjjwalaYojna & #PMUjalaYojana have lit the lives of millions of people in our country. We will continue to work to empower each and every citizen.

Servers, Laptops, etc
o Investment linked income tax exemptions to be provided along with indirect tax benefits.

ACHIEVEMENTS DURING 2014-19

- 1 trillion dollar added to Indian economy over last 5 years (compared to over 55 years taken to reach the first trillion dollar).
- India is now the 6th largest economy in the world, compared to 11th largest five years ago.
- Indian economy is globally the 3rd largest in Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) terms.
- Strident commitment to fiscal discipline and a rejuvenated Centre-State dynamic provided during 2014-19.
- Structural reforms in indirect taxation, bankruptcy and real estate carried out.
- Average amount spent on food security per year almost doubled during 2014-19 compared to 2009-14.
- Patents issued more than trebled in 2017-18 as against the number in 2014.
- Ball set rolling for a New India, planned and assisted by the NITI Aayog.

Media on Union Budget 2019-20



ROADMAP FOR FUTURE

- Simplification of procedures.
- Incentivizing performance.
- Red-tape reduction.
- Making the best use of technology.
- Accelerating mega programmes and services initiated and delivered so far.

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN ONLY 2ND WOMAN TO PRESENT UNION BUDGET

Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman became only the second woman in the history of independent India to present the Union Budget. Prior to it former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was the first and only woman so far to have presented the Union Budget. In 1970, she presented the Union Budget of India for 1970-71, after she took over the finance portfolio following the resignation of Morarji Desai as Finance Minister. Indira Gandhi held the portfolio for a year before appointing her Home Minister, Yashwantrao Chavan, as Finance Minister. Morarji Desai holds the distinction of presenting the most number of budgets – 10.

Smt. Sitharaman, 59, presented the Modi 2.0 government's maiden budget in the Lok Sabha. Prior to the presentation, the Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the Budget for 2019-20.

She handed over a copy of the Union Budget to Hon'ble President Shri Ram Nath Kovind before her maiden budget speech. Breaking away from the brown Budget briefcase, she held a red parcel like bag with a key hole on the emblem.

In the post-liberalization era Smt. Sitharaman presented the 29th Budget. Prior to her, six Finance

Ministers: Manmohan Singh (1991-1996), Yashwant Sinha (1998-2003), Jaswant Singh (2003-2004), P. Chidambaram (1996-1998, 2004-2009, 2013-2014), Pranab Mukherjee (2009-2013), and Arun Jaitley (2014-2019) had presented 28 Budgets.

Shri Arun Jaitley presented all the five Budgets of the Modi government's first tenure but missed out on presenting the interim budget in February this year due to ill-health. Stand-in Finance Minister Shri Piyush Goyal presented the pre-general election interim Budget on February 1, this year.

Smt. Sitharaman was also the second women Defence Minister after Indira Gandhi who held the portfolio till 1982. However, unlike Gandhi, she was the first full-time women Defence Minister.

FDI INFLOWS INTO INDIA REMAINED ROBUST IN 2018-19

The Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman said that FDI inflows into India have remained robust despite global headwinds. Presenting the Union Budget 2019-20 in Parliament, she said that India's FDI inflows in 2018-19 remained strong at USD 64.375 billion marking a 6% growth over the previous year. The Finance Minister proposed the following steps to further consolidate the gains in order to make India a more attractive FDI destination:

The Government will examine suggestions of further opening up of FDI in aviation, media (animation, AVGC) and insurance sectors in consultation with all stakeholders. 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) will be permitted for insurance intermediaries. Local sourcing norms will be eased for FDI in Single Brand Retail sector. ■

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF ECONOMIC SURVEY 2018-19

The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman tabled the Economic Survey 2018-19 in the Parliament on July 4. The Key Highlights of Economic Survey 2018-19 are as follows:

- Survey states that pathways for trickle-down opened up during the last five years; and benefits of growth and macroeconomic stability reached the bottom of the pyramid.
- India needs to grow at 8% per year to be \$5 trillion economy by FY25.
- Key ingredients for a self-sustaining virtuous cycle:
- Presenting data as a public good.
- Emphasizing legal reforms.
- Ensuring policy consistency.
- Encouraging behavior change using principles of behavioral economics.
- Investment the “key driver” of simultaneous growth in demand, jobs, exports & productivity
- Rural wage growth started increasing since mid-2018.
- Political stability should push the animal spirits of economy.
- Poor enforcement of contracts and dispute resolution is a big hurdle. Faster legal process should be top priority.
- Savings & growth are positively co-related. Savings must increase more than investment.
- Constant recalibration based on real time data. Data must be created as a public good “of the people, by the people, for the people.
- Success of MGNREGS shows govt schemes can make a difference on the ground with skilful use of technology
- A minimum wage policy for bottom rung of wage earners to drive up demand and strengthening the middle class.
- Indian MSMEs need to be freed from shackles that convert them into dwarfs. MSMEs need to be seen as a source of innovation, growth and job creation.
- Policy should enable MSMEs to grow, create greater profits for their owners and contribute to job creation and productivity in the economy .
- India needs to increase per capita energy consumption to raise real per capita GDP by US\$ 5000 and improve its HDI ranking.
- India will enjoy the “demographic dividend” phase in the next two decades but some states will start transitioning to an ageing society by the 2030s.
- India moving forward from Swachh Bharat to Swasth and Sundar Bharat.
- The Survey visualises creating a Detroit for Electric Vehicles in India.
- Ease labour laws to spur job growth.
- The Survey seeks reform in lower judiciary
- Govt stands by the fiscal consolidation path.
- Jan-March economic slowdown due to poll related related activity.
- Greenshoots in investment seems to be taking hold.
- NBFC stress reason for FY19 slowdown.
- Decline in NPAs should push up CAPEX cycle.
- General fiscal deficit seen at 5.8% in FY19 VS 6.4% in FY18.
- Investment rate seen higher in FY20 on improved demand.
- Oil prices seen declining in FY20.
- India now stands at 4th in wind power, 5th in solar power and 5th in renewable power installed capacity.
- Rs 50,000 crore saved and 108.28 million tonnes of CO2 emissions reduced by energy efficiency programmes in India.
- Services sector (excluding construction) has a share of 54.3 per cent in India’s GVA and contributed more than half of GVA growth in 2018-19.
- The IT-BPM industry grew by 8.4 per cent in 2017-18 to US\$ 167 billion and is estimated to reach US\$ 181 billion in 2018-19.
- The services sector growth declined marginally to 7.5 per cent in 2018-19 from 8.1 per cent in 2017-18. ■

PM LAUNCHES BJP'S MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IN VARANASI

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE WILL FURTHER CONNECT PEOPLE FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE WITH BJP: MODI



P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the membership drive of the Bharatiya Janata Party from Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 06 July, 2019 noting that it will further connect people from all walks of life with the party. The launch of the membership drive coincided with the 118th birth anniversary of the founder of Jana Sangha Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion, the Prime Minister said, "From the soil of Kashi, I greet each dedicated worker of the party. Today, I got an opportunity to launch the BJP's membership campaign from Kashi," he said, pointing out that it will strengthen the BJP further.

Shri Modi also talked about the Union budget 2019-20 and his thoughts on India's growth trajectory

in the coming years. Referring to the provisions in the Union budget, Shri Modi said a "new India" was on the threshold of racing ahead. "It is important to know about the USD 5 trillion economy because some people were casting doubts over the competency of Indians, saying that achieving the target is very difficult," he added.

Describing some specific areas which will provide impetus to the government's vision of '5-trillion dollar economy', PM Shri Modi said that the role of farmers and traders will be the most crucial in realising India's 5-trillion dream. He added that this is why the latest Budget includes measures that will facilitate agricultural exports as well greater social security for small traders and firms through pensions and other

benefits.

Prime Minister Shri Modi further emphasized the role of blue economy, food processing and water security for the sustainable economic progress of the country and enlisted major government initiatives in this regard such as the creation of separate department of fisheries as well as a ministry for 'Jal Shakti.'

The PM later urged the supporters and party workers present there to continuously strive towards contributing more for the nation's development in whatever ways possible. He asked them to always put the nation before their party and selflessly work for its prosperity and security.

The Prime Minister was accompanied by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Bharatiya Janata Party National Working President Shri JP Nadda, the state BJP President Shri Mahendra Nath Pandey, Uttar Pradesh Minister Shri Siddharth Nath Singh and other senior leaders of the party present on the occasion.

This is PM Shri Modi's second visit to his constituency after winning the parliamentary polls in

May. He had visited Varanasi on May 27 to thank the voters after winning the Lok Sabha seat for the second consecutive time by a huge margin of 4.79 lakh votes.

Earlier, soon after his arrival here on a day-long visit, Shri Modi unveiled a statue of former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri at the airport. Shri Anil Shastri and Shri Sunil Shastri, sons of late Lal Bahadur Shastri, were also present at the venue.

After unveiling the statue of Shastri, the Prime Minister proceeded to launch a tree-plantation campaign at "Anand Kanan" — in the temple city.

He also paid tributes to the founder of Jana Sangh Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee, on his 118th birth anniversary, saying his contribution to national integration will always be remembered. In a tweet, the PM described Dr. Mookerjee as a great educationist and a bright nationalist thinker.

Later in the day, the Prime Minister visited the virtual museum at Man Mahal. The museum situated near Dashashwamedh Ghat, is a cultural landmark in the city of Varanasi, showcasing the various aspects of our cultural heritage.



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with others launching the tree-plantation drive at Anand Kanan Vatika in Varanasi



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with other senior leaders unveiling the statue of former PM Lal Bahadur Shastri at Varanasi International Airport

Amit Shah launches mega BJP membership drive in Telangana



BJP SET A GOAL TO DOUBLE THE MEMBERSHIP IN TELANGANA

As part of its mass outreach program, Bharatiya Janata Party National President and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah on July 6, 2019 launched a mega membership drive in Telangana.

The party has set a goal to double the membership in Telangana this time (36 lakh from current 18 lakh members).

After launching the drive Shri Amit Shah reached Ranganayakula Thanda, Mamidipalli Village, Near Pahadi Shareef of Ranga Reddy District and inducted tribal woman Jatvathi Soni Naik into the party.

Later Shri Shah tweeted "I am deeply touched by her warmth and hospitality."

Shri Amit Shah, who visited the humble family of Soni Naik, was offered Upma and tea which he ate while discussing the problems faced by the locality.

The mega membership drive in Telangana, which is called as gateway of South India is significant as the party is aiming to strengthen itself in the state by 2023.

BJP has set a target to achieve 36 lakh members in Telangana from existing 18 lakh members.

The BJP is roping in 8,000 leaders for the mega membership drive which will ensure the BJP reaches out to all 32,000 booths in the state.

Recently, former MP CM and party National Vice-President Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, who is the national head of party membership drive, had visited Hyderabad to review BJP's status in the state where it has won 4 MPs.

BJP National General Secretary Shri P Muralidhar Rao, Union Minister of State of Home Affairs Shri G Kishan Reddy, Party state President Dr. K Laxman, local MLC Shri N Ramchender Rao, MLA Shri T Raja Singh and others participated in the program.

Meanwhile BJP National Secretary and State Co-in-charge Shri Sunil Deodhar launched a similar membership drive in Guntur of Andhra Pradesh where party is also gaining momentum after four TDP Rajya Sabha MPs joined the BJP. ■

'AROUND 52.12 LAKH EMPLOYED UNDER PMKVY SCHEME TILL JUNE, 2019'



Around 20 Central Ministries including Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) are involved in the implementation of more than 40 schemes under the Skill India Mission, said Shri RK Singh, Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

In a reply to the question raised in Lok Sabha on schemes to promote skilled labourers in manufacturing sector he mentioned that Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 2016-20 is a flagship scheme of the MSDE being implemented with an objective to provide skill development training, Short Term Training (STT) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) across the country.

PMKVY, National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETI), Deendayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) are the schemes to train the labourers.

In reply to the question on employment growth of post-training in last five years, Minister replied, "Under the PMKVY scheme, as on 12 June 2019, around 52.12 lakh candidates are employed. It includes

(31.08 lakh STT + 21.04 lakh RPL) candidates who have been trained in various sectors including manufacturing.

According to the data reported on SDMS (Skill Development Management System), as on 12 June 2019, 24.56 lakh candidates are certified under STT of PMKVY 2016-20. The number of candidates certified under STT of PMKVY 90 days prior, up to 12 March 2019 is 21.97 lakh. Out of total candidates, 12.6 lakh candidates have been reported to be placed in various sectors.

Speaking on the further plan to enhance the employment potential several key points were informed. Shri Singh said, "National Skill Development Corporation, an implementing agency under MSDE is working to enhance, support and coordinate with the private sector within the skilling ecosystem. Under PMKVY 2016-20, Training Centers (TCs) and Training Providers (TPs) are actively participating. TPs are also mandated to organize Placement (Rozgar Melas) in every six months with support from the industry-led Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) and to ensure the participation of local industry". ■

INDIA WON A NON-PERMANENT SEAT AT UNSC FOR 2021-22

India won a non-permanent seat at the powerful UN Security Council for a two-year term (2021-2022) has been unanimously endorsed by 55-member of the Asia-Pacific group at the world body. It is a major diplomatic win for India. The India's win became so important as Pakistan and China, both have been at loggerhead with India in UN, supported the India's move for permanent candidature. Each year the 193-member General Assembly elects five non-permanent members for a two-year term at the UN high-table.

The five permanent members of the Council are China, France, Russia, UK and the US.

The 10 non-permanent seats are distributed on a regional basis : five for African and Asian States; one for Eastern European States; two for



the Latin American and Caribbean States; and two for Western European and other States. ■

(With inputs from PTI)

'1.86 LAKH BULLET-PROOF JACKETS TO BE PROCURED BY APRIL NEXT YEAR'

The shortage of bullet-proof jackets for armed forces is being met through procurement of 1.86 lakh such jackets by April 2020 for nearly Rs 639 crore, Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh informed Rajya Sabha on 08 July, 2019.

Replying to questions, the minister said there was no embargo on the import of raw material from China for making such bullet-proof jackets, and any supplier violating the tender norms would face action and could be disqualified.

The minister also assured the House that the government has no plans to reduce the justified benefits provided to armed personnel with disabilities.

"In 2009, there was a shortage of 3,53,755 bullet proof jackets in the country, but procurement was not done for a long time. An RFP for procurement of 1,86,138 bullet proof jackets has been issued in April



2016 and the tender in this regard was allotted on April 9, 2018 to an Indian buyer.

"The total value of the contract is for Rs 638.97 crore, for procurement of 1,86,138 bullet proof jackets, which will be supplied within 36 months and it has to be completed by April 8, 2020," the minister told the house. ■

PM Modi hails UNESCO's move to declare Jaipur 'World Heritage Site'

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi expressed happiness over Jaipur being declared a UNESCO World Heritage site on 6 July, 2019. "Jaipur is a city associated with culture and velour. Elegant and energetic, Jaipur's hospitality draws people from all over. Glad that this city has been inscribed as a World Heritage Site by @UNESCO," Prime Minister said in a tweet.

Earlier in the day, UNESCO had announced that "Pink City" Jaipur has made it to the list of World Heritage site.

"The fortified city of Jaipur, in India's northwestern state of Rajasthan was founded in 1727 by Sawai Jai Singh II. Unlike other cities in the region located in hilly terrain, Jaipur was established on the plain and built according to a grid plan interpreted in the light of Vedic architecture. The streets feature continuous colonnaded businesses that intersect in the centre,

creating large public squares called chaupars," a statement on the UNESCO website read. Noteworthy, the Modi government in the last five years tried its best



to promote the culture and heritage of the country. UNESCO's recognition is the testimony of it. ■

MORE THAN 1.64 CRORE FARMERS HAVE REGISTERED ON E-NAM PLATFORM TILL 30TH JUNE 2019

N ational Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is envisaged as a pan-India electronic trading platform launched by Government of India on 14th April, 2016 with the objective of creating online transparent competitive price discovery system to facilitate farmers with remunerative prices for their produce. 585 wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 02 Union Territories (UTs) have been integrated with e-NAM platform. As on 30.06.2019, more than 1.64 crore farmers & more than 1.24 Lakhs traders have been registered on e-NAM platform. Further trade transactions having total volume of 2,58,76,016 MT with total value of Rs.71,069 crore, have been recorded on e-NAM platform till 30.06.2019. ■



INTEGRAL HUMANISM REVISITED

Integral humanism is not a quick-fix solution for electoral success nor is it a convenient strategy for capturing power. It is not even a political philosophy devised to promote and support any political party. It is a comprehensive world-view which originated in India as a result of the profound insight of generations of wise men who are known as the 'Rishis'. It covers every spectrum of human life and its foundations are eternally sound and always relevant. It is from that rich philosophy that the great Indian culture evolved. Any truly nationalist movement can benefit from this all embracing philosophy. It is inclusive of spiritual as well as material progress of mankind.



P. PARAMESWARAN

Continue from 01-15 July, 2019 Issue...

The so called progressive elements which are enamored of the idea of globalization and have become aggressive advocates of global markets say that the concept of specific national and cultural identities are fast becoming obsolete in the emerging world scenario. According to them there is no room for separate national identities or different and specific cultures. Everything will be steam rolled into one global entity. This is a dangerous idea though fascinating at the beginning particularly for Indians who, because of the shallowness of their understanding, confuse between the 'global family' and 'global market'.

It must be clearly remembered that from the Hindu point of view nations are vibrant, living organic entities which are not only relevant but also absolutely necessary for the new world order. Each nation is the

expression of a Divine power and has a mission to accomplish. So longer that mission is preserved and promoted the nation has a vital role to play not only for its own sake but for the sake of the well being of the entire humanity. Therefore nothing should be done in international relationships that will compromise the national identity and its specific cultural ethos. It is the harmonious cooperation of all living and flourishing nations' faithful to their own self that can make humanity richer, colourful, and lead it towards the glorious goal for which it is destined. Diversity cannot and should not be annihilated for the sake of uniformity. What is required is unity and not uniformity. This is a serious and profound issue which must be scrupulously kept in mind while considering and giving shape to our future amidst the complexities of international relationships involving technological and other exchanges.

The other day Dr. Amartya Sen while addressing the International Tagore Conference, organized by the Netaji Research Bureau and Kolkatta Museum of Modern Arts, said that poet Rabindranath Tagore considered the love for humanity

more important than patriotism. In a sense what he meant was that internationalism is more important than nationalism. What is important in this statement is that Dr. Amartya Sen believes these two concepts to be not only contradictory but also conflictual. This is an unwarranted assumption. It is true that Gurudev Tagore had his own reservation about nationalism. As a poet and a Rishi born in the Hindu tradition naturally looks upon the whole humanity as one family. Swami Vivekananda addressed the Cosmopolitan Assembly at the Chicago Parliament of Religion as "sisters and brothers". But it should be remembered that he was one of the most ardent and aggressive advocate of nationalism. In this context, it is important to clearly understand the root cause of Tagore's suspicion about nationalism. It was the period when nationalism had become quite militant and aggressive in the European continent where each nation not only jealously guarded its own self interest but looked upon other nations with a hostile attitude and a conquering mentality. This had led to national chauvinism and also to bloody wars. It was this kind of

negative nationalism that was in the mind of Tagore when he criticized nationalism. Nationalism in Europe was based on, political and economic, conflict and competition. The truth of Indian nationalism is totally different. It is true that India as a 'nation state' is of recent origin. It came under one constitution only after independence. Prior to that, though geographically and culturally looked upon as one entity; India was not governed by one constitutional authority. But India was one nation right from the earliest times. What united her was the cultural unity and not political or administrative machinery. Indian nationalism had been essentially cultural which unified it in a powerful bond of identity based on spirituality which in its outward manifestation had taken various forms and names. It was a tolerant, inclusive, courteous, friendly and generous culture which not only believed in peaceful co-existence, but also welcomed even alien cultures with due respect and generosity. That is why in the long history of India, we never find Indian Kings and Emperors, Conquerors or Adventures, stepping out of India and conquering and enslaving alien territories. Indian nationalism is qualitatively different from the recently emerged European and other nationalisms. Tagore was well aware and extremely proud of the culture of Bharat. He was never a critic of India's cultural nationalism. Therefore Amartya Sen's implied criticism of nationalism which he attributed to Tagore has really no legs to stand upon.

III

Integral Humanism (Ekatma Manava Darshan) is a term coined by the late Deendayal Upadhyaya to define India's 'Yuga Dharma' in the context of the present national and international situation. It was an attempt to provide a philosophical frame work for the national reconstruction of post Independent India in the light of her own indigenous culture and tradition. As the term indicates, it is a humanistic philosophy with 'Man' at the centre. Any philosophy, for that matter, is meant for 'Man'. Difference between the various philosophies is basically because of the differences in their concept about 'Man'. Integral Humanism is about the Indian concept of 'Man' which is essentially different from the Western concept.

The Western civilization, primarily rooted in the biblical tradition and accepted by the Abrahamic religions believes that man is born in sin and that only faith in certain religious dogmas can save him from going to hell. According to Bharatheeya Philosophy man is essentially divine. The ancient Rishis addressed him as "Child of Immortality"

(Amrtasya Putraha). As Swami Vivekananda told the Chicago Audience "it is a sin to call man sinner". The divinity in man is covered over by ignorance and illusion. So the Hindu Philosophy believes that the veil of ignorance should be removed so that the inner divinity will manifest itself. Religion and Education are the means for this. It is pertinent to remember that Swami Vivekananda has defined religion as "the manifestation of the divinity already in Man". He has defined education as "the manifestation of the perfection already in man". Shri Guruji prefers the term "Poorna Manav"- a perfect and fully blossomed man. In short Integral Humanism has kept as its goal a fully developed human being. Man is the product of a long evolutionary process. But the present man is not the ultimate goal of this process. Shri Aurobindo has made a profound study of man's future and has categorically stated that the present man has to evolve into a "Superman". Whichever way we may put it, Man's destiny is to evolve until he becomes the embodiment of divinity, which is concealed within him. Integral Humanism as explained by Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya envisages for the immediate future for man a fully integrated personality which includes the fullest development of the various dimensions of his being. Man is a multidimensional entity with the soul (Atma) as the core. Atma is an abstract entity which is encased within five different sheaths (Koshas). In the Hindu terminology they are Annamaya, Pranamaya, Manomaya, Vijnanamaya and Anandamaya (the physical, vital, mental, intellectual and blissful). Though termed differently and though each has its own specific characteristics, they are not entirely disconnected, but are so intimately interrelated that all these together constitute one integral whole. It is this integrated individual that is called "Poorna Manav". Integral Humanism primarily looks at this "Man" as the centre of its philosophy. It is the total 'Man' in all his various dimensions, has to be treated as one single entity. While considering the well being of the man Integral Humanism takes an integrated view. Each constituent dimension as stated earlier, has its own characteristics, needs and demands. Only when these are met in an integrated manner, the man can grow to his full stature. Though it is the soul that is the core of his being, its fulfillment depends upon the integrated development of his physical, vital, mental and intellectual needs and demands. ■

To be continued...

(Page no-393-94, the foundation of Indian Culture, Shri Aurobindo)

A TRIBUTE TO BAL GANGADHAR TILAK
(23 JULY 1856 - 1 AUGUST 1920)

THE FATHER OF THE INDIAN UNREST- LOKMANYA TILAK

Bal Gangadhar Tilak or Lokmanya Tilak (23 July 1856 – 1 August 1920), born as Keshav Gangadhar Tilak, was an Indian nationalist, teacher, and an independence activist. He was one third of the Lal Bal Pal triumvirate. Tilak was the first leader of the Indian Independence Movement. The British colonial authorities called him “The father of the Indian unrest.” He was also conferred with the title of “Lokmanya”, which means “accepted by the people (as their leader)”.

Tilak was one of the first and strongest advocates of Swaraj (“self-rule”) and a strong radical in Indian consciousness. He is known for his quote in Marathi: “Swarajya is my birthright and I shall have it!”. He formed a close alliance with many Indian National Congress leaders including Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai, Aurobindo Ghose, V. O. Chidambaram Pillai and Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

His ancestral village was Chikhali. His father, Gangadhar Tilak was a school teacher and a Sanskrit scholar who died when Tilak was sixteen. In 1871 Tilak was married to Tapibai (Née Bal) when he was sixteen, a few months before his father’s death. After marriage, her name was changed to Satyabhamabai. He obtained his Bachelor of Arts in first class in Mathematics from Deccan College of Pune in 1877. He left his

M.A. course of study midway to join the LL.B course instead, and in 1879 he obtained his LL.B degree from Government Law College. After graduating, Tilak started teaching mathematics at a private school in Pune. Later, due to ideological differences with the colleagues in the new school, he withdrew and became a journalist.

Later, due to ideological differences with the colleagues in the new school, he withdrew and became a journalist.

Tilak actively participated in public affairs. He stated: “Religion and practical life are not different.

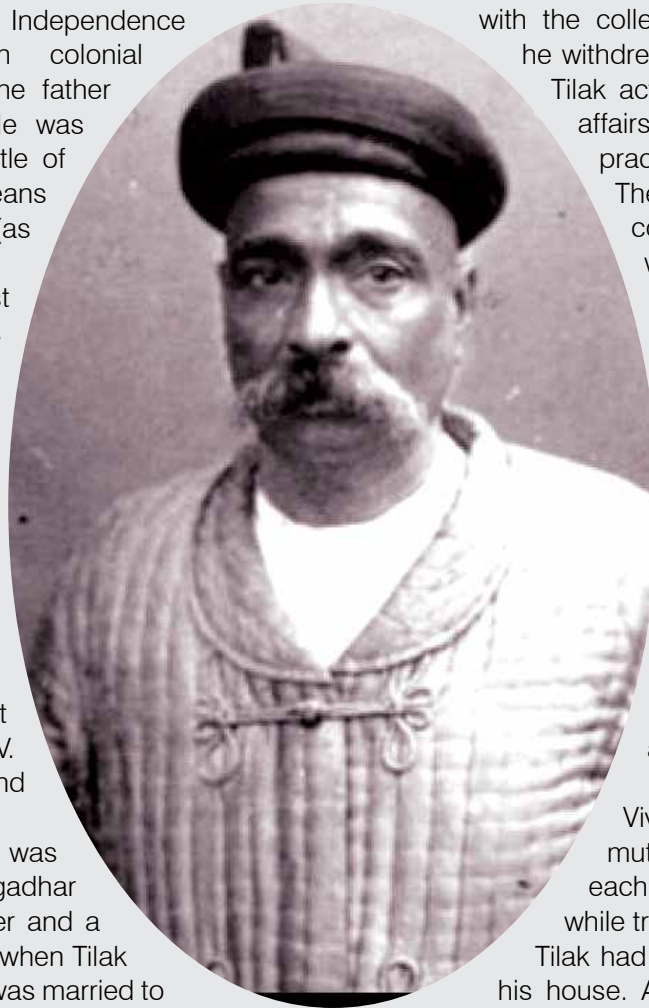
The real spirit is to make the country your family instead of working only for your own.

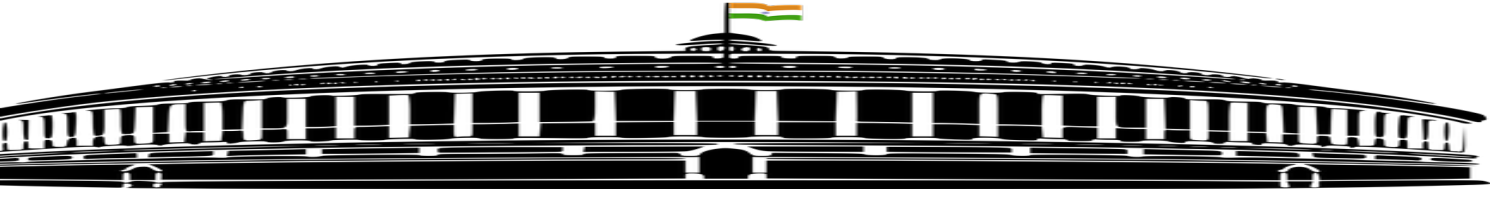
The step beyond is to serve humanity and the next step is to serve God.”

Tilak had a long political career agitating for Indian autonomy from the British rule. Before Gandhi, he was the most widely known Indian political leader. At one stage in his political life he was called “the father of Indian unrest” by British author Sir Valentine Chirol.

Tilak and Swami Vivekananda had great mutual respect and esteem for each other. They met accidentally while travelling by train in 1892 and Tilak had Vivekananda as a guest in his house. A person who was present there (Basukaka), heard that it was agreed

between Vivekananda and Tilak that Tilak would work towards nationalism in the “political” arena, while Vivekananda would work for nationalism in the “religious” arena. ■





THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR RESERVATION (AMENDMENT) BILL

RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR IS THE TOP PRIORITY: AMIT SHAH



The Minister of Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah has moved the motion for consideration of the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, in Lok Sabha on June 28, 2019. Moving the motion he said the President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir was approved in this very House on December 28, 2018. The period of six months is going to be over on the 2nd of July, 2019. It has been decided by the Election Commission that election shall be held there at the end of the year. So, it has become essential to extend the period of President's Rule in J&K.

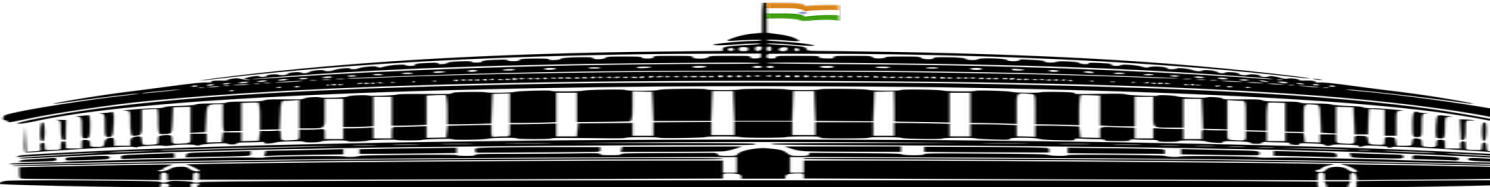
The Minister of Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah also moved the motion for consideration of the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Bill, in Rajya Sabha on 01 July, 2019. We are publishing the synopsis of the debate both in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha for our readers:

LOK SABHA

Shri Amit Shah said, "Two motions have come up before this august House. One pertains to the extension of the President's Rule in the State of Jammu and Kashmir for a further period of six months and the other provides for the addition

of certain areas in the provision of reservation under Section 5 and 9 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir through amendment".

The President's Rule in Jammu and Kashmir was approved in this very House on December 28, 2018. The period of six months is going to be over on the



RAJYA SABHA

2nd of July, 2019. It has been decided by the Election Commission that election shall be held there at the end of the year. So, it has become essential to extend the period of President's Rule in J&K.

My only submission is that it has been for the first time over the last one year that a policy of zero tolerance against terrorism has been adopted. It is only within a year that elections to the Panchayats have been conducted. Not just that, a sum of Rs.3700 crore is going to be transferred into the accounts of Gram Panchayats of Jammu and Kashmir.

The vote percentage has increased in both Panchayat and Lok Sabha elections and there has been no incidence of violence. This shows that law and order is very much within the control of the Government.

As far as development is concerned, the BJP Government has taken a slew of initiatives. This has led to a feel of satisfaction among the people at large in J&K as well as in the Ladakh region. Years' long pending issues have been settled.

Earlier, there would be no bunkers and there used to be loss of lives and cattle as well. Now, compensation of Rs.50 thousand is paid in the event of death of a buffalo. A decision has been taken to build 15 thousand bunkers of which 44 hundred bunkers have already been built. I wish to make it amply clear that the restoration of democracy in the State of Jammu and Kashmir happens to be the top priority of the BJP.

My second motion is to extend 3 per cent reservation available to the residents dwelling along the Line of Actual Control under the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Act, 2004 also to those people residing adjoining the international border whether it be LoC or LAC or international border, the villages located along the borders are faced with the same kind of hardships.

This will benefit three and a half lakh people belonging to Kathua, Samba and Jammu district. I urge upon the House through you to approve this motion.

Moving the motion Shri Amit Shah said, "I move that this House disapproves the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (No. 8 of 2019) promulgated by the President of India on 1st March, 2019".

As per the rules made under the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Act, 2004, vertical reservation has been made in the direct recruitment, promotion, vocational courses and other courses of education. Under this there is a provision for reservation for people belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, People of Weaker and Poor sections and people hail from the Line of Actual 199 Control.

The difficulties of people living in the Line of Control, the Line of Actual Control and the International border are the same in nature. Due to the conditions of the area education of children are adversely affected. Their education is not consistent. People from three districts of Jammu and Kashmir feel that injustice is being done to them. Their spirit is increasing day by day.

That is why, it was reformed by bringing an Ordinance that the people who live on the international border, Their children should also be given reservation in education and jobs. In the Jammu and Kashmir, the Legislative Assembly is not in existence yet, so I have brought this Bill to in the Parliament so that children of Kathua, Samba and Jammu districts can be included in this facility.

Sir, I have come with a second Resolution that the period of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir may be extended for 6 months. The period of President's rule in Jammu and Kashmir is ending on 2nd of July, 2019. The PDP Government has lost confidence and the Governor has received a notice of some horse trading, hence he dissolved the Legislative Assembly.

Election Commission has decided that elections will be held there at the end of this year. Prior to that, due to Amar Nath Yatra and Bakkarwal etc., elections cannot be held. Therefore, there is no other option for the Government other than extending the period of President's rule. ■

As far as development is concerned, the BJP Government has taken a slew of initiatives. This has led to a feel of satisfaction among the people at large in J&K as well as in the Ladakh region. Years' long pending issues have been settled.

LET'S START A MASS MOVEMENT FOR WATER CONSERVATION: PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the country men in his first 'Mann Ki Baat 2.0' on June 30 after taking oath for second term. In his address he asked the people to make water conservation a mass movement like cleanliness drive. He also talked about importance of book reading-habit. Here, we are giving highlights of the address:

When Emergency was imposed on the country, resistance against it was not limited to the political arena or politicians; the movement was not curtailed to the confines of prison cells. There was an outrage in the conscience of one and all. The collective torment on the loss of democracy was evident. Day and night, when one gets to eat food on time, one doesn't realize what hunger pangs are. Similarly, in day to day life, it is difficult to savour the joy of democratic rights, unless they are snatched away. During Emergency, every citizen of the country had started getting the feeling that something that belonged to him had been snatched away. If what was snatched had never been enjoyed by that person, ever, it had to eventually precipitate into a painful inner agony. And it was not just on account of the fact that the constitution of India has made certain provisions that enabled Democracy to blossom. Of course, in order to ensure smooth conduct of the social order, a constitution is required... laws & rules are necessary, rights and duties should be part of due discourse. But, India can proudly proclaim that for us, beyond laws & rules, Democracy is embedded in our sanskar; Democracy is our culture. Democracy is our heritage;And the country had witnessed one such Election in '77. Just recently, our country celebrated a mega festival of democracy, a mammoth Election Campaign, from the rich to the poor, all were happily eager in this festival to decide the fate of their country.

- In the 2019 Loksabha Election, India saw over 61



crore voters exercising their franchise... yes 61 crores. We can think of this figure as one ordinary but if I place it in a global perspective, if you exclude China, the number of people who voted in India exceeds the population of any other country in the world. The number of people who voted in the 2019 Lok Sabha Election is more than the entire population of America, close to double the figure. The total number of voters in India exceeds the entire population of Europe. This stands for the sheer size & spread of our Democracy.

- Another encouraging fact is that, today, there are a record 78 women Members of Parliament. I congratulate the Election Commission and every

person connected with the electioneering process and salute the aware voters of India.

- I had urged all to choose books over flowers in welcome or felicitation ceremonies. Since then, people have been offering books at many a place. Just recently, someone gave me a book entitled 'Premchand Ki Lokapriya Kahaniyan', popular short stories by Premchand. It was a great feeling. Of course, I couldn't get much time, but during my travelling, I got an opportunity to read some of his short stories once again. Images of the stark social realities that Premchand has portrayed in his stories vividly start forming in one's mind when you read them. Each & every element of his writings comes alive. His stories are expressions of human emotions through simple, lucid language... they have touched my heart.
- I had read about the Akshara Library in Kerala. You will be surprised to learn that this library lies in a village nestling within the dense forests of Idukki. A Primary school teacher, P.K.Muralidharan and P.V.Chinnathampi who runs a small tea shop, have between them worked tirelessly for this library.
- The Vaanche Gujarat campaign carried out in Gujarat was a successful experiment. Participants hailing from every age group in lakhs, participated in this campaign to read books. I will still urge you in today's digital world and in the time of Google Guru, to take some time out from your daily routine and devote it to the book.
- Water scarcity affects many parts of the country every year. You will be surprised that only 8% of the water received from rains in the entire year is harvested in our country. Just and just 8%! Now the time has come to find a solution to this problem. I believe, like the other problems on hand, we can also solve this predicament by the participation of the people, Janbhagidari and their

My first request is that just like cleanliness drive has been given the shape of a mass movement by the countrymen, let's also start a mass movement for water conservation. My second request to the countrymen is to share many traditional methods that have been in use over the centuries in our country for the conservation of water.

power, Janshakti we are bound to find a solution through the strength, cooperation and resolution of one hundred and thirty crore citizens.

- Therefore keeping the importance of water in mind, a new Jalashakti ministry has been created in the country. This will allow faster decision-making on all subjects related to water.
- A few days ago I tried to do something different. I wrote a letter to the Sarpanchs and Gram Pradhans across the country. That in order to save water, to collect water, to save the very drops of the rainwater, they should convene a meeting of the Gram Sabha and sit and discuss the resolution to this problem with the villagers. I am happy that they have shown exemplary enthusiasm on this front and on 22nd of this month crores of people contributed free labour, Shramdaan across thousands of panchayats. People in village after village resolved to accumulate every single drop of rainwater.
 - My first request is that just like cleanliness drive has been given the shape of a mass movement by the countrymen, let's also start a mass movement for water conservation. My second request to the countrymen is to share many traditional methods that have been in use over the centuries in our country for the conservation of water.
- I must express my gratitude to you and to the people of the world for one more thing! On 21st June, once again, Yoga Day was celebrated together with fervor and enthusiasm, there were instances of three-four generations of each family coming together to participate on Yoga Day. The awareness about Holistic Health Care has enhanced the glory of yoga and Yoga day.
- The Presidents, Prime Ministers, celebrities and ordinary citizens of many countries of the world showed me on the Twitter how they celebrated Yoga in their respective nations. On that day, the world appeared to be like one big happy family. ■



‘INFUSION OF TECHNOLOGY WILL CREATE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES’

PM attends G20 meet in Osaka

Last week of June Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Osaka in Japan for participating G20 summit. Along with Prime Minister, Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, Member of Parliament Shri Suresh Prabhu participated in the meeting.

While talking to media former Union Commerce Minister Shri Suresh Prabhu said “The G20 initially was started as a grouping to take care of global economy and therefore it is obvious that a grouping which represents more than 85% of global GDP would focus on issues related to economy. And we agreed to work at leader’s level to ensure that the global economy will be properly taken care of.

Quality infrastructure is one of the important issue of the meeting. He said “India strongly feels that infrastructure and that too quality infrastructure is a necessity which will spur growth.”

He added “Our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi made interventions in many important events and in that also he says the need for a quality infrastructure. Prime Minister also laid emphasis on the necessity to find out how we could actually work through digital economy, the Society 5.0 which is the vision of Japan. PM said, We strongly believe that infusion of technology will create economic opportunities which

will breach the digital divide and also at the same time improve quality of life therefore quality infrastructure will play a very important role.”

We also agreed to work on open and resilient financial system grounded in agreed international standards. India under leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been championing that we need anti-corruption measures at global level. So fight against corruption should be done by all G20 countries by combating foreign bribery and to ensure that each G20 country has a law to enforce it so that people committing economic crimes in one geography will not be able to run away to other and try to escape the clutches of law.

This again has been raised very effectively by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Apart from issues related to anti-corruption and resilient financial system, Tourism, agriculture, Global health, global environment challenges like climate change were discussed.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who led India’s delegation raised many issues of global concern as well as highlighted the role of India’s new innovation into making change in a manner that benefits all. PM Modi had many multilateral, bilateral interactions, he met a number of leaders. ■



PM Shri Narendra Modi with other leaders of BRICS nations in Osaka, Japan on the sidelines of G-20 meet



PM Shri Narendra Modi meets the President of USA Mr. Donald Trump on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit in Osaka



PM Shri Narendra Modi with the PM of Japan Mr. Shinzo Abe on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit in Osaka



PM Shri Narendra Modi paying tributes to Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee on his Jayanti at Varanasi



PM Shri Narendra Modi chairing a meeting with leaders of NDA and other Opposition Parties in New Delhi

BUDGET AT A GLANCE

Central Govt Expenditure

Budget Estimates for 2019-20 (in ₹ crore)

Heads		Heads	
Pension	1,74,300	Interest	6,60,471
Defence	3,05,296	IT and Telecom	21,783
Major Subsidies	3,01,694	Planning and Statistics	5,814
Agriculture and Allied Activities	1,51,518	Rural Development	1,40,762
Commerce & Industry	27,043	Scientific Departments	27,431
Development of North East	3,000	Social Welfare	50,850
Education	94,854	Tax Administration	1,17,285
Energy	44,638	Transfer to States	1,55,447
External Affairs	17,885	Transport	1,57,437
Finance	20,121	Union Territories	15,098
Health	64,999	Urban Development	48,032
Home Affairs	1,03,927	Others	76,665
		Grand Total	27,86,349

