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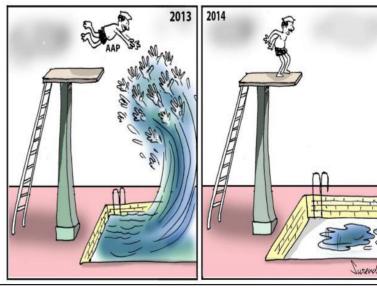
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While concentrating on objects of the senses a person developes attachment to the sense objects; from attachment desires are born, from desire anger arises.

- (Bhagavadgita: Ch.-II, 62)

UOTES

"Numerous leaders I met during my Myanmar, Australia and Fiji visit were very optimistic about our 'Make in India' initiative and are keen to come to India and be a part of the extensive and diverse opportunities India has to offer"

-Narendra Modi

"Dynastic rule has also perpetuated corruption, nepotism and maladministration. People want to have public friendly and compassionate governance, which only BJP is capable of."

-Amit Shah

Vivah Panchami: November 27, 2014

Vivah Panchami is a famous Hindu festival and celebrated as the divine marriage anniversary of Lord Sri Rama and goddesses Sita. It is observed on the fifth day of the Shukla paksha or waxing phase of moon in the Margashirsha month (November – December) as per Hindu calendar.

The day is observed as the Vivah Utsav of Goddesses Sita and Sri Rama in temples and sacred places associated with Sri Rama in Mithilanchal region and North India. The Vivah Panchami festival is celebrated with great fanfare in Janakpur, Nepal and Ayodhya, India where thousands of pilgrims arrive from India and abroad. Janakpur is considered as the birth place of Goddess Sita and Ayodhya is the birth place of Lord Ram. On this day in Janakpur, Idols of Ram and Sita are



dressed as the bridegroom and bride and Hindu wedding ceremony is enacted with full devotion. The day is also celebrated in temples and sacred places associated with Sri Rama in Mithilanchal region and North India. ■

US President Barack Obama accepts PM Modi's invitation to attend Republic Day celebrations



U.S. President Barack Obama accepted Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's invitation on November 21 to be the guest of honor at India's 66th Republic Day Parade on January 26, 2015 in New Delhi. Shri Modi — @narendramodi — tweeted: "This Republic Day, we hope to have a friend over... invited President Obama to be the 1st US President to grace the occasion as Chief Guest." Hours later, an official White House release accepting the invitation, said: "This visit will mark the first time a US President will have the honor of attending Republic Day, which commemorates the adoption of India's constitution. The President will meet with the Prime Minister and Indian officials to strengthen and expand the US-India strategic partnership."



No one is above law

Tho should be called a saint or a baba? The kind of exploitation that was being done in the name of superstition only shows that we are still living in dark ages. These ashrams which have become centres of terror in the name of faith should be deeply investigated. The manner in which fake baba Rampal tried to take advantage of the human weakness was really a huge sin.

People like Rampal are not born in a day. They spread their network of superstition gradually in the society. In the name of miracle the ignorant and poor people who are burdened economically become prey of their abuse.

There should be a ban on these types of ashrams at the very beginning itself. It is an irony that Congress government led by Hooda was in power for last ten years in Haryana. The so called Baba Rampal spread his wings in the last ten years itself. Why no attention was paid to him? What was the reason that Hooda government was giving shelter to these types of babas. It is known to everyone that Rampal did not create such an empire in one day.

Was the story of becoming baba from an engineer not in the knowledge of the then Congress government? If it had came in the knowledge of the government then how he was allowed to spread? Ashram got converted into house of weaponry and the government remained a mute spectator.

The kind of lawlessness that was spread in the name of this ashram running in the name of baba is nothing less than sedition. The administration and the government were openly challenged. Had the BJP government in Haryana and the chief minister Shri Manoharlal Khattar not acted with patience, the situation that was created both inside and outside the ashram could have led to many deaths.

The manner in which Baba tried to use newly born children and their mothers as his shield appeared something related to films. Who will support the act of keeping followers in confinement for one's security.

It may have taken twelve days to arrest Rampal in course of changing situations but the acumen and patience displayed by administration and government is being praised in the entire country. The act of controlling the entire situation without shedding much blood and getting every citizen back to their home is being appreciated everywhere. The human sensibility displayed by administration and the government will serve as an example for long time to come. By arresting Rampal the Haryana government has also upheld the dignity of the court. That's why the court has also praised the action of the Haryana government. Here government has also sent the message that no one is above law.

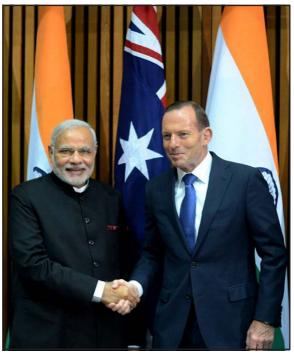
I see Australia as a major partner in every area of our national priority: Narendra Modi

A Report by Ram Prasad Tripathy

ollowing Australian visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. International media and diplomatic experts are now openly recognizing this fact that Indian PM's visit to Australia heralded a new era of closer relationship between the two countries. 'Modi Mania' Brisbane. Sydney, Canberra and other cities, as the Prime Minister addressed a huge gathering in Allphones Arena of Sydney and the Joint Sitting of Australian Parliament to packed public gallery. A large

number of Indian and international news agencies carried the live coverage of the address – the first by an Indian prime minister to the Australian Parliament.

The amount of attention Shri Modi got this time from the Australian government demonstrated the rising profile of India as a Global power. The perceptible thaw in Indo-Australian relationship as witnessed now is in sharp contrast to the strain and mistrust in bilateral relations in 2009 over series of attacks on Indian students in Australia. The growing trust between the two countries is best captured in the announcement of a framework of security co-operation between the two nations. The framework gives structure to commitments on defence and counter-terrorism measures. Government ministers from both countries also signed agreements on extradition that could see criminals serve out their sentences in their home countries, and on social security, which would see Australians living in India get an Australian aged



pension, and vice versa. The agreement would see the removal of requirements for Australian and Indian businesses to pay superannuation to temporary seconded employees.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Australia visit was part of a tri-nation tour for 10day started from 11 November. As part of his itinerary, he visited Myanmar, Australia and Fiji. During the last five months period in office Prime Minister Shri Modi has travelled extensively to countries like Bhutan,

Brazil, Nepal, Japan, United States Of America (USA), Myanmar, Australia, and Fiji to improve the bilateral relations with the concerned countries and engage the ethnic Indians and non-resident Indians settled in these countries for the overall development of the country and Shri Modi has successfully used the diaspora to change the image of the country, pushing back the critics of India who still believe it's a country of 'Snake Charmers' and 'Magicians'. Along with it, during this tour Shri Modi also met more than 40 leaders, including close to 20 bilateral meetings with the leaders of China, Germany, Britain and South Korea to bring back the country to the center of attention.

First Shri Narendra Modi travelled to Myanmar to attend the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) leaders during the ASEAN-India Summit. The final stop of his visit was at Fiji. But the most important part of Shri Modi's three-nation tour was Australia where he participated in an all-important G-20 summit meet, addressed the

Australian Parliament and Interacted with the strong NRI community. This was a historic visit and will leave a historic note for Shri Modi's foreign policy matters because for the first time an Indian PM has a bilateral visit to Australia in 28 years. PM at BRICS Leaders' Meeting in Brisbane

On the first day of Shri Narendra Modi's Australia visit he addressed the BRICS and said the historic 6th BRICS Summit in



- Fortaleza delivered the New Development Bank and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement.
- ▶ These signal our collective capacities to create and manage global institutions.
- These can be effective in promoting sustainable development and bridge infrastructure gaps. We can be more aligned to local conditions and requirements. We should focus on next generation infrastructure.
- We can promote new models of governance and financing, while maintaining the highest banking standards. We should also make it more participatory.
- We need to work towards their early implementation.
- We propose that we should set the target of 2016 for inauguration of this Bank.
- We hope to ratify the agreement by the end of the year. We would soon nominate our candidate for the post of the Presidency.
- ► The Contingent Reserve Arrangement is also a very timely initiative.

Modi unveils statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Brisbane

Shri Narendra Modi on 16 November unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Roma Street Parklands, Brisbane. Speaking on the occasion, he noted how the organizer of the event, Shri Hemant Nayak, had recalled that Shri Modi was keen on having this statue installed even from the days when he had not yet become the Chief Minister of Gujarat. He thanked Shri Nayak for correcting the perception that some people had, that he had begun to mention Mahatma Gandhi only after becoming Prime Minister. He added that he never thought his suggestion of having such a statue installed would become reality, or that he would have the good fortune of unveiling it, and he considered this moment to be no less than a divine message.

He said it was no ordinary being, but an era, that had been born on October 2nd, (1869) at Porbandar. He said Gandhiji is relevant even today to the world. He referred to the problems of global warming and terrorism that had been discussed in the just-concluded G20 summit at Brisbane, and said Gandhiji's life gives us the answers.

The Prime Minister said the tendency of human beings for several centuries had been to exploit nature. However, Mahatma Gandhi always showed us that we have no right to do so. He would not accept a full glass of water, if he needed half a glass; and he would use the reverse side of used envelops to conserve paper. The Prime Minister said that if the world follows Gandhi's examples, a lot can be done for the environment. Shri Modi said



that for Mahatma Gandhi ahimsa (non-violence) was an article of faith - he was against even verbal violence. He said the world can be healed if we all imbibe his message, of respecting one and all.

- ▶ He said these measures send a strong message to the rest of the world about the efficacy of BRICS.
- Besides these, we have started work on many other proposals that would deepen our relations and enhance our cooperation in all spheres.

PM at the G20 session on "Delivering Global Economic Resilience"

Shri Narendra Modi, on 16 November expressed India's support for a new global



standard on automatic exchange of information, which would be instrumental in getting information about unaccounted money hoarded abroad and enable its eventual repatriation. He was making an intervention during the G20 session on Delivering Global Economic Resilience. He said he supported all initiatives to facilitate exchange of information and mutual assistance in tax policy and administration. Noting that increased mobility of capital and technology have created new opportunities for avoiding tax and profit shifting, the Prime Minister said he urged every jurisdiction, especially tax havens, to provide information for tax purposes in accordance with treaty obligations.

The Prime Minister reiterated his call for close policy coordination among major economies, saying this is important not just for also addressing the challenge of black money, but also for security issues like terrorism, drug trafficking, arms smuggling etc. He said although all countries have their domestic priorities, coordinated decisions would "help us all" in the long run. He said the resilience of the global financial system will also depend on cyber security.

PM's address to Indian community at Allphones Arena, Sydney

"Governments cannot make a country, People make a country"

Addressing the Indian community at the Allphones Arena in Sydney, the Prime Minister said that on the basis of his experience of the last six months, he could see no reason why the aspirations of millions of Indians could not be fulfilled. He referred to Swami Vivekananda's dream of seeing Mother India as a Vishva Guru once again, and said he believed that

dream would be a reality. Do you share the dream; he asked thousands of cheering people in the arena. On that occasion Shri Narendra Modi, called upon Indians across the world to convert the atmosphere of hope and optimism into a reality of meeting the expectations and aspirations of India's

people.

Shri Modi said that he feels a greater sense of



responsibility as he is the first Prime Minister born in independent India. "We did not have the fortune to fight for the country's independence. We could not die for India. But we can live for India. So we will live and struggle for India. Today 125 crore Indians share that dream," he said.

"It took 28 years for an Indian PM to make the few

hours journey to Australia. Now you will not have to wait 28 years," the Prime Minister said, referring to the shared values of democracy, and the love for cricket that India and Australia share. The Prime Minister exhorted people to recognize the strength of India's democracy. "Let us now do all we can for India's benefit. And then India will work for the benefit of mankind," he said.

Shri Modi congratulated and complimented the Indian Australian community for working hard and making their karmbhoomi proud. He named prominent Indian-Australians who had excelled for Australia in sports and academics. He mentioned the work his Government was doing and the new policies and schemes his Government had launched including the *Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana*, the Make in India initiative, *Swachh Bharat and Shramev Jayate*. The Prime Minister talked about the decision to allow 100% FDI in Railways.

He said he wanted to do humble things for humble people to make a great improvement in their lives. He spoke of the need to improve access

Memoranda of Understanding signed during the visit of Shri Modi to Australia

No.	MoUs	
1.	Agreement on Social Security	To strengthen the people-to-people contacts and facilitate and regulate the regulations between the two countries with respect to social security benefits and coverage. It will provide for social security and superannuation benefits for those who have been residents of the other country on basis of equality of benefit, export of benefits and avoidance of double coverage. It will lead to greater economies and promote the flow of professionals.
2.	Agreement concerning Transfer of Sentenced Persons	To enhance cooperative efforts in law enforcement and administration of justice and to cooperate in the enforcement of penal sentences. It will facilitate, regulate and lay down procedures for the transfer of sentenced persons and enable rehabilitation and reintegration of sentenced persons into society.
3.	MOU on Combating Narcotics Trafficking and Developing Police Cooperation	To address concerns regarding illicit trafficking and drug abuse. It places priority on tackling illicit trade, diversion of precursors, asset forfeiture and drug money laundering. It will promote capacity building and help develop strategies and procedures for operations to disrupt and dismantle transnational narcotic related threats.
4.	MOU on Cooperation in the Field of Arts and Culture	To enhance cultural relations between the two countries in pursuance of the Cultural Agreement of 1971. It will promote cooperation through exchange of information, professional expertise, training and exhibitions in the field of culture. It will deepen understanding between the people, institutions and art genres and promote sound and sustainable artistic and cultural activities.
5.	MOU in the Field of Tourism	To enhance the bilateral cooperation and strengthen the friendly between the people. It will encourage cooperation in tourism policy, information exchange, interaction between tourism stakeholders, training and investments in hospitality sector and promote the importance of the tourism sector in economic development and employment generation.

to clean water, electricity sanitation, inviting the Indian-Australian community to give to the back Motherland whatever way they could. He spoke of his vision for skill development, and India meeting the skilled manpower requirement of the whole world. He said, "Governments cannot make a country. People make a country," the Prime Minister said. He spoke of his initiative to abolish needless laws and his push for self-certification of documents.

The Prime Minister also added that the differences between OCI and PIO schemes would be ended by January 2015. The Sydney Cultural Center would be established by the Government of India and made functional by February 2015.

Address to the Joint Session of the Australian Parliament

India's political rockstar Shri Narendra Modi got big laughs and claps from politicians around the chamber in the Australian Parliament House when he brought up the fact that he was the third head of government to address them this week. 'I do not know how you are doing this... Maybe this is Prime Minister Abbott's way of shirtfronting you,' he said. Shri Modi was given a ceremonial welcome to Parliament House and trade was top of the agenda when Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott met with him in Australia's capital. He pledged to put Australia at the centre of his strategy to expand his country's economy and ensure peace in the region. This comes after Shri Modi stormed Sydney's Allphones Arena on Monday, driving a packed audience of 17,000 people into delirium.

Addressing a historic speech to the Joint Session of the Australian Parliament Prime Minister Shri Modi said I stand here as one of you - a representative of the people; I come to you with the greetings of 1.25 billion people of a nation, linked to Australia by the great Indian Ocean; by our connected history and our many shared inheritancesand, even more by our deeply interlinked destinies. And, today I have come to unite in

spirit, as we were once by geography - spirit that is fed by many stirring stories of human success and sacrifice.

He said 'this morning, Prime Minister and I honoured our soldiers, who 100 years ago made the supreme sacrifice together in the battle of Gallipoli'. The man who designed this beautiful capital of Canberra, Walter Burley Griffin, lies buried in the old city of Lucknow in India. More than 150 years ago, an Australian novelist and lawyer John Lang fought the legal battle for a brave

Indian freedom fighter, the Queen of Jhansi, Rani Laxmi Bai against the British East India Company in India's first War of Independence. He also lies buried in the Indian hill town of Mussoorie. The statue of Gandhi in Canberra is a symbol of our shared values. We celebrate the legend of Bradman and the class of Tendulkar together. We are impressed by Australian speed as you are charmed by the Indian spin until of course Shane Warne came along! But, above all, we are united by the ideals of democracy.

Today, as I stand in this temple of democracy, I consider nations such as ours to be blessed, because democracy offers the best opportunity for the human spirit to flourish, because we have the freedom to choose, the right to speak and the power to remove – and, for us in politics, with no option but to leave with grace, he said.

He said Australia evokes images not just of immense beauty, but also of a great quality of life. Today, its cities are alive with richness of this world's diversity. And, it is home to 450,000 Indians, who are as proud to be part of Australia



as they are of their Indian heritage.

Shri Modi said there was a time when, for many of us, Australia was a distant land on the southern edge of the world. Today, the world sees Australia to be at the heart of the Asia Pacific and Indian Ocean region. This dynamic region holds the key to this world's future; and Australia is at its cross-currents. And, as Australia has become more engaged in this part of the world, we welcome its growing role in driving this region's prosperity and shaping its security. Because we, in India,

seek the same future for this world. We also see Australia as a vital partner in India's quest for progress and prosperity. He said today, we have a government with a clear majority after thirty years. From the remotest village to the biggest cities, there is a new high tide of hope in India; a new energy.

It is the energy of our youth – the 800 million people below the age of 35 – eager for change, willing to work for it - because, now they believe that it is possible. That they can make it happen. It is this force of transformation that we will

Australian artists perform traditional aboriginal dance to welcome Modi

The Australian artists performed the traditional dance to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who arrived in Sydney on 17 November 2014 on the second leg of his four-city tour of the



country. Prime Minister Shri Modi, who arrived in Sydney after three days in Brisbane where he attended the annual G-20 Summit, was also gifted a boomerang by the Australian artists.

unleash. Shri Modi said see Australia as a major partner in every area of our national priority.

He further said we have a new Mission for turning "Made in India" into a global name just as Computer in India is. But, we want to find new pathways to prosperity, not simply travel down the roads of the previous century. Much of India's future cities and infrastructure is yet to be built and so we have a unique opportunity to make our choices now. And, in every sector - agriculture, food processing, mining, infrastructure, manufacturing, finance and technology, energy; from providing funds and resources to technology and expertise; working as partners and investors -Australia has immense opportunities to participate in India's progress. In turn, India will be the answer to your search for new economic opportunities and your desire to diversify your global economic engagement; your source for world class skills at home or for a manufacturing location abroad.

India's development, demography and demand provide a unique long term opportunity for Australia – and all in the familiar framework of democracy. There is no other example of this nature in the world. Indian investors, too, are coming here in growing numbers and commitments he said.

He said in our inter-connected world, our shared challenges extend beyond our region. Terrorism has become a major threat for us all. In India, we have seen its face closely for three

decades. And, we see it with the clarity that comes with it. Terrorism is changing in character and expanding in its reach. Internet has made recruitment and call to violence self-generated. It also feeds off money laundering, drug trafficking and arms smuggling.

The PM said we have to deepen our bilateral security cooperation. But, we need a comprehensive global strategy for a global problem. It will require closer security cooperation; but, even more, a policy of no distinction between terrorist groups or discrimination between nations; a resolve to isolate those who harbor terrorists, willingness to empower states that will fight them; a social movement against extremism in

countries where it is most prevalent; and, every effort to delink religion and terrorism.

He said since my Government entered office, no region has seen more intense engagement on India's part than Asia Pacific region - because we understand how deeply our future is linked to this region. India and Australia can play cricket hard with each other – and I suspect we will next month. But we see Australia as one of our foremost partners in the region. I was pleased to host Prime Minister Tony Abbott as my first State Guest in September.

He said it has taken a Prime Minister of India 28 years to come to Australia. It should never have been so. And, this will change. Australia will not be at the periphery of our vision, but at the centre of our thought. So, we stand together at a moment of enormous opportunity and great responsibility. I see a great future of partnership between India and Australia and, a shared commitment to realize it.

...Continued on page 27

Contribute three months to party to make Membership Drive successful: Amit Shah

Review Meeting – 22 November 2014

Bharatiya Janata Party has launched its membership drive with a new vision, resolve and slogan of "Sashakta Bhajapa, Sashakta Bharat". A national review meeting of BJP Membership Drive was held at BJP National Headquarters in New Delhi on 22nd November 2014 in which along with national office bearers, state presidents, state prabharis and state membership drive prabharis participated. In the meeting state-wise reports were presented and the issues related to membership drive were discussed in detail. BJP National President Shri Amit Shah addressed the meeting and



highlighted the important points related to membership drive. We are publishing the edited version of his address for our esteemed readers:

resent on the dais Shriman Ramlal ji, Convenor of the Membership Drive Shri Dinesh Sharmaji, all the Coconvenors and all the senior karyakartas who have come from different parts of the country, brothers and sisters - before I say something about this new and unprecedented Maha- Abhiyan I would like to remember the great work of all the senior leaders before us. The sacrifice and hard work of many like Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay, Late Sunder Singh Bhandari, Rajmata Vijaya Raje Scindia, Jagannath Rao Joshi and Nanaji Deshmukh have made this party strong. As a result of the constant efforts made by many senior leaders like our respected leaders Shri Atal

Bihari Vajpayee and Shri Lal Krishna Advani we have come to this stage. We have to take forward the works of our senior leaders through Membership Drive. From the day the Membership Drive was launched by Shri Narendra Modi, 79 lac online-members have been registered. To take forward this drive, to review it and to find solution to certain practical and technical problems in the process this meeting has been organized. Friends, this membership drive is not new for BJP. Every time, as the festival of organization we conduct membership drive and every member become member again after every six year and elections take place. It is our tradition. Among almost 1300 parties, there

are one or two only in which internal democracy still survives and there is a system to connect the people. After getting linked to the party one is connected to the organization and there is a system to reach to any post through election. Anyone can come forward to use this platform to serve the country. And probably this is the only party which by following the constitution of the party conducts the process of organizational elections. Every two year we have organisational elections and renew our membership every six years. And the year 2014 is the year of our membership renewal. We have taken this membership drive in a different way by not considering it to be a routine

work but to expand the mass base of the party, strengthen the organization and for the propagation of the ideology so as to take the party to a new height. From 1950 we have been working as Jansangh and then as BJP. Our party came into existence on the basis of ideology and we marched forward. In the beginning the ideology was mocked at, the ideology had to struggle and it got accepted when this ideology started getting respected after 2014 Lok Sabha elections. It may be said that our ideology started getting recognition and respect in the country and the entire world from 2014 onwards. We came to power in the Centre and states several times before 2014 but for the first time people gave us full majority under the leadership of Narendra Bhai. We want to carry forward this acceptability and respect.

There are many parts in the country where we have not yet reached. BJP has to reach in those parts. There are many states where BJP has formed its government but there are many parts in those states where BJP is still to make its presence. In many Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha constituency where we may have won but there may be many booths where we have not yet reached. This membership campaign is to reach upto that booth. So far whatever has been said should not be taken as if by dialing phone number one will become member and thereafter a register will be prepared and organizational elections will be held and this data will stand by the party. After this the party has thought over a system wherein

by compiling a list of all the members a campaign for two months will be organized. Our karvakartas will go to every new member. They will give them an introductory pamphlet of the party, introduction of the party, welcome them into the party and make efforts to link them with the activities of the party. In this way suppose if 10 crore members are registered a big campaign of connecting seven crore members will be taken up by the party in the next two months. So in the month of April and May we will take this contact programme to everyone and three crore old members will connect seven crore new members so that they become the carriers of BJP ideology and become integral part of the party. For this BJP karyakartas will have to make untiring efforts.

Thereafter in the 6th, 7th and 8th month *Abhyas Varga* (Workshop) and training programmes for 15 lac selected members will be organized. BJP wants to make a schedule for the biggest training progamme in the world and party has plans to link 15 lac selected members including old and new and special ones with the spirit of the party.

By compiling our ideology, aim of our work, the history of the party till date, introduction of the party leaders, contribution of the party in nation's politics and work of our governments we are going to prepare a training capsule and we will conduct mega training programme in these three months to train 15 lac karyakartas.

So friends, I only want to say that if we want to give strength to this membership campaign then everyone sitting here in the hall will have to resolve that we have to take this campaign upto booth level. If this campaign does not reach upto the booth then I believe that we will not get the desired benefits. This is because there should be a symmetrical system. A scientific system will have to be evolved in every state and by monitoring it strongly it will have to be percolated to the lowest rung. Then only we will be able to fulfill the aims of making new members upto booth level. The caste calculus of booth, the political arrangements, situation and the details of the change we want to make in the booth should be worked out wherever BJP has its good presence. It may not happen everywhere but in states like Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan where we have strong organization this can be done. Not making it a ritual but to keep in mind as to how to make every booth a live booth, every booth should have representation of every section of the society and this should be the focus of the membership drive. In many areas our membership is low, in vanavasi areas our membership is low, in urban slums, Dalit settlements our membership is low. So wherever we have not been able to reach the year 2014 is the year of hoisting our flags in those places, it is a year to expand BJP to those areas. So wherever our party is strong and our organization is good, its micro planning will be done by our karvakartas. One team should be formed in the state



which can work on these lines in full form. And this state level team should form District level group which may take this spirit upto booth level. In this membership drive 10 crore members can be made. The kind of popularity which Narendra Bhai Modi enjoys and the mass base BJP has, making 10 crore members is not a big thing. But if we want to give stability to the popularity of Narendra Bhai, increase mass base of BIP as a result of the good works done by the government then from booth to state all the units should grow completely and they should develop fully and consistently. It may only happen when you have detailed planning in your state. This need not be explained to you as you have been doing it for years.

This time the election results that have been given by 2014 and thereafter the results given by states, by using this mass base Bharatiya Janata Party should come forward as a strong party for the next 50 years and increase the expanse of our organization and for this we want to make use of this festival of organization through membership drive. You just have faith in my words that

as between 1947 and 1966 there was a time for Congress that whoever Congress used to nominate for elections people used to elect them and people used to see as to who was the Congress candidate and that candidate used to win the election. BJP is also going to get that kind of huge support in the days to come. We should keep in mind that the beginning of decline of Congress started from '66 because they did not give importance to the renewal of organization. They fell into the activities of government. They fell into the activities of making They fell into the manipulations of caste within the leaders. At the time of independence the Congress which had reached upto the ground level on the basis of organization by making 25 paise members started gradually getting eroded and the decline of Congress started from '66. By 2014 its post of Leader of Opposition has also been lost. When our good time has begun we should learn from the history and see how this good time becomes longer and perpetuates and for that this membership drive is taken up to make our

organization and ideology reach to the ground level. It is not an exaggeration, you have come to this meeting as you have a definite responsibility and the membership drive which is going on is a Dandi March of the democratic history of the country. When 85 people came out from the Sabaramati ashram with Gandhiji the Dandi Yatra was started and they did not know that they were going to create history. Today you people are sitting here as BJP karyakartas in the same manner. Just believe my words that you are also going to become a big part of the democratic history of the country as this drive is going to be so important and result oriented. Therefore I want to say that the plans will go down from above for this drive but everyone should give new dimension, we should give new momentum in our own ways and build enthusiasm of the karvakartas involved in the drive by bringing in new things and make this drive completely a drive to increase the strength of the Bharatiya Janata Party. I believe that this drive will help in expansion of the party as I'd said during the National Council meeting that this year is the year of expansion of BJP. It is a year of giving shape to the ideology of BJP and help in its propagation. And we have to use this through our membership drive. This time we have decided to increase 50% of the active members which was 5.5 to 6.00 lac earlier. If a state has 100 active members then it has to make 150 by increasing 50%. If 6 lac active members are in the entire country then we want to have 9 lac active members this time. And we have made some changes in the eligibility criteria for becoming an active member. Every active member has to make 100 members. So if 9 lac active members make 100 members each then 9 crore members are easily registered. And those who make 100 members only they can become active members as every active member will have to give a list of 100 members.

A pamphlet in this regard has been prepared and given to you in which name, mandal, district, state, mobile number of the active member who is being proposed are to be given. It means that the active member who is going to become councilor will have to get toll free number dialed before him. And after that his councilor number will come. That you have to get noted here and after that address, telephone number, PIN code has to be sent through sms. In one family more than one number can be made. BJP has made up its mind to see that this system has to be strictly followed from PM Narendra Modi to booth level karvakartas. You make 100 members. Nine lac members make 100 primary members of the party and give

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the list to the BJP office. BJP will certify it as this is electronic number and with this automatic certification you will become active member of the party.

In the eligibility criteria of the party to become an active member it was required to give 10 days in the party activity in which we are bringing a slight relaxation and in place of 10 days we are keeping it 7 days and also bringing in a change that in these 7 days full time as per party plan will have to be given then only you can become an active member. One who wants to become an active member will have to give 7-day time in any locality, slum, Dalit basti, village or block where BJP has no member and work for membership and will have to submit report. After that once the work is certified he will be involved as an active member. One who wants to become BJP

active member it is not a big deal to give 7 days and these 7 days are to be given in two years. And this has to be followed strictly upto the ground level, there should be no relaxation. Those who are at state and district level, if they go for meeting, their time will be counted within the 7 days. For example if Muralidhar Rao ji goes to Tamil Nadu in membership drive to enhance the enthusiasm of the people then these three days will be counted. But the karyakartas at mandal level and district level may be able to become active members only if they tour at the allotted places and make 100 members. And BJP has to make 9 lac active members fulfilling both these criteria. I don't think that it is a big goal. Changing shape and base of party depends on us. Never again better political situation, political leadership and political acceptability will be available. Party should make use of this opportunity. We have to encash this opportunity. We have to give stability to this mass base. And from this stable mass base we should take out karyakartas committed to ideology so that work of BJP keep growing for a long time, 15-20-25 years to come. The membership drive should move in this direction.

Friends, don't take this drive lightly. By working for long duration in politics our life become stagnant. Some decisions and things happen which are not in accordance with our wish. Many times our positions are also not good. I request you to weed out pessimism, inactivity and stagnation which come in due to

these for three months. Because these three months are so important that if we work like a team then we can achieve the goal of making 10 crore members at the ground level. It is not that people sitting over here have not done anything for the party. It may so happen that we are not satisfied with our current position in the party but we have contributed to the party in some measure. Now contribute three months to the party and make this drive successful. Take out all the feeling that stops you from being active and take this spirit to the booth level as a team.

Friends, the future of Bharatiya Janata Party is very glorious and the leadership of Modiji has received acceptability in the entire country and the world over. His plans which are people oriented and the results that we are getting from those plans, I believe that the coming days are golden. But I want that by en-cashing that golden future the base of the party should be made so strong that our ideology in any testing time remains intact. From the days Jansangh was formed many such times have come. From emergency to the days of two seats had come. Even after that many a time our karyakartas felt hopeless. But the ideological base of the Jansangh karyakartas was clear and therefore gradually party overcame this period and we came to this stage. If we do not make the ideological clarity of the new members of this growing party and the people who are coming from outside and set this membership drive on right track then in the time of difficulties party will not be able to act

The future of Bharatiya Janata Party is very glorious and the leadership of Modiji has received acceptability in the entire country and the world over. His plans which are people oriented and the results that we are getting from those plans, I believe that the coming days are golden. But I want that by encashing that golden future the base of the party should be made so strong that our ideology in any testing time remains intact.

~~~~~~ properly. So don't consider it to be a routine work. It has been designed with lots of thinking and much detailed planning. And neither I can tell you nor imagine the kind of good result that we are going to get from this drive. And if the huge efforts of Modiji and his popularity get the organizational backing then from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and from Gujarat to Assam, entire India will come under the umbrella of 'Kamal' and we will be able to witness good days. And not only power, our principles, our ideology should reach the youth, should be taken to the coming generations and the new India that will be made in the coming 15-20 years should be built on our fundamental principle, on the basis of our ideology and the development of the country should take place without diluting our principles. If we have to do this then your support is required. Here those who are sitting on the dais, all the national office bearers, all ministers in the government,

everyone are going to work hard. You just have faith in me, no one will be left. But we have to inspire the karvakartas upto the ground level not through the words but by action. If you make arrangements for his work by your planning and weed out the laziness through constant monitoring then I believe that this drive will be definitely successful. Just imagine one thing that if BJP becomes world number one party on concrete ground then the glory of the BJP and Modi ji will spread in the entire world and we can say with pride that we are the karyakartas of BJP. And we should take the party forward on this scale. I don't want to say more but don't dilute the criteria of becoming active member and please take it to the ground level and we will definitely achieve our goal. To make 100 members and give 7 days - if these two criteria are percolated to the ground then I think that everything will be alright. I humbly pray to you all and expect that you should give three months for the BJP. BJP will keep standing on its strong ground for many years to come and keep providing the opportunity to thousands of karvakartas to work for state and nation.

I want to tell all the karyakartas of the party that Membership Maha-Abhiyan is the foundation of a new organization based politics. We have to make this historic effort successful. It will succeed on the basis of our own activism. Every one of us will have to own up this responsibility. This work will move forward only with our complete participation.

## Assembly Election Trail

With Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's election rallies in Jharkhand and J&K BJP officially started its campaign in a big way for the forthcoming assembly elections in the two states ruled by the non BJP opposition parties. The ruling government in Jharkhand is a coalition between Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and Congress party, while the state government in Jammu and Kashmir is a coalition between National Conference (NC) and the Congress party. Apart from Shri Modi BJP National President Shri Amit Shah and other BJP senior leaders are also addressing rallies in these poll bound states. As per the schedule Shri Modi and Shri Amit Shah will address several rallies in both the states.

The Five phases of polling in the two states will happen on 25th November, 2nd December, 9th December, 14th December and 20th December, the counting of the votes for the two states will be conducted on 23rd December. The expiry of the term of assembly of Jammu and Kashmir is on 19th January, 2015, and the expiry of the term of legislative assembly of Jharkhand is on 3rd January, 2015. The Jharkhand assembly has 81 members and there are 87 seats in Jammu and Kashmir assembly. As per Election Commission the total number of electors for Jharkhand was more than 2.07 crore, the electors in Jammu and Kashmir was 72.25 lakh.

The kind of public support BJP is witnessing this time across the states of Jharkhand and J&K are even more encouraging than what the party saw during the Lok Sabha elections. It seems that this huge public support will further encourage BJP Karyakartas, strengthen party's base and BJP will get thumping victories in both the states. We are publishing the excerpts of some speeches made by PM Shri Narendra Modi and BJP National President Shri Amit Shah for our esteemed readers:

# Violence has no place in politics or society: Narendra Modi

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on December 21 addressed an election rally in Chandwa, Latehar in Jharkhand. He said he felt fortunate to be addressing an election rally in a small Panchayat of Jharkhand. He said the huge gathering was indicative of the mood of the people.

Shri Narendra Modi said this also showed that the people of this country were no longer going to tolerate corruption and nepotism.

The Prime Minister said those who have virtually

accepted that they cannot win, have now resorted to politics of assassination. He paid homage to a party worker Priyaranjan Paswan, and his bodyguard, who lost their lives in a recent act of violence. He said bullets need to be answered by ballots. He said India's democracy was a model for the whole world, and

nothing should be done to harm it. He said violence had no place in politics or society.

He appealed to the misguided youth to give up the gun which could turn the earth red, and instead pick up the ploughshare, which will turn the earth green. He invited youth to join the development mainstream. He said we need to turn the earth green, not red. He praised the courage of the people who had come to this rally, saying such a "jan sailaab" (sea of humanity) could not be seen even in cities.

The Prime Minister said previous state governments were guilty of keeping the people poor, despite the state being rich in natural resources.

He said development is the only cure for all problems being faced by the people. He thanked the people of Jharkhand for giving him unprecedented support in the recent Lok Sabha elections.

The Prime Minister said he was focused on

providing basic amenities such as toilets for all, and dignity for women. He said even the United Nations was taking note of this initiative to build toilets.

He also spoke about the NDA Government's Pradhan Mantri Jandhan Yojana to ensure financial inclusion for all. He said 7 crore new bank accounts had been opened under this scheme.

He called upon the people of Jharkhand to give him a chance to serve the people. He urged people to give the BJP a full majority in the state Assembly elections, to give him a chance to serve the state, and deliver on his promise of development.

Jammu & Kashmir

# I will return your trust in me with interest by ensuring full fledged development in J&K: Modi

Addressing the first rally in Jammu & Kashmir Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on November 22 promised to fulfill the dream of former PM Shri



Atal Bihari Vajpayee based on democracy, humanity and Kashmiriyat that has made a special place in the hearts of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing his rally at Kishtwar in the state he said "democracy, humanity and Kashmiriyat, these words of Shri Atal ji have made special place in the hearts of Kashmiris and have ignited a hope in every Kashmiri youth about better future."

"I want to urge people to install with full majority a BJP government in Jammu and Kashmir and trust my words that the dream, which Atal ji had seen for J&K, Modi will use all his might and will fulfill that dream."

"Our matra is only development, development

and development," he said, adding "I will return your trust in me with interest by ensuring full fledged development in J&K."

He said that I wished to complete the work started by Shri Vajpayee. "It is my wish and I will come repeatedly here for that," the Prime Minister said amid slogans of 'Modi, Modi' from the audience.

"I have deep affection for Kashmir. Affection from the core of my heart and soul," he told the rally at Chowgan ground in Kishtwar town, adding other political parties were surprised that there has not been even a single month when Modi has not come to Kashmir.

"He has come in July, August, September, and October and now in November," Modi said referring to himself.

Recalling the NDA rule under Vajapyee, he said, "Every Kashmiri thought that now their dreams be fulfilled. But during last ten years, what has happened with Kashmir and its situation."

# J&K wants to get rid of the rule of dynastic parties: Amit Shah

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah on November 19 exuded confidence of victory to the workers of the BJP. He said that the state's people wanted to get rid of the rule of dynastic parties in Jammu & Kashmir. Shri Shah was in Jammu for getting update of election preparations.

"The public in J&K is with Narendra Modi's development plank and want to get rid of the dynastic parties rule which have only promoted dynasties and few cronies," Shri Shah said.

He added "The dynastic rule has also perpetuated corruption, nepotism and mal-administration. People



want to have public friendly and compassionate governance, which only BJP is capable of," he said.

He held a meeting of election management committee, campaign committee, state election departments' in-charges and members at Hotel Ashok in Jammu to review the poll related preparations and work done by various party functionaries.

During the meeting, prominent politician from Akhnoor, Govind Ram Sharma, along with his son Suresh Sharma, joined BJP in the presence of Shah.

Shri Shah expressed satisfaction over the briefing by various committees, but stressed for more persistent efforts, and called for 'committed hard work' to ensure 'Mission 44+'.

Shri Shah also addressed rallies in Banihal and Ramban next day in the state.

**Jharkhand** 

# 'BJP committed to pull Jharkhand along the developmental path'

BJP President Shri Amit Shah on November 17 said that there was a "contradiction" in Jharkhand Cabinet as the ruling alliance have been contesting against each other in the Jharkhand Assembly elections. He was addressing public meetings in



Jharkhand.

Addressing separate election meetings at Hussainabad and Garhwa seeking votes for party candidates, Shri Shah asked how RJD claimed to form government when there was a contradiction in the ruling alliance in the state. Congress broke ties with JMM (Jharkhand Mukti Morcha) last month after failing to forge pre-poll alliance with it, but Congress continues to support Hemant Soren-led government. While the JMM is contesting alone, Congress and RJD continued the alliance for the elections.

He said the party's agenda was to make a

Congress-free government everywhere, adding the BJP is committed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of development.

Addressing another meeting at Garhwa, Shri Shah said BJP was also committed to pull Jharkhand along the developmental path at par with Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

Committing to complete the long-pending Kanhar irrigation project in Garhwa, Shri Shah said injustice was done to Jharkhand and the BJP was determined to put the state on the path of development.

# 'Congress never let any government in Jharkhand survive'

On November 16, Addressing a huge gathering at Lutheran High School grounds in Lohardaga BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said," People of this state want Jharkhand to be free of the Congress. I decided to start campaigning from Lohardaga because the state Congress President (Sukhdeo Bhagat) is contesting from this seat".

Holding the Congress responsible for serial lapses, corruption and political instability in Jharkhand, he said: "During Lok Sabha polls, we gave a call for Congress-free India and you people of Jharkhand gave us overwhelming response with 12 out of 14 parliamentary seats. At the national level, voters bundled out the Congress. Now, it is Jharkhand's turn."

"Madhu Koda tha, jisko Congress ne mukhya mantri banaya aur baad mein jail bhi gaya. Sab ko jail bhejiye sir (It was Madhu Koda who was made chief minister by the Congress. He was jailed too. Sir, send everyone to jail)," an excited man from the crowd screamed.

"That poor tribal fellow had to go to jail on corruption charges but the Congress leaders who were equal partners in the scam stayed safe. I am not supporting Madhu Koda.

He did wrong. But those who corrupted him can't be spared," Shri Shah said.

"Those who profited from corruption must be sent to right place that they deserve (read jail). If in the last 10 years, the Congress-led UPA government did anything, it was corruption, corruption and only corruption. A majority government like the one Prime Minister Narendra Modi is heading at the Centre is very effective in taking strong decisions. This is what Jharkhand needs," Shri Shah said. 

(FOC)

# 21 ministers included in first ministry expansion

In his first cabinet expansion on November 9, Prime LMinister Shri Narendra Modi appointed 21 ministers, four including Cabinet Ministers, three Minister of State (independent charge) and 14 Ministers of State. expansion has not only facilitated a prudent division of work among the ministers, it has also added a blend of experience with youth energy while ensuring optimum regional representation.

This time there are representatives from Goa, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Telengana, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, UP, Gujarat, Rajasthan and West Bengal –covering almost every state in India.

Former Goa Chief Minister Shri Manohar Parrikar was made Defence Minister, Shri Suresh Prabhu has been given the Railway Ministry. BJP National General Secretary Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda is the new Health Minister and senior Haryana leader Shri Birender Singh is the new Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water and Sanitation minister.

Finance minister Shri Arun Jaitley has been given the charge of Information and Broadcasting ministry, which was previously held by Shri Prakash Javadekar. He will be assisted by Olympic shooting medalist and former armyman Shri Rajyavardhan Rathore who is a member of parliament from Rajasthan.

Former Karnataka Chief Minister Shri D.V. Sadanand Gowda is the new Law and Justice Minister. Shri Gowda was earlier handling the railway ministry, and the law and justice ministry was with Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, who is now handling Communications and Information Technology ministry.

Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy is the new Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Ministry. He also gets the charge of Parliamentary Affairs as MoS alongwith Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, who is also MoS for Minority Affairs with Najma Heptulla who is the Cabinet Minister.

Labour and Employment which was earlier with Shri Narendra Singh Tomar has been given to Shri Bandaru Dattatreya who was sworn in as minister with independent charge. Shri Tomar will continue as Minister for Steel and Mines.

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**Manohar Parrikar** (**Defence**) He is the first IITian to become the Chief Minister of any Indian state. Shri Parrikar said that he had decided to accept the offer of Union Cabinet seat as a matter of "national interest" although he also said that he was extremely attached to Goa.

**Suresh Prabhu** (Railways), a former Cabinet minister, is the head of a high-level panel on power revamp — "Advisory Group for Integrated Development of Power, Coal and Renewable Energy". Shri Prabhu was the initiator of reforms in the power sector during his tenure as Power Minister in the former NDA government when he had piloted the integrated electricity bill and the law for setting up a regulator.

**J.P. Nadda** (Health and Family Welfare) is a Rajya Sabha member from Himachal Pradesh and also National General Secretary of the BJP. He has a long organizational experience and also served as cabinet minister in Himachal Pradesh government. He also served as the President of Olympic Association, Himachal Pradesh from 2008 to 2012.

Birender Singh (Rural Development, Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water and Sanitation) He is a senior leader from Haryana. In August, Birendra Singh ended his four-decade-long association with the Congress and joined the BJP.









| S.n                                                                                                    | no Name                               | Portfolio                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| Cab                                                                                                    | binet Ministers of India              | 2014                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
| 1                                                                                                      | Narendra Modi                         | Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Department of Atomic                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
|                                                                                                        |                                       | Energy Department of Space; All important policy issues and all                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| oth                                                                                                    | ner                                   | portfolios not allocated to any Minister                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |
| 2                                                                                                      | Rajnath Singh                         | Home Affairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |
| 3                                                                                                      | Sushma Swaraj                         | External Affairs, Overseas Indian Affairs                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
| 4                                                                                                      | Arun Jaitley                          | Finance, Corporate Affairs, Information & Broadcasting                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  |
| 5                                                                                                      | M. Venkaiah Naidu                     | Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation,                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
|                                                                                                        |                                       | Parliamentary Affairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| 6                                                                                                      | Nitin Jairam Gadkari                  | Road Transport and Highways, Shipping                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| 7                                                                                                      | Manohar Parrikar                      | Defence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |  |
| 8                                                                                                      | Suresh Prabhu                         | Railways                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |  |
| 9                                                                                                      | D.V. Sadananda Gowda                  | Law & Justice                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| 10                                                                                                     | Uma Bharati                           | Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
| 11                                                                                                     | Dr. Najma A. Heptulla                 | Minority Affairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |  |
| 12                                                                                                     | Ramvilas Paswan                       | Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |  |
| 13                                                                                                     | Kalraj Mishra                         | Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |  |
| 14                                                                                                     | Maneka Sanjay Gandhi                  | Women and Child Development                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
| 15                                                                                                     | Ananthkumar                           | Chemicals and Fertilizers                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
|                                                                                                        | Ravi Shankar Prasad                   | Communications and Information Technology                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |  |
| 17                                                                                                     | Jagat Prakash Nadda                   | Health & Family Welfare                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |  |
| 18                                                                                                     | Ashok Gajapathi Raju Pusapa           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| 19                                                                                                     | Anant Geete                           | Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |  |
| 1                                                                                                      | Harsimrat Kaur Badal                  | Food Processing Industries                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |
| 21 22                                                                                                  | Narendra Singh Tomar                  | Mines, Steel                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |
| 23                                                                                                     | Chaudhary Birender Singh<br>Jual Oram | Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Drinking Water and Sanitation<br>Tribal Affairs                                                                                                                                                        |  |  |
| 24                                                                                                     | Radha Mohan Singh                     | Agriculture                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
| 25                                                                                                     | Thaawar Chand Gehlot                  | Social Justice and Empowerment                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |  |
| 26                                                                                                     | Smriti Zubin Irani                    | Human Resource Development                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |
|                                                                                                        |                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| 27 Dr. Harsh Vardhan Science and Technology, Earth Sciences Ministers of State with Independent Charge |                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| 1                                                                                                      |                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| 1                                                                                                      | General V.K. Singh                    | Statistics and Programme Implementation (Independent Charge),<br>External Affairs, Overseas Indian Affairs                                                                                                                                |  |  |
| 2                                                                                                      | Inderjit Singh Rao                    | Planning (Independent Charge), Defence                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |  |
| 3                                                                                                      | Santosh Kumar Gangwar                 | Textiles (Independent Charge)                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| 4                                                                                                      | Bandaru Dattatreya                    | Labour and Employment (Independent Charge)                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |
| 5                                                                                                      | Rajiv Pratap Rudy                     | Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge),                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |
|                                                                                                        | rajiv i ratap reacy                   | Parliamentary Affairs                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |  |
| 6                                                                                                      | Shripad Yesso Naik                    | AAYUSH (Independent Charge), Health & Family Welfare                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
| 7                                                                                                      | Dharmendra Pradhan                    | Petroleum and Natural Gas (Independent Charge)                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |  |
| 8                                                                                                      | Sarbananda Sonowal                    | Youth Affairs and Sports (Independent Charge)                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |
| 9                                                                                                      | Prakash Javadekar                     | Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Independent Charge)                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
| 10                                                                                                     | Piyush Goyal                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
|                                                                                                        | •                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
| 11                                                                                                     | Dr. Jitendra Singh                    | Development of North Eastern Region (Independent Charge), Prime                                                                                                                                                                           |  |  |
|                                                                                                        | Ç                                     | Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions,                                                                                                                                                                               |  |  |
|                                                                                                        |                                       | Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |  |
| 10                                                                                                     |                                       | Power (Independent Charge), Coal (Independent Charge), New and<br>Renewable Energy (Independent Charge)<br>Development of North Eastern Region (Independent Charge), Prime<br>Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, |  |  |

12 Nirmala Sitharaman Commerce and Industry (Independent Charge)

13 Dr. Mahesh Sharma Culture (Independent Charge), Tourism (Independent Charge),

Civil Aviation

Ministers of State

1 Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi Minority Affairs, Parliamentary Affairs

2 Ram Kripal Yadav Drinking Water & Sanitation

3 Haribhai Parthibhai Chaudhary Home Affairs

4 Sanwar Lal Jat Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

5 Mohanbhai Kalyanjibhai Kundariya Agriculture

6 Giriraj Singh Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises

7 Hansraj Gangaram Ahir Chemicals & Fertilizers

8 G.M. Siddeshwara Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises

9 Manoj Sinha Railways 10 Nihalchand Panchayati Raj

11 Upendra Kushwaha Human Resource Development

12 Radhakrishnan P. Road Transport & Highways, Shipping

13 Kiren Rijiju Home Affairs

14 Krishan Pal Social Justice & Empowerment

15 Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan Agriculture
 16 Manuskhbhai Dhanjibhai Vasava Tribal Affairs

17 Raosaheb Dadarao Danve Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

18 Vishnu Deo Sai Mines, Steel19 Sudarshan Bhagat Rural Development

20 Prof. (Dr.) Ram Shankar Katheria Human Resource Development

21 Y.S. Chowdary Science and Technology, Earth Science

22 Jayant Sinha Finance

23 Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore Information & Broadcasting

24 Babul Supria (Babul Supriyo) Baral Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation

25 Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti
 26 Vijay Sampla
 27 Ramshankar Katheria
 28 Food Processing Industries
 29 Social Justice & Empowerment
 20 Human Resource Development

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The ministry for Development of Northeastern region (independent charge) which was earlier with Gen Shri V.K Singh (retd) has been given to Shri Jitendra Singh, who will also continue as Minister of State in the PMO. Gen Singh has been given independent charge of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in addition to his earlier portfolios.

Shripad Yesso Naik has been given portfolio of Minister of Sate (Independent Charge) for Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH) in place of Tourism and Culture which has been given to Shri Mahesh Sharma. Shri Naik has also been given MoS for parliamentary affairs.

Portfolios of other new MoS include Shri Ram Kirpal Yadav (Drinking Water and Sanitation), Shri Sanwar Lal Jat (Water Resources, River Development, and Ganga Rejuvenation), Shri MK Kundariya (Agriculture), Shri Giriraj Singh (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises), Shri Hansraj Ahir (Chemicals and Fertilizers), Shri R.S Katheria (Human Resource Development), Shri Jayant Sinha (Finance), Shri Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore (Information and Broadcasting), Shri Babul Supriyo Baral (Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation), Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti (Food Processing Industries) and Shri Vijay Sampla (Social Justice and Empowerment).

Shri Upendra Kushwaha has been shifted as MoS from Rural Development to Human Resource Development as Minister of State. ■

# My government turns our 'Look East Policy' into 'Act East Policy' : Narendra Modi



Shri Narendra Modi reached Myanmar on November 12 where 25th ASEAN summit was being held. First time Myanmar was serving as host of the summit.

While leaving India for attending the summit Shri Modi said that ASEAN is at the core of our Act East Policy and at the centre of our dream of an Asian century, characterized by cooperation and integration. Shri Narendra Modi attended 12th India-ASEAN Summit in the Myanmar's capital onthe same day.

Addressing the summit Shri Modi said, "There are many similarities and convergences between us. India and ASEAN are second and third in terms of population. We are among the largest economies and among the three fastest growing economies in this century. Majority of us here belong to the developing world." He added "We have embarked on a new economic journey in India. We are emphasizing infrastructure, manufacturing, trade, agriculture, skill development, urban renewal and smart cities. 'Make in India' is a new mission. We are placing as much emphasis on ease of doing business in India as we are on making policies attractive. I invite you to this new environment in India. Indian companies are also keep to invest in and trade with ASEAN." I also assure you that there will be

major improvement our trade policy and environment. We will also move ahead with connectivity projects with ASEAN with speed, Shri Modi added.

"Asia`s future is bright, but it also faces many challenges. Our progress and prosperity depends on peace and stability in the region. There is wave of change in the world. New realities are emerging in the changed world. Globalization is a fact of life. We are all affected by it and we have all benefited from it."

Emphasizing on following International law PM Shri Modi said "For peace and stability in South China Sea, everyone should follow international norms and law. This includes the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. We also hope that you will be able to successfully implement the Guidelines to the 2002 Declaration on Conduct and that the Code of Conduct on South China Sea can be concluded soon on the basis of consensus."

PM's bilateral engagements at Nay Pyi Taw

The same day, PM Shri Narendra Modi held six meetings in addition to the India-ASEAN Summit

He met the Prime Minister of Malaysia Mr. Najib Razak, the Prime Minister of Thailand Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha, the Prime Minister of Singapore Mr. Lee Hsien Loong, the Sultan of Brunei Haji Hassanal Bolkiah and the President of the Republic of Korea Ms Park Geun-hye. He also met Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. The Prime Minister used the opportunity, which was his first meeting with these leaders, to explain his views on how he sees India

progressing, and to seek their cooperation for the same. The Prime Minister expressed India's openness to ideas and views. He referred to the possibility of cooperation between India and the ASEAN countries in the field of solar energy. He stressed on the need for India and ASEAN to collaboratively tackle terrorism, drug-trafficking and gunrunning. He specifically mentioned the example of security

intelligence sharing between India and Malaysia, and said this was a model which could be followed with other ASEAN member countries as well.

The Prime Minister sought cooperation from Malaysia in the field of public housing. The Prime Minister expressed keenness to work closely with Singapore in the field of urban renewal. The Korean side expressed keenness to share its proven



The Prime Minister, in his meeting with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, described her as a symbol of democracy, and referred to the enormous effort and sacrifice she has made for democracy. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi described India as her second home. The Prime Minister gifted Daw Aung San Suu Kyi a copy of Mahatma Gandhi's commentary on the Bhagavad Gita.

industrial competence with India, especially in infrastructure.

# Warm reception to Narendra Shri Modi by Indian community in Myanmar

On November 13 in the evening Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi attended the reception hosted by Indian community. Shri Narendra Modi



tweeted on the reception "The phenomenal enthusiasm of the Indian community here made me very glad."

Addressing the Indian community Shri Modi said "Your rights will remain the way they are. I will try to ensure that all your rights are being granted to you. I shall come again." He added "As a foreigner you might have experienced the shifting perspective of the world towards you in the past few months. The manner in which the other powerful governments are looking at India, you as Indians must feel proud at being an Indian. But when such an opportunity arises, our responsibility also increases manifold. Earlier no one considered us to be important enough to be noticed but now every move of ours is scrutinized with utmost attention. Hence the Indian society not just the government or the country but even the Indian communities around the world are being watched closely... we are being evaluated closely. They are trying to find a way to reach us. The ones who did not even respond to our namastes (greetings) earlier are now trying to hug us." India and Myanmar are historically linked. We fought for our Independence together. And even today the people of this country treat India with reverence due to Buddha. We are constantly striving to be of use to our neighbouring nations as we feel that it is our duty.

A few days back, I had made an announcement

that we will build and send into orbit, a satellite that will be dedicated to SAARC. And while I am in this country, I would like to announce that the benefits of this dedicated satellite will be provided to Myanmar as well. The main benefits of this satellite will be seen in the health sector, education and long-distance education sector and telemedicine sector.

"We have decided to shoulder a few responsibilities and announce them in the upcoming SAARC meeting that is to be held in Nepal. One of the responsibilities is ensuring the inclusion of Myanmar in the SAARC nations and try to rid the country off Polio. India is a poliofree country now. Polio cases have not been reported in the country for the past five-seven years but the disease persists in our neighbouring countries." He added, Pakistan has reported several such cases. Whenever a member of the family suffers from Polio, the entire family is rendered crippled.

This is a charitable work and we are working towards creating a plan to help our neighbouring countries rid themselves off the crippling disease. We will obviously need to procure the necessary permissions from the respective countries and we look forward to do so in the SAARC meeting where we can also discuss the plan and ensuring its effective execution.

He said, "My experience in this country has been very pleasant. The manner in which the government and people of this country have planned and

executed this welcoming ceremony is indeed commendable. I feel sorry that I wasn't able to spend some more time with all of you but I am really impressed with the manner in which with discipline you have made use of the limited time to the optimum. I will praise your organizational

ability of the disciplined manner in which the ceremony was executed, everywhere I go." While finishing his speech Narendra Modi received rapturous applause.

East Asian Summit

During his visit to Myanmar PM Shri Narendra Modi on November 18 attended East Asian

Summit. It was 9<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of national leaders from East Asian region and adjoining regions called group 18.

Addressing the meeting Shri Modi said "Since entering office six months ago my government has moved with a great sense of priority and speed to turn our 'Look East Policy' into 'Act East Policy". The East Asia Summit is an important pillar of this policy."

"No other forum brings together such a large collective weight of global population, youth, economy and military strength. Nor is any other forum is so critical for peace, stability and prosperity in Asia-Pacific and the world. Over the last eight Summits, we have made progress in a number of areas.

We worked on important issues. We have begun to establish a culture and habit of dialogue and cooperation."

He added "In the same vein, we should also start major initiatives on energy partnership, for example, in the area of solar energy, with the objective of bringing affordable clean energy within the reach of all."

In his speech Shri Modi raised the issue of increasing

challenges of terrorism & extremism.He also conveyed his best wishes for the goal of creating an ASEAN Community in 2015.

Shri Modi termed the ASEAN's success as an inspiration for broader integration in the Asia-Pacific region. ■

are now trying to hug us."

# Persistent hard work by Modi government bringing smile on face of common man

## By Vikash Anand

hen five months ago BIP Government at Centre came to power, persistently rising inflation was a major challenge before the government. The common man was vexed with sky rocketing prices of essential commodities. Economic mess created by the Congress led UPA government had left the people of country in miserable situation. Every segment of Indian economy be it industrial output, price control or other segments was facing serious crisis. Now after five months, hard work NarendraModi led government has brought everything under control.

The official data released in September show significant decline in inflation to 5.15 percent.It was the lowest in five vears. During previous government inflation had gone up to double-digit. When the Congress led UPA was leaving the rein in May industrial growth was at its decadal low. The manufacturing sector was facing lack of investment, affecting jobs. Imports was hurting small and medium industries. Recently quarterly data released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) on November 12, 2014 has shown industrial output in October grew at 2.5%. It was -1.16% in October 2013. It means Indian economy started gathering strength which

was weakened by continuous misrule of the UPA government. The country industrial output year-on-year has lodged total positive change of 3.6%. This is a

2012.

Continuously decreasing food and fuel prices helped moderate the overall numbers. In January 2014 the over-all





better sign for any economy.

In this November, a separate data released by the CSO showed retail inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, slowed to a 5.5% in October compared with the previous month's 6.5%. The October figure is the lowest since the government started computing the new series of data in January

inflation rate was 8.79%. Now it has come down to 5.5%. During the previous government tenure, food inflation crossed the 14%. Now, it also came down to 5.6% in October.

These all are happening due to right decisions taken by the Modi government at the right time. The government last week of October cut petrol price by Rs 2.41 a litre, the sixth reduction since August, and diesel by Rs 2.25 per litre on the back of falling international oil rates. Both the fuels are now decontrolled. Previous regime of the UPA was rarely interested to cut prices of fuel with the falling prices in international market.

Tackling rising food inflation Modi government took welcome initiatives to delist fruits & vegetables including onion from Agriculture produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Act. By delisting them, these items become free from APMC yard taxes and local fees. The government hiked the minimum export price of onions by 67 percent and brought it under the Essential Commodities Act to curb hoarding as prices soared in the domestic markets. With a view to discourage onion exports, government had on June 17 set up a minimum price of onion exports at \$300 per tonne. The government also included onions and potatoes under the purview of stock holding limits under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. This step empowered the state governments undertake de-hoarding operations and to control the prices of onions and potatoes.

The recent PM NarendraModi world tour has enhanced the image of India. Everywhere his leadership is recognized as strong and decisive. It has enable him to bring investment for India. His "Make in India" campaign has restored faith of investors to invest in India. The government's decision opening bank account under Pradhan Mantri Jan-DhanYojana(PMJDY) covering almost every household has also brought in very positive changes towards inclusive economy.

## ... Continued from page 11

### The cricket connection

Indian Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, completed a successful Australian visit, the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister in 28 years. He regaled the NRIs in Sydney, spoke with elan about national issues in Brisbane, spoke to the Australian parliamentarians in Canberra and rounded off the visit with a

tour of the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG).

But the visit to the MCG isn't the only cricket connection on this trip - at t h e Allphones a r e n a, Sydney, he jigged with



former Australian superstar pacer, Brett Lee. The Indian Prime Minister also had a session with top umpire, Simon Taufel. Amongst the audience waiting with bated breath to hear their Prime Minister speak was former Indian pacer and now match referee, Javagal Srinath.

At the MCG, Shri Modi was joined by Australian Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, former Australian players, Allan Border, Dean Jones, Michael Kasprowicz, Steve Waugh and Glenn McGrath. On the Indian side, Sunil Gavaskar, Kapil Dev and VVS Laxman graced the occasion.

Everywhere he went, Shri Modi charmed the audience with some interesting snippets of cricket. Here's just a few of them:

- ▶ We celebrate the legend of Bradman and the class of Tendulkar together.
- ▶ We are impressed by Australian speed as you are charmed by Indian spin, until of course Shane Warne came along.
- ▶ Sydney is a beautiful city, Australia is a beautiful country. Both countries can't live without cricket and we are bound by this bond.
- ▶ Both Prime Ministers joined together in an official reception hosted by the Australian Prime Minister at the hallowed venue of Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG). The guests snapped for the cameras in front of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy as well as the 2015 Cricket World Cup trophy, the final of which will be played on this ground. ■



### WEST BENGAL

# Civil Society should resist the violence: Rahul Sinha

The fierce turf war between BJP and Trinamool Congress continued in villages under Parui police station in politically volatile Birbhum district with yet another BJP worker falling to the ruling party bullets on November 16 morning.

A 20-year-old farmer was shot dead by the raiding

Trinamool men at Chowmandalpur village, at least two others sustained bullet and bomb injuries in neighbouring hamlets of Sirsita and Jadavpur, and many houses were torched in fresh hostilities that spread like wildfire in other areas too amid allegations that the men in khaki were taking sides in making arrests.

The Trinamool musketeers shot dead Yasim Sheikh a farmer who was working in the paddy field. Moving in after allowing sufficient time for the raiders to flee the police arrested victim's father Ikramul Sheikh even as he grieved by his son's corpse, sources said. "I was taken to the police station and beaten up brutally in the name of interrogation. They gave me a fractured right hand." Sheikh who was later freed said.

With this incident the death toll in Parui block jumped up to five in the past one month or so with four BJP workers losing their lives at Makra village earlier. Curiously, while initial reports spoke of Trinamool men having stockpiled several thousand crude bombs, the police could recover about 800 only from an empty doctor's quarter of primary health centre.

Already tensed since last year's panchayat elections when rebel Trinamool leader Hridyay Ghosh's father Sagar Ghosh was shot dead by Trinamool goons within hours of district Trinamool president Anubrata Mandal telling a party rally to torch rebels' houses and bomb police vehicles, Parui had been simmering over the past few months particularly after Sagar Ghosh joined the BJP along with thousands of his supporters leading the Trinamool to launch a counter-offensive to recapture its lost territories in the given block.

Reports of sporadic clashes were also reported from Satok village in Ghatal sub-division of West

Midnapore district. Six BJP supporters were injured when Trinamool men attacked them early on the 16 morning.

Reacting sharply to the ongoing violence BJP, State president Shri Rahul Sinha said that the incidents had been reported to Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh. "I have told about the incident to Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and he has asked for a detailed report from us," Shri Sinha said calling up the civil society to react the way they had done during the Nandigram movement. "I wonder why the civil society that had come out in protest during the Nandigram movement is not coming out now. Have they been bought over by the Government? My request to the honest members of the civil society is to come out and resist the violence," Shri Rahul Sinha said.

Reacting to police taking sides, Union Minister Shri Babul Supriyo said, "All the policemen are not dishonest. It seems that the majority of them are under intense pressure from the Government."

### MADHYA PRADESH

In coming years MP would be developed and prosperous: Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Addressing a public meeting on 16 November in Datiya, Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that in the coming years Madhya Pradesh would be a developed, prosperous and advanced State of the country. Union Minister for Steel Shri Narendra Singh Tomar was also present on the occasion.



Earlier, before addressing the rally Chief Minister offered prayers at the famous Pitambara Shaktipeeth of Datiya and took part in the cleanliness program in front of the temple. Shri Chouhan said, "The clean India imagination of Mahatma Gandhi has been brought to reality with full dedication by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi due to that the conscience of commoners have been awakened towards cleanliness. This would definitely change the mentality of the common man and people would exhort for cleanliness."

Shri Chouhan and Shri Tomar informed the people about the schemes and programs run by the Narendra Modi led central government and said, "Long term measures have been taken by the union government to control the inflation and mehangai due to that in the coming years prices would not rise. The result of the long term measures of the union government have started reflecting and in the result financial fundamentals have strengthened and the prices have become stable due to that mehangai has also come down."

Shri Chouhan said that Madhya Pradesh would rise on the development map of the country and Datiya would have special place in it.

### KARNATAKA

# December 9 is deadline for removal of four corrupt & inefficient Ministers: Prahlad Joshi

The Bharatiya Janata Party, which is seeking removal of four Ministers from the Congress government

for their alleged involvement in corruption and inefficiency, has set December 9 deadline for Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to drop them when the winter session of the legislature starts at Belagavi.

In an interaction

lightly," he warned.



with presspersons on 16 November, State BJP president and MP Shri Prahlad Joshi, who was here to address workers in connection with the party's membership drive, reiterated BJP's demand seeking the resignation of Home Minister K.J George and three Cabinet members H.S. Mahadev Prasad, Dinesh Gundu Rao and Qamarul Islam, for their "inefficiency" and indulgence in corruption and irregularities. "If these four Ministers escaped due and appropriate action, BJP workers would stage a protest on the first day of the winter session to bring pressure on the Chief Minister to act," he said.

Shri Joshi expressed concern over what he observed as the falling image of the State due to increasing sexual assaults on women and girls. There was no let-up in sexual assaults, which were being reported from schools, streets and of late, from prisons,

"Let the Congress government not take our demand

he said.

Apparently, law and order is at stake but Mr. George continues to enjoy the support of Congress president Sonia Gandhi. The State was being condemned as a state of rapes and it had assumed notoriety, but little was being done to uphold law and order in society, he said. Let the Congress government not take our demand lightly, Shri Joshi added.

### TELANGANA

# BJP will take Central welfare and development programmes to all: Kishan Reddy



Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has decided to spread its presence in Telangana beginning with the forthcoming elections to GHMC. The party is planning to improve its strength and membership by taking welfare and development schemes of the Central Government closer to people.

Union Ministers Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Shri

Bandaru Dattatreya and BJP Telangana State President Shri Kishan Reddy chaired a strategy session attended by functionaries of party's urban units, including municipal chairpersons from Vemulawada, Hongir and Mahabubnagar and five legislators K. Laxman, G. Kishan Reddy, Ch. Ramachandra Reddy, N.V.S.S. Prabhakar and T. Raja Singh.

BJP Telangana State president Shri Kishan Reddy told newspersons that the focus of the meeting was on taking the Central Government's welfare and development programmes closer to all sections of society.

The Union Minister had asked the party's elected representatives to take the responsibility of ensuring effecting implementation of the Central schemes, particularly the skill development programme in all municipalities and mandal centres by coordinating with the State government officials.

The party leaders were explained by the Union Ministers on how the Centre was funding the social security pensions, fee reimbursement to SC/ST

students and housing while creating awareness on such programmes.

Party leaders of Telangana had requested the two Union Ministers to use their good offices in sanctioning Central funds to the State and implementation of projects.

Besides, the Telangana BJP would have its representatives in Delhi to pursue Central schemes to the State, Shri Kishan Reddy stated.

On the membership drive, he said district-level workshops would be completed by November 20 and State-level workshop would be held here on November 21. Membership drive would be launched at district level from November 23, at mandal level from November 25 and at village and polling station level from November 30.

### HIMACHAL PRADESH

# BJP Padyatra against the Congress government evokes good response

The seven day long Padyatra flagged off by State BJP president Shri Satpal Satti and former Horticulture Minister and BJP Vice-president Shri Narendra Bragta entered its third day on 16 November in Himachal Pradesh. The yatra evoked good



response. The people, mainly apple growing farmers, are calling it a satyagraha of the Sadak Sangrash Samiti of the fruit growers.

The protest has been launched against the Congress government for not constructing the Rohru-Hartkoti-Theog road in the heart of apple belt of the hill State. Leading the agitation, Shri Bragta addressed activists on the way asking them to stir up the paralyzed State government.

The Padyatra reached Khara Pather from Rohru on 16 November. Addressing a meeting on that occasion Shri Bragta said the Congress government during its last tenure had invited global tenders for this important road without taking any permission from the Union Forest and Environment Ministry or seeking permission from the private land owners and village bodies.

When the BJP government in 2007-12 arranged all the valid permissions, the UPA government at the Centre did not renew the visa of the Chinese company officials who were constructing the road.

# WTO: PM Modi wins it for farmers, ends deadlock with USA

nited States President Barack Obama has commended the personal leadership role provided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in finding a path forward on the World Trade Organization's global trade deal reached between the two countries, a presidential spokesperson said. Obama had extensive discussions with the Prime Minister on this issue and appreciates his personal leadership in finding a path forward, the White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest said in a statement after US and the government announced that the two countries have reached an agreement on the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). In Myanmar, where the US President met Modi briefly on the sidelines of the East Asia Summit in Nay Pyi Taw described the Prime Minister as a man of action. In a statement, Earnest said the important breakthrough reached between the US and India will unlock progress toward the full and immediate implementation of the WTO TFA, which will lower the costs of trade for developed and developing countries alike.

"Ending their deadlock at the World Trade Organisation, India and the United States on November 13 reached an agreement under which the subsidy given by the Indian government to farmers through minimum support prices will not be challenged even if they breach set limits. It is a major victory for the Narendra Modi government in the international economic diplomacy arena, in which India has shown considerable toughness to protect the interests of its farmers by vetoing the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). It managed to secure Washington's support for its food security scheme without having to make any major concessions. The agreement between India and the US paves the way for the implementation of TFA that seeks to ease customs rules and could add \$1 trillion to the world economy.

In July, India had rejected an agreement on TFA as it wanted the issue of minimum support prices for farmers to be resolved alongside that. Both countries have come to an understanding on the implementation of a December 2013 WTO decision on specific food security programmes maintained by some developing countries, a US government statement said."

The bilateral agreement makes it clear that a mechanism under which WTO members will not challenge such food security programmes under WTO dispute settlement procedures will remain in place until a permanent solution on this issue has been agreed and adopted," the statement added, noting that the agreement also sets out elements for an intensified programme of work and negotiations to arrive at such a permanent solution. The agreement will now be presented for consideration by the full WTO membership."

(Courtesy: Deccan Chronicle)