

KAMAL SANDESH

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₹20



'WORLD IS INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN INDIA'S SUCCESS STORIES'



TRAINS THAT NOT ONLY HAVE HAPPY PASSENGERS BUT FANS TOO

CELEBRATING OUR GROWING TECH INNOVATION, PROWESS



BJP National President Shri J.P. Nadda alongwith other senior Maharashtra leaders addressing Ministers, MPs and MLAs in Pune on May 18, 2023



BJP National President Shri J.P. Nadda addressing meeting of Mumbai Morcha Aghadi in Vile Parle West, Mumbai on May 17, 2023



BJP National President Shri J.P. Nadda while addressing 'Kamal Mitra' launched by BJP Mahila Morcha at BJP HQ, New Delhi on May 19, 2023



BJP National President Shri J.P. Nadda while launching a book "Democracy in COMA - Silenced Voices of Women Victims in Bengal" in New Delhi on May 12, 2023



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah, Gujarat CM Shri Bhupendra Patel and others inaugurating various schemes related to housing and connectivity in Ahmedabad on May 21, 2023



Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, Maharashtra CM Shri Eknath Shinde and Dy. CM Shri Devendra Fadnavis receiving the greetings of the people at 'Veer Shiromani Maharana Pratap Mahasammelan' in Sambhajinagar on May 14, 2023

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PM VISITS JAPAN, PNG AND AUSTRALIA

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the G7 Summit in Hiroshima, Japan on 20 May. On the side-lines of the Summit Prime Minister held several bilateral meetings. He held bilateral meetings with the Prime Minister Kishida, Prime...



12 BJP IS AN INSTRUMENT OF CHANGE: JP NADDA

Addressing the BJP state Executive Committee meeting, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said BJP is an instrument of...

15 'REVOLUTIONARY STEPS TAKEN BY PM FOR EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN THE COUNTRY' Addressing the gathering, the BJP National President Shri Jagat...



16 IN A SWEEPING VICTORY, BJP WINS ALL 17 MAYORAL SEATS IN UP

The Bharatiya Janata Party once again swept the Uttar Pradesh local body polls as it won all 17 Mayor seats, and...

27 NATION BUILDING IS AN ONGOING 'MAHA YAGYA'

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 12 May laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation, projects worth around Rs 4400 crores in Gandhinagar...



VAICHARIKI

THE LOTUS SHALL BLOOM / ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE 24

SHRADHANJALI

AMBALA LOK SABHA MEMBER RATTAN LAL KATARIA IS NO MORE 26

ARTICLE

TRAINS THAT NOT ONLY HAVE HAPPY PASSENGERS BUT FANS TOO / ASHWINI VAISHNAW 28

CELEBRATING OUR GROWING TECH INNOVATION, PROWESS / DR. JITENDRA SINGH 30

OTHERS

"DEMOCRACY IN COMA – SILENCED VOICES OF WOMEN VICTIMS IN BENGAL" LAUNCHED 14

PM DISTRIBUTES ABOUT 71,000 APPOINTMENT LETTERS 18

EPFO ADDS 1.39 CRORE NET MEMBERS DURING FY 2022-23 18

PM MODI STORY 23

BJP ORGANISES 'PRAJA PORU YATRA' IN ANDHRA PRADESH 32

DEDICATES SEVERAL RAILWAY PROJECTS WORTH 8000 CRORES IN ODISHA 33

PM MODI TOPS GLOBAL LEADER RATINGS; JOE BIDEN, JUSTIN TRUDEAU FAR BEHIND 34



SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

@Narendramodi



For the last nine years, India is moving forward taking all the states along for its progress. This is the reason why the pace of development is maintained in the country even in the most difficult global situation.

(18 May, 2023)

@JPNadda



Keeping in mind the importance of skill development, several policies have been formulated under the leadership of PM Shri @narendramodiji. Which has been successfully implemented in Maharashtra. Lakhs of youth have been benefited by this & have become self-reliant through service and self-employment.

(18 May, 2023)

@AmitShah



Long-forgotten toys found new homes in Gandhinagar thanks to the BJP's local unit. The unit collected unused toys and distributed them among poor children. The afternoon was brightened yesterday by the smiles of the children as they received their new toys.

(21 May, 2023)

@Rajnathsingh



Under the leadership of PM Shri @narendramodi, India's Defence production has crossed Rs 1 lakh crore mark for the first time ever. MoD is actively working with the stakeholders to remove the challenges facing the industry and giving them solutions.

(19 May, 2023)

@Dr. S. Jaishankar



Nations of Indian Ocean today have the responsibility of shaping the narrative about values, practices and correctness. It is essential that their culture, history and traditions are presented to the world.

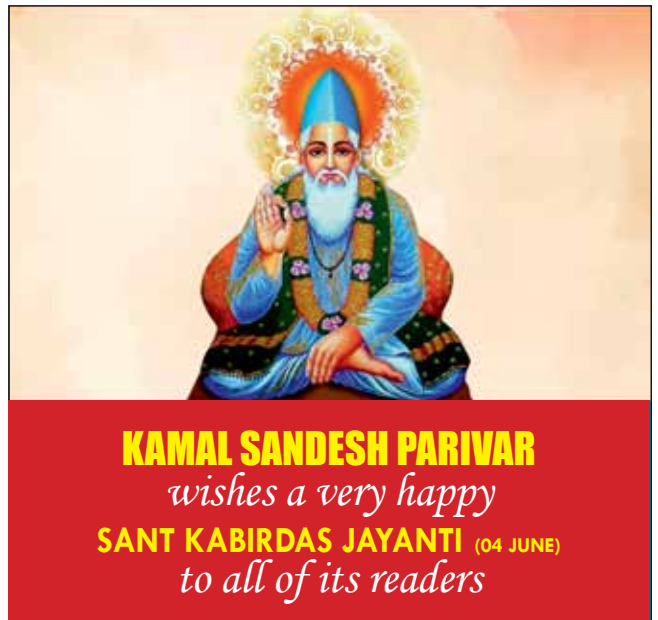
(12 May, 2023)

@BLSanthosh



6 days. 3 countries - Japan, Papua New Guinea & Australia. 3 summits - G7, QUAD & Pacific meets. Met 12 global leaders. 50 engagements, Meetings with industry and investment firms. 2 top award & now at 11 am Delhi - Dehradun VANDE BHARATH Express inauguration. @narendramodi

(25 May, 2023)





INDIA CREATING NEW HORIZONS ACROSS THE WORLD

As the world recognises and acknowledges a rising India at various global forums, the heart of every Indian rejoices with a sense of achievement and fulfillment. The huge success of the recent visits of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Japan, Papua New Guinea, and Australia has turned a new page in history, making India a nation that is highly valued and respected across the world. The visit has generated enormous goodwill for India as the Prime Minister focused on peace, cooperation, and friendship among the nations, creating headlines in the global press. India today is seen leading from the front on various global issues, committing itself to targets, coming to aid the nations in distress, extending its hands to the nations in their developmental efforts, and creating opportunities for the world through its unimaginable performance at home. In the last nine years, India has come a long way—from a fragile five to one of the top five economies in the world—an achievement that none can ignore. Moreover, as the world's fastest growing economy, India has become a bright spot in an otherwise gloomy global scenario. The manner in which India faced the COVID-19 pandemic and stood by the nations in need in those trying times has created an image of India as a confident nation and a reliable friend.

The unimaginable performance of India under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has certainly made him emerge as the most popular leader in the world, leading the approval ratings by a huge margin

While participating in QUAD, FIPIC, and the G7, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had around 40 engagements, including a huge event in Sydney that was attended by more than 20,000 people and interactions with around two dozen world leaders in summits along with a number of bilateral meetings. As the Prime Minister met industry captains, scientists, academicians, artists, and cultural icons, India's transformation in the last nine years, its thriving democracy, and its immense potential were applauded and acknowledged by everyone. The unimaginable performance of India under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has certainly made him emerge as the most popular leader in the world, leading the approval ratings by a huge margin. It is not surprising to see US President Mr. Joe Biden ask for PM Shri Modi's autograph, describing him as the most popular leader in the world. The reverence shown to him by Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea Mr. James Marape in touching his feet has thrilled every Indian with even more respect for PM Mr. Marape and the people of Papua New Guinea. When Australian PM Mr. Albanese calls PM Shri Modi 'The Boss' and New Zealand PM Mr. Chris Hipkins flies to Australia to meet PM Shri Modi, every Indian is filled with pride and a sense of gratitude for the people of Australia and New Zealand. While these nations welcome the Indian Prime Minister with open arms, with the highest awards conferred by Papua New Guinea and Fiji and PM Marape calling PM Shri Modi 'leader of the global south', India's increasing global stature and the Indian PM's impact around the world can be easily understood.

As Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi unveiled the bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Hiroshima, India's message of peace and cooperation was reinforced by the emphasis on the teachings of Bhagwan Buddha and Mahatma Gandhi. It is to be noted that while the Prime Minister emphasised India's civilizational message by launching 'Thrukkural' in Tok Pisin language to connect Papua Guinea youth to Indian values and culture, his gifts to dignitaries highlighted Indian culture and tribal products celebrating the contributions of the ancient Indian civilization. While the visit has strengthened various dimensions of bilateral and multilateral relations, the emergence of India on global forums is redefining India's position in the emerging global order. The strong and charismatic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is creating new horizons for India across the globe. ■

 shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org

PM VISITS JAPAN, PNG AND AUSTRALIA

PM holds bilateral meetings with world leaders on sidelines of G-7 & Quad



G7 MEETING IN JAPAN

‘INDIA SUPPORTS DIALOGUE AND DIPLOMACY AS THE PREFERRED MEANS TO FIND A WAY FORWARD FOR UKRAINE’

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was on a six days visit to three countries — Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia — from May 18 to May 2023 to attend multilateral summits, including the Group of Seven (G7) and Quad meetings in Hiroshima, Japan. During the visit, Prime Minister Shri Modi had also attended 3rd India-FIPIC summit, addressed PIOs in Australia, attended multilateral engagements and interacted with nearly two dozen world leaders

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the G7 Summit in Hiroshima, Japan on 20 May. On the side-lines of the Summit Prime Minister held several bilateral meetings. He held bilateral meetings with the Prime Minister Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan, which was followed by his meetings with President of Republic of Korea and Prime Minister of Vietnam. Later he met with President of France President Macron and President of Ukraine, President Zelenskyy.

During the meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, he conveyed India's clear support for dialogue and diplomacy as the preferred means to find a way forward for Ukraine. The Prime Minister also assured Mr. Zelensky that India would continue extending humanitarian assistance to the people of Ukraine.

During the meeting with Prime Minister of Japan Fumio Kishida, both the leaders discussed ways to enhance India-Japan friendship across different sectors including trade, economy and culture, ways to synergise efforts of their respective G7 and G20 Presidencies, and the need to highlight the voice of Global South.

Prime Minister Shri Modi had a productive meeting with President of South Korea Yoon Suk Yeol. They talked about ways to further boost India-South Korea friendship in key developmental sectors and agreed to

PRIME MINISTER'S 10-POINT CALL TO ACTION AT THE G-7 SUMMIT

- Develop inclusive food systems that protect the most vulnerable, including marginal farmers
- Adopt Millets: path to nutritional and environmental benefits
- Stop food wastage to strengthen food security
- Depoliticize global fertilizer supply chain
- Develop alternative model to fertilizers
- Develop resilient healthcare systems
- Promote holistic healthcare; pursue traditional systems of medicine
- Promote digital health to ensure global universal health coverage
- Ensure mobility of healthcare professionals
- Build development models inspired by needs of developing countries, not driven by consumerism

A vertical portrait of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a white kurta and blue vest, standing against a background of the G7 Hiroshima Summit logo.

deepen cooperation in areas of trade and investment, high technology, IT hardware manufacturing, defense, semiconductor, and culture.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also met his Vietnamese counterpart Pham Minh Chinh. Mr. Modi and Mr. Chinh discussed opportunities in the fields of defence, building resilient supply chains, energy, science and technology, human resource development,

PM MODI PARTICIPATES IN THE QUAD LEADERS' SUMMIT

PM MODI INVITES LEADERS TO INDIA FOR NEXT QUAD SUMMIT



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the third Quad Leaders' Summit in Hiroshima, Japan on 20 May 2023, along with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia, Prime Minister Fumio Kishida of Japan and President Joe Biden of the United States of America.

The Leaders had a productive dialogue about developments in the Indo-Pacific which affirmed their shared democratic values and strategic interests.

To strengthen the resilience and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific the Leaders announced initiatives which would complement the development priorities of the region. The initiatives include Clean Energy Supply Chains Initiative, 'Quad Infrastructure Fellowships Programme', 'Partnership for Cable Connectivity and Resilience', Quad support for a small-scale ORAN

deployment in Palau- the first in the Pacific region. Apart from these, Quad Investors' Network has been launched. The Leaders also welcomed progress of the Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness, announced at their Summit last year in Tokyo.

The Leaders agreed on the need to preserve the integrity of the UN, its Charter and its agencies. Prime Minister emphasized the importance of consolidating Quad's constructive agenda and delivering tangible outcomes for the region. The Leaders agreed to continue their regular dialogue and maintain the momentum of Quad engagement. In this context, Prime Minister invited Quad Leaders to India for the next Quad Summit in 2024. ■

culture and people to people ties.

The Prime Minister met German Chancellor Olaf Scholz and reviewed and assessed the progress in bilateral relations. Mr. Modi also met the President of United States of America Joe Biden. Earlier, as a symbol of friendship and goodwill, the Prime Minister also unveiled a bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Hiroshima.

PM attends 3rd India-FIPIC summit in Papua New Guinea



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the 14 leaders of Pacific Island countries met at the 3rd India-FIPIC summit, which was held in Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea. Prime Minister arrived in Port Moresby late

on Sunday (21 May) night. This was the first ever visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. And in a very special gesture, Prime Minister James Marape of Papua New Guinea received the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the airport. Prime Minister also received 19 gun salute and a ceremonial guard of honor at the airport. Besides, a special tradition welcome reserved normally for the returning

Leaders of Pacific nations relish Indian delicacies, millets at lunch hosted by PM Modi

Indian cuisine and millets found a prominent place at the lunch hosted by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for leaders attending the 3rd Summit of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation here on 22 May, 2023. Shri Modi along with his Papua New Guinea counterpart Mr. James Marape hosted the key summit here. Shri Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Papua New Guinea. The lunch included Khandvi, Millet and Vegetable Soup, Malai Kofta, Rajasthani Ragi Gatta Curry, Dal Panchmel, Millet Biryani, Nannu Fulka and Masala Chaas. Paan Kulfi and Malpua were served as desserts.



PM MODI GETS HIGHEST HONOURS OF FIJI & PAPUA NEW GUINEA



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been conferred with the highest honours by Fiji and Papua New Guinea on 22 May, 2023 for his global leadership and championing the cause of the Global South.

PM Shri Modi was conferred with Fiji's highest civilian award "Companion of the Order of Fiji" by his counterpart Sitiveni Rabuka during his visit to the island nation. Only a handful of non-Fijians have received this honour till date.

The Prime Minister was also conferred with "Companion of the Order of Logohu" during his recent visit to Papua New Guinea to attend the third India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) Summit. The award was given to Shri Narendra Modi for championing the cause of unity of Pacific Island countries and spearheading the cause of Global South.

The PM has been bestowed with several honorary awards from various countries including the US, Russia and Middle East during 9 years of his tenure.

International Awards Conferred Upon PM Modi

- Order of Abdulaziz Al Saud**
Highest honour of Saudi Arabia awarded to non-muslim dignitaries
- State Order of Ghazi Amir Amanullah Khan**
Highest civilian honour of Afghanistan
- Grand Collar of the State of Palestine Award**
Highest honour of Palestine awarded to foreign dignitaries
- Order of Zayed Award**
Highest civilian honour of the United Arab Emirates
- Order of St. Andrew award**
Highest civilian honour of Russia
- Order of the Distinguished Rule of Nishan Izzuddin**
Highest honour of the Maldives awarded to foreign dignitaries
- King Hamad Order of the Renaissance**
Third highest civilian honour of Bahrain
- Legion of Merit**
The first U.S.A. medal to be awarded to foreign citizens
- Order of the Druk Gyalpo**
Highest civilian decoration in Bhutan
- The Companion of the Order**
Highest honour of Fiji, rare honour for a non-Fijian
- The Companion of the Order of Logohu**
Highest honour of Papua New Guinea

family members of that country was also accorded to the Honorable prime minister.

On 23rd May Prime Minister Shri Modi co-hosted with Prime Minister James Marape, the third summit of the Forum for India Pacific Islands Cooperation, FIPIC. This is a unique platform that brings together India and 14 Pacific Island countries - Cook Islands, Fiji, Republic of Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Niue, Republic of Nauru, Republic of Palau, Papua New Guinea, where the summit was held, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. FIPIC was launched in Fiji in 2014 during Prime Minister's visit to that country. This summit was an opportunity for the PIC leaders to share their views on regional priorities and interest and on engagements with India in their space.

PM also launched the Sustainable Coastal and Ocean Research Institute, SCORI, that is housed in the University of South Pacific in Suva, Fiji, and is

supported by NCCR, the National Center for Coastal Research, Chennai.

Prime Minister also announced a 12-step action plan to strengthen the India-PIC partnership. First, he announced a 100-bed regional super specialty hospital in Fiji; setting up of regional IT and cyber security training hub in Papua New Guinea; Sagar Amrit Scholarships, 1000 scholarships spread over the next five years, among others.

On the bilateral side, Prime Minister Shri Modi held meetings with the PNG Governor General, Sir Bob Dadae, as well as with Prime Minister James Marape. They discussed ways and means to further strengthen their partnership across various sectors including particularly trade and investment, on matters relating to cooperation in the field of health, capacity building and skill development as also information technology. Documents on visa exemption for diplomatic and official passport holders as well as on holding foreign

office consultations were also signed during the visit.

During the meetings in Papua New Guinea, Prime Minister was also bestowed with the honor of the highest civilian award of Papua New Guinea, the Grand Companion of the Order of Logohu.

Prime Minister also had a bilateral meeting with Mr. Sitiveni Rabuka, Prime Minister of Fiji. Discussion covered key sectors of cooperation including capacity building, health care, climate action, renewable energy, agriculture, education and information technology. On behalf of the Fijian President Shri Ratu Wiliame Maivalili Katonivere, Prime Minister Rabuka bestowed Prime Minister Modi with the highest honor of the Republic of Fiji, the Companion of the Order of Fiji. Prime Minister Modi thanked the government and the people of Fiji for this honor and dedicated it to the people of India and to the generations of Fiji Indian community.

On the sidelines of India FIPIC summit, Prime Minister also met with Mr. Chris Hipkins, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

PM visits Australia

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also visited Sydney, Australia. He held bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Australia Mr. Anthony Albanese. In the meeting both leaders recalled their productive 1st Annual Leaders' Summit held in March 2023 in New Delhi and reaffirmed their commitment to further broadening and deepening of the multifaceted India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

The discussions focused on cooperation in defense and security, trade and investment, new and renewable energy, green hydrogen, critical minerals, education, migration and mobility and people to people ties.

Both leaders welcomed the signing of the India-Australia Migration and Mobility Partnership Arrangement (MMPA), which will further facilitate mobility of students, professionals, researchers, academics and others, including through a new skilled pathway named MATES (Mobility Arrangement for Talented Early Professionals Scheme) specifically created for India.

The two leaders reiterated their determination to ensure a peaceful, prosperous and inclusive Indo-Pacific region, underpinned by a rules-based international order. They also discussed reform of UN Security Council. ■

“Mutual Trust and Respect” are foundation of close ties between India and Australia

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi along with Shri Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister of Australia, addressed and interacted with a large gathering of Indian community members on 23 May 2023 at the Qudos Bank Arena in Sydney.

The Indian diaspora, consisting of students, researchers, professionals and business persons, participated in the event with great enthusiasm. A



number of Ministers, Members of Parliament and other dignitaries from Australia also participated in the event.

Both Prime Ministers jointly unveiled the foundation stone for a 'Little India' Gateway to be built in Harris Park in Parramatta, Western Sydney, which is home to a large Indian community.

In his address, Prime Minister Shri Modi highlighted “Mutual Trust and Mutual Respect” as the foundation of the close historical ties between India and Australia, and underscored the numerous elements that bind the two countries. He lauded the contribution and success of the Indian community in Australia, calling them cultural and brand Ambassadors of India.

Prime Minister outlined India's growing achievements on a global scale, and noted that the world was increasingly interested in India's success stories. He highlighted the deepening engagement between India and Australia, and announced that an Indian Consulate would be opened in Brisbane. ■

PM Modi's visit to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia: **Historic & Highly Successful**

The recent visit of Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia is a strong example of how the world's view of India and its respect for Indian values, Indian Governance and PM Shri Modi's leadership has grown in the last 9 years, said Union Minister, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar. He addressed the press conference at BJP headquarters on 24 May, 2023. Highlights:

Gestures of Warmth, Adulation & Respect

- This visit was peppered with instances that exemplify the enormous respect and goodwill for India amongst the world leaders.
- Imagine the enormity of the moment when President Biden asks for PM Modi's autograph, after complaining to him about the deluge of requests to attend the dinner when he visits USA.
- Imagine the significance of Prime Minister of PNG James Marape touching PM Modi's as a mark of respect after welcoming him at the airport.
- Imagine the importance of PM Albanese calling PM Modi 'The Boss' and lighting up Sydney Opera House in Tricolour,
- Imagine the goodwill shown by PM Chris Hipkins of New Zealand by flying to Australia to specially meet with PM Modi
- These are not moments one sees often in history. These are rare events which are outcomes of huge hard-work and efforts made to help others.
- All these countries may not agree with each other or with India on everything.
- But there is consensus among all when it comes to the importance of PM Modi.

Great push to Indian culture, values and ethos

- What also stood out during this visit was how effectively PM Modi used global forums as a stage to share Indian culture, values and ethos.
- There cannot be a more befitting spot for Mahatma Gandhi than Hiroshima and by unveiling Gandhi's bust there, PM Modi has ensured that Gandhi's message of non-violence will be heard when anyone goes to Hiroshima. This is one of the many Gandhi statues and busts PM Modi has inaugurated across the world.

- Launch of Tamil classic "Thirukkural" in Tok Pisin language to connect Papua New Guinean youth to Indian values and culture.
- Wearing of recycled material at the G7 & FIPIC Summit as a mark of India's commitment to values of sustainability and PM's message of LIFE at G20.
- The lunch hosted by PM for FIPIC leaders had Indian cuisine and millet based items.
- His gifts, highlighting Indian culture and specially tribal culture to world leaders are a significant effort.

Important conversations for India's future

- PM Modi met industry captains for conversations and a business round-table & continued his bit to make India the most preferred investment destination in the world.
- He also met scientists, academicians, artists and cultural icons. Amongst the many who met him in Australia included Nobel Laureate in Physics Brian Paul Schmidt who said "PM Modi is one of the most visible leaders that India has had in my lifetime. He takes an interest in whoever he talks to, whether its President of USA or someone he meets for first time from society. India's ability to do world class science has become an order of magnitude higher".
- Prof Toby Walsh Professor of "Artificial Intelligence" said that India is absolutely worlds most extraordinary democracy. UPI is a wonderful example of how India can do things itself"

Diplomacy and Diaspora

- PM Modi participate in 3 Summits- Quad, FIPIC and G7.
- It was a hectic visit for the PM with over 40

PM Modi arrives to a warm welcome in New Delhi, addresses Party Karyakartas



After concluding the successful visit to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi arrived to a warm welcome by BJP Karyakartas in New Delhi. Addressing the people gathered at the airport, PM Shri Modi said that whenever he visited any country, he made a point to share about India's potential, the young talent and the skills they possessed.

"Whenever I speak about the culture and traditions of our country, I look into the eyes of world leaders and narrate it with great pride. This is because the people of this country have elected a government with full majority at the Centre," he added.

Elaborating about the details of his meetings, PM Shri Modi said that he got the opportunity to interact with over 40 world leaders. He cited how they were excited about India's G20 Presidency. The PM mentioned about him unveiling of bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Hiroshima as a symbol of peace. He also

spoke about the release of translated version of 'The Thirukkural' in Tok Pisin language of Papua New Guinea.

Recalling the community programme held in Sydney, PM Shri Modi took a jibe at the Opposition parties on their decision to skip the inauguration of the new Parliament building. He said, "The programme was watched all over the world. Not only it was special due to the august presence of the Australian Prime Minister, but the programme also witnessed participation from former Australian PM and opposition leaders. It was a great display of democracy."

Hitting out at the Opposition for questioning government's decision to distribute covid vaccines to foreign nations, he stated that it helped save countless lives. He said, "We did it because we come from the land of Buddha and Gandhi. We are the people devoted to sadbhavna (goodwill). The world is expressing gratitude for this." ■

engagements lined up.

- PM interacted with over 2 dozen world leaders in summits as well as through bilateral meetings.
- Around 20 thousand people attended the Community event in Sydney. Unlike other leaders

who blame others or badmouth the country, PM's speech focused solely on the India story.

- Be it Japan or PNG or Australia, the newspaper front pages inevitably were filled with news about PM Modi. ■



BJP is an instrument of change: JP Nadda

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 17 May, 2023 embarked on a two-day Pravas to Maharashtra and reviewed the party's preparations for the forthcoming Lok Sabha, Assembly and Local Body elections with state MPs, MLAs, party Office-Bearers and Karyakartas in Mumbai. Shri Nadda, apart from addressing the concluding session of the state Executive Committee Meeting of the party in Pune, met the 'Panna Pramukh', members of Mumbai and also interacted with prominent personalities of the society. Nearly 1,200 delegates, including the party's District-level Office-Bearers, attended the BJP state Executive Committee Meeting

Addressing the BJP state Executive Committee meeting, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said BJP is an instrument of change.

People have a lot of expectations from us

He said, "People have a lot of expectations from us, and we are instruments of change. Therefore, we need to live up to the expectations and aspirations of the people. For this, PM Shri Narendra Modi has given seven Sutras to us."

India today, stands with a position in the world and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi stands with a personality. When there is an earthquake in Nepal, the Government of India reaches out to help. If there is any economic crisis in Sri Lanka, India is ready to help them with both hands extended, the BJP National President added.

PM turned a calamity into an opportunity

Lauding India's efforts during Covid19 pandemic, he said, "The pandemic adversely affected all the countries of the world. However, India overcame it with the help of its policies. PM Shri Modi turned a calamity into an opportunity."

In the Railways, the budget has been increased by 800 per cent. Similarly, the National Highways have increased by seven times. A huge amount has been invested in the infrastructure in Maharashtra also, he added.

'LABHARTHI SAMMELAN' IN MUMBAI

The BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said Shri Narendra Modi's strong leadership has helped the country in mitigating the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. While addressing the 'Labharthi

YUVA SAMVAD IN MUMBAI

Addressing the Yuva Samvad in Prabhadevi, Mumbai BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said today's youth are committed to take forward India's growth and development story till 100 years of our Independence. And for this it is imperative to have a skill development programme at the national level for our next generation of youth. The Skill India Mission campaign being undertaken under the leadership and guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is a step towards this direction which is not only bringing about positive changes across India but also making our country ready for the future.

He said in 2014 on the initiative of the Prime Minister a separate Skill Development Ministry was created and in 2015 Skill India Mission campaign was launched at the pan India level. All this has started showing encouraging results and has enhanced skills of our youth to make them future ready.

Our youth is our strength

- Our youth is our strength. Youth power means empowering the nation. Youth power is one of the strong pillars of our country. In skill development lies the future of our nation.
- Through the highly successful Rozgar Mela the Prime Minister has announced to give



government jobs to over 10 lakh people across the country. You will be happy to note that till now 3.59 lakh youths have been given appointment letters during 5 Rozgar Melas.

Startup capital of the world

- Due to the foresight of the Prime Minister a startup revolution is going on in the country and India is being referred to as the Startup capital of the world. In 2014 there were just around 700 startups in the country and today there are over 90,000 Startups in the country.
- In 2014 India had just 4-5 Unicorns whereas today, there are over 100 Unicorns in the country. Through these Startups and Unicorns over 23 lakh direct and indirect jobs have been created.

Sammelan' in Mumbai Shri Nadda said that schemes like 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana', 'Ayushman Bharat', 'SvaNidhi' and many others helped the most needy and downtrodden citizens to survive during the pandemic time.



Elaborating on schemes like Ujjwala,

Har Ghar Jal, Swachh Bharat and COVID relief package worth 20 lakh crore rupees, the BJP National President said the decisions have helped in uplifting the agriculture and infrastructure sector besides helping the economy.

PANNA PRAMUKH SAMMELAN IN MUMBAI

During his program at Kandivali for Panna Pramukh Sammelan, Shri JP Nadda said that in the upcoming BMC elections, the mayor must be elected from BJP. "I won't comment on the Maha Vikas Aghadi (Sena-UTB, Congress and the NCP), but during their regime all projects and development work were stopped," he said.

"All parties are diluting on the matter of ideologies but BJP is the only party whose ideology is still intact. We removed Article 370 in Kashmir. They made fun of us on the Ramlalla issue, they said 'Waqt Nahi Batayenge'. We gave them the time as well. Atal ji did nuclear testing in Pokhran. We are the party, where we do, what we say," the National President said. ■

Democracy is in a coma in West Bengal: JP Nadda

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda on 12 May, 2023 slammed West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for imposing a ban on the film “The Kerala Story” and said that democracy is in a coma in Bengal. He said a state of lawlessness existing in West Bengal and the state machinery under Banerjee has crumbled.

Shri JP Nadda was addressing a gathering after unveiling a book titled “Democracy in Coma-Silenced Voice of Women Victims in West Bengal” at an event in New Delhi.

The BJP National President said, “All activities and initiatives taken by the TMC government are intended to see that opposition is silenced”. But, the incidents, which are taking place in the state, are extremely worrisome and painful, he said. “I feel it is very serious. Society, in general, should take these issues forward among the people,” he added.



Referring to the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) data, he said crime against women in West Bengal stands at 74.6 percent and the state is also among the top when it comes to cases of acid attacks.

West Bengal is first in the cases of heinous crimes against women in the age group of 18-30.

Talking about the book, Shri Nadda said, “These are not stories, but factual incidents have been quoted in the book. I was the first victim; the first attack was carried out on me when I had gone to Diamond Harbour”.

The BJP National President said the situation in West Bengal is very painful. Yet, there is a need to bring change in Bengal which is possible with the strength of the people, he added. “We do not talk about revenge. We talk about change. There is a need to bring change there and we can do it with your strength,” he added. ■

PPRC SUBMITS REPORT ON “MANN KI BAAT SE JAN KI BAAT” TO BJP NATIONAL PRESIDENT

The Public Policy Research Centre (PPRC) Directors, Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Dr. Sumeet Bhasin and team met BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda and submitted a report titled ‘Mann Ki Baat Se Jan Ki Baat’ in New Delhi on 01 May, 2023.

BJP National President Shri J.P Nadda appreciated how PM Shri Narendra Modi’s Mann Ki Baat has tied the country and the society together by having a soulful dialogue and inspiring and encouraging the people. He mentioned that Mann Ki Baat has become a medium to celebrate the collective spirit of the people of India, and has shed light on their inspiring life journeys.

Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe acknowledged how PM’s Mann Ki Baat has emphasised the importance of sustainability along with spreading awareness on issues such as education, economy, Indian heritage



and culture, energy, gender justice, and governance.

Dr. Sumeet Bhasin highlighted a number of aspects about Mann Ki Baat, from its role in reconnecting Indians with their rich legacy, narrating inspiring stories from all the corners of the country, instilling positivity during the Covid-19 pandemic, to promoting a lifestyle for environment, and most importantly, awakening the society for collective action.

The report by PPRC provides an overview of the three major aspects of the transformation brought to the nation by the Prime Minister’s radio broadcast programme and highlights how it has become a contributing factor towards the accelerated development of the country, especially during the ‘Amrit Kaal’. These three aspects are:

- **Unleashing India’s ‘Jan Shakti’**
- **Reforming the mindset of the country and inculcating a positive outlook**
- **Promoting the ‘Indian’ way of life** ■

'Revolutionary steps taken by PM for empowerment of women in the country'

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda inaugurated the BJP National Mahila Morcha training program 'Kamal Mitra' at party Headquarters in Delhi on 19 May, 2023. Under the leadership of Mahila Morcha National President Smt. Vannathi Srinivasan the Morcha has taken up this initiative to train Mahila Morcha Karyakartas on 15 flagship women centric schemes implemented by Modi government. The target of this training program is to prepare 1 lakh 'Kamal Mitra' trained sisters and 200 office bearers of Mahila Morcha in each Lok Sabha constituency of the country. Through online mediums sisters across the country will be trained till December this year. After completing the training, all the workers will have to appear for a test and only after passing it, they will get a 'Kamal Mitra' certificate.

Addressing the gathering, the BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said 'Kamal Mitra' is a very innovative programme being organised by the BJP National



Mahila Morcha. It is a woman-centric training programme that focuses on the 15 flagship schemes of the Modi Government. The BJP Mahila Morcha will impart training and through 'Kamal Mitra' they will work towards

empowerment of our women. I welcome it and congratulate the BJP Mahila Morcha for this wonderful and important initiative.

The BJP Mahila Morcha has set the target of making 1 lakh 'Kamal Mitra' across the country which will inform beneficiaries of 15 women centric schemes and programmes of the Narendra Modi Government and add more beneficiaries with these programmes so that more people can get benefits of the schemes launched by our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is focusing on the last mile delivery and as a result women standing at the bottom of the pyramid, those belonging to the poorest of the poor sections of our society are now getting benefits of the government schemes. ■

Initiatives for Women's welfare

- Number of schemes and programmes started by the Narendra Modi Government in the past nine years have surpassed all the initiatives of women empowerment put together which were started in the past 70 years post-Independence. This is the kind of dedication and commitment of the Prime Minister towards women empowerment.
- Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, piped water connections have been provided to over 12 crore houses across the country.
- Similarly, over 9.5 crore women have been given free cooking gas cylinders, while over 11 crore 'Ijjat Ghars' have been constructed in the past nine years.
- Electricity connections have reached over 2.60 crore households across the country through the 'Soubhagya Yojna'.
- Similarly, under the 'Jan Dhan Yojana' over 55 percent of the scheme's beneficiaries are our women.
- While the share of women beneficiaries under the 'Pradhanmantri Awas Yojna' is over 58 per cent who have got ownership rights of the houses built under the highly successful scheme.
- It is under the Narendra Modi Government that for the first time that women have started getting permanent commission in our defence forces. Similarly, women have also started getting combat training in our armed forces. Women have also started getting admission in the prestigious National Defence Academy.
- These are some of the revolutionary steps taken by PM Shri Narendra Modi for empowerment of women in the country.

In a sweeping victory, BJP wins all 17 mayoral seats in UP

Secures most of Nagar Palika Parishads and Nagar Panchayats

The Bharatiya Janata Party once again swept the Uttar Pradesh local body polls as it won all 17 Mayor seats, and 813 Corporator seats out of total 1420 seats. The BJP also got a thrashing victory in Nagar Panchayat and Nagar Palika Parishad polls for which the results were declared on 13 May, 2023. With this victory, the BJP has drastically improved its performance in comparison with 2017 when it won 14 Mayor seats, 596 Corporators in the Municipal Corporations, 923 Nagar Palika members and 664 Nagar Panchayat members. The Samajwadi Party retained its place as the second-largest party, while the BSP finished third.

Hailing the party's performance UP CM Yogi Adityanath said the people have given a mandate to the "good governance, development and fear-free environment" in the state under the leadership and guidance of PM Shri Narendra Modi. He said BJP has won more seats in all local body elections as compared to 2017.

As per the data, from Agra Municipal Corporation – Smt. Hemalata Diwakar, Aligarh- Shri Prashant Singhal, Ayodhya- Shri Girishpati Tripathi, Bareilly - Shri Umesh Gautam, Firozabad - Smt. Kamini

Rathore, Ghaziabad- Smt. Sunita Dayal, Gorakhpur- Dr. Manglesh Srivastava, Jhansi Shri Bihari Lal Arya, Kanpur-Smt. Pramila Pandey, Lucknow- Smt. Sushma Kharkwal, Meerut- Shri Harikant Ahluwalia, Moradabad- Shri Vinod Agrawal, Prayagraj-Shri Ganesh Kesarwani, Saharanpur-Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh, Shahjahanpur- Smt. Archana Verma, Varanasi- Shri Ashok Tiwari, Mathura–Vrindavan- Shri Vinod Agarwal won as Mayors. Out of 17 BJP Mayors, three have been elected for the second time in a row.

Among other local bodies, the BJP won 89 seats of chairpersons in Nagar Palika Parishad with 1360 ward members, and 191 seats of chairpersons in Nagar Panchayats with 1403 ward members.

After the victory, UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath with his Cabinet colleagues joined the BJP's celebrations at the party state headquarters in Lucknow, where they exchanged bouquets and distributed sweets. In his address, Yogi Adityanath attributed the win to the "hard work of BJP workers and good coordination between the party and the government." He added that the people have given mandate to "good governance, development and security" that was created by the double engine

'Support of people for unprecedented development works'



Congratulating UP BJP for the sweeping victory, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said, "Many congratulations to all the workers and candidates of @BJP4UP for this grand victory in the civic elections. This success, reveals the massive support of people for the unprecedented development works taking place in the state under the leadership of CM @myogiadityanath ji".

'Victory of the people's faith'



BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda said, "Hearty congratulations to Chief Minister Shri @myogiadityanath ji, Shri @Bhupendraupbjp ji and all the Karyakartas of @BJP4UP for BJP's resounding victory in Uttar Pradesh civic elections. This victory is the victory of the people's faith in the inclusive and welfare policies being implemented in the state under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji".

government under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

So far as the opposition parties are concerned, the BSP, which won two mayor seats (Meerut and Aligarh) in 2017, could not win even a single mayor seat this time. The party won only 85 seats of corporators in Nagar Nigams, 16 seats of chairpersons and 191 members in Nagar Palika Parishads.

The Samajwadi Party also drew a blank in the



mayoral elections, as it had done in 2017 too. The party had won 191 seats of corporators in municipal corporations, 35 seats of chairpersons and 425 members in Nagar Palika parishads. In Nagar Panchayats, the party won 79 seats of chairpersons and 485 members.

The Congress won only 77 seats of Municipal Corporators in Nagar Nigams, four seats of Nagar Palika chairperson with 91 members and 14 seats of Nagar Panchayat chairpersons with 77 members. ■

We shall serve Karnataka with even more vigour in the times to come: PM

The election results of the Karnataka assembly were out on 13 May, 2023. While the BJP maintained its vote share of 36% from the previous assembly election of 2018, the Indian National Congress (INC) made gains by an additional 4.8% of the vote share and got 42.9% of the votes. Whereas, the JD(S), lost a whopping 5% of its vote share this time and independent candidates managed to capture 5.2% of the vote share and secure two seats in the Vidhan Sabha.

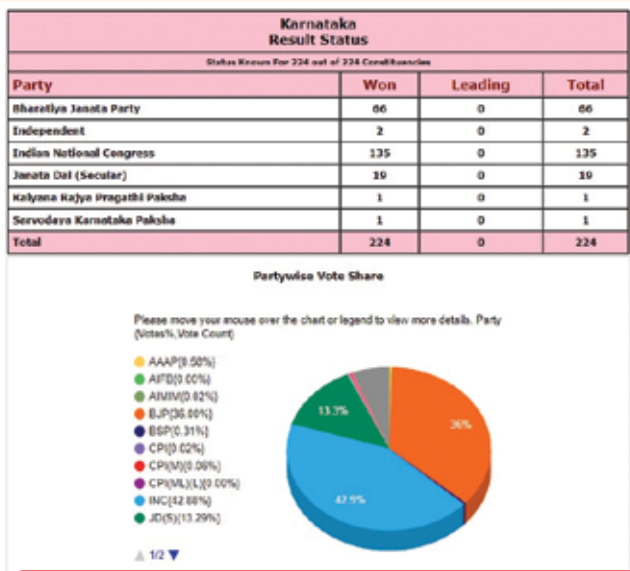
After the results, the Indian National Congress (INC) emerged as the winner by securing 135 seats while, the BJP got 66 seats and the JD(S), got 19 seats in the state. The newly elected assembly comprises four women MLAs from the INC, three from BJP, two from JD(S), and one independent MLA.

In the Bengaluru political division the BJP improved its vote share significantly to 41.2%. BJP gained both in terms of its seat count (from 11 to 17) and vote share (from 35.8% to 41.2%) in the Bengaluru division.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the Congress party as it got a clear majority in the assembly elections. In a tweet he said, "Congratulations to the Congress Party for their victory in the Karnataka Assembly polls. My best wishes to them in fulfilling people's aspirations."

Further he said, "I thank all those who have supported us in the Karnataka elections. I appreciate the hard work of BJP Karyakartas. We shall serve Karnataka with even more vigour in the times to come".

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda



KARNATAKA ELECTION RESULTS - 2023

said, "The BJP accepts the mandate of the people of Karnataka with humility. I thank the Karyakartas of @BJP4Karnataka for their efforts and the people who showed faith in our vision. Under the leadership of PM Shri @narendramodi Ji, the BJP will continue to work for the betterment of the people and raise their voice by actively playing the role of constructive opposition".

Noteworthy, voting for the Karnataka assembly polls were held on May 10, 2023 and Election Results were released on May 13. The state recorded 72.67 per cent voter turnout for the 224-member assembly polls. ■

PM DISTRIBUTES ABOUT 71,000 APPOINTMENT LETTERS

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi distributed about 71,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits on 16th May, 2023 via video conferencing. Prime Minister also addressed these appointees on the occasion.

The Rozgar Mela was held at 45 locations across the country. The recruitments are taking place across Central Government Departments as well as State Governments/UTs supporting this initiative. The new recruits, selected from across the country joined various positions/posts like Gramin Dak Sevaks, Inspector of Posts, Commercial-cum-Ticket Clerk, Junior clerk-cum-Typist, Junior Accounts Clerk, Track Maintainer, Assistant Section Officer, Lower Division Clerk, Sub Divisional Officer, Tax Assistants, Assistant Enforcement Officer, Inspectors, Nursing Officers,



Assistant Security Officers, Fireman, Assistant Accounts officer, Assistant Audit officer, Divisional Accountant, Auditor, Constable, Head Constable, Assistant Commandant, Principal, Trained Graduate Teacher,

ROZGAR MELA

Assistant Registrar, Assistant Professor, among others.

The Rozgar Mela is a step towards fulfilment of the commitment of the Prime Minister to accord highest

priority to employment generation. The Rozgar Mela is expected to act as a catalyst in further employment generation and provide meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in national development.

The newly inducted appointees will also get an opportunity to train themselves through Karmayogi Prarambh, which is an online orientation course for all new appointees in various Government departments. ■

EPFO ADDS 1.39 CRORE NET MEMBERS DURING FY 2022-23

The provisional payroll data of EPFO released on 20th May, 2023 highlights that EPFO has added 13.40 lakh net members in the month of March, 2023. During the financial year 2022-23, around 1.39 crore net members have been added by EPFO with an increase of 13.22% compared to the previous financial year 2021-22 wherein EPFO had added approximately 1.22 crore net members.

Out of 13.40 lakh members added during the month, around 7.58 lakh new members have come under ambit of EPFO for the first time. Among the newly joined members, highest enrolment is registered in the age-group of 18-21 years with 2.35 lakh members, followed by the age-group of 22-25 years with 1.94 lakh members. The age-groups of 18-25 years constitutes 56.60% of total new members added during the month. This age-wise comparison



of payroll data indicates that majority of the members joining organised sector workforce of the country are first-time job seekers.

Gender-wise analysis of payroll data reflects that enrolment of net female members has been 2.57 lakh in March, 2023, which is around 19.21% of the net member addition for the month. Of these, 1.91 lakh female members are the new joinees. This is around 25.16% addition of all the new joinees. ■

DEFENCE PRODUCTION CROSSES RS 1 LAKH CRORE MARK FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER



As a result of the consistent efforts of Ministry of Defence, the value of defence production in Financial Year (FY) 2022-23 has crossed the figure of Rs one lakh crore for the first time ever. The value currently stands Rs 1,06,800 crore and it will go further up once the data is received from the remaining private defence industries. The current value of defence production in FY 2022-23 is a rise of more than 12 per cent over FY 2021-22, when the figure was Rs 95,000 crore.

The Government is continuously working with defence industries and their associations to remove the challenges faced by them and promote defence

production in the country. A number of policy reforms have been taken to achieve the objective of ease of doing business, including the integration of MSMEs and start-ups into the supply chain.

Due to these policies, the industries, including MSMEs and start-ups, are forthcoming in defence design, development and manufacturing and there is almost a 200 per cent increase in the number of defence licenses issued to the industries in the last 7-8 years by the Government. These measures have given a boost to the defence industrial manufacturing ecosystem in the country and generated tremendous employment opportunities. ■

728 RAILWAY STATIONS ARE COVERED WITH 785 'ONE STATION-ONE PRODUCT' OUTLETS

Ministry of Railways on 12 May launched 'One Station One Product' (OSOP) scheme over Indian Railways with objectives to promote 'Vocal for Local' vision of the Government of India, provide a market for local/indigenous products and create additional income opportunities for the marginalised sections of society. Under the scheme, OSOP outlets at railway stations are allotted for showcasing, selling and giving

CABINET APPROVES PRODUCTION LINKED INCENTIVE SCHEME – 2.0 FOR IT HARDWARE

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 17 May approved the Production Linked Incentive Scheme 2.0 for IT Hardware with a budgetary outlay Rs. 17,000 crore.

Electronics manufacturing in India has witnessed consistent growth with 17% CAGR in last 8 years. This year it crossed a major benchmark in production – 105 billion USD (about Rs 9 lakh crore)

India has become the world's second largest manufacturer of mobile phones. Exports of mobile phones crossed a major milestone of 11 billion USD this year (about Rs 90 thousand crore)

The global electronics manufacturing ecosystem is coming to India, and India is emerging as a major electronics manufacturing country.

Building on the success of Production Linked Incentive scheme (PLI) for mobile phones, the Union Cabinet approved PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT hardware

India is emerging as a trusted supply chain partner for

all global majors. Large IT hardware companies have shown keen interest in establishing manufacturing facilities in India. This is further supported by strong IT services industry having good demand within the country. Most majors would like to supply domestic markets within India from a facility situated in India as well as make India an export hub. ■

PLI Scheme 2.0 for IT hardware covers laptops, tablets, all-in-one PCs, servers and ultra small form factor devices

- The budgetary outlay of the scheme is Rs. 17,000 crore
- The tenure of this scheme is 6 years
- Expected incremental production is Rs. 3.35 Lakh crore
- Expected incremental investment is Rs. 2,430 crore
- Expected incremental direct employment is 75,000

high visibility to indigenous /local products. The pilot of the scheme was started on 25 March 2022 and as on 01 May 2023, 728 stations are covered with 785 OSOP outlets in 21 States and 3 Union Territories across the country. These OSOP stalls are designed through National Design Institute for uniformity. Cumulative Direct Beneficiaries from March 2022 till 01 May 2023 is 25,109.

'One Station One Product' are specific to that place and include artefacts made by indigenous tribes, handlooms by local weavers, handicrafts like world famous wood carving, chikankari and zari-zardozi work on clothes, or spices tea, coffee and other processed/semi processed food items/products indigenously grown in the area. For example in North East India, Varieties of Assamese Pitha, Traditional Rajbhongshi Dress, Jhapi, Local textile, Jute Products (Cap,Gamocha,Doll) are available on OSOP Stalls, in Jammu & Kashmir area, Kashmiri Girda, Kashmiri Kahwa & Dry Fruits are famous, in South India Cashew products, spices, Chinnalapatti Handloom Sarees are catching the attention of passengers, in Western part of the country, Embroidery & Zari Zardozi, Coconut Halva, locally grown fruits, processed foods, Bandhani are famous.

Product categories, under this scheme, include the following:

- Handicrafts/ Artefacts
- Textiles and Handlooms
- Traditional Garments
- Local agricultural produce (including Millets)/ Processed/semi processed foods ■

INDIA'S OVERALL EXPORTS IN APRIL 2023 ESTIMATED AT USD 65.02 BILLION

India's overall exports (Merchandise and Services combined) in April 2023 is estimated to be USD 65.02 Billion, exhibiting a positive growth of 2.00 per cent over April 2022. Overall imports in April 2023* is estimated to be USD 66.40 Billion, exhibiting a negative growth of (-) 7.92 per cent over April 2022. ■



JAL JEEVAN MISSION ACHIEVES MILESTONE OF 12 CRORE TAP WATER CONNECTIONS

Under Azadi ka Amrit Kaal, Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) celebrates a new milestone of ensuring safe and clean drinking water through taps to more than 12 Crore rural households of the country. At the time of announcement of launch of JJM by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi from the ramparts of the Red Fort on 15th August 2019, only 3.23 Crore (16.64%) households in villages had access to piped water connection.

As on date, 5 States (Goa, Telangana, Haryana, Gujarat and Punjab) and 3 UTs (Puducherry, D&D and D&NH and A&N Islands), have reported 100% coverage. Himachal Pradesh at 98.35%, followed by Bihar at 96.05%, are also poised to achieve saturation in the near future. Goa, Haryana, Punjab, A&N Islands, Puducherry, D&NH and D&D are 'Har Ghar Jal certified States/ UTs i.e., in these states/ UTs, the villagers have confirmed through Gram Sabhas that 'all households and public institutions' in the village are getting adequate, safe and regular supply of water.

The relentless efforts of the Union and State governments have also resulted in ensuring the provision of tap water supply in 9.06 lakh (88.55%) schools and 9.39 lakh (84%) anganwadi centres in the country. In the 112 aspirational districts of our country, at the time of the launch of the Mission, only 21.64 lakh (7.84%) households had access to tap water which has now increased to 1.67 Crore (60.51%). ■

MORE THAN 25,000 LIFE-RELATED EVENTS TAKE PLACE ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 20 October 2022 at Kevadia, Gujarat. Mission LiFE focuses on bringing about behaviour changes in individuals for combatting climate change. The objective is a global movement for transitioning from a model of destructive and mindless consumption to deliberate and mindful utilization of resources.

In order to further catalyze pan-India advocacy and awareness about LiFE, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has initiated a month-long mass mobilisation drive, which will culminate

GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS

on 5 June 2023 in a mega celebration of World Environment Day. With a view to amplify all efforts to promote the message of LiFE and make the drive a success, MoEFCC has included all 99 Ministries and 36 States/UTs, along with their divisions, subordinate organizations, and field offices, to undertake LiFE-related activities beginning 5 May 2023.

In less than 10 days, more than 25,000 LiFE-related events have taken place across India mobilizing individuals to take pro-planet actions.

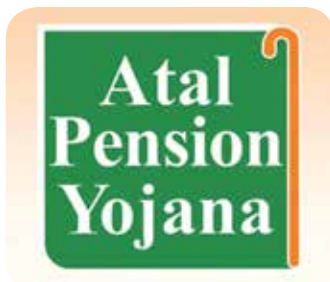
The Ministry has developed two dedicated portals for LiFE, in order to create a structured reporting format that can track the progress being made on LiFE. The Mission LiFE Portal (missionlife-moefcc.nic.in) is open access and can be used to download the 100+ creatives, videos, and knowledge materials that have been developed by the ministry for LiFE. The Meri LiFE Portal (merilife.org) has been developed for ministries and institutions to upload event reports and capture the progress of the mass mobilisation drive.

The mass mobilization campaign will culminate in a mega event on the occasion of World Environment Day 2023 on 5th of June. ■

OVER 5.25 CRORE SUBSCRIBERS ENROLLED IN ATAL PENSION YOJANA

Atal Pension Yojana (APY) a flagship social security scheme of the Government of India, has completed eight years of successful implementation. The scheme was launched on 9th May 2015 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi with the objective of delivering old age income security to all citizens of India, particularly to the workers in the unorganised sector.

The scheme has been implemented comprehensively across the country covering all states and Union Territories with total enrolments crossing the mark of 5.25 crore. APY enrolments have continuously shown an increasing trend since its inception. In new enrolments, there has been a growth of 20% in FY 2022-23 over FY 2021-22 in comparison to a growth of 25% in FY 2021-22



over FY2020-21. As on date, the total assets under management (AUM) in APY is more than Rs. 28,434 crore and the scheme has generated an investment return of 8.92 % since inception of the scheme.

This feat of bringing in the most vulnerable sections of society under the coverage of pension could not have been possible without the untiring efforts of Public and Private Banks, Regional Rural Banks, Payments Banks, Small Finance Banks, the Department of Posts, and the support extended by the State Level Bankers' Committees.

New APY account can be opened by any Indian citizen, in the age group of 18-40 years, who is having a savings bank account and who is not an income taxpayer. Under APY, a subscriber would receive a lifelong minimum guaranteed pension of Rs.1000 to Rs.5000 per month from the age of 60 years, depending on their contributions, which itself would vary based on the age of joining the APY scheme. The same pension would be paid to the spouse of the subscriber after the demise of the subscriber and on the demise of both the subscriber and spouse, the pension wealth as accumulated till age 60 of the subscriber would be returned back to the nominee. ■

OVERALL MINERAL PRODUCTION INCREASES BY 6.8 %

The index of mineral production of mining and quarrying sector for the month of March, 2023 (Base: 2011-12=100) at 154.2, is 6.8% higher as compared to the level in the month of March, 2022. As per the provisional data of Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), the cumulative growth for the period April-March, 2022-23 over the corresponding period of the previous year is 5.8 per cent.

Production level of important minerals in March, 2023 were: Coal 1078 lakh tonnes, Lignite 46 lakh tonnes, Natural gas (utilized) 2890 million cu. m., Petroleum (crude) 25 lakh tonnes, Bauxite 2115



thousand tonnes, Chromite 555 thousand tonnes, Copper Concentrate 12 thousand tonnes , Gold 161 kg, Iron ore 281 lakh tonnes, Lead Concentrate 42 thousand tonnes, Manganese ore 311 thousand tonnes, Zinc Concentrate 181 thousand tonnes, Limestone 402 lakh tonnes, Phosphorite 220 thousand tonnes, Magnesite 11 thousand tonnes, and Diamond 3 carat.

Important minerals showing positive growth during March, 2023 over March, 2022 include: Copper Concentrate (41.9%), Chromite (34%), Phosphorite (32.8%), Manganese Ore (13.6%), Coal (12.5%), Limestone (7.6%), Lead Concentrate (6.3%), Iron Ore (4.7%), Bauxite (3.6%), and Natural Gas (U) (2.7%). ■

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OF 33 LAKHS PROVIDED TO EACH FPO

In order to realize the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of "Sahkar se Samridhi" and with the efforts of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, a decision has been taken to form 1100 New Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in Cooperative Sector. A target of these 1100 additional FPOs has been allocated to National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare under its 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs' scheme.

Under the FPO Scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 33 lakhs is provided to each FPO. Further, financial assistance of Rs. 25 lakhs per FPO is provided to the Cluster Based Business Organizations (CBBO).

Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), which have a member base of around 13 crore farmers and are primarily engaged in short-term credit and distribution of seeds, fertilizers, etc. will now be able to undertake other economic activities as well. Integration of PACS in the FPO scheme will enable them to expand their business in the areas of supply of production inputs; agricultural equipment like cultivator, tiller, harvester, etc. and processing, including cleaning, assaying, sorting, grading, packing, storage, transportation, etc. PACS will also be able to undertake high income generating activities like bee-keeping, mushroom cultivation, etc.

This initiative will ensure remunerative prices to farmers for their produce by providing them necessary

market linkages. It would also lead to diversification in the economic activities of PACS, thus enabling them to generate new and stable sources of income. ■

MERI LIFE APP LAUNCHED

To catalyze youth action for climate change as a build up to June 5, World Environment Day, Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Shri Bhupender Yadav on May 15 launched a mobile application, called "Meri LiFE" (My life). This app is inspired by the concept of LiFE, envisioned by the Prime Minister at COP 26, which emphasizes mindful and deliberate utilization instead of mindless and wasteful consumption.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Yadav said that this app will showcase the power of citizens, especially young people in saving the environment. He also mentioned that through this app, simple actions in daily lives can have a larger climate impact. The Minister expressed his hope that the portal and app together drive a national movement for LiFE.

Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) was launched by The Prime Minister on 20 October 2022 at Kevadia, Gujarat and focuses on bringing about behaviour changes in individuals through simple easy to do actions. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is the nodal ministry for national-level coordination and implementation of Mission LiFE. As part of their implementation efforts, the Ministry has mobilized Central Ministries, State Governments, Institutions, and private organizations to align their activities with LiFE and spread awareness about the sustainable actions that individuals can undertake. In order to further catalyze pan-India advocacy and awareness about LiFE, a month-long mass mobilisation drive is currently underway and will culminate on 5 June 2023 in a mega celebration of World Environment Day. ■





PM Modi Story



No Compromise with Cleanliness: Modi's initiative decades ago

By: Ashok Bhatt

As the country is writing new stories of cleanliness under the Swachh Bharat campaign initiated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, his resolution for cleanliness dates back to his childhood when PM Shri Modi was always resolute about clean surroundings. From cleaning his shoes with a piece of cloth before entering the school or sweeping the party office, Shri Narendra Modi's resolution for cleanliness was always like a pillar of strength for him.

Here is an incident from his younger days where many see his act of cleanliness as a foundation of today's Swachh Bharat campaign.

It was in the year 1989, Shri Narendra Modi was visiting Junagadh as the State Organization Secretary of Gujarat BJP. He was supposed to meet some district level workers at the Junagadh party office. The BJP office in Junagadh was at the outskirts of the city, it was actually the residence of Acharya Ji which was later converted into the party office.

Since the office was at the outskirts of the city, no worker used to go there daily and clean it. Whenever

there was a meeting, few workers would visit the office in the morning, clean it, make some arrangements and then meeting was held. But this time, Shri Narendra Modi's program was unscheduled.



Shri Modi asked a party worker Shri Ashok Bhatt to take him to the office. Shri Bhatt drove him to the office on his scooter. When Shri Modi entered the party office with Shri Bhatt, he saw a dirty office. He didn't say anything to Shri Bhatt but asked for a broom. Shri Bhatt tried to explain that no one had visited

the office for 2-3 days that is why it was dirty, but he refused to listen to him and again asked for the broom.

Shri Bhatt realized that PM Shri Modi was not happy at a dirty party office. He then asked Shri Modi to stand on one side and got the office cleaned there.

Shri Ashok Bhatt and many other party workers now remember such incidents with Shri Narendra Modi and realize that the foundation of Swachh Bharat comes from those times when Shri Modi was equally concerned about the cleanliness even decades ago from the launch of the Swachh Bharat campaign. ■

Union Home Minister lays foundation stone of the permanent campus of National Academy of Coastal Policing

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah on 20 May laid the foundation stone of the permanent campus of National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) at Dwarka, Gujarat, to be built at a cost of Rs. 470 crores.

In his address, Shri Amit Shah said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the work of National Coastal Police Academy has been started today on more than 450 acres of land in order to further strengthen coastal security. He said that under the guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the



security of the country and the country's borders has been strengthened and the citizens of the country feel safe. Shri Shah said that in order to strengthen the border security, it is necessary that the living and working facilities of our border guards improve, they get state-of-the-art equipment and taking care of the health of their family members. He said that the central government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has left no stone unturned in these three areas and has tried to provide all kinds of facilities and state of art equipment to our security forces. ■



THE LOTUS SHALL BLOOM

- Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Administrative Paralysis

In New Delhi today, there is a Government, but there is no administration. There is a Prime Minister, but one who has lost her grip. The secretariat is there as always, but the services seem struck by paralysis as it were. No decisions are being taken. No one is willing to own responsibility. Ministers wear a permanent look of nervousness, always fearful of the hour when they too might be shown the boot like Kamalapati Tripathi. The bureaucracy is demoralised, and feels apprehensive lest, for being upright in the performance of their duties, they should have to suffer humiliation or even imprisonment as DIG, CBI Shri N.K. Singh had to suffer.

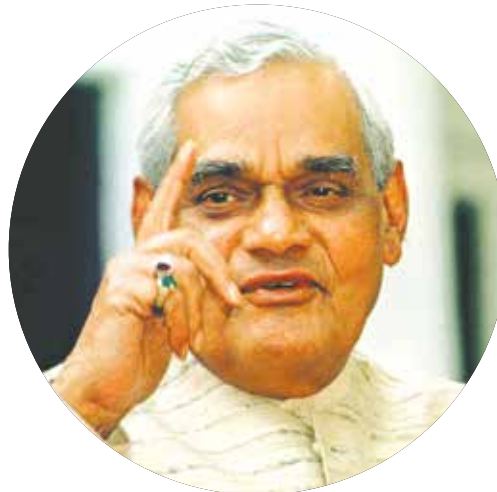
Loyalists Rewarded

The rewarding of Ministers and officers who had debased and discredited themselves during the emergency has had a very unhealthy effect on the entire administration. Victory in elections, which naturally depends on many factors and circumstances, cannot wash away the categorically proved conclusions of the Shah Commission, nor convert the stinking scandal of Maruti into a monument of good conduct.

Defections Encouraged

During the last 12 months, the immoral process of defections promoted by selfishness and lust

for power has continued unabated. Instead of trying to halt this, the ruling party has been unabashedly engaged in trying to seduce and corrupt potential floor-crossers. As a result, the already soiled reputation of politicians has been further trampled. More distressing still, the party system itself has



been seriously undermined.

When the Assam Assembly was placed under 'suspended animation', the Cong (I) had only 8 legislators. Now the party has 56. It may be noted that this accretion of strength has taken place during a period when the youth of Assam were immersed in a life and death struggle to save their State from foreign infiltration. Their struggle continues even today but the Centre is unable to provide any solution.

Police Atrocities

A large section of the people

in Moradabad feel convinced that they can receive no protection from PAC. The Bhagalpur police also seems to believe that by blinding undertrial prisoners, they have only effectively discharged their duty of curbing crime. The stripping of a woman in Baghpat by the police and parading her naked in the streets was shameful, but even more disturbing is the fact that hundreds of people watched this outrage in mute helplessness. All these happenings are pointers not merely of administrative failure or of a decline in social consciousness; they indicate a virtual disintegration of our institutional framework. Some political analysts have described the situation as "a civilisational crisis".

Whatever be the epithet used to describe this crisis, there is no doubt that this crisis is unprecedented. The fading charisma of one individual, the influence of a party cracking up with dissensions and the battered prestige of government are certainly in no position to surmount this crisis.

Sinister moves to install a "President for Life"

People who advocate adoption of the presidential system in place of our present parliamentary democracy as a panacea for these ills are either fools or knaves. In most cases, it is the latter description which would fit.

Talks about a “President for life” and an “elected judiciary” are not the fancies of an individual. They are indices of a deep conspiracy which aims at perpetuating the hold on the State acquired by the present rulers with the help of negative votes. If these designs succeed, India would cease to be a republic. This conspiracy must be exposed and frustrated before it can materialise.

Electoral Reform

An analysis of the 1980 election results would show that once again a party that failed to secure the support of the majority of electors has succeeded in capturing power. In the last Lok Sabha elections, the Cong. (I) secured 351 seats out of 525, but in terms of votes the Cong (I) got only 42.56% of the votes cast.

Indeed, it is one of the major quirks of our election system that under this system, on the basis of minority votes a party is able to secure an overwhelming majority of seats. Right since 1952, there has been not a single election in which the winning party has been able to secure the support of a majority of the electorate. Even the Janata Party, when it won the elections in 1977, got only 43.06% votes.

Election a Big Gamble

This system yields odd results. In 1977, the Janata Party secured 43.06% votes but on that basis got only 298 seats, whereas in 1971, with almost the same voting percentage, the Cong (I) was able to get 350 seats. Then again in 1980, with 42.56% votes, the Cong (I) managed to get 66.86% seats

whereas in 1977, with a higher poll percentage of 43.06%, the Janata could get only 56.80% seats in Parliament. Critics of this system in Britain have said that this system makes elections a big gamble.

Majority with Minority of Votes:

It is evident that under this system, the people's will is not fairly reflected in the legislatures. The 'massive mandate' bragged about by winning parties is generally illusory. These parties represent only a minority of the populace. Nonetheless, by virtue of their legislative majority, momentous decisions are taken in legislatures, laws are changed, the Constitution is radically overhauled, but the majority sanction behind these changes is really missing.

Need to Adopt a Different System

It is imperative that electoral reform is undertaken urgently. In place of the present majority system of elections that we have, we should adopt some variation of the List System, a system that has been worked successfully by most European democracies. The biggest advantage of the List System is that it would politicise the electorate, make them think in terms of party policies and programmes and thus minimise, if not eliminate, the vitiating influence of caste and community that presently dominates the thinking of the average voter. Above all, the List System will stabilise the party system which under the present system remains in a state of perpetual flux. It will not make elections the kind of gamble they

presently are. Parties would be represented in Parliament and the State Legislatures broadly in proportion to their actual support in the people. No doubt, the Majority system has some advantages. One person representing one constituency can better attend to the developmental needs of that constituency. West Germany has tried to combine the plus points of both the Majority system and the List system and has evolved what is known as the Mixed System. It would be of advantage perhaps if we adopt the List System for Lok Sabha elections and the Mixed System for State elections.

A Joint Parliamentary Committee on Electoral Reforms constituted in 1973 had recommended that an experts body should be appointed to examine the feasibility of adopting the List system in India. It is a matter of regret that there has been no follow up on this recommendation yet. In this respect, the Janata Government also cannot be absolved of blame. The Janata Government did, however, approve of several other far reaching electoral reforms, such as public financing of elections, and had decided to discuss its proposals with Opposition Parties before initiating necessary legislation in that regard. I demand that the Experts Committee suggested by the Parliamentary Committee earlier should be set up without delay, and that the proposals drawn up during the Janata regime be implemented. ■

To be continued...

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

AMBALA LOK SABHA MEMBER RATTAN LAL KATARIA IS NO MORE

Former Union Minister senior BJP leader and Lok Sabha Member from Ambala Shri Rattan Lal Kataria is no more. He passed away on 18 May. He was 71. The three time Parliamentarian, Shri Kataria was ill for the past few days.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi expressed anguish at the death of Kataria and said he made rich contribution towards public service and social justice.

PM Modi tweeted, "Pained by the passing away of MP and former Minister Shri Rattan Lal Kataria Ji. He will be remembered for his rich contribution towards public service and social justice. He played a key role in strengthening BJP in Haryana. Condolences to his family and supporters. Om Shanti."

BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda in a tweet in hindi on the demise of the leader said, "The news of the demise



of Lok Sabha MP from Ambala, Haryana and former Union Minister Ratanlal Kataria is very sad. Kataria ji remained devoted to public service, social justice and organization throughout his life. We have lost a true public servant in him. May God give peace to the departed soul and strength to the bereaved family members. Om Shanti!"

Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh expressing the condolence said, "I am deeply

saddened by the demise of former Union Minister and MP Shri Ratanlal Kataria. In his long political career, he served the public with the spirit of a dedicated worker. He played a commendable role in strengthening the BJP in Haryana. My condolences to his family. Om Shanti!"

Several leaders, Haryana Chief Minister Shri Manohar Lal Khattar and the Haryana BJP President Shri Om Prakash Dhankar also expressed their condolences.

Shri Khattar said in a tweet "I am deeply saddened by the demise of the former Union Minister of State and MP from Ambala Shri Ratan Lal Kataria. He always raised his voice in the Parliament for the welfare of the society and the progress of the people of Haryana. His departure is an "irreparable loss" to politics. May God give place to the departed soul in his holy feet and give strength to the family in this difficult time. Om Shanti!". ■

Public sector banks' total profit crosses 1 lakh crore-mark in FY23

The Public Sector Banks (PSBs) have come a long way as their profit touched Rs. 1,04,649 crore in 2022-23. These 12 PSBs witnessed a 57% increase in total profit compared to 66,539.98 crore earned in 2021-22.

Public sector banks' cumulative profit crossed the Rs.1 lakh crore mark in the financial year ended March 2023, with market leader State Bank of India (SBI) accounting for nearly half of the total earnings. According to an analysis of their financial results, the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) have come a long way as their profit touched 1,04,649 crore in 2022-23. These 12 PSBs witnessed a 57% increase



in total profit compared to 66,539.98 crore earned in 2021-22.

In percentage terms, Pune-based Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) had the highest net profit growth with 126% to 2,602 crore, followed by UCO with a 100% rise to 1,862 crore and Bank of Baroda with a 94% increase to 14,110 crore.

However, in absolute terms, SBI has reported an annual profit of 50,232 crore in 2022-23, showing an increase of 59% over the preceding financial year. Except for the Punjab National Bank (PNB), other PSBs have reported impressive annual increases in their profit after tax. ■

NATION BUILDING IS AN ONGOING 'MAHA YAGYA'

Dedicates projects worth 4400 crores in Gandhinagar

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 12 May laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation, projects worth around Rs 4400 crores in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Addressing the gathering, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the beneficiaries. He said, "For me nation building is an ongoing 'Maha Yagya'". He expressed satisfaction at the pace of development in Gujarat under the government formed after the recent election. He mentioned the recent pro-poor Gujarat Budget of 3 lakh crore. He praised the state for leading the spirit of 'priority to the deprived'.

The Prime Minister listed some recent initiatives in the state like 25 lakh Ayushman cards, help to 2 lakh mothers from PM Matru Vandana Scheme, 4 new



medical colleges and works worth thousands of crore for modern infrastructure.

The Prime Minister said that the people have been experiencing unprecedented development in the last 9 years. He recalled a time

when even basic facilities were rare for the citizens. He said that the country is coming out of that despondency.

The Prime Minister said that the houses being constructed under the PMAY are a package of many schemes. This house has a toilet under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Electricity connection under Saubhagya scheme, free LPG connection under Ujjwala scheme, piped water under JJM, he said. He said apart from these things, free medical treatment and free ration are also working as a security shield for the poor. ■

Rajasthan suffered a lot due to lack of a futuristic vision : PM

Dedicates infrastructure projects worth 5500 crores in Nathdwara

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on May 10 laid the foundation stone, inaugurated and dedicated to the nation projects worth over Rs. 5500 crores in Nathdwara, Rajasthan on 10 May, 2023. Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi expressed gratitude for getting the opportunity to visit the glorious land of Mewar of Lord Shrinath.

The Prime Minister said along with basic facilities, the creation of modern infrastructure is equally important. He said vote politics makes it impossible to plan for the country's future. He decried short-term thinking of creating small



PM'S VISIT TO RAJASTHAN

assets which fall short of the growing needs very quickly. This thinking led to neglect of the construction of infrastructure at great cost to the country, he said.

"Rajasthan has suffered a lot due to the lack of a futuristic vision for infrastructure in the country", the Prime Minister remarked as he pointed out that the difficulties faced by the people were not limited to

traveling from one place to another but also involved agriculture, businesses and industries. Noting that the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojna began in 2000 during the then Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee, Shri Modi pointed out that approximately 3 lakh 80 thousand kilometers of rural roads were constructed till 2014, whereas the present government laid down approximately 3 lakh 50 thousand kilometers in the last nine years. Out of this, the Prime Minister added, 70 thousand kilometers of rural roads were constructed in the villages of Rajasthan itself. "Now most of the villages in the country are connected by pucca roads", he added. ■



TRAINS THAT NOT ONLY HAVE HAPPY PASSENGERS BUT FANS TOO

As per the passenger feedback, many like the trains' modern amenities, the overhead luggage space and rotating seats. Many praise the reduced cabin noise levels, safety features, the speed and the smooth ride. Most mobile cameras are out when people see a Vande Bharat train approaching



**ASHWINI
VAISHNAV**

Trains have passengers, but the Vande Bharat trains have fans too. They have garnered immense popularity across India and are being talked about worldwide. As per the passenger feedback, many like the trains' modern amenities, the overhead luggage space and rotating seats. Many praise the reduced cabin noise levels, safety features, the speed and the smooth ride. Most mobile cameras are out when people see a Vande Bharat train approaching. The design has proved to be a visual delight.

PM Modi's vision to fulfil the aspirations of India also had the transformation of Indian Railways at its core. On 15th February 2019, in dedicating India's first semi high-speed train to the nation, Vande Bharat Express, he also kick-started the era of manufacturing world-class trains in India.

There was a time when the preferred way of getting world-class facilities to India was to import from abroad. PM Modi was very clear that India will not only have world-class trains but will also design and manufacture these

in India. Today, Vande Bharat is are markable testament to India's engineering prowess and people-centric governance model.

Scaling the rail network towards high-speed trains, it is a first-of-its-kind "engine-less" trainset that runs on distributed traction. With all air-conditioned chair car service, premium aircraft-style comforts, onboard infotainment systems, and bio-toilets, it offers passengers a never-before superior travel experience.

The success of the initial two Vande Bharat trains launched in 2019 prompted Railways to upgrade and extend the fleet. Subsequently, these trains are being introduced on various important routes, Odisha being the latest addition.

The last nine years were about fundamental changes to develop Railways as a contributor to our economy and environment. These have included better time

management, Gati Shakti railway cargo terminals, clean stations, upgraded trainsets, advanced infrastructure and improved customer experience.

The current Vande Bharat trains can achieve a top speed of 180 kmph and the next version will reach up to 240 kmph. And we are now the 9th country in the world manufacturing high-speed train sets. While most other trains take about 55 seconds to attain a speed of 100 kmph, Vande Bharat takes 52 seconds. Also, the noise level inside the Vande Bharat train



PM Modi's vision to fulfil the aspirations of India also had the transformation of Indian Railways at its core. On 15th February 2019, in dedicating India's first semi high-speed train to the nation, Vande Bharat Express, he also kick-started the era of manufacturing world-class trains in India

is only 65 dB compared to 85-90dB in an aircraft.

These trains have cutting-edge safety features like automatic train protection (ATP) using an indigenously developed 'Kavach' signalling system, improved fire detection and suppression system, advanced CCTV surveillance and emergency communication.

We are now among the few countries developing ATP technologies like Kavach, which sends real-time updates and alerts to the locomotive pilot about upcoming signals and speed restrictions. In the event of a non-response, it automatically activates the braking action. This system is being integrated with the Modern Train Control System and will soon be deployed to the whole railway network, significantly improving our safety. Implementing technologies like Kavach will be a significant milestone in our Vikas Yatra.

In line with the PM's vision of a

complete transformation of Indian Railways, Vande Bharat Express matches global standards of performance, safety and passenger comfort. By setting

The current Vande Bharat trains can achieve a top speed of 180 kmph and the next version will reach up to 240 kmph. And we are now the 9th country in the world manufacturing high-speed train sets

such an international benchmark, Railways is all set to move ahead with his mantra of Make in India, Make for World.

Instead of looking at only short-term changes, Railways is undertaking several strategic interventions and reforms to build a sustainable knowledge-sharing platform to guide us and spearhead the revolution in our

locomotive industry.

The success of Vande Bharat trains has also drawn the attention of various countries, which will pave the way for potential collaboration and export opportunities. Our trainsets will soon be ready for global tracks. It will represent India's new way of working, a new way of operations, and a new way of designing, planning and executing the most complex projects.

With the firm commitment of PM Modi to Reform, Perform & Transform, Railways is aiming to transform the travel experience of over 2 crore passengers moving with it daily. The development journey of 21st-century India is unstoppable. Indian Railways will surely experience a transformation with modern and world-class Vande Bharat trains moving us towards Viksit Bharat by 2047. ■

(The writer is Minister for Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India)

Growth of 42.85% in Passengers Carried by Domestic Airlines

Remarkable growth in the number of passengers carried by domestic airlines has been noticed. According to the traffic data submitted by various domestic airlines, the number of passengers reached a record-breaking 503.92 lakhs, marking a substantial annual growth of 42.85% compared to the corresponding period of the previous year which was 352.75 lakhs passengers.

This remarkable surge in passenger number reflects the robustness and resilience of India's aviation industry, showcasing the ongoing efforts to enhance connectivity and provide convenient travel options to the citizens of our nation. The increased



passenger figures indicate a growing demand for air travel and highlight the positive trajectory of the aviation sector. ■



CELEBRATING OUR GROWING TECH INNOVATION, PROWESS

With the central theme — School to Startups- Igniting Young Minds to Innovate — the National Technology Week (May 11-14) brought together 12 ministries and the technology development board to celebrate engineers, scientists, and innovators who have made key technological advancements.



DR. JITENDRA SINGH

India celebrated its National Technology Day (NTD) on May 11, marking an opportunity to appreciate the visionary leadership of Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi, who has championed science, technology, and innovation since 2014. With the central theme — School to Startups- Igniting Young Minds to Innovate — the National Technology Week (May 11-14) brought together 12 ministries and the technology development board to celebrate engineers, scientists, and innovators who have made key technological advancements. At the core of these celebrations was the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), designed to foster a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship, and inculcate scientific temper in young minds.

AIM, established under NITI Aayog, has made significant strides in fostering a robust entrepreneurial landscape in India. AIM achieves its vision through programmes such as Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) for schools, Atal Incubation Centres (AICs) for start-ups and entrepreneurs, Atal Community Innovation Centres

(ACICs) for grassroots innovation, Atal New India Challenges (ANICs) for national-impact innovations, and Mentor India for change agents.

The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) plays a crucial role in supporting not only industrial R&D for established industries but also startups and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). CSIR's recent efforts in the startup ecosystem include showcasing selected technologies to boost collaboration confidence, highlighting startups incubated in CSIR laboratories,

The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) plays a crucial role in supporting not only industrial R&D for established industries but also startups and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs)

and conducting interactive lecture sessions to strengthen CSIR-industry relationships and gather valuable feedback from startups.

The National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), an autonomous body under the ministry of

earth sciences, is dedicated to designing, developing, and demonstrating technologies for the sustainable utilisation of ocean resources. With a significant impact on the industry, NIOT has signed 32 technology licensing agreements and is set to finalise two more in May. The department of atomic energy (DAE) has established itself as a technology powerhouse. DAE contributes to carbon-free electricity, health care, food preservation, crop variety development, and environmental waste management.

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is promoting space education through initiatives such as Space Tutor, which involves 55 non-governmental organisations and educational institutions establishing space clubs and organising hands-on events. They are also building capacity in the geospatial domain, providing training on satellite data usage for various applications. Space science data from missions such as Chandrayaan and Mangalyaan is used for hackathons and workshops. The Space on Wheels programme consists of mobile space museums, aimed at promoting awareness and education for rural students, in collaboration with institutions and organisations.

Over the past eight years,

India's bio-economy has grown from \$10 billion to \$80 billion, increasing the number of biotech startups to 5,300. The department of biotechnology (DBT) and the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) have supported over 4,000 startups and 2,500 companies, resulting in 1,200 Intellectual Property filings and 800 biotech products reaching the market.

India is now a global leader in vaccine development, with initiatives such as Mission COVID Suraksha and the development of vaccines like ZyCoV-D. In agriculture, 50 crop varieties have been developed using genomic tools. The One Health Initiative and bioenergy projects support animal biotechnology, and clean energy. Capacity-building programmes such as Star College Scheme and Biotech Industrial Training Programme promote skill development and infrastructure.

Finally, the Indian Biological Data Centre (IBDC) ensures the storage and sharing of biological data. The department of science & technology (DST) is India's nodal

India is now a global leader in vaccine development, with initiatives such as Mission COVID Suraksha and the development of vaccines like ZyCoV-D

agency for promoting Science and Technology, elevating the country's ranking to the top 50 innovative economies globally. DST fosters innovation and entrepreneurship through various programmes.

India's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem is thriving, thanks to various policy initiatives and programmes aimed

at developing the nation by 2047. ATLs inspire the younger generation to engage in scientific research, becoming change agents for India's growth. The Atmanirbhar Bharat mission serves as a bridge to New India, emphasising demand, supply, and manufacturing. The Make in India initiative focuses on fostering innovation, investment, skill development, and world-class manufacturing infrastructure. PM Modi's leadership has played a significant role in steering India towards this path of innovation.

NTD celebrations reminded us of the immense potential India holds in various fields. Let us pledge to support and encourage our scientists, innovators, and entrepreneurs in their endeavours to create a brighter future for India. ■

(The Writer is Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space)

Train connectivity reaching Kashmir under Modi government

Railway connectivity was an area, in which Jammu-Kashmir was lagging behind for years, but under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi-led Bharatiya Janata Party government at the Centre, thumping progress has been made towards connecting the region with the rest of the country. In July 2014, after inaugurating the 25-km Udhampur-Katra railway line, the Prime Minister assured the people that Kashmir would be connected and integrated with the rest of the country during his tenure. By year end Baramulla in North

Kashmir would be connected to Kanyakumari through a railway network. Till 2014, the Northern Railways used to get only Rs 700-800 crore per year. But, in the 2023-24 Railway Budget, Rs 6,000 crore was allotted for the railway project in J-K.

The railway line connecting Kashmir with Kanyakumari is all set to be completed this year, and the work on the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla railway line has entered its final stages. The work on the Chenab, which is one of the highest bridges in the world,

Anji bridges, and major tunnels is also nearing completion.

When the BJP-led Centre abrogated J-K's special status on August 5, 2019, Shri Narendra Modi had promised that J-K would get the country's best facilities and infrastructure. In the coming days, Uri, the last township in North Kashmir, will also be connected. What couldn't happen in the last 70 years, is nearing its completion under the current government, and is expected to bring Jammu-Kashmir, further closer to the rest of the country. ■



BJP ORGANISES 'PRAJA PORU YATRA' IN ANDHRA PRADESH



A REPORT BY
SUNIL DEODHAR

Andhra Pradesh is suffering from the corrupt YSRCP Government. Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy is failing on all fronts. Compared to other states, BJP as an organisation is not that strong at the grassroots level in Andhra Pradesh. Amidst a situation like this, to strengthen the organisation and to increase the organisation's base among the masses, an initiative that was recently undertaken by BJP Andhra Pradesh state unit was successful to a great extent. Vide this article, I intend to share the information regarding the said initiative. When BJP Joint National General Secretary (Organisation) Shiv Prakash, State Incharge V. Muraleedharan, State President Somu Veerraju, State General Secretary (Organisation) Madhukar and other prominent leaders discussed about the agitation to be carried out against CM Jagan Mohan Reddy's corruption, a unique initiative came forth and it was given the title "Praja Poru Street Corner Meetings". This Telugu word "Praja Poru" means "People's fight" in Telugu.

In the state of Andhra Pradesh, there are approximately 45000 polling booths and by brining 4 or 5 polling booths under the purview

of each Shakti Kendra, a total of 10000 Shakti Kendras have been formed in the entire state. Out of these 10000 Shakti Kendras, in approximately 8000 Shakti Kendras, at least one karyakarta is available and he/she has been appointed as Shakti Kendra Pramukh.

BJP being an opposition party in the state, to unite the people against Jagan Mohan Reddy government, we planned to organise street corner meetings at Shakti Kendra places and set a target that in a span of one month, we will conduct 5000 street corner meetings.

We decided to spread the information about the pathbreaking work being done by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji for India's security, all round development, & welfare of poor & deprived people

In all these street corner meetings, we decided to spread the information about the pathbreaking work being done by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for India's security, all round development, & welfare of poor & deprived people along with strengthening our nation's integrity. Furthermore, we also decided to make people of Andhra Pradesh aware of Jagan Mohan Reddy's

failed governance. To make this program a grand success, four different committees were constituted. One committee was constituted to monitor the on-ground execution of these street corner meetings, one committee which is called the Drafting Committee was constituted. Said committee's work was to draft a document listing out PM Modi Ji's pro-people schemes and another document listing out CM Jagan's failures. In few places, at the assembly constituency level, such documents were also prepared listing out the local issues.

Another committee was constituted to take care of publicity and materials, through which ample care was taken to supply adequate amount of literature, party flags, caps, posters, banners, stickers, etc. The biggest issue in organising Praja Poru Yatra was speakers. If 5000 meetings were planned to be conducted in a span of one month, then it was necessary to have at least appropriate 166 meetings every day. This led to a requirement of many speakers to address the gatherings. Therefore, the state unit organized a speaker training workshop and a subject training facility was also organised in the same. As the program started, interest of the people increased day-by-day and Praja Poru meetings became successful and the enthusiasm of party workers also increased. And while we have envisioned 5000 meetings, this figure actually reached more

than 6700 meetings at the end of the said one month. Overall, this program was very successful. Some Benefits of Praja Poru meetings:

1. BJP as an organisation became active from state level to booth level and an atmosphere of enthusiasm was created among the people of Andhra Pradesh.
2. On this pretext, booth committees were formed at many places where the party did not exist.
3. A large number of workers and members of the opposition parties, who were angry with their respective parties, came to Bharatiya Janata Party. With this, joining programs were

completed at the micro level.

4. Media in Andhra Pradesh is our opponent. Almost all Media houses does the work of spreading lies about us and there is very little activity in social media. But after the success of Praja Poru sabhas, through social media, the idea of BJP, Modi government's great work came to known to more people in the State. Even mainstream TV channels and newspapers were compelled to take cognisance of this 'Successful Abhiyan' of Andhra Pradesh BJP during the tenure of the campaign.
5. This campaign contributed immensely in building the leadership of Bharatiya Janata

Party among the masses at the grassroots level, creating party workers across all sections of our society, and in setting the narrative that BJP is an alternative to the corrupt Jagan Mohan Reddy government.

Due to this program of ours, many MLAs and leaders of YSRCP were in tension and they tried their best to stop our program.

However, I thank from the bottom of my heart to those karyakartas who did hard work, spent their time, energy & efforts on the issues and contributed in a huge scale to make our program a grand success.

(The writer is BJP, National Secretary and Co-Incharge of Andhra Pradesh)

PM DEDICATES SEVERAL RAILWAY PROJECTS WORTH 8000 CRORES IN ODISHA

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 18 May laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation, several railway projects worth more than Rs 8000 crores in Odisha via video conferencing today. The projects include flagging off the Vande Bharat Express between Puri and Howrah, laying the foundation stone for the redevelopment of Puri and Cuttack railway stations, dedication of 100% electrification of the rail network in Odisha, doubling of the Sambalpur-Titlagarh rail line, a new broad gauge rail line between Angul - Sukinda; the third line connecting Manoharpur - Rourkela - Jharsuguda - Jamga and a new broad-gauge line between Bichhupali - Jhartarbha.

The Prime Minister noted that the railway is the first choice and priority for any citizen who wishes to travel afar and mentioned the other railway development projects whose foundation stone has been laid today including the redevelopment and modernization of Puri and Cuttack Railway Stations, along with the dedication of doubling of rail lines in the region and 100 percent electrification of rail lines in Odisha. ■



The Prime Minister dedicated 100% electrification of the rail network in Odisha. This will reduce the operating and maintenance cost and reduce reliance on imported crude oil. The Prime Minister also dedicated the doubling of the Sambalpur-Titlagarh rail line; a new broad gauge rail line between Angul-Sukinda; the third line connecting Manoharpur-Rourkela-Jharsuguda-Jamga and a new broad-gauge line between Bichhupali-Jhartarbha. These will cater to the increased traffic demands as a result of rapid industrial development in the steel, power & mining sectors in Odisha and will also help ease the pressure on passenger traffic in these rail sections.

PM MODI TOPS GLOBAL LEADER RATINGS; JOE BIDEN, JUSTIN TRUDEAU FAR BEHIND

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has the highest approval rating among world leaders, according to a survey conducted by Morning Consult, a United States-based data intelligence company. Prime Minister Shri Modi has an approval rating of a whopping 78%, and leads the list where only three other leaders out of 22 big nations have an approval rating of over 50%, as per the survey.

According to the survey, PM Shri Modi's (78%) rating trumps those of other leaders such as Alain Berset, the President of Switzerland (62%), Andrés Manuel López Obrador, the President of Mexico (62%) and Anthony Albanese, the Prime Minister of Australia (53%). Only 4 leaders have got more than 50% rating.

'You are too popular: Joe Biden'

The ratings came days before United States President Joe Biden told Prime Minister Shri Modi that he was 'too popular'. "You are demonstrating that democracies matter. You are causing me a real problem. Next month we will have dinner for you in Washington. Everyone in the whole country wants to



come. I have run out of tickets. You think I am kidding. Ask my team. I am getting phone calls from people I have never heard of before. Everyone from movie actors to relatives. You are too popular," and "I should take your autograph." Biden said. ■



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PM Shri Narendra Modi being welcomed by PM of Japan, Mr. Kishida Fumio and Indian diaspora in Hiroshima on May 19, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi participates in the Quad Leaders Summit at Hiroshima in Japan on May 20, 2023.



PM Shri Narendra Modi and other dignitaries in a group photograph during G7 Summit at Hiroshima in Japan on May 20, 2023.



PM Shri Narendra Modi being welcomed by PM James Marape at Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea on May 21, 2023.



PM Shri Narendra Modi in the FIPIC family photo, during the 3rd FIPIC Summit at Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea on May 22, 2023.



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EMPOWERING INDIA THROUGH DIGITAL INDIA

- Over **800 crore** UPI-based digital transactions are made per month
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Data as of 2023 / Source: Govt

BUILDING A SELF-RELIANT DEFENCE ECOSYSTEM

Defence Production Value crosses **Rs 1 lakh crore** mark for the first time ever

Value of Defence Production

Year	Value (Lakh Crore)
2021-22	95,000
2022-23	1,07,000

12% increase

Source: Govt

Accessible India Campaign

ENSURING SABKA SAATH, SABKA VIKAS

- 11.7 lakh** schools made disabled-friendly
- 80 Domestic and International Airports and 709 Railway Stations** made accessible
- 627** Central and State Government websites made accessible

Data as of 2023 / Source: Govt

Recognition	Share your work with other party members and be recognized		पहचान	आपका काम दूसरे को पता के लिए हमें आपको के काम खोज करें और अपनी पहचान बनाएं।
Empowerment	Realize your potential by executing task effectively and efficiently		सशक्तिकरण	आपका काम दूसरे को पता के लिए हमें आपको के काम खोज करें और अपनी पहचान बनाएं।
Networking	Connect with other party members who are doing great work		नेटवर्किंग	आपका काम दूसरे को पता के लिए हमें आपको के काम खोज करें और अपनी पहचान बनाएं।
Participation	Leverage collective power of ideas and efforts powering inclusive growth		सहभागिता	आपका काम दूसरे को पता के लिए हमें आपको के काम खोज करें और अपनी पहचान बनाएं।

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