

KAMAL SANDESH

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'FOR THE BJP, IT IS ALWAYS NATION FIRST'



On the occasion of BJP's 44th Sthapna Diwas, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda paying floral tributes to Dr Shyama Prasad Mookerjee & Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya at BJP Central Office (Ext.), Delhi on April 6, 2023



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda welcoming Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to the inauguration of the Newly Constructed extension campus of BJP Central Office at Deendayal Upadhyaya Marg, Delhi on March 28, 2023



BJP National President Shri JP Nadda presiding at the BJP Madhya Pradesh State Core Committee Meeting in Bhopal on March 26, 2023



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah while addressing a massive public meeting in Nawada, Bihar on April 2, 2023



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah along with UP CM Yogi Adityanath inaugurating various development works at Azamgarh, UP on April 7, 2023



Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh addressing a gathering after releasing the Hindi translation of Shri Ramcharitmanas in Delhi on April 4, 2023

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SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

@Narendramodi

Corruption has a negative impact on development and the aspirations of the poor. Hence, it is important all forms of corruption be removed forever.

(3 April, 2023)



@JPNadda

As we celebrate #7YearsOfStandUpIndia, I congratulate PM Modi ji for his dedication to promoting #Women Empowerment and empowering marginalized communities. It has been instrumental in providing financial assistance, promoting inclusive growth & creating job opportunities in India.

(5 April, 2023)



@AmitShah

The state government is unable to control the violence happening in Bihar. Because the government in which the party of Lalu ji, the pioneer of Jungle Raj, is involved, can that government bring peace in the state?

(2 April, 2023)



@Rajnathsingh

India's defence exports have reached an all-time high of Rs 15, 920 crore in FY 2022-2023. It is a remarkable achievement for the country. Under the inspiring leadership of PM Shri @narendramodi, our defence exports will continue to grow exponentially.

(1 April, 2023)



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In the last 8 years, Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) has transformed the entrepreneurial landscape of India, fulfilling the long cherished dream of many youths and greatly contributed towards the nation's growth trajectory.

(8 April, 2023)



@BSanthosh

Rattled, riddled with corruption charges, facing electoral reverses @BRSparty & its leadership is a sinking boat. They have touched a raw nerve by arresting @BJP4Telangana State President & MP @bandisanjay_bjp. This will be the last nail on their political existence.

(5 April, 2023)



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AKSHAYA TRITIYA (22 APRIL)

to all of its readers



BJP BELIEVES IN HARD WORK, COMMITMENT, DEDICATION, AND SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE NATION

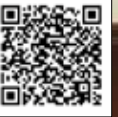
As the BJP celebrated its 44th Foundation Day on April 6, 2023, millions of its karyakartas across the nation rededicated themselves to the service of Maa Bharati with renewed fervour and enthusiasm. While the BJP offices across the country wore a festive look, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inspired the karyakartas with his unique vision, commitment to the cause, and invaluable guidance. The mantra of 'Nation First', which is an article of faith for the BJP Karyakartas, was emphasised in the address of the Prime Minister, who said that a BJP Karyakarta keeps his own interests last in the list of priorities for nation building. Extending his greetings to the people on the occasion of Hanuman Jayanti, Shri Narendra Modi further said that, like Lord Hanuman, BJP Karyakartas are also blessed with the capabilities of achieving what was considered impossible. In the 'Amrit Kaal', the BJP karyakartas are fortunate to have gotten the opportunity to serve the nation and contribute immensely to the onward march of the country. BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda has rightly said that while being a political party, the BJP was also able to transform into a party serving the nation through 'Seva-Karya' during the COVID-19 pandemic and other times of distress. As the world's largest political party, the BJP has immense achievements, from giving an alternative in politics to saving democracy during Emergency, fighting for the unity and integrity of the nation, heralding an era of good governance and development, and establishing healthy democracy through the 'politics of performance'. As a political party, the BJP represents the nation's democratic traditions, ethical values, and highest ideals in public life. It is a unique gift to the Indian democracy and an example to be emulated by democracies across the world.

The Supreme Court should be congratulated for dismissing such anti-democratic, anti-constitutional, and anti-people privileges sought by Congress and its allies in the name of being politicians of the country

In dismissing the petition filed by 14 opposition political parties as withdrawn, the Supreme Court has once again upheld the principle that 'no one is above the law', however powerful he might be. While refusing any immunity to political leaders, the Supreme Court said, "Once we accept that political leaders stand absolutely on the same footing as citizens of the country, they will face the same due process of law and are not entitled to a higher immunity than what is available under law". It may be noted that 14 opposition political parties, including Congress, TMC, AAP, DMK, SP, JD(U), RJD, BRS, NCP, the Uddav Thakre-led Sena faction, JMM, CPM, CPI, and the J&K National Conference, were seeking immunity from arrest against the CBI and ED in

various corruption cases under investigation. The Congress and its allies, which were in power for a long time in the Center and in various states, were ousted by the people in the face of heavy corruption, loot of public money, scams, and scandals of various kinds. Now that these cases are being investigated and the culprits are being brought to book, the opposition is crying hoarse. It is under the strong and determined leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi that no one is spared for being a political dynast or for belonging to any political party or having held a powerful position in yesteryears. The Congress and its allies, who have been considering power as a means of enjoyment, personal aggrandisement, and a licence for corruption and looting of public money, are now petitioning the courts to grant them special immunity. The Supreme Court should be congratulated for dismissing such anti-democratic, anti-constitutional, and anti-people privileges sought by Congress and its allies in the name of being politicians of the country.

While the people are showering their blessings on the BJP across the nation, the Congress-led opposition still remains neck-deep in the politics of dynasty, privilege, monopoly of power, and personal aggrandizements. The Congress and its allies believe in an unprincipled politics of opportunism, power games, and selfish gains, while the BJP believes in the principled politics of hard work, commitment, dedication, and selfless service to the nation. The result is that 'lotus' is blooming everywhere. ■



BJP COMMEMORATES 44TH 'STHAPNA DIVAS'

BJP HAS LED TO THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW POLITICAL CULTURE : PM MODI

On 06 April 2023, the BJP celebrated its 44th 'Sthapna Divas' at the party national headquarters in Delhi. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed on the occasion and it was broadcasted live at over 10 lakh places across the country. During his address, PM Shri Modi sought people's support in the fight against graft and nepotism.

Earlier, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda hoisted the party flag at the party national headquarters in Delhi and addressed the party Karyakartas. Shri Nadda said, "Under the leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi, the BJP has made groundbreaking achievements. We got the inspiration from him for 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat'".

The BJP will also observe 'Sewa Saptah' and it will culminate on the birth anniversary of Dr. BR Ambedkar on April 14. The BJP will organise nationwide programmes, seminars and discussions to commemorate the 'Social Justice Week' and on the achievements of the central government.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the 'BJP Foundation Day' celebrations by congratulating all the party Karyakartas for their service to Maa Bharati. On Hanuman Jayanti, the PM invoked the spirit of Hanuman Ji and encouraged all party

workers to work in accordance with the same, realizing the party's true potential and being able to overcome challenges posed in terms of corruption, dynastic politics, law, and order. He emphasized Hanuman Ji's "can do" and "nothing is impossible"

attitude to effectively resolve people's problems.

BJP is born as a tribute to India's democracy

PM Shri Modi stated that for the BJP, it was always 'Nation First' and the country's democratic traditions



encouraged it to progress in serving the people. “BJP is born as a tribute to India’s democracy and will always strive to strengthen India’s democracy and its Constitutional values. BJP through its progressive mindset has always envisaged Sabka Saath, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas”.

Social Justice- An “Article of Faith”

The PM elaborated that for BJP, “social justice has not been a means of political sloganeering but has been an “Article of Faith”. In the past, many individuals, groups, and parties have prioritized dynastic politics over social justice but BJP at every opportunity has tried to promote social justice. Initiatives such as the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, PMJAY, PMJDY, and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan have all been introduced to promote social justice without any prejudices or discrimination and have only sought to lift the poor and the downtrodden.

He stated that with the BJP coming to power, it has led to the emergence of a new political culture

HIGHLIGHTS

- Social justice is not a means of political sloganeering but an “Article of Faith for us.
- BJP has led to the emergence of a new political culture free of dynastic politics, casteism, regionalism, narrow-mindedness and small achievements.
- The new political culture stresses inclusive development.
- “Can do” and “nothing is impossible” attitude to effectively resolve people’s problems.
- We have emerged as a pioneer of digital infrastructure.
- Opposition never believed that Jammu and Kashmir and the North-East region could ever emerge peacefully.
- We have taken tough decisions and have strived to ensure the progress and development of all.

free of dynastic politics, casteism, regionalism, narrow-mindedness, and small achievements. The new political culture stresses inclusive development and the ability to envision ambitious targets enabling the development of the country in the true sense. This new culture regards the role and participation of women as equals, ameliorating their day-day difficulties. This culture embraces the role and contribution of the youth in the creation of a modern India.

Colonial mindset still exists in India

“2014, was not just a regime change as the people of India sounded the bugle for India’s transformation. Though in 1947, India attained independence after colonial slavery of 800 years this colonial mindset still existed in India, suppressing the voices of the common people. All people including the poor, Dalits, and the downtrodden were subjected to mockery. When there was a regime change in 2014, we always ensured to change this mindset,” the Prime Minister remarked.

BJP National President hoists party flag and starts mega Wall Writing

On the occasion of the 44th Foundation Day, the Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on 06 April 2023 hoisted the party's flag at BJP headquarters in Delhi. He then paid floral tributes on the statues of the torch bearer of national integration Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee and the pioneer of the ideologies of "Integral Humanism" and "Antyodaya" Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya ji.

A programme was organised on the occasion where Shri Nadda greeted lakhs of party workers by addressing them through video conferencing and exhorted them to work dedicatedly and devotedly for the party and the nation.

After the programme concluded, Shri JP Nadda visited 18- Bazar Lane in the Bengali Market area in Delhi where he



launched the nationwide mega Wall Writing Campaign. In this programme lakhs of BJP workers were present in over 10 lakh booths across the country. This programme was also virtually

joined by office bearers and party Presidents of all the state units and all the Members of Parliament of the party who had gathered at the Balayogi Auditorium in the Parliament House complex.

The Bharatiya Janata Party National President started the mega wall writing campaign by writing slogans "Ek Baar Phir Se Modi Sarkar" and "Ek Baar Phir Se Bjp Sarkar". The party workers in over 10.72 lakh booths across the country will also do similar Wall Writing under the campaign.

The Bharatiya Janata Party is celebrating a special 'Sewa Saptah' across the country till April 14, the birth anniversary of Babasaheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar, during which various social welfare activities will be carried out in 10.72 lakh booths across the country. ■

All the schemes and programmes have always been aimed at changing this mindset. Through Swachh Bharat Abhiyan we not only tried to provide toilet and sanitation facilities to all but we provided them respect and dignity. He said, "When we envisaged a Digital India, the opposition forces questioned and criticized us. They tried mocking our efforts by stating how illiterates can become digital. We have proved them all wrong and have emerged as a pioneer of digital infrastructure."

Calling out the Opposition for having a 'Baadshahi Maansikta'

(colonial mindset), Shri Modi said, "Opposition forces with their dynastic agenda have continued to peddle lies and falsity against us. They never believed that Jammu and Kashmir and the North-East region can ever emerge peacefully, that Article 370 will ever become history. We have taken these tough decisions and have strived to ensure the progress and development of all."

Tremendous development in various sectors

"Our decisions have ensured tremendous development

in various sectors including tax collections both direct and indirect, infrastructure development, defence, technology development, and exports among others," the PM added further.

Concluding his address, the Prime Minister said that every BJP Karyakarta must be grateful for the Party getting the opportunity to serve the country during the "Amrit-Kaal". He added, "In about 6-7 years, we will be celebrating the 50th foundation day, and with respect to that, we must formulate our aims and objectives now." ■



BJP IS SCALING NEW HEIGHTS EVERY DAY: JP NADDA

Before the address of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to party Karyakartas across the country via video conferencing, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda also interacted with the party Karyakartas where he said today, is the day of great joy and happiness for all the party Karyakartas and our well-wishers. He said PM Shri Narendra Modi has devoted his entire life to the growth and expansion of the Bharatiya Janata Party, and under his visionary leadership and guidance the BJP is scaling new heights every day.

The BJP National President said it was a matter of great pride and honour for all of us that we are receiving the guidance and blessings of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who has always shown us the way to move ahead during the toughest times.

Serve the party with dedication and commitment

Shri Nadda said, "Today, I offer my rich tributes to all our great leaders and party workers who have toiled hard and made great sacrifices to bring BJP to this height. It is our responsibility to serve the party with the same vigor, dedication and commitment. Today, we all have to take a pledge that under the leadership and guidance of the Prime Minister we have to take the Bharatiya Janata Party further ahead".

He said, "I pay rich tributes to our great and respected leaders including Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee ji, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya ji, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji, Shri Sunder Singh Bhandari Ji, Shri Kushabhau Thakre ji. We also seek blessings of Shri LK Advani ji". Today, we also saw a short film of the journey of the Bharatiya Janata Party post Jana Sangh era which showcases how the Bharatiya Janata Party progressed from strength to strength by firmly following its philosophy and principles and without wavering from its path.

Party is active in 8.40 lakh booths

The BJP National President further said under the dynamic leadership of PM Shri Modi the Bharatiya Janata Party has left an indelible impression across

the country, from Kutch to the Northeast and from Kashmir to Kerala. The BJP has reached these heights due to hard work and devotion of our crores of party workers. Today the party, is working in 1.80 lakh Shakti Kendras while the party is active in 8.40 lakh booths across the country.

Party broke its all-time record in Gujarat

The BJP National President further said under the leadership of the Prime Minister the party broke its all-time success record in Gujarat assembly elections and the party secured it's biggest ever victory in the state. The party also registered its second consecutive victories with record margins and formed it's government in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland, while the BJP formed its government for the record third time in Goa. The way, in which the Party has won the hearts and trust of the people of Northeast, it is unprecedented and remarkable.



BJP works for the welfare of the people

Shri Nadda said though the Bharatiya Janata Party is a political organisation, it has created an image of a social organisation which works for the welfare and upliftment of the people of the country. During the Corona pandemic the BJP workers devoted themselves to the service of humanity on the clarion call of "Sewa hi Sangathan" given by the PM.

'Sewa Pakhwada'

Shri Nadda also said the 'Sewa Pakhwada' which the party observes every year from September 17 to October 02 has shown and established across the world that the work and mission of a political party is

also a service of humanity.

"Know BJP" programme

The party is running a "Know BJP" programme where so far diplomats and dignitaries including foreign ministers and Prime Ministers of over 60 countries have so far visited the party headquarters and have been made aware about the various activities of the BJP.

"Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas"

The BJP National President said the Narendra Modi Government has made our policy of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" the core of governance and has ensured last mile delivery of our policies and programmes aimed at empowerment and upliftment of all the sections of our society. The goal of the Bharatiya Janata Party government is to ensure that the development works and welfare

policies of our government reach the poorest of the poor.

Graph of BJP has climbed rapidly

The BJP National President said under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi the graph of the Bharatiya Janata Party has climbed rapidly, but we are not going to rest and become complacent. We will make the Amritkal of our Independence a huge success. We will make all efforts and leave no stone unturned to make India a developed country by 2047.

He said all the BJP workers have taken pledge of fulfilling the goal of Antyodaya and service of humanity and we are all committed to make 'Shreshtha Bharat'. ■

'BJP will win 200+ seats in Madhya Pradesh'

Bharatiya Janata Party National President JP Nadda after arriving at the Bhopal airport on March 26, 2023 listened to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' program and along with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, BJP State President Shri VD Sharma and other senior leaders performed Bhoomi Pujan of the new state BJP office in Bhopal.

Addressing a massive gathering after the Bhoomi Pujan ceremony, the BJP National President said the party will win more than 200 seats out of 230 assembly seats in Madhya Pradesh, where elections are set to be held at the end of this year. The double-engine BJP government has done remarkable development works in the state and for that Madhya Pradesh is now one of the most developed states in the country.

Launching a sharp attack on the Congress party over a 'Satyagraha' at Raj Ghat to protest against Rahul Gandhi's disqualification following his conviction in a criminal defamation case by Surat court, the BJP National President said the former Congress MP had passed casteist remark and insulted an entire caste. "Congress is doing 'Satyagrah'. They give casteist slurs saying 'Chor'. Court asked Rahul Gandhi to apologise but there's so much arrogance he didn't apologise, disqualified from Lok Sabha membership, he is sentenced but 'Rassi Jal Gayi, Bal Nahi Gaya'", Shri Nadda said.



'Prabuddhajan Samaagam'

While addressing at 'Prabuddhajan Samaagam' at Kushabhau Thackeray Convention Centre in Bhopal BJP National President Shri JP Nadda lauded Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and said he developed India's relations with nearly 100 countries.

"We improved our relations with Russia while considering the new dynamics. Now India's name is de-hyphenated from Pakistan. Now nobody says India & Pakistan, now it's only India. PM Shri Modi went to 100 countries and developed our relations with them," he said.

Shri Nadda said after the inception of the Modi Government, the discourse of politics has changed. Earlier, a manifesto had no value, but PM Shri Modi brought a culture of 'What we say, we do' and 'What we have said, we will do it'," he added. ■

Bhoomi Pujan held for new Madhya Pradesh BJP office

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and BJP State President Shri VD Sharma performed Bhoomi Pujan of the new state BJP office in the state capital Bhopal on March 26, 2023.

A 10-storey modern office complex will come up in the Aera Colony area of Bhopal located near the Kamalapati railway station in place of an old building that was



demolished by the BJP earlier.

A group of priests performed the Bhoomi Pujan rituals in which apart from Shri JP Nadda and MP CM Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, state BJP

President Shri VD Sharma, Union ministers Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, Shri Virendra Kumar and Shri Prahlad Patel, BJP National General Secretary Shri Kailash Vijaywargiya and members of the state cabinet were also present on the occasion.

The old state BJP office, which was razed for the new one, was constructed in 1991 when the BJP government under Shri Sundarlal Patwa was in the state. ■

THE SOUL OF BJP OFFICE IS OUR KARYAKARTAS: PM MODI



PM Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the newly constructed extension campus of BJP Central Office at Deendayal Upadhyaya Marg in Delhi on 28 March, 2023. After his arrival at the new party office, the PM was given a rousing welcome by the BJP National President Shri JP Nadda.

PM Shri Narendra Modi, after visiting the newly constructed premises and paying floral tributes to the statue of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee and Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya also addressed the party leaders and Karyakartas present on

the occasion and noted the achievements of the BJP governments in the Centre and states. He also targeted the opposition for “attacking the agencies and constitutional institutions”. The Prime Minister motivated the BJP Karyakartas to work hard towards the nation's development and wished everyone on the auspicious occasion of Navaratri.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed party karyakartas at the BJP Headquarters during the inauguration of the extension campus of BJP Central Office, residential complex and auditorium on 28 March, 2023. Addressing the gathering, he said, “I remember, in February 2018, when I had come to inaugurate this headquarters, I had said that the soul of this office is our karyakartas. Today, when we are expanding this office, it is also not just an expansion of a building. Rather, it is an extension of the dreams of every BJP worker; it is an extension of BJP's resolve to serve.”

Journey started with 2 Lok Sabha seats

Recalling the Emergency in India, talking about the history and journey of the saffron party, PM Shri Modi said, “We are the party which did not take any time to sacrifice its own party for the protection of democracy during the Emergency. Country can never forget that black phase in 1984. Congress got a historic mandate in those elections; it was an emotionally charged atmosphere. We were completely destroyed in that wave, but we weren't demoralized and didn't blame others. The journey that started with 2 Lok Sabha seats has reached 303 seats in 2019. Today, we got more than 50 percent of the votes in many states.”

BJP is the only Pan India party

PM Shri Modi said, “Today from North to South, from West to East, BJP is the only Pan India party. Among the family-run parties, BJP is the only political party that gives opportunity to the youth to come forward. Today, BJP is not only the largest party. Rather, BJP is also the most futuristic party of India”.

Adding further, Shri Modi said, “Today, there are four BJP Chief Ministers in the North East, we have coalition governments in two other states. Due to this hard work of BJP karyakartas, today the party is expanding far and wide in South India as well. This expansion of BJP, taking place with the spirit of ‘Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat’, will take us to new heights of success in terms of seats and vote share.”

Expressing his gratitude to the karyakartas, the Prime Minister stated, “Wherever there is a challenge in front of the society, or a campaign related to social service like blood donation, BJP karyakartas reach first, and are seen helping the needy. We have seen how the people of our party helped in providing free ration and treatment from door to door during Corona. Today, the emotional connection that BJP and BJP karyakartas have with the society might not be seen in any other party.”



India is making its place in the world

Shedding light on India's governance model, PM Shri Modi said, "Today, the country is also witnessing the governance model of BJP governments with full majority. When it is analyzed with certain parameters, then the importance of the model of governance will be understood. Today, we are the youngest country, a country full of self-confidence. India is making its place in the world today. Today, if India's potential is rising, then behind it we have a strong foundation. This foundation belongs to our constitutional institutions."

HIGHLIGHTS

- BJP is the only pan-India party from east to west and from north to south.
- BJP gives the opportunity to the youth to progress.
- From 2 seats in 1984, the BJP has now reached 303 seats in 2019.
- The party garners over 50% of the vote share in many regions.
- PM Shri Modi said amongst other family-run parties, BJP stands out as it welcomes the youth.
- The party's success is due to the hard work and determination of its karyakartas.
- India has witnessed the governance models of Congress and Left and is now witnessing the model of BJP that came to power with an absolute majority.
- We have a strong foundation of constitutional institutions.
- That's why to stop India, constitutional institutions are being attacked.

When BJP comes, corruption runs away

Slamming the opposition parties, the PM said that there is a concerted effort to undermine the credibility of the nation's institutions. He said that anti-India forces within and outside the country have now come together to target the nation which is on a developmental journey. "You are all seeing how some opposition parties have come together to form 'Bhrashtachari-Bachao Abhiyan'. All those who are themselves known for corruption have come together on a single platform," the Prime Minister said in a searing attack on his rivals.

Shri Modi also hit out at opposition parties for targeting investigating agencies. He said that his rivals have come together to launch a movement to protect the corrupt.

PM Shri Modi said that the campaign launched by the BJP government against corruption in the last 9 years has shaken the roots of both corruption and corrupt people. "This is proof that when BJP comes, corruption runs away. In the last 9 years, the CBI has registered about 5000 cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act. Hundreds of senior officials accused of corruption in the BJP government have been forced to retire, action has been taken against them," he added

BJP has been built on its 'Tyag' and 'Tapasya'

Shri Narendra Modi further said, "BJP is not born from newspapers, from the glow of TV screens. BJP is not born out of Twitter handles and YouTube channels. Instead, BJP has been built on its 'Tyag' and 'Tapasya'. BJP has progressed by working on the ground, in the villages, in the fields, shoulder to shoulder with the poor." ■

BJP to have offices in every district across the country: JP Nadda

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 31 March 2023 said that BJP is the largest party in the world and is building offices in every district across the country.



Speaking after inaugurating the party offices virtually in several districts across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, he stated that 108 offices are being constructed in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, as the party is expanding organizationally in the states.

Not just offices but 'Sanskar Kendras'

The party offices inaugurated virtually by Shri JP Nadda include Sangareddy, Janagama, Warangal, Bhupalapalli, Mahabubabad, Anantapur, and Chittoor district offices.

Shri Nadda mentioned that 500 BJP offices have already been built in the country, which are not just offices but 'Sanskar Kendras'.

The BJP National President also emphasized that BJP is a party with strong principles and a strong cadre in the whole country. He stated that the party has a membership of 18 crores and works with 973 district committees.

He criticized the TRS party for its MLC Kavitha's involvement in a liquor scam, and urged them not to become BRS but to take VRS. The BJP State President Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Union Minister Shri G Kishan Reddy, party state affairs in-charge and National General Secretary Shri Tarun Chugh, BJP Parliamentary Board member Dr. K Lakshman and other party members attended the inauguration ceremonies virtually. ■

KARNATAKA ASSEMBLY ELECTION DATES ANNOUNCED

The Chief Election Commission of India on 29 March, 2023 announced the date of Karnataka Assembly Election. According to CEC, Assembly elections in Karnataka will be held on May 10 and the results will be declared on May 13. There are 224 seats in the Karnataka assembly. There are 5.21 crore voters including 2.59 women voters. The number also includes 16,976 centenarians, 4,699 third gender and 9.17 lakh first time voters. ■

Schedule for GE to Legislative Assembly of Karnataka - 2023	
Roll Events	Karnataka (All 224 ACs)
Date of Issue of Gazette Notification	13.04.2023 (Thursday)
Last Date of Making Nominations	20.04.2023 (Thursday)
Date for Scrutiny of nominations	21.04.2023 (Friday)
Last Date for Withdrawal of Candidatures	24.04.2023 (Monday)
Date of Poll	10.05.2023 (Wednesday)
Date of Counting	13.05.2023 (Saturday)
Date before which election shall be completed	15.05.2023 (Monday)

ORGANISATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on 29 March, 2023 appointed Shri Sunil Ojha as Bihar state co-incharge. In another appointment on 30 March the BJP National President Shri Nadda appointed former minister of Uttar Pradesh government Dr. Mahendra Singh as incharge of Jalandhar Lok Sabha by-election. ■

CONGRESS PARTY CAN NEVER DO ANY GOOD FOR KARNATAKA: AMIT SHAH

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurated the Gorata Shaheed Smarak & Sardar Patel Memorial in Bidar and many development projects in Raichur, Karnataka on 26 March, 2023 and addressed a huge public meeting.

Shri Amit Shah unfurled the 103 ft high National Flag at Gorata village in Bidar in Karnataka in the memory of the brave martyrs who fought valiantly against the tyranny of Nizams. He also inaugurated the Gorata Shaheed Smarak and Sardar Patel Memorial.

Addressing the gathering Shri Shah said in the same Gorata village the rampaging army of Nizam, who killed and tortured innocent people, had killed hundreds of patriotic people for hoisting the two and half feet high Tricolour. On the same holy land we have today hoisted 103 feet high Tricolour. On the same land where the Nizam had martyred hundreds of patriots, we have now inaugurated memorials in respect, honour and remembrance of these great martyrs.

- It gives me great pleasure and happiness to unveil these memorials because I as the then Bharatiya Janata Party President has done the bhoomi-poojan of these memorials and 'Shaheed Smarak' on September 17, 2014. Immediately after the formation of the Bharatiya Janata Party government in the state again we will build a massive 'Smriti Sthan' and start a sound and



light show by spending over Rs 50 crores, he said.

- The then Congress party government in Karnataka had started the minority reservation of four per cent to make its vote bank happy. But the Bharatiya Janata Party government ended it and instead started two per cent reservation for Vokkaliga and two per cent reservation for Shaiv and Lingayat.
- Our government has also increased the SC reservation to 17 per cent.
- The Congress party gave reservation to minorities due to its policy of appeasement. But by giving reservation to Vokkaliga and Lingayat communities we have done their welfare and ensured their upliftment, and we have done this because we do not believe in politics of appeasement.
- The Bharatiya Janata Party under the leadership of our

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi believes in 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabha Prayas', he said.

- The Congress party can never do any good for Karnataka.
- The Congress party just uses Karnataka as an ATM so that it can send money to Delhi.
- The Congress party and the JDS are the same face of a coin which believes and practices corruption, nepotism and appeasement politics.
- Wherever the Congress party has run its government, it has done massive corruption.
- Shri Yeddyurappa allocated a budget of Rs 3000 crores for the development and growth of Kalyan Karnataka. And now in the current budget Chief Minister Shri Basavraj Bommai has increased this budget to Rs 5000 crores. This shows the commitment and dedication of the Bharatiya Janata Party government for the development and progress of the region.
- The Congress party is getting decimated and is on perpetual decline. Recently assembly elections were held in Tripura, Nagaland and Meghalaya. The NDA government was formed in these three states. And in these states the Congress party could not win more than 5 seats. This is the trend in the country. We have to make the 'Lotus' bloom in Bidar and Raichur also. ■

'Northeast is moving forward on a new path of peace & development'

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah on 1st April inaugurated several development works of Rs. 2415 crore in Aizawl Mizoram. Several dignitaries including the Chief Minister of Mizoram Shri Zoramthanga were present on the occasion.

In his address, Shri Amit Shah said that it was a very important day for Mizoram as the new Battalion Headquarter of Assam Rifles is being inaugurated here. He said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Central Government and the Mizoram Government are committed to serve the people of the state and in this direction today 11 different schemes worth about Rs. 2500 crore have been inaugurated and the foundation stone has been laid.

The Union Home Minister said that for the all-round development of Mizoram, the foundation stone of 4 new road projects worth about Rs. 1200 crores has also been laid today, which will significantly increase the industry and trade of Mizoram and trade between Mizoram and Myanmar. He said that the peace established in Mizoram today is an unprecedented example of the success of India's democracy.

Shri Amit Shah said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the entire Northeast is moving forward on a new path of peace, stability and development today. He said that once upon a time violence was spread by insurgent groups in the Northeast, there was lack of rail, road and air connectivity and there was no sign of development. However, in the last 9 years due to the efforts of the Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and with the cooperation of the people of the Northeast, there has been peace in Northeast, connectivity has increased and there has been development at par with other parts of India. Shri Shah said that the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi is making the entire Northeast conflict-free, insurgency-free and peaceful. ■

'RJD-JDU-Congress government is a 'BAD' government'

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah addressed a huge public meeting organized at the Inter School ground in Hisua, Nawada, Bihar on 02 April, 2023 and strongly criticized Chief Minister Nitish Kumar for the bad law and order situation in Bihar.



Addressing the gathering, Shri Shah said that it is clear from the faith, love and support of the people of Bihar towards the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the BJP that in the upcoming Lok Sabha elections, Lotus will bloom on all the 40 seats in Bihar. In the assembly elections too, the BJP government

will be formed in Bihar with full majority.

Continuing to attack the 'Mahagathbandhan' government of Bihar, Shri Shah said that I have never seen such a selfish government in my life. One person is aspiring to become the Prime Minister, Lalu Yadav's son wants to become the Chief Minister and thus, the people of Bihar are suffering in this. The people of the country have decided that for the third time also Shri Narendra Modi will become the Prime Minister of the country. And, if Shri Narendra Modi becomes the Prime Minister again, Nitish Kumar will never make your son the Chief Minister. You are in confusion, Nitish Kumar is also in confusion but the people of Bihar are not in any confusion. The people of Bihar are clear that only Lotus will bloom on 40 out of 40 Lok Sabha seats in the state. Lotus will bloom strongly in Nawada as well.

Shri Shah said that the Grand Alliance government of Bihar is a government with bad intentions and bad policies. Bihar's RJD-JDU-Congress government is a 'BAD' government - symbolizing corruption, anarchy and oppression. The people of Bihar have made up their mind to overthrow this bad government. ■

HUGE SETBACK FOR OPPOSITION IN SUPREME COURT

COURT REJECTS 14 OPPOSITION PARTIES PLEA

A petition that accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government of abusing its power and using central investigating agencies to harass its political rivals filed by 14 opposition parties was rejected by the Supreme Court on 05 April 2023.



then how can we say there can be no arrests unless there is a three-pronged test which is satisfied, the bench said.

Highlights

Besides the Congress, the parties to the petition included the DMK, RJD, BRS, Trinamool Congress, AAP, NCP, Shiv Sena (UBT), JMM, JD(U), CPI(M), CPI, Samajwadi Party and the J&K National Conference.

The petition claimed that there was a "drastic and exponential increase" in the number of cases registered by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against opposition leaders since 2014 when PM Shri Narendra Modi came to power.

A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justice JB Pardiwala expressed disinclination to entertain the petition, saying courts are always there for taking up the grievances of political leaders as they do for common citizens. Political leaders do not enjoy an immunity higher than the common citizens...once we accept that political leaders are absolutely on the same footing as common citizens with no higher immunity,

- Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud expressed doubts about the validity and feasibility of the petition.

- He asked the advocate whether he was seeking immunity for opposition parties from investigation and prosecution and whether they had any special rights as citizens.
- The Chief Justice was not convinced by the opposition's argument and said that the petition was essentially a plea for politicians.
- The bench said political leaders do not enjoy an immunity higher than the common citizens.
- The political persons are also citizens and as a citizen, they are subject to similar rules.
- The bench said even the media, under Article 19(1) (a) (freedom of speech and expression) of the Constitution, does not have higher powers.
- Sensing its disinclination, advocate AM Singhvi, appearing for the political parties, sought permission to withdraw the petition. ■

40% VILLAGES IN INDIA DECLARE THEMSELVES ODF PLUS

The Union Minister for Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on 31st March lauded the achievement of a fivefold increase in ODF Plus villages in India under the Swachh Bharat Mission – Grameen, Phase – II, in just one year, with more than 40 percent of India's inhabited villages having declared themselves ODF Plus. The Union Minister, addressing the media, asserted that ODF Plus villages increased from 46,121 villages (7.4%) in March 2022 to 2,38,973 villages (40.21%) in March 2023. Shri Shekhawat further added "Out of these 2,38,973 ODF Plus villages, 1,60,709 are in the ODF Plus Aspiring category, 27,409 in the ODF Plus Rising category and 50,855 are in the ODF Plus Model category"

Shri Shekhawat applauded the States and UTs for having achieved more than 2.38 lakh ODF Plus villages

compared to only 46,480 in March 2022. Referring to his recent participation in the UN Water Conference 2023, he said "India has earned recognition around the world and is considered a role model in the field of sanitation. Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen which ensured access to sanitation to the whole of rural India was indeed a game changer".

On the other hand, the States making remarkable progress were Himachal Pradesh which moved from 18% ODF Plus villages in 2022 to 79% villages in 2023; followed by Madhya Pradesh which moved from 6% ODF Plus villages in 2022 to 62% villages in 2023; and Uttar Pradesh which moved from 2% ODF Plus villages in 2022 to 47% villages in 2023. As far as the North East States were concerned, Mizoram has moved from 6% ODF Plus villages in 2022 to 35% villages in 2023. ■

JAL JEEVAN MISSION ACHIEVES 60% COVERAGE MILESTONE

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 4 April 60% of rural households have access to clean drinking water through taps. More than 1.55 lakh villages, (25% of total number of villages), in India have so far reported 'Har Ghar Jal', i.e., every household in these villages has access to clean drinking water through taps at their household premises. In the current year from January to March 2023, one tap connection has been provided every second under Jal Jeevan Mission. This is a remarkable feat, wherein during the first three months of 2023, 86,894 new tap water connections have been provided every day, on an average.

Jal Jeevan Mission was announced by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 15th August, 2019 with the aim to provide all rural households with adequate quantity (55 lpcd) water of prescribed quality in adequate pressure, on regular and long-term basis. The overall financial commitment for

Jal Jeevan Mission is INR 3600 billion (US \$ 43.80 billion) which makes it one of the largest welfare programmes in the world. At the time of the launch of the Mission in August 2019, out of 19.43 Crore rural households, only 3.23 Crore (16.65%) had access to tap water. Despite several disruptions in recent years due to the Pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict etc., States/ UTs have made persistent efforts to implement the Jal Jeevan Mission. The country crossed another milestone in the journey towards 'Har Ghar Jal' on 4th April 2023, with over 11.66 Crore (60%) rural households provided with tap water supply in their homes. 5 states of Gujarat, Telangana, Goa, Haryana, and Punjab and 3 Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Daman Diu & Dadra Nagar Haveli and Puducherry have reported 100% coverage. The country is steadily progressing towards covering all the rural households will have safe drinking water through taps. ■

MAKE IN INDIA, MAKE FOR THE WORLD!

Defence Exports hit an all-time high, showing India's immense talent and capability in the sector. ■



352 FOREIGN SATELLITES LAUNCHED

352 foreign satellites have been launched by ISRO after the inception of the BJP government in 2014 under the dynamic leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi. ■



GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS

RS. 1,60,122 CRORE GROSS GST REVENUE COLLECTED FOR MARCH 2023 Second highest collection ever, next only to the collection in April 2022

The gross GST revenue collected in the month of March 2023 is Rs. 1,60,122 crore of which CGST is Rs. 29,546 crore, SGST is Rs. 37,314 crore, IGST is Rs. 82,907 crore (including Rs. 42,503 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is Rs. 10,355 crore (including Rs. 960 crore collected on import of goods). It is for the fourth time, in the current financial year that the gross GST collection has crossed Rs. 1.5 lakh crore mark registering second highest collection since implementation of GST. This month witnessed the highest IGST collection ever.

The government has settled Rs. 33,408 crore to CGST and Rs. 28,187 crore to SGST from IGST as regular settlement. The total revenue of Centre and the States in the month of March 2023 after IGST settlement is Rs. 62,954 crore for CGST and Rs. 65,501 crore for the SGST.

The revenues for the month of March 2023 are 13% higher than the GST revenues in the same month last



year. During the month, revenues from import of goods was 8% higher and the revenues from domestic transaction (including import of services) are 14% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year. The return filing during March 2023 has been highest ever. 93.2% of statement of

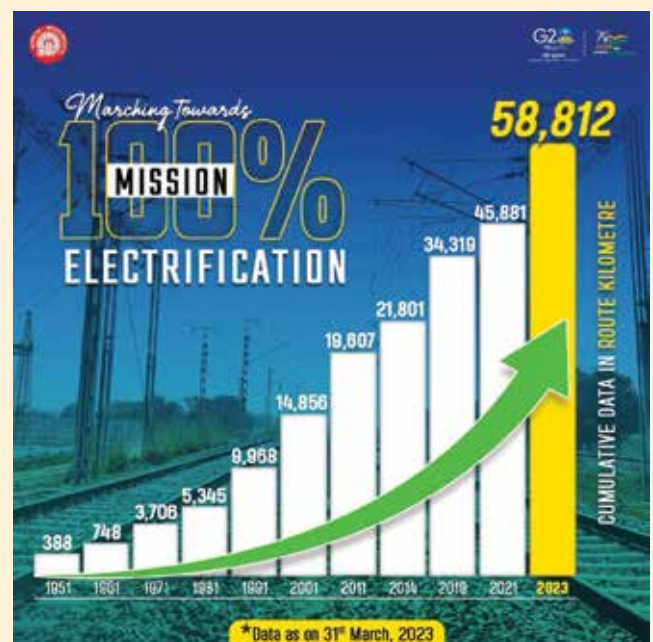
invoices (in GSTR-1) and 91.4% of returns (in GSTR-3B) of February were filed till March 2023 as compared to 83.1% and 84.7%, respectively same month last year.

The total gross collection for 2022-23 stands at Rs. 18.10 lakh crore and the average gross monthly collection for the full year is Rs. 1.51 lakh crore. The gross revenues in 2022-23 were 22% higher than that last year. The average monthly gross GST collection for the last quarter of the FY 2022-23 has been Rs. 1.55 lakh crore against the average monthly collection of Rs. 1.51 lakh crore, Rs. 1.46 lakh crore and Rs. 1.49 lakh crore in the first, second and third quarters respectively. ■

INDIA MARCHING TOWARDS 100% RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION

Railway Electrification (% of total route) in major countries of the world

	Switzerland	- 100%
	India	- 90%
	South Korea	- 78%
	Japan	- 75%
	China	- 68%
	European Union	- 56%
	Russia	- 51%
	United Kingdom	- 38%
	Australia	- 10%
	USA	- 1%
	Canada	- 0.2%
	Pakistan	- 0%



MORE THAN 40,000 AMRIT SAROVAR DEDICATED TO THE COUNTRY

In the 75th year of Independence, as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', Prime Minister has launched 'Mission Amrit Sarovar' on 24th April, 2022 with the target to construct/ rejuvenate at least 75 Amrit Sarovars in each district across the country and with the objective to overcome the water crisis in rural areas of the country.

A target of construction of 50,000 Amrit Sarovars was set to be completed by 15th August, 2023. Within a short span of 11 months, so far, more than 40,000 Amrit Sarovars have been constructed, which constitutes 80% of the total target.

'Jan Bhagidari' has been the core of this Mission and involves people's participation at all levels. So far 54,088 user groups have been formed for each Amrit Sarovar. So far, 1,784 freedom fighters, 18,173 eldest members of the panchayat, 448 family members of freedom fighters, 684 family members of martyrs and 56 Padma Awardees have participated in the Mission.

More significantly, Mission Amrit Sarovar is boosting the rural livelihood as the completed Sarovars have been identified for the purpose of different activities such as irrigation, fisheries, Duckery, cultivation of water chestnut and animal husbandry, etc.

As of now 66% of user groups are engaged in Agriculture, 21% in fisheries, 6% involved in water chestnut & lotus cultivation and 7% of groups are involved in Animal husbandry. These activities are being carried out by different user groups which are linked to each Amrit Sarovar. ■

DEFENCE EXPORTS REACHES ALL TIME HIGH

Through consistent policy initiatives of the Government and tremendous contribution of the defence industry, India has achieved a remarkable milestone in defence exports in Financial Year 2022-23. The exports have reached an all-time high of approx. Rs 16,000 crore, almost Rs 3,000 crore more than the previous financial year. It a rise of over 10 times since 2016-17. India is now exporting to over 85 countries. Indian industry has shown its capability of design and development to the world, with 100 firms exporting defence products at present. The rising defence exports and

participation of 104 countries in Aero India 2023 are proof of India's growing defence manufacturing capabilities.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has applauded the fact that India's defence exports have reached an all-time high of Rs 15, 920 crore in FY 2022-2023.

The Prime Minister tweeted in reply to the announcement by the Raksha Mantri, Shri Rajnath Singh: "Excellent! A clear manifestation of India's talent and the enthusiasm towards 'Make in India.' It also shows the reforms in this sector over the last few years are delivering good results. Our Government will keep supporting efforts to make India a defence production hub." ■

ISRO, SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETES LANDING EXPERIMENT OF RLV-TD

ISRO joined by DRDO and Indian Air Force successfully conducted the Reusable Launch Vehicle Autonomous Landing Mission (RLV LEX) at the Aeronautical Test Range (ATR), Chitradurga, Karnataka in the early hours on April 2, 2023.

A Chinook helicopter of the Indian Air Force carried the RLV as an underslung load and flew it to an altitude of 4.5 km. Once the predetermined pillbox parameters were reached, the RLV was autonomously released mid-air, 4.6 km downrange. The RLV then successfully executed approach and landing maneuvers using the Integrated Navigation, Guidance & control system and autonomously landed on the ATR air strip. This achievement marks the successful autonomous landing of a space vehicle by ISRO.

The autonomous landing carried out by ISRO was done under conditions that simulate the landing of a space re-entry vehicle, with the vehicle performing a precise landing from the same return path as if it were arriving from space.

The landing achieved precise parameters such as ground relative velocity, the sink rate of landing gears, and precise body rates, all of which would be experienced by an orbital re-entry space vehicle in its return path. The success of the RLV LEX mission depended on various cutting-edge technologies, including accurate navigation hardware and software, a pseudolite system, a Ka-band radar altimeter, a

GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS

NavIC receiver, an indigenous landing gear, aerofoil honeycomb fins, and a brake parachute system.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has expressed happiness as ISRO conducts Reusable Launch Vehicle Autonomous Landing Mission. In a reply to the tweet threads by ISRO, the Prime Minister tweeted; "A great team effort. This achievement takes us one step closer to realising an Indian Reusable Launch Vehicle." ■

PARIVESH PORTAL AUTOMATES THE PROCESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE LAUNCHED

In order to expedite the Environmental Clearance (EC) process, the Ministry has launched a single window online PARIVESH portal which automates the entire process of EC starting from submission of application, preparation of agenda, and preparation of minutes to grant of clearances. Further various initiatives have been taken to amend the policies and regulations to ensure transparent and simplified process of EC without compromising on rigor of the environmental concerns. Due to various efforts taken by Government towards streamlining the EC procedure, overall time taken in grant of EC has been coming down steadily.

This information was given by Minister of State for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey in a written reply in the Lok Sabha on 3rd April. ■

CENTRAL GOVT HIKES DEARNESS ALLOWANCE BY 4% FOR CENTRAL GOVT EMPLOYEES & PENSIONERS

Union Cabinet has hiked the Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief (DR) by 4 per cent for central government employees and pensioners. DA and DR will be applicable to central government employees and pensioners with retrospective effect from January 1, 2023.

Union Minister of Information & Broadcasting Shri Anurag Thakur, announced this decision on March 24, 2023. With the recent hike, DA for central government employees and DR for pensioners will be increased to 42 per cent. This move will benefit around 47.58 lakh central government employees and 69.76 lakh central government pensioners. ■

PM ACKNOWLEDGES THE HIGHEST EVER COAL PRODUCTION IN THE HISTORY OF INDIA

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 3rd April has expressed his happiness over the highest ever coal production in the history of India.

In reply to the tweet by Union Minister for Coal and Mines, Shri Pralhad Joshi, the Prime Minister tweeted; "Outstanding accomplishment in an important sector for economic growth."

In a tweet Shri Pralhad Joshi had tweeted "Registering an overall growth of almost 15% in coal production & 7% in coal offtake, coal companies, including @CoalIndiaHQ_@SCCL, have stepped up their efficiency & performance. #AatmanirbharBharat.



Ministry of Defence inks over Rs 9,100 crore contracts for improved Akash Weapon System for Indian Army

In a tweet Office of Raksha Mantrion 31st March informed that Ministry of Defence, on March 30, 2023, signed contracts for procurement of improved Akash Weapon System and 12 Weapon Locating Radars, WLR Swathi (Plains) for the Indian Army at an overall cost of over Rs 9,100 crore. In reply to the tweet by RMO India, the Prime Minister said; "A welcome development, which will boost self-reliance and particularly help the MSME sector." ■

24.35 LAKH ADDITIONAL IRRIGATION POTENTIAL CREATED UNDER PMKSY

After launch of the umbrella scheme Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) in 2016, 99 on-going major/medium irrigation projects, along with 7 phases, were taken for partial financial assistance under PMKSY-Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), with pari passu implementation of Command Area Development & Water Management (CAD&WM). Out of these, 50 projects have been reported to be completed so far. Further, 23 of the remaining projects have physical progress more than 90%, while another 14 projects have physical progress between 80% to 90%. Against a target of 34.64 lakh hectare of additional irrigation, during 2016-2022 an additional irrigation potential of 24.35 lakh hectare has been created through these projects.

Further, inclusion of projects other than the 99 prioritized projects has been permitted for implementation of PMKSY-AIBP during 2021-2026. In view of the same, six additional projects have been included under PMKSY-AIBP, in which an additional irrigation potential of 0.12 lakh hectare has been created during 2021-22.

PMKSY was launched during the year 2015-16, with an aim to enhance physical access of water on farm and expand cultivable area under assured irrigation, improve on-farm water use efficiency, introduce sustainable water conservation practices, etc. ■

INDIA POST PAYMENTS BANK LAUNCHES WHATSAPP BANKING SERVICES

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), in collaboration with Airtel, announced the launch of WhatsApp Banking Services for IPPB customers in New Delhi on 31st March, enabling them to access banking services on their mobile phone.

The newly launched IPPB WhatsApp Banking channel will enable IPPB customers to seamlessly connect with the bank on WhatsApp and effortlessly avail a host of banking services, including doorstep service request, locating nearest Post Office and much more. In line with the ambition of the Government to bring digital and financial inclusion to citizens in their language, the Airtel – IPPB WhatsApp Banking solution is also working on to build multi-language support, enabling added

convenience to customers, especially to those in the rural parts of the country to access banking services in their preferred language. ■

MAHILA SAMMAN SAVINGS CERTIFICATES MADE AVAILABLE IN POST OFFICES

Ministry of Finance issued the Gazette Notifications on 1 April for Mahila Samman Savings Certificates, 2023 and has been made available in 1.59 lakh post offices with immediate effect. The scheme was announced in the 2023-24 Budget by the Union Finance Minister to commemorate 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and is a significant step towards financial inclusion and empowerment of the women, including the girls.

The two year tenure scheme offers an attractive and fixed interest of 7.5 per cent interest compounded quarterly with flexible investment and partial withdrawal options with a maximum ceiling of Rs. two lakh. The scheme is valid for a two-year period upto 31st March 2025.

National Savings (Monthly Income Account) Scheme, 2019 has been amended through National Savings (Monthly Income Account) (Amendment) Scheme, 2023 and the maximum investment limit has been raised from Rs. four lakh fifty thousand to Rs. nine lakh for a single account and from Rs. nine lakh to Rs. 15 lakh for a joint account with effect from 1st April 2023. Likewise, Senior Citizen Savings Scheme, 2019 has been amended through Senior Citizens Savings (Amendment) Scheme, 2023 and the maximum investment limit has been raised from Rs. 15 lakh to Rs. 30 lakh with effect from today. ■

SAIL ACHIEVES ALL-TIME BEST ANNUAL PRODUCTION

The Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), a Maharatna public sector unit under the Ministry of Steel, has achieved the best ever annual production during the financial year 2022-23 ending on 31 March 2023.

During the period, the company recorded 19.409 Million Tonnes (MT) of hot metal and 18.289 MT crude steel production with a growth of 3.6% and 5.3% respectively over the previous best. The company is continuously ramping up its production over the years with a focus on more value added and special steels production. ■



Narendra Modi's creative ideas to curb land encroachment

By: Kharabela Swain

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's out of the box suggestions; coming up with creative solutions to challenges and converting them into opportunities truly stand out.

One such event took place during the National Highway Project in Balasore, Odisha. Shri Kharabela Swain, Former Lok Sabha MP from Odisha talks about how Shri Narendra Modi gave creative ideas to not only solve the challenges but also serve as an opportunity for the future.

While the National Highway Project was going on, a horde of people started encroaching the space on both sides of the highway. I went to Shri Narendra Modi, seeking a solution to this encroachment problem.

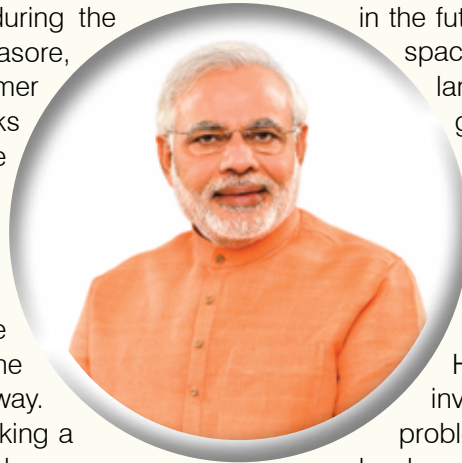
Shri Modi suggested that the authorities building up the national highway should not leave any space on either side of the road. He then said that since it is a 4-lane road, ask the authorities to leave space in

between the two lanes, making it two lanes each on either side of the leftover space.

Shri Modi then continued, saying that doing this will help increase the 4-lane highway to 6-lane highway in the future, using the leftover space. If this space is left on the sides of the highway lanes, people will encroach and it will get difficult to get the space for road expansion in the future.

Shri Narendra Modi has always had this foresight of coming up with creative solutions to challenges and converting them into effortless future opportunities. His suggestions often gave an inventive touch to dealing with problems and put it to use for the nation's development and the welfare of the people.

By giving such ideas, Shri Modi tends to train all the karyakartas, giving them lessons in the best possible way by coming up with instantaneous yet far-sighted solutions. ■



KAMAL PUSHK

Sahyog, Samarpan
Aur Sanskar



JAIMANGAL SINGH - FOUGHT FOR THE INTERESTS OF FARMERS AND LABORERS

Late Shri Jaimangal Singh became a member of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh in 1961 and was engaged with the organisation ever since. In 1971, he contested the Piro Vidhan Sabha elections on the ticket of Bharatiya Jana Sangh. In 1974, he conducted Satyagraha with his colleagues in front of the Ara Collectorate during which he, along with 98 of his companions, were jailed. In 1975, after the Emergency declaration by Indira Gandhi, he was arrested under MISA and was sent to Ara Jail. After the formation of BJP, he became the state executive member, and later, was given the responsibility of organisation in charge of Shahabad. During the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi

Karseva, he was lodged in Ghazipur Jail in Uttar Pradesh. In 1994, on his way to Kashmir, he was arrested at Kanpur railway station. In 1995, when vocal protests against the Naxalites took place, he led the gathering at many places. He always fought for the interests of farmers and laborers. On 24 March 1998, he was shot and killed by the Naxalites. ■





THE LOTUS SHALL BLOOM

- Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Mr. Chairman of the Reception Committee, Brothers and Sisters Delegates and Friends,

An Opportunity and a Challenge

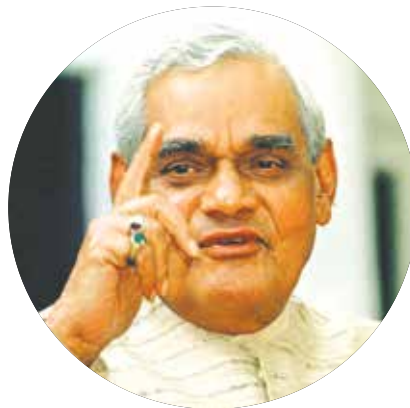
We are meeting here today for the first National Convention of the Bharatiya Janata Party. I feel extremely grateful to you for the affection and confidence you have bestowed on me by electing me President of the Party. I am conscious of how onerous a burden this is. In fact, in this hour of crisis, it is no easy matter to undertake the leadership of any political party. So far as the Presidentship of the Bharatiya Janata Party is concerned, this is certainly not an ornamental decoration. It is really not a post; it is a responsibility. No doubt, it is an honour; but even more than that, it is a test. It is at once an opportunity and a challenge. May God give me strength and understanding to measure up to this trust.

Why a New Party

I do not propose to go into the details of the circumstances in which the Bharatiya Janata Party was launched. But I would like to assert that it was not with any happiness that we parted company with the Janata Party. From beginning to end, we kept exerting in order to preserve the unity of the Party. We were conscious of the pledge we had taken at Rajghat in the presence of Lok Nayak

Jaiprakash to maintain the unity of the Party. But by converting the non-issue of dual membership into an issue, a situation was created in which it became impossible for us to continue in the party with any honour and self-respect.

There is no point in trying to unravel the intentions of those who



created such a situation. But it is noteworthy that even among those who had nothing to do with the RSS, there were quite a few who regarded this dual membership issue as a bogey raised for ulterior ends. Many of these are among the founder members of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Growing Popularity of the Party

The enthusiastic support received by the Bharatiya Janata Party throughout the country during the past 9 months is in itself ample justification for our decision to launch a separate party. Today, the Bharatiya Janata Party has a membership of over 25 lakh. A

large section of these entrants were not connected with the former Jana Sangh. Nevertheless, some of our opponents, prominent among them being our Prime Minister, keep repeating that the Bharatiya Janata Party is only a new name for the former Jana Sangh. They feel disturbed over the growing popularity of the Party in all parts of the country and all sections of society, and think that by saying so they can curb the immense potential that the Party has for future growth.

Pursuing the Unfinished Task

The Janata Party, formed because of the inspiration of Lok Nayak Jaiprakash, has disintegrated. But his vision of a glorious India is still with us. We shall not allow it to be obliterated. His dreams, his labours, his struggles and his unflinching commitment to certain basic values are part of an invaluable legacy that we have inherited. The Bharatiya Janata Party is pledged to pursuing his unfinished task.

Multi-Dimensional Crisis

Today, our country is facing a multi-dimensional crisis. Mounting inflation, deteriorating law and order situation, scarcity of essential commodities, increase in the number and intensity of communal incidents, aggravation of social tensions and violence, oppression of Harijans, tribals, women and other weaker sections, the explosive situation in the north-east-these

are some of the dimensions of this crisis.

A Moral Crisis

Those charged with the responsibility of finding a solution to these problems have no time for it. They are busy manipulating their pawns and planning their moves on the chessboard of politics. I believe that the country's crisis is essentially a moral crisis. The biggest curse of our public life is that moral values have given way to self-seeking and power-lust, and politics has become a pure power game.

Degeneration of Public Life

In its last phase, this degeneration of public life can be traced to the year 1969 when the Prime Minister herself after filling the nomination papers of her party candidate, conspired to have him defeated by resorting to all kinds of unethical means. In the years that have followed, this disregard of ethics and norms has only grown more acute. The emergency declared in 1975 had no relation to any threat to national security, internal or external; it was an unvarnished attempt to cling on to power. The disturbances created in courts during the Janata regime, encouragement given to such serious crimes as hijacking, the constant recourse to intimidation and coercion, the plot to promote defections on a mass scale—all these are facets of the same process. The present ruling party's naked collusion with anti-social elements during the 1980 election and its shameless incitement of communal, casteist and regional feelings in order to pander to vote

banks also should be understood in the same light.

Double Standards

Yet another evidence of this process of degeneration is the double standards of morality maintained by Government. There is one standard for those who are their proteges or their relations and another standard for the rest. When, prior to the Janata regime, allegations were made against relatives of the Prime Minister, she dismissed them in utter disregard of the Santhanam Committee's recommendations. In contrast, Prime Minister Shri Desai referred the allegations against his son to judicial scrutiny. It is only during the 28 months of the Janata rule that some efforts were made to stem this rot of moral decay. It is not only the rulers or the political parties who are corroded by this decay. It really affects the entire society, the bureaucracy, the industry and the trade. Even the common man is afflicted by it. Self-seeking becomes the order of the day. The nation thus suffers an erosion of moral strength and loses its capacity to face difficulties.

Restoration of Moral Values

If we want to overcome the present crisis, the first and foremost condition is that moral values must be restored to their place in public life. To identify these values we do not have to look outside the country. Irrespective of caste, creed, language and region, an average Indian cherishes deep respect for values like tolerance, contentment, simple living, hard work and brotherhood. Let us strengthen

these values and build a new society on that basis. Of course, the modern context has to be kept in view. Pandit Nehru emphasised the use of science and technology for development. The nation has progressed on that account, but large sections of the population have not been the beneficiaries of the prosperity achieved. Inequalities have grown. The chasm between the rich and the poor has widened. These distortions have to be corrected. We can do this if we accept Indian cultural values as the basis for progress, and regard the individual, particularly the weakest individual, as the focal point of our developmental endeavours. Gandhiji, Jaiprakash and Upadhyay had all stressed this approach. It was acceptance of this approach which during the Janata regime gave birth to schemes like Antyodaya and Food for Work.

Building a society of this kind, free from exploitation and discrimination and based on certain values, is a challenging task. Merely invoking Gandhiji's name or making pompous declarations is not going to help. An arduous struggle is called for. We have to consciously organise the poor peasantry, workers, the Harijans, the tribals and other exploited sections of the population to this end. It is the organised strength of these sections that can really bring about this new society. Mahatma Gandhi's struggle against the foreign government derived considerable strength from the success he achieved in mobilising these sections.

To be continued...

(Presidential address of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpeyee at BJP National Council, Bombay, 28-December, 1980)

BJP LEADER GIRISH BAPAT IS NO MORE

BJP leader and Member of Parliament Shri Girish Bapat is no more. He passed away in Pune on March 30 due to prolonged illness. He was 73 years old. Shri Bapat breathed his last at Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital in Pune where he was being treated for breathing-related issues.

He was Lok Sabha member from Pune City, he was credited with strengthening the party base in the district. Shri Bapat was elected to the Lok Sabha in 2019 general elections. Prior to that, he was elected to state Legislative Assembly for five times consecutively, from 1995 to 2014, from Kasba Peth seat. He was a state minister in BJP-led government from 2009 to 2014 under the then Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis. Shri Bapat was in jail for 19 months during the Emergency. He also worked as a labourer in Telco company where



he was an active Union member.

Shri Bapat entered politics in the 1980s and was elected to Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) as a corporator in his first attempt in 1983. He was elected a corporator three times in a row before being elected as an MLA from Kasba Assembly constituency. After that he won the Lok Sabha election from Pune city in 2019. Political leaders across party lines condoled the demise of the leader and paid their last respect.

Maharashtra government gave Bapat state funeral with full honours. The BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda condoling the demise of Shri Bapat said, "The news of the demise of senior BJP leader and Pune MP Girish Bapat ji is extremely sad. His entire life was devoted to public service and the organization. In this hour of grief, the BJP family is with the bereaved family members. May God give the departed soul place at his Shree feet. Om Shanti!"

BJP State President Shri Chandrashekhar Bawankule said Bapat was a leader who had risen from the ranks and kept his ground connect intact. "His astute understanding of politics and people's need was always something to be emulated by other," he said. Deputy Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis said Shri Bapat was a leader with no enemies. ■

SAGAR SETU MOBILE APP LAUNCHED

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Sarbananda Sonowal on 31st March launched the App Version of National Logistics Portal (Marine) 'Sagar-Setu' in the presence of Shri Shripad Y. Naik, MoS, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and other senior officials.

The App has been envisaged with deliverables covering features like Login Module, Service Catalogue,



Common Application Format, Letter of Credit, Bank Guarantee, Certification, and Track & Trace etc. It will provide real-time information of activities that are generally not in reach of the importer, exporter, and customs broker including vessel-related information, gate, container

freight stations and transactions on fingertips.

Benefits for Traders

- Improve convenience with reduced turnaround time for approval and compliances.
- Increase visibility of operations and tracking.

Benefits for Service Providers

- Help in tracking of records and transactions offered
- Receive notification of service requests. ■

PM's VISIT TO TELANGANA, TAMIL NADU & KARNATAKA

'GOVERNMENT AT THE CENTER WILL FULFIL THE DREAMS OF TELANGANA'

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation various projects worth over Rs. 11,300 crores at Parade Ground in Hyderabad, Telangana on 08 April, 2023. The projects include laying the foundation stone of AIIMS Bibinagar, Hyderabad, five National Highway projects and the redevelopment of Secunderabad Railway Station. He also dedicated other development projects related to railways. Earlier in the day, the Prime Minister also flagged off the Secunderabad-Tirupati Vande Bharat Express at Secunderabad Railway Station in Hyderabad.



Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister expressed gratitude for getting the opportunity to extend the pace of development of the state of Telangana. He also recalled flagging off the Secunderabad-Tirupati Vande Bharat Express which will connect the IT City of Hyderabad with the abode of Lord Venkateswara, Tirupati at Secunderabad Railway Station earlier in the day. "The Secunderabad-Tirupati Vande Bharat Express will successfully connect belief, modernity, technology and tourism", Shri Modi said. The Prime Minister congratulated the citizens of Telangana for today's projects worth over Rs. 11,300 crores related to railways and road connectivity and health infrastructure development.

The Prime Minister noted that the state of Telangana has been in existence for almost the same time as the present government at the center and bowed his

head to those who contributed towards the formation of the state. "It is the duty of the government at the center to realize the dreams of citizens of the state related to the development of Telangana", Shri Modi said highlighting the spirit of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas'. He said that special emphasis has been given so that Telangana can make the most out of India's development model laid out in the past nine years.

Governor of Telangana, Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan, Union Minister for Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Union Minister of Tourism, Shri G Kishan Reddy and Ministers from Government of Telangana were present on the occasion among others. ■

TAMIL NADU

'TAMIL NADU'S DEVELOPMENT IS OF GREAT PRIORITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT'

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation various projects at Alstrom Cricket Ground in Chennai, Tamil Nadu on 08 April, 2023. Earlier in the day, the Prime Minister inaugurated the New Integrated Terminal Building (Phase- 1) of Chennai International Airport and flagged off the Chennai-Coimbatore Vande Bharat Express in Chennai.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that Tamil Nadu is the home of history and heritage, the land of language and literature. Highlighting that many of our freedom fighters are from Tamil Nadu,





PM participates in 125th Anniversary celebrations of Sri Ramakrishna Math

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi participated in the 125th Anniversary celebrations of Sri Ramakrishna Math at Vivekananda House in Chennai, Tamil Nadu on 08 April, 2023. Upon arriving at the venue, the Prime Minister paid floral tributes and performed puja and meditation in Swami Vivekananda's room. The Prime Minister also released a book on Holy Trio on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister expressed happiness to be present on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of Ramakrishna Math's service in Chennai and said that he deeply respects Ramakrishna Math in his life.

the Prime Minister said that the state is a center of patriotism and national consciousness. The Prime Minister noted that Tamil Nadu Puthandu is around the corner and said that it is the time for new energy, hope, aspirations and new beginnings. "Many new infrastructure projects will begin to serve the people from today while some will witness their beginnings", the Prime Minister said as he remarked that the new projects related to railways, roadways and airways will add to the new year celebrations.

Shri Modi highlighted that India has been witnessing an infrastructure revolution driven by speed and scale. Referring to scale, he informed that Rs 10 lakh crores have been earmarked for infrastructure development in this year's Budget which is a five-time increase from the budget in 2014 while the fund allocation for rail infrastructure is at a record high.

"Tamil Nadu's development is of great priority to the government", the Prime Minister said as he informed that the state has been allocated an all-time high of over Rs 6,000 crores for rail infrastructure in this year's Budget. He further added that the average amount allocated per year during 2009-2014 was less than Rs 900 crores. Between 2004 and 2014, the Prime Minister continued, the length of national highways added in Tamil Nadu was about 800 kilometers but,

nearly 2000 kilometers of national highways were added between 2014 and 2023. Touching upon the investment in the development and maintenance of national highways in Tamil Nadu, the Prime Minister said that in 2014-15, around Rs 1200 crores were spent whereas, in 2022-23, it increased 6-fold, to over Rs 8200 crores. ■

KARNATAKA

'PROTECTING NATURE IS A PART OF OUR CULTURE'



The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the program 'Commemoration of 50 years of Project Tiger' at Mysuru University in Mysuru, Karnataka on 09 April, 2023. The Prime Minister also launched the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA). He released the publications - 'Amrit Kaal Ka Vision For Tiger Conservation', a summary report of the 5th cycle of Management Effectiveness Evaluation of Tiger Reserves, declared tiger numbers and released the summary report of All India Tiger Estimation (5th cycle). He also released a commemorative coin on the completion of 50 years of Project Tiger.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister remarked on the prestigious moment of the growing tiger population in India and paid respects by giving a standing ovation to the tigers. He said that everyone is witness to the landmark event of Project Tiger completing 50 years today and remarked that its success is not only a moment of pride for India but the entire world. Shri Modi emphasized that India has not only saved the tiger population from declining but also provided an ecosystem where tigers can flourish. He expressed happiness that India is home to 75% of the world's tiger population in the 75th year

PM Shri Narendra Modi meets Oscar winning Documentary 'The Elephant Whisperers' stars Bomman and Billie during his visit to Bandipur. The PM also visited Mudumalai Tiger Reserves in Karnataka on April 9, 2023



of Indian independence. It is also a coincidence, the Prime Minister continued, that the tiger reserves in India cover 75,000 square kilometers of land and in the past ten to twelve years, the tiger population in the country has increased by 75 percent.

Reiterating the question in the minds of wildlife enthusiasts around the world about the increasing tiger population in India when compared to other countries where it is either stagnant or in decline, the Prime Minister said that the answer is hidden among the traditions and culture of India and its natural urge towards biodiversity and environment. "India does not believe in the conflict between ecology and economy,

and gives equal importance to the coexistence of both", the Prime Minister remarked.

Noting India's unique achievements in wildlife conservation, the Prime Minister said, "India is a country where protecting nature is a part of the culture". He mentioned that India has only 2.4 percent of the world's land area but it contributes toward 8 percent to known global biodiversity. He stated that India is the largest tiger range country in the world, the largest Asiatic elephant range country in the world with nearly thirty thousand elephants, and also the largest single-horn rhino country with a population of nearly three thousand. ■

PM RELEASES TIGER CENSUS

TAKES JUNGLE SAFARI AT BANDIPUR, KARNATAKA

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 09 April, 2023 reached the Bandipur Tiger Reserve in Karnataka for a 20-km safari as part of programs to mark the completion of the 50th anniversary of Project Tiger. The prime minister spent the morning at the scenic Bandipur Tiger Reserve where he went on a jeep safari and got a glimpse of the wildlife, natural beauty and biodiversity.

PM Shri Narendra Modi also released the latest Tiger Census data and said India's tiger population rose by 200 in the past four years to reach 3,167 in 2022. According to the data, the Tiger population was 1,411 in 2006, 1,706 in 2010, 2,226 in 2014, 2,967 in 2018 and 3,167 in 2022.



BILLS & EVENTS OF BUDGET SESSION

The second part of the Budget Session of Parliament which commenced on 13 March, 2023 has been adjourned sine die on 6th of April, 2023. Speaking about the Budget Session, Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs and Culture, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal said the first part of the Budget Session yielded a total of 10 sittings of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. In the second part of the Session, there were 15 sittings of both Houses. During the entire Budget Session, in total, there were 25 sittings. Following are the highlights of the session:

I. Snapshot of Bills and Questions

Sl.No	Name Of The Bill	Status In Parliament
1	Finance Bill, 2023	Passed by the Lok Sabha on 24.03.2023 and the Rajya Sabha on 27.03.2023. Parliament has approved the formation of the GST Appellate Tribunal. The Lok Sabha passed the Union Budget of Rs. 45 lakh crore for FY 24.
2	Appropriation Bill, 2023	Passed by the Lok Sabha on 23.03.2023 and the Rajya Sabha on 27.03.2023
3	Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2023	Passed by the Lok Sabha on 21.03.2023 and the Rajya Sabha on 27.03.2023. The bill amounted to a total of Rs. 2,70,508.89 crore. The Lok Sabha gave its approval to the Central Government to spend an additional Rs. 1.48 lakh crore during the current financial year 2022-23.
4	Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation Bill, 2023	Passed by the Lok Sabha on 21.03.2023 and the Rajya Sabha on 27.03.2023
5	Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2023	Passed by the Lok Sabha on 21.03.2023 and the Rajya Sabha on 27.03.2023. Supplementary Demands for Grants for Jammu and Kashmir for the years 2022-23 was also tabled, seeking additional Rs. 3,711 crore rupees as part of the supplementary demands for grants.
6	Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control, and Discipline) Bill, 2023	Introduced in the Lok Sabha on 15.03.2023.
7	Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2023	Passed by the Lok Sabha on 29.03.2023 and by the Rajya Sabha on 03.04.2023
8	Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023	Introduced and sent to Joint Committee on 29.03.2023
9	Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023	Introduced in the Lok Sabha on 05.04.2023

Table 1: Status Of Bills In Parliament

II. Important Events

1. Speaker of the House, Shri Om Birla (BJP, Kota, Rajasthan) received the message from the President that she received the expression of thanks by the Members of the Lok Sabha for the Address which she delivered to both Houses of the Parliament assembled together on 31 January, 2023.
2. Resolution for a special fund for the modernisation of madrassas introduced in Rajya Sabha by Shri Abdul Wahab (IUML, Kerala) was turned down.
3. Lok Sabha Privileges Committee To Study Precedents

- Against Shri Rahul Gandhi (Former MP). Following a Surat Magistrate Court's sentencing of Shri Rahul Gandhi (Former MP) to an imprisonment for two years in a defamation case, he was disqualified by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, on March 24, from representing the Wayanad Constituency in Kerala.
4. The BJP has submitted a breach of privilege notice in Rajya Sabha against Congress leaders Shri Mallikarjun Kharge (INC, Karnataka) and Shri Jairam Ramesh (INC, Karnataka) for allegedly disrespecting the sanctity of the Chair, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar Ji.

III. Important Parliamentary Committee Findings

1. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Demands for Grants has stated that the Ministry of Home Affairs has informed that several states and Union Territories own an amount of Rs. 49,912.37 crore towards deployment of Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) in these States and UTs.
2. The JPC Report on the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill was tabled in the Parliament. The Bill seeks to accommodate changes brought by the 97th Constitutional Amendment and changes in the sector over the period. The JPC turned down the request by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to include overarching proviso in the Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill.
3. The Joint-Parliamentary Committee on the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2022 tabled its Report in the Lok Sabha, and made few recommendations, while accepting the majority of its 183 provisions.

IV. Important Questions Answered

1. **Shri Pankaj Chaudhary** (MoS, Ministry of Finance; BJP, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh) informed the Parliament that the Enforcement Directorate had recorded 3,497 cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA).
2. **Shri R.K. Singh** (Union Minister, Ministry of Power; BJP, Arrah, Bihar) informed the House that under PM's Gati Shakti Master Plan, 27,000 circuit kilometres of transmission lines to be added at an investment of Rs. 75,000 crore by 2024-25.
3. **Smt Anupriya Patel** (MoS, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; ADS, Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh) informed the House that export of chilli from India has seen more than 25% growth between 2017- 18 and 2021-22 fiscal.
4. **Shri Pankaj Chaudhary** (MoS, Ministry of Finance;

BJP, Maharajganj, Uttar Pradesh) informed the Lok Sabha that during searches carried out by the Income Tax Department against 2,841 organisations over the course of the last four financial years, assets worth more than Rs. 4,800 crore were seized.

5. **Shri Piyush Goyal** (Union Minister; Ministry of Commerce and Industry; BJP, Maharashtra) informed the House that the Make in India Programme has resulted in the increase of employment in the manufacturing sector from 5.7 crore in the year 2017-18 to 6.24 crore in the year 2019-20.
6. **Shri Rao Inderjit Singh Ji** (MoS, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; BJP, Gurgaon, Haryana) informed the Parliament that the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) has had an increasing trend from 2012-13 to 2021-22.
7. **Shri Nityananda Rai** (MoS, Ministry of Home Affairs; BJP, Ujjarpur, Bihar) informed the Parliament that Naxal violence in India has decreased by 77% over the past 12 years and the number of deaths in related incidents has also reduced by 90% during the same period.
8. **Shri Nityanand Rai** (MoS, Ministry of Home Affairs; BJP, Ujjarpur, Bihar) informed the Parliament that a record investment worth Rs. 1,547.87 crore has been received by Jammu and Kashmir in this fiscal year till January.
9. **Shri Bhagawat Karad** (MoS, Ministry of Finance, BJP, Maharashtra) informed the Parliament that banks from 18 countries have been permitted by the RBI to open special vostro rupee accounts (SVRAs) for settling payments in Indian rupees.
10. **Shri Rameshwar Teli** (MoS, Ministry of Labour and Employment; BJP, Dibrugarh, Assam) told the Rajya Sabha that the Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme, launched during the covid pandemic, has seen 42.21 lakh loans disbursed till 13th March, 2023.

Snapshot of Questions Answered in Parliament

Sl.No.	Question Type	Lok Sabha	Rajya Sabha
1.	Starred	320	255
2.	Unstarred	3,680	2,720
Total		4,000	2,975

Table 2: Questions Answered In Parliament

PM FLAGS OFF VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS AT BHOPAL

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 1st April flagged off the Vande Bharat Express train between Bhopal and New Delhi at Rani Kamlapati Railway Station in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Upon arriving at the venue, the Prime Minister carried out an inspection of the Rani Kamlapati - New Delhi Vande Bharat Express and also interacted with the children and crew of the train.

The Prime Minister congratulated the people of Madhya Pradesh for getting their first Vande Bharat train. He said that the train will reduce the travel time between Delhi and Bhopal and will usher in many facilities and conveniences for the professionals and youth.

The Prime Minister also highlighted the benefits of the train for tourism in the area as Sanchi, Bhimbetka, Bhojpur and Udayagiri caves will start getting more footfalls. This will also improve the opportunities for employment, income and self-employment.

The Prime Minister said that "Today, Indian Railways is becoming synonymous with convenience for the common families of the country." He listed upgrades like railway station modernization, WiFi facilities on 6000 stations and CCTV on 900 stations

in this regard. He highlighted the popularity of Vande Bharat among the youth and the growing demand for Vande Bharat from every corner of the country.

The Prime Minister mentioned the record allocation for railways in this year's Budget.

Shri Modi informed that, in the last 9 years, the rail budget was continuously increased and Madhya Pradesh got Rs 13,000 crore allocated in the rail-related budget compared to the average of Rs 600 crores in years before 2014.

Giving an example of the modernization of railways, the Prime Minister highlighted the work of 100 percent electrification of the railway network is being achieved in some parts of the country every other day. He informed that Madhya Pradesh is also included in the 11 states where 100 percent electrification has been achieved. The Prime Minister highlighted that the average electrification of railway routes per year has increased tenfold from 600 kilometers to 6000 kilometers after 2014.

Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Mangu Bhai Patel, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan and Union Minister for Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw were present on the occasion. ■

ATAL INNOVATION MISSION Launches Three Innovative Resources to Empower India's Young Minds

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, On 31st March has launched three new resources aimed at fostering innovation and creativity among India's youth. The launch event introduced the ATL Tinkering Curriculum, Equipment Manual, and the Calendar of Activities for 2023-24.

The ATL Tinkering Curriculum is a structured learning pathway designed to help students develop and hone their innovation skills. The curriculum has been developed in collaboration with Makerghat and covers a wide range of concepts, from basic electronics and mechanics to cutting-edge technologies such as 3D printing and Internet of Things. With this curriculum, students will be encouraged to identify and design creative solutions to everyday problems through hands-on, experiential learning.

The Equipment Manual provides comprehensive

guidance on the equipment provided in the Atal Tinkering Labs in schools across the country. The manual contains detailed information about each equipment and tool, including the specifications, applications, and examples of projects that can be built using them. It is a valuable resource for anyone looking to explore the possibilities of innovation and problem-solving.

While as, the Calendar of Activities for 2023-24 outlines a year-long schedule of events, workshops, and competitions aimed at promoting innovation and entrepreneurship among students. The calendar has the latest Tinkering Curriculum and Equipment Manual integrated into it. It also has a special section called - Activity of the Month which has exciting activities that the students can do in their ATL lab every month. ■

AWARENESS ABOUT ORGAN DONATION IS RISING IN THE COUNTRY

The mutual connection through Mann Ki Baat has reached its ninety-ninth (99th) distinction. Generally, we get to hear that the turn around the ninety-ninth (99th) is very difficult. In Cricket, "Nervous Nineties" is considered a very difficult stage. But, where there is Mann Ki Baat of the people of India, the inspiration therein is something else altogether! I'm also happy that there is a lot of enthusiasm among the people of the country regarding the hundredth (100th) episode of Mann Ki Baat.

- In Mann Ki Baat, we have mentioned thousands of people who dedicate their lives in the service of others. There are many people who spend their entire pension towards the education of daughters...some dedicate their whole life's earnings for the environment and the living beings. In our country, selfless charity, Parmarth has been placed so high that people do not hesitate to donate their all for the happiness of others.
- In this era of modern medical science, organ donation has become a very important means of imparting life to someone. It is said that when a person donates one's body after death, it creates a possibility for eight to nine people to get a new life. It is matter of satisfaction, that today awareness about Organ Donation is also rising in the country.
- These days there is a lot of talk about clean energy, renewable energy all over the world. When I meet the people across the world, they certainly talk about India's phenomenal success in this field. Especially, the speed with which India is moving forward in the field of solar energy is a big achievement in itself.
- In our country, with the passage of time, according to the situation and circumstances,



many traditions develop. These traditions increase the strength of our culture and also give it new vitality daily. A few months ago, one such tradition started in Kashi. During the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam, the centuries-old historical and cultural ties between Kashi and the Tamil region were celebrated. The spirit of 'Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat' gives strength to our country.

- You all know that we are celebrating the 400th birth anniversary of Veer Lachit Borphukan ji. A few days ago, a campaign for essay writing based on the life of Lachit Borphukan was launched. You will be surprised to know that about 45 lakh people sent essays for this. You will also be happy to know that now it has become a Guinness Record. And the biggest thing and a matter of great happiness is that these essays that have been written in about 23 different languages.
- When it comes to Kashmir or

Srinagar, the first picture that comes to our mind is of her valleys and Dal Lake. All of us would like to enjoy the views of Dal Lake...However, there is one more thing special about Dal Lake. Dal Lake is also known for its delicious Lotus Stems, also known as 'Kamal Kakdi'. In Kashmir, they are called Nadru. The demand for Nadru of Kashmir is continuously increasing. In light of this demand, farmers cultivating Nadru in Dal Lake have formed an FPO. About 250 farmers have joined this FPO. Today these farmers have started exporting their Nadru to foreign countries. Just some time back, these farmers sent two consignments to UAE. This success is not only bringing a name to Kashmir but also it has increased the income of hundreds of farmers.

- When there is talk of Kashmir, talk of lotus, talk of flowers, talk of fragrance, then it is very natural to remember Maa Sharda who is seated on the lotus flower. A few days ago, the Grand Temple of Maa Sharda was inaugurated in Kupwara. This temple is built on the same route one would use to go to visit Sharda Peeth. The local people have helped a lot in the construction of this Temple. I congratulate the people of Jammu and Kashmir for this auspicious work. ■

YET AGAIN PM MODI TOPS LIST OF MOST POPULAR GLOBAL LEADER WITH 76% APPROVAL RATING: SURVEY

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has once again retained the tag of the world's 'most popular' leader with an approval rating of 76 percent. Shri Modi left behind his US and UK counterparts Mr. Joe Biden and Mr. Rishi Sunak, a survey released by Morning Consult stated on 03 April, 2023.

As per the rating, PM Shri Narendra Modi's ratings

Shri Modi left behind his US and UK counterparts Mr. Joe Biden and Mr. Rishi Sunak

trump those of other leaders, including Australian PM Mr. Anthony Albanese, French President Mr. Emmanuel Macron and Canadian Prime Minister Mr. Justin Trudeau. The poll surveyed 22 global leaders for the ratings while PM Modi bagged the first spot, Mexican president Mr. Andrés Manuel López Obrador grabbed the second position with 61 percent approval ratings, the survey showed. ■



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PM Shri Narendra Modi at a grand roadshow in Davanagere, Karnataka on March 25, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi alongwith MP CM Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan flags off Vande Bharat Express at Rani Kamalapati Station (Bhopal) in Madhya Pradesh on April 1, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi visits the new Parliament House and interacting with the construction workers in New Delhi on March 30, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi graced the occasion of Easter at the Sacred Heart Cathedral Catholic Church in New Delhi on April 9, 2023.



PM Shri Narendra Modi with His Majesty the King of Bhutan, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck in New Delhi on April 4, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi addresses at the 2nd Summit for Democracy on March 29, 2023



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₹40,710 Crore

Month	Amount Sanctioned (₹ Crore)
March, 2018	3,683
March, 2019	6,281
March, 2020	20,223
March, 2021	25,586
March, 2022	30,160
March, 2023	40,710

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