

KAMAL SANDESH



**PARTY HAS TO MOVE AHEAD FROM
WHERE IT STOOD NOW...**

Vol. 15, No. 06

16-31 March, 2020 (Fortnightly)

₹20



**'AMERICA LOVES INDIA, RESPECTS INDIA AND
WILL ALWAYS BE FAITHFUL TO INDIAN PEOPLE'**



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda flanked by Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal and others inaugurating BJP Sahyog Programme by lighting the lamp at BJP HQ in New Delhi



Himachal Pradesh BJP led by CM Shri Jai Ram Thakur hosting a grand welcome to BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on his arrival in Shimla



BJP President Shri JP Nadda flanked by Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah and BJP National Gen. Secy. & Bangal In-charge Shri Kailash Vijayvargiya at BJP Office Bearers' meeting in Kolkata



Odisha BJP welcomes Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah at the Jan Samavesh in Bhubaneswar, Odisha



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah waving at a huge public meeting at Shaheed Maidan, Kolkata, West Bengal



Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari addressing the Women Entrepreneurship Conference 2020 in New Delhi

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USA & INDIA FIRMLY UNITED TO DEFEND OUR CITIZENS FROM THREAT OF RADICAL ISLAMIC TERRORISM...

The President of the United States of America, Mr. Donald...

VAICHARIKI

Our Nationhood... 21

SHRADHANJALI

Veer Savarkar occupies unique place in the history... 23

ARTICLES

Skill her, skill India: Policy must enable every... 28

Trump's Visit... 30

OTHERS

PM Modi & President Trump pledge to enhance security cooperation... 12

Cabinet approves Mega Consolidation in Public Sector Banks (PSBs) with effect from 1s April 18

Indian Railways launches its First "Restaurant on Wheels" 20

More than 81% account holders are Women under Stand Up India Scheme 32

Opposition inciting communal riots over CAA by spreading misinformation... 33

Development and development alone is our fundamental Mantra... 34



10 FRIENDSHIP OF INDIA & AMERICA DEEPENED UNDER PRESIDENT TRUMP'S LEADERSHIP..

In the opening remarks of at 'Namaste Trump' Event PM Modi said "Today a new history is being..."

15 PARTY HAS TO MOVE AHEAD FROM WHERE IT STOOD NOW...

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on a two-day Pravas visited Himachal Pradesh...



26 PM LAYS FOUNDATION STONE FOR BUNDELKHAND EXPRESSWAY, LAUNCHES 10,000 FPOS FROM CHITRAKOOT...

To supplement the nodes of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, announced...

26 NEXT CM OF BENGAL WOULD NOT BE ANY 'SHEHZADA' BUT A SON OF THIS SOIL...

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah visited Kolkata...



twitter

@narendramodi



We've moved on from the times of merely talking the right things. This is era of doing the right things. And, doing them for public welfare.

@amitshah

Keeping in mind the poor and to help reduce the burden of high medication cost, Modi government has been providing quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses under PMBJP. Medicines under this scheme are 50% to 90% cheaper as compared to the average market price.



@nitingadkari



Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi Ji has invited everyone to share about women who have inspired us. I am sharing few such stories, where women have excelled by the support of various schemes of Govt of India. If you know a woman whose life and work can inspire the world, share it with #SheInspiresUs

facebook

To bring to the notice of the government about the problems of common people and finding the solution from the government has been going on with us for a long time through the BJP Sahayog program. After its successful implementation during the previous government this programme has also been formally launched again.



— Jagat Prakash Nadda

Good Decision to consolidate 10 PSBs into four. This will strengthen the Indian Banking System. #CabinetDecisions.



— Bhopender Yadav

Ratan Lal, Head Constable of DP Laid down his life in line of duty when Rioters in the name of protests ran amok for 12 hours in Delhi. Pray almighty to give courage to his family to bear the loss. The society shall rock solidly stand by his family.



— B L Santhosh

Empowered Women in New India

- 70%** of women are loanees
- 43%** women in 2.15 crore subscribers
- 53%** women account holders
- More than **81%** women account holders
- 40.7%** enrolments & **58.2%** of claim beneficiaries are women
- 41.5%** enrolments & **61.3%** of claim beneficiaries are women

**23rd MARCH
SHAHEED DIWAS**

KAMAL SANDESH PARIWAR pays homage to the courage and sacrifice of the great revolutionaries **Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev**, who selflessly laid down their lives for our motherland.

SHAT SHAT NAMAN !

'NAMASTE TRUMP' HAS CREATED A RIGHT AMBIENCE

Namaste Trump' turned out to be such a mega event which will linger in the memory of US and Indian people for a long time to come. The massive numbers in which the people came out in the streets of Ahmedabad, lining both sides of the road starting from airport to Sabarmati Ashram and from there to Motera Stadium while greeting the passing cavalcade of President Trump, his family and other dignitaries, presented a spectacle which will remain etched in the memory of American people in future. The Motera Stadium which was packed to overflow, jam-packed with strong numbers of more than 1.25 lac people, greeted the US President, his family and guests from US with thunderous applauds witnessed rarely in the history of the two great nations. The entire event symbolizes the respect and affection between the people of the two great democracies in the world, who are now willing to walk extra mile to further cement understanding and friendship between the two great nation. It is also a message of warmth and love from India to the people of US.

India and US are today cooperating more on various fronts with deepening of understanding between the two nations. India is not only the largest democracy of the world but has upheld the democratic principles and ethos presenting an example for the other nations to emulate. India has been one of the first victims of terrorism while US had to suffer 9/11 terror attack making it to realize the kind of danger terrorism poses to the humanity at large. India and US are today committed to fight against terrorism at global forums and a great

part of the credit goes to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who brought it in the top agenda of every international forums he attended. It is the result of such efforts that the funding and giving refuse to terror organisations are dealt with severely by the international community and Pakistan has been on the terror watch list of FATF. It was heartening to see that the US President Mr. Donald Trump specifically pointed out the havoc played by radical Islamic terror in the world while strengthening India's position at the global level.

The signing of Defence Deal worth three billion USD is a right step in right direction which will further deepen India-US ties. The cooperation in the field of oil and natural gas is supposed to make the ties even stronger in the days to come. There is a vast field of cooperation and partnership open between India and US which may be explored by the visionary leadership of both the countries. The signing of agreement in health is one of such instances that the two nations can now join hands to explore new avenues of cooperation.

There are efforts to deepen Indo-US ties in the field of energy, space, defence, education, innovation, enterprise and many more such fields. India and US can come together in almost every area of cooperation which will not only be mutually beneficial but may also result in manifold gains for the entire humanity in the days to come.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and US President Mr. Donald Trump share vision for a long-term partnership based on deepening understanding, trust, respect and mutual affection. The pledge to further strengthen Indo-US Comprehensive Global Strategic partnership will go a long way in ensuring goodwill and trust while enhancing engagements between the two nations. The close partnership between India and US will definitely ensure peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region. Apart from signalling an incredible trade deal, the assurance of US on the much needed reform of UN and support for India's permanent membership in the UNSC along with India's entry in Nuclear Suppliers Group will further bolster Indo-US friendship. There is no doubt that there is increasing recognition of the importance of Indo-US ties in various fields aimed at breaking new grounds in coming days. 'Namaste Trump' event has created a right ambience in which Indian and American people are finding themselves in closer bonds of mutual partnership, respect, affection and trust. ■

PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI AND US PRESIDENT MR. DONALD TRUMP SHARE VISION FOR A LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP BASED ON DEEPENING UNDERSTANDING, TRUST, RESPECT AND MUTUAL AFFECTION. THE PLEDGE TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN INDO-US COMPREHENSIVE GLOBAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WILL GO A LONG WAY IN ENSURING GOODWILL AND TRUST WHILE ENHANCING ENGAGEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS.

 shivshakti@kamalsandesh.org



USA & INDIA FIRMLY UNITED TO DEFEND FROM THREAT OF RADICAL ISLAMIC TERRORISM

The President of the United States of America, Mr. Donald J. Trump, paid a State Visit to India on 24-25 February 2020, at the invitation of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

US President Mr. Donald Trump arrived in India along with First Lady Melania Trump and delegates. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald Trump jointly addressed 'Namaste Trump' event at the world's largest cricket stadium in Ahmedabad on February 24. President Trump and U.S.' First

Lady Melania Trump also visited Sabarmati Ashram. President Trump and PM Modi hold a 22-kilometre-long road show to Motera Stadium where Namaste Trump event was held.

Addressing a crowd of more than one lakh at Motera Stadium, American President Mr. Donald Trump described Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi as an exceptional leader and a tough negotiator. He said that the United States and India are also firmly united in our ironclad resolve to defend our



ND OUR CITIZENS RRORISM: TRUMP

citizens from the threat of radical Islamic terrorism.

The following are the highlights of the address:

- This is such a great honor. Let me begin by expressing my profound gratitude to an exceptional leader, a great champion of India, a man who works night and day for his country, and a man I am proud to call my true friend: Prime Minister Modi.
- America loves India, America respects India, and

America will always be faithful and loyal friends to the Indian people.

- You have done a great honor to the American people. Melania and my family, we will always remember this remarkable hospitality. We will remember it forever. From this day on, India will always hold a very special place in our hearts.
- Prime Minister Modi is living proof that with hard work and devotion, Indians can accomplish anything — anything at all, anything they want.
- Under Prime Minister Modi, for the first time in history, every village in India now has access to electricity. Three hundred and twenty million people — more Indians — are right now connected to the Internet. The pace of highway construction has more than doubled. Over 70 million more households — think of this — 70 million more households have access to cooking fuel; 600 million more people have access to basic sanitation; and, incredibly, 12 Indian citizens are lifted out of extreme poverty every single minute of every single day.
- India will soon be the home of the biggest middle class anywhere in the world. And within less than 10 years, extreme poverty in your country is projected to completely disappear. The potential for India is absolutely incredible.
- While our nations have many differences, they are both defined and propelled by a fundamental truth: the truth that all of us are blessed with divine light, and every person is endowed with a sacred soul. As the great religious teacher, Swami Vivekananda, once said, “The moment I stand in reverence before every human being and see God in Him, that moment I am free.”
- In America and in India, we know that we are all born for a higher purpose: to reach toward our fullest potential, to work toward excellence and perfection, and to give all glory to God.
- This is the country that produces nearly 2,000 movies a year from the hub of genius and creativity known as Bollywood! All over the planet, people take great joy in scenes of Bhangra music, dance, romance and drama, and classic Indian films like DDLJ and Sholay. This is the country where your people cheer on some of the world’s greatest cricket players — from Sachin Tendulkar to Virat

Kohli. The greatest in the world. This is the country that built the tallest statue on the face of the Earth to honor the namesake of this stadium, the great Indian patriot and native of this state, Sardar Patel.

- India is the country where hundreds of millions of — light candles to celebrate the triumph of good over evil at Diwali. And it's where, just days from now, Indians of all faiths will pour out onto the streets to celebrate the beautiful festival of Holi.
- Your nation has always been admired around the Earth as the place where millions upon millions of Hindus and Muslims and Sikhs and Jains, Buddhists, Christians, and Jews worship side by side in harmony; where you speak more than 100 languages and come from more than two dozen states, yet you have always stood strong as one great Indian nation. Your unity is an inspiration to the world.
- Our military has been completely rebuilt; it is now stronger than ever before. And we are quickly revitalizing our alliances and friendships all around the world. We have spent two and a half trillion dollars on rebuilding our military. It's the most powerful military anywhere in the world, by far.
- The United States and India are also firmly united in our ironclad resolve to defend our citizens from the threat of radical Islamic terrorism.
- Both of our countries have been hurt by the pain

and turmoil of terrorism and that terrorism brings. Under my administration, we unleashed the full power of the American military on bloodthirsty killers of ISIS in Iraq and in Syria. Today, the ISIS territorial caliphate has been 100 percent destroyed. And the monster known as al-Baghdadi, the founder and leader of ISIS, is dead.

- In the United States, we have also made clear that while our country will always welcome newcomers who share our values and love our people, our borders will always be closed to terrorists and terrorism and to any form of extremism.
- That is why we have taken historic steps to improve screening and vetting of applications for entry, and we are working to ensure that anyone who threatens the security of our citizens is denied admission and will pay a very, very big, costly price.
- Every nation has the right to secure and controlled borders. The United States and India are committed to working together to stop terrorists and to fight their ideology. For this reason, since taking office, my administration is working in a very positive way with Pakistan to crack down on the terrorist organizations and militants that operate on the Pakistani border. Our relationship with Pakistan is a very good one.
- India has an important leadership role to play in shaping a better future as you take on greater

Donald Trump and Melania visit Agra

US President Mr. Donald Trump and his wife Mrs. Melania arrived Agra from Ahmedabad



after jointly attending with Prime Shri Minister Narendra Modi the mega 'Namaste Trump' event at the Motera cricket stadium on February 24. Hundreds of artistes welcomed the American President and his wife at the airport with beautiful performances reflecting the rich culture of Uttar Pradesh. Mr. Donald Trump was received at the Kheria airbase by Uttar Pradesh Governor Smt. Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Shri Yogi Adityanath.



responsibility for solving problems and promoting peace throughout this incredible region.

- The United States and India are also working closely together on the future of space exploration. You are making impressive strides with your exciting Chandrayaan Lunar Program. It is moving along rapidly, far ahead of schedule, and America looks forward to expanding our space cooperation with India as you push even further. You are pushing the limits — and that’s a great thing — including in realm of human spaceflight. The United States and India will be friends and partners on our voyage into the stars and into space.
- It is truly extraordinary what this nation has achieved in the span of just one lifetime. And what they have done under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, it is absolutely incredible. Mr. Prime Minister, congratulations. Fantastic.
- This nation is blessed with many treasures. From the sacred banks of the Ganges, to the Golden Temple, and the Jama Masjid, it is home to some of the most cherished cultural heritage anywhere

on Earth. It is also a land of stunning vistas and astonishing natural wonders, from the rugged peaks of the Himalayas to the splendid shores of Goa.

- India has always been a wellspring of deep wisdom and great ideas — from the Vedas and the ancient epics, all the way up to the modern India nation.
- But standing before all of you today, I know that true strength of India is not found in its textbooks, its landmarks or its landscapes. The true strength of India is found in 125,000 beating hearts in this stadium and the millions and millions of people who have seen and witnessed our great friendship and admiration today. It is all found in the soul and the spirit of the Indian people.
- So today I say to every Indian - North and South, Hindu and Muslim, Jewish and Christian, rich and poor, young and old: Take pride in the glories of your past, unite for an even brighter future, and let our two nations always stand together as powerful defenders of peace and liberty, and the hope of a better world for all of humanity. ■



FRIENDSHIP OF INDIA & AMERICA DEEPENED UNDER PRESIDENT TRUMP'S LEADERSHIP: MODI

In the opening remarks of at 'Namaste Trump' Event PM Modi said "Today a new history is being made in the Motera Stadium. Today we are also seeing history repeating itself. 'Five months' ago, I started my US trip with the Howdy Modi program in Houston, and today my friend President Donald Trump is starting his historic visit to India with 'Namaste Trump' in Ahmedabad." He added "You can imagine that he has arrived here directly from America. Landing in India after such a long journey, President Trump and his family went directly to Sabarmati Ashram and then came to this event."

Describing about the event PM Modi said "The meaning of name of this program is 'Namaste', is also very deep. It is a word in 'Sanskrit', one of the oldest languages in the world. It's essence is that we salute not only the person but also the divinity within him. I congratulate the people of Gujarat, and the people of other states living in Gujarat for such a grand ceremony."

"I am happy that the friendship of India and America has deepened under President Trump's leadership; as such this visit of President Trump is a new chapter in the India-America relationship. It

is a chapter that will become the new document of progress and prosperity for the people of America and India. President Trump thinks big, and the world is well aware of what he has done to make the American Dream come true. Today we extend special greetings to the entire Trump family."

He added, "Today every Indian, American, as well as the whole world wants to listen to President Trump from this platform. After his address, while extending to him my thanks, I will talk to you all a bit more."

'CONFIDENCE BETWEEN INDIA-AMERICA REACHED A NEW HIGHT'

In closing remarks at ' Namaste Trump' Event, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said "What you just said about India, you paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekananda and Sardar Patel, said about the strength, achievements and culture of the people of India. Said a lot about me too. I express my gratitude to you on behalf of every Indian for this. President Trump has not only increased the pride of India, but has also honored Indians living in America."

He added "In the last few years, the confidence

TRUMP AND MELANIA PAY RESPECTS TO FATHER OF THE NATION AT RAJ GHAT



The US President and the First Lady arrived at Raj Ghat after ceremonial reception by President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on 25 February, 2020. After their visit to the Raj Ghat, US President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump, in their note on the visitor's book, said the American people stood strongly with a sovereign and wonderful India. The US President and the First Lady went to the Raj Ghat to pay their respects to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. ■

INDIA AND US FINALISE DEFENCE DEALS WORTH \$ 3 BILLION

During the President Trump's visit, India and the United States on February 25, 2020 finalized defence deals worth three billion dollars and signed three agreements, including in health and oil sectors. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed on mental health between the health departments of the two countries. Another MoU on the safety of medical products was signed between the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization with the US Food and Drug Administration. A Letter of Cooperation was signed between Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Exxon Mobil India LNG Limited and Chart Industries Inc, US. ■

between India and America has reached a new height, which has been strengthened, it is historical. "In my visits to America, I have seen this belief grow stronger day by day." PM said "I remember when I first met President Trump in Washington, he told me, "India has a true friend in the white house". President Trump has always shown this special love towards India. As you mentioned when Diwali is celebrated in the white house, four million Indians living in America also take pride in being a companion of America's prosperity and progress."

He said "Today not only the world's largest stadium is in India, but today India is also running the world's largest health assurance scheme. Today, the world's largest solar park has not only been built in India but today the world's largest sanitation program is also going on in India."

"Today, India is not only creating a world record for sending the most satellites simultaneously, today India is also creating a world record by doing the fastest financial inclusion. In the twenty-first century, whether we have an infrastructure or social sector, we are moving ahead with the global benchmark. In the recent past, India has not only abolished fifteen hundred old laws but has also made new laws to empower the society."

"Transgender individuals should have rights, respect Muslim women by enacting a law against triple divorce, gave priority to divorced people, women have twenty-six weeks of paid maternity leave during pregnancy. We have ensured many such rights for different sections of society."

He added, Indian talent and American technology have given new leadership to these areas. And I believe that in the twenty-first century, India and America together are capable of leading the digital age, industry 4.0."

He said, "We started the beginning of strengthening Indo-American relations in the past and now we have started a separate phase with this visit. We are inspired by a long term vision, not just for short term consideration. Our bilateral relation will grow, our economic partnership will expand, our digital cooperation will grow, and I am confident that we are going to cross new heights, the dreams that India will take. It has been, the dreams that America is taking, we will together fulfill those dreams." ■



PM MODI & PRESIDENT TRUMP PLEDGE TO ENHANCE SECURITY COOPERATION

US President Donald Trump and PM Shri Narendra Modi issued a joint statement in New Delhi on 25th February, 2020.

COMPREHENSIVE GLOBAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Both vowed to strengthen a India-U.S. Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership, anchored in mutual trust, shared interests, goodwill and robust engagement of their citizens.

Prime Minister Modi and President Trump pledged to deepen defence and security cooperation, especially through greater maritime and space domain awareness and information sharing; joint cooperation; exchange of military liaison personnel; advanced training and expanded exercises between all services and special forces; closer collaboration on co-development and co-production of advanced defence components, equipment and platforms; and partnership between their defence industries.

Noting that a strong and capable Indian military supports peace, stability, and a rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific, and reaffirming his pledge to support the transfer to India of advanced U.S. military technology, President Trump welcomed India's recent decision to procure MH-60R naval and AH-64E Apache helicopters. These capabilities will advance

shared security interests, job growth and industrial cooperation between both countries. As India works to acquire new defence capabilities, President Trump reaffirmed India's status as a Major Defense Partner affording it the highest consideration for procurement and technology transfer purposes. The leaders looked forward to early conclusion of defence cooperation enabling agreements including Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement.

Prime Minister Modi and President Trump resolved to enhance security of their homelands through cooperation and to jointly fight international crimes like human trafficking, terrorism and violent extremism, drug-trafficking and crimes in cyberspace. They welcomed the decision by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and India's Ministry of Home Affairs to reinvigorate the Homeland Security Dialogue. As a demonstration of their shared commitment to combatting the threat that illicit drugs pose to their citizens, they announced their intent to establish a new Counter-Narcotics Working Group between their respective law enforcement agencies.

Prime Minister Modi and President Trump recognized the increasing importance of the trade and investment dimension of the India-United States relationship, and the need for long-term trade stability that will benefit both the American

and Indian economies. They agreed to promptly conclude the ongoing negotiations, which they hope can become phase one of a comprehensive bilateral trade agreement that reflects the true ambition and full potential of the bilateral commercial relations, advancing prosperity, investment, and job creation in both countries.

Prime Minister Shri Modi and President Mr. Trump welcomed growing links between India and the United States in trade and investment in hydrocarbons. Through their Strategic Energy Partnership, India and the United States are seeking to enhance energy security, expand energy and innovation linkages across respective energy sectors, bolster strategic alignment, and facilitate increased engagement between industry and other stakeholders. Prime Minister Shri Modi and President Trump noted the potential for the U.S. to meet India's goal to diversify its import base for coking/metallurgical coal and natural gas, welcoming recent commercial arrangements intended to accelerate access to LNG in the Indian market. Prime Minister Shri Modi and Mr. President Trump encouraged the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited and Westinghouse Electric Company to finalize the techno-commercial offer for the construction of six nuclear reactors in India at the earliest date.

They welcomed an endeavour by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for development and launch in 2022 of a joint mission with the world's first dual-frequency Synthetic Aperture Radar satellite, and applauded discussions that advance cooperation in Earth observation, Mars and planetary exploration, heliophysics, human spaceflight, and commercial space cooperation.

Prime Minister Shri Modi and President Mr. Trump expressed their desire to increase higher education collaboration and educational exchange opportunities, including through the "Young Innovators" internships, and welcomed the recent growth in the number of Indian students in the United States.

In support of global efforts to prevent, detect, and respond to disease outbreaks such as novel COVID-19, Prime Minister Modi and President Trump committed to continuing their successful efforts in the areas of prevention, early detection,

and rapid outbreak response. They hailed a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that seeks to promote access to high quality, safe, effective, and affordable medications for Indian and U.S. consumers. They welcomed the conclusion of an MoU which will help both countries address mental health challenges through innovative approaches.

STRATEGIC CONVERGENCE IN THE INDO-PACIFIC

A close partnership between India and the United States is central to a free, open, inclusive, peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. This cooperation is underpinned by recognition of ASEAN centrality; adherence to international law and good governance; support for safety and freedom of navigation, overflight and other lawful uses of the seas; and unimpeded lawful commerce; and advocacy for peaceful resolution of maritime disputes in accordance with international law.

The United States appreciates India's role as a net provider of security, as well as developmental and humanitarian assistance in the Indian Ocean Region. India and the United States remain committed to sustainable, transparent, quality infrastructure development in the region. Prime Minister Shri Modi and President Trump welcomed the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) announcement of a \$600 million financing facility for renewable energy projects in India, and the DFC's decision to establish a permanent presence in India this year.

Taking note of their countries' shared commitment to advancing effective development solutions in the Indo-Pacific and globally, Prime Minister Shri Modi and President Trump look forward to a new partnership between USAID and India's Development Partnership Administration for cooperation in third countries.

India and the United States took note of efforts towards a meaningful Code of Conduct in the South China Sea and solemnly urged that it not prejudice the legitimate rights and interests of all nations according to international law.

Prime Minister Shri Modi and President Mr. Trump decided to strengthen consultation through the India-U.S.-Japan trilateral summits; the 2+2 Ministerial meeting mechanism of the Foreign and Defence Ministers of India and the United States; and the India-



U.S.-Australia-Japan Quadrilateral consultations, among others. Prime Minister Modi and President Trump looked forward to enhanced maritime domain awareness sharing among the United States, India, and other partners.

PARTNERSHIP FOR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Prime Minister Modi and President Trump committed to working together to strengthen and reform the United Nations and other international organizations and ensure their integrity. President Trump reaffirmed the support of the United States for India's permanent membership on a reformed U.N. Security Council. He also reaffirmed U.S. support for India's entry to the Nuclear Suppliers Group without any delay.

India and the United States recognize that, to contain the build-up of sovereign debt in developing and low-income countries, it is important to ensure responsible, transparent, and sustainable financing practices for borrowers and creditors. Prime Minister Modi and President Trump expressed interest in the concept of the Blue Dot Network, a multi-stakeholder initiative that will bring governments, the private sector, and civil society together to promote high-quality trusted standards for global infrastructure development.

Prime Minister Modi and President Trump noted the importance of advancing education, economic empowerment and entrepreneurship of women and girls through finance, training, and mentorship

initiatives, as well as measures to promote their full and free participation in the economy, in line with the United States' Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative and the Government of India's 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' programme.

India and the United States share interest in a united, sovereign, democratic, inclusive, stable and prosperous

Afghanistan. They support an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process that results in a sustainable peace; cessation of violence; elimination of terrorist safe havens; and preservation of the gains of the last 18 years. President Trump welcomed India's role in continuing to provide development and security assistance to help stabilize and provide connectivity in Afghanistan.

Prime Minister Modi and President Trump denounced any use of terrorist proxies and strongly condemned cross-border terrorism in all its forms. They called on Pakistan to ensure that no territory under its control is used to launch terrorist attacks, and to expeditiously bring to justice the perpetrators of such attacks, including 26/11 Mumbai and Pathankot. They called for concerted action against all terrorist groups including Al-Qa'ida, ISIS, Jaish-e-Mohammad, Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, Hizb-ul Mujahideen, the Haqqani Network, TTP, D-Company, and all their affiliates.

India and the United States are committed to an open, reliable, and secure Internet that facilitates trade and communication. India and the United States recognized the need for an innovative digital ecosystem that is secure and reliable, and facilitates the flow of information and data. The leaders intend to foster cooperation among their industry and academia for open, secure, and resilient supply of strategic materials and critical infrastructure, and to independently evaluate the risk associated with deployment of emerging technologies. ■



BJP PRESIDENT'S TWO-DAY PRAVAS TO HIMACHAL

PARTY HAS TO MOVE AHEAD FROM WHERE IT STANDS NOW: JP NADDA

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on a two-day Pravas visited Himachal Pradesh on 27 February, 2020. It was Shri Nadda's first visit to the home State after he took over party's reins from Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah last month. Shri JP Nadda visited Solan and Shimla on the first day and his home district Bilaspur on the second day of his visit.

After his arrival, the BJP National President was accorded a grand civic reception in Sloan's Thodo Ground in the morning hours, followed by another grand welcome in state capital Shimla in the evening.

During the visit Shri Nadda also attended meetings of the core group of the BJP legislative

body and State office bearers in Shimla.

On the second day of his visit, the party President got a warm welcome and civic reception in Bilaspur district's Jhandutta. CM Shri Jai Ram Thakur, BJP State President Shri Rajeev Bindal and other senior leaders were also present on these occasions.

The BJP National President met all senior party leaders in Shimla and also met Governor Shri Bandaru Dattatreya at Raj Bhavan and later drove to the residence of former Chief Minister Shri Virbhadra Singh to inquire about his health.

WITH PARTY WORKERS IN SHIMLA

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 27 February, 2020 addressed a massive gathering



of party workers who had converged from 17 assembly segments of Shimla Lok Sabha constituency. Addressing them Shri Nadda said he had never expected that hailing from a small hill state he could be elevated to this position.

Thanking Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Home Minister Shri Amit Shah and the BJP parliamentary board members and 22 states which supported his candidature, he said he will take the party ahead. "There were more than 2500 political parties in the nation and about seven national parties. Most of them face dynasty or party-based issues where only leaders from specific families can be elevated as presidents. This was causing frustration in their cadres who were helpless and could not raise voice against such traditions," he said.

He said the BJP is based on ideology where a common party worker can rise to become the Prime Minister like Shri Narendra Modi. Therefore, no one can stop the party from moving ahead as there was assessments within the party based on organizational setup. The party has to move ahead from where it stood now, he added.

Seeking the workers support to surge ahead, he said despite the golden era of the BJP, workers should not forget their responsibility.

He recalled steps like abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir which has strengthened the people and said first time BDC polls were held

there without any bloodshed.

Further interacting with party workers in Shimla he said politics is not a part-time job but a serious work which can change the lives of crores of people. There is only entry but no exit door as once you are labeled as a politician, it is for a lifetime. Once you have joined politics, pursue it till end and work throughout the journey for betterment of people, said BJP President Shri JP Nadda.

Going down memory lane, Shri Nadda went emotional recalling his days spent in Shimla and said it was an emotional reunion and not mere felicitation.

Recalling how he, along with other ABVP workers, used to walk on road from Summer Hill to Chaura Maidan during day and night, chanting the famous song "Hum Honge Kamyab Ek Din", he said there were so many memories associated with Shimla — protesting outside the Vidhan Sabha, going to police station, taking fellows to hospital, standing in courts and meeting old friends and fellows.

"I learned a lot from my associates about the organizational skills and that experience has helped me a lot and strengthened my ideological moorings," he added.

Politics and power were only to serve the people. "We follow the principle of 'Country first, Vote later' while for the Opposition, it was 'Vote first, country later'. Our ideological base was so

strong that all parties together could not defeat us in our mission”, he added.

HP CM Shri Jai Ram Thakur said during the college years, Shri JP Nadda was their leader and when he used to address general house at Mandi, he and other ABVP members would inform others by writing on walls and by posters.

ROUSING WELCOME AT HOME TURF OF JHANDUTTA, BILASPUR

National BJP President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda was also accorded a rousing welcome as he arrived on his home turf of Bilaspur for the first time after assuming the office of party National President.

Accompanied by Chief Minister Shri Jai Ram Thakur, Union Minister of State for Finance Shri Anurag Thakur and state BJP President Shri Rajeev Bindal, Shri JP Nadda was accorded a rousing welcome at Jhandutta.

Addressing the ‘Abhinandan Samaroh’ held at Jhandutta, he thanked the people of the area for the warm welcome accorded to him and said

that this would motivate him to work with greater commitment and dedication for strengthening the party.

Shri Nadda said that under the dynamic leadership of PM Shri Modi, India was poised to become a five trillion dollar economy. He said that today India has become fifth economic power and by the next few years it would become the top economy. He said that the US President during his visit to India in his 28-minute speech talked about PM Shri Narendra Modi for nearly 20 minutes.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister Shri Jai Ram Thakur said BJP National President Shri JP Nadda had risen to this position due to the hard work, dedication and commitment. “Himachal today has six medical colleges in government sector and out of these four medical colleges were possible due to Shri Nadda, besides AIIMS, which was coming up in Bilaspur,” he said.

Shri Anurag Thakur said that it was a matter of pride and honour for 72 lakh people of the state that Shri JP Nadda was leading the political party that was ruling the biggest democracy of the world. ■

BJP National President appoints new BJP Jharkhand President and Presidents of Lakshadweep and Ladakh UTs

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda appointed Shri Deepak Prakash as the state BJP President of Jharkhand on 25 February, 2020. He has also appointed Shri Abdul Khader Haji as the party's President of Lakshadweep and Shri Csering Dorjay as the President of Ladakh Union Territories respectively.

Shri Deepak Prakash

was a party general secretary in Jharkhand and his elevation comes after the election of Shri Babulal Marandi as the BJP legislative party leader in the state.



A communication from the Party also said that **Shri Abdul Khader Haji** will head the Lakshadweep unit.

Likewise, Bharatiya Janata Party National President also appointed **Shri Chering Dorjay** as the new President of BJP Ladakh on 05 February, 2020 reads a press release issued by BJP National General Secretary, Shri Arun Singh. The appointment comes into immediate effect, it added. ■



CABINET APPROVES MEGA CONSOLIDATION IN PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS (PSBS) WITH EFFECT FROM 1ST APRIL

The Union Cabinet on March 4 chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved the mega consolidation of ten PSBs into four which include the –

- (a) Amalgamation of Oriental Bank of Commerce and United Bank of India into Punjab National Bank
- (b) Amalgamation of Syndicate Bank into Canara Bank
- (c) Amalgamation of Andhra Bank and Corporation Bank into Union Bank of India
- (d) Amalgamation of Allahabad Bank into Indian Bank

The amalgamation would be effective from 1.4.2020 and would result in creation of seven large PSBs with scale and national reach with each amalgamated entity having a business of over Rupees Eight lakh crore. The Mega consolidation would help create banks with scale comparable to global banks and capable

of competing effectively in India and globally. Greater scale and synergy through consolidation would lead to cost benefits which should enable the PSBs enhance their competitiveness and positively impact the Indian banking system.

In addition, consolidation would also provide impetus to amalgamated entities by increasing their ability to support larger ticket-size lending and have competitive operations by virtue of greater financial capacity. The adoption of best practices across amalgamating entities would enable the banks improve their cost efficiency and risk management, and also boost the goal of financial inclusion through wider reach.

Further, with the adoption of technologies across the amalgamating banks, access to a wider talent pool, and a larger database, PSBs would be in a position to gain competitive advantage by leveraging analytics in a rapidly digitalising banking landscape. ■

CABINET APPROVES FDI POLICY ON CIVIL AVIATION

To permit foreign investment upto 100% by those NRIs, who are Indian Nationals, in case of M/s Air India Ltd., the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on March 4 approved to amend the extant FDI Policy to permit Foreign Investment (s) in M/s Air India Ltd by NRIs, who are Indian Nationals, upto to 100% under automatic route.

As per the present FDI Policy, 100% FDI is permitted in scheduled Air Transport Service/Domestic Scheduled Passenger Airline (Automatic upto 49% and Government route beyond 49%). However, for NRIs 100% FDI is permitted under automatic route in Scheduled Air Transport Service/Domestic Scheduled Passenger Airline. Further, FDI is subject to the condition that Substantial Ownership & Effective Control (SOEC) shall be vested in Indian Nationals as per aircraft rules, 1937. However, for M/s Air India Ltd., as per the present policy, foreign investment(s) in M/s Air India Ltd. Including that of foreign Airline(s) shall not exceed 49%, either directly or indirectly, subject to the condition that substantial ownership and effective control of M/s Air India Ltd. shall

continue to be vested in Indian Nationals. Therefore, although 100% FDI is permitted under automatic route for NRIs in Scheduled Air Transport Service/Domestic Scheduled Passenger Airline, it is restricted to be only 49% in case of M/s Air India.

In light of the proposed strategic disinvestment of 100% of M/s Air India Ltd. by the Government of India, M/s Air India Ltd. will have no residual Government ownership and will be completely privately owned, it has been decided that foreign investment in M/s Air India Ltd be brought on a level playing field with other scheduled airline operators. The amendment in FDI policy will permit foreign investment in M/s Air India Ltd at par with other Scheduled Airline Operators i.e. upto 100% in M/s Air India Ltd by those NRIs, who are Indian Nationals. The proposed changes in FDI Policy will enable foreign investment by NRIs into M/s Air India Ltd. upto 100%, under automatic route.

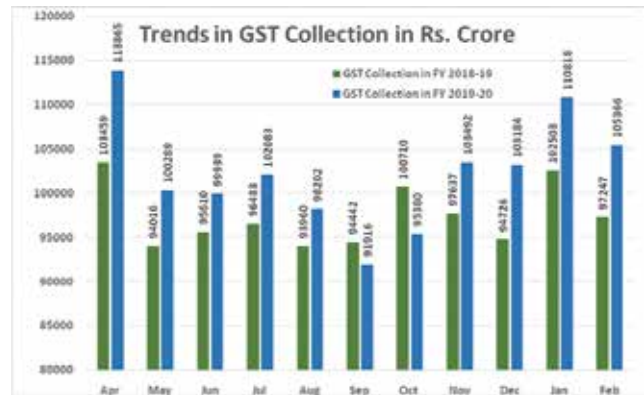
Above amendment to the FDI Policy are meant to liberalise and simplify the FDI policy to provide ease of doing business in the country. ■

GROSS GST REVENUE COLLECTED ONLY IN FEBRUARY IS 1,05,366 CR

The gross GST revenue collected in the month of February, 2020 is ₹ 1,05,366 crore of which CGST is ₹ 20,569 crore, SGST is ₹ 27,348 crore, IGST is ₹ 48,503 crore (including ₹ 20,745 crore collected on imports) and Cess is ₹ 8,947 crore (including ₹ 1,040 crore collected on imports). The total number of GSTR 3B Returns filed for the month of January up to 29th February, 2020 is 83.53 lakh.

The government has settled ₹ 22,586 crore to CGST and ₹ 16,553 crore to SGST from IGST as regular settlement. The total revenue earned by Central Government and the State Governments after regular settlement in the month of February, 2020 is ₹ 43,155 crore for CGST and ₹ 43,901 crore for the SGST.

The GST revenues during the month of February, 2020 from domestic transactions has shown a growth of 12% over the revenue during the month of February, 2019. Taking into account the GST collected from import of goods, the total revenue during February,



2020 has increased by 8% in comparison to the revenue during February, 2019. During this month, the GST on import of goods has shown a negative growth of (-) 2% as compared to February, 2019.

The chart shows trends in revenue during the current year. The table shows the state-wise figures of GST collected in each State during the month of February, 2020 as compared to Feb, 2019. ■

Govt Announces 11 Chairs in the Name of Eminent Women Scientists

On the occasion of National Science Day on 28 February, Government has announced 11 chairs in the name of eminent Indian women scientists in various fields to inspire, encourage, empower women and give due recognition to young women researchers excelling in various fields.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has announced several schemes for Women's Empowerment and the proposal is in line with theme for this year's National Science Day - 'Women in Science'. The 11 Chairs have been instituted in various areas of research including Agriculture,

Biotechnology, Immunology, Phytomedicine, Biochemistry, Medicine, Social Sciences, Earth Science & Meteorology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Physics & Fundamental Research.

One of the chairs constituted is under the name of the noted anthropologist Dr Irawati Karve. ■

4.39 lakh candidates trained under Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana in 2 years

Under the DDU-GKY scheme, 4.39 lakh candidates have been trained during 2018-19 and 2019-20, of which 84156 candidates belong to Scheduled Tribes. Under the PMKVY 2016-20, 49.67 lakh candidates have been trained during the 2018-19 and 2019-20, of which 2.13 lakh candidates belong to Scheduled Tribes. ■



Union Power Minister dedicates eleven Renewable Energy Management Centers (REMCs) to the nation

Minister of State (IC) Power and New & Renewable Energy & Minister of State (Skill Development and Entrepreneurship), Shri R. K. Singh inaugurated the Northern Region Renewable Energy Management Centre (NR-REMC) at a function in New Delhi, on 28th February, 2020. On the occasion, the Minister dedicated to the nation, eleven REMCs, placing India among a league of few nations, which have state-of-the-art management centers for renewable energy integration. ■

INDIAN RAILWAY LAUNCHES ITS FIRST “RESTAURANT ON WHEELS”

Union Minister Shri Babul Supriyo inaugurates First “Restaurant on Wheels” and various passenger amenities at Asansol Station, West Bengal under Eastern Railway

Indian Railways on February 29 launched its first ‘Restaurant on Wheels’ at the circulating area of Asansol Railway station for the use of Railway passengers as well as general public of Asansol. Minister of State for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Babul Supriyo, inaugurated this first of its kind restaurant in a programme held at Asansol station on 26th February, 2020. Shri Babul Supriyo also inaugurated two new air-conditioned Retiring Rooms and Electronic Reservation Chart Display System (through MPLAD fund) and a Battery operated Car at Asansol station.

The Restaurant on Wheels at Asansol station circulating area was developed by refurbishing two over aged MEMU coaches. This unique effort will not only improve the facilities at Asansol station but also generate non-fare revenue earnings approximately Rs50 lakhs in the next five years.

The Electronic Reservation Chart Display System (through MPLAD fund) at Asansol station will provide



easy access to information about the reservation status in different trains, which will be very helpful for the railway passengers. The two new air-conditioned Retiring Rooms equipped with the state-of-the-art furniture and other equipment will provide much comfort to the passengers. The battery operated car will be very helpful for the Divyangjan and senior citizen passengers for their comfortable movement at the station area. ■

TOTAL FDI UNDER MAKE IN INDIA BETWEEN APRIL 2014 TO SEPT 2019 IS \$ 318.80 BILLION

Government of India had launched the ‘Make in India’ initiative in 2014 for promoting India as an important investment destination and a global hub for manufacturing, design and innovation.



FDI can be one measure to track the growth of

Make in India. The total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow was USD 318.80 billion between April 2014 and September 2019, representing nearly 50% of the cumulative FDI in India since April 2000. In 2018-19, FDI inflow stood at a record of USD 62 billion, highest ever recorded for a fiscal year ever specially in Services Sector (Fin., Banking, Insurance, Non Fin/ Business, Outsourcing, Courier, Tech. Testing and Analysis etc.), Automobile Industry, Construction (Infrastructure) Activities. ■

OUR NATIONHOOD

By PT. DEENDAYAL UPADHYAYA

WHAT IS A NATION ?

WHEN a group of persons lives with a goal, an ideal, a mission, and looks upon a particular piece of land as motherland, it constitutes a nation. If either of the two-and ideal and a motherland-is not there, then there is no nation.

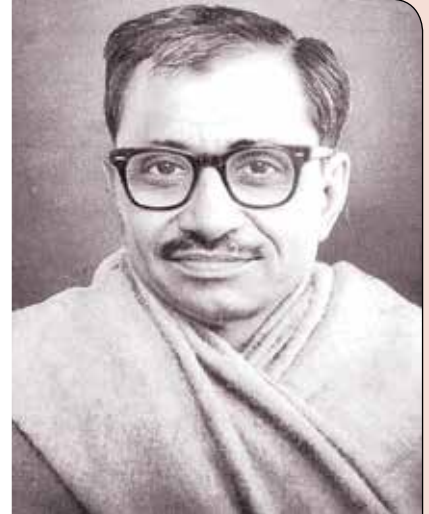
ESSENTIALS OF NATION

A 'NATION' requires four things. The first is land or people, whom we call a country. The second is a collective will for a corporate life. The third is a system which we can call a constitution but which can far more appropriately be called Dharma'. And the fourth is an ideal of life. The synthesis of all these four is called a Nation. As an individual is made up of body, minds intelligence and soul, a nation is made up of country, will, Dharma and ideal.

NATION IS PERMANENT

THE Nation is a permanent truth. The State is created to fulfill the needs of the nation. Two reasons have been given for the origin of the State. It is said that the State becomes necessary in two circumstances. The first is when some distortion enters the people of the nation. The State is established to control the problems that arise in such a situation. For example, one does not see the police when there is no quarrel. But if there is a fight the police are immediately called. The second need is when some

India had to contend with the challenge of its existence as a nation. The coming of the colonial rule not only posed a challenge to Indian civilization, culture, economy and polity it also posed an intellectual challenge for India to reclaim itself as a united entity. Unfortunately many Indians under the influence of western understanding of the term 'nation' could not dissociate themselves from alien conceptualization aimed at distorting its meaning. Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya tried to conceptualise the term from Indian understanding of the term and from Indian intellectual and civilizational perspective. We are publishing his ideas under the title "Our Nationhood" in two parts for better understanding of ideological positioning on the term "nation" and its attributes. The first part is published below for our esteemed readers:



complexity appears in society and it becomes necessary to bring order in corporate life.

The State is created so that the powerful, prosperous and resourceful class of society should not exploit the weak, the helpless and the poor, and everyone should remain within the bounds of justice. It is only these two reasons that give rise to the State. To regulate the distortion that may have entered into society, to establish peace by punishing; wrong-doers and to solve the complexity within a society so that life of every individual becomes just, honourable and easy-these have been considered the functions of the State.

A third function is an important aspect of the fulfilment of these two functions. It is to establish

relations with other states. Hence security from external aggression is also a function of the State.

NATION HAS PERSONALITY

THE name Bharat denotes a nation, while the names of such provinces as Uttar Pradesh and Bengal do not denote it. Hence we must be quite clear in our minds that although a definite territory is a must and the first essential of a nation, a territory by itself does not become a nation. The existence of a nation depends upon an element which though invisible is felt with the greatest intensity. A nation has a personality just as an Individual has a personality. It is this national personality that keeps a nation alive. When it grows weak, the nation becomes weak, and when it is forgotten or destroyed the

entire nation heads for ruination. This is why many nations of the past have now become mere memories. Their territories are there and their people are still alive and yet ancient Persia, Greece, Egypt-all have faded. In other words they lost their basic national personality. It is in this personality that the nation resides.

THE BODY NATIONAL

THE nation does not come into being for the fulfilment of any selfish ends. The limbs of the human body have their natural functions and do not have to be tempted or encouraged to perform them. Similarly the units of a nation function as parts of one single whole and maintain its entity. Dissipation of the national feeling leads to a weakening of these limbs of the nation, and if they become completely inactive the result can be the end of the nation. But if the national feeling is aroused in these units they again start performing their natural functions. Hence we would have to accept as the basis of the nation a practical and natural organisation that is stable, strong and self-reliant. If the organisation of the State is strong enough its limbs would be equally strong.

NATION HAS A SOUL

A NATION too has a soul. There is a technical name for it-Chiti. According to McDougal, it is the innate nature of a group. Every group of persons has an innate nature. Similarly every society has

an innate nature, which is not the result of historical circumstances.

'CHITI' IS NATION'S TOUCHSTONE

'CHITI' is the touchstone, on which each action, each attitude



A NATION TOO HAS A SOUL. THERE IS A TECHNICAL NAME FOR IT-CHITI. ACCORDING TO MCDUGAL, IT IS THE INNATE NATURE OF A GROUP. EVERY GROUP OF PERSONS HAS AN INNATE NATURE. SIMILARLY EVERY SOCIETY HAS AN INNATE NATURE, WHICH IS NOT THE RESULT OF HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

is tested, and determined to be acceptable or otherwise. 'Chiti' is the soul of the nation. On the strength of this 'Chiti', a nation arises, strong and virile. It is this 'Chiti' that is demonstrated in the actions of every great man of a nation.

An individual is also an instrument in bringing forth the soul of the nation, "Chiti". Thus apart from his own self, an individual also represents his nation. Not only that, he also

mens the various institutions that are created for the fulfilment of the national goal. Therefore he represents these too. The groups larger than nation, such as "mankind" are also represented by him. In, short, an individual has a multitude of aspects, but they are not conflicting; there is co-operation, unity and harmony in them. A system based on the recognition of this mutually complementary nature of the different ideals of mankind, their essential harmony, a system which devises laws, which removes the disharmony and enhances their mutual usefulness and co-operation alone can bring peace and happiness to mankind; can ensure steady development.

NATION'S IDEAL IS 'CHITI'

THE state is brought into existence to protect the nation; produce and maintain conditions in which the ideals of the nation can be translated into reality. The ideals of the nation constitute "Chiti" which is analogous to the soul of an individual. It requires some effort to comprehend Chiti. The laws that help manifest and maintain Chiti of a nation are termed Dharma of that nation. Hence it is this "Dharma" that is supreme. Dharma is the repository of the nation's soul. If Dharma is destroyed, the nation perishes. Anyone who abandons Dharma, betrays the nation.

To be continued...

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

Veer Savarkar occupies unique place in the history of freedom struggle

Veer Savarkar occupies a unique place in the history of Indian freedom struggle. Savarkar was the one of the greatest revolutionaries in the Indian freedom struggle, Veer Savarkar was also a great orator, prolific writer, historian, poet, philosopher and social worker. He was an extraordinary scholar too. He coined Indian words for telephone, photography, the parliament, among others.

Veer Savarkar's original name was Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. He was born on May 28, 1883 in the village of Bhagur near Nasik. He was one among four children born to Damodarparant Savarkar and Radhabai. Veer Savarkar had his initial education at the Shivaji School, Nasik. He lost his mother when he was only nine. He organized a gang of kids, Vanarsena when he was just eleven.

During his high school days, Veer Savarkar used to organize Shivaji Utsav and Ganesh Utsav, started by Bal Gangadhar Tilak (whom Savarkar considered as his Guru) and used these occasions to put up plays on nationalistic themes. Savarkar lost his father during the plague of 1899. In March 1901, he married Yamunabai. Post marriage, in 1902, Veer Savarkar joined Fergusson College in Pune.

Savarkar's revolutionary activities began while studying in India and England, where he was associated with the India House and founded student societies including Abhinav Bharat Society and the Free India Society, as well as publications espousing the cause of complete Indian independence by revolutionary means. He was also involved in the Swadeshi movement and later joined Tilak's Swaraj Party. His fiery patriotic speeches and activities incensed the British Government. As a result the British Government withdrew his B.A. degree.

In June 1906, Veer Savarkar, left for London to become Barrister. However, once in London, he united and inflamed the Indian students in England against British rule in India. He founded the Free India Society. The Society celebrated important dates on the Indian calendar including festivals, freedom movement landmarks, and was dedicated to furthering discussion about Indian freedom. In 1908, brought out an authentic informative researched work on The Great Indian Revolt, which the British termed as "Sepoy Mutiny"



of 1857. The book was called "The Indian War of Independence 1857". The British government immediately enforced a ban on the publication in both Britain and India. Later, it was published by Madame Bhikaiji Cama in Holland, and was smuggled into India to reach revolutionaries working across the

country against British rule.

In 1909, Madanlal Dhingra, a keen follower of Savarkar shot Sir Wyllie after a failed assassination attempt on the then Viceroy, Lord Curzon. Savarkar conspicuously did not condemn the act. When the then British Collector of Nasik, A.M.T. Jackson was shot by a youth, Veer Savarkar finally fell under the net of the British authorities. He was implicated in the murder citing his connections with India House. Savarkar was arrested in London on March 13, 1910 and sent to India.

After a formal trial, Savarkar was charged with serious offences of illegal transportation of weapons, provocative speeches and sedition and was sentenced to 50 years' of jail and deported to the Kalapani (Blackwaters) at Andaman cellular jail.

In 1920, many prominent freedom fighters including Vithalbhair Patel, Mahatma Gandhi and Bal Gangadhar Tilak demanded the release of Savarkar. On May 2, 1921, Savarkar was moved to Ratnagiri jail, and from there to the Yeravada jail. In Ratnagiri jail Savarkar wrote the book 'Hindutva'. On January 6, 1924 he was freed under the condition that he would not leave Ratnagiri district and abstain from political activity for the next five years. On his release, Veer Savarkar founded the Ratnagiri Hindu Sabha on January 23, 1924 that aimed to preserve India's ancient culture and work for social welfare.

Later Savarkar joined Tilak's Swaraj Party and founded the Hindu Mahasabha as a separate political party. He was elected President of the Mahasabha and toiled for building Hindu Nationalism. The Hindu Mahasabha opposed creation of Pakistan. Veer Savarkar left for his heavenly abode on February 26, 1966 at the age of 83. ■



PM LAYS FOUNDATION STONE FOR BUNDELKHAND EXPRESSWAY, LAUNCHES 10,000 FPOS FROM CHITRAKOOT

To supplement the nodes of the Uttar Pradesh Defence Industrial Corridor, announced in February 2018, the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the 296-kilometres long Bundelkhand Expressway at Chitrakoot on February 29. To be built at a cost of Rs 14,849 crore, the Expressway is expected to benefit Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Auraiya and Etawah districts. The event also marked the launch of 10,000 Farmers Producer Organisations all over the country at Chitrakoot today. He also launched a saturation drive for distribution of Kisan Credit Cards (KCC) to all the beneficiaries under the PM-KISAN Scheme.

Lauding the Government for taking a number of initiatives to forge employment in the country, Shri Modi said Bundelkhand Expressway, Purvanchal Expressway or the proposed Ganga Expressway, will not only increase connectivity in UP, but also create many employment opportunities and will also connect the people with the facilities available in big cities.

Referring to the huge defence equipment requirements spanning from land systems, ships and submarines to fighter aircraft, helicopters, weapons and sensors, the Prime Minister said that a provision of Rs 3700 crore has been made for the UP Defence Corridor in this year's budget. UP Defense Corridor is also getting momentum from Bundelkhand Expressway, he added.

To increase the income of the farmers of the country and empower them, Prime Minister launched a scheme to create 10,000 FPOs i.e. Farmer Producer Organizations. The farmer who was a producer till now, will also conduct business through FPO, he added. Outlining several initiatives undertaken by the Government for farmers, PM said Government has worked at every front that concerns farmers- be it MSP, Soil Health Card, 100% neem coating of urea, completion of irrigation projects lying incomplete for decades.

Prime Minister said that the FPOs will help in collectivisation of the efforts of the farmers so that they can sell their produce at a better price. In the



PM distributing the Assistive Aids and Devices to Divyangjan

same spirit, the Prime Minister said the government decided to give more incentives to FPOs in more than 100 Aspirational Districts- 'Aspirational Districts' of the country with at least one FPO formed in every block.

PM ANNOUNCED 16 POINT PROGRAM TO INCREASE FARMER'S INCOME

He stressed that nearly 2 crore farmer families of entire UP including Chitrakoot are getting their entitlement of over 12 thousand crore rupees a year, directly deposited in their bank accounts, without middlemen and any discrimination. He compared this with the times when packages of thousands of crores were announced in the name of farmers, in the name of Bundelkhand, but nothing reached the pocket of the farmer. He also added that beneficiaries of PM Kisan Yojana are also being linked to PM Jeevan Jyoti Insurance and PM Jeevan Suraksha Insurance Scheme. "This will ensure insurance amount of up to 2 lakh rupees to farmers in difficult times," he added.

The Prime Minister announced that a 16 point program has been created to increase farmer's income. He said that the government is making efforts to ensure that the farmer gets a rural haat within a few kilometers of his field, which will connect him to any market in the country. In the coming times, these rural haats will become new centers of agricultural economy, he added. ■



NEXT CM OF BENGAL WOULD NOT BE ANY 'SHEHZADA' BUT A SON OF THIS SOIL: AMIT SHAH

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah visited Kolkata on 01 March, 2020 to kickstart BJP's campaign for local body elections in West Bengal, a precursor to the Assembly polls to be held next year.

During the Pravas BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and Shri Amit Shah participated in a closed-door meeting with the State leadership of West Bengal. On the occasion Shri Amit Shah addressed a huge rally at Shahid Minar ground and launched BJP's campaign slogan for upcoming elections. The rally was organised in support of the Citizenship Amendment Act and Shri Shah dispelled people's fears on this issue. He also visited Kalighat temple and performed special puja there.

Addressing the huge rally in favour of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) in Kolkata Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah lashed out at West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee while unveiling the new slogan for the 2021 elections. In Kolkata Shri Shah gave the slogan, "Ar Noy Annay (no more injustice)". A CD comprising the song is going to be circulated across the state and advertisements would also be prepared.

Interacting with the huge participants Shri Amit Shah said we have fixed a target of two-third seats for the Bharatiya Janata Party in 2021 election and this "Ar Noy Annay (no more injustice)" slogan would talk about injustice against corruption, appeasement and dynastic rule of Bengal. The slogan would be used to fight against TMC government in the run-up to the election he added.

He categorically said that the next Chief Minister of Bengal would not be any shehzada but a son of this

soil. He also added that corruption under Mamata Banerjee has spread everywhere. "From nephew to ground level worker of the Trinamool Congress, it spreads like cancer," Shri Shah said.

When Shri Amit Shah began talking about Sri Ram Janmabhoomi temple at Ayodhya, the huge gathering on the rally ground given a rousing reception with rounds of applause. The sea of crowd also prompted 'Jai Shree Ram'.

Promising the public 'Sonar Bangla' the Home Minister hit out at West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee for her resistance to the Citizenship Amendment Act and vowed to win the upcoming Assembly polls and form the government.

To "highlight and protest the injustice caused to the people of West Bengal by the Mamata Banerjee government" Shri Shah also vowed to form the government in the upcoming state elections. "BJP has won 18 out of 42 seats in Lok Sabha. Mamata should be careful in the coming upcoming Assembly elections, it is the BJP who will form the government here," Shri Amit Shah stated.

"Aar noy (no more) tolabaji (extortion), appeasement, infiltration, violence... this is the slogan that will change the government of Bengal," Shri Shah said, rolling out the campaign crafted to counter Banerjee's 'Didi-ke bolo' outreach.

Shri Shah further said that Mamata, who is opposing CAA, raised the issue of citizenship to refugees when she was in the Opposition. "Now, she is standing with the Congress and Communists in Opposition again. There were riots in Bengal. Trains and railway stations were burnt. How have the Dalits wronged you in any way? Why are you protesting

when we want to give them citizenship?" he asked.

"I am saying we will provide citizenship to everyone. People are being told that you will have to produce documents. BJP will provide citizenship to everyone, the chief minister cannot stop us," Shri Shah added.

Recalling the violence that occurred ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha polls, the Home Minister said, "When we came here for the election campaign, permissions were denied, stages were vandalized and false cases filed. More than 40 BJP workers lost

their lives, but even after all this, Mamata didi could you stop us?" He added the rally was against the "goons of Trinamool Congress".

Late in the evening, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and Shri Amit Shah held a closed-door meeting with party legislators and office bearers over elections to 107 municipalities and the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), to be held in April. These elections are seen as "mini-Assembly elections" ahead of the crucial 2021 Assembly poll in West Bengal.

NSG REGIONAL HUB AT KOLKATA INAUGURATED



Presiding over the inauguration of the National Security Guard (NSG) Regional Hub campus at Kolkata, Union Minister for Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah termed this as an important step in the direction of giving adequate facilities to the brave NSG jawans, which are important for them to function unhindered in ensuring the security of the Nation. The Home Minister presided over the inauguration and founding stone laying ceremony of various welfare projects for NSG, amounting to over Rs. 245 crores, across Kolkata, Manesar, Chennai and Mumbai. He said that the various facilities and schemes being inaugurated today, would go a long way in ensuring the boosting of capabilities of the force and raising the morale of the jawans.

This state-of-the-art regional hub complex at Kolkata, worth over Rs.162 crores, will have Residential and Non Residential Complexes to house 460 persons and families, office accommodation and modern training facilities such as Baffle firing range, indoor shooting range, obstacles, swimming pool, sports complex and

artificial rock craft wall etc. This latest NSG complex has become a model regional hub of the NSG, which will help in honing the professional acumen of the NSG commandos and also contribute significantly in capacity building of the first responders, the Police forces of the States. The area of responsibility of this Hub comprises of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand & the entire North East. The Kolkata hub, hitherto functioning from the Kolkata airport, is the fourth to have permanent infrastructure after Mumbai, Chennai and Hyderabad.

Apart from the inaugurating Regional Hub, Kolkata the Home Minister also inaugurated the 120 family quarters at Training Centre, Manesar; Explosive Magazine built at NSG Hyderabad Hub; and laid foundation stones for the construction of family quarters at Regional Hub Chennai and Mumbai. This newly created infrastructure will improve the housing satisfaction and enhance Operational as well Training capabilities.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Shah assured the force that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, all expectations of NSG from the Central Government would be fulfilled in the next 5 years. The government would put in place an efficient system that would fulfil all the needs of the force, whether it is related to the training modules for the officers for keeping them abreast with latest technology available globally and modus operandi of terrorist organizations; provision of modern technology, arms and equipments; family welfare, among others. Government of India wants to keep NSG two steps ahead in the current global scenario and this vision would be achieved in the near future, he said. ■

SKILL HER, SKILL INDIA: POLICY MUST ENABLE EVERY WOMAN TO ACHIEVE HER POTENTIAL

Be it the 1857 mutiny for India's freedom or the struggle for Independence, our women have always made India proud. Even today, women are performing their duties with full devotion for the development ...



**MAHENDRA
NATH PANDEY**

On March 8, we honour and celebrate women on the occasion of the International Women's Day. Women in our country are making strides in social, financial and political fields. It brings me great personal joy to write a few words to commemorate this day dedicated to women.

Be it the 1857 mutiny for India's freedom or the struggle for Independence, our women have always made India proud. Even today, women are performing their duties with full devotion for the development of the country and upliftment of the society: They are working efficiently in various fields, such as academics, literature, music and dance, sports, media, business, information technology, science and technology, politics and social development.

Not only this, Indian women from metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai are breaking barriers in fields ranging from politics to the corporate sector. Also, women are giving society a new direction through their leadership and critical participation

in panchayat elections. Increasing awareness and clear intentions are the reason behind women strengthening economic, social and cultural establishments. This is very important for a democratic system.

There is a constant evolution of female participation in the corporate sector. Female participation is constantly

“YATR NAARYASTU POOJYANTE RAMANTE TATR DEVATA”, WHICH MEANS “GOD RESIDES WHERE WOMEN ARE WORSHIPPED”. IT IS TRUE THAT IF WE LINK OUR ANCIENT CULTURAL HERITAGE WITH OUR MODERN APPROACH TO ENCOURAGE OUR WOMEN IN ALL FIELDS, THEN WE WILL CARRY FORWARD OUR COUNTRY’S AND SOCIETY’S TRADITION.

increasing in the Information Technology sector. Along with the IT sector, the presence of women is also increasing in the banking and finance sector. Last year, the Indian Space Research Organisation decided to hand over the command of Chandrayaan-2 to two women, and these women also played a key role in the mission.

As a mark of respect and honour for our women, it has been

stated in our ancient scriptures that “Yatr naaryastu poojyante ramante tatr devata”, which means “God resides where women are worshipped”. It is true that if we link our ancient cultural heritage with our modern approach to encourage our women in all fields, then we will carry forward our country's and society's tradition. This is why we will have to give our daughters the best education possible and dedicate them to our country's growth.

It is my opinion that, in order to empower women, we should first make them skilled. When a woman is educated and skilled, she also makes a family and society educated and skilled. As long as women are not fully educated, skilled and prosperous, the country cannot achieve the desired economic growth.

Our government is running many schemes for women's empowerment such as the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Mahila E-haat Scheme, Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, Sakhi Yojana, Ladli Yojana, Digital Laado and the Swachh Bharat Mission. Our government is also working extensively on women's nutrition.

I am happy that the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Women and

Child Empowerment, and Human Resource Development are working closely in this regard.

We know that every person has a unique skill-set. What is needed is a mechanism to ensure that that skill-set is identified and honed in the best possible way. As the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship minister, it is my fundamental responsibility to ensure that all women in our country from different occupations are trained in their respective skill-sets and are employable. We would like them to put to best use their skill-set to become self-employed entrepreneurs and progress. We have also been successful in achieving this objective at a fast pace.

Around 68.12 lakh women in India have been trained under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 2.0. Under the Jan Shikshan Sansthan Scheme, around 4.08 lakh women have been trained in the 2018-2020 period, while 38.72 lakh women have been trained in Industrial Training Institutes (ITI). At present, there are 18 National Skill Training Institutes across the country to train women. Special batches are being conducted to provide basic, theoretical and advanced training to women.

It is a matter of joy and pride that while women in India are studying electronics, fashion design, technology and business management, there are also



THE EFFORTS OF OUR GOVERNMENT HAVE CREATED A MILIEU OF TRUST IN THE WOMEN OF OUR COUNTRY.

THEY ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT MACHINERY IS STANDING BY THEM BY CREATING AN ATMOSPHERE OF RESPECT AND DEVELOPMENT FOR WOMEN. IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, OUR GOVERNMENT HAS MADE MASSIVE ADVANCEMENTS IN PROVIDING EDUCATION AND HONING SKILL-SETS.

those who hone their new-age skills in artificial intelligence, data analytics, 3D printing, etc. Along with traditional skills like beauty, wellness and healthcare, women are also progressing quickly in non-traditional skills such as electronics and hardware

The National Rural Livelihood Mission has strengthened women's skills and prepared them for employment. Training for self-employed tailors, beauty therapists, customer care executives, hairstylists, yoga trainers, etc. are being carried out in the Prime Minister Skill Centres. Very soon, one will get to see

women playing significant roles in central government schemes such as the Ayushman Bharat Yojana, Swachh Bharat Mission and Smart City Mission. By joining these missions, women will make a huge contribution in giving a new shape to society. In fact, in the creation of a New India, women's education and skill development are going to be critical.

In the last few years, under the leadership of our prime minister, Narendra Modi, the central government has rolled out various schemes that have emboldened the women of our country and taken them on the path of self-reliance and security.

The efforts of our government have created a milieu of trust in the women of our country.

They are confident that the country's government machinery is standing by them by creating an atmosphere of respect and development for women. In the past few years, our government has made massive advancements in providing education and honing skill-sets. We pledge to make sure that these efforts reach each and every Indian woman. We are fully prepared to fulfil this pledge with aplomb.

I salute the power of Indian women.

(The writer is Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India.)

TRUMP'S VISIT



DR VIJAY
CHAUTHAIWALE

US President Donald Trump's first visit to India on February 24-25, 2020 was viewed important aspect of partnership - be it defense and security, energy strategic partnership, technology cooperation, global connectivity, trade relations or people to people relations. Though Mr Trump was the seventh US President to visit India, he was the first President to visit India in his first term. Trump trip to India meant to further demonstrate the strong and enduring ties between the two countries.

The first stop of President Trump was in Ahmedabad where he was welcomed by Prime Minister Modi. Both the leaders visited Sabarmati Ashram, where Mahatma Gandhi lived for thirteen years. From there, they went to participate "Namaste Trump" event at Ahmedabad's newly built Cricket Stadium in Motera. He was enthusiastically cheered by more than 100,000 Indians.

Welcoming President Trump, PM Modi stressed that India-US relations were no longer just another partnership, but it is far greater and closer partnership. In response, President Trump promised "an incredible trade deal" and supply of "the most feared

military equipment on the planet" to India at his biggest rally abroad. Trump was exceedingly generous in his personal references to Modi in his address, calling him "an exceptional leader", a "champion of India", a "great Prime Minister", a "tremendously successful leader", "tough negotiator" noting his electoral victory in the largest election anywhere. His speech was also full of praise of great Indian heritage, culture, sports, bollywood and its progress in science and technology

PM MODI STRESSED THAT INDIA-US RELATIONS WERE NO LONGER JUST ANOTHER PARTNERSHIP, BUT IT IS FAR GREATER AND CLOSER PARTNERSHIP. IN RESPONSE, PRESIDENT TRUMP PROMISED "AN INCREDIBLE TRADE DEAL" AND SUPPLY OF "THE MOST FEARED MILITARY EQUIPMENT ON THE PLANET" TO INDIA

Three core themes highlighted Trump's address in India. The first was a broad recognition of India's continued rise as a power and, with some exception, unalloyed praise for India's rise as a democracy. "India's rise as a prosperous nation is an example for every nation of the world and one of the outstanding achievements of the century," Trump said in his speech. "It is all the more inspiring because you have done it as a democratic country, as a peaceful

country, you have done it as a tolerant country, and you done it as a great, free country."

Second, as anticipated, Trump steered clear of India's ongoing internal political divisions over last year's internal reorganization of the status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir into a Union Territory with the same name, and a controversial citizenship bill that critics have said privileges non-Muslim migrants from India's neighboring countries. Trump made reference to India's pluralistic polity and diversity in his remarks, highlighting, for instance, that India was "admired" because "millions upon millions of Hindus, and Muslims, Sikhs and Jains, Buddhists, Christians, and Jews worship side by side in harmony."

A final takeaway that jumped out from Trump's speech was the U.S. president's decision to take on Pakistan and the U.S. relationship with Pakistan directly. He clearly stated that India and USA are fused in the pursuit to fight radical Islam. India and US will fight terror together. He said it all at a time when it is arguably a higher foreign policy priority for the Trump administration to cinch a peace agreement with the Afghan Taliban with Pakistan's support.

The two nations focused on taking forward the strategic partnership with closer cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region and increased defence ties, beyond a buyer-seller relationship. The joint statement,

in particular, mentioned closer collaboration on “co-development and coproduction of advanced defence components, equipment and platforms and partnership between their defence industries”.

JOINT AGREEMENT

India and the US signed a \$3 billion defence deal, Donald Trump said, “Earlier today we expanded our defence cooperation with agreements for India to purchase more than \$3 billion of advanced American military equipment, including Apache & MH-60 Romeo Helicopters - finest in the world. These will enhance our joint defence capabilities. While PM Modi said that India and the US have resolved to jointly fight against those who back terrorism, Donald Trump said, “We have agreed to cooperate in dealing with radical Islamic terrorism and protect our citizens. We are resolved to eliminate terror operations on Pakistan soil.”

Energy cooperation was described as a major takeaway from the visit, with the two sides agreeing to expand linkages with an increased engagement between industry and other stakeholders. The two leaders “encouraged the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd and Westinghouse Electric Co to finalise the techno-commercial offer for the construction of six nuclear reactors in India at the earliest date”.

US wooing India in its Indo-Pacific strategy and Blue Dot Initiative, which aims to bring governments, the private sector and civil society together to

promote “high quality, trusted standards for global infrastructure development against China’s Belt and Road Initiative”. “US-Japan-India-Australia” Quad as the mainstay of the Indo-Pacific strategy, the main objective of which will promote a free and open Indo-Pacific. The United States–India defence cooperation contributes to the prosperity and security of the entire Indo-Pacific region.

The U.S. and India announced a deepening of their security relationship to promote a free and open Indo-Pacific, including a “comprehensive global strategic partnership” encompassing cooperation on maritime and space domain awareness, enhanced military exchanges and training, defense industry collaboration, secure 5G networks, sustainable infrastructure investments and efforts to combat terrorism and drug trafficking.

The joint press conference went off smoothly, with Modi describing ties as a comprehensive global partnership, covering defence, security, technology, connectivity, trade, terrorism, energy, industry 4.0, innovation, enterprise, education, the Indo-Pacific, and people-to-people ties. He mentioned the understandings reached between the two commerce ministers that will be reduced to a legal form, and the start of negotiations on “a big trade deal”.

Trump characterized the visit as “very productive”, mentioned the \$3 billion worth of defence deals signed, referred to combat against radical Islamic terrorism,



US pressuring Pakistan on “terrorism on its soil”, secure 5G networks, and high quality infrastructure. He noted the 60% increase in US exports to India during his presidency and the 500% increase in energy exports.

The eventful visit will be remembered for Mr. Trump’s famous words at the megacally that were greeted with thunderous applause: “America loves India, America respects India and America will always be faithful and loyal friends to the Indian people.” “Namaste trump’trip put emphasis on Indo-Pacific, building a roadmap for credible peace in Afghanistan, allowing for the transfer of key technologies across sectors, expanding trade and commerce and taking advantage of emerging opportunities in agriculture, healthcare, digital trade, etc. Visit to India demonstrated the strong and enduring ties between the two largest democracies of the world. The meeting between the two leaders indicates their commitment to strengthen the bilateral relations and continue to work together through contentious issues.

(The writer is In-Charge, BJP Foreign Affairs Dept)

MORE THAN 81% ACCOUNT HOLDERS ARE WOMEN UNDER STAND UP INDIA SCHEME

Ministry of Finance, in the past six years has launched various schemes which have special provisions for empowerment of women. These schemes have financially empowered women to lead a better life and chase their dreams of being an entrepreneur.

As we are celebrating International Women's Day on 8th March 2020, we take a look at various schemes initiated by the Ministry of Finance which have benefitted the women in India.

Stand-Up India Scheme - Stand Up India Scheme was launched on 5 April 2016 to promote entrepreneurship at grass root level for economic empowerment and job creation. This scheme seeks to leverage the institutional credit structure to reach out to the underserved sector of people such as Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Women Entrepreneurs so as to enable them to participate in the economic growth of nation.

As on 17.02.2020, more than 81% account holders under Stand Up India Scheme are women. 73,155 accounts have been opened for women. Rs. 16712.72 crore has been sanctioned for women account holders and Rs. 9106.13 crore has been disbursed for women account holders.

Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) - PMMY was launched on April 8, 2015 for providing loans up to 10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro enterprises. These loans are classified as MUDRA loans under PMMY. These loans are given by Commercial Banks, RRBs, Small Finance Banks, MFIs and NBFCs.

Under the aegis of PMMY, MUDRA has created three products namely 'Shishu', 'Kishore' and 'Tarun' to signify the stage of growth / development and funding needs of the beneficiary micro unit / entrepreneur and also provide a reference point for the next phase of graduation / growth.

As on 31.01.2020, more than 22.53 crore loans have been sanctioned since launch of the scheme. Out of this, more than 15.75 crore loans extended to women, thereby 70% of the total loan borrowers are Women.

Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)

- PMJDY was launched on 28th August, 2014. The scheme as extended and revised with effect from 14.08.2018 envisages universal access to banking facilities with at least one basic banking account for every adult, financial literacy, access to credit, insurance and pension

As on 19.02.2020, 20.33 crore beneficiaries out of 38.13 crore beneficiaries are women which amounts to 53 %.

Atal Pension Yojana (APY) - APY was launched on 9th May, 2015. It envisages a universal social security system for all Indians, specially the poor and the under-privileged by offering guaranteed minimum monthly pension of Rs. 1000 -Rs. 5000 at the age of 60 years.

Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) - PMJJBY was launched on 9th May 2015. The objective of this scheme is to create a social security system for the poor and underprivileged in the age group of 18-50 years by providing a renewable life insurance cover of Rs.2 lakhs with just a premium of Rs.330. Under PMJJBY, 40.70% enrollments are of women members and 58.21% of claim beneficiaries are women. (As on 31.01.2020)

1,91,96,805 females have enrolled out of a total of 4,71,71,568 enrollments. 95,508 claims have been paid to female beneficiaries out of a total of 1,69,216 claims paid. (As on 31.01.2020)

Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) - PMSBY was launched on 9th May 2015. The objective of this scheme is to provide a very affordable insurance scheme for the poor and underprivileged people in the age group of 18 to 70 years with a bank account at a premium of Rs.12 per annum; risk coverage of Rs.2 lakhs for accidental death and full disability and Rs.1 lakh for partial disability.

Under PMSBY, 41.50% enrollments are of women members and 61.29% of claim beneficiaries are women. (As on 31.01.2020) 6,27,76,282 females have enrolled out of a total of 15,12,54,678 enrollments. 23,894 claims have been paid to female beneficiaries out of a total of 38,988 claims paid. (As on 31.01.2020) ■

Opposition inciting communal riots over CAA by spreading misinformation: Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah was on a two-day visit participated in various programmes in Odisha on February 28-29. During his visit Shri Shah addressed a massive public meeting in support of the Citizens Amendment Act (CAA) in Bhubaneswar on the first day of his visit.

On the same day, prior to the CAA meeting Shri Amit Shah also attended the 24th zonal conference of Eastern Zonal Council in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

On February 29 the Union Home Minister visited Jagannath Temple in Puri to seek the blessings of the lord of the Universe. On his return from Puri, he also visited the Lingaraj Temple before his departure to New Delhi.

Noteworthy, the BJP has undertaken a countrywide awareness programme on CAA from January 05 following opposition sponsored protest against the amended law. Meanwhile, Union Ministers Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Shri Babul Supriyo, Shri Giriraj Singh and BJP MP Smt. Rupa Ganguli have addressed public meetings on CAA at Cuttack, Berhampur, Sambalpur and Jeypore of the state respectively.

Addressing the CAA rally in Bhubaneswar Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah accused opposition parties of inciting communal riots over the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) by spreading misinformation that Muslims will lose their citizenship because of the new law.

"Opposition parties are creating disturbances and riots. They are spreading violence," Shri Amit Shah said.

"I have said this before and repeating it now that nobody, no Indian Muslim will lose their citizenship because of the CAA. This law is for granting citizenship to religious minorities that have been persecuted in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh. It's not intended to take away anyone's citizenship," Shri Shah said.

Union Home Minister said, "Modi ji formed Ram Mandir Trust, Article 370 was abrogated in Jammu and Kashmir, citizenship law has also been amended, he addressed important issues relating to national security and sensibilities."

"Earlier, top leader of the Congress had too promised citizenship to Sikhs and many other communities, we have just taken it further," Shri Amit Shah

said.

The Bharatiya Janata Party had emerged as the second-largest party in Odisha in this Parliament and Assembly elections to which he said, "Out of 37,000 booths, we were No 1 in 14,000 booths. We have got around 93 lakh votes in Parliament elections.

In the past 10 years, the Congress allocated Rs 79,000 crore funds to Odisha, while Modi ji gave Rs 2.11 lakh crore apart from electricity to eight lakh families and many development projects, Shri Shah said. ■



DEVELOPMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ALONE IS OUR FUNDAMENTAL MANTRA: PM

Addressing the meeting of BJP Parliamentary Party on 3 March 2020, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that development and development alone is our fundamental Mantra. He added "All our political activism is aimed only and only to serve the nation via our efforts for national development. We have to understand that Peace, Unity and Goodwill (Sadbhavna) towards all is the prerequisite of Development." He said, "Peace, Unity and Development are not just the cardinal principles but our basic commitment. We have to ensure that this commitment reflects in our

thinking, our articulation and our actions as well (manasa, vacha, karmana)! I urge upon all our MPs and others to be at the vanguard of the collective efforts for Peace, Unity and Goodwill!"

PM Shri Modi stated "I also urge upon all of you to consider yourself not just BJP Party workers because as sons of Bharatmata, we shoulder a responsibility which is much more than that. We must remember that as children of Bharat Mata (Bharat Ma ke Laal) we have to strive hard for the trinity of Peace, Unity and Goodwill, relentlessly."

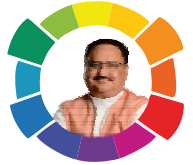
He Said, "Remember, there are elements that are motivated more

by the petty partisan interests. We work for the larger national interest. This is a kind of tug of war between partisan interest of other political parties and national interest that we are pursuing and we have to win this battle. We are fighting this battle not as BJP workers but as children of the great Bharat Mata." He stated very clearly "The only objectors behind this struggle of ours is "SabkaSaath, SabkaVikas, SabkaVishwas".

It pains my heart when I see that some individuals today are looking at the raising of slogans like Bharat Mata Ki Jai with suspicion and prejudice. This saddens me like every other patriotic Indian." ■



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President Shri Ram Nath Kovind and PM Shri Narendra Modi welcomes the US President Mr. Donald Trump and First Lady Mrs. Melania Trump, at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi with the US President Mr. Donald Trump and First Lady Mrs. Melania Trump, at Hyderabad House in New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with the President of United States of America, Mr. Donald Trump and First Lady Mrs. Melania Trump at Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad, Gujarat



PM Shri Narendra Modi and the President of Myanmar, Mr. U. Win Myint during the exchange of Agreements between India and Myanmar, at Hyderabad House, New Delhi



PM Shri Narendra Modi distributing the Assistive Aids and Devices to Divyangjan, at Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh



Hon'ble President Shri Ramnath Kovind, Vice President Shri M Venkaiah Naidu and PM Shri Narendra Modi at the swearing-in ceremony of Shri Bimal Julka, as Chief Information Commissioner in New Delhi



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Office of Posting : Lodhi Road H.O. New Delhi "REGISTERED"

36 Pages with Cover

RNI No. DELENG/2006/16838

DL(S)-17/3265/2018-20

Licence to Post without Prepayment

Licence No. U(S)-42/2018-20



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with US President Mr. Donald Trump and First Lady Mrs. Melania Trump receiving the greetings of lakhs of Indians gathered at Motera Stadium, in Ahmedabad