PM's Independence Day speech reflects his vision, resolve to build all-inclusive, self-reliant India

Amrit Kaal is the period for all of us to do something for Maa Bharati
Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah addressing the Madhya Pradesh Extensive Working Committee Meeting at Atal Bihari Vajpayee Auditorium in Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh) on 20 August, 2023

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda addressing the inauguration session of Kshetra Panchayati Raj Parishad in Howrah (Kolkata) on 12 August, 2023

BJP National President Shri JP Nadda addressing the “Vibhajan Vibhishika Smriti Diwas” programme in New Delhi on 14 August, 2023

BJP Dadar Nagar Haveli & Daman Diu welcomes National President Shri JP Nadda at the Kshetra Panchayati Raj Sammelan on 18 August, 2023

Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah addressing the “Hindu Gaurav Diwas” on the occasion of second Punyatithi of Kalyan Singh ji in Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh) on 21 August, 2023
WE MUST STRIVE TO CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE OURSELVES AS WELL AS THE BJP: PM MODI

Acknowledging the importance of the BJP Karyakartas in...

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda on...

PROFOUND TRANSFORMATION WILL COME IN EASTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY: PM MODI

Addressing the Kshetriya Panchayati Raj Parishad in West Bengal on August 12, 2023 Prime...

NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION IS A BETRAYAL WITH THE COUNTRY: PM

I have brought myself in attendance here to express my deep sense of gratitude to the people who have...
@Narenderamodi
India's economy shines as a beacon of hope in these challenging times. With robust growth and resilient spirit, the future looks promising. Let us keep this momentum and ensure prosperity for 140 crore Indians!
(19 August, 2023)

@JPNadda
Our government, led by Hon. PM Shri @narendramodi Ji has recognised the role of Panchayati Raj institutions in rural development and has worked tirelessly towards their empowerment. Our policies have not only transformed the lives of people living in rural areas but have also provided them with several opportunities to become self-reliant.
(13 August, 2023)

@AmitShah
The per capita income in Madhya Pradesh was ₹11,700 during Congress rule, which has now increased to ₹1.40 lakh. This shows that the pair of Modi ji and Shivraj ji has done the work of breaking records in development.
(20 August, 2023)

@Rajnathsingh
The result of all the changes in India's defense and diplomacy is that today the major powers of the world are joining hands with India. Now if it is not charisma then what else would it be called that while Russia is giving S400 to India, America is giving Predator drones.
(19 August, 2023)

@Nirmala Sitharaman
New Education Policy 2020 is a very progressive policy. It's a result of different people putting their minds together & extensive consultations. NEP is a flexible policy. It's not something that the Centre decides and imposes on all the states. It's a broad framework and the states are left to adapt it according to their requirements.
(17 August, 2023)

@BLSanthosh
RBI has launched UDGAM Portal for Public to Search their Unclaimed Deposits across. 7 Banks are available on the UDGAM Portal. (SBI, PNB, Central Bank of India, Dhanlaxmi Bank, South Indian Bank, DBS Bank, Citibank) Thank You Sri @narendramodi (18 August, 2023)

THE RISE OF THE INDIAN MIDDLE CLASS

New Education Policy 2020 is a very progressive policy. It's a result of different people putting their minds together & extensive consultations. NEP is a flexible policy. It’s not something that the Centre decides and imposes on all the states. It’s a broad framework and the states are left to adapt it according to their requirements.

THE RISE OF THE INDIAN MIDDLE CLASS

Indian Middle Income Class continuously on the rise

KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR
wishes a very happy
SHRI KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI (07 SEPTEMBER)
to all of its readers
EDITORIAL

‘KARTAVYA KAAL’ FOR EVERY INDIAN

As the nation celebrated its 77th Independence Day, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, inspired the nation with a sense of duty by calling the ‘Amrit Kaal’ the ‘Kartavya Kaal’ for every Indian. In his tenth consecutive address to the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort, the Prime Minister reiterated his commitment to ‘Viksit Bharat’ by 2047 and expressed his confidence in the boundless potential of India, powered by youth, in realising this vision of ‘Amrit Kaal’. While mentioning the hardships India had to face in the thousand years of slavery, he also remembered the heroic struggle of the nation and the golden opportunities offered today for preparing the ground for the coming thousand years. He said that the nation is at the milestone between 1000 years of slavery and the 1000 years of a grand future that is about to come. The mantra ‘Sarvajan Hitay, Sarvajan Sukhay’ is set to lay the foundation from which India of the next 1000 years will emerge. As India emerges from slave mentality and commits itself to the principles of ‘panch pran’, Maa Bharati is awakened, and a newfound confidence in its 140 crore people is rekindling trust all over the world in India’s destiny.

The magnitude of India’s achievements in the last nine years can be understood if properly contextualised in the situation prevailing during the Congress-led UPA rule. It was an era of misrule, corruption, looting of public money, policy paralysis, and many other ills and evils that afflicted the nation and created negativity and hopelessness in the country. There was no hope for the future, and the nation’s vitality appeared to have been sapped. In comparison to the then-prevailing precarious scenario, today, under the dynamic and charismatic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the nation has been taken to unimaginable heights, with the world acknowledging its arrival on the global stage. In his address to the nation, the Prime Minister, while recounting India’s achievements in various sectors, highlighted the manifold increase in budgetary allocations for different schemes and projects. The nine years of reforms, aided by a high level of performance, have completely transformed the scenario, immensely increasing the scale and speed of progress. The process of ‘reform, perform, and transform’ can be seen translating into a massive increase in allocations to the states from Rs. 30 lac crore to Rs. 100 lac crore, from Rs. 70 thousand crore to the local bodies to more than Rs. 3 lac crore, from Rs. 90 thousand crore to build pucca houses for the poor to more than Rs. 4 lac crore, while transferring more than Rs. 2.6 lac crore to the bank accounts of the farmers. The manner in which the nation faced the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic by converting challenges into opportunities and standing by the global community while helping many countries in the process has made India’s commitment to humanity acknowledged and recognised across the world. Today, while many developed countries are still feeling the heat of the COVID-19 pandemic, India has marched ahead while becoming the fifth largest economy in the world. India’s achievements are tremendous.

While a large number of innovative schemes have helped in transforming India in a big way, the announcement of the Vishwakarma Yojana, aim to create 2 crore Lakhpati didis, the expansion of Janaushadhi Kendras, and many such initiatives are set to empower the poor and the middle-class people. The Prime Minister has called for freedom from corruption, dynastic politics, and politics of appeasement and to fight against these three evils, as he has also called for availing the opportunity that has come in the way of 140 crore Indians. While addressing the people of India as his family members, the Prime Minister has touched an emotional cord, promising to stand by their side and work tirelessly for everyone as his own family while reminding everyone of their duty in the ‘Amrit Kaal’. As Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid out the blueprint of India as a developed country by 2047, the world watches an India that is now unstoppable, confident, and full of dynamism.

shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org
On the occasion of India’s 77th Independence Day, PM Shri Narendra Modi addressed the nation from the rampart of the Red Fort in Delhi on 15 August, 2023. Shri Modi highlighted India’s rich historical and cultural significance and projected India’s endeavour to march towards the Amrit Kaal. He also spoke on India’s rise in world affairs and how India’s economic resurgence has served as a pole of overall global stability and resilient supply chains. PM Shri Modi elaborated on the robust reforms and initiatives that have been undertaken over the past 9 years by the central government to promote India’s stature in the world. Here is the Excerpts of the speech:

My dear 140 crore family members, the world’s largest democracy and now many people are of the opinion that we are number one even from the point of view of population. Such a huge country, 140 crore countrymen, my brothers and sisters, my family members are celebrating the festival of Independence today. On this momentous and sacred occasion, I extend my greetings to each
and every citizen of the country, to each one who loves, respects and takes pride in our nation India.

The Non-cooperation/Civil Disobedience and Satyagraha Movement under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi ji, brave hearts like Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru, and their generation, there will hardly be any person who has not contributed to the independence of the country. Today, I respectfully pay homage to all those who contributed and sacrificed their lives during our freedom movement. I humbly bow down to their penance in giving us a free nation.

Unfortunately, this time the natural calamity created unimaginable distress in many parts of the country. I express my condolences to all the families who have suffered in this crisis and assure that the state in tandem with the central government will leave no stone unturned to stand by you and resolve all those troubles at the earliest.

India stands with the people of Manipur

In the past few weeks, particularly in Manipur in the North-East, and in some other parts of India, there has been a spell of violence, where many people lost their lives, and the dignity of mothers and daughters was violated. However, in the last few days, we have been hearing continuous reports of peace, and the entire nation stands with the people of Manipur. The people of Manipur have maintained peace in the past few days, and they should continue to foster that peace, as it is the path to resolution. Both the state and central governments are working together to find solutions to the issues and will continue to do so.

‘Sarvajan Hitay, Sarvajan Sukhay’

‘Sarvajan Hitay, Sarvajan Sukhay’, we will take decisions one after the other, and the golden history of the country for the next 1000 years is going to emerge from it. The events taking place in this period are going to impact the next 1000 years. The country, which has come out of the slave mentality and is dedicated to the ‘Panch-Pran’ or the five resolutions, is moving forward today with a new self-confidence. The nation is working wholeheartedly to fulfil the new resolutions. My Mother India which was once a powerhouse of energy, but was buried underneath a pile of ashes, has been awakened once again by the efforts, consciousness and energy of 140 crore countrymen. Maa Bharti has been awakened and we have experienced in the last 9-10 years that this is the period in which a new trust, a new hope and a new attraction has emerged all over the world towards India, towards the potential of India, and the world can see a spark for itself in this beam of light that is emanating from India. A new trust is growing around the world.

We are fortunate that we have inherited certain things from our ancestors and even the present era has created certain other things. Today we have demography; we have democracy; we have diversity. This trinity of demography, democracy and diversity has the potential to fulfill every dream of India. Today, while the countries around the world are witnessing an age structure that is growing old, India is moving energetically towards its youthful age structure. It is a period of great pride because today India has the highest population under the age of 30. This is what we have in my country, the youth below the age of 30 years; my country has crores of hands, crores of brains, crores of dreams, crores of resolutions! So, my brothers and sisters, my family members, we can get the desired results.

Such incidents change the fate of the country. This power changes the destiny of the country. We are at the milestone between 1000 years of slavery and 1000 years of grand future that is about to come. We are at this crossroads and hence we cannot stop, nor shall we live in a dilemma anymore.

‘I have utmost faith in our youth power’

Taking pride in the heritage that was once lost, gaining back the lost prosperity, let us once
again believe that whatever we do, whatever step we take, whatever decision we make, will determine our direction for the next 1000 years and will write the fate of India. Today I would like to tell the youth of my country, to the sons and daughters of my country, you are fortunate. People hardly get the kind of opportunity that our youngsters are getting now, and so we don’t want to lose it. I have utmost faith in our youth power. There is huge potential/capability in our youth power and our policies as well as our ways provide an enabling environment to strengthen it.

Today, my youth have propelled India to a firm position in the world’s first three startup eco systems. Recently, I went to Bali for the G-20 Summit and there the premiers of the most prosperous and developed countries of the world showed immense curiosity and were so eager to learn about the nuances and the success of our Digital India. They were in awe of our talent when I shared that this wonder that India has achieved was not limited to the efforts made by youth of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai but also by the youth of my Tier-2, Tier-3 cities. Now see, there are 100 schools in my country where children are making satellites and also aspiring to release them one day. Today thousands of tinkering labs are conceiving new scientists.

“I want to tell the youth of my country that today, there is no dearth of opportunities, as many opportunities as you want, this country is capable of creating more opportunities. Sky’s the limit”.

Today, from the ramparts of the Red Fort, I want to heartily congratulate the mothers, sisters and daughters of my country. Our country has reached a level today due to the special prowess and competence of my mothers and sisters. Today, the country is on the path of progress, so I want to also congratulate my farmer brothers and sisters. Today, I bow down to the laborers of my country, my laborers who are my dear family members and all the several crores who belong to these fraternities.

Got the opportunity to host G-20 summit

My dear family members, it is certain that India’s capabilities and possibilities are set to traverse new heights of belief, and this new belief in abilities and new strengths should be nurtured. Today, the country has got the opportunity to host the G-20 summit. And the way various G-20 events and programs have been organized in every corner of India since the past year, they have showcased the abilities of common people to the world. These events have introduced the diversity of India. The world is observing India’s diversity with amazement, and as a result, the attraction towards India has also increased. There is a growing desire to know and understand India. Similarly, India’s export is growing rapidly. And I want to say that experts from around the world, based on all these criteria, are saying that India will not stop now. There is hardly any rating agency in the world which is not praising India.

World has seen our capabilities during corona period

The world has begun to think in a new way after the corona period. And I firmly believe that just as after the Second World War, the world formed a new world order, I can clearly see that a new world order, a new global order, a new geo-political equation is rapidly progressing after corona. All interpretations of the geo-political equation are changing, definitions are changing. My dear family members, you will take pride that the world is seeing the capabilities of my 140 crore fellow citizens in shaping the changing world. You are standing at a turning point.

And during the corona period, the world has seen our capabilities in the way India has propelled the country forward. When the world’s supply chains were disrupted, when there was pressure on big economies, even at that time, we had said that we have to see the development of the world. It should
be human centric and humane; that is when we will be able to find the right solutions to the problems. And Covid has taught us or has forced us to realize that we cannot do the welfare of the world by leaving human sensibilities.

**India is becoming the voice of Global South**

Today, India is becoming the voice of the Global South. India’s prosperity and heritage are turning into opportunities for the world. Friends, with India’s participation in the global economy and the global supply chain and with the place that India has earned for itself, I can say with full confidence that the current scenario in India today has brought a guarantee of stability in the world. There are no ‘ifs’ or ‘buts’ now in our minds, or in the minds of my 140 crore family members, or in the mind of the world. There is complete trust.

**Our every direction is linked to ‘Nation First’**

Now the ball is in our court; we should not let the opportunity go; we should not miss the opportunity. I also congratulate my countrymen in India because my countrymen have the ability to understand the roots of the problems and therefore in 2014, after an experience of 30 years, my countrymen decided that in order to take the country forward, a stable and a strong government was needed. So, the countrymen formed a strong and stable government. And the country was freed from the three-decades of uncertainty, instability and political compulsions that were gripping the nation.

The country has such a government today, which is devoting every moment of the time and every penny of the people’s money for the balanced development of the country; for Sarvajan Hitaya: Sarvajan Sukhaya. The pride of my government and my countrymen is connected to one thing, that our every decision, our every direction is linked to just one yardstick, that is, ‘Nation First’. And ‘Nation First’, is going to produce far-reaching and positive results. Work is being done on a large scale in the country. But I would like to say that in 2014 as well as in 2019 you formed a strong government, and that is why Modi got the courage to bring reforms. And when Modi brought reforms one after the other, the people of my bureaucracy, my crores of hands and feet, who are working as part of the government in every corner of India, ‘performed to transform’. They fulfilled the responsibility very well and when the public joined in, we could see the transformation very clearly. And that’s why this period of ‘reform, perform, transform’ is now shaping the future of India. And we are promoting those forces within the country, which are going to strengthen the foundation of the coming thousand years.

**Reform, perform, transform**

We created the Ministry of Jal Shakti. If one analyses the composition of the ministry, then you will be able to understand the mind and brain of this government in a very good way. The Ministry of Jal Shakti is laying emphasis on ensuring pure drinking water to reach each and every citizen of our country. We are reiterating and focusing on development of sensitive systems to protect the environment. After our country braved Corona, the world is looking for holistic health care; this is the need of the hour. We created a separate Ministry of AYUSH and today, Yoga and AYUSH are making waves in the world. Because of our commitment towards the world, the world is looking up to us. If we ourselves undermine this ability of ours, then how will the world acknowledge it?

Cooperative Ministry has also been created which is spreading its network through our cooperative institutions so that the poorest of the poor are heard, their needs are met and they too can contribute in an organized way towards the development of the nation by being a part of a small unit. We have adopted the path of prosperity through cooperation.

**Account of last 10 years**

When we came in 2014, we were at number 10 in the global economy, and today, the persistent
efforts of 140 crore countrymen have finally paid off as we have reached the rank of number 5 in the world economy. And this has not happened just like that at a time when the nation was in the shackles of corruption had gripped the country, scams worth lakhs of crores were wreaking havoc on the economy, the country was being recognized in the governance and fragile file, we stopped leakages, created a strong economy; we tried to spend more and more money for the welfare of the poor. And today, I want to tell the countrymen that when the country is economically prosperous, it does not just fill the coffers; it builds the capability of the citizens and the nation. If there is a government that takes a pledge to spend this honestly for the welfare of its citizens, then, what outcomes could be achieved.

I am giving the account of 10 years to my countrymen from the ramparts of this Red Fort to which our Tricolor stands a witness. The figures that you hear tell a compelling story of change, and you may wonder how this was achieved, how powerful is our capability to facilitate such a transformation. 10 years ago, 30 lakh crore rupees used to go to the states from the Government of India. In the last 9 years, this figure has reached 100 lakh crores. Earlier, 70 thousand crore rupees were spent from the treasury of the Government of India for the development of local bodies, today it is going to more than 3 lakh crores. Earlier, 90 thousand crore rupees were spent to build the houses of the poor; today it has increased 4 times and more than 4 lakh crores are being spent to build the houses of the poor.

13.5 crore poor entered the new middle class

The bags of Urea that are sold for 3,000 rupees in some global markets, we provide to our farmers for 300 rupees, and hence the government is providing a subsidy of 10 lakh crore rupees on Urea for our farmers. The Mudra Yojana, with a budget of over 20 lakh crore rupees, has provided opportunities for self-employment, businesses, and ventures for the youth of our country. About eight crore people have started new businesses, and it’s not just eight crore people who started their businesses; each entrepreneur has provided employment to one or two individuals. The capability to provide employment to 8-10 crore new individuals has been achieved through the Mudra Yojana availed by eight crore citizens.

During the Corona crisis, MSMEs were supported with nearly 3.5 lakh crore rupees, preventing them from sinking and providing them strength. Under the “One Rank One Pension” initiative, which was a tribute to our soldiers, 70,000 crore rupees from India’s treasury has reached them. The families of our retired soldiers have got this money. These are just a few examples and I don’t want to take more time. There are many more initiatives that have significantly contributed to the country’s development, generating employment in various corners of the nation as the budget has been increased manifold across categories as compared to before.

But that’s not all; the result of all these efforts is that in my first five-year term, 13.5 crore of my fellow poor brothers and sisters have broken free from the chains of poverty and entered the new middle class. There can be no greater satisfaction in life than this.

Vishwakarma Yojana

The various schemes from housing schemes, providing 50,000 crore rupees to street vendors through the PM SVANidhi scheme, and many more have aided these 13.5 crore people to rise above the hardships of poverty. In the days to come, we will launch a scheme on the occasion of Vishwakarma Jayanti, benefiting individuals skilled in traditional craftsmanship, particularly from the OBC community. Weavers, goldsmiths, blacksmiths, laundry workers, barbers, and such families will be empowered through the Vishwakarma Yojana, which will begin with an allocation of around 13-15 thousand crore rupees. We have directly deposited 2.5 lakh crore rupees into
the accounts of our farmers through the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi. We have spent 2 lakh crore rupees on the Jal Jeevan Mission, ensuring pure water to every household. We have eased the burden of the poor visiting hospitals during illness under the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. We have spent 70,000 crore rupees under the Ayushman Bharat Yojana ensuring they have access to medicine, treatment, and quality hospital care. The country is aware that we spent 40,000 crore rupees to provide free vaccines during the Corona crisis. But you will be happy to know that we invested nearly 15,000 crore rupees for vaccination of livestock to save them.

Jan Aushadhi Kendras provided new strength

Jan Aushadhi Kendras have provided new strength to senior citizens and middle-class families in our nation. In a joint family, if someone has diabetes, it’s quite natural to get a medical bill of Rs 2000-3000. We provide medicines which cost Rs 100 in the market for just Rs.10, Rs.15, Rs. 20 through Jan Aushadhi Kendras. And today, with 10,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras across the country, about Rs 20 crore have been saved by these people who needed medicines for these kinds of diseases. And these are mostly people who belong to middle-class families. But looking at its success today, I want to tell the countrymen that we are about to touch that section of the society with the Vishwakarma scheme. At the same time, we are also going to work on the target of 25,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras across the country in the coming days from the present 10,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras.

India to be among the top three world economies

When poverty reduces in the country, the power of the middle-class section of the country increases manifold. And I assure you that in the coming five years the country will be among the top three world economies; it certainly will be.

The weaker sections who live in the cities face a lot of problems. Middle-class families are dreaming of buying their own houses. We are coming up with a new scheme in the coming years that will benefit those families that live in cities but are living in rented houses, or slums, or chawls and unauthorized colonies. If they want to build their own houses, we will assist them with a relief in interest rates and loans from banks that will help them save lakhs of rupees. If the income tax bracket for my middle-class families is raised from Rs 2 lakh to Rs 7 lakh, it benefits the salaried class, the middle class the most. Internet data was very expensive before 2014. Now we have the world’s cheapest internet data.

India has tried its best to control inflation. Compared to the previous period, we have also had some success, but we cannot be complacent with that. We should not be complacent that our things are better than that of the world. I have to take more steps in this direction to minimize the burden of inflation on my countrymen. And we will continue to take that step. My efforts will continue.

Working to build an accessible India for Divyangjan

As we work towards building an accessible and inclusive India for our specially-abled citizens Divyangjan, we are also enabling the Divyangjan to proudly unfurl our Tricolor in Paralympics. We are providing special training to these players. Today, leaving the old thinking, the old scope, India is moving forward with a view to achieve these futuristic goals. And I say, when the foundation stone is laid by our government, it gets inaugurated within our regime too. I feel blessed that I was the chosen one and it was in my destiny to inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of so many projects.

This is a government that works

In the renewable energy sector, we have surpassed our set target. The target which we had set for renewable energy by 2030 was completed in
2021-22. We had talked about 20 percent blending in ethanol, that as well we have completed five years ahead of time. The same was true about exports of 500 billion dollars, which was accomplished ahead of time and was increased to more than 500 billion dollars.

We had a resolve to accomplish something which was being discussed in our country for 25 years, that our country needs a new parliament; now it is ready. This is a government that works, a government that surpasses the set targets, this is a new India, this is an India full of self-confidence, this is an India that is working hard to make its resolutions a reality. And so this India is unstoppable, this India is tireless, this India does not gasp and this India does not give up.

Continuous reforms taking place within armed forces

On this auspicious occasion of Independence Day, I extend heartfelt congratulations to my soldiers who are safeguarding the borders of our nation and the uniformed forces responsible for our internal security as I move forward with the address. Our military must be modernized, be empowered, remain youthful, battle-ready, and prepared for war, which is why continuous reforms are taking place within our armed forces.

Today, the nation is experiencing a sense of security and when the nation is secured, peace is established that helps us realize new dreams of progress. The era of serial bomb blasts is now in the past and the innocent deaths as a result are now part of history. The country has witnessed a significant reduction in terrorist attacks. In Naxal-affected areas too, there has been a major transformation, creating a conducive environment for a major change.

India’s unity gives us strength

In every aspect of progress, when we move forward with the dream of a developed India by 2047, it’s not just a dream but a resolve of 1.4 billion citizens. To fulfil that resolve, hard work is essential, but our national character is the most significant force. We must further strengthen our national character and move forward. It is our collective responsibility that our nation, our national character, should be vigorous, dynamic, hardworking, valiant, and outstanding. For the coming 25 years, we should follow only one mantra which should be the pinnacle of our national character. We should move forward with the message of living the unity of India and refrain from any language or step which will cause any harm to the unity of India. Every moment, I will continue my efforts to ensure the unity of the country. India’s unity gives us strength.

Be it North or South, East or West, village or city, male or female – all of us contribute to the strength of our country with the spirit of unity and diversity. The second important aspect that I am observing is that if we want to see our country as a developed India by 2047, we must live by the mantra of ‘Shreshtha Bharat’ and characterize it. Now talking about our production, I had said in 2014, “Zero Defect, Zero Effect.” If there’s a “Made in India” product on any table in the world, the world should have confidence that there is nothing better than this. This will be ultimate. The third point is that the additional power of women-led development will take the country towards further progress.

2 crore Lakhpati Didis

Today with the aim of creating a base of 2 crore Lakhpati Didis, we are working on women self-help groups. We, while promoting the potential of our women power, we are focusing on women-led development.

- Today, more daughters than boys are taking up STEM i.e. Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.
- 10 crore women are involved in women self-help groups and if you go to a village with women self-help groups, you will find bank Didis, Anganwadi Didis with and Didis who distribute medicines.
- And now my dream is to create a base of 2 crore
Lakhpati Didis in the villages.

• I am thinking of a new scheme, that will provide training to the sisters of Women Self Help Group with the integration of technology in our agriculture sector thereby strengthening our Agri-tech.
• We will give skill training to women and train them to operate as well as repair drones.
• The Government of India will provide drones to thousands of such Women Self Help Groups.
• We will initiate making drone services available for our agricultural work.
• To begin with, we will start building 15 thousand Women Self Help Groups which will give flight to the dream of enabling a robust drone training mission.

Country is advancing towards modernity

Today, the country is advancing towards modernity. Be it Highway, Railway, Airway, I-Ways or Information Ways, Water Ways, there is no such area in which the country is not progressing.

• In the last 9 years, we have given a lot of emphasis on development in the coastal areas, tribal areas as well as our hilly areas.
• We have given strength to these sections of the society by introducing schemes like Parvat Mala, Bharat Mala.
• We have ensured the work of mainstreaming our rich eastern India with gas pipelines.
• We have expanded the health infrastructure by sanctioning an increase in the number of hospitals. We have also announced an increase in the number of MBBS seats in medical colleges so that our children can fulfil their dream of serving the nation as doctors.
• We have laid emphasis on making education accessible to all by recommending imparting education in mother tongues.
• I sincerely appreciate the stance of the Supreme Court of India who will now be making it possible for the people who go to court to hear the judgment and receive the operative part in their respective mother tongues. The importance of mother tongue is growing in today’s times.

Vibrant Border Village & Aspirational District

For those villages which are known as Border villages of our country today, we have introduced a programme called Vibrant Border Village.

• The Border Villages of our country were considered as the last village of the country until now.
• We have transformed the entire thought process. It is not the last village of the country.
• Those visible on the border are the first village of my country.
• This is my frontline village and I am happy that today my special guests in this program are 600 headmen who have come to be a part of this important programme at this historic Red Fort from these first villages, border villages.
• They have travelled so far for the first time and have joined with new resolve, prowess, vigour and determination.
• We envisioned Aspirational District and Aspirational Block to reinstate balanced development and its positive results can be seen today.
• Today, with the normal parameters of the states, these Aspirational Districts, which were once far behind, have shown better performance.
• I am positive that in the coming days, our aspirational districts and our aspirational blocks will definitely move forward.

World grapples with climate crises, we have shown the way

We have put forth the concept of “One World, One Family, One Future” for the G20 summit and are working in that direction. As the world grapples with climate crises, we have shown the way and launched the LifeStyle for Environment – Mission LiFE initiative. We formed the International Solar Alliance in collaboration with the world and many countries

"The country is advancing towards modernity. Be it Highway, Railway, Airway, I-Ways or Information Ways, Water Ways, there is no such area in which the country is not progressing"
are now part of the International Solar Alliance. We have emphasized the importance of biodiversity and advanced the establishment of the “Big Cat Alliance”.

For the damage caused to infrastructure due to global warming from natural disasters, there is a need for long-term arrangements. Therefore, we have introduced the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) as a solution. While the world is currently witnessing conflicts in the oceans, we have provided the world with the concept of the “Sagar Platform” which can guarantee global maritime peace. Emphasizing the need for traditional medical practices in mind, we have worked towards establishing a global-level centre of the World Health Organization (WHO) in India. Through yoga and Ayurveda, we have worked for global well-being and health. Today, India is laying a strong foundation for global welfare. It is our collective responsibility to build upon this strong foundation.

In 2047, the Tricolour should be of a developed India

We have many dreams, clear resolutions, and definite policies. There is no questioning the intention. However, we must accept some truths and work towards their solutions. Therefore, my dear family members, I have come to the Red Fort today to seek your help and blessings, because in recent years, I have understood the nation’s needs and assessed its necessities. Based on my experience, I am saying that we must now address these matters with seriousness. During the ‘Amrit Kaal’ of independence, when the nation celebrates 100 years of freedom in 2047, at that time, the Tricolour should be of a developed India in the world.

We must fight against three evils

If the dreams are to be fulfilled, the resolutions are to be achieved, then it is the need of the hour to fight the three evils by holding the bull by its horns. Corruption is at the root of all the problems of our country. Like a termite, it has completely eaten away all the systems of the country, and all the capabilities of the country. Freedom from corruption, fight against corruption in every area and in every sector is the need of the hour. And countrymen, this is Modi’s commitment; it is my personal commitment that I will continue to fight against corruption.

Secondly, dynastic politics has destroyed our country. This dynastic system had gripped the country and snatched away the rights of the people of the country.

The third evil is appeasement. This appeasement has also stained the original thinking of the country, our harmonious national character. These people destroyed everything. And therefore, we must fight against these three evils with all our might.

The corrupt people absconded after robbing your hard-earned money. We confiscated 20 times more property, and hence people’s resentment towards me is very natural. But I have to intensify this fight against corruption. Compared to earlier times, we have now filed many more chargesheets in the court and getting bail is not easy. We are progressing by building such a firm system, because we are earnestly and honestly fighting against corruption.

Today, nepotism and appeasement have brought
big misfortune to the country. Now how can this happen in democracy that a political party, and I am giving special emphasis on ‘political party’, has brought such a distortion in the democracy of my country. It can never strengthen India’s democracy. What is that disease: family politics. And what is their mantra? Party of the family, by the family and for the family. These parties deny capabilities and refuse to accept their competence. And therefore, for the strengthening of the democracy of this country we must liberate ourselves from nepotism.

Made every effort to fulfil trust

When I came in 2014, I came with a promise of change. In 2014, I made a promise to you that I will bring about change. And the 140 crore members of my family placed their trust in me, and I made every effort to fulfil that trust. The promise of Reform, Perform, Transform changed into belief because I had promised change. Through Reform, Perform, Transform, I have turned this promise into belief. I have worked tirelessly, I have worked for the country, I have worked with pride, and I have done it with the spirit of “Nation First.” Based on my performance, you blessed me once again in 2019 and the promise of change brought me here. The next five years will be the years of unprecedented development. The next five years are the golden moments to realize the dream of 2047. And next time, on the 15th of August, from this very Red Fort, I will present to you the achievements of the country, your capabilities, the progress made by you, the successes achieved with even greater self-confidence.

I am a person who has embarked on this journey with determination, and I believe that the struggles undertaken by our ancestors for independence and the dreams they had are with us today. The blessings of those who made sacrifices during the struggle for independence are with us. An opportunity has come for the 140 crore citizens of our country, and this opportunity has come with great potential and strength for us.

And therefore, my dear loved ones,
Today, as I converse with you in this ‘Amrit Kaal’, in the first year of the ‘Amrit Kaal’, I want to tell you with complete confidence -

As the wheel of time keeps turning,
The ever-revolving cycle of the Amrit Kaal,
Everyone’s dreams are my own dreams,
Nurturing all the dreams, moving steadily, bravely marching, our youth in stride,
With the right principles, forging a new way,
setting the right pace, a new path,
Embrace challenges with steadfast courage,
elevate the name of the nation in the world.

We must live every moment for the country

My family members in every corner of India and in every corner of the world, I once again extend my best wishes to all of you on the auspicious festival of Independence Day! And this Amrit kaal is the time of duty for all of us. This Amrit Kaal is the period for all of us to do something for Maa Bharati. During the war of independence, the generation that was born before 1947 got the opportunity to sacrifice their lives for the country. They did not leave any opportunity to die for the country. But we do not have the opportunity to die for the country. But there cannot be a greater opportunity than this for us to live for the country! We must live every moment for the country and with this resolution, we need to frame a new resolve for fulfilling the dreams of 140 crore countrymen in this ‘Amrit Kaal’. The resolution of 140 crore countrymen needs to be accomplished and when the Tricolor will be hoisted in 2047, then the world will be praising a developed India. With this belief, with this determination, my best wishes to all of you. My heartiest congratulations!

Jai Hind, Jai Hind, Jai Hind!
Bharat Mata ki Jai, Bharat Mata ki Jai, Bharat Mata ki Jai!
Vande Mataram! Vande Mataram! Vande Mataram!
Thank you very much!
PM's Independence Day speech reflects his vision, resolve to build all-inclusive, self-reliant India: JP Nadda

Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri JP Nadda on 15 August, 2023 said Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s address to the nation from the ramparts of Red Fort was motivational for the youth because it reflected the roadmap for a developed country till 2047. Shri Nadda said PM Shri Modi frequently referred to his countrymen as members of his family. The spirited and inspiring speech by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on the occasion of India’s 74th Independence Day reflects his vision, mission and resolve to build an all-inclusive and stronger self-reliant India, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said. Delivering his Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Shri Modi on 15 August, 2023 said the call for ‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’ has captured people’s imagination and become a Mantra for everyone, as he pushed for raising India’s share in the global economy.

“I extend my greetings to everyone on the occasion of Independence Day. Shri Modi’s speech reflected the roadmap for a developed country till 2047. His speech was an announcement to free the country from corruption and dynasty….The entire country is his family. We got to see its glimpse in his speech today. When he repeatedly addressed the countrymen and called them family members. He gave a clear message of Reform, Perform and Transform from the ramparts of the Red Fort,” Shri Nadda said.

Highlighting the speech, Shri Nadda said, “PM Modi also gave three guarantees to the countrymen. Firstly, in five years, India will become the third-largest economy in the world. Second, those living on rent in cities will get concessions in bank loans. And third, 25,000 ‘Jan Aushadhi Kendra’ will be opened across the country.”

“The PM also recalled the crisis faced by many parts of the country due to the natural calamity. He also mentioned Manipur, which is moving towards peace. And also discussed in detail how the country is improving after thousand years of slavery. He said that a new attraction has arisen in the world towards India’s consciousness and potential,” Shri Nadda added.

“Whatever we do and whatever decisions we take will determine our direction for the next 1000 years. The one who writes the fate of India,” he quoted PM Shri Modi as saying.

Taking note of PM Shri Modi’s poem, during the speech, Chalta Chalata Kaal Chakra, Amrit Kaal Ka Bhaal Chakra, Sabke Sapne Apne Sapne, Panpe Sapne Saare, Dheer Chale Veer Chale, Chale Yuva Humare, Neeti Sahi, Reeti Naayi, Gati Sahi Raah Nayi, Chuno Chunauti Seena Taan, Jag Mein Badhao Desh Ka Naam, Shri Nadda said it instilled a new enthusiasm among the youths.

This year’s Independence Day will culminate the ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ celebrations, which were launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi from Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad, Gujarat on March 12, 2021, and will usher the country into ‘Amrit Kaal’.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi’s address to the nation from the ramparts of Red Fort was motivational for the youth because it reflected the roadmap for a developed country till 2047.
Recently, I came across two insightful research pieces, which would interest all those passionate about India’s economy: one from SBI Research and another by Mr. Anil Padmanabhan, a noted journalist.

These analyses shed light on something that should make us very happy- That India is making remarkable progress on achieving equitable and collective prosperity. I thought of sharing some interesting snippets from these research works:

The research by SBI has pointed out (based on ITR returns) that the weighted mean income has made a commendable leap in the last 9 years, from Rs 4.4 lakh in AY14 to Rs 13 lakh in FY23.

Mr. Padmanabhan’s study of ITR data suggests a widening tax base, across various income brackets.

Each bracket has seen a minimum threefold increase in tax filings, some even achieving a nearly fourfold surge.

Further, the research highlights the positive performance, in terms of increase in Income tax filings, across states. When comparing ITR filings between 2014 and 2023, the data paints a promising picture of increased tax participation across all states.

For instance, ITR data analysis shows the state of Uttar Pradesh has emerged as one of the top-performing states when it comes to ITR filings. In June 2014, Uttar Pradesh reported a modest 1.65 lakh ITR filings, but by June 2023, this figure had skyrocketed to an impressive 11.92 lakh.

The SBI report also brings forth an encouraging note, highlighting that our smaller states and that too from the Northeast, namely Manipur, Mizoram, and Nagaland, have exhibited an admirable growth of over 20% in ITR filings in the last 9 years.

This shows that not only have incomes risen but so has compliance. And, this is a manifestation of the spirit of trust which the people have in our Government.

These findings not only reflect our collective efforts but also reiterate our potential as a nation. Growing prosperity augurs well for national progress. Undoubtedly, we are standing at the cusp of a new era of economic prosperity and are on course towards fulfilling our dream ‘Viksit Bharat’ by 2047.

Acknowledging the importance of the BJP Karyakartas in strengthening the party across domains, PM Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Kshetriya Panchayati Raj Parishad in Daman and Diu on August 18, 2023. The PM emphasized on the importance of organizational training, traditions, devotion and unity as the hallmarks of the BJP. Shri Modi said, “We must all strive to continuously improve ourselves as well as the BJP Party and the Organization.”

Shri Modi said he intended that these mechanisms of continuous improvement, by monitoring the real-time situations in their respective areas must be implemented by all the members of the Panchayati Raj. “The real strength of a democracy is at the grassroots levels,” added Shri Modi. He stated that every member of the Panchayati Raj must prepare a list of issues that can be worked upon within their five-year terms and that they must pursue these issues with a full vigor.

Explaining the same PM Modi cited the examples of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and the PM Jan Dhan Yojana which he pursued creating capabilities among people and eliminating their hardships. PM Modi said, “Within this five-year term, Panchayats should identify issues whose resolution involves effective Jan-Andolan”. Elaborating it, the Prime Minister said that the ‘Van Mahotsav’ is a vibrant example that can enable ‘Jan Andolan’. “Various festivals and important days can serve as primary platforms to create effective cleanliness campaigns enabling Jan Andolan” said, PM Modi.

PM Modi said, “Every Zila Panchayat needs to focus on indicators across sectors that can improve the lives of the common citizens”.

“In decision-making there should be a bottoms-up approach towards suggestions and top-down approach towards guidance”, said PM Shri Modi. He said that there should be consensus-based discussions on the various issues concerning the Zila Panchayat. “

**Highlights**

- The real strength of a democracy is at the grassroots levels.
- Within this five-year term, Panchayats should identify issues whose resolution involves effective Jan-Andolan.
- Optimum utilization of resources and the planning and convergence of various schemes is the way forward for Zila Panchayats to develop in totality.
- In decision-making there should be a bottoms-up approach towards suggestions and top-down approach towards guidance.
- Perspectives from the grassroots and firm grasp on it facilitate effective policy-making.
- Aspirational Districts today have become the symbols of District-led Development.
- PM Vishwakarma Yojana seeks to augment the skill development of the various artisans involved in age-old traditions.
Aim is to take development to villages: JP Nadda

The Bharatiya Janata Party organised a ‘Kshetriya Panchayati Raj Parishad’ meeting in Daman and Diu on August 18, 2023. Addressing the inaugural session of the meeting, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said it was organised with an aim to take development to the villages and ensure 100 per cent coverage under government welfare schemes.

The two-day training programme was held for central and western states of the country in which elected district panchayat presidents and vice-presidents of the party participated. PM Shri Narendra Modi virtually addressed the training event for the elected representatives of district panchayats.

The BJP National President who led the training session said over 125 district presidents and vice-presidents participated in the event. “We first organised such a ‘Kshetriya Panchayati Raj Parishad’ for North India in Suraj Kund and for East India in Howrah and now this parishad in Daman, where representatives from Central and West India are participating,” Shri Nadda said.

The BJP National President said, “We want that weaker section people of the country should be strengthened and to ensure 100 per cent saturation of government welfare schemes for the poor and marginalised”.

Shri Nadda said Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has changed the political culture of the country and now BJP Karyakartas are determined to uplift the poor and those who have been left behind.

“Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given a call for ‘Quit India’ for corruption, dynastic rule and appeasement. BJP Karyakartas will work with determination for this too,” he added.

The BJP National President said the PM’s programme of ‘Meri Maati Mera Desh’ to pay homage to martyrs will run from villages of the country and the BJP will bring “mitti” from villages of martyrs to Delhi, he said.

Shri JP Nadda said in view of the successful organization of the Regional Panchayati Raj Council, training and Pravas programs will now be organized at the Municipal Council, Nagar Panchayat and Municipal Corporation level. So, the trained people’s representatives associated with BJP can serve the society and the country in a better way.

Highlights

• To save the country from the grip of corruption, appeasement and Parivaravad, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave the slogan: Corruption- QUIT INDIA, Appeasement- QUIT INDIA, Parivaravad - QUIT INDIA.
• We will create an environment of corruption-free India, appeasement-free India and dynasty-free India among the society and will continue to strive to fulfil the resolve for the country’s bright future, self-reliant India and developed India in Amrit Kaal.
• The Prime Minister has changed the political culture within the party and in the entire country.
• Today, political workers are dedicated to empower the last man in the village and other areas and ensure inclusive development.
• It is a great fortune for all of us that today, the guidance of the Prime Minister is being received by us in the Regional Panchayati Raj Council.
• The Prime Minister always takes interest in the activities of the party and guides us from time to time.
• The BJP will also organise such programmes for elected representatives of the Municipal Council, Nagar Panchayat and Municipal Corporations. So, the trained people’s representatives associated with BJP can serve the society and the country in a better way.

Aspirational Districts today have become the symbols of District-led Development. He said, “As members of the Panchayat, one must focus on the developmental aspects of the district and must be available and accessible for the same.” The Prime Minister also mentioned about the soon to be launched PM Vishwakarma Yojana, which seeks to augment the skill development of the various artisans involved in age-old traditions.

In conclusion, the Prime Minister said, “Through the strength of Indian democracy and through the consistent endeavour of the Members of the Panchayat, we can attain our development goals in realizing a Developed India.”
Addressing the Kshetriya Panchayati Raj Parishad in West Bengal on August 12, 2023 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi remarked that the no-confidence motion tabled by the Opposition against the NDA government was defeated in the Lok Sabha. “The situation was such that the people of the opposition left the house in the middle of the discussion and ran away. The truth is that they were scared of voting on the no-confidence motion,” he said.

Criticizing the TMC-led government in West Bengal, he highlighted the ongoing struggle of BJP Karyakartas in the state. He referred to recent Panchayat elections, pointing out alleged TMC bloody game - obstructing BJP candidates from filling forms, preventing their participation, and resorting to violent attacks even when BJP candidates manage to win. This, he said exemplifies the TMC’s political approach in West Bengal.

PM Shri Modi asserted that the neglect of Eastern India after independence has hurt the country's progress the most. He highlighted efforts to close this developmental gap, noting that a significant portion of the 13.5 crore people lifted out of poverty in the last 5 years hail from Eastern India. He further stated, “In our country, for the last 50 years, slogans were given – ‘Garibi Hatao’. But those who gave this slogan could not remove poverty. A natural question is that the work which could not be done in five decades, how has the BJP government done it in such a short time?”

Discussing the advantages brought forth by the government’s initiatives in Eastern India, PM Shri Modi stated, "About 18,000 villages across the nation, previously devoid of electricity, have now been illuminated by the government. Of these, about 13,000 villages were from Eastern India only.

“Many of you will be surprised to know that in a state like Mizoram till 4 years ago only 6 percent of the houses had piped water access. Today, this number is more than 90 percent. In the last 9 years in Bihar, more than 50 lakh houses have been built under PM Gramin Awas Yojana. About 45 lakh poor families have got pucca houses in West Bengal. In Assam too, 20 lakh houses have been built for poor.”

**Highlights**

- We defeated the opposition's no-confidence motion in Parliament and gave a befitting reply to those spreading negativity in the entire nation.
- A significant portion of the 13.5 crore people lifted out of poverty in the last 5 years hail from Eastern India.
- About 18,000 villages across the nation, previously devoid of electricity, have now been illuminated by the government. Of these, about 13,000 villages were from Eastern India only.
- In the last 9 years in Bihar, more than 50 lakh houses have been built under PM Gramin Awas Yojana. About 45 lakh poor families have got pucca houses in West Bengal. In Assam too, 20 lakh houses have been built for poor.
Strengthen the hands of PM Modi to make India a developed nation: JP Nadda

The Bharatiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda welcomed Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi while inaugurating the two-day Kshetriya Panchayati Raj Parishad of the party in Howrah, West Bengal on August 12, 2023. Shri Nadda also addressed the Kshetriya Panchayati Raj Parishad. The Prime Minister virtually inaugurated this important meeting and addressed the inaugural session of the meeting.

Those present at the meeting included the West Bengal BJP President Shri Sukanta Majumdar, BJP West Bengal co-incharge Shri Mangal Pandey and all the functionaries of the Bharatiya Janata Party. In this meeting 134 presidents and vice presidents of Zila Parishad of West Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and North Eastern States were present.

Shri Nadda said the Prime Minister said that to bring qualitative changes in the works and functioning of the office bearers of the Zila Parishad which include President, Vice President, Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Presidents of Nagar Parishads training is a must. And for this purpose, the Kshetriya Panchayati Raj Parishad was envisaged. The Bharatiya Janata Party has very effectively and efficiently implemented this concept on the ground.

He said in Panchayati Raj institutions the responsibilities of elected representatives in Zila Parishads increases immensely. It is our responsibility to ensure that the benefits of the public welfare schemes and programmes reach the poorest of the poor and no one is deprived of these benefits and social welfare schemes.

Shri Nadda said like previous years, this year too, the Bharatiya Janata Party will observe 14 August as the Vibhajan Vibhishika Diwas. This day we will remember the pain and sorrow of Partition and pay homage and respect to those who lost their lives during Partition and were uprooted from their homes and had to live as refugees.

Under the Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyan the Prime Minister has asked all citizens to unfurl the Tricolour in their homes from August 13 to 15. Also, all the BJP leaders and workers will take out 'prabhat pheris' at booth levels. Every party worker has to attend this programme and make it successful.

Highlights

- With the aim and pledge to make our country a developed nation and to fulfil the clarion call of "Panch Pran" given by the Prime Minister, the BJP workers will collect soil and some rice from every house in every village, every panchayat, every district and every state, they will organise various programmes and then reach Delhi.
- Under this programme "Amrit Kalash Yatra" will also be organised across the country.
- The "Amrit Kalash Yatra" will collect soil in 7500 Kalash from every corner of the country and reach the Capital city of Delhi.
- This yatra will also bring plants from various states and regions of the country. From the soil collected in 7500 Kalash and plant saplings collected from across the country "Amrit Vatika" will be created near the National War Memorial. This "Amrit Vatika" will become the grand symbol of "Ek Bharat - Shrestha Bharat."

Highlighting the rapid development in Eastern India, the PM said, "For better health facilities, from Guwahati in Assam to Kalyani in West Bengal, From Deoghar in Jharkhand to Darbhanga in Bihar, New AIIMS have been opened with this planning so that people do not have to travel hundreds of kilometres for treatment. Over the past 9 years, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Odisha have collectively received 31 new medical colleges, while the North East has seen a doubling of medical college numbers."

The Prime Minister noted the conversion of North East railway lines to broad gauge, significant capacity growth in major ports, establishment of new waterways, and the development of 9 airports to enhance air connectivity in the region. He expressed the anticipation of a profound transformation in the vast eastern part of the country due to these initiatives.
I have brought myself in attendance here to express my deep sense of gratitude to the people who have reposed trust in our government time and again. The womb of time is technology driven. Today Data is, in a way, considered to be second gold. Given its relevance, a serious discussion was called for but your priority rested with politics. There were such Bills that were related to the villages and were aimed at the welfare of the poor, the Dalits, the backward, the tribal people and were concerned with their future prospects but sadly, the Opposition doesn’t seem to have any interest in doing things for their uplift and welfare. The people of the country who have elected them to this House for a specific purpose have also been subjected to stratagem and deception. You are not at all concerned about the future of the youth of the country. The only thing you remain concerned about is your political interest.

Critically Significant time

There comes a time in the history of a nation when it moves forward surfeit with new energy, novel passion, with new dreams and new resolution. I am saying this in this sacrosanct temple of democracy with all sincerity and of course, I am making this assertion having been equipped with huge wealth of experience in the domain. The Twenty first Century is such a time of this century which has afforded us a plethora of opportunities to translate all our dreams into reality. This period of time is critically significant. In the changing global order, I would like to say with fair degree of confidence that whatever substantive development shall take place during this segment of time shall hugely impact the nation for 1000 years down the line. The endeavours coupled with perseverance undertaken by 140 crore countrymen with a substantive degree of employment of their pool of energy has the potential to lay a strong foundation to sustain for 1000 years in the seeds of time. At such juncture all of us ought to have a solitary focus that is the development of the country and a resolve to fulfil their cherished dreams.

We have enhanced the image of the country

The competence of our youth is gaining recognition and acknowledgement all over the world. So we have reasons to lend credence to their caliber. The dreams our youth have harboured in their hearts and minds are to be reinforced with our commitment to enable them complete their course.
In the Congress regime the economy of the country was hanging at the 10th, 11th or 12th position in World Economic order but post 2014 India has notched it position among the top five economies of the world.

India has notched it position among the top five economies of the world

The country was in the state of near bankruptcy in the year 1991. In the Congress regime the economy of the country was hanging at the 10th, 11th or 12th position in World Economic order but post 2014 India has notched it position among the top five economies of the world. I would like to take this opportunity to share with the House that it is nothing but strict adherence to the formula of reform, perform and transform, an ordered planning and assiduous effort that has catapulted us to reach this stage. And I have nice to assure you that continuity of this planning and diligence shall be maintained. New reforms shall be allowed to take place as per requirement and wholehearted effort shall be put in leading to propelling the position of our country to the first rank in the global economic order. Whenever any new plan or policy is devised, the opposition parties tend to express their lack of faith in them. Whether it be Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or the opening of Jan Dhan Accounts, Startup India, Digital India, Make in India or any other scheme, every scheme has been laughed at by the Opposition.

Tarnished image cannot be refurbished by mere change of name

They are stricken with the idea that through mere alteration of the name of their alliance they would be able to refurbish their tarnished image leading to their being voted to power. The fact remains that the poor find their name all around but their work is not visible anywhere. Hospitals have been named after them but the treatment facility is not there. They have named roads, Parks after them. A slew of schemes aimed at the welfare of the poor are named after them. Sports Awards, names of Airports, museum etc have been named after them and subsequently, so many schemes have been launched after their names only to end up in vice of corrupt practices. The man standing last in the row wanted to see something actually happening on the ground but what did he get

from dreams to their realization in actual sense of the term. It was in the year 2014 that the people of the country voted us to power with absolute majority after 30 years’ interregnum. Thereupon, in view of our previous track record they have voted us to power once again in the year 2019 lending a prime consideration to the thought as to which party or alliance of parties can help them realize their dreams. They have duly identified the political party equipped with the vision to accomplish whatever they had envisioned. Being driven by the same sentiment the nation once again supported us to come to power with all the more numerical strength.

We have enhanced the image of the country which had been awfully dented by the previous dispensation. Today we are in receipt of a record Foreign Direct Investment. Poverty is declining at a rapid pace, as per the Report of the NITI Aayog around thirteen and a half crore people have come out of poverty during the last five years. The IMF has mentioned in a working paper that extreme Poverty has almost been eliminated in India. With respect to the DBT and our other Social Welfare Schemes it has been remarked by the IMF that it is a logistical marvel.

Through Jal Jeevan Mission lives of four lakh indigent, exploited and disadvantaged people are being saved. Lives of three lakh people have been saved through Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. UNICEF has reported that every year the poor are able to save fifty thousand rupees attributed to Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. But some of the parties including the Congress suffer from the lack of faith in these achievements of India. A narrative has been created relating to HAL and LIC. Both LIC and Bank are gaining strength with the progress of time. I hold the firm conviction that the country is also going to gain further strength and the same holds true with democracy.
at the end of the day. Nothing but name and that too of a particular family, the framers of our constitution had always been opposed to family centric politics. Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallab Bhai Patel, Baba Saheb Ambedkar, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Maulana Azad, Gopinath Bordoloi, Loknayak Jai Prakash, Dr Lohia and others had openly criticized dynasty politics as the common man of the country has to bear the brunt of this kind of politics.

Opposition peddles lies to distort truth

The Congress has always neglected the contribution made by Sardar Patel. We have been privileged enough to have an opportunity to erect the highest Statue of Unity of the world dedicated to Sardar Saheb. The PM Museum is dedicated to all the Prime Ministers rising above party politics. There was a time when a few privileged ones would get their robes dry cleaned abroad by consigning them by air. Now times have undergone a radical change and even a common man wearing hawai chappal has been enabled to fly by air. It is largely because of unrealistic promises made to the people just to win elections that in a few of the States people are being subjected to bear with new sorts of burdens and proper announcements are being made for the closure of the projects. I can clearly visualize the outcome of the economic policies espoused by the alliance formed by the Opposition. I would like to warn and, in a way, make them perceive the truth that the political alliance formed quite recently is a guarantee to drag the country to the state of bankruptcy.

Had the opposition agreed to allow the Hon. Home Minister to make a statement on the Manipur issue, an extensive discussion would have taken place solely dedicated to the state of affairs in Manipur. When Hon. Minister of Home Affairs made his speech yesterday without chewing or mincing words covering each and every aspect, the countrymen were agape how the opposition can peddle lies to such an extent and distort the truth. He spoke on all the issues for which the want of confidence has been moved today. It is also incumbent upon the Treasury Bench to present facts before the countrymen and add new strength to the confidence of the country and thus give a befitting reply to all those who have mistrust in the country.

Hon. Minister of Home Affairs elaborated on all the issues without any political motive and presented the facts with no ounce of falsehood. He voiced the concerns facing the government and the country both. His speech essentially was an attempt to make the citizens of the country aware of the unalloyed truth. He explained how a court judgment was pronounced and we all know the case with the courts. In the wake of the judgment incidents of violence started taking place arising out of animosity between certain communities. So many families and households suffered beyond measure. A good many people have lost their dear and near ones. Women have also suffered crimes of serious nature. The violence in Manipur is saddening and unpardonable. Crimes against women are unacceptable and the Centre and the State Governments are working together to ensure that the guilty are punished. I would like to assure our mothers and daughters in Manipur that we shall spare no efforts to enable Manipur move ahead fast on the path of development.

I am emotionally attached to North East

I am emotionally attached to North East. It is close to our hearts. Many of the problems that have flared up in the State are not of recent origin but are a hangover from the previous Congress Government that had administered the State. Manipur was consumed in the conflagration of insurgency. When the administration was under the sway of insurgents, Incidents of dropping of Bomb on the statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at the Azad Hind Fauz Museum at Moirang took place and the National Anthem was banned from being played in schools, when insurgents bombed the ISKCON temple, when the temples stopped ringing by 4 PM and the security forces had to guard
these locked temples. During the entire period, it was the Congress that was running the Government.

The Opposition remains concerned about nurturing political interest only. They can’t afford to think beyond politics and their empathy is selective. For the last six years since when the NDA led Government is in Manipur, we are putting all efforts to find a solution to these problems. The more we stay away from political consideration in the face of such problems, the more peaceful solutions shall come up. I would like to assure the countrymen that the North East may seem far to you but I can visualize that a changing world order will see the rise of the ASEAN region and bring the North East in focus. This is why I am fighting for the progress of the North East with all might and strength at my disposal today. I am not doing so for the sake of votes. The way this structure is going to impact within South East Asia and among the ASEAN countries, I am sure, the North East is going to gain enormous significance.

Our Government has accorded top priority to the development of North East

Our Government has accorded top priority to the development of the North East. Over the last 9 years infrastructure projects of the order of lakhs and crores of rupees have been put in place. Trains like the Vande Bharat has for the first time been introduced in the North East. Likewise, we have many firsts to our credit when it comes to taking care of the North East Region. The introduction of a modern train like the Vande Bharat, Greenfield Airport in Arunachal Pradesh, Air connectivity with Sikkim, etc are cases in point. For the first time ever a premier Institute like AIIMS in the North East, Indian Institute of Mass Communication in Mizoram have been established. The first Sports University of the country is going to be set up in Manipur. It is for the first time that the representation of the North East reason has gone up like never before. When I assert ‘Sabka Saath, Sabka vikas”, this is not a mere slogan to us. This is an article of faith for me. We are committed to it.

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Every moment of Parliament must be used in the interest of the country

Parliament is not a platform for the Political parties, rather it is a supremely esteemed Institution and hence Hon. Members are obliged to be sincere enough. Every moment of Parliament must be used in the interest of the country. I have unwavering faith among the people of this country. My faith is seamless and open ended. I can say with full confidence that the people of our country are essentially driven by the element of faith and trust. For the last 9 years the trust of the common man of the country has been touching new heights. The youth of our country dream to compete with the world. What else can one expect from the citizens of the country? They are suffused with the element of confidence among them. Over the last few years, we have been successful in laying a strong foundation of a developed India. We have envisioned that by the year 2047 when the country would be celebrating 100 years of Independence, it would be counted among the developed nations and this would be possible through diligence, perseverance, resolution and the collective strength of the countrymen. History is going to bear the accounts of our deeds and the era committed to the edifying the foundation of the country to translate the dream of a prosperous India shall be looked upon with distinction.

I would like to urge upon my colleagues in the House to keep pace with the temporal developments and move forward in a collaborative spirit. Earlier too, serious issues have surfaced in Manipur but we have been able to fix them by finding solutions thereto working in tandem with one another. Let’s join hands in finding a solution to the issues and it is advisable to at least not to take undue political advantage of the problems that have flared up in Manipur. Once again, I express my gratitude to those moving the Motion of No Confidence but this Motion is a motion of betrayal with the country and is not acceptable to the people of this country.
rise to express my views on the No Confidence Motion moved by Opposition in the House. I can say with full conviction that this No Confidence Motion has been moved with the sole intention of spreading misconception. It does not reflect the aspirations of the people. People have full faith in the Government. And that faith is because of the new hope instilled by the Prime Minister and the Government in the lives of 60 crore poor people of this country. If there is any one Government in which the people of this country have reposed maximum faith since independence, it is this Government. Our hon’ble Prime Minister is the most popular Prime Minister of the country since independence. This Government has taken more than 50 epochs making decisions during the nine years which have been recorded in the history in golden words. Before the year 2014, democracy in India was under the clutches of corruption, casteism and nepotism. Our hon’ble Prime Minister has given priority to politics of performance over corruption, nepotism and appeasement.

Opposition has been exposed during No Confidence Motion

No Confidence Motion is a constitutional provision. Opposition has the right to move No Confidence Motion. No Confidence Motion brings the real character of the parties and the coalitions to the fore. Opposition has been exposed during such No Confidence Motions on several occasions in the past. Our party under the leadership of hon’ble Prime Minister is in politics to replace the corrupt politics with the politics based on ideals and not just to somehow remain in power. No Confidence Motion is a question mark on the overall performance of the Government. Since the questions being asked are politically motivated, I have to discuss the performance of the Government. This Government has provided gas cylinders to 9.6 crores poor households and also made provisions to give the facility of toilets to 11.72 lakh households. It has provided water to 12.65 lakh houses through water taps under Har Ghar Jal scheme. This government has transferred 2,40,000 crore rupees into the Bank accounts of 14.5 crore farmers. We have waived the entire cost on healthcare facilities for 50 crore people up to a limit of five lakh rupees. Rs 25 lakh crore has been directly transferred into the Bank accounts of the poor of the country. This government has performed the task of purchasing maximum amount of paddy on maximum MSP.

Policies of the government on Kashmir have changed

I would like to draw the attention of the government towards the internal security of the country. Kashmir, the region affected by left wing extremism and the North East region are considered three major hotspots posing a challenge to the internal...
security of the country. Congress led governments used to rule the nation and States and these areas continued to pose grave threat to our internal security. Today, I would like to make it amply clear in this House that the real cause for the problem in Kashmir was the politics of vote bank, indifference in addressing this problem and the lackadaisical approach of the previous governments. Since 2014 policies of the government on Kashmir have changed. This government has taken the landmark decision to alter the situation in Kashmir. There has been 68 percent decline in the number of terror strikes cumulatively during the last 9 years. The cases of incidents of death attributed to terrorism have decreased from 397 to 128 which is 68 percent decrease and the number of cases of death of citizens have decreased from 2298 to 420 which is a decrease by 82 percent. North East region has registered a decrease in the extremist activities under each head.

**Modi government has sincerely worked to connect North East with India**

The incidents of extremist activities in the region have decrease from 10000 to 3238 which is a decrease by 68 percent. The cases of casualty of security personnel in the region have decreased from 397 to 128 which is 68 percent decrease and the number of cases of death of citizens have decreased from 2298 to 420 which is a decrease by 82 percent. North East region has registered a decrease in the extremist activities under each head.

**North East registered a decrease in the extremist activities**

Now I want to take up the issue of the North East region which was considered the third hotspot posing a challenge to internal security. The incidents of extremist activities in the region have decrease from 10000 to 3238 which is a decrease by 68 percent. The cases of casualty of security personnel in the region have decreased from 397 to 128 which is 68 percent decrease and the number of cases of death of citizens have decreased from 2298 to 420 which is a decrease by 82 percent. North East region has registered a decrease in the extremist activities under each head.

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**8 states witnessed insurgencies during UPA government**

The BJP government has completed six years in Manipur. No curfew was imposed in Manipur during these six years and the violence caused due to insurgency had almost stopped.

**Manipur and the reasons behind the incidents**

Now I want to focus on Manipur...
and the reasons behind the incidents of violence and the current situation and the steps taken by our government to resolve the crisis. Various circumstances are responsible for the extreme violence perpetrated in Manipur and no one can support such incidents. Such incidents of violence are deplorable and shameful and politicising these incidents is all the more shameful. A rumour got spread on 29 April that the 58 settlements of refugees have been declared proper villages. Whenever rumours spread they spread very fast and it creates a sense of mistrust. This created unrest amongst people and a judgement delivered by the Honourable High Court of Manipur further aggravated the already volatile situation. That judgement accorded the tribal status to the Meitei community living in the state before 29 April which created unrest amongst tribal communities. These riots are a result of various circumstances. There has been an influx of Kuki refugees in Manipur and Mizoram since the change of guard in Myanmar in the year 2021. This created a sense of insecurity in the other areas of Manipur that such an influx will change the demography of the state.

We assessed the situation and the Ministry of Home Affairs took a decision in the year 2022 not to leave the borders open. But the above mentioned sense of insecurity was not unfounded as the demography in this region plays a decisive role. Meitei community resides in the valley and Kuki and Naga tribal community live in the hilly areas. They always feel the pressure of demographic changes which can reduce their status to a minority. Such influx creates a sense of insecurity amongst the Meitei community.

Honourable Prime Minister immediately took cognizance of the entire matter and the urgent steps were taken by the Government to deploy the armed security personnel in large numbers and other administrative measures were also taken. The incidents of violence are gradually on the decline. I want to apprise the members of this House of the steps taken to restore peace. We have constituted a Peace Committee under the Chairmanship of the Governor. More than 36000 security personnel have been deployed in the area between the regions belonging to Meitei community and Kuki community and which is now serving as a buffer zone between the two. Unified Command system has been evolved for better inter agency coordination because this includes BSF, CRPF, Assam Rifles, Army and Manipur police. Victim and rehabilitation package has been provided to the State. The task of providing ten lakh rupees to the families of the deceased has been completed. Approximately 30 thousand metric tonnes of rice has been delivered to the State. Eight teams of Government of India from different AIIMS have been camping in the State to provide medical facilities. District Collectors of four affected districts have been provided with the facility of video conferencing to ensure hearing of people in court cases without attending the court in person. 98 percent schools have been opened in the valley and they are registering 80 percent attendance.

**Closely monitoring the situation to restore peace**

I am reviewing the security with the Unified Command every week through video conferencing. We are closely monitoring the situation to restore peace. I urge upon both the communities of Manipur to not to resort to violence as it is not the solution to the problem. I request them to solve this problem by cooperating with the Government of India and indulging in a dialogue. Rumours have created more mistrust. Government of India does not intend to alter the demography of the region. I request you to not to indulge in politics over this issue.
Some of the major Bills passed by both Houses during the Session are as under:

- **The Cinematograph (Amendment) Bill, 2023** seeks to make the process of sanctioning of films for exhibition more effective and in tune with the changed times by including enabling provisions in the Act to check film piracy, introduce age-based categories of certification and remove redundant provisions in the existing Act.

- **The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Third Amendment) Bill, 2023** seeks for inclusion of Hattee community of Trans Giri area of Sirmour district in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Himachal Pradesh.

- **The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Fifth Amendment) Bill, 2023** seeks for inclusion of Bhuinya, Bhuiyan, and Bhuyan communities as synonyms of the Bharia Bhumia community. It also includes three Devanagari versions of the name of the Pando community in Chhattisgarh.

- **The Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2023** seeks (i) to strengthen governance, enhancing transparency, increasing accountability reforming electoral process etc.in the Multi-State Cooperative Societies by supplementing existing legislation and incorporating the provisions of Ninety Seventh Constitutional Amendment. (ii) to improve monitoring mechanism and ensuring Ease of Doing Business for Multi-State Cooperative Societies.

- **The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2023** seeks to (i) reduce the pressure on wild medicinal plants by encouraging cultivation of medicinal plants; (ii) encourage Indian system of medicine; (iii) facilitate fast-tracking of research, patent application process, transfer of research results while utilising the biological resources available in India without compromising the objectives of United Nation Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol; (iv) decriminalise certain provisions; (v) bring more foreign investments in the chain of biological resources, including research, patent and commercial utilisation, without compromising the national interest.

- **The Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2023** seeks to Amend the Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 for introducing Exploration Licence & to delist some minerals from the list of atomic minerals.

- **The Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2023** seeks to provide for grant of production lease to private sector only through auction by competitive bidding to enable early allocation of operating rights through a transparent and non-discretionary process.

- **The Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023** intends to amend the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 by inter-alia clarifying the applicability of the Act in various types of lands and to streamline the process of approvals under the Act.

- **The Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill, 2023** Besides decriminalisation of minor offences, the Bill envisages rationalisation of monetary penalties, depending on the gravity of offence, bolstering the trust-based governance.

- **The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023** seeks to accommodate progressive changes in the society during the last five decades, making registration process people friendly and to update other databases at national and state level using database of registered births and deaths.
• The Mediation Bill, 2023 seeks to promote and facilitate mediation, especially institutional mediation, for resolution of disputes, commercial or otherwise, enforce mediated settlement agreements, provide for a body for registration of mediators, to encourage community mediation and to make online mediation as acceptable and cost effective process and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

• The Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023 seeks to empower the Commander - in - Chief or the Officer -in- Command of InterServices Organisations in respect of persons subject to the Army Act, 1950, the Navy Act, 1957 and the Air Force Act, 1950, who are serving under or attached to his Command, for maintenance of discipline and proper discharge of their duties.

• The Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023 seeks to provide for (i) alignment of IIM Act with Acts governing the IITs and other Institutes of National Importance. (ii) inclusion of NITIE, Mumbai in the schedule of the IIM Act, 2017 and renaming NITIE, Mumbai as IIM Mumbai.

• The National Dental Commission Bill, 2023 seeks to regulate the profession of dentistry in the country, to provide for quality and affordable; dental education, to make accessible high quality oral healthcare and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

• The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 seeks to provide for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by nursing and midwifery professionals, assessment of institutions, maintenance of a National Register and State Registers and creation of a system to improve access, research and development and adoption of latest scientific advancement and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

• The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023 seeks Inclusion of Mahra, Mahara community as a synonyms of Mahar, Mehra, Mehar at Sl. No. 33 in the list of Scheduled Castes of Chhattisgarh.

• The Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 To establish the Anusandhan National Research Foundation to provide high level strategic direction for research, innovation and entrepreneurship in the fields of natural sciences including mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, environmental and earth sciences, health and agriculture, and scientific and technological interfaces of humanities and social sciences, to promote, monitor and provide support as required for such research and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

• The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023 seeks to provide for the processing of digital personal data in a manner that recognizes both the right of individuals to protect their personal data and the need to process personal data for lawful purposes, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

• The Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023 seeks to revise the provisions of the Act so as to reduce the regulatory compliance burden to the stakeholders without diluting the core principles of environment protection in coastaareas.

• The Pharmacy (Amendment) Bill, 2023 seeks to provide that any person whose name has been entered in the register of pharmacist maintained under the Jammu and Kashmir Pharmacy Act, 2011 or possesses qualification prescribes under the said act shall be deem to have been entered in the register of pharmacist prepared and maintained under chapter IV of the said act subject to condition that an application to be made in this behalf with in a period of one year from the commencement of the Pharmacy (Amendment) Act, 2023 on payment of such fees, in such a manner, as may be prescribed by the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and administration of Union Territory of Ladakh.
UNION CABINET APPROVES NEW CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME ‘PM VISHWAKARMA’ TO SUPPORT TRADITIONAL ARTISANS AND CRAFTSPeOPLE

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved a new Central Sector Scheme “PM Vishwakarma” with a financial outlay of Rs.13,000 crore for a period of five years (FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28). The scheme aims to strengthen and nurture the Guru-Shishya parampara or family-based practice of traditional skills by artisans and craftspeople working with their hands and tools.

Under PM Vishwakarma scheme, the artisans and craftspeople will be provided recognition through PM Vishwakarma certificate and ID card, Credit Support upto Rs.1 lakh (First Tranche) and Rs.2 lakh (Second Tranche) with a concessional interest rate of 5%. The Scheme will further provide Skill Upgradation, Toolkit Incentive, Incentive for Digital Transactions and Marketing Support.

The scheme will provide support to artisans and craftspeople of rural and urban areas across India. Eighteen traditional trades will be covered in the first instance under PM Vishwakarma. These trades include (i) Carpenter (Suthar); (ii) Boat Maker; (iii) Armourer; (iv) Blacksmith (Lohar); (v) Hammer and Tool Kit Maker; (vi) Locksmith; (vii) Goldsmith (Sonar); (viii) Potter (Kumhaar); (ix) Sculptor (Moortikar, stone carver), Stone breaker; (x) Cobbler(Charmkar)/Shoesmith/Footwear artisan; (xi) Mason (Rajmistri); (xii) Basket/Mat/Broom Maker/Coir Weaver; (xiii) Doll & Toy Maker (Traditional); (xiv) Barber (Naai); (xv) Garland maker (Malakaar); (xvi) Washerman (Dhobi); (xvii) Tailor (Darzi); and (xviii) Fishing Net Maker.

CABINET APPROVES “PM- eBUS SEWA” FOR AUGMENTING CITY BUS OPERATIONS

The Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved a bus scheme “PM-eBus Sewa” for augmenting city bus operation by 10,000 e-buses on PPP model. The Scheme would have an estimated cost of Rs.57,613 crore, out of which support of Rs.20,000 crore will be provided by the Central government. The Scheme will support bus operations for 10 years.

Reaching the Unreached:
The scheme will cover cities of Three lakh and above population as per census 2011 including all the Capital cities of Union Territories, North Eastern Region and Hill States. Under this scheme priority will be given to cities having no organized bus service.

Direct Employment Generation:
The scheme will generate 45,000 to 55,000 direct jobs through deployment of around 10,000 buses in city bus operation.

Boost to E-Mobility:
The scheme will promote e-mobility and provide full support for behind-the-meter power infrastructure. Cities will also be supported for development of charging infrastructure under Green Urban Mobility Initiatives.

The support to bus priority infrastructure shall not only accelerate the proliferation of state-of-the-art, energy efficient electric buses but also foster the innovation in the e-mobility sector as well as development of resilient supply chain for electric vehicles.
PM Modi’s I-Day Speech Was A Clarion Call For A Brighter India

On India’s 77th Independence Day, I, a female sportsperson who has spent her life striving for excellence, witnessed a moment that will reverberate through history. Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s 10th address from the iconic Red Fort signalled a pivotal juncture in our nation’s journey — one that has the power to reshape the path we tread. As a keen observer and a participant in India’s progress, I can say that this speech was more than a statement; it was a clarion call that echoed transformative change.

What struck me most about PM Modi’s words was their authenticity. He didn’t address us as faceless citizens; he spoke to us as “parivarjan” — as members of his own family. With an emotion-laden fervour, he declared, “I come from amongst you, within your midst and I live for you. If I have a dream, it is for you. If I sweat, it is for you. Not because you have entrusted me with this responsibility, but because you are my family. As a member of your family, I cannot bear witness to any of your sorrows, I cannot bear to see your dreams shattered.” This declaration wasn’t just rhetoric; it was a departure from traditional leadership, a declaration that the highest office was bound to empathy and kinship.

This year’s Independence Day marked the culmination of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, a celebration that commenced with PM Modi’s inauguration of the event from the Sabarmati Ashram on March 12, 2021. This celebration is more than just a commemoration; it signifies a resurgence, an “Amrit Kaal”, brimming with renewed determination, aimed at transforming India into a developed nation by 2047.

PM Modi seamlessly intertwined the threads of history, present and future in his address. He reminded us that our nation’s grandeur wasn’t merely historical; it was a testament to the power of democracy and the promise of an economy that ensures equal opportunity. He urged us to not avert our gaze or attention, for the world looked to us as an example of democratic triumph and global progress.

He encapsulated the moment — a juncture where the realm of possibility met the realm of reality. India, dynamic and resolute, stood poised on the global stage, ready to lead through innovation and cooperation. However, it was PM Modi’s unwavering commitment to battle corruption, eradicate dynasty politics, and eliminate the blot of appeasement that truly resonated with people. He declared with an undeniable fervour: “It is my personal commitment that I will continue to fight against corruption. Secondly, dynasty politics has destroyed our country. This dynastic system had gripped the country and snatched away the rights of the people of the country. The third evil is appeasement.” These words aren’t just a proclamation; they are a rallying cry, a testament to his unyielding determination to reshape our nation’s destiny.

This call to arms went beyond political speeches; it echoed the very essence of leadership — a call for unity and collective effort; a call to be guided by principles that transcend personal gains. As he called upon us to hold him accountable for his promises, he reinforced the significance of integrity in public life. His words were a reminder that effective governance wasn’t just a responsibility; it was a commitment to our history, a service to our present, and a legacy for our future.

As our nation embarks on the journey towards India at 100, the lead-up to our centenary in 2047, PM Modi’s words chart a course for success. His commitment to structural reforms, economic growth, and social inclusivity paints a portrait of India as a nation that thrives on diversity, innovation, and the collective strength of its citizens.

In the annals of history, PM Modi’s address stands as an inflexion point, a moment when leadership articulates a vision and a commitment that resounds with millions. It’s a testament that a nation’s trajectory is not solely shaped by policies; it’s moulded by the passion, resolve, and shared dreams of its people.

As a sportsperson who knows the thrill of victory, I see in his words a shared victory — one that beckons us to come together and forge a brighter future.

(The writer is an Olympian and a Rajya Sabha MP)
Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is known for his humility and respectful demeanour towards others. PM Shri Modi every now and then exemplifies how individuals at higher positions should conduct themselves and treat others.

There have been many incidents within public domain where PM Shri Modi’s respectful behaviour with his fellow citizen were evident. Here is another example from Tamil Nadu.

The state BJP president of Tamil Nadu, Shri Annamalai recalls an incident in Chennai when PM Shri Modi was on tour of the state.

PM Shri Modi was meeting a few dignitaries in Chennai when two wheelchair-bound senior citizens came to meet him. They were supposed to cross stairs in order to reach the room where PM Shri Modi was meeting other people.

When PM Shri Modi was informed about these senior citizens who had come to meet him, PM Shri Modi himself came out to avoid any hardships to the two elderly gentlemen. PM Shri Modi met the two senior citizen with warmth, spoke with them and gave them the due respect. No one present there felt for a single second that the Prime Minister of the country is meeting with the two gentlemen.

At the end of the meeting, the two elderly people tried to take the blessings from PM Shri Modi. But to everyone’s surprise, PM Shri Modi touched their feet and took their blessings. This was another gesture by PM Shri Modi which touched the hearts of all the people who were present there during the meeting.

Shri Annamalai says that PM Shri Modi is one leader whose every act is a learning for party workers and all other people. His behaviour with two wheelchair-bound senior citizen was something for us to learn and it also tells us, “How a person at the top should behave with others.”

Shri Komaragiri Krishna Mohan Rao from Nadigama town joined RSS as a bal swayamsevak. Later, he worked as an RSS Vistararak in Avanigadda and Nandigama during 1953-56. Moreover, he worked for the expansion of the party from Krishna district to Srikakulam district between 1967-75. He was jailed for 19 months as a MISA detainee during the emergency period of 1975. He also played a significant role in fighting against the hike of land taxes and took part in the Visakha steel movement, special Andhra movement and Lok Nayak Jayaprakash Narayan movements.
Earlier, August 15 and January 26 functions used to be a nightmare for common people due to strikes, restrictions and fear in Jammu & Kashmir, however, it seems there was festivity in the air this Independence Day throughout the Valley. The Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar hosted the Independence Day event this year after a gap of around 5 years. The refurbished Bakshi stadium in Srinagar saw a huge rush of people, who had come to witness the Independence Day celebrations.

Jammu & Kashmir LG Shri Manoj Sinha hoisted the national flag at the main event held on 15 August inside the stadium. Thousands of people thronged to the Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar to celebrate the 77th Independence Day after a gap of almost two decades. People of all ages carrying national flags filled the stands at Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar. As per reports, this was the largest gathering of civilians at the Bakshi stadium after decades.

Addressing the huge gathering, Shri Sinha said, "An era of peace and development has dawned on Jammu & Kashmir. This is visible in the change of mindset of the common citizen who has been proactively contributing towards peace and development in the UT."

Similarly, numerous schools commenced their day with flag hoisting ceremonies. As per the reports people from across the union territory were seen attending the event and this year festivities were everywhere in the UT. There were long queues of people who were seen waving the Tricolour at the iconic Lal Chowk. The clock tower was illuminated in the colours of the national flag.

BECOME PART OF A VIBRANT IDEOLOGICAL MOVEMENT
BECOME PROUD MEMBER OF 'KAMAL SANDESH'

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* Money order and Cash accepted with details

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KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE
PM Shri Narendra Modi paying homage at the Samadhi of Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat on the occasion of 77th Independence Day in New Delhi on August 15, 2023.

PM Shri Narendra Modi inspecting the Guard of Honour at Red Fort on the occasion of 77th Independence Day in New Delhi on August 15, 2023.

PM Shri Narendra Modi interacting with participants of Independence Day celebrations at Red Fort in New Delhi on August 15, 2023.

PM Shri Narendra Modi at the Red Fort just before addressing the Nation on the occasion of 77th Independence Day in New Delhi on August 15, 2023.

PM Shri Narendra Modi paying floral tributes to the former Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his Punyatithi at Sadaiv Atal in New Delhi on August 16, 2023.
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