



Kamal Sandesh
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The demigods being satisfied by the performance of sacrifice unto the Ultimate Personality will grant unto you all the desired necessities of life; therefore he who enjoys these given necessities without offering them first unto the Supreme Lord, that person is certainly a thief.
— (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-III, 12)

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"Guided by Mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' our Govt. is ensuring that the fruits of progress reach every person in every part of India."

-Narendra Modi



"Political intolerance is genetic trait of Congress. Intolerance towards opponents is the basic philosophy of communism - be it Russia, China and in early 70's And 80's in India. We want people to know the facts."

-Amit Shah

Chhath Pooja : 17th November, 2015

Chhath Puja is an ancient Hindu festival and only Vedic Festival dedicated to the Sun God, Surya. Chhath Puja is performed on Kartika Shukla Shashthi, which is the sixth day of the month of Kartika in the Hindu calendar. This falls typically in the month of October or November in the Gregorian Calendar. The Chhath Puja is performed in order to thank Surya for sustaining life on earth and to request the granting of certain wishes.

The Sun, considered the god of energy and of the life-force, is worshipped during the Chhath festival to promote well-being, prosperity and progress. In Hinduism, Sun worship is believed to help cure a variety of diseases, including leprosy, and helps ensure the longevity and prosperity of family members, friends, and elders. The rituals of the festival are rigorous and are observed over a period of four days. They include holy bathing, fasting and abstaining from drinking water (Vrata), standing in water for long periods of time, and offering prashad (prayer offerings) and arghya to the setting and rising sun. Although it is observed most elaborately in Bihar, Jharkhand, Eastern UP and the Terai regions of Nepal in modern times, and is more prevalent in areas where migrants from those areas have a presence, it is celebrated in all regions and major urban centers in India. Chhath is a festival of bathing and worshipping that follows a period of abstinence and segregation of the worshipper from the main household for four days. During this period, the worshipper observes purity, and sleeps on the floor on a single blanket. This is the only holy festival which has no involvement of any pandit (priest).

The devotees offer their prayers to the setting sun, and then the rising sun in celebrating its glory as the cycle of birth starts with death. It is seen as the most glorious form of Sun worship. ■





Protest for the sake of protest !

One may not be happy with India experiencing development but to do something which may raise a question mark on India's development is not proper. India belongs to everyone. We all are Indian. Development is not for government, it is for the country. Has the credibility of India not been restored in last 18 months? Even a layman will say – the credibility has not only been restored but enhanced. Respect is the dignity and self esteem of anyone's life. It is given on one's work. How far is it understandable to return one's own work? Award is given to an individual but it is backed by the goodwill of thousands of people. What kind of culture is it to show disrespect to one's own work?

Protests have always taken place, everyone has faced opposition, in future also it will continue to take place but opposition only because the country has given mandate to Narendra Modi and BJP is not understandable. Ideologies should be opposed by ideologies. Literature belongs to society, not to any party. Art is for the society not for any party. There may be other means to express ideological opposition. But the means which is adopted now is considered unacceptable by the society. When have incidents not taken place in the country of 125 crore population? Will such incidents not take place in future? Incidents should not happen, such efforts should always continue.

After the independence many time the country was in pain. Entire nation was submerged in grief but conscience of these people was never 'awaken'. Opposition can be expressed through drama, writings. Opposition can take place by making films. Opposition can happen through dialogue. But the manner in which 'opposition' is being done currently only exposes them.

Protest for the sake of protest! Protest only because they could not get prime minister of their choosing. Their ideas could not find place in democracy therefore this protest. The protest which is not accepted by the society itself becomes a mockery. In West Bengal the incident of Nandigram had taken place. The thinkers took up pen against the then West Bengal communist government. They started writing. They embraced other modes of protest. This is called protest. Where had gone these film makers, litterateurs, theatre artists who are today crying so hoarse? After independence so many corruption has taken place, why the awards were not returned then? In emergency we have seen the murder of constitution, ban on pen, forcible sterilization etc. No one returned award in such a gloomy time. Where was the conscience then? Where was the pride of award?

Award makes a person humble. Award is given to persons who are worshipper of humility but those in the pride of award are humiliating the people. Insult of award is the insult of society. It is insult of the people of India. Whether it is naxal problem, maoist problem, J&K problem, PoK problem, Chambal problem, communal problem – have incidents not taken place before? Not one but many incidents have taken place. In Kashmir displaced people have been found crying. Naxals have hit people in more than 200 districts. Even today people are suffering under Maoists. PoK burns tricolour every now and then. We want to ask these people as to why their conscience is not awakened by these incidents?

The nation is not going to be afraid of few litterateurs whose past history is known by the people. Indian democracy is very strong. India is a lovely country. Here love is worshipped. Here society is not served under pressure and fear. Currently the manner in which awards are being returned by some people is in fact a mockery of lacs of intellectuals in the country. ■

"Sardar Patel gave us "Ek Bharat" – let us all make it "Shreshth Bharat" : Narendra Modi

On the occasion of 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Flagged off the "Run For Unity" and recalled the mantra of "Ek Bharat: Shresth Bharat" and said that Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel gave us "Ek Bharat" (United India), and we should all work towards

"Shresth Bharat." He said unity, peace and amity, were the axioms on which 125 crore Indians can move forward.

The Prime Minister recalled Sardar Patel's initiatives as Mayor of Ahmedabad during the 1920s, including a campaign for cleanliness, and a proposal for 50 percent reservation for women.

flagged off the "Run for Unity."

Earlier, Prime Minister Narendra Shri Modi and Members of Parliaments paid floral tributes to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on the occasion of his 140th birth anniversary at the Central Hall of Parliament.



creating "Shresth Bharat" (Foremost India).

Addressing an enthusiastic gathering of youth and students at Rajpath in New Delhi, he said that the unity of India had been bonded by Sardar Patel. He said that it was the strength and wisdom of Sardar Patel's decision making that had thwarted all evil designs, and ensured the emergence of modern, independent India.

The Prime Minister said that Sardar Patel had given us "Ek Bharat," and it was now up to us to make it

Shri Narendra Modi outlined a new scheme "Ek Bharat, Shresth Bharat" which the U n i o n Government is working on, in consultation with the States. He said under this scheme, two states would undertake a unique partnership for a period of one year. The year would be marked by cultural and student exchanges, which would give an opportunity to the people of these two states to understand and come closer to each other.

He said different states could partner each other every year.

The Prime Minister also paid homage to former Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, on her death anniversary.

The Prime Minister administered the pledge to the assembled gathering, and

India is united and
integrated
due to Sardar
Patel : Amit Shah

Hailing Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel for keeping the country intact and united, BJP chief Amit Shah on Saturday paid tributes to him in Katihar where he has been camping for the ongoing Bihar Assembly elections.

Joined by Union Ministers and a number of other party leaders, Shah garlanded Patel's bust and committed to take India to the top position in the world by taking inspiration from Patel. This would be true homage to him on his birth anniversary, according to a statement from BJP. "Our country was divided into hundreds of smaller provinces and had Sardar sahab not been there it would not be able to come out of this crisis. It is due to him that India remains united and integrated," he said. ■

Run for Unity organised in the country

To mark the birth anniversary of India's first Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Bharatiya Janata Party organised a 'Run for Unity' across the state on 31st October 2015. In Lucknow, after flagging off the rally, Union Health Minister Shri JP Nadda said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was trying to make India better as Sardar Patel wanted. He said the Run for Unity on the 140th birth anniversary of the Iron Man was also a tribute to farmers, cooperative sector, youth and the unemployed. Shri Nadda fondly recalled Patel's immense contribution to the integration of 562 princely states by persuading them to accede to India, the first step towards making India a strong nation. Shri Nadda

'Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat' scheme announced
Addressing the huge gathering PM Shri Modi said the Union government is planning to start a scheme 'Ek Bharat Shreshth Bharat', for which a small committee has been formed. He said that once implemented, it will help states recognizing and learning about the culture and language of another state, giving the example of Haryana and Tamil Nadu.

also administered the oath of unity to the participants, party leaders, activists and onlookers. In Varanasi, the event was flagged off by Union Minister of Science and Technology, Dr Harsh Vardhan and BJP state President Dr Laxmi Kant Bajpai.

Union Minister Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi attended the function in Kanpur while Union Textile Minister Santosh Gangwar attended the function at Noida, Minister of Culture Shri Mahesh Sharma at Agra, Minister of Development of North-East, Gen (retd) Shri VK Singh at Ghaziabad, HRD Minister Shri Ram Shankar Katheria at Jhansi, BJP vice-president Shri Satpal Mallik at Meerut, BJP MP Yogi Adityanath at Gorakhpur and leader of BJP legislature party in Vidhan Sabha Shri Suresh Khanna at Bareilly. Odisha BJP organises Run for Unity

In Odisha the 'Run For Unity' was organised to commemorate the 139th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Hundreds of people from different walks of life including party leaders commenced their run from Master Canteen square and assembled in front of the BJP state headquarters near Sriram Mandir. BJP national spokesman Shri Sambit Patra administered oath to participants exhorting them to follow Patel, the first Home minister of the country, and

Colorful scenario

Thousands of participants, many wearing t-shirts with Sardar Patel's picture on it, ran the nearly 2.5 km long distance. The participants included school and college students, government officials, personnel of paramilitary forces, school teachers etc. People had also come from as far as Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan and Punjab to take part in the event.

rise above party politics for upholding unity, integrity and security of the country. The leaders used the national tricolour on the occasion which is observed as 'rashtriya Ekta Divas' but refrained from making political statement. Meanwhile reports from other places including Berhampur, Sambalpur, Rourkela and Balasore said the run was organised by party. Run for Unity organised in Tripura

Along with the other part of the nation, State BJP on Saturday observed the 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at Agartala.

BJP state president Sudindra Dasgupta flag off the 'Run for Unity' at Agartala on the 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The day is being celebrated across the country as 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' (National Unity Day).

As a part of the day, BJP

party leaders participated in the 2 km rally for "Run for unity" on the occasion of the 140th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. State BJP party leaders paid floral tributes at Sardar Patel statue at 9 AM in the morning. The "Run for Unity" organised at Agartala as a pledge for unity. ■

Kerala Local body Elections

BJP makes the strongest ever presence in Kerala

BJP has made its largest ever political footprint in Kerala when the results of the election to the local self-government institutions were announced in the state on 07 November, 2015.

The most impressive among the performance of BJP was in Thiruvananthapuram, the state capital. BJP amassed 35 seats in the 100 seat corporation council and thus become the second largest political force in the corporation. BJP had only six members in the last corporation council ruled by the CPM led LDF. The BJP which had its presence only in Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulam corporations in the state in the recent past has opened account in all corporations in this election.

BJP has the majority to rule one municipality, and 14 grama panchayaths in Kerala, which again is another record. The party won two seats each in Kollam and Ernakulam city corporations and won six and seven seats respectively in Thrissur and Kozhikode city corporations. According to statistics available, previously the BJP did not get the majority seats in even a single gram panchayat outside Kasargodu.

Immediately after the result of the election result trend was over, BJP State President Shri V Muraleedharan said one of the main reasons for the political surge of BJP was the minority appeasement policies followed by both LDF and UDF in the state. According to him, the party has not yet taken a decision on

offering or accepting any political support to either LDF or UDF in Thiruvananthapuram Corporation. ■

BJP performs better in Kalyan-Dombivali civic elections

The BJP has won 41 seats in the recently completed civic elections held in Kalyan-Dombivali, adjacent to Mumbai and came in second spot, winning in a substantial jump from the last time.

Noteworthy, the Shiv Sena won 52 of the 122 seats and fell short of the half way mark of 62. The two parties had fought together in 2010 and had won a total 40 seats, managing to grasp power in the municipality with the support of independents.

However, this was another humiliating blow to Raj Thackeray's Maharashtra Navnirman Sena, which had won 27 seats in 2010 but managed to get only eight seats. The Congress and Nationalist Congress Party were worse off winning only four and two seats respectively.

Goa Municipal Polls

BJP dominates in 6 Towns

Candidates backed by BJP won majority of seats in six municipal councils in Goa in the local body elections, while Congress-backed candidates won majority in four towns.

The results of elections to 11 municipal councils were declared on 27th October 2015. The elections were not contested on party lines, but BJP had backed various candidates officially.

Interacting with media persons Goa Chief Minister Shri Laxmikant Parsekar said, "The people have stood by us. The results are vindication of the actions of the BJP government and show that the people continue to have faith in us". BJP-backed candidates won majority of seats in Mapusa, Mormugao (Vasco-da-Gama), Sanguem, Pernem, Curchorem, Bicholim and performed well in Canacona by winning five seats. ■

India becomes world's 7th most valued 'nation brand'

India has moved up one position to become the world's seventh most valued 'nation brand', with an increase of 32 per cent in its brand value to \$2.1 billion.

Among Brics nations, India is the only country to have witnessed an increase in its brand value.

The US remains on the top with a valuation of \$19.7 billion, followed by China and Germany at the second and the third positions respectively, as per the annual report on world's most valuable nation brands compiled by Brand Finance.

The UK is ranked 4th, Japan is at fifth position and France is sixth on the list. While India and France have moved up one position each since last year, all the top-five countries have retained their respective places.

However, the surge of 32 per cent in India's 'nation brand value' is the highest among all the top-20 countries on the list. China has retained its second position despite a decline of one per cent in its brand value to \$6.3 billion.

Brand Finance said it measures the strength and value of the nation brands of 100 leading countries using a method based on the royalty relief mechanism employed to

value the world's largest companies.

The nation brand valuation is based on five year forecasts of sales of all brands in each nation and follows a complex process. The Gross domestic product (GDP) is used as a proxy for total revenues.

The report also said that

contributors too.

"This soft power will help the US to retain the most valuable nation brand for some time after China's seemingly imminent rise to become the world's biggest economy," it added.

The study further said that China's recent stock market turbulence and



India's 'Incredible India' slogan has worked well, while Germany suffered due to the Volkswagen crisis.

About the US, the report said it remains a powerful brand with an inviting business climate.

"However its value comes in large part from the country's sheer economic scale... The US' world-leading higher education system and the soft power arising from its dominance of the music and entertainment industries are significant

slowing growth will also extend the US' tenure of the top spot.

Among Brics nations, India is the only country to have witnessed an increase in its brand value with all others – Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa – seeing a dip in their respective brand valuations.

India is the second most valued among these emerging economies after China, followed by Brazil, Russia and South Africa. ■

-PTI

Govt notifies One Rank One Pension implementation

The government on November 7, 2015 formally notified the one rank one pension (OROP) scheme for the over 24 lakh ex-servicemen and six lakh war widows around the country. The scheme will entail an additional outgo of around Rs 8,000 to 10,000 crore every year.

The notification is more or less in line with what defence minister Shri Manohar Parrikar had announced on September 5, except that the clause that exempted personnel who retire voluntarily from the scheme. They had been removed after widespread outcry among the veterans over this clause.

Instead, the government has now decided that personnel who opt for "discharge henceforth on their own request will not be entitled to the benefits of OROP". In other words, while soldiers who took pre-mature retirement earlier will get OROP, fresh cases will not. "It will be effective prospectively," said an official.

The government sources said the order had been issued to implement the OROP in "its true spirit" notwithstanding the financial constraints. "The previous UPA government had made a budget announcement to implement the OROP with a provision of Rs 500 crore," said an official. "But the present NDA government undertook the task earnestly and realised that the actual additional annual expenditure would be Rs 8,000-10,000 crore, which will increase in the future," he added. Successive governments had promised OROP, the demand for which was first raised over 40 years ago, but it had not been implemented till now. ■

Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme, "VIKALP" launched

With a view to provide confirmed accommodation to waitlisted passengers and also to ensure optimal utilisation of available accommodation, a scheme Alternate Train Accommodation Scheme (ATAS) called "VIKALP" has been introduced from November 1st 2015. Initially this scheme will be available only for the tickets booked through internet (E-ticket) as a pilot project for six months. More over initially this scheme would be provided on Mail/ Express Trains running on two sectors only namely Delhi-Lucknow and Delhi-Jammu sectors of Northern Railway. In this scheme, wait listed passengers of a train will be given option for getting confirmed accommodation in alternate trains. Based on the feedback, this scheme will be extended to PRS counter bookings and also on other journey sectors. This is a major passenger friendly move to provide confirmed accommodation to waitlisted passengers in alternate trains. ■

93% adults have been issued Aadhar card number

Central government has announced that 93% adults have been issued Aadhar card number in the country. Now, the focus will be on enrolling children and remaining people for the unique identification number. UIDAI issued first 12-digit unique Aadhaar number on 29th September 2010 and has reached the level of 92.68% in five years. This success has been attributed to people's efforts to voluntarily take part in this dream project launched by the UPA government. Under tenure of NDA government pace of issuing Aadhar card has been tremendously increased.

Aadhaar enrollment began in 24 states and union territories initially and thus far has crossed more than 100% enrollment level in 16 states and union territories. This include 128% in Delhi, 111% in Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, 110% in Punjab, 109% in Kerala and Haryana, 107% in Chandigarh and Sikkim, 106% in Jharkhand, Goa and Puducherry, 105% in Tripura, 103% in Rajasthan, 101% in Maharashtra.

Five states and union territories have stats above 90%. Stats are 89% in Gujarat, 82% in Daman & Diu and 80% in Bihar. Government has said that the stats are based on 2011 census and that is why it has reached above 100% in some states because these stats are for year 2015. ■

Forbes name PM Modi as world's 9th most powerful person

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been ranked as the world's ninth most powerful person by Forbes magazine in a 2015 list which is topped by Russian President Vladimir Putin. Shri Modi was placed 14th in the 2014 Forbes list of world's powerful people. Forbes while releasing the list on November 5 at the same time said governing 1.2 billion people in India requires more than "shaking hands" and that Modi must pass his party BJP's



reform agenda and keep "fractious opposition" under control. German Chancellor Angela Merkel is at the second spot followed by

US President Barack Obama (third) and Pope Francis (fourth) and Chinese President Xi Jinping (fifth).

Apart from Modi who is at the ninth position, others in the top ten are Microsoft Founder Bill Gates at the sixth place, US Federal Reserve Chairperson Janet Yellen (7), UK Prime Minister David Cameron (8) and Google's Larry Page (10). About Modi, the magazine said that India's "populist" Prime Minister presided over 7.4 percent GDP growth in his first year in office, and "raised his profile" as a global leader during official visits with Barack Obama and Xi Jinping. "A brainstorming tour of Silicon Valley reinforced his nation's massive importance in tech. But governing 1.2 billion people requires more than shaking hands: Now Modi must pass his party's reform agenda and keep fractious opposition under control," it said. To compile the list of world's most powerful people, the magazine said it considered hundreds of candidates from various walks of life all around the globe, and measured their power along four dimensions.

They are whether the candidate has power over lots of people, financial resources controlled by each person, whether the candidate is powerful in multiple spheres and whether the candidates actively used their power. ■ PTI

PM Narendra Modi, Mahatma Gandhi among most admired globally

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is the 10th most admired personality globally, as per a new survey by the World Economic Forum (WEF) that has ranked late South African President Nelson Mandela on the top. Mahatma Gandhi is ranked fourth most admired leader, according to a survey of more than 1,000 millennials. The respondents were spread across 285 cities in 125 countries.

After Mandela, the WEF's Global Shapers Annual Survey 2015 found that Pope Francis is the second most admired leader. Others in the list are Tesla Motors' CEO Elon

Musk (3rd rank), Microsoft Founder Bill Gates (5), US President Barack Obama (6th), Virgin Group Founder Richard Barson (7), Apple Founder Steve Jobs (8), Nobel laureate Mohammad Yunus (9) and US investor Warren Buffett (11).

Out of the 1,084 respondents, 3 per cent voted for Modi as well as for Yunus while 20.1 per cent favoured Mandela. As many as 12.4 per cent of the respondents voted for Gandhi.

All the survey respondents are members of the WEF's Global Shapers Community aged between 20 and 30 years.

In the list of 11, three personalities are not alive — Mandela, Gandhi and Jobs. ■

Similarity in Objectives but Divergence in Means

-Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya

"Socialist parties seek to better the lot of the common man by adopting programmes of State participation in the economic activities of the nation, while the BJS wants to be achieved but allowing, and helping, fuller utilisation of the creative urge of the individual, subjects of course, to the social needs of preventing any concentration of power."

The Economic Programmes of the various political parties hardly differ in their objective. All seeks to raise the living standard of the common man and reduce inequalities of income and wealth. However there is a vast difference in their means for the realisation of these objectives. The socialist parties seek to do it by adopting programmes of State participation in the economic activities of the nation, while the non-socialist parties want it to be achieved by allowing and helping fuller utilisation of the creative urge of the individual, subject of course to the social needs of preventing any concentration of power.

Congress

The Congress manifesto thus reiterating its stand of a socialist state, writes—

"The fundamental problem of India is not only to increase greatly the living standards of the people, but also to bring about progressively social and economic equality. Existing inequalities and disparities in the social fabric are ethically wrong and will obstruct progress on all fronts and produce considerable strains. The objective aimed at can

therefore only be derived by a socialist and cooperative approach.'

PSP & CPI

The Praja Socialist Party's manifesto stressing the need for equality says—

'The Praja Socialist Party believes that in India the urge for freedom expresses itself in the fight for equality. This fight that the party wages is directed against class distinctions of all kinds, whether they relate to economic position, social status or cultural advantages.'

In another paragraph it declares—

'The Praja Socialist Party places its unshakable faith in the concept of socialism that challenges the present social order and accepts in its place an order based on equality of opportunity, on reduction in the disparities of incomes, on genuine participation of people in the control of social levers and on social mobility that helps every citizen in the country in the development and full utilising of all that is the most creative and enterprising within him.'

The Communist Party has not cared to define its objectives or reaffirm its faith in socialism in the election manifesto. Their character is perhaps too well known to need any reiteration.

Swatantra

The Swatantra Party expresses its concern about the common man in the following words—

In pursuance of its fundamental policies, the

Swatantra Party stands first and foremost, for the common man; for providing him with food, clothing and sheather, as the primary obligation of Government, for fuller employment, production of more food grains, more irrigation works, more schools, and more small industries producing goods which the common man consumes.

The party, however, does not say anything with regard to the reduction of inequalities but definitely declares its opposition to monopolies. It says—

'The party is opposed to monopoly and concentration of power in the State or in the free sector. It will promote anti-monopoly legislation whenever necessary and will end the monopoly at present enjoyed by Government corporations such as the State Trading Corporation in certain fields of trade and the Life Insurance Corporation.'

BJS Stand

The Bharatiya Jana Sangh is not wedded to either socialism or capitalism. It has, therefore, not cared to philosophise attitudes towards the solution of the economic problems of the people. It has clearly said that the doctrinaire distinction between public and private sectors should be abolished. What we need is increased production so that the necessities of the people and defence needs of the country can be satisfied. However, production programmes has got to be so planned that it does not result in a concentration of economic power and further increase in the

existing inequalities. Inequalities, in fact, lead to a restricted market and then to a fall in production and employment. If the purchasing power of the common man is increased by provision of work for all and by adequate returns for the services or commodities produced, the social and economic imbalance can be rectified. Increased productivity and wages at the bottom will automatically mean employment to others. If there is to be capital formation it must be out of the savings of those who are above the national minima. Capital-accumulation by depriving labour of an adequate wage deprives the industry of a potential market. It thus leads to increased unemployment. The Bharatiya Jana Sangh, has therefore, placed before itself, the guarantee of a minimum living standard, equitable distribution and full employment as objectives for any plan.

Basic Attitudes to Planning

The need for a planned approach to the economic problems of the country is recognised by almost all the political parties. The Swatantra Party, too, which had earlier declared itself against all planning, has, in its election manifesto, not stated so unambiguously. On the contrary it 'stands for planning carried out within the limits of the Constitution.' There are, however, differences with regard to the mode, method and machinery of planning. While on the one extreme there is the Congress satisfied with the present plans and the Planning Commission, on the other stands the Swatantra Party which would like to abolish

the Planning Commission and confine planning to the formulation of policies and the annual programme of the Government. The Swatantra Party challenges the constitutional authority of the Planning Commission and considers it as one thwarting the supremacy of the Parliament.

'The Party will seek', the manifesto says 'to restore the real and effective supremacy of Parliament and the people by abolishing the much boosted Planning Commission which has tended in effect to bring into being a non-responsible super-government at the Centre and the State Governments from the extra-constitutional dictation of the Planning Commission.'

The Swatantra Party may be correct so far as the Constitutional position is concerned. But they forget that in country with a federal form of constitution there is definitely need for some co-ordination machinery. Moreover, economic planning cannot be effectively done at lower levels. Even granting the usefulness and necessity for micro-planning, we cannot dispense with the need for macro-planning. If the fiscal and monetary levers of macro-planning are to be regulated, there must be some machinery which can provide the necessary knowledge. Moreover, if the States are not to be subjected to constant direction and dictation by the Centre in all matters, there must be some machinery for mutual consultations and decision-making. The National Development Council has accordingly been devised.

The BJS, taking into account the needs of planning and the

present form of our Constitution, has therefore suggested changes in the Constitution of the Planning Commission and the NDC the Jana Sangh manifesto reads. 'The Bharatiya Jana Sangh will reconstitute the Planning Commission and the National Development Council. The Commission will be made an expert body, freed of political elements.'

'The NDC will include besides the Central Cabinet and the State Chief Ministers, members from Parliament and State legislatures elected on a proportional basis.'

The reconstitution of these two bodies on this basis will free the plans of their partisan character and make them truly national. The need for it has largely been felt and the Prime Minister appointed an all-party consultation Committee. But this Committee has failed to work effectively. The Watimates Committee of the Lok Sabha in one of its reports had also suggested the need for such a reconstitution of the planning machinery.

The Communist Party of India has not said anything with regard to the planning machinery, but the PSP opines that 'Democratically organised district administration has to be principal unit of the economic planning.' Evidently it means little more than a cliché, because to these agencies the PSP proposes to hand over the implementation of the land reform programme. But they forget that economic planning means more than land reforms.■

(Courtesy : Organiser, 15 January, 1962)

K R Malkani : A nationalist intellectual

This is not a usually happening of human world that even being active politician for a long six decades a person identified more as an author and journalist. Born on 19 November 1921 in Hyderabad, Sindh, (now in Pakistan), he had his education at Hyderabad, Pune, Karachi, Mumbai and Harvard. Kewalram Ratanmal Malkani, the youngest brother of famous N R Malkani, popularly known as K R Malkani was belonging to rare human class who managed successfully the balance of political adjustments, pressures and demands of intellectual world.

Being born into politically-prominent family Kewalram from his early childhood was aware of importance of education and went on to earn Master's Degree in Economics and Politics from the School of Economics and Sociology in Bombay [Now Mumbai]. He joined D.G. National College Hyderabad as the lecturer for about three years [1945-1947] and also worked as Niemen Fellow at Harvard University (1961-62).

After the partition of the country towards the start of 1948 he joined Hindustan Times as an Assistant Editor and then become associated



with weekly Organizer as Editor. This association lasted for long 35 years till 1983. During the long illustrated career Malkani enjoyed and worked at various posts of journalism world like first General Secretary of the Editors' Guild of India (1978-79). He has also worked for seven long years [1983-1990] as Vice-President of the Deendayal Research Institute, New Delhi and was member of India's Press Delegation to China in 1978. He was also editor of BJP Today, the mouthpiece of Bharatiya Janata Party

His family political background forced him to enter into political arena and he became active with Jana Sangh. He was among the founder members of Bhartiya Janta Party [BJP], political

party formed in the year 1980. Starting from 1991, almost for a decade he served party in the capacity of vice president. He was also member of Rajya Sabha from 1994 to 2000 during this he worked member of several parliamentary committees. He was one among the political leaders detained under Maintenance of Internal Security Act [MISA] during the emergency.

In the year 2002 on July 3rd he was sworn in as Lieutenant Governor of Pondicherry, post he held till the time of his last breath on 27 October 2003. He was the second Lt Governor after R K Vyas to die in office. "The Sindh Story" published in the 1984 is the most significant contrubtion of K R Malkani towards the Sindhi literature, till today many Sindhi scholars are drawing refrences from this book for their writing.

Among the political publications of K R Malkani "Political Mysteries" is dealing with assassinations of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, we must remember these were the tragic deaths. This book was result of his 10 years of research work. His other famous books are "The Midnight Knock" (1977) and "The R. S. S. Story" (1980) ■

PM Narendra Modi announces eighty thousand crore rupee package for Jammu and Kashmir

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, on November 07 announced a development package of eighty thousand crore rupees for the State of Jammu and Kashmir. In his address at the Sher-e-Kashmir stadium in Srinagar, Shri Narendra Modi recalled former Prime Minister Shri

and infrastructure development. "I said it last year when I announced 1,000 crore for flood victim and I say it again today that Delhi will work shoulder to shoulder with the state government for equitable development of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, the three regions of the state," he

received him with all the dignity, but said I could not celebrate birthday when people of Kashmir had suffered such a colossal tragedy."

He said he has great hope from the youth in Kashmir who in recent years had been excelling in competitive exams like the IAS, IPS, IITs and IIMs.

"You have cricketers like Parvaiz Rasool. Why can't this stadium host international matches in near future? Great batsmen of the country like Sachin, Dhoni and Sehwag hit centuries, but the bats with which they hit those centuries are made in my Kashmir," he said.

Speaking about tourism, the prime minister said 1.75 crore Indians go abroad as tourists every year. Why can't we woo 5 percent of those 1.75 crore Indian tourists to visit Kashmir through better infrastructural facilities? There is scope for adventure tourism and eco-tourism here and more tourist destinations can be built through development of infrastructure," he added.

Shri Modi said he was privileged to be the first prime minister of the country who visited Jammu and Kashmir so many times. "I am



Atal Bihari Vajpayee's message of Kashmiriyat, Jamhooriyat, Insaniyat.

He said, "India is not complete without Kashmiriyat," mentioning the Sufi tradition of India.

He praised the people of the state for reposing their faith in *Jamhooriyat* (democracy) and said that the progress of Jammu and Kashmir had to be based on *Insaniyat*.

He said, "My first priority is relief for the flood victims, for farmers, for businessmen, for employment to local youth

said.

He recalled that he chose not to celebrate Diwali festival last year, but preferred to come to Kashmir to show solidarity with the flood victims. "On my birthday on September 17 last year, I went to touch the feet of my mother. She would always give me a few coins on my birthday, but last year she gave me Rs.5,000 saying that this money was for the flood victims of Kashmir. "The Chinese president had timed his visit around September 17, my birthday last year. I

attracted by Kashmir since I have seen love of the people here. I have visited far flung areas of Kashmir when I came here in the past as a BJP worker.

"It was because of this love that when floods hit Kashmir last year I was as pained as anguished as any of you. That is why I immediately came here that time to work together with the then state government for helping the victims. I decided I should come here instead of celebrating Diwali with friends," he said.

On economic development of the country, Modi said: "17 months back nobody could imagine of comparing Indian economic growth with that of China. Today it is said India's economy is growing faster than that of China." About his campaign for transparency and against corruption the prime minister said: "I was today reading a report by an international agency, the Transparency International.

"In last 50 years, for the first time India is ranked 10 steps ahead of China in transparency and its fight against corruption. We were ranked at 95 in this list and today we are ranked at 85," he said.

He said Rs.34,000 crore were being spent on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway and hoped that within the next three years, the journey that takes 10 to 11 hours today would be

The Prime Minister also said the Central Government worked for "Sabka saath, sabka vikas," and therefore, it was essential for development to reach all parts of the country. He said the State of Jammu and Kashmir should return once again to the days when people from all parts of India saved money to visit the State.

completed in three to four hours. "Not only highways, but I-ways (information ways) have to be built for people of Jammu and Kashmir so that they have optic fibre connectivity and digital networking facilities.

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The Prime Minister narrated his experience of reconstruction following the

Gujarat earthquake of 2001. He said that though the State of Jammu and Kashmir had suffered a lot due to floods last year, he saw the spirit (jazba) among the people, and was convinced that the State would soon overcome the difficulties.

Shri Modi recalled how he had rushed to the State soon after the floods and had spent Diwali last year in the State. He also recalled how his mother had given him Rs. 5000 last year for flood relief in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Prime Minister said the atmosphere of gloom that pervaded India till recently has lifted over the last 17 months. He said India is now considered the fastest growing major economy in the world.

The Prime Minister mentioned that the State from where young cricketer Pervez Rasool hails, should witness international cricket matches again. He said top Indian cricketers use bats made in the State.

The Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Mufti Mohammed Sayeed, Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari, and Union MoS Dr. Jitendra Singh were present on the occasion.

Later Shri Modi flown to Chanderkote town in Ramban district of Jammu region where he inaugurated a power project and also four-laning of Udhampur-Bannihal stretch of Jammu-Srinagar national highway. ■

'India's nuke programme among largest in developing nations'

Stating that India has "one of the largest nuclear power programmes" among developing nations, a US-based think-tank said by the end of 2014 India had enough weapon-grade plutonium to possess an estimated stock of atomic weapons in the range of 75-125.

'India's nuke programme among largest in developing nations'

"An estimate of India's nuclear arsenal can be derived by considering its weapon-grade plutonium stock. The resulting estimate has a median of 138 nuclear weapons equivalent with a range of 110 to 175 weapons equivalent," a report released by Institute for Science and International Security said.

"However, the actual number of nuclear weapons India built from its stocks of weapon-grade plutonium must be less. When accounting for the amount of plutonium in the weapons production pipelines and in reserves, it is reasonable to assume that only about 70 per cent of the estimated stock of weapon-grade uranium is in nuclear weapons," the report said.

"Thus the predicted number of weapons made from its weapon-grade plutonium at the end of 2014

The report 'India's Stocks of Civil and Military Plutonium and Highly Enriched Uranium, End 2014' concludes that India has "one of the largest nuclear power programmes among developing nations".

is about 97 with a range of 77-123. These values are rounded to 100 nuclear weapons with a range of 75-125 nuclear weapons," the report co-authored by David Albright and Serena Kelleher-Vergantini said.

Notably, Albright had led anti-India campaign both at the Congress and among the think-tanks against the Indo-US civil nuclear deal.

The report 'India's Stocks of Civil and Military Plutonium and Highly Enriched Uranium, End 2014' concludes that India has "one of the largest nuclear power programmes among developing nations".

The report estimated that India has made 100-200 kilogrammes of weapon-grade uranium for nuclear weapons.

"Faced with a lack of information but evidence that India has produced HEU (highly enriched uranium) for nuclear weapons, it is assumed that India has made 100-200 kilogrammes of weapon-grade uranium for

nuclear weapons. Of course, this estimate is highly uncertain," the report said.

"It has a substantial stock of nuclear weapons made from weapon-grade plutonium, and perhaps some thermonuclear weapons that rely on both weapon-grade plutonium and weapon-grade uranium," the report said.

Noting that an estimate of India's nuclear arsenal can be derived by considering its plutonium and highly enriched uranium stocks, the report said India separates plutonium produced primarily in a set of small, dedicated reactors and a smaller amount produced in nuclear power reactors.

"However, India also has a growing gas centrifuge programme capable of producing significant amounts of HEU mostly for naval reactor fuel and perhaps for nuclear weapons, including thermonuclear weapons," it said and alleged that India is not transparent about its fissile material stocks.

The report estimates India's stocks of separated plutonium and highly enriched uranium as of the end of 2014. India's stockpiles of nuclear weapons is much less than that of neighboring Pakistan, according to a recent report. ■

-PTI

Ease of doing business

By Arun Jaitley

The World Bank has upped India's ranking in the Ease of Doing Business by twelve positions. Last month the World Economic Forum had similarly upgraded India. Even though the push up numerically is modest, it marks the reversal of an adverse trend. Considering the number of steps taken in the last seventeen months, India's position should have moved

Investors no longer queue up before the Mantralayas in Delhi lobbying for policy changes or approvals.

An equally encouraging factor is that the States have also altered their work culture. Investment is the starting point of all economic activity. An investment friendly State will be a natural destination. This realization has donned upon the States. Competitive federalism can

of Doing Business rankings. The work culture is changing in most States.

Last week the Central Government issued two important ordinances. The Arbitration Law has been changed to make arbitrations cheaper, faster and free from judicial intervention. To adjudicate quickly upon investment related matters, a commercial division is being constituted in all High Courts. This would improve the enforceability of contracts where India's ranking is relatively poor. The obsolete Specific Relief Act which provides for damages as the normal remedy rather than enforcement, needs to be relooked. Having opened most sectors for foreign direct investment, time has come to examine whether some of the conditionalities on which FDI investment is permitted, have become anachronistic. We need to cut down on the number of permissions required so that the time lag between the decision to invest and the actual investment can be shortened significantly. States must realise that local laws which enable availability of land, environmental permissions, sanction of building plans need a relook. Once an industrial zone or new township has been cleared for environmental

The Gujarat model of Global Investors Meet has been replicated in Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and in Punjab. Rajasthan, this month, would be wooing global investors. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have been reaching out to investors globally. Three States with a significant tribal population – Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha, figure in the top six States in the World Bank Ease of Doing Business rankings.

significantly higher. I understand that all steps have not been factored in since the World Bank criteria has a cut-off date and it also waits for announcements to translate into action before they can be factored. Quicker decision making, faster policy changes, eliminating corruption at the top and smoother clearances have played a significant role. The FIPB clearances and the environmental approvals are being routinely granted.

be seen. The Gujarat model of Global Investors Meet has been replicated in Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and in Punjab. Rajasthan, this month, would be wooing global investors. Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have been reaching out to investors globally. Three States with a significant tribal population – Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha, figure in the top six States in the World Bank Ease

sanctions, should individual structures require a separate environmental approval? Many countries have switched to an architect's certificate as a substitute for building plans being sanctioned. When you compulsorily need a completion certificate for a building, the permission required for start of construction should be replaced by a regulatory mechanism. These additional changes will further improve India's ranking for ease of doing business.

The ease of opening business must also be accompanied by an ease in exiting. For this, the framework of the Bankruptcy Law is being readied. Dispute resolutions with regard to public projects requires a quicker settlement mechanism. The same is being worked out.

Much has been done to ensure that award of natural resources and public contracts are completely transparent. To empower public servants to take simpler and bolder decision, many corrections are required in some obsolete provisions of Prevention of Corruption Act. The same have already been introduced in Parliament. At a time when the world growth is moving slowly, India aspires to grow faster. To add a percentage or two in our present growth rate, the ease of doing business coupled with a simpler direct and indirect taxation system, a higher

While the Government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is trying to accelerate India's growth, there are many who have never intellectually accepted the idea of the BJP being in power. This obviously includes the Congress, many left thinkers and activists. Over decades they have practiced ideological intolerance towards BJP. Since 2002, the Prime Minister himself has been the worst victim of ideological intolerance.

investment in infrastructure and irrigation will play a significant role. A low oil and commodity regime is helping us in this direction.

While the Government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is trying to accelerate India's growth, there are many who have never intellectually accepted the idea of the BJP being in power.

This obviously includes the Congress, many left thinkers and activists. Over decades they have practiced ideological intolerance towards BJP. Since 2002, the Prime Minister himself has been the worst victim of ideological intolerance. Their

strategy is twofold. Firstly, obstruct Parliament and do not permit reforms which will bring credit to Modi Government. Secondly, create, by structured and organized propaganda, an environment that there is a social strife in India. They wish to project India as an intolerant society. The truth is otherwise. Perpetrators of this propaganda never allowed alternative viewpoints to grow in either universities, academic institutions or cultural bodies that they have controlled. Their intolerance extends to not accepting an alternative ideological pole. Dadri was a stray incident. It was both unfortunate and condemnable. The guilty will be taken to task. Notwithstanding such aberrations, India remains a highly tolerant and liberal society. Our cultural values have imbibed co-existence. India has repeatedly rejected intolerance.

It does not respond to provocations. It is, therefore, incumbent upon every well-wisher of India and the present Government to make sure that no action or statement of his provides a tool in the hands of those who want to obstruct India's growth story. The obstructers have a simple plan - if they can't fight politically, they fight with hostile propaganda.■

(The writer is Union Minister for Finance & information & broadcasting and corporate affairs)

Modi Govt set to end taxation woes as roadmap ready for exemptions

In a bid to resolve various taxation issues, including Goods and Services Tax (GST), the Government has prepared a roadmap to end taxation pain and will come out with a list of exemptions in the next few days. As part of the plan, the Government has decided its first step to gradually reduce corporate tax to 25 per cent in the near future and the first tranche of which will be announced in the Budget in February.

"I have announced a roadmap for direct taxation to bring corporate tax down to 25 per cent by phasing out some of those exemptions. We are going to put in the public domain in the next few days some of those exemptions that we intend to phase out in the first round. The first tranche of reduction of corporate tax will be announced in the Budget, Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley said on 04 November while participating in an interactive session at the 'National Strategy Day in India' organised by the World Economic Forum (WEF) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Shri Jaitley added, "The signs of growth are visible and promised to carry out legislative reforms by bringing in a bankruptcy law and modifying the Specific

The Finance Minister in his last Budget in February had announced the Government's intention to reduce corporate tax to 25 per cent from 30 per cent over the next four years.

Relief Act".

The Finance Minister in his last Budget in February had announced the Government's intention to reduce corporate tax to 25 per cent from 30 per cent over the next four years. "The Government has been able to address various tax legacy issues, including those pertaining to retrospective tax amendment, though two-three problems remain. Systematically, one by one, we have been resolving taxation issues. That fear of retrospective taxation has gone. Two-three of those problems remain and they remain because of legal reasons. I have publicly announced that we are looking for processes by which we can resolve some of these," Shri Jaitley said.

On GST, he is of view that 'considerable headway' has been made and he would discuss the issue with the

Congress again to ensure passage of the Bill in the Rajya Sabha. "I am willing to discuss with the Congress Party. I have so far discussed with their leaders and I can't find, at least, conceptual opposition to it. I will once again speak to them and try to make them see reason," he said.

Talking about growth prospects, Shri Jaitley said the increased indirect tax collections suggest economic recovery. "I can now see trickles of growth. One of the greatest positives is a huge increase in indirect tax revenues," he said, adding that the collection grew 36.5 per cent during the first seven months of the current fiscal ended October 31.

After discounting additional tax measures, the growth works out to 13.5 per cent. "Excise duty, customs, service tax on a year-on-year basis increased 13.5 per cent. With additional revenue measures, it is much more. This is a real increase. This actually indicates that manufacturing itself is picking up," he said.

Referring to challenges on account of global problems like devaluation of Chinese currency and possibility of a Fed rate hike, Shri Jaitley said, "There are some crises which impact us much lesser, some

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Look Who is Quoting the Scriptures!

By M. Venkaiah Naidu

The Congress talking about Intolerance is like the Devil quoting the scriptures. Their plan to meet the President of India protesting intolerance is a joke of the decade.

Congress and its political friends are intolerant of people's mandate. These so-called conscience keepers were silent during the Emergency, when Judges were superseded for committed judiciary, when the Fundamental Rights of people were violated, the Constitution was amended to favour one individual and when thousands of people were sterilized forcibly and opposition MPs were put behind bars. They were silent also when genocide of thousands of Sikhs took place in 1984 under supervision of Congress leaders. Congress leadership had justified the genocide saying that 'when a big Banyan tree falls the earth shakes'. Their silence was conspicuous during the mass exodus and genocide of Kashmiri Pundits in the valley. Now they are complaining of intolerance.

Now the same people are quoting some isolated heinous incidents that took place in either in Congress ruled States or the States ruled by its friendly parties and trying to paint the Union

Government as being intolerant. The Dadri incident happened in Uttar Pradesh, where the Samajwadi Party is a friendly political party of the Congress. Kalburgi's killing happened in Karnataka, a State ruled by the Congress itself. Rationalist thinker Shri Narendra Dabholkar was killed in Maharashtra in August 2013 when the Congress was in

Marxists had put him to death in front of his adolescent students, for whom he was taking class in a lower primary school in Kannur district. The murder of Marxist's rebel Shri T.P. Chandrasekharan in 2012 also deserves a mention. He had 51 grave cuts and slashes all over his body.

Another incident of Mirchipur happened during

The incident of barbarous hacking to death of Shri K.T. Jayakrishnan, a teacher in Kerala is well known. Marxists had put him to death in front of his adolescent students, for whom he was taking class in a lower primary school in Kannur district.

power in the State. These incidents are primarily being quoted to justify the sense of outrage.

Consider the following incidents that did not invite the same outrage. Prof. TJ Joseph's right palm was Chopped off by the Popular Front of (PFI) India in 2010, a friendly party of Congress in the state of Kerala, for allegedly insulting the Prophet in an internal examination paper. Joseph was attacked while coming from church, bombed and chopped of his right palm. The incident of barbarous hacking to death of Shri K.T. Jayakrishnan, a teacher in Kerala is well known.

the Congress regime headed by then chief minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda. A 70-year-old Tara Chand and his 18 years old Physically challenged daughter were burnt to death in 2010. Fearing more attacks some people took shelter in Delhi. The Supreme court had to intervene and order the Hooda government to provide proper relief and rehabilitation. The data from the National Crime Records Bureau show that atrocities on Dalits had increased in Haryana during the Congress regime.

The recent spate of resignations, return of awards and national honours are

motivated and aimed at maligning the image of the Narendra Modi Government at the Centre. The leadership to these were provided first by Nayantara Sahgal and later by Anand Patwardhan both of whom are noted critics of Narendra Modi. Mr Patwardhan had even gone to Varanasi to campaign against the Prime Minister during the 2014 Lok Sabha election. Even before returning the Sahitya Academy Award Sahgal had opposed the Modi Government. She has yet not explained after getting the award in 1986 why her heart did not bleed when two years back Sikhs were massacred. Some of the writers and film-makers may have been misguided to believe that the situation has worsened where as the NCRB data shows a decline in communal incidents or atrocities on Dalits.

Reasons for the ongoing malicious campaign against BJP and Prime Minister lie elsewhere. Since Independence, one particular line of thinking has been patronized and individuals and institutions were propped up in the name of one family. No other world view or perspective was allowed to be expressed or grow.

These people who thrust one view on the country all these years are not ready to tolerate the other view emerging now. When such individuals have to make way for others, it is not

palatable for them.

People of India are intelligent they will understand this malicious campaign and the country will give them a fitting reply.

People want development and the Prime Minister does not want anything to happen that will divert attention of the Government from development. He amply made it clear umpteen number of times.

It is obvious that the Congress, that thrives on hate and divisive politics, would back these protestors. Right

from the beginning, the Congress has been encouraging fissiparous and divisive forces aligned with fundamental outfits as a part of their vote-bank politics. The Congress has been trying to divide the society on the basis of religion lines in order to achieve political gains through vote bank politics. ■

(The above statement was issued by Hon'ble Union Minister for Urban Development and Parliamentary Affairs Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu on 2nd November, 2015.)

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impact us much directly. Our strategy has been to strengthen the basis of our economy so that impact of the crisis is transient and temporary," he said.

The Minister spoke of an improvement in macroeconomic data, going forward, which will enhance the country's ability to deal with global problems. "The impact of Fed rate hike certainly would be there. I think rather than actual change, its suspense which has been impacting us for the last few years," he added.

On the bankruptcy law, which will make it easier for companies to exit businesses, Shri Jaitley said the Endeavour would be to introduce the Bill in the next session of Parliament. The committee, which has been assigned the task of drafting the bankruptcy law, will be submitting its report in the next couple of days.

Shri Jaitley said, the Government, is working on updating certain other legislations, especially the Specific Relief Act. Besides, the Government has come out with an ordinance to fast-track dispute resolution through arbitration.

To queries on power sector reforms, he said, "In the next couple of days, we are likely to announce some major policy decisions in that regard to take the sector out of stress. Once that happens, I am quite sure the private sector will also start participating. That is an infrastructure issue, which we are going to be addressing literally in the next couple of days, if not in the next couple of hours itself." ■

Economy doing well now due to sound policies : Narendra Modi

Pitching for inclusive and broad economic reforms, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 06 November 2015 said these measures should improve the lives of people and not focus on just grabbing headlines.

Addressing a gathering of economists at the 6th Delhi Economics Conclave, Shri Modi said that efforts of the Government to bring back black money stashed abroad have unearthed ₹10,500 crore. "India is doing better than when we took office 17 months ago. GDP growth is up and inflation is down. Foreign investment is up and Current Account Deficit is down. Revenues are up and interest rates are down. The fiscal deficit is down and the Rupee is stable. Obviously this did not happen by accident... This success is a result of a series of well-thought-out policies," he said.

Referring to a slew of measures taken on the economic front, Shri Modi said the Government has endeavored to pursue "inclusive and broad-based reforms". Hinting that this cannot be done overnight, Modi said: "It's a marathon and not a sprint."

"My appeal to all of you is to think beyond conventional remedies. We should not limit our ideas of

reforms to a few standard notions. Our idea of reform should be inclusive and broad-based. The goal of reforms is not better headlines in the pink papers but better lives for our people," he said while inaugurating the conclave being attended by economists from India and abroad.

processed within 90 days as compared to 46 per cent last year.

Nearly 90 per cent of refunds were issued within 90 days. Shri Modi said, "I have also instructed that the performance appraisal system for Income-Tax Officers be changed. The appraisal should reflect, whether or not



On measures being taken to check corruption, Shri Modi said the I-T Department would introduce a system of online scrutiny of returns and modify the performance appraisal proforma of officials to motivate them to pass correct orders.

Observing that the Government was taking several steps to serve the honest tax payers, he said that this year 91 per cent of electronic returns were

the officer's orders and assessments have been upheld on appeal. This will deter corruption and also motivate officers to pass correct orders."

The Prime Minister said decisive measures were taken to curb corruption. These initiatives include reforms in the working of State-owned banks, removal of discretion in allocation of key resources like coal, spectrum and FM radio, doing away with

interviews for lower-level jobs and introduction of electronic filing and scrutiny of tax returns, he said.

Talking about illicit funds stashed abroad, Shri Modi said, "Our campaign against tax evasion and money laundering is well known. ₹6,500 crore was assessed before the new black money Act was implemented. Additionally, over ₹4,000 crore has been declared under the new Act.

Thus over ₹10,500 crore

population of most of the countries in the world. Now these millions are part of our banking system, and words like 'interest rate' have a meaning for them," he said. These people have been brought into the system and they have shown that there is a great strength at the bottom of the pyramid, he said.

Accounts opened under the Jan Dhan Yojana today have a total balance of almost Rs 26,000 crore or nearly \$4 billion, he said adding "clearly

Accounts opened under the Jan Dhan Yojana today have a total balance of almost Rs 26,000 crore or nearly \$4 billion, he said adding "clearly our financial inclusion reform has been transformational. And yet this quiet revolution has hardly been noticed".

of black money from abroad has been detected and assessed."

Referring to the policies of the Government, especially financial sector reforms which include JAM (Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile) trinity, Shri Modi said that they were aimed at alleviating poverty. "...Empowering the poor is far more effective than empowering poverty-alleviating industry. Our financial reforms empower the poor to fight poverty themselves," Shri Modi said, adding that in the last 17 months, the Government has brought 190 million people into the banking system.

"This is more than the

our financial inclusion reform has been transformational. And yet this quiet revolution has hardly been noticed". He also said the Government has introduced healthy competition in the debit and credit card space. "This has traditionally been dominated by a few international players... Today 36 per cent of debit cards in India are Ru-Pay cards," he added. Shri Modi further said the Government has reduced wasteful expenditure through innovative methods like the use of technology.

"Some of the methods are part of your agenda, such as using Aadhaar to target subsidies to the deserving.

These are reforms that you are probably aware of. But our reforms are far broader and far deeper than generally recognised," he said.

On the formation of NITI Aayog, Shri Modi said, "My vision of NITI is very different from the Planning Commission. It is to be a collaborative forum for ideas and action where States are full partners and where the Centre and States meet in a spirit of co-operative federalism."

The PM said that financial inclusion is not just about opening bank accounts or enabling electronic payments. "I firmly believe that India has tremendous entrepreneurial energy. This needs to be harnessed so that we become a nation of job-creators, rather than job seekers," Shri Modi said.

He said while Jan Dhan Yojana was to bring banking to the unbanked the second reform was to bring funding to the unfunded. "Already under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana banks have provided more than six million loans to small businesses for a total value of nearly Rs 38,000 crore or \$6 billion.

"If one conservatively estimates that each loan creates two jobs we have laid the foundation for 12 million new jobs. Even Rs 2 lakh crores invested in the corporate sector would not produce this many jobs," he said. ■

Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the man who is making the dream of Pandit Deendayal and the ideology of Jan Sangh come true

By Prabhat Jha

Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh is completing ten years in office. This year can also be said to be the year in which the dream of Pandit Deendayal is coming true. He has taken many steps for the welfare of the society during this time. He is more of a social than a political personality. Along with being the Chief Minister, he is also a good party worker. The truth is that he is dedicated to make every word of the Constitution of Jan Sangh come true.

Five years ago, on 27th November, 2010 we celebrated 'Party Workers' Pride Day' on completion of five years of his rule. The program was appreciated all over the country, and also by the central leadership of the BJP. Being the BJP state president I felt at that time that the greatest asset of a political party is its cadre; its workers and volunteers. It is their hard work which pays. It is the party worker who is the bridge on which the organization is built among the people. He takes the party, its ideology and its leader to the people. Hence we have decided to felicitate Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan as the ideal party worker. We have always tried that the ideal

I personally know Shivraj Singh Chouhan for the past 32 years. He has always been hard working as a party worker, never deviating from party principles and ideology. This is the reason that he has taken the BJP to every small village. If the people of the state made him their leader, then he also made sure that he kept serving them primarily as a party worker and not as a Chief Minister.

party worker should always be felicitated and respected.

I personally know Shivraj Singh Chouhan for the past 32 years. He has always been hard working as a party worker, never deviating from party principles and ideology. This is the reason that he has taken the BJP to every small village. If the people of the state made him their leader, then he also made sure that he kept serving them primarily as a party worker and not as a Chief Minister. In political life, people play charade of politics, but Shivraj never did that. He tries to always keep himself filled with compassion and kindness. One effect of his compassion is that now no one

is left untreated of a sickness due to lack of money. All over India people are talking about financial aid for health. The citizens of Madhya Pradesh were convinced that the government is connected to their concerns and their lives. There is nothing more important to the BJP government than the lives of its people.

The BJP government came up with the slogan, '*Beti aapki, chinta Shivraj ki*' (Your daughter is Shivraj's daughter). It did not just raise the slogan; it took many concrete steps to implement the schemes on ground. It is only the BJP government which has taken steps to ensure that the girl child, which was considered as a curse in many families, is now considered a boon. Many Chief Ministers served the state in their capacity, but it was only Shivraj Singh Chouhan who tried to understand even small problems of people and tried to find solutions for them.

It is not possible to put all your experiences in one article. Shivraj is concerned about the villager who rears chicken and goats. If someone's goat or someone's chicken dies in villages, then the state government pays compensation. There is no

other state in India in which the state government is so concerned about the villagers.

It is as if Shivraj Ji has done a PhD on the problems of the villages. Shivraj government is still trying to make the villages stand on their own feet when it comes to child birth, caring about both the child and the mother. He is a master of social behavior.

He has seen rural problems up close. This is the reason that he has tried to take Madhya Pradesh from darkness to light. Every citizen of Madhya Pradesh feels this. They always think how to develop his state. He wants that every party worker of the BJP should start to think like this. Instead of walking alone he prefers to take everyone along. The schemes of his government are born in the rural Panchayats.

According to what I saw, he is spiritual and sensitive social worker. The best thing is that he gives opportunity to all his opponents. Many occasions came in his political career when his opponents blamed him of many things, but he maintained his calm and tried to use the positive qualities of such people for the government and for the organization.

In the last ten years, he is at the helm of power, and yet he has no ego. This is the grace of God. He is far from arrogance and political sham. Social harmony is his basic nature. He is a hard worker.

To spend whole day in the Secretariat and then to go amongst the people in the evening is no small feat.

Despite being the Chief Minister of the state, he never shied away from bearing the responsibility of the organization. He started 'Madhya Pradesh Gaan' for kindling the feeling of brotherhood between the people of the state. It shows that his only goal is the development of Madhya Pradesh.

As I have written before, the schemes that are taking shape in Madhya Pradesh are more social than political in nature. Shivraj Singh Chouhan is not just the BJP Chief Minister, he is the Chief Minister of the state and makes people feel like it. Though he is the party worker too, but first he serves the people of the state. He is their prime devotee.

Madhya Pradesh was constituted on November 01.

Shivraj has taken the inspiration of celebrating 'Madhya Pradesh Divas' from small villages.

Whoever sees him on close quarters, will say that Shivraj Singh Chouhan is a very social man. He is long-sighted in politics. He has great power of understanding what is going on in the hearts of his people. Saying that he has given a new direction to Madhya Pradesh, or changed its direction would not be an exaggeration. Every poor man whose poverty is gradually disappearing wishes him well. Really, he is a savior for the poor. Whoever writes the history of Madhya Pradesh will have to write that the first Chief Minister of the state who ruled for more than ten years continuously is Shivraj Singh Chouhan. That he keeps leading the BJP and Madhya Pradesh, is what I wish from God. ■

(The writer is BJP National Vice President)

PM wishes Shri L K Advani on his birthday

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has wished Shri L K Advani on his birthday on 08 November.

Shri Modi said, "Warmest birthday greetings to our guide and inspiration, the respected Shri LK Advani ji. I wish Advani ji a long life filled with best health.

Advani ji's contribution to the country is invaluable. He has always been respected as a person of immense knowledge and integrity.

The PM said "Personally, I have learnt much from Advani ji. For Karyakartas like us, he is the best teacher and the epitome of selfless service," the Prime Minister said. Notable, Former Deputy Prime Minister Shri L K Advani was born on November 8, 1927 in Karachi in Pakistan.

Legacy of JP

By P. Parameswaran

Lok Nayak Jay Prakash Narayan is considered a towering figure in Indian political history who has inspired generations through his political commitment and steely resolve in bringing an end to the emergency imposed by Indira Gandhi on the country. He is remembered as a fearless freedom fighter, torch bearer of socialism and a Gandhian to the core. We are reproducing the IIInd part of the article attempting to understand his political journey and his legacy from renowned journal Manthan published in December 1979 for our esteemed readers:

Disillusionment with Communism

JP's disillusionment with communism is worth studying. Originally he was fascinated by Karl Marx, because he believed that "the greatest contribution that Marx made to social science was that he gave us a method not only to study and understand society but also to enable us to change it." His admiration for Marx continued for quite some time, but Marxism as applied in Aoviet Russia, particularly by Stalin did not meet with his approval. He considered it un-Marxian. The refusal of Indian communists to join the freedom struggle waged by the Congress also came in for his sharp criticism. "I just could not understand how it was necessary for the communists to leave the Congress and fight the Congress which was fighting for the freedom of our country." The domestic and foreign policies of the Communist Russia under Stalin and their decisive impact on the communist movement in India as well as

other countries also had a telling effect on JP's attitude towards communism. He puts it succinctly in lines:- "The communists behave as they do because neither in India nor in any part of the world are they free agents. They have to trim their sails to suit the winds that blow from the Kremlin. It is ultimately Russian policy, domestic and foreign, which determines the policies, even the very ideological bases of the communist movement throughout the world. Any dispute within the Russian Communist Party rents the communist parties throughout the world. If there are purges in Russia there are purges elsewhere. It is wrong to believe, as people sometimes do, that it is only Russian foreign policy that rules the communist world movement. Russian foreign policy is merely an expression of Russia's domestic policy; so in the end it is the character of the Russian state and Russian social system which determine the character of the communist movement the

world over. Russia has passed since the revolution through varied and quickly changing situations. All these shifts in Russian policy have found expression in the international communist movement investing it with an incoherent, crazy pattern and divorcing the policies of national communist parties from all objectivity."

The absolute curtailment of all individual freedom in Russia was intolerable for JP. "There may be socialism in Russia, but there is no individual freedom, no freedom to criticise the government or the party, and fear of the government has gone so far that even in the family, the husband is frightened to talk frankly to his wife, and son to father; because no one knows who is a spy among them." According to JP, "The communist model strikes at the very root of man by denying the primacy of his spirit and by deliberately suppressing it. By glorifying power and authority, as represented by the party and

the state, and by making everyone and everything subservient to them, it makes of society a 'vast prison-house for the human spirit. Moreover he was totally opposed to the communist concept of "the state" as the sole agent of social reconstruction, because in that case, we get nothing but a regimented society, in which the state is all-powerful and popular initiative is extinct and the individual is made a cog in a vast inhuman machine."

What Attracted him to Gandhiji

After having identified the factors that made communism unacceptable to JP, it will be instructive to find out why and how Gandhism appealed to him. Even while he was a confirmed socialist – the most authentic spokesman of the socialist movement in India. JP never believed in a purely materialistic socialism. As early as 1948, he wrote: "It is too often believed that all would be well only if there were no exploitation in society and everyone was well-fed and clothed and housed. But a society of well-fed and clothed and housed brutes is a far cry from socialism."" The concept of a value-based socialism inevitably led JP to certain ethical norms. Said he:- "Therefore, if the aim of our party is not only to Produce well-fed, well-clothed and well-housed animals but also to produce good men, then all our political work must be

inspired by certain ethical values." Therefore, he wrote in his article on 'Socialism and Sarvodaya':- "The first aspect of Gandhism that must interest the socialist is its moral and ethical basis, its insistence on value,"¹² JP found that Gandhism, with its stress on human values, "offered a corrective that the socialist world overlook only at the cost of the very substance of their creed." He contrasted Gandhism with Russian Stalinism, Which "has-reduced it (socialist philosophy) to a crank Machiavellian code of conduct, utterly devoid of any sense of right or wrong, good or evil." In it, the end justified the means, but according to JP, "The greatest thing Mahatma Gandhiji taught us was that means are ends, that evil means can never lead to good ends and that fair ends require fair means."

The second aspect that attracted JP to Gandhism was Gandhiji's technique of nonviolent Satyagraha. JP wrote:- "Before Gandhiji the only means that suppressed and exploited had with which to fight against their oppressor were violent... In Gandhiji's method of civil disobedience and Satyagraha the suppressed and exploited have found a new technique that carries the struggle forward beyond the usual peaceful limits and give full expression to the urge for social justice and social change."" JP discounted the popular idea that a violent

revolution is swift and sure. According to him, it is neither and hence he rejected the violent way. To him, "Experience of non-violent revolution suggests that it is the, quickest method. And because this movement does not use force and depends on persuasion, and also because it works from below, there is a greater likelihood of its achieving its ends."

There was another reason for JP being attracted to Gandhism was Gandhiji's insistence on decentralisation – economic and political." JP did not agree with those leftists who propagated that decentralisation is anti-diluvian, nor did he share the belief that economic decentralisation means the rejection of modern science and technology. He strongly advocated the need for decentralisation of industry in a backward economy like India's where production must be labour intensive instead of capital intensive. According to him, political decentralisation did not mean a weak state of absence of a planned life. In short, JP accepted Gandhi because, according to him, "far from being a reactionary, Gandhiji was an exceptionally original social revolutionary and he has made contributions to social thought and the methodology of social change that are indispensable to human progress and civilisation."

To Continue...

Mahagathbandhan to form government in Bihar, NDA gets 58 seats

Bihar assembly elections result was announced on November 8, 2015. Mahagathbandhan is to form government in Bihar. NDA has got 58 seats. The RJD and JD-U ended up winning 80 and 71 seats each and the Congress 27. The BJP was the winner in 53

Bihar Result Status			
Status Known For 243 out of 243 Constituencies			
Party	Won	Leading	Total
Bharatiya Janata Party	53	0	53
Indian National Congress	27	0	27
Janata Dal (United)	71	0	71
Lok Jan Shakti Party	2	0	2
Rashtriya Janata Dal	80	0	80
Rashtriya Lok Samta Party	2	0	2
Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (Liberation)	3	0	3
Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular)	1	0	1
Independent	4	0	4
Total	243	0	243

constituencies, and three allies — the Lok Janshakti Party (LJP), the Hindustani Awam Morcha (HAM) and the Rashtriya Lok Samata Party (RLSP) — together bagged five seats (2, 1, 2 respectively). The Communist Party of India-Marxist-Leninist-Liberation has won three seats and Independents four. BJP is ahead in getting percentage of votes in comparison to all parties which were in poll fray. BJP got 24.4% vote, RJD 18.4%, JD(U) 16.8%, RLSP 2.6%, HAM(S) 2.3%, BSP 2.1%, CPI(Marxist-Leninist) (Liberation) 1.5%. ■

NDA's Bihar loss not setback to economy : Jaitley

Attributing the NDA's defeat in the Bihar Assembly election to 'huge index of opposition unity', Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley said on November 9 that, it will not impact the economic reforms process.

"I don't see it as a setback to the economy... structural reforms will continue. They should continue at a rapid pace," he said. While the ruling NDA managed to get 58 seats (BJP 53) in the 243-member Assembly, Mahagathbandhan got 178 seats.

The alliance comprises the JD(U), RJD and Congress.

On whether Bihar election was a referendum on the policies of the Centre, Shri Jaitley, in an interview to ET Now, said, "The word referendum is loosely used... every election is not a referendum. A state election is not a referendum. You are not contesting on one issue."

He further said that the vote share of the BJP has not come down and the victory of the Mahagathbandhan was on account of different opposition forces coming together.

About reforms, Shri Jaitley said government would continue them by taking executive actions and also in the Budget, which would be announced in February next year.

On the specific question of the pending Goods and Services Tax (GST) Bill, he hoped that Bihar, which is a consuming state, would support the legislation.

"I don't see (Bihar election outcome) as a setback to the economy at all. If under Nitish Kumar, Bihar grows and grows well, we have already announced economic package for the state, certainly we are going to help.

"Our commitment is the states which need to develop more we have to help them more," Shri Jaitley said. ■

Science of Relaxation

By Swami Sivananda

When you perform an action consciously message is given to the mind and the mind immediately obeys by sending a current of energy to the desired part. An unconscious act is done instinctively or mechanically. The mind does not wait for orders. When the scorpion stings you in a finger, the finger is at once withdrawn. You do not argue here. This is an instinctive or mechanical movement.

A man of easily irritable nature cannot enjoy peace of mind. His brain, nerves and muscles are always under high tension. He is wasting every minute abundant muscular and nerve energy and brain-power. He is a very weak man though he is endowed with physical strength, because he loses his balance of mind very easily. If you really want to enjoy unruffled peace and abiding joy, you must try to possess a calm, controlled and balanced mind by eradicating worry, anxieties, fear, anger, and impulses.

You do not gain anything by worrying yourself unnecessarily and manifesting anger for nothing at all. Anger belongs to brutal nature. Anger does positive injury to brain, blood and nerves. You are not profited



a bit by exhibiting anger. By repeating an action, a habit is formed in the mind. If you worry yourself frequently, a worrying habit is developed. Your vitality and energy are simply drained by worry, anger, fear. Why should you be afraid of anything at all, when everything is nothing but your own self? Fear, anger and worry are the products of ignorance. The muscles and nerves of a victim of anger and worry are always under contraction and high tension.

The action of one set of muscles can be checked by the operation of another set of muscles. One impulse may try to put one set of muscles in motion and by sending another repressive impulse through another set of muscles you can counteract the action of the first set of muscles. If a man abuses you, you may jump at once to beat him. An impulse has already

put one set of muscles in motion. You may check the impulse through discrimination and reflection: "I do not gain anything by beating him. He is an ignorant man. He does not know how to behave. Let me forgive him now." A repressive impulse will check at once the operation of the first set of muscles by another set of muscles. Raising of impulses and counter-impulses or repressing or inhibitive impulses cause high tension in nerves, muscles and brain. Vast majority of persons are slaves of impulses; hence they do not enjoy peace of mind. They are tossed hither and thither.

The science of relaxation is an exact science. It can be learnt very easily. Relaxation of muscles is as much important as contraction of muscles. I lay great emphasis on the relaxation of mind, nerves and muscles. For relaxation Savasana is Prescribed.

Savasana

"Sava" means 'dead body.' When one performs this Asana, it gives the appearance of a dead body. So it is named Savasana. This is a closing pose. You will have to do this after doing all the exercises.

To be continued.....

Courtesy: The Divine Life Society