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Fortnightly Magazine

Editor

**Prabhat Jha, MP**

Executive Editor

**Dr. Shiv Shakti Bakshi**

Editorial Team

**Ram Prasad Tripathy  
Vikash Anand**

Creative Editor

**Vikas Saini**

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Contact

Phone : +91(11) 23381428

Fax : +91(11) 23387887

Subscription : +91(11) 23005798

e-mail

[kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in](mailto:kamalsandesh@yahoo.co.in)

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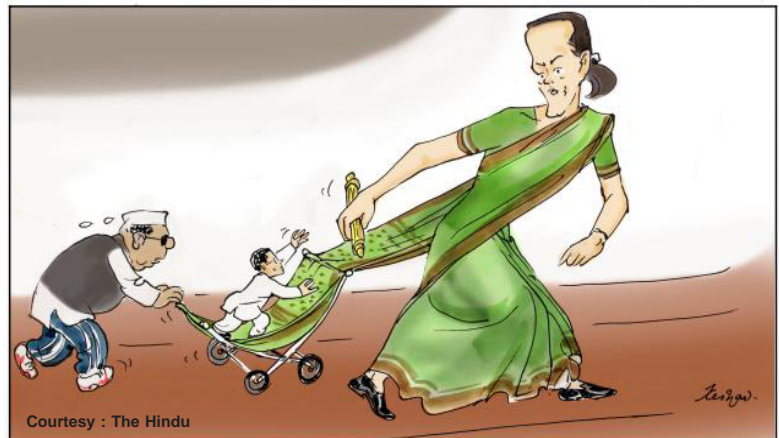
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Courtesy : The Hindu



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*Anyone who having controlled the five working sense organs remains thinking within the mind about sense objects, that foolish being is known as a hypocrite.*

– (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-III, 6)

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“Bharat has lost a Ratna, but the light from this jewel will guide us towards A P J Abdul Kalam’s dream destination: India as a knowledge superpower, in the first rank of nations.”

-Narendra Modi

“Bihar is yearning for good governance, not stale politics, ego battles & ‘Jungle Raj.’”

-Amit Shah

## Raksha Bandhan : 29 August, 2015

Raksha Bandhan is a Hindu festival that celebrates the love and duty between brothers and sisters. In many parts of India It is called Rakhi Purnima, or simply Rakhi. On Raksha Bandhan, sisters tie a Rakhi (sacred thread) on her brother’s wrist. This symbolizes the sister’s love and prayers for her brother’s wellbeing, and the brother’s lifelong vow to protect her. The festival falls on the full moon day (Shravan Poornima) of the Shravan month of the Hindu calendar Raksha Bandhan in Sanskrit literally means “the tie or knot of protection”. On that day the sister performs a Rakhi ceremony, then prays to express her love and her wish for the well being of her brother; in return, the brother ritually pledges to protect and take care of his sister under all circumstances. It is one of the several occasions in which family ties are affirmed in India.



Raksha Bandhan is an ancient festival, and has many myths and historic legends linked to it. According to Hindu scripture the Bhavishya Purana, in the war between Gods and demons, Indra – was disgraced by the powerful King Bali. Indra’s wife Sachi consulted Lord Vishnu, who gave her a bracelet made of cotton thread, calling it holy. Sachi tied the holy thread around Indra wrist, blessed with her prayers for his well being and success. Indra successfully defeated the evil and recovered Amaravati. This story inspired the protective power of holy thread. According to the Hindu scriptures Bhagavata Purana and Vishnu Purana, after Vishnu won the three worlds from King Bali, he was asked by Bali that Vishnu must live in his palace, a request Vishnu granted. Vishnu’s wife, Goddess Lakshmi did not like the palace or his new found friendship with Bali, and preferred that her husband and she return to Vaikuntha. So she went to Bali, tied a Rakhi and made him a brother. Bali asked her what gift she desired. Lakshmi asked that Vishnu be freed from the request that he live in Bali’s palace. Bali consented, as well accepted her as his sister.

In the epic Mahabharat, Draupadi tied a Rakhi to Krishna, while Kunti tied her Rakhi to her grandson Abhimanyu, before the Great Mahabharat War. Even the Rajput queens practiced the custom of sending rakhi threads to neighboring rulers as token of brotherhood. The festival is observed by Hindus, Jains, and Sikhs. Raksha Bandhan is primarily observed in India, Mauritius and in Nepal. It is also celebrated by Hindus and Sikhs in parts of Pakistan and Bangladesh and by people of Indian origin around the world.



## Obstructionism will not help Congress!

While India is making its strong presence felt in the world under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, some opposition parties led by Congress is seeking to resort to obstructionist methods to hide their own failures. Congress should understand that obstructionist methods will not help it to survive in the changed political circumstances. It should now educate itself on the values of parliamentary system and democratic ethics. Congress should now reconcile itself with its decimation in Lok Sabha elections and try to play the role of constructive opposition. It's true that it failed to give constructive rule to the country but that doesn't mean that it should desist itself from being a constructive opposition. Obstructionism will not pay, people want constructive approach in politics today. Congress is further expediting its slide in people's estimation by becoming a stumbling block in the progress of nation.

The manner in which Congress has resorted to obstructionism with the opening of monsoon session this time, there was no way left to restore order in the parliament. It was clearly a tactic aimed at somehow creating impediments in the functioning of the government which has fast tracked its major initiatives. The further consolidation of BJP led NDA government's works and its high approval rating both inside and outside the country has made Congress led opposition nervous. It wanted to be seen on the political spectrum, it wanted to make its presence felt. But the negative manner in which it has tried to project itself has further dented its image. Congress is now burdened with the sin of obstructing almost three weeks of parliament. Who will take responsibility for this national loss? Congress will have to answer and people will not let it get away with twisted logics. Not only this, the Congress has even crossed all limits of proprieties with the undesirable nature of the so called 'protest'. There was no way left for the Speaker but to suspend 25 placard wielding members to restore the dignity of the house.

Parliament is the temple of democracy. Its dignified conduct is necessary for our democracy to function effectively. Yes, it is a forum where different opinions are aired, discussed and debated but there is a way in which the business of the house is conducted. Even for the protests there are certain self imposed restraints which the political parties should respect in the larger interest of democracy. We have accepted parliamentary form of democracy and the faith of the people in parliament needs to be strengthened again and again. The kinds of protests which the Congress has been indulging are not in accordance with a mature democracy. Such action will not only further weaken people's trust in Congress but also prove detrimental to national interest. If the Congress believes that it can damage the reputation of Modi government through obstructionism then it is completely mistaken. It's not damaging Modi government's reputation, it's hurting the national interest and in the process it completely stands exposed before the people.

The nation is marching ahead with hope and confidence. It has found a leader in Narendra Modi who is working hard to make India a developed and vibrant country. People are coming out overwhelmingly in support of BJP led

NDA's innovative schemes. India is now seen with respect in the international arena and the initiatives taken by Narendra Modi have started paying dividends. In such a time Congress should have strengthened the measures taken by the government. Petty politics will not help Congress to survive another electoral blow. It should now choose the path of constructive opposition and gear up its party machinery for positive role in the society.

It should take lessons from BJP which has not only become world's largest political party in the visionary leadership of party president Amit Shah but also taking organizational measures to become the most organized action oriented party with positive approach for the society. Obstructionism will not help Congress to revive its fortunes. ■

Exhibition on 'An Untold Story: Communist Violence in Kerala' inaugurated in New Delhi

## Our activists working to promote party ideology being put on life threat in Kerala : Amit Shah

**B**JP National President Shri Amit Shah inaugurated an exhibition 'An Untold Story: Communist Violence in Kerala' on 04 August, 2015 at NDMC Convention Centre, New Delhi. Inaugurating the exhibition at NDMC Convention Centre, Shri Amit Shah said that our



activists working to promote the party ideology are being put on life threat in Kerala while our priority is to move the state on a path of development.

He said that wherever the BJP activists talk on ideology and development the CPI(M) workers commit murderous attacks on them and it is not just happening in Kerala, but it is happening everywhere where their governments have been in power or in those areas where they have are effective and it has been their practice. They have always been like that.

Shri Shah said that the people of Kerala should think for how long they can trust such people who commit such violence and brutal attacks on those who work for the development and nationalism. He said 'violence and democracy cannot go together'. Stating the rationale behind bringing and organizing this exhibition in Delhi, Shri Shah said that it was a necessity to bring the truth before everyone that how an ideological battle have been transformed into barbarian attacks in Kerala.

Hitting out at Congress and Left Parties, he said that the patriots have to die due to those who are in power and those who keep coming to power. He said the people must know how inhumane atrocities happening with patriots in Kerala.

Shri Amit Shah praised the organizers of this exhibition and said that it would expose those who resort to violence to acquire power and commit murderous attacks on the people who fight for the ideological battle of the nationalism in Kerala. ■



# Narendra Modi has taken efforts to uplift all sections of society : Amit Shah

**B**JP President Shri Amit Shah participated in the Devendra Kula Vellalars community conference and addressed a large number of people on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2015 in Madurai. Appreciating the efforts and measures taken by the Devendra Kula Vellalars Society to abolish of the caste system in the community, he said that this community is going to lead various other

gatherings, BJP President Shri Amit Shah said the results of the efforts made by the community will build a new mindset in the society.

Shri Shah appreciated the Madurai declaration and said that the BJP has already been supporting this and we are always with you.

Speaking to the gathering, he said I would not talk politically from this forum but

corruption can be rooted out completely from the state. Shri Shah described the Meenakshi Temple as the attestor of India's prosperity and called upon the people especially the youth of the state to take a resolution to create a corruption free Tamil Nadu by eradicating malversation and malpractices from the state.

He said that Narendra Modi's government has restored the pride of India in the whole World in little more than a year of ruling and lifted the moral of every Indian's moral at a new high.

Appealing the people, he said that your all the blessings must go the Shri Narendra Modi Ji

communities. He said your decision will lead a new way to society in coming days.

Invoking to the Devendra Kula Vellalars community, he said you should build a new inclusive community through the abolition of the caste system of the society with restoring its lost pride and glory via adding the dignity of all the communities representing their respective caste sum up to the prestige of the country.

Addressing the public

would say though Tamil Nadu is among the developed states of the country at one end but the same time it is also in the list of most corrupt states. Emphasizing to this fact, he said that development and corruption cannot go together.

Shri Shah said that the corruption has halved the growth potential in Tamil Nadu. He said that no one can stop Tamil Nadu as becoming India's most developed state if the

continuously for the efforts he has taken to uplift of all the sections of society.

At the end of his speech, he expressed his acclamation from the heart to the Devendra Kula Vellalars society and said that your effort and your proudest decision must be followed and I pray the almighty Indra that he give you the strength always and there should be no obstacle in the establishment of your pride.(FOC)■



# BJP 'Prashikshan Maha Abhiyan' workshop starts in States

Prior to launching the Nationwide Membership Drive the BJP crafted out a strategy of a three layer system i.e. Sadasyata Maha Abhiyan, Sampark Maha Abhiyan and Prashikshan Maha Abhiyan for the successful completion of membership drive. Noteworthy to mention that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi along with BJP National President Shri Amit Shah and other senior leaders of the party launched the National Membership Drive - 'Sadasyata Maha Abhiyaan' on 01 November, 2014 in New Delhi and on that occasion Shri Modi enrolled himself as the first member of the party.

After the culmination of the highly successful Nationwide Membership Drive the BJP has emerged as the largest political party in the world with more than 11 crore members. Subsequently for the new enrolled members of the party the organization launched the 'Maha Sampark Abhiyan' in the presence of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the Prime Minister's residence on 01 May, 2015 in New Delhi. Under the Maha Sampark Abhiyan the organizational leaders of the party and BJP Karyakartas visited door to door covering

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ 'Prasikshyan Maha Abhiyan' has commenced parallely in maximum states from 01<sup>st</sup> August.
- ◆ As per the programme, BJP has envisioned training for around 15 lakh Active Members.
- ◆ Training camps will be organized for active Karyakartas of BJP in more than 11000 Mandals.
- ◆ Each camp will have a maximum of 150 people. If the number exceeds 150, then more camps may be held.
- ◆ The duration, pattern and style of all camps will be same from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.
- ◆ For the first time BJP is organizing a training programme of this magnitude
- ◆ The main idea behind this whole exercise is to inculcate the organization's ideology, ideals and values among the Karyakartas.
- ◆ Apart from Party's ideology the Karyakartas will also get training in 11 main topics.
- ◆ The entire training programme is expected to be completed in four months time.

all 11 crore new members who joined the party recently and met the new members to confirm and verify their membership with the party. The Maha Sampark Abhiyan is going on in different parts of the country and it is about to complete in a few days time.

Meanwhile, the third and the last phase of the three tier Membership programme i.e. the 'Prashikshan Maha Abhiyan' has commenced parallely from 01<sup>st</sup> August, 2015 in different states. As per the programme, the party has envisioned training for around 15 lakh Active Members of the party.

The Prashikshan Maha Abhiyan is a four layered programme. As per the plan training camps will be organized for active Karyakartas of the party in more than 11000 Mandals of the country. The second stage is the district level camps and all the 650 districts of the country will be covered. The state level camps are the third tier and in all the states the training camps will be organized. Each camp will have a maximum of 150 people. If the number exceeds 150, then more camps may be held. The duration of the Mandal level programme will

be two days and one night, district level two nights and three days and state level three nights and four days. The programme will involve living in the camp together for the entire duration and the pattern and style of all camps will be same from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. All the camps in the States will progress simultaneously and in the end there will be a national level camp.

To make the training programme a grand success the organization has selected trainers to train the huge number of new Karyakartas. Recently the party has organized a three day national Training Workshop for the trainers. The National Workshop was held in New Delhi under the presidentship of the BJP National President Shri Amit Shah and the national camp has decided about the future roadmap and what will be the issues and contents of the training programme. For the first time BJP is organizing a training programme of this magnitude and the entire training programme is expected to be completed in four months time.

The trainers training Workshop is a three tier system i.e. in National level, State level and District level and as per the programme the trained Karyakartas will impart training at the Mandal level. Presently the trainers training State Workshops are being conducted in different

States. State Workshops have already been held in States like Tripura, Assam, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi, Maharashtra and Telangana. The party has rescheduled the dates in some of the States like West Bengal, Karnataka, Bihar and Gujarat, given local happenings like flood and elections. However, the State workshops will be completed till the end of this month.

To make the State training programme a success, senior leaders of the party have addressed the Karyakartas and imparted them training in different States workshops. BJP National General Secretary (Organization) Shri Ramlal, *Saroshri* Shivprakash, V. Satish, Mahesh Chandra Sharma, Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Shyam Jaju, Muralidhar Rao, Kailash Vijayvargiya, Kalraj Mishra, Tawarchand Gehlot, Prem Kumar Dhupal, J.P. Nadda, Avinash Rai Khanna, Shanta Kumar, Raghunath Kulkarni, Ravindra Sathe, Suresh Pujari, Sunil Deodhar, Mahendra Singh, Raman Deka, Jitendra Singh, Dinesh Sharma, Anil Jain, Bhagat Singh Koshiyari, Mahendra Pandey, Trivendra Singh Rawat, Smt. Sudha Yadav and Shrikant Sharma have participated in different workshops.

The main idea behind this whole exercise of training of new as well as old Karyakartas is to inculcate the organization's ideology,

ideals and values among the Karyakartas. Apart from Party's ideology the Karyakartas will also get training in eleven main topics and two local issues i.e. about party's history, Government's achievements, 'Hamara Vichar Pariwar', organizational structure and party's work culture, knowledge about 'Sanskritik Rashtravad', 'Ekatma Manabdarshan', Karyakarta personality development, media relations, social media and challenges before the nation etc. will be the key areas of training. There will be separate sessions in each State to highlight the specific socio-political aspects of that particular state and also there will be session to update the active workers on the achievements of the central government and the BJP-ruled states where a number of path-breaking initiatives have been successfully implemented.

As per the plan, to make the 'Prashikshan Abhiyan' more effective, the party will fully utilize all the available modern technology and tools. To understand and to place every issue effectively before the new Karyakartas the party has envisaged the use of technology tools through documentary and exhibitions.■

*(As told by Member Prashikshan Maha Abhiyan, Shri R. Balashankar to Member Editorial Board, Kamal Sandesh Ram Prasad Tripathy)*



PM launches various development projects in Patna

## Development is the panacea of all problems : PM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on July 25 launched various development projects at Patna in Bihar. He launched the *Deendayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojana*; inaugurated the Daniawan-Bihar Sharif new railway line; flagged off the

poverty and unemployment. He expressed satisfaction that there is now a general agreement on this aspect, and states are even becoming competitive with regard to development. He said India will progress only through the development of the States,

approved for Bihar, by the Union Government.

The Prime Minister said that IIT Patna, whose new campus was inaugurated today, should also cater to the State's development needs. He expressed hope that the Incubation Centre for medical



Rajgir-Bihar Sharif Daniawan-Fatuha passenger train and Patna-Mumbai AC Suvidha Express; dedicated to the nation the permanent IIT Campus at Patna; launched and laid the foundation stone for Incubation Centre for Medical Electronics, Patna; and inaugurated the construction of the first phase of the Jagdishpur-Haldia pipeline project.

The Prime Minister said development is the panacea for all problems related to

and for this the Centre and States have to work together.

Emphasizing the importance of infrastructure, the Prime Minister said the gas pipeline and rail projects which were launched today would provide development and improve the quality of life of the people in the State. He said that if India has to progress, then the development of Eastern India is essential. He also mentioned several road projects that have been

devices launched at the IIT, would help manufacture medical devices in India to make them easily accessible for all. The Governor of Bihar Shri Keshri Nath Tripathi, the Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Nitish Kumar, Union Ministers Shri Suresh Prabhu, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Shri Piyush Goyal, Shri Upendra Kushwaha and Shri Ram Kripal Yadav were present on the occasion. (FOC) ■



## Construction of proposed TAPI gas pipeline project cleared

**P**etroleum Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan's recent visit to Ashgabat has given fresh impetus to start the construction of Turkmen segment of the pipeline in December 2015. Minister of State (Independent charge) for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan led the Indian delegation to the 22nd Steering Committee meeting of TAPI Natural Gas pipeline project in Ashgabat on August 6, 2015.

During the meeting it was agreed that the four countries involved in the project, i.e. Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India will own the project and take steps for early implementation of the project. Turkmenistan proposed that its state-owned company TurkmenGaz would lead the Consortium for TAPI project with majority investment. All sides endorsed the Turkmen proposal. It was agreed that all sides would make investment in the project subject to techno-commercial viability, shareholders agreement and investment agreement.

It may be noted that during the recent visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Turkmenistan during 10-11 July 2015 TAPI project was discussed at length and Prime Minister stressed upon early implementation of the gas pipeline project.

India joined the project in 2008. Due to security and to some

extent economic issue the construction of pipeline has been delayed. Security has been main concerned issue as pipeline passes through Afghanistan and Balochistan in Pakistan, both considered to be unstable areas.

On the margins of the TAPI meeting Shri Pradhan met Deputy Prime Minister in charge of Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan Mr. Baymurad Hojamammedov. They reiterated the resolve of the leadership of the two countries to take concrete steps to materialize the TAPI project at an early date. Shri Pradhan welcomed the Turkmen decision which gives fresh impetus to start the construction of Turkmen segment



of the pipeline in December 2015.

Shri Pradhan held a bilateral meeting with Minister of Petroleum of Pakistan Mr. Shahid Khaqan Abbasi. The two sides agreed that TAPI gas pipeline would contribute towards energy security and economic prosperity of both the countries. They agreed to work towards early implementation of the project. ■

### Indo-Bangladesh border disputes is officially over

Now it is official that Indo-Bangladesh border disputes have come to an end. The border dispute surrounding 162 Indian and Bangladeshi enclaves ended on August 3, 2015. The two countries switched sovereignty over 111 enclaves in Bangladesh and 51 in India following a border agreement struck in June ending the 68 years of stateless existence for over 50,000 enclave dwellers. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during his visit to Bangladesh in June signed an agreement with Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh's Prime Minister, for the two countries to swap 162 small parcels of land known as enclaves that were left behind in each other's territories when boundaries were drawn in 1947. On August 3 Newspapers reported that the Bangladeshi enclaves are now a part of India, while the Indian enclaves join Bangladesh. Torches and candles were lit, people came out of their houses, burst crackers and hugged each other as part of the celebrations with their eyes shining bright with hope. Their facial expressions showed ecstasy after decades of isolation and deprivation during which they were denied even the basic civic amenities. History was written as India gave away to Bangladesh a total area of 17,160 acres, covering the 111 enclaves and in return received 7,110 acres comprising 51 enclaves. (FOC) ■

# Why Jansangh ?

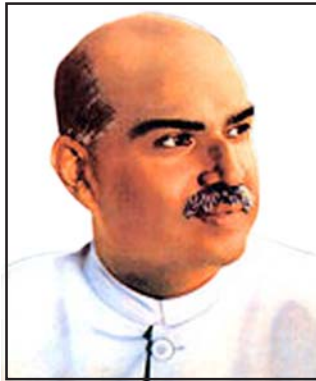
**Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee**

*Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee in his presidential address at the first Convention of All India Bharatiya Jana Sangh held in Delhi on 21st October, 1951 elaborated on main reasons behind the formation of Bharatiya Janasangh. We are publishing the full text of his speech for our esteemed readers in a series. The third and last part of his speech is given below :*

Kashmir

Regarding Kashmir our party feels that the case should be withdrawn from U.N.O. and there should be no further question of plebiscite. Kashmir is an integral part of India and should be treated as any other State. It is indeed tragic that one-third of Kashmir should be in the hands of the enemy and our Government should be unable to free the area from foreign occupation in spite of occasional outbursts of determination to fight any future penetration.

From what I have stated above it will appear that our party claims to deal with national and international problems in a spirit of realism consistent with the honour and dignity of India. We have been attacked vigorously by some spokesmen of other parties specially Mr. Nehru, the President of the Congress. Since he also happens to be the Prime Minister of India his utterances naturally carry great weight. The vigour of his repeated attacks has given us added strength and determination. We will not



succumb to threats and abuses. Indeed they have provided us with widespread publicity and for this our thanks are due to him. It is open to anyone to criticise another party's programme freely and unequivocally but such criticisms should not amount to misrepresentation of facts. The main charge against us is that we are a communal party with retrograde ideas. A bare examination of our programme will convince any right-thinking man that this is a perversion of truth. The charge of pandering to communalism really lies at the door of the Congress and specially against Mr. Nehru himself. Let him coolly examine his own

performances during the last thirty years. At every step when he and his colleagues had to deal with the intransigence of Muslim League, they ran away from the fight and ultimately succumbed to it by dividing their motherland. Dr. Ambedkar's recent proposal to partition Kashmir on the basis of Hindu and Muslim population has shocked many. We also do not approve of this. Such concession do not settle disputes but only create fresh jumping grounds for Pakistan for making fresh demands. That was indeed the old Muslim League technique. But surely this was exactly what Mr. Nehru and his friends had done with regard to India in 1947. It is true that some of us supported the partition of Bengal and Punjab in 1947 but be it recorded that we were forced to do so when Bharat's division was imminent. We always wanted to keep these and other provinces within United Bharat. When we found that this was not possible due to the betrayal of the Congress and the pact

between itself and Muslim League supported by an astute British policy, we were anxious to save as much of these provinces as possible and keep them within free India. Otherwise they would have been lost to India in their entirety. If Bharat had not been partitioned, there would have been no occasion to partition these great provinces whose people have suffered enormously for the sake of Bharat's liberation. Having repeatedly sacrificed Bharatiya nationalism at the altar of Muslim communalism and even after partition having surrendered to the whims and howls of Pakistan Government it does not lie in the mouth of Mr. Nehru to accuse others of communalism. There is no communalism in Bharat today except the new policy of Muslim appeasement which has been started by Mr. Nehru and his friends for the purpose of winning their votes at the forthcoming election. We have provincialism and other types of class or caste differences in the country today. Let us jointly try to remove these evils so as to lay the foundation for a truly democratic India. The cry of communalism raised by Mr. Nehru is to sidetrack the real issues now before the country. The problem before the country today are clearly related to hunger, to poverty, to exploitation, to maladministration, to corruption,

to abject surrender to Pakistan, all being evils for which the main responsibility rests on the Congress and the Government under it. Mr. Nehru, the Arch-Fascist of India, accuses others of fascism. Such efforts to hoodwink the public will meet with miserable failure.

#### New Era of Hope

We firmly believe that the inauguration of this party will usher in a new era of hope, peace and strength. Our goal and objective are sound but our success will depend on the organisation that we can set up and the confidence that we can create in the minds of the people themselves. That will take time and much patient labour. Let its not be completely overshadowed by the forthcoming elections. No doubt we will face them boldly and appeal to the electorate wherever we can to trust us with their votes explaining the viewpoints that we are claiming to advocate. There is however greater chance of defeating the Congress at the elections if there is at least electoral understanding among the principal parties in opposition. The main basis for such understanding should be popularity and confidence of the voters. The Congress has collected enormous funds and all sorts of pressures are being put upon various classes of people for getting their support for the Congress. It enjoys the powers of Government today and there is every likelihood that it will

not hesitate to manipulate the official machinery for winning the elections. From our recent experience in Delhi elections it is feared that elections may not be free and fair. The manner in which the official machinery was utilised for the Delhi session of the Congress also indicates how Congress and Government have become synonymous expressions. Such abuse of power creates most unhealthy precedents. All opposition parties should, therefore, unite in demanding that the conditions for free and fair election should be scrupulously observed. Even Delhi elections, where the Congress has won, reveal interesting conclusions. Of the total voters barely 30 per cent have voted for the Congress. Thus the majority of the voters are anti-Congress. This has been the case in the capital city of Bharat in spite of feverish and hectic efforts of the Prime Minister and others to win success for the Congress. But for the fact that the contestants were too many in number and in some places Congress gave tickets to non-Congress independents, the majority of the votes would have been cast against the Congress and the Congress would have been ultimately defeated. In any case our party, although barely two months old, has secured about 24 per cent of the total votes and in many cases the difference between the Congress candidates and ours

was very small. This is no small achievement. Our workers must march ahead in full confidence of the justice of our cause and the support which we have already received in different parts of the country.

Service and Sacrifice

We enter upon our task with full faith, hope and courage. Let our workers constantly remember that only through service and sacrifice will they be able to win the confidence of masses of the people. The great task of revitalising and re-constructing free Bharat awaits us. The mother calls her children, irrespective of class, caste or religion to come to her and serve her. However dark the present clouds may be, Bharat has a great destiny to fulfil in the years to come.

May our party whose symbol in the forthcoming elections is a humble earthen Tradip' try to carry this light of hope and unity, faith and courage to dispel the darkness that surrounds the country. The journey has just begun.

May Providence endow us with strength and fortitude to remain ever on the right path, not cowed by fears or tempted by favours, and to help to make Bharat great and strong, spiritually and materially, so that she may become a fit and noble instrument in the preservation of world peace and prosperity. Jai Bharat! ■

## PMIs show Indian economy better than most others in Asia

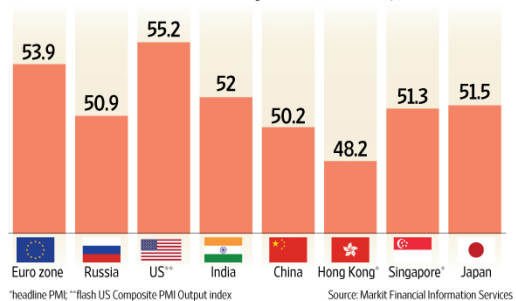
After a decade of policy paralysis during the Congress led UPA government India's economy is recovering and gradually getting a good shape during the last one year of the NDA government. This fact was attested by recent reports of various international organizations. The Purchasing Managers' Indices (PMIs) also prove once again that Indian economy is better off than most others in Asia.

India's composite output PMI is 52 for July, which is better than that of some large Asian economies. The composite output index is a combined measure of manufacturing and services activity in the private sector.

Among manufacturing PMIs, the Indonesian, Malaysian, South Korean and Taiwanese indices all showed a contraction in July, and only Vietnam's manufacturing expansion was comparable to India's.

### COMPOSITE OUTPUT INDEX

(Combined measure of manufacturing and services activity)



India's relatively better position explains why the Indian equity markets have not really seen large outflows in the past month despite global emerging market investors being heavily overweight on the country in the past year.

Investors have taken out around \$12.6 billion from emerging market funds in the three weeks ending 31 July, but India has only seen outflows of around \$358 million, according to the data compiled by EPFR. As a large beneficiary of commodity deflation and with an economy fuelled mainly by domestic consumption demand, India is better positioned to withstand any turbulence arising from a US Federal Reserve rate hike as well as contagion from a Chinese slowdown. A Deutsche Bank report dated 4 August points out that in July, "while the Sensex rose by only a modest 1.2%, it still outperformed MSCI Asia and MSCI EM by a massive 700bps (basis points) and 800bps, respectively". A basis point is one hundredth of a percentage point. Note, however, that the composite output index of the euro zone and the US are better than India's at 53.9 and 55.2, respectively. (FOC) ■



# Bharat has lost its Ratna

*-But Abdul Kalam's light will guide us to his dream destination :  
India as a knowledge superpower.*

**By Narendra Modi**

**B**harat has lost a Ratna, but the light from this jewel will guide us towards A P J Abdul Kalam's dream destination: India as a knowledge superpower, in the first rank of nations. Our scientist-President and one who was genuinely loved and admired across the masses never measured success by material possessions.

For him, the counterpoint to poverty was the wealth of knowledge, in both its scientific and spiritual manifestations. As a hero of our defence programme, he shifted horizons; and as a seer of the spirit, he sought to liberate doctrine from the narrow confines of partisan

tension to the transcendental space of harmony.

Every great life is a prism, and we bathe in those rays that find their way to us. His profound idealism was secure because it rested on a foundation of realism.

Every child of deprivation is a realist. Poverty does not encourage illusions. Poverty is a terrible inheritance; a child can be defeated even before he or she has begun to dream.

But Kalamji refused to be defeated by circumstances. As a boy, he had to support his studies by earning money as a newspaper vendor; today, page after page of the same newspapers are filled with his obituary notices.



Oct-15, 1931 - July 27, 2015

He said that he would not be presumptuous enough to say that his life could be a role model for anybody; but if some poor child living in an obscure and underprivileged social setting found some solace in the way his destiny had been shaped, it could perhaps help such children liberate themselves from the bondage of illusory backwardness and helplessness. He is my marg darshak, as well as that of every such child.

His character, commitment and inspirational vision shine through his life. He was unencumbered by ego; flattery left him cold.

He was equally at ease before an audience of suave, globe-trotting ministers and a class of young students. The first thing that struck one

## BJP President condoles demise of Abdul Kalam

Former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, the 'missile man' who came to be known as 'People's President' died on July 27 during a lecture at the IIM in Shillong. BJP National President Shri Amit Shah condoling his demise said "I felt very sad on sudden demise of Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam. A true patriotic, great scientist, visionary and Karma yogi Dr. Kalam devoted his entire life in nation building. Popularly known as missile man Shri Kalam's life was full of simplicity." Shri Shah added, he was a rare combination of science, education and morality. Dr. Kalam dreamt of a developed, prosperous and powerful India and always remained committed to make the dream true. He played important role to make India a space and atomic power. The Nation is indebted to Dr. Kalam for his outstanding contribution. Shri Shah said "His demise is irreparable loss to this nation. His personality and deed will be inspirational for coming generation."

about him was that, uniquely, he combined the honesty of a child with the energy of a teenager and the maturity of an adult.

He took little from the world, and gave all he could to society. A man of deep faith, he epitomised the three great virtues of our civilisation: *dama*, self-restraint; *dana*, sacrifice; and *daya*, compassion. But this persona was powered by the fire of endeavour. His vision for the nation was anchored in freedom, development and strength.

Given our history, freedom had a political context of course; but it also included freedom of the mind and expansion of intellectual space. He wanted India to leap out of the underdeveloped trough and eliminate the curse of poverty through inclusive economic growth. Wisely, he suggested that politicians spend only 30% of their time on politics, and 70% on development; a suggestion which he often followed up by calling in MPs from a state and discussing the socioeconomic issues of their region with them.

The third pillar, strength, was not born of aggression, but of understanding. An insecure nation will rarely discover the route to prosperity. Strength commands respect. His contributions to our nuclear and space achievements have given India the muscle to be confident of her place in the

region and the world.

His memory is best honoured by the creation of new institutions that nurture science and technology, and enable us to find a beneficial equation with the awesome power of nature. Too often, greed makes us predators of our environment.

Kalamji saw poetry in a tree, and energy that could be harnessed in water, wind and sun. We should learn to look at our world through his eyes, and with the same missionary zeal.

Human beings can shape their lives through will, persistence, ability and sheer courage. But we have not been given the right to script where we are born, or how and when we die.

However, if Kalamji had been offered an option, this is how he would perhaps have chosen to say goodbye: on his

feet, and in front of a classroom of his beloved students.

As a bachelor, he was childless. But that is wrong. He was a father to every Indian child, teaching, cajoling, urging, exciting, clearing darkness wherever he found it with the radiance of his vision and the passion of his involvement.

He saw the future, and showed the way. As I entered the room where his body lay in state yesterday, I noticed the painting at the entrance that depicted a few lines from an inspirational book he wrote for children, *Ignited Minds*. The good that he did will not be interred with his bones, because his children will preserve his memory through their lives and work, and gift it to their children. ■

*(The writer is the Prime Minister of India)*

Leaders tweeted:

“India mourns the loss of a great scientist, a wonderful President & above all an inspiring individual. RIP Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. Dr. Kalam...my mind is filled with so many memories, so many interactions with him. Always marvelled at his intellect, learnt so much from him”

— Narendra Modi (@narendramodi)

“Dr Kalam was a man of impeccable character, indomitable spirit, profound knowledge and firm conviction. Deeply saddened at the sudden demise of the former president of India Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. He was an inspiration to an entire generation.

— Rajnath Singh (@BJPRajnathSingh)

“His contribution as a scientist and as a President was unparalleled. The whole country will mourn his death and we will all continue to remain inspired by him.”

—Arun Jaitley

Bharat Ratna Dr. Kalam as a great scientist, a true nationalist and a wonderful human being. In his death the nation has lost a visionary and the scientific community a missile expert.

—Nitin Gadkari

## Agreement will open a glorious new chapter for Nagaland : PM

The Government of India and the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) successfully concluded the dialogue on Naga political issue, which has existed for

endorsed the agreement and was present during the ceremony.

This agreement will end the oldest insurgency in the country. It will restore peace and pave the way for

accorded highest priority to this lingering problem. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has on a number of occasions, including during visits to the Northeast region, articulated his vision for transforming the



six decades, and signed an agreement on August 3, 2015 in the presence of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh.

Government's Interlocutor for Naga Peace Talks, Shri R.N. Ravi, signed the Agreement on behalf of the Government of India. Shri Isak Chishi Swu, Chairman and Shri Th. Muivah, General Secretary were the signatories on behalf of the NSCN. The entire top leadership of the NSCN (IM), including all members of the "collective leadership", has fully

prosperity in the North East. It will advance a life of dignity, opportunity and equity for the Naga people, based on their genius and consistent with the uniqueness of the Naga people and their culture and traditions.

Attempts were made from time to time to resolve the issue through discussion with representatives of the Naga people. A fresh attempt for a comprehensive resolution was initiated with the NSCN in 1997.

The new Government on assuming power in May 2014

Northeast and has attached the highest priority to peace, security, connectivity and economic development in the region. This has also been at the heart of the Government's foreign policy, especially 'Act East' Policy.

The sustained dialogue between the two sides, conducted in a spirit of equality, respect and trust, deepened their mutual understanding and confidence, and enabled the two sides to reach an equitable agreement. The Government of India recognized the unique

history, culture and position of the Nagas and their sentiments and aspirations. The NSCN understood and appreciated the Indian political system and governance.

The Government interlocutor also held frequent consultations with broad spectrum of Naga leaders, including those from the traditional tribal bodies, civil society, youth and students' bodies, women's groups, elected representatives and other stakeholders. These consultations helped in distilling the popular aspirations of the Naga people and in enhancing a healthy atmosphere of trust and understanding.

In his statement at the signing ceremony, the Hon'ble Prime Minister lauded the courage and wisdom of the Naga leaders and civil society and thanked them for their cooperation in reaching the agreement. He also praised the Naga people for their support and the NSCN for maintaining the ceasefire for nearly two decades that enabled the dialogue to succeed. Prime Minister spoke of his vision for the transformation of the Northeast region. He also expressed confidence that the agreement will open a glorious new chapter for the Naga people to build a bright future for Nagaland and also contribute to the nation with a sense of pride and confidence.

Shri Th. Muivah, General Secretary, NSCN, narrated the history of Nagas' struggle and thanked the Prime Minister for his vision and resolve, which made it possible for the Government of India and the NSCN to reach an honourable settlement.

Within this framework agreement, details and

execution plan will be released shortly.

Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, National Security Adviser, Shri Ajit Doval and other high dignitaries of the Government of India were present. The NSCN was represented by its entire collective leadership and senior leaders of various Naga tribes. ■

### Agreement a milestone in realizing the dream of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat : Amit shah

BJP President Shri Amit Shah welcomed the historic peace agreement between National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN) and Govt. of India. Shri Shah has congratulated the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on reaching the successful resolution of the six-decade-old Naga political problem. Shri Amit Shah said that the successful reconciliation of the Naga problem is an another major achievement of the NDA government. The success is a milestone towards realizing the dream of Shri Modi Ji 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'.

Shri Shah said that the permanent solution to the Naga problem would end the six-decade-old insurgency issue and the violent activities in the Northeast region. It will establish peace in the region which will create an environment of the investment and development there and it would pave the way of prosperity. Through it, the youth of the North-East especially Naga society will have better education and employment opportunities.

The NDA government continues to strive to pursue the northeast region into the mainstream of development. In the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi Ji, the NDA government is moving ahead on the path of growth by adopting non-discriminatory policy of inclusive development 'Collective Efforts, Inclusive Growth', he added. This achievement of the Modi government is not just a matter of pride for the North East but also for 125 crore countrymen.

The President also congratulated the people of the North East, especially the Naga society. Shri Shah said that the with the diligence of the meritorious Naga society and the mutual brotherhood, the North East region will grow rapidly on a path of development. ■



# Naga courage & commitment are legendary : Narendra Modi

Excerpts from the speech delivered by PM Shri Modi on the historic occasion

**T**he Naga political issue had lingered for six decades, taking a huge toll on generations of our people. I sincerely thank Shri Isak Swu, Shri Muivah and other Naga leaders for their wisdom and courage, for their efforts and cooperation, which has resulted in this historic agreement. I have the deepest admiration for the great Naga people for their extraordinary support to the peace efforts. I compliment the National Socialist Council of Nagaland for maintaining the ceasefire agreement for nearly two decades, with a sense of honour that defines the great Naga people. My relationship with the North East has been deep. I have travelled to Nagaland on many occasions. I have been deeply impressed by the rich and diverse culture and the unique way of life of the Naga people. It makes not only our nation, but also the world a more beautiful place. The Naga courage and commitment are legendary. Equally, they represent the highest levels of humanism. Their system of village administration and grass-root democracy should be an inspiration for the rest of the country. The respect for the

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infirm and elders, the status of women in society, sensitivity to Mother Nature, and the emphasis on social equality is a natural way of Naga life. These are values that should constitute the foundation of the society that we all seek.

Unfortunately, the Naga problem has taken so long to resolve because we did not understand each other. It is a legacy of the British Rule. The colonial rulers had, by design, kept the Nagas isolated and insulated. They propagated terrible myths about Nagas in the rest of the country. They deliberately suppressed the reality that the Nagas were an extremely evolved

society. They also spread negative ideas about the rest of India amongst Naga people. This was part of the well known policy of divide and rule of the colonial rulers.

It is one of the tragedies of Independent India that we have lived with this legacy. There were not many like Mahatma Gandhi, who loved the Naga people and was sensitive to their sentiments. We have continued to look at each other through the prism of false perceptions and old prejudices. The result was that connectivity between Nagaland and the rest of India remained weak across this divide. Economic development and progress in Nagaland remained modest; and, durable peace was elusive. Since becoming Prime Minister last year, peace, security and economic transformation of North East has been amongst my highest priorities. It is also at the heart of my foreign policy, especially the 'Act East' Policy. I have been deeply concerned about resolving the Naga issue. Soon after entering office, I appointed an interlocutor for talks with the Naga leaders, who not only understood the Naga

*...Continued on page 24*

# Dissent or Disruption - The Congress Party's Position on GST

By Arun Jaitley

The Report of the Select Committee on the Goods and Services Tax has been submitted to the Rajya Sabha. The Constitution Amendment Bill has already been approved by the Lok Sabha. The Select Committee has recommended a five year compensation to the States which suffer any revenue loss on account of introduction of the GST.

## History

The proposal for introduction of GST was first mooted by Shri P. Chidambaram in his Budget Speech for the year 2006-07. After detailed deliberations and negotiations in the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers, the 115th Constitution amendment Bill, 2011 was introduced by Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the then Finance Minister. It was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee which submitted its report in August, 2013. The Bill, however, lapsed with dissolution of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha.

Thereafter, the NDA Government again held negotiations with the Empowered Committee and after an overwhelming consensus, introduced a bill

**The GST resulting in better compliance will improve the revenue of the States and certainly do justice to a large number of lesser developed States in the country.**

incorporating certain changes which had also been recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee. The near unanimous recommendations of the Empowered Committee, which were entirely supported by Congress ruled States, enabled the preparation of the eventual Bill to amend the Constitution which was introduced by me as 122nd Constitutional Amendment Bill.

## Rationale

The rationale of the Bill is to simplify the complex indirect tax structure in the country. The present system involves multiplicity of taxes, absence of uniform rates of taxation, and the cascading effect of "Tax on Tax". It is also an impediment in the seamless transfer of goods and services across the

country. The GST simplifies the indirect tax regime. It seeks to reduce cost of production, inflation, multiplicity of taxes and uneven taxation rates. Significantly, it also creates an eco system for seamless movement of goods and services across the country and cuts down transaction costs. It will broaden the tax base, result in better tax compliance and eventually increase the country's GDP. The GST resulting in better compliance will improve the revenue of the States and certainly do justice to a large number of lesser developed States in the country. It is for this reason that most State Governments and regional parties are supporters of the GST.

## The Congress dissent

The three members of the Congress Party have circulated a note of dissent to what is otherwise a consensus report of the Select Committee. I wish to comment on each of the points raised by the Congress Party in its note of dissent.

(1) The Congress members have proposed that a rate of GST be fixed in the Constitution as not exceeding 18%. This

suggestion was not in the Bill proposed by Shri Pranab Mukherjee. When Shri P. Chidambaram negotiated with the Empowered Committee, this suggestion did not exist even then. The rates of taxation are usually not fixed in the Constitution, more so when we live in a dynamic world. The rates have to be recommended by the GST Council depending on various factors such as economic conditions, revenue buoyancies etc. and incorporated in the GST laws. There may be some rationale in the rate recommended by the Congress Party. However, this decision has to be taken by the GST Council and cannot be a part of the Constitution itself. The rates will vary depending on a host of factors.

(2) The Congress has further proposed that the expression “supply” should not apply to goods and services supplied by one unit of a firm to another unit of the same unit of the firm. There was no such proposal in either Mr. Pranab Mukherjee’s bill nor in the proposal approved by Mr. Chidambaram. In any case, GST charged on supply of goods and services would be VATable and not have any cascading effect.

(3) The Congress proposes that the share of local bodies in the revenue buoyancy should be a part of the proposed constitution amendment. This goes contrary to the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution which provided for setting up State Finance Commissions which have the responsibility of making such

recommendations. In any case, neither Mr. Pranab Mukherjee nor Mr. Chidambaram had accepted any such proposal.

(4) The Congress has further proposed that a State or a Union Territory with or without a legislature having a population not exceeding twenty lakhs should be given a special status. This was never Mr. Pranab Mukherjee’s or Mr. Chidambaram’s proposal. In any case, the provision for special category approval is based on a host of factors. Congress wants Goa to be a special category state under GST, but Goa has the highest per capita income in the

country.

(5) The Congress has further proposed that electricity, tobacco products and alcohol for human consumption should be given the same treatment as petroleum in the Amendment bill. This was not a proposal mooted by any of the Congress Finance Ministers. A consensus with the States would be effectively

broken if this suggestion of the Congress is accepted. Petroleum has been included in the GST but the GST would be levied and charged on the product only when the GST Council so decides.

(6) Congress has further proposed that the voting representation of the States in the GST Council, which has been kept at two-third should be increased to three-fourth. This would effectively reduce the centre’s voting power from one-third to one-fourth. This is contrary to the decision that Mr. Chidambaram specifically took on 30.04.2013. The majority required in the GST

**The rates of taxation are usually not fixed in the Constitution, more so when we live in a dynamic world. The rates have to be recommended by the GST Council depending on various factors such as economic conditions, revenue buoyancies etc. and incorporated in the GST laws.**

Council for taking a decision is three-fourth. In fact, the Congress proposal would mean that if all the States get together and decide that the Centre should have a lower GST rate, they could deplete revenues of the centre almost completely. India is a Union of States. Is it the Congress proposal that the Union should cease to economically survive? Is it their proposal that the Centre should have no say in the system of national taxation? The Congress appears to have made this proposal without adequate application of mind.

- (7) The Congress has further proposed that any dispute with regard to GST should be adjudicated by a GST Tribunal chaired by a person who has been a Judge of the Supreme Court or Chief Justice of a High Court. The power of deciding the modalities of adjudication and settlement of disputes in the present bill is with GST Council. Political issues have to be settled politically and not by judges. The original proposal for setting up a Dispute Redressal Tribunal was rejected by the Standing Committee and the Empowered Committee of the State Finance Ministers. The UPA Government

**Political issues have to be settled politically and not by judges. The original proposal for setting up a Dispute Redressal Tribunal was rejected by the Standing Committee and the Empowered Committee of the State Finance Ministers. The UPA Government accepted the suggestion of the Standing Committee. It is only an afterthought that the Congress has chosen to revive the proposal.**

accepted the suggestion of the Standing Committee. It is only an afterthought that the Congress has chosen to revive the proposal.

- (8) The Congress Party has asked for deletion of a two years transient provision which provided for an additional tax of 1% to be credited to the exporting State. This provision has been added in order to allay the fear of the manufacturing States which felt that they would initially lose some revenue. This is based on a unanimous decision of the Empowered

Committee to which all Congress ruled States have agreed.

It was the Congress led UPA Government that proposed the GST in the 2006-07 Budget. The Constitution amendment was piloted by the UPA. The changes suggested by the Empowered Committee and the Standing Committee were accepted by the UPA Government. The present Government has not made any significant modifications to the same except to bring a consensus between manufacturing and the consuming States. The State Governments belonging to the Congress Party have consistently supported the proposal. Is it only out of an obstructionist attitude that the Congress Party has adopted a negative role? Since Parliament is not functioning and there is no way to clarify these points before the same, I am constrained to place the above facts in public domain.

The Congress Party and its leader may be upset with the Government for political reasons. They may be upset with the electorate for the 2014 verdict. The Congress Party should accept and seriously introspect after having ruled the country for the longest period of time, that negativism hurts the country. Should its obstructionist tendencies inflict an economic injury on the country? ■

**(The writer is Union Minister of Finance & IB)**



# Bihar must be free from unemployment and *Goonda Raaj* : Narendra Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed a massive 'Parivartan Rally' in Muzaffarpur, Bihar on 25 July, 2015. Speaking on the occasion the Prime Minister said that enthusiasm of people in Bihar was a clear indication about who would win the next

that we already have a Modi here. What is the need for you to come here? Don't come." Shri Modi noted that the previous Prime Minister, who was in power for 10 years, had visited Bihar only once and did aerial survey. But the fact that he did not visit Bihar in 14 months was

Minister Modi urged the people of Bihar to vote wisely and elect a stable BJP Government that is dedicated for development of the region.

The Prime Minister posed questions at Bihar CM Nitish Kumar for stalling progress of the state. He said that



putting halt to a state's development just because of political differences saddened him. "If I was so bad you could have slapped me, strangled me but why did you strangle the development of an entire state. There can be anger, difference of opinion. I am sad not for what you

election in the state. He said, "I can see so many people but more importantly the Jasba that I can see...the results are clear who will form the next Govt."

Shri Modi said whenever he used to tweet or post on social media, some leaders used to poke fun at him, but, now these leaders only have taken a liking to tweeting and are doing it regularly. Adding further, Shri Modi said, "There used to be a time when Bihar CM used to say

now worrying the Chief Minister!

The Prime Minister elaborated upon his development agenda for Bihar and said that soon the state would witness a change. There would be peace, freedom from unemployment and the 'Goonda Raaj' would soon come to an end. "Don't you think there must be a change in Bihar and the situation must become better, there must be light instead of darkness", he added. Prime

did to me but I am sad about what you did to the people of Bihar", he said.

Speaking further, Shri Modi said that Bihar could not go back to the era of loot and 'Jungle Raaj.' He once again urged the people to give BJP a chance to serve the people of Bihar. He said that people of Bihar have maximum contribution to the Nation. He quoted in an example that Bihar has contributed the highest number of ministers, holding

important portfolios in NDA Government at Centre at present.

The PM said that Bihar needed a government that goes shoulder to shoulder with the Government at Centre. "If those who say we don't want Modi here, if they form the Government, Bihar will not gain from it", he added. For such people, he alleged that issues like welfare of farmers, getting industry, welfare of poor, power in villages were of no interest. Instead, for them the issues were who the snake, who was consuming the poison, and who was giving the poison, said the PM.

He also took account of the humiliation that Shri George Fernandes, Shri Sushil Modi and Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi had to face in the past.

Commenting on the Rashtriya Janata Dal, Prime Minister Shri Modi said that RJD meant - 'Rozana Jungle Raaj ka Darr.' He said that coming elections were all about freedom from such 'Darr' or fright.

He assured that in times to come, Bihar would witness only development. He promised that there would be 24X7 power supply in the state.

He said that in coming time, Bihar would get a package bigger than Rs. 50,000 crore for its welfare and Centre has been working on the same.

Union Ministers Shri Ananth Kumar, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Shri Ram Kirpal Yadav, Shri Upendra Kushwaha, former CM Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi, former Deputy CM Shri Sushil Modi, Shri Nand Kishore Yadav, BJP State President Shri Mangal Pandey were among the leaders present during the rally.

*...Continued from page 19*

people as also their aspirations and expectations, but has great affection and respect for them. Given the importance of this initiative, I asked my office to supervise these talks; and I personally kept in touch with the progress. I want to especially thank my senior colleague, Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singhji, whose support and advice was invaluable in bringing us here today. Today's agreement is a shining example of what we can achieve when we deal with each other in a spirit of equality and respect, trust and confidence; when we seek to understand concerns and try to address aspirations; when we leave the path of dispute and take the high road of dialogue. It is a lesson and an inspiration in our troubled world. Today, we mark not merely the end of a problem, but the beginning of a new future. We will not only try to heal wounds and resolve problems, but also be your partner as you restore your pride and prestige. Today, to the leaders and the people of Nagaland, I say this: You will not only build a bright future for Nagaland, but your talents, traditions and efforts will also contribute to making the nation stronger, more secure, more inclusive and more prosperous. You are also the guardians of our eastern frontiers and our gateway to the world beyond. Equally, the rest of the nation will join you in shaping a future of dignity, opportunity and prosperity for the Naga people. Today, as you begin a new glorious chapter with a sense of pride, self-confidence and self-respect, I join the nation in saluting you and conveying our good wishes to the Naga people. ■



# A Study of Ancient India with Special Reference to Planning and Sanitation

By K. D. Bajpai

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While BJP led NDA government at the centre has spearheaded the innovative programmes of 'Swachh Bharat' and 'Smart Cities' under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, it is pertinent to note that Indian civilizational system has always upheld these ideas since ancient times. Unlike the stereotyping of India as a 'rural and backward' society by the colonial rulers and some western scholars India had the tradition of building well planned cities with cleanliness and sanitation having propensity for urbanization since time immemorial. We are reproducing an article focusing on this aspect of our civilization from renowned journal 'MANTHAN' published in June 1979 for our esteemed readers:

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## Importance

FOR a developed Urban life, the importance of proper town planning can hardly be overestimated. In the present scientific age it is necessary that our towns and cities should be well planned and kept neat and clean. Unwieldy, mushroom growth of buildings and all possible causes for pollution are to be avoided. With the growth of population and industrialisation in the modern Urban sector, it is all the more necessary to eliminate the factors responsible for pollution.

It would be useful here to know the salient features of our ancient town planning. True it is that the number of towns in ancient India was rather small. It is also known that the rate of population growth was not so alarming as it is in the present times. The village formed an important socio-economic unit

in the past. The growth of township largely depended upon the industrial growth of a particular area. Nevertheless, the literary and archaeological source material indicates that during the Early and the Medieval periods of Indian history

**The excavations have clearly shown that there was a uniform lay-out of both the cities having a fortified citadel. A few unusual buildings were constructed there on a mud-brick platform about 30 feet high. These were probably meant for the controlling authority and other high-ups.**

towns of various categories had sprung up in different parts of the country.

## Town Planning of Indus-Valley Cities

We have some definite details regarding town planning of the Indus-Valley cities; particularly of the two capitals, Harappa and Mohenjodaro. The old town of Harappa in West Punjab was located on the confluence of two branches of the river Ravi, a tributary of the Indus. A mud-brick rampart wall was constructed to protect the town from the floods of the river. Mohenjodaro in Sindh stood on an island, which formed a strip of land between the main Indus bed and the Nara loop. An embankment was constructed to protect the city from the river floods, which were more numerous there than at Harappa.

The excavations have clearly shown that there was

a uniform layout of both the cities having a fortified citadel. A few unusual buildings were constructed there on a mud-brick platform about 30 feet high. These were probably meant for the controlling authority and other high-ups.

The chief rampart of Harappa was made of mud-bricks, battered internally and externally and faced with a pavement of burnt bricks

wells were owned by private people. The excavators of these two great towns have opined that necessary steps were taken to keep the towns neat and clean.

As regards the towns during the Ancient and Medieval periods the available evidence indicates that the traditional features of the town-planning and sanitation were followed in them. Several Greek, Roman,

necessary to maintain proper sanitation.

The construction of buildings should not be left to the individual householders or even to the building engineer. It is necessary to have a superior controlling authority to enforce the rules of sanitation.

The ancient Indian town-planners were alive to the importance of the public buildings also. These buildings were not constructed in a haphazard manner. Their civic utility was properly recognised.

The sense of civic integrity, advocated by ancient Indian town-planners, can prove to be extremely useful to our recent-day town-planners, particularly in regard to the problem of pollution.

There are numerous referents in the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the Puranas and other works to indicate that big towns had come into existence in 'various parts of the country. This happened from about c. 2000 B.C. when the development of urbanisation assumed a definite form and the baked bricks began to be used in plenty.

During the time of the Buddha, some of the capitals of the sixteen great kingdoms (Mahajanapadas) were described as big flourishing towns.

In ancient Indian literature terms like nagara,

**There are numerous referents in the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the Puranas and other works to indicate that big towns had come into existence in 'various parts of the country. This happened from about c. 2000 B.C. when the development of urbanisation assumed a definite form and the baked bricks began to be used in plenty.**

on the outside. The entire structure was 40 feet wide at its base and was 35 feet high. The main buildings were constructed inside a planned parallelogram 1200 x 600 feet. The defensive wall was reinforced by rectangular houses with single storey. The houses at Harappa belonging to the second category, were almost twice the size of those at Mohenjodaro.

Proper arrangement for big and small granaries also existed in these cities. The industrial area was separated from the main habitation.

The water supply was also well-planned out. There was an adequate number of public wells with brick linings. Some

Chinese and Arab travellers, who visited Indian capital towns and ports have given interesting accounts of them.

Inscriptions and literary texts throw welcome light on Indian town-planning. The excavations conducted at some well-known historical towns have corroborated the literary evidence.

Civic and domestic engineering sciences are correlated to each other. The town-planning authorities had to exercise some control operation between the civic and the domestic architects is essential to maintain harmony and methodicity concerning the rows of houses in a particular quarter. It is also



pattana and pura are often mentioned. They stand for various types of towns and cities. The Arthashastra of Kautilya throws valuable light on planning of towns and forts.

#### Development of Township

Epigraphical evidence and the accounts of some foreign writers, referring to towns, are not of much avail for the study of the technique, nature and gradual development of township. Early inscriptions

import.

The archaeological source material is helpful for the present study, although it may be stated that very few ancient towns have so far been horizontally excavated. The artefacts excavated from the early historical towns have not been adequately studied in a comparative way to determine the material and cultural development of our ancient towns. .

#### Urban Life

The Indus Valley culture

**The Indus Valley culture undoubtedly represents a developed urban life. Its period is bracketed between c. 2500 and 1750 B.C. After the end of this culture till the emergence of the early historical period in c. 6th century B.C. there is a long gap of about a millennium. It is supposed by some scholars that the town-building activity ended abruptly with the end of the Indus Valley culture and emerged, after the long gap, in the 6th century B.C.**

generally eulogise the capitals of kingdoms, speaking of their sky-touching palaces and temples. Some of the Greek, Roman and Chinese travellers, followed the Arab writers, mention the chief towns including some of the ports and mart-towns visited by them. The accounts given by several of them, like Megasthenes, Pliny, Ptolemy, the writer of 'the Periplus', Hiuen-Tsang and Sulaiman are of importance for the knowledge of ancient Indian towns, the internal and external trade routes and commodities of export and

undoubtedly represents a developed urban life. Its period is bracketed between c. 2500 and 1750 B.C. After the end of this culture till the emergence of the early historical period in c. 6th century B.C. there is a long gap of about a millennium. It is supposed by some scholars that the town-building activity ended abruptly with the end of the Indus Valley culture and emerged, after the long gap, in the 6th century B.C. Sufficient archaeological material has not come to our help to vouchsafe the continuation of townships

after the end of the Harappan culture. At the same time it is not possible to believe that the art of town-building abruptly died out for over one thousand years and emerged again, with full force, in c. 600 B.C. The excavations at sites like Eran, Ujjain and Kausambi have brought to light at least some evidence to support our contention that town-building activities continued, in some form or the other, even after the fall of the Indus Valley culture. The late Vedic literature supports the view that some towns did exist in the Madhyadesa region before c. 6th century. B.C.

Now the question arises : had the towns of the Mahojanapada period any impact of the Indus Valley cities on them or did they have an independent origin altogether? The answer to this question requires a thorough study of the Vedic literature as well as of the works like the Arthashastra of Kautilya, the epics, the Buddhist and Jain literature. This question is linked with another one. It is : whether the historical Indian cities had an indigenous growth or were they imitations of some foreign cities. The available material, at any rate, disproves the theory of foreign influence on the ancient Indian towns. ■

*(Professor in Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, University of Sagar, Madhya Pradesh)*

## Cashless treatment for road mishap victims : PM

The government will expand across India its cashless treatment plan for road accident victims, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said in his monthly radio address 'Man Ki Baat' on July 26. Expressing concern over the growing number of road accidents in the country, Shri Modi said the transport ministry's scheme that provided cashless treatment for the first 50 hours to the victims would soon be extended to all national highways. At present, a pilot project is running on the 200 km NH stretch between Gurgaon and Jaipur.

"It is a matter of concern that every minute one road accident takes place in the country and that in every four minutes, one person dies in the mishap. One-third of the deaths are in the 15-25 age group," he said during the 10th edition of Mann ki Baat programme.

Highlighting the recent incident of a road accident in the Capital, Modi said that it is the duty of every family to inform youngsters about the importance of road safety rules. "One is shocked to see the statistics of road accidents in the country, every four minutes a person dies in a road accident...Apart from the government, it is the duty of every family to inform the youngsters in the family about



the importance of road safety rules," Modi said in the tenth edition of his Mann Ki Baat programme.

"Around one-third of those dying in road accidents are between 15 to 25 years of age...Keeping all this in mind, we want to bring the Road Transport and Safety Bill," the prime minister added.

The PM is also planning other important measures like putting in place a National Road Safety Policy and Road Safety Action Plan, he said.

The government will launch a project under which accident victims will receive cashless treatment for the first 50 hours after the accident, Shri Modi added.

The project will be launched in Gurgaon, Jaipur and Vadodara before being implemented in Mumbai, Ranchi, Rungoon and Maurya national highways.

Hailing the armed forces on the occasion of Kargil Vijay

Divas, Modi paid tributes to the farming community and praised scientists. He also said a team of officials will pay a week-long visit to the North-eastern states to understand the problems of the region.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also invited suggestions from the public to address the problem.

Talking about the North-East, Shri Modi said that under the 'Act East' policy of his government, officials of the Ministry of Development of North East Region (DONER) will go to the states of the region.

"They will hold seven-day camps, talk to people and address their problems," he said. While talking about the success of the mygov portal launched on the same day a year ago, the prime minister said he received almost 2 crore hits and several important suggestions were being made by people through the website.

The PM, who invited suggestions from people for his Independence Day speech, sought to allay farmers' fears of a below-normal monsoon, saying good rains in the beginning of the season would help in kharif sowing. "I'm happy that pulses and oilseeds have recorded a growth of 50 and 33%, respectively, this year." ■

# Entire world is looking towards India : Naidu

## BJYM launches Panch Kranti Abhiyan

**We will engage 1 crore youth with the Abhiyan, says Anurag Thakur**

**S**hri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Union Minister of Urban Development inaugurated *Panch Kranti* programme of BJYM on 6th August in New Delhi. Inaugurating the programme Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu said that because of good governance and foresight of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi the entire world is looking towards India with great expectations today. Hope, we all together will work in this programme wholeheartedly to build a golden India.

Appreciating the programme BJP National General Secretary (Organization) Shri Ramlal said that Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha is the largest political party in the world with more the 11 crore members.

He expressed his confidence that Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha will succeed in its mission to take the message of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji and his dream of golden Bharat among the masses in real sense and will play a very important role in raising development based public - movement of 21st century.

Bharatiya Janata Yuva

Morcha National President and Member of Parliament Shri Anurag Singh Thakur announced in Panch Kranti Abhiyan workshop held in Delhi on August 5 that BJYM will launch "*Panch Kranti*

communication means specially social media.

Shri Thakur said that Yuva Morcha is constantly working in country's interest. While in opposition, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha has remained



*Abhiyan*" among one crore youth of the country about the five best schemes of BJP government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi relating to matters like Cleanliness, Yoga, Girl Power, Manufacture and Skill.

Shri Anurag Singh Thakur said that the "*Panch Kranti Abhiyan*" will be taken to every state, district and mandal of the country so that every citizen of the country is able to contribute his best in the development of India through these programmes. In order to make this dream true, Yuva Morcha will create awareness the country with the use of all the modern public -

active on every front. He added, BJP government which is committed to give good governance to the country, announces historic programmes of public welfare, Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha is ready to take them amongst the public. Our goal is to associate one crore youth of the country with the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji's dream of golden Bharat.

Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, Minister of State (IC) of Skill Development, BJP National Vice President, Shri Vinay Sahasrabudhe, National General Secretary Shri Murlidhar Rao, Shri Ram Madhav, Shri Arun Singh gave guidance in respect of

*"Panch Kranti Abhiyan."*

# Caste problem in India

By Swami Vivekananda

Such is our ideal of caste, as meant for raising all humanity slowly and gently towards the realization of the great ideal of spiritual man, who is non-resisting, calm, steady, worshipful, pure and meditative. In that ideal there is God.

We believe in Indian caste as one of the greatest social institutions that the Lord gave to man. We also believe that through the unavoidable defects, foreign persecutions, and above all, the monumental ignorance and pride of many Brahmanas who do not deserve the name, have thwarted in many ways, the legitimate fructification of this glorious Indian institution, it has already worked wonders for the land of Bharata and it destined to lead Indian humanity to its goal.

Caste should not go; but should be readjusted occasionally. Within the old structure is to be life enough for the building of two hundred thousand new ones. It is sheer nonsense to desire the abolition of caste. Inequality of privilege vitiates the system

It is in the nature of society to form itself into groups; and what will go will be these privileges! Caste is a



natural order. I can perform one duty in social life, and you another; you can govern a country, and I can mend a pair of old shoes, but that is no reason why you are greater than I, for can you mend my shoes? Can I govern the country? I am clever in mending shoes, you are clever in reading Vedas, that is no reason why you should trample on my head; why if one commits murder should he be praised and if another steals an apple why should he be hanged? This will have to go.

Caste is good. That is only natural way of solving life. Men must form themselves into groups, and you cannot get rid of that. Wherever you go there will be caste. But that does not mean that there

should be these privileges. They should be knocked on the head. If you teach Vedanta to the fisherman, he will say, "I am as good a man as you, I am a fisherman, you are a philosopher, but I have the same God in me, as you have in you." And that is what we want, no privilege for anyone, equal chances for all; let everyone be taught that the Divine is within, and everyone will work out his own salvation. The days of exclusive privileges and exclusive claims are gone, gone for ever from the soil of India.

Untouchability - A superstitious accretion

Formerly the characteristic of the noble-minded was (tribhuvanamupakara shrenibhih priyamanah) "to please the whole universe by one's numerous acts of service", but now it is I am pure and the whole world is impure. "Don't touch me!" "Don't touch me!" The whole world is impure, and I alone am pure! Lucid Brahmajnana! Bravo! Great God! Nowadays, Brahman is neither in the recesses of the heart, nor in the highest heaven, nor in all beings now He is in the cooking pot!

To be continued .....  
(Courtesy: The Divine Life Society)