

# KAMAL SANDESH

Vol. 17, No. 15

01-15 August, 2022 (Fortnightly)

₹20



**WITH 'ABHINANDAN YATRAS' BJP CELEBRATES ACROSS THE NATION**



**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION-2022**

**PRESIDENT MURMU'S SWEARING IN WATERSHED  
MOMENT FOR POOR & MARGINALISED: PM**



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and party Karyakartas in a group photograph at the conclusion of Rajasthan BJP Training camp in Mount Abu on 12 July, 2022



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda welcoming PM Shri Narendra Modi at the Chief Ministers Council Meeting at BJP HQ, New Delhi on 24 July, 2022



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda with health workers after visiting the Vaccination Centre under "Free Booster Dose Campaign" at Lady Hardinge Hospital, New Delhi on 20 July, 2022



PM Shri Narendra Modi, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and other senior leaders at the Vice Presidential nomination filing by NDA candidate Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar in New Delhi on 18 July, 2022



Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah addressing a gathering after inauguration of several development projects in Gandhinagar, Gujarat



Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh addressing the launching ceremony of 'Dunagiri' in Kolkata on 15 July, 2022

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DR. SHIV SHAKTI BAKSHI

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VIKASH ANAND

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VIKAS SAINI  
BHOLA ROY

## DIGITAL MEDIA

RAJEEV KUMAR  
VIPUL SHARMA

## SUBSCRIPTION & CIRCULATION

SATISH KUMAR

## E-MAIL

MAIL.KAMALSANDESH@GMAIL.COM

MAIL@KAMALSANDESH.ORG

PHONE: 011-23381428, FAX: 011-23387887

WEBSITE: WWW.KAMALSANDESH.ORG



## 06 NDA NOMINEE DROUPADI MURMU SCRIPTS HISTORY, BECOMES FIRST TRIBAL PRESIDENT OF INDIA

Scripting an exceptional history in the democratic polity of India, the NDA's presidential candidate Smt. Droupadi Murmu on 21 July emerged triumphant with a wide margin in the presidential...

## SHRADHANJALI

SRI AUROBINDO : REVOLUTIONARY AND SPIRITUALIST 24

## ARTICLE

A PEOPLE'S CANDIDATE / JP NADDA 14

FIRST CITIZEN & THE 9% / AMIT SHAH 16

AGNIPATH SCHEME WILL INFUSE NEW VIGOUR IN OUR DEFENCE SERVICES / TARUN CHUGH 29

I2U2 SUMMIT HELD VIRTUALLY AIMS TO BRING PROSPERITY THROUGH CLEAN TECH / VIKASH ANAND 30

## OTHERS

GREETINGS POUR IN FOR INDIA'S 15TH PRESIDENT 12

BJP SWEEPS MADHYA PRADESH MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 19

INDIA ACHIEVES MAJOR LANDMARK OF '200 CRORE' COVID-19 VACCINATIONS 20

PM UNVEILS NATIONAL EMBLEM CAST ON THE ROOF OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT BUILDING 23

PM UNVEILS 'SPRINT CHALLENGES' 25

PM INAUGURATES DEOGHAR AIRPORT 26

MANN KI BAAT 33

PM MODI INAUGURATES 296 KM-LONG BUNDELKHAND EXPRESSWAY IN UP 34



## 08 WITH 'ABHINANDAN YATRAS' BJP CELEBRATES ACROSS THE NATION

BJP began celebrations across the country as soon as it was officially announced that Smt. Droupadi Murmu had won more than 50% of the...

## 10 'YOU SET THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF PRINCIPLES, PROBITY, PERFORMANCE, SENSITIVITY AND SERVICE'

A day before Shri Ram Nath Kovind demitted the office of President of...



## 18 BJP WILL COME TO RAJASTHAN WITH A THUMPING MAJORITY NEXT YEAR: JP NADDA

Ahead of the Assembly elections scheduled for next year, a three-day training camp...

## 32 PM MODI INTERACTS WITH CMs AND DEPUTY CMs OF BJP/NDA RULED STATES

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacted with all 12 CMs and 8 Deputy CMs of BJP/NDA ruled States in BJP Chief Ministers...





## SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

[@narendramodi](#)

India's vaccination drive is big on speed and scale. It has been powered by collective efforts of many, including scientists, doctors and nurses. At the same time, the people of India have shown remarkable faith in science and taken their doses in a timely manner.



[@JPNadda](#)

Shri Kovind brought intellectual heft, humility, sincerity, grace & dignity to the Office of Rashtrapati. His commitment to the Constitutional values and service to the marginalised sections will always be remembered fondly. Every Indian thanks him for his service to the nation.



[@AmitShah](#)

I appeal to all to join this campaign by hoisting the tricolor at their homes from 13 to 15 August. With this, we will be able to increase the respect and attachment for the tricolor in our younger generation, as well as tell them the sacrifice of the heroes who fought for freedom.



[@rajnathsingh](#)

PoK is part of India, we believe it. A unanimous resolution has also been passed in this regard in the Parliament. How can it be that Baba Amarnath is with us in the form of Shiva, but the abode of Sharda Ji, the Shakti Swaroopa, stays on the other side of the LoC.



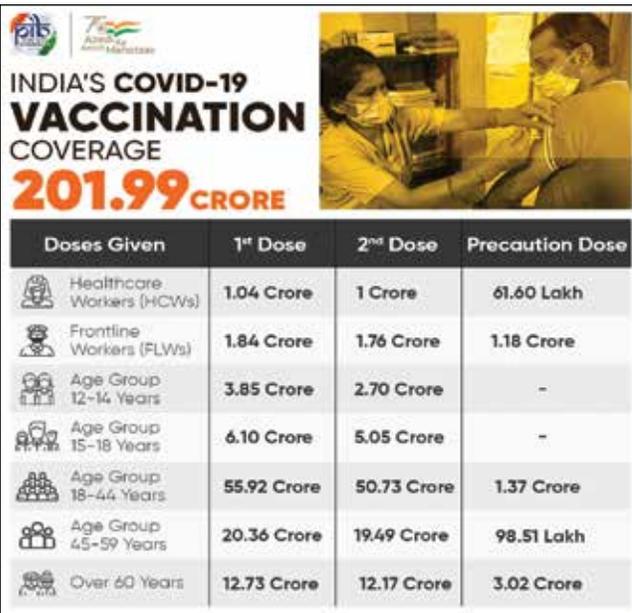
[@Nitin Gadkari](#)

Conceptualized by DDA as a part of the third Ring Road in Delhi Master Plan 2041, NHAI has undertaken the development of UER-II project to facilitate the objective of traffic decongestion in the national capital. #PragatiKaHighway #GatiShakti



[@B L Santhosh](#)

Congratulated Hon'ble President elect Bharath ki Beti Smt Droupadi Murmu on her historical win in Presidential election. India will be safe under her tender personality for sure. The affection that she is getting from across the country is testimony to this.

**INDIA'S COVID-19 VACCINATION COVERAGE**  
**201.99 CRORE**

Doses Given	1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose	Precaution Dose
Healthcare Workers (HCWs)	1.04 Crore	1 Crore	61.60 Lakh
Frontline Workers (FLWs)	1.84 Crore	1.76 Crore	1.18 Crore
Age Group 12-14 Years	3.85 Crore	2.70 Crore	-
Age Group 15-18 Years	6.10 Crore	5.05 Crore	-
Age Group 18-44 Years	55.92 Crore	50.73 Crore	1.37 Crore
Age Group 45-59 Years	20.36 Crore	19.49 Crore	98.51 Lakh
Over 60 Years	12.73 Crore	12.17 Crore	3.02 Crore



**KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR**  
*wishes a very happy*  
**RAKSHA BANDHAN (11 AUGUST)**  
*to all of its readers*

# MOMENT OF PRIDE

**A**s Smt. Droupadi Murmu took the oath of the office of the President of India, the faith of the nation in the transformative power of democracy was further reinforced. The amazing journey of a woman from a tribal community belonging to one of the remotest parts of the country to the post of President of India is a journey of which every Indian feels proud. It is not only an accomplishment of an individual but an achievement of the nation, its constitution, its faith in democratic polity and its vision of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'. It is a momentous event when the last man in a society is further re-assured of the firm commitment of the system to the philosophy of 'Antyodaya' and unflinching faith in the mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Viaks, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas'. It has sent a message to even the most remote parts of the country that they are one with India, and it has empowered even the most marginalised sections of society that India also belongs to them. The huge margin of victory of Smt. Droupadi Murmu has once again shown the will of the people to uphold the high ideals and values that inspire the nation in its onward journey towards a 'New India'. It is a historic occasion, a time to celebrate!

While the nation today celebrates the highest office of the country being adorned by a woman from the tribal community of the country, it is a fact that this journey has taken 75 years, even after independence. It's a matter of pride that the dream of people from even the most deprived and marginalised sections of society adorning high offices in the country has come true at a time when the nation is celebrating 75 years of independence. In nominating Smt. Droupadi Murmu as the NDA candidate for the post of president, the BJP led NDA has presented to the nation its commitment to all-inclusive politics and faith in the immense possibilities in the power of marginalised, deprived, oppressed, women and youth of the nation. While India is witnessing transformative change in almost every sector under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, every section of society is today feeling empowered and feeling like an equal stakeholder in the onward march of the country.

**While India is witnessing transformative change in almost every sector under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, every section of society is today feeling empowered and feeling like an equal stakeholder in the onward march of the country**

Today, when the nation is celebrating 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsava', Smt. Droupadi Murmu adorning the highest constitutional office in the country may be seen as an 'amrit' which will further invigorate national life with firm faith in its immense possibilities. Smt. Droupadi Murmu represents the struggle of a woman and a person belonging to a tribal community from one of the remotest parts of the country, which is an inspiration for the millions of people who can draw strength from her struggle. She has been serving the poor, deprived, distressed and neglected, while constantly fighting poverty and adversity while holding many responsibilities in public life. The nation will definitely gain from her rich administrative experience, sensitivity, and commitment to people. At the same time, Shri Ram Nath Kovind has completed an illustrious innings as president of India while maintaining the high standards of the highest constitutional office that he held for the last five years. The nation will remain indebted to him for his outstanding services, enriching the office with his immense experience, dignified conduct, and extraordinary statesmanship. While the nation is celebrating its moment of pride as the first tribal woman has taken the oath as president of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind's distinguished tenure as president is another reason for national pride. ■

 [shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org](mailto:shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org)



## **NDA NOMINEE DROUPADI MURMU SCRIPTS HISTORY**

# **BECOMES FIRST TRIBAL PRESIDENT OF INDIA**

Scripting an exceptional history in the democratic polity of India, the NDA's presidential candidate Smt. Droupadi Murmu on 21 July emerged triumphant with a wide margin in the presidential election and took oath as the 15th President of Democratic Republic of India on 25th July, 2022. Chief Justice of India Shri NV Ramana administered to her the oath of office in a Swearing-in Ceremony held in the Central Hall of Parliament in New Delhi.

Outgoing President Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Vice-President Shri M Venkaiah Naidu, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla, Members of the Council of Ministers, Governors, Chief Ministers, heads of diplomatic missions, MPs and principal civil and military officers attended the oath ceremony. Ahead of the swearing-in ceremony, Smt. Murmu paid floral tributes at the memorial of Mahatma Gandhi in Raj Ghat.

On the day of result, making an official announcement, the election Returning Officer declared Smt. Murmu as the winner with 64.03 per cent votes; while her opponent Shri Yashwant

Sinha got 36 per cent of the valid votes polled. Smt. Droupadi Murmu bagged votes from a total of 2824 electors, including 540 MPs, while her opponent got votes of 1,877 electors including 208 MPs in the election. Among states Smt. Murmu got the maximum votes from Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh and around 17 MPs from opposition parties have cross-voted in her support.

The NDA's brilliant choice of President not only put the Opposition on the back-foot, but also sent a strong message of inclusivity and democratic values to the global community. It's also a heart-warming instance of how, a vibrant democracy can bring someone from the absolute bottom of the social pyramid to its peak. For the Opposition, the presidential election is yet another epic fail. It could neither unite behind its candidate, nor pitch the battle as an ideological one.

After the victory, Smt. Draupadi Murmu in her message said, "Elated by all of the support from my all political colleagues, Ministers, MP's and MLA's from all around India for choosing me to serve as the 15th President in the world's largest democratic country



## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION-2022

Mother India. I extend my heartiest gratitude to all my brothers and sisters throughout India who have supported me to reach at the Highest Commandant of Indian Army. I am devoted to work for the people of my great motherland India.

When I was Nominated as NDA'S presidential candidate from that day I took oath in my mind that if I become President, first of all I will work for more development of my tribal and Adivasi brothers and sisters of whole of India and Odisha. Now that time has come, I will keep my promise.

I bow my head towards Mahaprabhu Shree Jagannath for the blessings and everything I achieved till date. I thank every citizen of mother India and to all of you, I cannot express my feeling right now!"

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda and several senior leaders visited Smt. Murmu's residence in New Delhi and congratulated her on that day for the historic victory.

### **MURMU EMERGED AS A RAY OF HOPE FOR OUR CITIZENS: PM MODI**

Congratulating the President-elect Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said, "She has emerged as a ray of hope for our citizens, especially the poor, marginalized and the downtrodden.

"India scripts history. At a time when 1.3 billion

Indians are marking 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', a daughter of India hailing from a tribal community born in a remote part of eastern India has been elected our President! Congratulations to Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji on this feat", he said.

Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji has been an outstanding MLA and Minister. She had an excellent tenure as Jharkhand Governor. I am certain she will be an outstanding President who will lead from the front and strengthen India's development journey.

Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji's life, her early struggles, her rich service and her exemplary success motivates



## WITH 'ABHINANDAN YATRAS' BJP CELEBRATES ACROSS THE NATION

**B**JP began celebrations across the country as soon as it was officially announced that Smt. Droupadi Murmu had won more than 50% of the total votes. In Delhi, as Smt. Murmu too an invincible lead, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda reached the party office with the presidential Election Convener and Union Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Co-conveners & BJP National General Secretaries Shri Vinod Tawde and Shri CT Ravi and Union Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. All seven Delhi BJP MPs too were present in the office.



Shri JP Nadda led the 'Abhinandan Yatra' from the Delhi BJP office to President-elect Smt. Droupadi Murmu's residence.

Congratulating Smt. Droupadi Murmu, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said for a woman from tribal background to reach the post of President is a golden moment for the entire country and expressed confidence that her competence and experience in administrative and social works will benefit the country immensely.

Later, Shri JP Nadda accompanied Prime Minister

Shri Narendra Modi to Smt. Murmu's residence where they congratulated her on being elected as the new President.

Celebrations also took place at other state BJP offices. In Lucknow, UP CM Yogi Aditya Nath, Deputy CMs Shri Keshav Maurya, and Shri Brajesh Pathak congratulated Smt. Murmu for becoming the 15th President of the nation.

In Madhya Pradesh, party leaders, including state BJP President Shri VD Sharma, participated in



celebrations at Bhopal and in tribal areas.

In Karnataka, BJP office bearers and workers gathered at the state BJP office in Bengaluru to celebrate Smt. Murmu's victory.

In NDA-ruled Bihar, Deputy CM Shri Tarkishore Prasad and other party leaders participated in the celebration. Deputy CM Smt. Renu Devi celebrated in her home district.

Celebrations were also held nationwide, particularly in tribal areas across the states, led by senior leaders of BJP and local BJP MLAs. ■

each and every Indian. She has emerged as a ray of hope for our citizens, especially the poor, marginalised and the downtrodden”.

With the oath as 15th President of India, Smt. Murmu has many firsts to her credit. She is not only the first tribal President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, but, at the age of 64, Smt. Murmu will also be the youngest and India's first President to be born after

Independence.

She was also the first woman to have been appointed as the Jharkhand Governor in 2015. With that post, Smt. Droupadi Murmu also became the first tribal woman from her home state of Odisha to become a governor. She is a seasoned tribal leader from the Santal ethnic group. The Santals form the largest tribe in Jharkhand and a major tribe in states

of Odisha, Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal.

## **JOURNEY FROM A SMALL TRIBAL VILLAGE IN ODISHA TO RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN**

Born on June 20, 1958, in Baidaposi village of the tribal dominated Mayurbhanj district in Odisha Smt. Droupadi Murmu began her career as a government servant from 1979 to 1983 in the position of a junior assistant in the Odisha government's irrigation and power department. She has also taught without any salary at the Shri Aurobindo Integral Education Centre in Rairangpur, Odisha.



Coming from a humble background, Smt. Murmu rose through political ranks battling poverty and personal tragedies in one of the most remote and underdeveloped districts of the country. But her zeal to serve society triumphed. She began her political career in 1997 as a councilor and vice-chairperson of the Rairangpur civic body. In the same year, she was appointed the vice-president of Odisha BJP ST morcha. In 2000, she became the MLA of Rairangpur when the BJP and Biju Janata Dal formed a coalition government. She was the minister of state (independent charge) for Odisha's department of Transport and Commerce from 2000 to 2004, and also assumed charge of the state's Animal Husbandry department from 2002 to 2004, and the Fisheries department in 2002. ■



## **REACHING THIS OFFICE IS NOT MY PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT: SMT. DROUPADI MURMU**

Addressing the nation for the first time after being Sworn-In as the 15th President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu stated that her achievement belonged to every poor in India and was a reflection of the capabilities of crores of women.

She said, "It is a coincidence that my political career started when the country was celebrating its 50th year of Independence. And today, in the 75th year of Independence, I have been handed this responsibility. I am honoured to take on this responsibility at a historic time when India is gearing up to achieve the vision of the next 25 years".

- I express my heartfelt gratitude to all the MPs and all the members of the Legislative Assemblies for being elected to the highest constitutional post of India. Your vote is an expression of the faith of crores of citizens of the country.
- I am the first President of the country who was born in Independent India. We will have to speed up our efforts to meet the expectations that our freedom fighters had with the citizens of Independent India.
- Reaching the Presidential post is not my personal achievement, it is the achievement of every poor in India. My election is evidence that the poor in India can not just dream but also fulfil those dreams.
- It is the power of our democracy that a daughter born in a poor house, a daughter born in a remote tribal area, can reach the highest constitutional post of India.
- It is satisfying to me that the people who were devoid of development for years — the poor, Dalits, backward, and the tribals — can find representation through me. My election has the blessings of the poor of the country and reflects the dreams and capabilities of crores of women and daughters of the country.
- I assure all the countrymen, especially the youth and women of India, that while working in this position, their interests will be paramount to me.
- In 75 years as a parliamentary democracy, India has carried forward the resolve of progress through participation and consensus.

## PM MODI'S LETTER TO RAM NATH KOVIND

# 'YOU SET THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF PRINCIPLES, PROBITY, PERFORMANCE, SENSITIVITY AND SERVICE'

A day before Shri Ram Nath Kovind demitted the office of President of the country; he received a letter from Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who lauded the former President for having set "the highest standards of principles, probity, performance, sensitivity, and service during his tenure."

The former President in his message thanked Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his kind words. "This letter from Prime Minister @narendramodi has deeply touched me. I take his kind and heartfelt words as a reflection of the love and respect fellow citizens have showered on me. I am sincerely grateful to you all," Shri Kovind tweeted.

Prime Minister Shri Modi in his letter to Shri Ram Nath Kovind, shared by the former President, said, "As your term draws to an end, I join the entire nation in saluting you and extending our deepest gratitude for your outstanding service as the President of our Republic and for a long and distinguished career in public life. You set the highest standards

of principles, probity and performance, and of sensitivity and service."

Prime Minister Shri Modi also lauded the journey of Shri Kovind from a small village in Uttar Pradesh to the Rashtrapati Bhavan. He further said that the former President upheld and reinforced the ideals of the Constitution and the vitality of democracy with sound judgment, great dignity, and extraordinary statesmanship.

As the Head of State at a time of unprecedented stress of the pandemic and a world caught in turbulence and conflict, you were a source of calmness, unity and reassurance at home, and a persuasive advocate of India's values and interests abroad, he said.

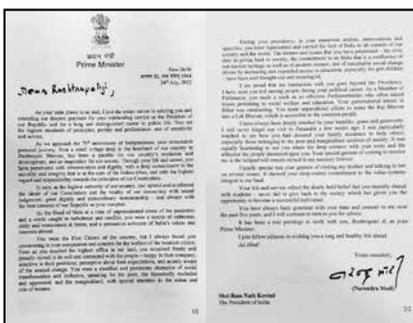
He said that the former President was a steadfast and passionate champion of social transformation and inclusion, speaking for the poor, the historically excluded and oppressed, and the marginalized, with special attention to the status and role of women. As a Member of Parliament, you made a mark as an effective Parliamentarian who often raised issues pertaining to social welfare and education. Your tenure as Governor in Bihar was outstanding. You made unparalleled efforts to make the Raj Bhavan into a Lok Bhavan,



which is accessible to the common people.

The Prime Minister also remembered their tour together to Paraunkh and said, "I have always been deeply touched by your humility, grace, and generosity. I will never forget our visit to Paraunkh a few weeks ago. I was particularly touched to see how you had donated your family residence to help others, especially those belonging to the poor and marginalized sections of society. It was equally heartening to see you retain the deep connection with your roots and the affection the people showered upon you," PM Shri Modi said.

While concluding the letter, the Prime Minister said, "You have always been generous with your time and counsel to me over the past five years, and I will continue to turn to you for advice. It has been a real privilege to work with you, Rashtrapati ji, as your Prime Minister. I join fellow citizens in wishing you a long and healthy life ahead. Jai Hind!" ■



## LIFE SKETCH

- **1958-** Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu was born to a Santali family on June 20, 1958 in the Baidaposi village near Rairangpur in Mayurbhanj District of Odisha. Her name given by her family was Puti Tudu. She was renamed by her school teacher to Droupadi.
- **1979-** Graduated from Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar with a BA degree.
- **1979-** Started working as a junior assistant in the irrigation department of Odisha government.
- **1994-** Started teaching at Aurobindo Integral Education Center, Rairangpur, Odisha
- **1997-** She began her political career in 1997 as a councilor and vice-chairperson of the Rairangpur civic body in Odisha.
- **1997-** She was appointed the vice-president of Odisha BJP ST Morcha.
- **2000-** Became the MLA of Rairangpur when the BJP and Biju Janata Dal formed a coalition government.
- **2000-** Appointed as the Minister of State (independent charge) department of Transport and Commerce, Government of Odisha.
- **2002-** She was appointed as MoS for Fisheries and Animal Husbandry in Odisha government and remained in the office until 2004.
- **2004-** Again elected as an MLA from the same Rairangpur constituency on a BJP ticket.
- **2006-** Appointed the State BJP Tribal Morcha President, Odisha unit.
- **2007-** She was honoured with Nilakantha Award for the best MLA in year 2007 by Legislative Assembly of Odisha.
- **2015-** Smt. Draupadi Murmu was appointed the governor of Jharkhand. She was the first one to successfully complete the term of the Jharkhand Governor.
- **2022-** Elected as the 15th President of India on 21 July, 2022. She secured over 64% votes in the President Election held on 18 July, 2022. ■



### OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE NATION

## 'Our Country getting equipped to make 21st century, the century of India'

Outgoing President Shri Ram Nath Kovind addressed the nation on the eve of demitting office on 24 July 2022. During his farewell address, he remembered his predecessor Shri Pranab Mukherjee, India's 13th President. Shri Kovind said that he has been conscious of being a successor to great icons of India of the likes of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. S Radhakrishnan, and renowned space scientist Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. He said five years ago, when I first stepped foot inside the Rashtrapati Bhavan, Shri Pranab Mukherjee helped me to understand the role and duties by sharing his



wise counsel. Secondly, whenever I was in doubt, I always turned to Gandhi's teachings before taking a decision, Shri Kovind said.

During the address, Shri Kovind also shared that visiting his hometown in Uttar Pradesh's Kanpur as a President and touching the feet of his teachers to seek their blessings, features among his

"most memorable moments of life".

Commending India's journey as a country so far, Shri Ram Nath Kovind said that once the basic necessities of an individual such as housing, access to drinking water, and electricity are met, the next need is education.

He said, "I believe the National Education Policy will go a long way in making it possible for young Indians to connect with their heritage and also find their feet in the twenty-first century," he noted, "I firmly believe that our country is getting equipped to make the 21st century, the century of India." ■

# GREETINGS POUR IN FOR INDIA'S 15TH PRESIDENT

Greetings poured in from the political fraternity and people across the country after Smt. Droupadi Murmu was sworn in as the 15th President of India on 25 July, 2022. Governors, Chief Ministers, leaders of various political parties and foreign dignitaries congratulated Smt. Murmu, saying it will strengthen women empowerment.

## NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

The first in line to extend his wishes was Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who said it was a watershed moment for India, especially for the poor, marginalised and downtrodden.



Shri Modi wrote, "The entire nation watched with pride as Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji took oath as the President of India. Her assuming the Presidency is a watershed moment for India especially for the poor, marginalised and downtrodden. I wish her the very best for a fruitful Presidential tenure."

## RAJNATH SINGH, UNION DEFENCE MINISTER

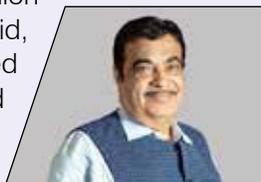
Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh called this day a remarkable day in the history of Indian Republic.



In his message Shri Singh said, "Congratulations to Smt. Droupadi Murmu ji on taking oath as the 15th President of India. It is a remarkable day in the history of Indian Republic. I am confident that her rich legislative and administrative experience will benefit the nation. Best wishes for a fruitful tenure."

## NITIN GADKARI, UNION TRANSPORT MINISTER

In his greeting message Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari said, "History has been created today! Congratulations and best wishes to Smt. Droupadi Murmu Ji on taking the oath as the 15th President of



India. It is a great moment of pride for all of us. I'm confident that New India will further prosper under her able guidance and leadership".

## JP NADDA, BJP NATIONAL PRESIDENT

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda also congratulated President Smt. Droupadi Murmu and said, "My heartiest congratulations & best wishes to Smt. Droupadi Murmu



Ji for being sworn-in as the 15th President of India. Her first address to the nation as "People's President" encapsulated not just the significance of this truly historic moment but the spirit of New India."

## AMIT SHAH, UNION HOME MINISTER

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah also congratulated the newly-elected President.



In his message Shri Shah wrote, "Many congratulations to Smt. Draupadi Murmu ji on taking oath as the 15th President of India. I am sure that your tenure will take the pride of the country to new heights. Today's historic day is a wonderful example of empowerment of every section following democratic values."

## PIYUSH GOYAL, UNION MINISTER

Congratulating Smt. Droupadi Murmu Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyals said, "Independent India's remarkable achievement. A tribal woman's ascent to the highest Constitutional office transcends symbolism & reflects social justice & empowerment.



President Droupadi Murmu ji brings power of India's aspirations to the Rashtrapati Bhavan".

### SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN, CM MADHYA PRADESH

Madhya Pradesh CM Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan congratulated Smt. Draupadi Murmu on being elected as the 15th President of India and said, "She has been elected to the highest Constitutional post in the country. This is India's specialty. I extend my heartiest congratulations to her".



### HIMANTA BISWA SARMA, CM ASSAM

Assam Chief Minister Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma in his message said, "Congratulations Smt. Droupadi Murmu ji on taking over as the country's 15th President and becoming the first tribal woman to hold the highest constitutional post. Coinciding with Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, it's a watershed moment in the country's 75-year history".



### YOGI ADITYANATH, CM UTTAR PRADESH

In his message, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said, "I congratulate Smt. Murmu for her grand and historic victory. Her elevation as President of India is a living picture of immense public confidence in the all-inclusive and all-touching nature of 'New India' and the spirit of 'Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat'".



### CONRAD SANGMA, CM MEGHALAYA

It's a great & historic moment as the President's post will now be held by a tribal woman. It's something that was inconceivable many years ago...I'd like to thank all who voted for our President Droupadi Murmu, PM Shri Narendra Modi & other leaders who made this possible.



### MANOHAR LAL KHATTAR, CM HARYANA

Haryana Chief Minister Shri Manohar Lal Khattar said Draupadi Murmu ji has been sworn in as the 15th President of India during the 'Amrit Kaal' of independence. Smt. Murmu, who has become a symbol of women's education, valour and empowerment, is a unique example of India's vibrant democracy. Heartfelt congratulations to respected Droupadi Murmu ji".



### BASAVARAJ BOMMAI, CM KARNATAKA

Karnataka Chief Minister Shri Basavaraj Bommai congratulated Smt. Droupadi Murmu and in a tweet, said, "A matter of immense pride for every Indian in having the first woman tribal President #DroupadiMurmu. A memorable day for the country. We Indians are proud of our deeply enshrined democratic values. Congratulations to the Hon'ble President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu ji".



### PUSHKAR SINGH DHAMI, CM UTTARAKHAND

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Shri Pushkar Singh Dhama said, "Your election to the top constitutional office marks the beginning of a golden chapter in the direction of women's empowerment and healthy democracy. Congratulation Smt. Draupadi Murmu ji."



### JAIRAM THAKUR, CM HIMACHAL PRADESH

Himachal Pradesh CM Shri Jairam Thakur in his Twitter message said, "It's a Historic day! Hearty congratulations and best wishes from Devbhoomi Himachal to Smt. Draupadi Murmu ji on taking oath as the 15th President of India! Your journey so far is inspiring. Under your guidance Certainly, the country will establish new dimensions of development, prosperity and harmony".



# A PEOPLE'S CANDIDATE

**Draupadi Murmu's candidacy for the highest office is a defining moment for India**



JP NADDA

In a few days from now, our republic will have a new President. It's clear India has appreciated the candidature of Draupadi Murmu for this respected office. Her candidature has struck a chord with different sections of society. In a year when India is marking 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', it has made every Indian proud that the highest office of this land will be occupied by a self-made woman who belongs to a tribal community. The women of India find it empowering that a woman will be our next President. Murmu will be the first President of our nation to be born after Independence, which also gives an important message.

Murmu's candidature is special for a number of other reasons as well. Let me begin with her accomplishments. In a political set-up where dynastic politics and personal wealth have dominated for decades, Murmu is a breath of fresh air. She started out as a teacher in Rairangpur, Odisha, and later joined the state irrigation department as junior assistant. Even though she performed her professional duties with diligence, it was clear that public service was her real calling.

Starting from the grassroots, in 1997 she contested the civic elections and became a councillor in Rairangpur Nagar Panchayat. Three years later, she contested the assembly election from Rairangpur and won. She served two terms as MLA from the constituency. She was also awarded the Neelkanth Award

for Best Legislator by the Odisha legislative assembly in 2007 from amongst 147 legislators, and this shows that her track record as MLA was exceptional. She handled critical departments like commerce, transport, fisheries and animal resources development as minister. Her tenure was development-oriented and corruption free.

In 2015, she broke a glass ceiling when she was sworn in as the first woman governor of Jharkhand and the first tribal and woman leader from Odisha to be appointed as governor of any state. Her term of six years was the longest in the history of Jharkhand. She made the Raj Bhavan a vibrant centre of public aspirations and worked closely with the government of the day to further the state's growth.

Her success in public life was periodically overshadowed by



personal tragedies. She lost her husband and children. But these setbacks only inspired her to work even harder and alleviate suffering in the lives of others. Those who have interacted with her share that resilience and kindness are among her biggest strengths. At a larger level, her candidacy encapsulates the spirit of New India. Democratic nations are not built by governments and institutions alone, they are built by 'We, The People'. In the last eight years, this has been the most defining feature of the Modi-led BJP government. Every effort has been made to empower people at the grassroots and break the monopolies of a few elites. We see this spirit in every sphere of governance – we see it in every government scheme, what our PM calls 'saturation approach'.

The guiding principle is clear – when we seek cent per cent coverage, there is no question of favouritism or vote bank politics. With the advent of the pandemic, 80 crore people received free foodgrains for months. At the same time, India showed the world what a science-driven vaccination drive looks like. Our vaccination numbers of 200 crore doses have made the global fight against Covid stronger.

Padma Awards, which were at one time the domain of the rich and pedigreed, have become People's Awards, honouring those who may not be seen on TV but have done outstanding work on the ground.

We in BJP are proud to say that most of our top leadership –

ministers, CMs, MPs and MLAs – hail from humble backgrounds and have risen in politics on the basis of sheer hard work. In fact, PM Modi's Cabinet has itself given historic representation to 27 OBCs, 12 SCs and eight STs, who together constitute more than 60% of the Cabinet. The grand success of BJP in 2019 came with the highest women representation in Lok Sabha. If BJP made the SC/ST Act stronger, it also fulfilled the dream of the OBC Commission and ensured EWS reservation.

Today, a person coming from a humble background, overcoming all the challenges posed by

**Democratic nations are not built by governments and institutions alone, they are built by 'We, The People'. In the last eight years, this has been the most defining feature of the Modi-led BJP government**

socio-economic circumstances, can rise up and become India's PM – this is what the success of PM Modi has demonstrated.

The Modi government is doing justice to the vision of Baba Saheb Ambedkar, Mahatma Gandhi and Deen Dayal Upadhyay. Whether it is the constitutional status given to the National Commission of Backward Classes or the loans of over Rs 5,300 crore to SC and ST beneficiaries under Stand Up India, or the fact that almost 60% beneficiaries under PM Kisan, PM Fasal Bima Yojana, PM Awas Yojana and Scholarship Yojana are from SC/ST/OBC – BJP sees political power as instrument not

for personal gain but for societal transformation and upliftment.

Decisions such as the Declaration of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, tribal freedom-fighter museums across India, empowerment of denotified, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes, increase in number of forest products coming under MSP, instil a spirit of self-confidence among the poor, downtrodden and marginalised.

This new method of public service is here to stay. Its impact and influence will only increase over time. The near certain election of Murmu will amplify it further. Her election as the first Odia, woman-tribal President will break many barriers that ought to have been smashed decades ago. NDA's previous two nominees for President – APJ Abdul Kalam and Ramnath Kovind – provided this country with inspirational and mature leadership. Murmu's candidacy is one of hope, of giving voice to the voiceless and one that will rewrite history.

As the president of BJP, it is my earnest appeal to every political leader and party, to every member of the electoral college and to every Indian, that they cast away all political differences and answer the call of their conscience and support Murmu's candidacy. This is the most glorious moment in our quest for social justice and societal transformation, and we must not miss it at any cost. Because this is an election for a 'People's President'. ■

**(The writer is BJP National President)**

**Published on 17 July, 2022**

# FIRST CITIZEN & THE 9%

**DROUPADI MURMU PROVES MODI GOVT'S COMMITMENT TO EMPOWERMENT OF TRIBAL**



AMIT SHAH

The election of Droupadi Murmu as the President of India is a historic moment for Indian democracy. Her remarkable journey from an extremely poor tribal area in Odisha, that too from the disadvantaged Santhal community, to the highest constitutional position in the country has been marked by struggles, grit and determination.

The elevation of a person of such humble origins as the First Citizen is a matter of great joy for all of India, more so for the tribal community. It is sad that the nation had to wait for 70 long years to see a tribal woman reach the highest office of the land. This moment marks yet another victory for our democracy and our Constitution under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Tribals constitute nearly 9% of our population. Their sacrifices for our freedom are unforgettable. Unfortunately, post-Independence most governments did not do enough for their development and empowerment. Hardly any efforts were made to bring them into the national mainstream, and they also remained devoid of important offices.

It was only under the leadership of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee that serious steps were taken to fulfil the aspirations of our tribal society. In 1999 he created a separate tribal affairs ministry, which was followed by the formation of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes through the 89th Constitutional Amendment in 2003. The transformation of our tribal communities started by Vajpayee has been taken forward by PM Modi with more vigour and resolve.

The nation had to wait for 70 long years to see a tribal woman reach the highest office of the land. This moment marks yet another victory for our democracy and our Constitution under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Guided by the principle of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayaas, the Modi government has taken many initiatives to fulfil the aspirations and hopes of the tribal population. In the past eight years, there has been a massive increase in the budget allocation for projects linked to tribal communities' welfare and progress. The Tribal Sub-Plan budget has been increased four-fold from Rs 21,000 crore in 2013-14 to Rs 86,000 crore in 2021-22.

The special initiatives include

piped water for 1.28 crore tribal homes under the Jal Jeevan Mission, 38 lakh houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna, 1.45 crore toilets, and 82 lakh health cards under Ayushman Bharat. Similarly, the budget of Eklavya Model Schools, specially developed for tribal students, has been increased from Rs 278 crore to Rs 1,418 crore. Fund allocation for scholarships for tribal students has also been hiked from Rs 978 crore to Rs 2,546 crore. As part of the entrepreneurship development initiative, 3,110 Van Dhan Vikas Kendra Clusters and 53,000 Van Dhan self-help groups have been established with an expenditure of Rs 327 crore.

Our tribal areas are most affected by mining activities, but financial gains from these operations were never shared with the local communities.

To address this, Modi government created a District Mineral Foundation so that 30% earnings from mining activities could be spent on tribal areas' development. So far, Rs 57,000 crore has been raised through this and is being used in various development works. Similarly, the number of Tribes India outlets, run by TRIFED, which takes care of the marketing and sale of products made by our tribal communities, has been increased from 29 to 116.

PM Modi has also brought the rich tribal culture and heritage into



the national limelight. Tribal arts, literature, traditional knowledge and skills have been included in various curricula. As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, a series of programmes are being organised nationwide to highlight the contributions of our great tribal leaders to our freedom struggle.

The nation now celebrates the birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, which falls on November 15, as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas. The Modi government is also developing Tribal Freedom Fighter Museums across the country with a budgetary outlay of Rs 200 crore. In his speeches, PM Modi often refers to our great tribal heroes and highlights their contributions to inspire today's generation. All this underlines how this government is tirelessly working for the honour and empowerment of our tribal community.

From Kashmir to the Northeast,

the tribal population dominates a large chunk of our rural landscape, particularly in Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Gujarat. But post-Independence, Congress ignored most of the tribal-dominated regions including the Northeast.

It was Narendra Modi, who immediately after taking over as the PM, began the transformation of our tribal areas in right earnest. To kickstart the growth and development of the tribal-dominated Northeast, he formulated the Act East Policy. In the past eight years our Northeastern states have been successfully integrated into the national mainstream to become partners in the country's growth and progress.

For decades poverty and social insecurity have been the biggest challenge for our tribal communities. Left extremists

exploited these to spread their wings in our tribal areas. This resulted in a total disruption of growth and development in some of these areas. But the Modi government's zero-tolerance policy towards left-wing extremism has led to its near-complete elimination. Violence and unrest in our tribal areas have been replaced by development and peace.

The socio-economic development and empowerment of our tribal society and their political representation have always been an integral part of BJP's ideology. And today, under the leadership of PM Modi, India has Droupadi Murmu as its first tribal woman President. This is a shining example of PM Modi's resolute commitment to the empowerment of our tribal brothers and sisters. ■

**(The writer is Union Home Minister, Govt. of India)**

**Published on 24 July, 2022**



## BJP WILL COME TO RAJASTHAN WITH A THUMPING MAJORITY NEXT YEAR: JP NADDA

**A**head of the Assembly elections scheduled for next year, a three-day training camp of BJP Karyakartas was held at Mount Abu in Rajasthan on 11 July, 2022. Expressing confidence, Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda said that the guidance received from Mount Abu should be taken with positive energy to the karyakartas at the grassroots level, which will be instrumental in achieving 'Vijay Sankalp' of Mission 2023. Shri Nadda expressed this confidence in his address at the conclusion of the three-day Training Varg.

Several senior leaders of the party, including BJP National General Secretary (Org.) Shri BL Santosh, National General Secretary Shri Arun Singh, BJP Organizer Shri V Satish, Union Ministers Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Kailash Choudhary and Arjun Ram Meghwal, Rajasthan state BJP President Dr. Satish Poonia, leader of opposition in Rajasthan Assembly Shri Gulabchand Kataria, MPs, MLAs and office bearers of the party took part in the three-day training camp.

Further speaking to the karyakartas Shri Nadda said there have been different sessions held during this training. In which politics, organizational, Booth-Mandal empowerment, public welfare schemes of the Modi government, foreign policy, failure of the Congress government of the state etc. were discussed.

Shri Nadda said that he has full hope and belief that the knowledge and guidance received from Mount Abu, the holy place of Maa Arbuda Devi and Gyan Sarovar, will carry positive energy to the

karyakartas at the grassroots level and BJP will come in Rajasthan with a thumping majority next year. He said that training Varg is a continuous process of the party, it is an important factor in shaping our karyakartas. Except BJP, there is no such party in the country which organizes such systematic and disciplined training for its workers.

The BJP National President said our party does not have a culture of ruling, we all work like volunteers. Through the hard work of the karyakartas, we get respect, so the workers are our strength.

Shri Nadda said that BJP being a national party works for local aspirations while securing the national interests. He urged that a dialogue process should be maintained between public representatives and common men, and efforts should be made to solve their problems by listening to them. He said BJP is the only national party in India, the rest of the parties have been reduced to parivarvad, dynasty and individualism politics.

He said instead of worrying about what we got in the party, we should think about what we have given to the country and what we have given to the party. BJP is the only party that gives priority to Nation First. Our resolve should be that the country and the party will benefit only then we will progress in life as an individual. Whatever be the work, it should be completed on time.

On this occasion, Mewar Circle Tribal Society thanked Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi by handing over a letter to Shri JP Nadda for making Smt. Draupadi Murmu as the presidential candidate of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). ■

# BJP SWEEPS MADHYA PRADESH MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

The Bharatiya Janata Party has emerged victorious on 231 of a total 255 local bodies in the Municipal Elections of Madhya Pradesh. In these BJP won 65 Municipalities out of 76 and won 9 Mayoral posts.

According to the results of the first phase of polling which was held on 6 July, BJP won 7 Mayoral seats and in the second phase BJP won two seats. Out of the total 16 Corporations in the state, the BJP won nine and Congress five seats respectively. One seat went to AAP and another to Independent.

Congratulating the MP BJP workers PM Shri Narendra Modi in a tweet said, "Many thanks to all voters for reposing their faith in BJP in Madhya Pradesh Municipal Elections. This victory is a symbol of the unwavering faith of the people in the @ChouhanShivraj government of the state. Many congratulations to the party workers as well as all the winning candidates".

While BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said, "Congratulations to Shri @ChouhanShivraj ji, Shri @vdsharmabjp ji and all the workers of @BJP4MP for the grand victory of BJP in the Madhya Pradesh Municipal Elections! This victory



is the result of people trust in the public welfare policies of the state government under the guidance of respected Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji".

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan termed the Bharatiya Janata Party's performance in the local body polls in the state as historic, saying that people from urban and rural areas voted in favour of the ruling party. He said the party has won around 90 per cent seats in the Nagar Panchayat and Nagar Parishad polls and also performed very well in the Municipal Corporations as well. ■

## BJP EMERGES VICTORIOUS DIU MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

In a big success the Bharatiya Janata Party swept the Diu Municipal elections in the Daman and Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli Union Territory, winning all the 13 seats. The BJP secured all the 13 seats in the Diu Municipal election wherein the party had already bagged 6 of the 13 seats unopposed. On the remaining seven seats where elections took place, the BJP won all the seats, leaving no seat for its opposition. The result of these elections were announced on July 09.

Reacting to this, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda attributed the historic victory in Diu's municipal elections to the "unwavering faith of people" in Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision and the hard work of his party's union territory wing. Shri Nadda took to his Twitter and wrote, "Our party has secured all 13 wards in the Daman- Diu- Dadra Nagar Haveli municipal elections... This is all possible because of the unwavering faith of the people in the vision of Hon. PM Shri Narendra Modi and the hard work of BJP Daman and Diu Karyakartas ." ■

## ORGANISATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 21 July, 2022 made key appointments in few state units. As per a press release Shri Ajay Jamwal has been appointed as the Kshetriya General Secretary (Organisation) for Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. His centre will be Raipur.

Shri Nadda also appointed Shri Manthri Srinivasulu as General Secretary (Organisation) of Punjab and Chandigarh. Shri Rajesh G V was appointed as State General Secretary (Organisation) in Karnataka and Shri Satish Dhond was appointed as State Joint General Secretary (Organisation) of West Bengal. ■

# INDIA ACHIEVES MAJOR LANDMARK OF '200 CRORE' COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

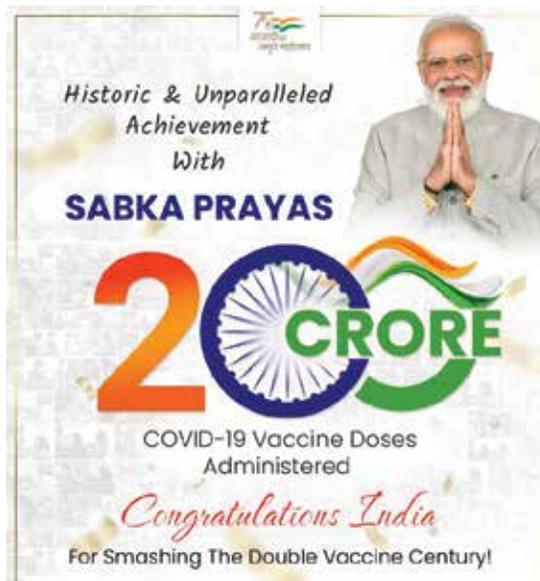
**PM Congratulates on crossing 200 Cr milestone of Covid Vaccination drive**

In a historic achievement, India's cumulative COVID-19 vaccination drive has surpassed the 200-Crore milestone on 17th July, 2022. India's COVID-19 vaccination coverage has exceeded 200 Cr (2,00,04,61,095) as per provisional reports till the morning of 18 July. This has been achieved through 2,63,34,227 sessions.

COVID-19 vaccination for the age group 12-14 years was started on 16 March, 2022. So far, more than 3.79 Cr (3,79,98,722) adolescents have been administered with the first dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Similarly, the COVID-19 precaution dose administration for age group 18-59 years also started from 10th April, 2022 onwards. In a tweet, Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the countrymen on bringing about this significant feat. He called India's vaccination drive "unparalleled in scale and speed".

Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya also congratulated the country on achieving this landmark in only 18 months. He stated that "this extraordinary achievement will be etched in history". Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Bharati Pravin Pawar also thanked the healthcare workers for their hard work, vision and innovation in setting a new record in the service of humanity.

India's nation-wide COVID-19 vaccination program was launched by Hon'ble PM on 16th January, 2021. Under his proactive and visionary leadership, India supported the research, development and manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines under the "Make-in-India" and "Make-for-World" Strategy, embarked on the use of cutting-edge technologies like CoWIN



for evaluating geographical coverage, tracking AEFI for vaccines, promoting inclusivity and for providing a single reference point for citizens to follow their vaccination schedule, and prioritized vaccine administration based on scientific evidence and global best practices.

India's free and voluntary nationwide COVID-19 vaccination exercise is also being carried out in a citizen friendly approach through initiatives like Har Ghar Dastak, Workplace CVC, School based vaccination, vaccination of

persons with no identity documents, Near-to-Home CVC and Mobile Vaccination Teams. With 71% of CVCs located in rural areas and over 51% of vaccine doses administered to women, India's National COVID-19 Vaccination Programme also ensured geographical and gender equity.

Despite the decline in COVID cases across the country, consistent efforts were ongoing to vaccinate all eligible citizens. This is exemplified by the fact that it took almost 9 months to reach the 100 Cr mark and another 9 months to reach the 200 Cr vaccination mark since the start of the vaccination drive on 16 Jan' 2021, with the highest single day vaccination record of 2.5 Cr doses achieved on 17 Sept 2021.

On 15th July 2022, the Union Government launched a 75 day long 'COVID Vaccination Amrit Mahotsav' to provide free precaution dose to all eligible adult population at Government COVID Vaccination Centres (CVCs). This special drive, part of the celebration for Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, is being implemented in a 'mission mode' to increase uptake of precaution dose of COVID vaccine. ■

## 4.14 CRORE ADOLESCENTS PROVIDED WEEKLY IRON FOLIC ACID SUPPLEMENTATION

**Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene is being implemented to promote menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls in 10-19 years age group**

Government of India has been working for ensuring women and child health. Progress made in the various interventions under Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram is as below:

Total 7203 Adolescent Friendly Health Clinics (AFHCs) have been established in the country; 52 lakh Adolescent clients received counselling and clinical services in AFHCs during 2021-22 .

4.14 crore Adolescents were provided Weekly Iron Folic Acid Supplementation tablets under the Weekly Iron and Folic Acid Supplementation (WIFS) Programme in 2021-22

The Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene is implemented to promote menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls in the age group of 10-19 years. 34.92 lakh adolescent girls have been covered every month under this scheme in FY 2021-22 both through the Centre and State budgets.

7.64 lakh Peer Educators (PEs) have been selected during the period of 2016-17 to 2020-21 and out of these, 5.46 lakh Peer Educators have been trained. A total of 1.46 Lakh Adolescent Health and Wellness Days (AHWDs) were held in FY 2021-22 for awareness creation in communities and stakeholders. ■

## CABINET APPROVES TARANGA HILL-AMBARI-ABU ROAD NEW RAIL LINE

**The connectivity to Ambari has been long pending demand of the people of the region**

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on July 13 chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the construction of Taranga Hill-Ambari- Abu Road new rail line to be constructed by Ministry of Railways at an estimated cost of Rs.2798.16 crore.

The total length of the new rail line will be 116.65 kms. The project will be completed by 2026-27. The project will generate direct employment during construction for about 40 lakh mandays.

In line with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji's

vision of a New India, the project is going to enhance connectivity and improve mobility leading to overall socio economic development of the region.

Ambari is a famous important pilgrimage destination and is one of the 51 Shaktipeeths in India and attracts millions of devotees every year. Further, the devotees visiting the Ajitnath Jain temple (one of the 24 holy Jain Tirthankaras) at Taranga Hill would also be greatly benefitted by this connectivity. This railway new line between Taranga Hill-Ambari- Abu Road will connect these two important religious sports with railway's main network.

This line will facilitate faster movement of agricultural and local products and also provide improved mobility of the people in the region within the state of Gujarat and Rajasthan and also to other parts of the country. ■

## 'JAGRITI' LAUNCHED TO EMPOWER CONSUMERS AND GENERATE AWARENESS TOWARDS CONSUMER RIGHTS

The Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) on 15 July has launched "Jagruti", a mascot for empowering consumers and generating awareness of their rights. Jagruti will be projected as an empowered consumer who is spreading awareness about consumer rights & addressing solutions to the problems faced by the consumers.

The "Jagruti" mascot will be used to generate consumer awareness about various themes of the Department like provisions of Consumer Protection Act 2019, Hallmarking, National Consumer Helpline toll free number 1915, provisions of weights & measures Act, decisions of the Central Consumer Protection Authority and testimonials by consumers on grievance redressal.

By bringing the Jagruti Mascot, DoCA aims to strengthen its consumer awareness campaign presence in digital and multimedia and reinforce a young empowered and informed consumer as a top-of-mind consumer rights awareness recall brand. ■

## GOVERNMENT TAKES VARIOUS MEASURES TO ENSURE QUALITY OF MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

The Government has taken various regulatory measures since 2019 to ensure the quality of medicines in the country. The key measures are as

under:

The Drugs Rules, 1945 were amended providing that every Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (bulk drug) manufactured or imported in India shall bear Quick Response Code on its label. The stored data or information shall include the minimum particulars including Unique product identification code, Batch No, Manufacturing date, Expiry Date.

The Drugs Rules, 1945 were amended. The manufacture for sale, sale and distribution of 80 Fixed Dose Combinations (FDCs) drugs in India were prohibited in public interest after consultation with the Drugs Technical Advisory Board.

220 additional posts of various levels have been created including Joint Drugs Controller, Deputy Drugs Controller, Asst. Drugs Controller and Drugs Inspector in the year 2022-23.

Further, Department of Pharmaceuticals has launched a scheme, namely, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP). Under the scheme, Generic Medicines are sold through dedicated outlets namely Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs). It is an initiative of Government of India towards making an impact on common masses to provide quality medicines at affordable prices. As on 30.06.2022, 8,742 Janaushadhi Kendras have been opened across the country and the product basket of PMBJP comprises 1,616 drugs and 250 surgical items.

The Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar stated this in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha on 19 July.

### **HIGHEST PROCUREMENT OF ONIONS OF 2.50 LAKH TONS FOR BUFFER STOCK DONE FROM FARMERS IN 2022-23**

Beating past records, the Centre has procured 2.50 lakh tons of onion for the buffer in 2022-23. The onion buffer size in current year is 0.50 lakh tons higher than the 2.0 lakh tons created during 2021-22. The onions were procured from current rabi harvest for the price stabilisation buffer. The stocks have been procured by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) from farmers through the Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) in rabi onion growing states of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.

To address the post-harvest losses of onions including loss on account of sub-optimal storage and processing, the Department of Consumer Affairs has announced a Grand Challenge for development of "Technologies for Primary Processing, Storage and Valorisation of Onions". The Department of Consumer Affairs is engaging with students, researchers and start-ups to develop a strategy for minimising post-harvest losses in onions. ■

### **INDIA ATTRACTS 516% HIGHER FDI EQUITY INFLOW IN R&D SECTOR DURING 2021**

#### **Karnataka is the top FDI Equity recipient state in R&D followed by Telangana and Haryana**

- Singapore is the top investing country in R&D with 40% share of total FDI Equity in R&D followed by Germany and U.S.A
- Robust and growing R&D sector to benefit the economy by driving innovation, increasing productivity, thereby leading to higher economic growth

India attracted USD 343.64 million FDI equity inflow in R&D sector during C.Y. 2021 (Calendar Year) which is 516% higher as compared to previous C.Y. 2020 (USD 55.77 million). FDI is permitted under 100% automatic route in R&D sector subject to applicable laws/regulations, security and other conditionalities.

Karnataka is the top FDI Equity recipient state in R&D during C.Y. 2021 followed by Telangana and Haryana. The following states showed growth of more than 250% during C.Y. 2021 compared to previous C.Y. 2020: Telangana, Karnataka, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh & Tamilnadu.

Singapore is the top investing country in R&D during C.Y. 2021 with 40% share of total FDI Equity in R&D followed by Germany (35%) and U.S.A (11%). Further, FDI Equity inflow from several countries like Germany, Mauritius, France, Singapore, Oman and U.S.A. showed an increase of more than 200% as compared to previous C.Y. 2020. ■

### **MINERAL PRODUCTION GOES UP BY 10.9% IN MAY 2022**

The index of mineral production of mining and quarrying sector for the month of May, 2022

## PM UNVEILS NATIONAL EMBLEM CAST ON THE ROOF OF NEW PARLIAMENT BUILDING

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi unveiled the National Emblem cast on the roof of the New Parliament Building on 11 July, 2022.

The Prime Minister tweeted: "This morning, I had the honour of unveiling the National Emblem cast on the roof of the new Parliament."

The Prime Minister also interacted with the 'Shramjeevis' involved in the work of the new Parliament.

"I had a wonderful interaction with the Shramjeevis who have been involved in the making of the Parliament. We are proud of their efforts and will always remember

their contribution to our nation."

The National Emblem is made of bronze with a total weight of 9500 Kg and is 6.5 m in height. It has been cast at the top of the Central Foyer of New Parliament Building. A supporting structure of steel weighing around 6500 Kg has been constructed to support the Emblem.

The concept sketch and process of casting of the National Emblem on the roof of New Parliament Building has gone through eight different stages of preparation from clay modeling/ computer graphic to bronze casting and polishing. ■



(Base: 2011-12=100) at 120.1, was 10.9% higher as compared to the level in the month of May, 2021. The cumulative growth for the period April- May, 2022-23 over the corresponding period of previous year has increased 9.4 percent.

As per the provisional figures of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), production level of important minerals in May, 2022 were: Coal 712 lakh tonnes, Lignite 42 lakh tonnes, Natural gas (utilized) 2846 million cu. m., Petroleum (crude) 26 lakh tonnes, Bauxite 2276 thousand tonnes, Chromite 320 thousand tonnes, Copper conc. 8 thousand tonnes, Gold 97 kg, Iron ore 221 lakh tonnes, Lead conc. 30 thousand tonnes, Manganese ore 235 thousand tonnes, Zinc conc. 129 thousand tonnes, Limestone 348 lakh tonnes, Phosphorite 143 thousand tonnes, Magnesite 8 thousand tonnes, and Diamond 22 carat. ■

### INDIA'S AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS UP BY 14%

Continuing with the trend from the previous year, the exports of agricultural and processed

food products rose by 14 percent in the first three months of the current Financial Year 2022-23 (April-June) compared to the corresponding period of FY 2021-22.

For the year 2022-23, the government had set an export target of USD 23.56 billion for the agricultural and processed food products basket under APEDA. The exports of fresh fruits & vegetables registered 8.6 percent growth, while processed food products like cereals and miscellaneous processed items reported an impressive growth of 36.4 percent (April-June 2022-23) compared to corresponding months of the previous year. In April-June, 2021, fresh fruits and vegetables were exported to the tune of USD 642 million that increased to USD 697 million in the corresponding months of the current fiscal. Other cereals' export increased from USD 237 million in April-June 2021 to USD 306 million in April-June 2022 and the export of meat, dairy and poultry products increased from USD 1023 million in April-June 2021 to USD 1120 million in April-June 2022. ■

# SRI AUROBINDO : REVOLUTIONARY AND SPIRITUALIST

**A**urobindo Ghosh was born to surgeon Krishna Dhan Ghose and Swarnalata Devi in Calcutta on August 15, 1872. Eminent writer Raj Narayan Bose was Aurobindo's maternal grandfather. Aurobindo Ghose was a multifaceted person. He was a freedom fighter, poet, scholar, yogi and philosopher. He spent his life working towards the cause of India's freedom, and for further evolution of life on earth.

With his two brothers, he was given an entirely Western education by their Anglophile father. After infant schooling at a convent in Darjeeling, they were taken to England to live with a clergyman's family in Manchester. From there they joined St. Paul's public school in West London, and later went on to Cambridge University.

Sri Aurobindo was a brilliant scholar, winning record marks in the Classical Tripos examination. But he had already been touched by a will for the Independence of India, and did not wish to become an official of the colonial administration. He managed to disqualify himself by failing to take the mandatory riding test and instead returned to India in 1893 in the service of the Indian princely State of Baroda, where he remained up to 1906.

In that year he returned to his birthplace, Calcutta, as the first Principal of the new Bengal National College. He resigned that post because of his increasingly active involvement in the Nationalist Movement. He edited the English daily 'Bande Mataram' and wrote fearless and pointed editorials. He openly advocated the boycott of British goods, British courts and everything British. He asked the people to prepare themselves for passive resistance.

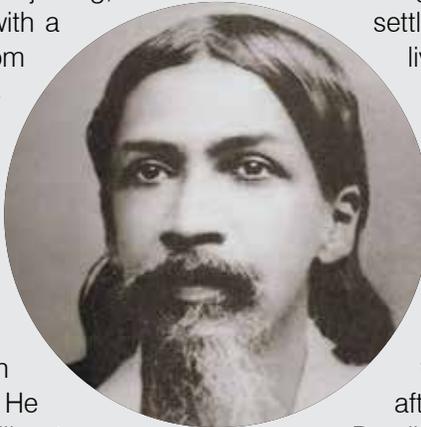
Sri Aurobindo was the first of the Nationalist leaders to insist on full independence for India as the goal of the movement, and for several years he lent all his considerable abilities and energies to this struggle. The famous Alipore Bomb Case proved to be a turning point in Sri Aurobindo Ghosh's life. This led to him being arrested on a charge of treason and being kept in solitary confinement for almost a year as an 'under

trial' prisoner in Alipore jail. During this time he had a number of fundamental spiritual experiences which convinced him of the truth of the "Sanatana Dharma" – the ancient spiritual knowledge and practice of India.

After he was acquitted and released, this spiritual awareness led him to take refuge from continuing pursuit by the British authorities in Pondicherry, then part of French India, where he devoted himself intensively to the exploration of the new possibilities it opened up to him. He reached Pondicherry in 1910 and soon started getting followers and devotees who settled down at the place where Aurobindo lived and eventually a spiritual Ashram came up. Supported by his spiritual collaborator, the Mother and using his new-found spiritual capacities, he continued to work tirelessly for the upliftment of India and the world.

Apart from 'Life Divine', which was his best known work, he also wrote several other works. In 1914 after four years of concentrated yoga at Pondicherry, Sri Aurobindo launched Arya, a 64 page monthly review. For the next six and a half years this became the vehicle for most of his most important writings, which appeared in serialized form. These included Essays on The Gita, The Secret of The Veda, Hymns to the Mystic Fire, The Upanishads, The Foundations of Indian Culture, War and Self-determination, The Human Cycle, The Ideal of Human Unity, and The Future Poetry.

Sri Aurobindo's philosophy is based on facts, experience and personal realizations and on having the vision of a seer or Rishi. Aurobindo's spirituality was inseparably united with reason. The goal of Sri Aurobindo was not merely the liberation of the individual from the chain that fetters him and realization of the self, but to work out the will of the Divine in the world, to effect a spiritual transformation and to bring down the divine nature and a divine life into the mental, vital and physical nature and life of humanity. Sri Aurobindo left the mortal world on December 5, 1950 at Pondicherry at the age of 78. ■



# PM UNVEILS 'SPRINT CHALLENGES'

## WILL BOOST THE USAGE OF INDIGENOUS TECHNOLOGY IN INDIAN NAVY

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 18 July unveiled 'SPRINT Challenges', aimed at giving a boost to the usage of indigenous technology in Indian Navy, during Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) seminar 'Swavlamban' in New Delhi on July 18, 2022. In a bid to achieve 'Aatmanirbharta' in defence and as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', NIIO, in conjunction with the Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO), aims to induct at least 75 new indigenous technologies/products into the Indian Navy. This collaborative project is named SPRINT {Supporting Pole-Vaulting in R&D through Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX), NIIO and Technology Development Acceleration Cell (TDAC)}.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said the goal of self-reliance in the Indian defence forces is very important for India of the 21st century. Organizing the first 'Swavlamban' (self-reliance) seminar for a self-reliant Navy is an important step in this direction. The Prime Minister said that the resolution of creating 75 indigenous technologies in this



period of making new resolutions for India is inspiring in itself and he expressed confidence that it will be fulfilled very soon. "We have to work to continuously increase the number of indigenous technologies. Your goal should be that when India celebrates 100 years of its independence, at that time our Navy should be at an unprecedented height", he added.

Referring to the importance of oceans and coasts in India's economy, Shri Narendra Modi said, the role of the Indian Navy is continuously increasing and

therefore its self-reliance is of critical importance.

Shri Narendra Modi stressed the self-reliant defence system is critical for the economy and also from the strategic point of view. He said the country has worked in mission mode to reduce this dependence after 2014. He remarked that the Government has given new strength to our public sector defence companies by organising them in different sectors. Today, we are making sure that we connect our premier institutions like IITs with defence research and innovation. ■

## 166 NEW CNG STATIONS OPENED ACROSS 14 STATES

Taking a significant step towards building a Natural Gas-based economy as envisioned by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep Singh Puri on 15 July dedicated 166 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations to service of the community. These CNG stations have been set up by GAIL (India) Limited and nine of its

group City Gas Distribution (CGD) companies in 41 Geographical Areas (GAs) across 14 states.

The stations were dedicated via video link by Shri Puri at a function here in the presence of Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Labour and Employment Shri Rameswar Teli, Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas Shri Pankaj Jain and senior officials of the Ministry and Oil and Gas companies. ■



## PM INAUGURATES DEOGHAR AIRPORT

LAYS FOUNDATION STONE OF VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WORTH 16,800 CRORES

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various developmental projects worth more than Rs 16,800 crores in Deoghar on 12 July. Governor of Jharkhand, Shri Ramesh Bais, Chief Minister Shri Hemant Soren, Union Minister Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, State ministers and people's representatives were among those present on the occasion. .

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that with the blessings of Baba Baidyanath, projects worth more than Rs 16,000 crore have been inaugurated and the foundation stone has been laid today. These are going to give a huge impetus to Jharkhand's modern connectivity, energy, health, faith and tourism.

The Prime Minister remarked that the country has been working with the thinking of development of the nation by the development of the states since last 8 year. In the last 8 years, in the efforts to connect Jharkhand by highways, railways, airways, waterways, in every way, the same thinking and spirit have been paramount. All these facilities will positively impact the economic development of the state.

The Prime Minister said that today, Jharkhand is getting its second airport. This will lead to tremendous ease for devotees of Baba Baidyanath. In the context of making air travel affordable for the common man through the UDAN scheme, the Prime Minister noted that today the benefits of the efforts of the government are visible across the country. About

70 new locations have been added through airports, heliports and water aerodromes in the last 5-6 years under the UDAN scheme. Today, ordinary citizens are getting the facility of air travel on more than 400 new routes. More than 1 crore people have experienced very affordable air travel, many for the first time. The Prime Minister expressed happiness that the flight from Deoghar to Kolkata started today and flights for Ranchi, Delhi and Patna will start soon. Work is on for airports in Bokaro and Dumka, he said.

The Prime Minister said along with connectivity, the central government is also focussing on the creation of facilities at important places related to faith and spirituality in the country. Modern facilities have also been expanded in Baba Baidyanath Dham under the PRASAD scheme. When a holistic approach guides the projects, new avenues of income come for various segments of the society and new facilities create new opportunities.

Shri Modi also highlighted the benefits of the country's effort to enhance the gas-based economy for the state of Jharkhand. He said that PM Urja Ganga Yojana is changing the old picture. "We are taking many historic decisions for converting deprivation into opportunities', he said. The Bokaro-Angul section of Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra pipeline of GAIL will expand the city gas distribution network in 11 districts of Jharkhand and Odisha.

The Prime Minister said we are following the mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas



and Sabka Prayas'. New avenues of development, employment-self-employment are being discovered by investing in infrastructure. We have laid emphasis on aspiration for development, focused on aspirational districts, he said, underlining the benefits of these initiatives for Jharkhand. He said most of the 18,000 villages which were electrified so long after independence are in inaccessible and remote areas. Government has worked in mission mode in the last 8 years to bring tap water, roads and gas connection, he said.

## DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN DEOGHAR

As a key step to provide direct connectivity to Baba Baidyanath Dham, which is an important religious destination for devotees from all over the country, the Prime Minister inaugurated the Deoghar Airport. It has been constructed at an estimated cost of around Rs. 400 crore. The Terminal Building of the airport is equipped to handle over five lakhs passengers annually.



AIIMS in Deoghar is a boon for the healthcare sector of the entire region. The services at AIIMS Deoghar will get a further boost as the Prime Minister will dedicate to the nation the In-Patient Department (IPD) and Operation Theatre services at AIIMS, Deoghar.

The Prime Minister inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple road projects worth more than Rs. 10,000 crores. The projects that were inaugurated include six laning of Gorhar to Barwada section of NH-2; widening of Rajganj - Chas upto West Bengal border section of NH-32 among others. The major projects whose foundation stone were laid include four laning of Mirzachowki- Farakka section of NH-80; four laning of Hariharganj to Parwa More section of NH-98; four laning of Palma to Gumla section of NH-23; Elevated corridor of Kutchery Chowk to Piska More section of NH-75 among others. These projects will provide a further boost to connectivity in the region and ensure ease of movement for the common people.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various energy infrastructure projects around Rs. 3000 crore for the region. Projects that were inaugurated include the Bokaro - Angul section of Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra pipeline of GAIL; New LPG Bottling plant of HPCL at Barhi, Hazaribagh and Bokaro LPG Bottling plant of BPCL. Foundation stone of Parbatpur Gas Collecting Station, Jharia Block, Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Asset of ONGC were laid.

The Prime Minister dedicated two Railway projects viz. Godda - Hansdiha Electrified Section and Garhwa-Mahuria Doubling project to the nation. ■



## “BIG AND BOLD DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN THIS VIDHAN SABHA BUILDING”

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the closing ceremony of the Centenary celebrations of the Bihar Legislative Assembly in Patna on 12 July. The Prime Minister inaugurated Shatabdi Smriti Stambh which has been built to commemorate 100 years of Bihar Vidhan Sabha. He also laid the foundation stone of the Vidhan Sabha museum. Different galleries in the museum will demonstrate the history of democracy in Bihar and the evolution of the current civic structure. It will also have a Conference Hall with more than 250 people capacity. The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of the Vidhan Sabha guest house on the occasion. Governor of Bihar, Shri Phagu Chauhan, and Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar were among those present on the occasion

### PM ADDRESSES CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS OF BIHAR LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said it is the nature of Bihar that the one who loves Bihar, Bihar returns that love manifold. “Today I have also got the privilege of being the first Prime Minister of the country to visit the Bihar Vidhan Sabha Complex. I bow to the people of Bihar for this affection”, he said. The Prime Minister said that the Shatabdi Smriti Stambh will inspire myriad aspirations of Bihar.

Recalling the glorious history of the Bihar Assembly, the Prime Minister said big and bold decisions have been taken in the Vidhan Sabha building here one after the other. Before independence, Governor Satyendra Prasanna Sinha had appealed from this assembly to encourage indigenous industries and the adoption of Swadeshi

Charkha. After independence, the Zamindari Abolition Act was passed in this assembly. Taking this tradition forward, Nitish ji's government passed an act like Bihar Panchayati Raj making Bihar the first state where women were given 50 per cent reservation in Panchayats, he recalled. “This Assembly is an example of how equal participation and equal rights are pursued in democracy to social life”, the Prime Minister remarked.

The Prime Minister reiterated that mother of democracy in the world is India. India is the mother of Democracy. And the glorious heritage of Bihar and the historical documents present in Pali are living proof of this. No one can erase or hide this splendour of Bihar, he insisted. “This building has strengthened Indian democracy for the last hundred years, hence it deserves our homage. This building is associated with that consciousness which did not allow dissipation of democratic value even during the period of slavery”, he added.

Marking the 21st century as the century of India the Prime Minister said “for India, this century is the century of duties. We have to reach the golden goal of New India in this century, in the next 25 years. Our duties will take us to these goals. Therefore, these 25 years are the years of walking on the path of duty for the country.” Shri Modi elaborated “we should not consider our duties as separate from our rights. The more we work for our duties, the stronger our rights will get. Our loyalty to duty is the guarantee of our rights.” ■

# AGNIPATH SCHEME WILL INFUSE NEW VIGOUR IN OUR DEFENCE SERVICES



TARUN CHUGH

The geo-strategic location of India with such hostile neighbours necessitates that India should have an army which is modern, state-of-the-art and ready to fight and protect the borders of the country. We lost the 1962 war with China primarily because of ill-preparedness and lack of the state of the art defence equipment.

The defence of any country depends upon the professionalism, competitiveness and efficiency of its soldiers. Territorial integrity and defence of any country depends more upon the morale and fitness of soldiers than on anything. If I tell you that 60% of the budget of the Indian army goes to salary and pension and only 40% is left for its capital and modernisation, it will make you think that we are repeating the blunders of 1962 without learning any lessons from it.

The Modi Government recently announced the historical structural-reforms in the field of recruitment of army wherein Personnel recruited under the Agnipath scheme are termed as Agniveers. Of the 45,000 to 50,000 recruited annually, 25 % will be absorbed in the army to continue for another 15 years under permanent commission.

Under Agnipath scheme, non-officer cadre army personnel would be recruited on a short-term contractual basis. Out of the total recruited, 75% leaving the

service will be given a lump sum amount of 11.71L (corpus built by 50pc contribution by govt., 50 pc by personnel and interest earned). Recently, India has witnessed protest for the sake of protest on any 'change' which the Modi government is trying to bring for short-term as well as long term benefit of India. There is no logic or sanity in such protests. Burning trains, buses, public properties and other assets smack of the anti-national elements fuelling the protests and jeopardising the much sought after reforms. They are playing in the hands of anti-India forces undermining national security. Can we think of a probable situation in which any of such protestors joining the Indian army where discipline and protecting the national assets are prioritised over even personal-life?

The Agnipath system will have a new kind of recruitment compared to ongoing age-long procedures. There is a consensus among all the defence experts that India's defence needs an overhaul structural reform. It is fact that the average age-limit of the Indian army is higher than the global standards. This new scheme will bring about desired changes.

On an average the career settlement of a youth happens at the age of 29-30. Agniveer scheme will give you job cum skills starting at an age of 17. This will significantly reduce the average age of Indian soldiers from 32 to 24-26 years which definitely will manifest in the health of the Indian defence system. The Agniveers will get Rs

30,000-45,000 per month as salary. At the age of 17, you are getting such a salary with other collateral benefits. They will get a preference in government jobs as announced by many states. Also there will be 10 % reservation of posts in the Home and Defence ministries for Agniveers.

This will considerably reduce the defence pension bill which eats up a lion's share of the defence budget. The National Institute of Open Schooling has announced that it will provide special courses for the Agniveers associated with the project to get class 10th and 12th pass certificates. This certificate can be used for entering higher education across the country.

It will bring about professionalism and competitiveness as the 25% chosen will be the best lot in terms of skill, agility and fitness. The remaining 75% will be a pool of trained, skilled and equipped men-power who are ready to face the world with all the required skills and knowledge. In the next 8 years, 140,000 people will be available who are well trained for defence and can be utilized for the country in an emergency situation. It will create a Pan-India regiment having an all India-complexion.

The Army is not an employment generating avenue. We join the army primarily to serve the country and protect the country and if need be make sacrifices for the country. When someone protests just for protesting, it is the worst kind of disservice to the country.

**(The writer is National General Secretary of BJP)**



BY VIKASH ANAND

# I2U2 SUMMIT HELD VIRTUALLY AIMS TO BRING PROSPERITY THROUGH CLEAN TECH

## WHAT IS I2U2?

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated virtually in the first Summit of I2U2 on July 14 along with the Prime Minister of Israel, Yair Lapid, the President of the UAE, and the President of the United States of America. The I2U2 was conceived during a meeting of the four countries' foreign ministers in October of last year. Previously, it was a trilateral grouping that included India, Israel, and the United Arab Emirates. After the addition of the United States, it became a group of four countries. Here, I2 stands for India and Israel, and U2 stands for the USA and UAE. It aims to encourage joint investments in six mutually identified areas: water, energy, transportation, space, health, and food security. This quadrilateral alignment aims to mobilize private sector capital and deploy it in a variety of areas of economic cooperation, bringing greater prosperity and sustainable development to these countries. According to Indian Ministry of External Affairs sources, one of the most important is expertise: "Deploy expertise to modernize infrastructure, pursue pathways for low carbon development for our industries, improve public health and access to vaccines, advance physical connectivity between Middle Eastern countries, jointly create new waste treatment solutions, explore joint financing opportunities, connect our start-ups to I2U2 investments, and these initial project areas, can serve as a model for economic cooperation and offer opportunities for our business people and workers in this field.

## WHAT HAPPENED AT THIS FIRST SUMMIT?

The Prime Minister had a very purposeful conversation with the other I2U2 leaders at the summit on strengthening economic ties in our respective regions and beyond, which included discussions on promoting specific projects, specific joint projects, and discussions on common sectoral areas for the benefit of the respective countries



and regions. I2U2's joint statement emphasizes collaboration in two projects, the first on food security and the second on clean energy. The joint statement says the UAE—home to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)—will invest \$2 billion USD to develop a series of integrated food parks across India that will incorporate state-of-the-art climate-smart technologies to reduce food waste and spoilage, conserve fresh water, and employ renewable energy sources. India will provide appropriate land for the project and will facilitate farmers' integration into the food parks. The U.S. and Israeli private sectors will be invited to lend their expertise and offer innovative solutions that contribute to the overall sustainability of the project. These investments will help increase crop yields, thereby reducing food insecurity in South Asia and the Middle East.

In terms of clean energy, the I2U2 Group will advance a hybrid renewable energy project in India's Gujarat State that will include 300 MW of wind and solar capacity complemented by a battery energy storage system. A feasibility study for the \$330 million USD project was funded by the US Trade and Development Agency. Companies based in the UAE are looking for ways to serve as critical knowledge and investment partners. Israel and the US plan to collaborate with the UAE and India to highlight private sector opportunities. Indian companies are eager to participate in this project and help India reach its goal

of 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030. Such initiatives have the potential to turn India into a global hub for alternative supply chains in the renewable energy sector.

### **ASIDE FROM THE TWO PROJECTS MENTIONED ABOVE, WHAT OTHER ISSUES HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO LIGHT?**

Aside from these two specific projects, the I2U2 leaders discussed how to modernise infrastructure, including connectivity, how to pursue low-carbon development pathways, areas of public health, waste treatment solutions, and connecting start-ups to the I2U2 investment platform and the FinTech sector. Prime Minister Shri Modi emphasised the importance and feasibility of expanding the UPI payment system across the I2U2 areas in the FinTech sector.

### **WHAT IS THE AIM FOR CLIMATE, IN WHICH INDIA HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST?**

Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate Initiative is abbreviated as AIM for Climate. The Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (AIM4C) is a joint initiative of the United States and the United Arab Emirates, according to the newly established climate regime's website. Over the next five years, AIM for Climate will bring together participants to significantly increase investment in, and other support for, climate-smart agriculture and food system innovation (2021–2025). The leaders of the grouping welcomed India's interest in joining the United States, the UAE, and Israel in the Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate initiative (AIM for Climate). They emphasised that these are only the first steps in a long-term strategic partnership to promote initiatives and investments that improve the movement of people and goods across hemispheres while also increasing sustainability and resilience through collaborative science and technology partnerships.

### **THE SUMMIT IN A NUTSHELL**

In a nutshell, the summit deliberation was very productive, and it saw the emergence of a new evolving mechanism in cooperation among I2U2 partners and other stakeholders in the regions. ■

## **MONSOON SESSION OF PARLIAMENT-2022 BEGINS 'MAKE THE HOUSE AS MUCH PRODUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL AS POSSIBLE'**

Addressing the media persons on July 18, 2022 on the commencement of Monsoon Session of Parliament, PM Shri Narendra Modi said this period is extremely significant as we are celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. August 15 holds special significance; and after 25 years when the country celebrates the centenary of Indian Independence, we should plan on how our journey of 25 years should be like; how fast can we stride ahead and how can we reach newer heights? This period is about making such resolutions and giving a direction to the nation by being devoted to those resolutions. The House should lead the country.



All the honourable members of the House should become instrumental in instilling new energy into the nation. Therefore, this session is also very important from that point of view.

Shri Modi said we always consider the House as an efficient medium of communication, a pilgrimage centre where a dialogue and discussion can take place with an open mind. Debates, criticism and a detailed analysis of things also take place to make a very positive contribution to policies and decisions. I would urge all the respected MPs to make the House as much productive and fruitful as possible with deep thinking and a deep and detailed discussion. I just hope that as 15th August is approaching, we should ensure that the House is used most positively in the best possible way. ■



**BJP CHIEF MINISTERS COUNCIL MEETING AT BJP HQ, NEW DELHI**

## PM MODI INTERACTS WITH CMs AND DEPUTY CMs OF BJP/NDA RULED STATES

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi interacted with all 12 CMs and 8 Deputy CMs of BJP/NDA ruled States in BJP Chief Ministers Council Meeting at BJP Office in Delhi on 24 July, 2022. BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda was also present in the meeting. The last such meeting was held in Varanasi in December 2021.

During the meeting, the Prime Minister emphasized the better implementation of some of the key schemes and initiatives of the government viz. Gati Shakti, Har Ghar Jal, Svamitva, DBT implementation, Government e-Marketplace, especially in the BJP ruled states. Talking about rural areas, he spoke about the significance of Gobardhan and the need to further popularize the initiative. He underlined the positive impact of nano-fertilizers on crop productivity and spoke about increasing their usage. He stressed the need to ensure saturation-level coverage of all key schemes and said that BJP-ruled states should take a lead towards this.

The PM put significant emphasis on the need to ensure ease of doing business. He spoke about several initiatives taken by the government towards this. He encouraged states to take steps towards

further boosting the business environment in the country.

Shri Modi asked the CMs to ensure that their states accord due importance to sports and ensure the provision of the best facilities for encouraging participation and engagement of youth in large numbers. He emphasized that BJP-ruled states should aim to become known for their sporting culture. He also talked about the significance of all towns, villages and cities celebrating their foundation days. Shri Modi also said all CMs committed to strive to convert Azadi ka Amrit Kaal into an era of Antyodaya through Good Governance.

During the meeting, progress of various welfare schemes and development programs of the central government in these states were reviewed. Strategies to ensure last-mile delivery of welfare schemes, usage of e-governance systems to ensure greater accountability with zero pilferage, prioritizing outreach of schemes to remote areas and achieving 100% coverage of eligible beneficiaries were discussed.

The progress of the Amrit Sarovar Mission and preparation for the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign were reviewed. ■

## 750 SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE WORKING ON 75 SMALL SATELLITES AS PART OF AMRIT MAHOTSAV: PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on 26 June, addressed the 90th episode of his monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat. PM in the address mentions the agency named, 'In-Space'. He said there is hardly any of us who, in one's life, has not had fantasies about the sky. PM added, "During one's childhood, stories of the moon and stars in the sky attract everyone. For the youth, touching the sky is synonymous with making dreams come true. Today, when our India is touching the sky of success in so many fields, how can the skies, or space, remain untouched by it! In the past few years, many big feats related to the space sector have been accomplished in our country. One of these achievements of the country has been the creation of an agency named In-Space... an agency that is promoting new opportunities in the space sector for the private sector of India. This beginning has especially attracted the youth of our country. I have received messages related to this from many young people."

"A few days ago, when I had gone to dedicate to the people the headquarters of In-Space, I saw the ideas and enthusiasm of many young start-ups. I also talked to them for a long time. You too will not be able to help being surprised when you learn about them. For example, take just the number and speed of space start-ups. Till a few years ago, in our country, in the space sector, no one even thought about start-ups. Today their number is more than a hundred. All these start-ups are working on ideas that were either not thought about earlier or considered impossible for the private sector. For example, Chennai and



Till a few years ago, in our country, in the space sector, no one even thought about start-ups. Today their number is more than a hundred. All these start-ups are working on ideas that were either not thought about earlier or considered impossible for the private sector

Hyderabad have two start-ups – Agnikul and Skyroot! These start-ups are developing launch vehicles that will take small payloads into space. Through this, the cost of Space Launching is estimated to come down significantly. Similarly, Dhruva Space, another Start-Up of Hyderabad, is working on High

Technology Solar Panels for Satellite Deployer and Satellites. I also met Tanveer Ahmed of Digantara, another space start-up who is trying to map waste in space. I have also given him a challenge that they should evolve work technology, which can solve the problem of waste in space. Both Digantara and Dhruva Space are going to make their first launch from ISRO's launch vehicle on the 30th of June. Similarly, Neha, the founder of Astrome, a space start-up based in Bangalore, is also working on an amazing

idea. This start-up is making such flat antennas which will not only be small, but their cost will also be very low. Demand for this technology can be all over the world."

PM minister further shared his experience of a programme of In-Space. He stated that he met Tanvi Patel, a Mehsana school student, during the programme. She is currently working on a very small satellite that will be launched into space in the coming months. Tanvi explained her work to him in Gujarati. The PM stated that, like Tanvi, approximately 750 school students across the country are working on 75 such satellites as part of the Amrit Mahotsav. PM expressed delight that the majority of these students come from small towns across the country. ■

# PM MODI INAUGURATES 296 KM-LONG BUNDELKHAND EXPRESSWAY IN UP

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on July 16, 2022 inaugurated the 296-km-long Bundelkhand Expressway, which passes through seven districts of Uttar Pradesh and has been constructed at a cost of around Rs 14,850 crore. The PM laid the foundation stone for the construction of the expressway on February 29, 2020 and it was completed in about 28 months.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath welcomed Shri Narendra Modi by offering him a local 'Bundeli' stole at the inauguration ceremony at Kaitheri village in Orai tehsil of Jalaun district.

It extends from NH-35 at Gonda village near Bharatkoop in Chitrakoot district to near Kudrail village in Etawah district, where it merges with the Agra-

Lucknow Expressway. The four-lane expressway, which can be later expanded into six lanes, passes through seven districts -- Chitrakoot, Banda, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Auraiya and Etawah.

Besides improving connectivity in the region, the government expects the Bundelkhand Expressway to give a major boost to economic development and create thousands of jobs for the local people. Work on creating an industrial corridor in Banda and Jalaun districts, next to the Expressway has already been started.

Inaugurating the expressway, PM Shri Modi said the way UP is getting modernized under the double-engine government is really unprecedented. In UP, it took 40 years to complete the Saryu canal project, Gorakhpur fertilizer plant



was closed for 30 years, it took 12 years to complete the Arjun Dam project, there was only a board outside the Amethi rifle factory and the Rae Bareilly Rail Coach Factory was not manufacturing coaches but was only decorating and refurbishing the coaches. Today, the infrastructure work is being done so seriously in UP that it has left even developed states behind. Now the identity of UP is changing all over the country. ■



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PM Shri Narendra Modi inaugurates the Deoghar Airport and various other development initiatives, in Jharkhand on July 12, 2022



PM Shri Narendra Modi at the closing ceremony of the Centenary celebrations of Bihar Legislative Assembly in Patna on July 12, 2022



PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing the media ahead of the Monsoon Session of Parliament in New Delhi on July 18, 2022



PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing the I2U2 virtual Summit in New Delhi on July 14, 2022



PM Shri Narendra Modi inaugurates the Bundelkhand Expressway at Jalaun, Uttar Pradesh on July 16, 2022



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

36 Pages with Cover  
RNI No. DELENG/2006/16838

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India's Agriculture and Processed  
Food Products exports soaring higher

\$5256  
Million



14%

\$5987  
Million

April-June  
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April-June  
2022-2023



India's Exports  
Increase by 25% in Q1

\$151.75  
Billion

\$189.93  
Billion

April-June 2021

April-June 2022



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516%

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Million

2020

2021



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