

# KAMAL SANDESH

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01-15 November, 2023 (Fortnightly)

₹20



PM FLAGS OFF NAMO BHARAT RAPIDX TRAIN  
CONNECTING SAHIBABAD TO DUHAI DEPOT



**'GREAT ENTHUSIASM IN FAVOUR OF BJP  
AHEAD OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY POLLS'**







BJP National President Shri JP Nadda visited Puja pandals in Kolkata (West Bengal) & offered prayers on the occasion of Maha Saptami during the Maa Durga Puja Festivals on 21 October, 2023



BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda at BJP Sambhaag meeting in Ajmer, Rajasthan on 18 October, 2023



BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda meets President of Tanzania Samia Suluhu Hassan in New Delhi on 11 October, 2023



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah waving at the gathering at Parivartan Sankalp Mahasabha in Rajnandgaon in Chhattisgarh on 16 October, 2023



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah receiving the greetings at Parivartan Sankalp Mahasabha in Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh on 19 October, 2023



Union Minister Shri Rajnath Singh addressing a huge election meeting in Huzurabad assembly constituencies in Telangana on 16 October, 2023

## EDITOR

PRABHAT JHA

## EXECUTIVE EDITOR

DR. SHIV SHAKTI BAKSHI

## ASSOCIATE EDITORS

RAM PRASAD TRIPATHY  
VIKASH ANAND

## CREATIVE EDITORS

VIKAS SAINI  
BHOLA ROY

## DIGITAL MEDIA

RAJEEV KUMAR  
VIPUL SHARMA

## SUBSCRIPTION & CIRCULATION

SATISH KUMAR

## E-MAIL

MAIL.KAMALSANDESH@GMAIL.COM

MAIL@KAMALSANDESH.ORG

PHONE: 011-23381428, FAX: 011-23387887

WEBSITE: WWW.KAMALSANDESH.ORG

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

**@Narendramodi**



Namo Bharat Train represents our commitment of modernising urban transportation and enhancing the quality of life for all. It is also a significant step towards a more connected and prosperous NCR region.

(20 October, 2023)

**@JPNadda**



By allowing for an improved connection between people and their local MPs, the NaMo App has further strengthened India's robust democracy. The 'Mera Saansad' section in the NaMo App will let people engage better with their MPs by getting updates about various activities, including cultural programmes and sports tournaments.

(16 October, 2023)

**@AmitShah**



Gratitude to PM @narendramodi Ji for approving ₹20,773.70 crore to set up a 5 gigawatts solar power transmission line from Ladakh to Kaithal in Haryana. The project under the Green Energy Corridor Phase-II – Inter-State Transmission System is a giant stride towards realizing Modi Ji's vision to make India self-reliant in energy production.

(18 October, 2023)

**@Rajnathsingh**



Glad to see Dhordo in Kutch being recognized globally for its cultural heritage and natural beauty. The @UNWTO has declared #AmazingDhordo as one of the #BestTourismVillages of the world. This recognition is a testimony to PM Shri @narendramodi's vision and commitment for promoting tourism.

(20 October, 2023)

**@Piyush Goyal**



Unleashing Bharat's Resource Potential! In a significant move to promote indigenous mining and creating job opportunities, Govt. led by PM @Narendramodi ji approves royalty rates for critical minerals: Lithium, Niobium, Rare Earth Elements

(11 October, 2023)

**@BLSanthosh**



₹42Cr seized in IT raid from the house of Vice President of Contractor's association & husband of a Ex Cong corporator. It's alleged that it was meant to transported to Telangana via Tamilnadu. Karnataka has become ATM for ruling party.

(13 October, 2023)

**Cabinet Decisions**  
18 Oct 2023

**Putting People First**

**Government Employees & Pensioners Get a Raise**

**Additional Instalment of Dearness Allowance & Dearness Relief due from 1 July 2023 Approved**

**4% Increase over the existing 42% rate of the Basic Pay/Pension**

**48.67 lakh Central Govt. Employees & 67.95 lakh pensioners to benefit**

**KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR**  
*wishes a very happy*  
**DEEPAVALI (12 NOVEMBER)**  
*to all of its readers*





## REALISING NEW AND AMBITIOUS GOALS SEEM A REALITY NOW

As Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi flagged off the 'Namo Bharat' train, gifting India its first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), a new dimension of connectivity is created, adding ease, speed, and modernity to India's intercity commuting system. The RRTS, which will provide high-speed trains for intercity commuting with a speed up to 180 kmph, is set to drastically reduce travel time and create a comfortable ride for commuters. A state-of-the-art commuting system, made in India and the best in the world, connects metro and bus stations, making travel even more convenient for commuters, saving their time in multiple ways. In the last nine years, the nation has seen a huge transformation in transportation and travel in every direction, from water, land, sky and even to space, using the latest technologies and innovative methods. While Namo Bharat and Vande Bharat show the resolve of New India, Amrit Bharat is modernising railway stations in a big way. The Modi government's focus on transforming connectivity in the country is not only speeding up growth in various sectors and regions, including north-eastern, Kashmir and Ladakh, but it is also leading to rapid industrialization while increasing job opportunities for the youth in even what was earlier considered to be the remotest parts of the country. The Prime Minister has rightly said that Namo Bharat gives a glimpse of a future India.

**The focus of the Modi government on farmers, agriculture, and villages has seen many new schemes, programs, and projects bringing a huge change in the agriculture sector and transforming rural life**

The MSP announced for Rabi crops once again reiterates the commitment of the Modi government to ensure the remunerative price of crops for farmers. While the Modi government has been ensuring a one-and-a-half times return to the farmers on their cost of production, many new crops have found their place in the list. While for wheat and safflower, an increase of Rs. 150 per quintal has been approved, the absolute highest increase has been approved for lentils at Rs. 425 per quintal, followed by rapeseed and mustard at Rs. 200 per quintal. It is to be noted that in the last nine years, the procurement of crops has also increased manifold, paving the way for higher returns to the farmers. The focus of the Modi government on farmers, agriculture, and villages has seen many new schemes, programs, and projects bringing a huge change in the agriculture sector and transforming rural life. While countries across the world are facing huge hikes in fertilizer's prices, back home in India, a huge subsidy

support by the Modi government has kept the price stable, providing a huge relief to the farmers. The PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi has seen more than 11 crore farmers receive more than Rs. 2,60,000 crore directly transferred to their bank accounts. The crop insurance scheme, Kisan Credit cards, soil health card, Kisan Rin portal, launching of FPOs, creating opportunities in agricultural allied sectors like horticulture, fisheries, dairy farming, etc., and many more such schemes are bringing massive transformations in the lives of farmers in the country. The result is that the nation's Annadatas are also responding, with record grain production reaching new heights every year.

As the IMF raises the growth forecast for India for the years 2023–24, the country remains the fastest-growing major economy in the world. While India is continuously seen as a bright spot amid the otherwise gloomy global scenario, India has many remarkable achievements to its credit, powering its aspirations to higher goals. The successful launch of Chandrayan-3 and Aditya L-1, along with the successful organisation of the G-20, has been further seen in the successful testing of the Gaganyaan Mission. In such a situation, realising Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's new and ambitious goal of setting up 'Indian Space Station' by 2035 and sending the first Indian to the Moon by 2040 seems a reality now. ■

# भारतीय जनता पार्टी, राजस्थान

## संभाग बैठक, जोधपुर

16 अक्टूबर, 2023

जीतेगा कमल

खिलेगा क

**BJP NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S RAJASTHAN PRAVAS**

## PEOPLE OF RAJASTHAN WILL BLESS BJP: JP NADDA

During his Pravas to Rajasthan on 18 & 19 October 2023, the BJP National President Shri JP Nadda, held several meetings with zonal party office bearers and Karyakartas of Kota, Ajmer, Jodhpur and Udaipur divisions of BJP in Rajasthan. In two days, Shri Nadda visited the four different regions of the state- Udaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer and Kota. Shri Nadda presided over meetings held with party office bearers and reviewed issues pertaining to upcoming Assembly election and the party organization. Additionally, he addressed six meetings of party workers and office-bearers in Udaipur, Kota, Bundi and Jhalawar-Baran areas, as well as in Ajmer. At these meetings, Union Minister and Election In-Charge of Rajasthan Shri Prahlad Joshi, Union Minister Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, National Vice President and former CM Smt. Vasundhara Raje, BJP National General Secretary and State BJP in-charge Shri Arun Singh, BJP State President Shri CP Joshi, local MLAs, and District Presidents were also present

In his remarks at the meetings, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda urged the Karyakartas to reach out to all localities, particularly those where populations of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe reside. Additionally, he asked party office-bearers and Karyakartas to go door-to-door to meet people and convince them all to vote for the party in the upcoming elections. He advised the Karyakartas to focus on the youth and the homes of elderly people. Shri Nadda urged the office bearers of the party to disseminate the work done by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during the last nine years to improve the lives of the poor across the nation, including Rajasthan, and the work done by him towards making India a developed country.

### Crime against Dalits, tribals and women

Expressing concern over the increasing crime

under CM Ashok Gehlot's government, Shri Nadda said that in the last five years under the Congress government, there has been no law and order in Rajasthan. Due to Congress appeasement and vote-bank politics, the law-and-order situation in the state has been ruined.

Shri Nadda also asked the office bearers to speak out against the Congress-era pervasive corruption and rise in crimes against Dalits, tribal people, and women in Rajasthan.

### People will uproot the corrupt Gehlot government

While talking to the media after addressing the meeting in Kota, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda said the zeal and enthusiasm that are visible among the party workers and the people make it clear that the people of Rajasthan have made up





their minds for the BJP. The people of Rajasthan have resolved that they want change in Rajasthan. The people will definitely overthrow the corrupt Gehlot government and bless the BJP.

### **Average 17 rape incidents taking place every day in Rajasthan**

Under the Congress government, an average of 17 rape incidents are taking place every day in Rajasthan. About 22 percent of rape cases are happening in Rajasthan alone. More than 15 thousand incidents of rape of minor girls have been recorded here. Rajasthan is ranked first in terms of harassment of women, per NCRB data. Not only Rajasthan but the entire country is ashamed of the brutal treatment given to the Dalit sister in Karauli, Shri Nadda added.

### **People of Rajasthan feeling cheated**

Shri Nadda said the public opinion here clearly speaks volumes about the experience of the people in the last five years under the Congress government. "I see the people of Rajasthan are feeling cheated under the Congress government. The people of Rajasthan have made up their minds to say goodbye to the government involved in the oppression of women, betrayal of farmers, betrayal of youth, and rampant corruption", Shri Nadda added. ■

**AJMER**

## **'CORRUPTION IS AT ITS PEAK UNDER ASHOK GEHLOT GOVERNMENT'**

**B**JP National President Shri JP Nadda, during his meetings with party office bearers and Karyakartas in Ajmer divisions, said, do convey to the people the welfare work done by the BJP government for the poor in Rajasthan and the work done towards making India a developed nation under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

The BJP National President asked BJP Karyakartas to reach each and every house to make people aware of the corruption of the Gehlot government in the state. He also asked the office-bearers to highlight the corruption, misconduct, and heinous crimes

against women in every election rally.

Speaking to the Karyakartas, Shri Nadda said, "Corruption is at its peak in the Ashok Gehlot government. Every person is troubled by the increasing number of crimes. Cases like paper leaks are coming to light every day. A minister of the Ashok Gehlot cabinet has confirmed his corruption by making public a Red Diary".

Shri Nadda said there are thousands of cases in which humanity feels ashamed, but we saw the indifference of the Gehlot government. He said 17 papers were leaked. Injustice was done to more than 50 lakh youth. Therefore, the youth have also made up their minds, and they are ready to show the exit path to this government.

Discussing farmer loan waiver, he said farmers are agitated. They are only waiting for the elections, when the farmers and people together will give answer to the Congress government in Rajasthan. Shri Nadda also discussed Congress' hypocrisy, women oppression, and many other issues related to 'Lal Diary'.

**JODHPUR**

## **'GREAT ENTHUSIASM IN FAVOUR OF BJP AHEAD OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY POLLS'**

**W**hile speaking in Jhalawar-Baran, Rajasthan, BJP National President Shri JP Nadda asked party leaders to focus on SCs and STs. The leaders should also make it a practice to visit the community's religious place without too many supporters, he said.

To sensitise the youth and attract them towards the BJP, the leaders should attempt to connect with them through sports and other activities, Shri Nadda added. While campaigning, party leaders should visit football or cricket grounds or gyms for outreach and must listen to the youths' problems and find out a way to address them.

The BJP National President said there is great enthusiasm in favour of the BJP ahead of the state assembly polls in Rajasthan and expressed confidence that the BJP will get a massive win in the state. ■

# Telangana Became Private Limited: Rajnath Singh

Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh addressed the public meetings at Jammikunta in the Huzurabad assembly segment, and at Badangpet in the Maheswaram constituency on 16 October, 2023 as part of BJP's campaign for the upcoming legislative assembly polls in Telangana.

## KCR's whole family is running the government

Shri Singh expressed his concerns about the state's development and governance in his address to the public meeting in Huzurabad. He said, "In the last 10 years, the development in Telangana is not just limited, but private limited. Here, the interference of KCR's family is maximum. The people chose you as a CM, not your family. I don't want to make allegations about any family member. I respect them all. But you have to run the government. The whole family of KCR is running the government. The people of Telangana are being neglected. There is an abuse of power under KCR's rule, and corruption is increasing rapidly. KCR says that he has never done any corruption, but the talk of corruption done by his family is not limited to Hyderabad or Telangana; it has reached to Delhi."

## We fulfil everything we say

Shri Rajnath Singh also emphasised the significance of political leaders' words matching their actions. He noted, "A leader should be such that he does what he speaks. There should be no difference in his words and deeds. The difference between the words and deeds of the politicians has created a crisis of credibility in the politics of India. And if any party in India has accepted this crisis of credibility, then it is the BJP under PM Shri Narendra Modi's leadership. We fulfil everything we say," he said.

## How many beneficiaries received 3 acres of land?

Shri Singh also questioned KCR about his promise to give Dalits three acres of land and a Rs 10 lakh grant per family, and how many beneficiaries have received the benefit. "Under KCR's regime, there is



abuse of power and corruption is growing rapidly," he said.

He claimed that women are getting more opportunities under the Modi regime, claiming that the Women's Reservation Bill, which was recently passed in Parliament, could go into effect in 2029 or even 2026.

Union Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, along with other union ministers like Shri Piyush Goyal, Shri Parshottam Rupala, and other senior leaders also addressing BJP campaign rallies in Telangana. Notable, the legislative assembly polls of Telangana are scheduled for November 30. ■

## BJP National President nominated four-member delegation to visit Tamil Nadu

The National President of BJP has nominated a four-member delegation to visit Tamil Nadu as the party workers complained that they are facing "brutal and irrational behaviour" from the state government.

In a statement released on 22 October, 2023 the party said the delegation will submit its report at the earliest. As per the statement, Ex CM & Former Union Minister Shri DV Sadananda Gowda will be leading the delegation, comprising MP & former Police Commissioner, Mumbai Shri Satya Pal Singh, Andhra Pradesh BJP State President Smt. D Purandeswari and MP Shri PC Mohan. ■



# Congress government is neck deep in corruption: Amit Shah

The Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, addressing a huge 'Parivartan Sankalp Mahasabha' during the filing of nomination of BJP National Vice President and former CM Dr Raman Singh in Rajnandgaon on 16 October, 2023 severely blamed the appeasement politics of Congress government and asked the voters to remove the Congress from office in next month's assembly polls to prevent communal violence in future. Shri Shah referred to the communal clashes in Biranpur village, adjacent to Rajnandgaon, in which 23-year-old Bhuneshwar Sahu was murdered on April 8. Noteworthy, voting in Rajnandgaon is in the first phase on 07 November.

Speaking to the gathering Shri Shah said, "Congress will continue with its politics of appeasement if it wins the election again in Chhattisgarh but I assure you that Bhuneshwar Sahu's sacrifice will not be in vain. We will ensure that his murderers must get severe punishment."

The Union Home Minister said the Congress government in the state is neck deep in corruption. "Tell us what you have given to Chhattisgarh besides scams, he asked and said Congress has turned Chhattisgarh into a hub of corruption".

He said during the Congress regime the funds of Chhattisgarh are diverted to Delhi Durbar. "Chhattisgarh was being used as an ATM by Congress party and only the Gandhi family is satisfied with the Baghel-led government as funds meant for the youth, tribals, and Dalits are being redirected to pamper the Delhi Darbar" he said.

The Union Home Minister said during the BJP rule several decisions were taken to develop Chhattisgarh into a prosperous state. The BJP granted official status to the Chhattisgarhi language and significant developments were made in education, power, and cement industries. Chhattisgarh was the first state to provide 150 days of employment to the poor and Dr Raman Singh worked to free farmers from a 14% interest rate. Shri Amit Shah also highlighted the 33% women's quota bill as a step-in empowerment of the



women. He said the BJP-led Central government built a medical college at a cost of Rs 370 crore in Rajnandgaon, and Rs 3 lakh crore was given to the Chhattisgarh government for welfare schemes. Whereas, on the other hand, the Baghel government has been involved in 2,000 crore liquor scams, a coal scam worth over Rs 500 crore, and a scandal related to cow dung and the Mahadev App," Shri Shah added. ■

## SECUNDERABAD, TELANGANA

### 'Congress and BRS did nothing for the poor in Telangana'

Union Home and Cooperation Minister and senior Bharatiya Janata Party leader Shri Amit Shah interacted with professionals and intellectuals in Secunderabad, Telangana on October 10, 2023, and called upon them to cooperate in forming the Bharatiya Janata Party government for the development of Telangana. State BJP President Shri G. Kishan Reddy, party's national spokesperson and former MP Syed Zafar Islam and many dignitaries of the party were present in the programme.

Shri Shah said that the people of Telangana have three options - the first is the Bharatiya Janata Party,



the second is the Congress, and the third is the currently ruling BRS. You have seen the rules of both Congress and BRS. Both of them did nothing for the poor, tribals, Dalits and backward people here. You have seen the government of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the center. Give us a chance, and we will ensure that Telangana ranks among the leading states of the country in 5 years.

While talking about the principles of the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that the Bharatiya Janata Party is a party based on principles. Along with this, he attacked KCR and said that KCR should declare the principles of his party and tell on which policy his party runs. The only goal of his party is to save Kavita from going to jail and make KTR the Chief Minister. These family-based parties cannot do any good for democracy. By wearing the garb of democratic parties, these people are carrying forward the politics of their family. A party that does not have democracy in its organisation can use the platform of democracy not for the welfare of the public but only for the welfare of its own family.

Taking a dig at the opposition alliance, the Union Home and Cooperation Minister said that all the opposition parties have come together because they have no other option; all these family-based parties are in politics for their next generation, whereas the Bharatiya Janata Party is in politics of bringing Maa Bharati to the first place in the world. When the aim is the welfare of the family, then there cannot be public welfare, and I have come to tell this to the people of Telangana. ■

## **65% fall in incidents of terrorism, Left-wing extremism and insurgency in Northeast: Amit Shah**

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah attended the National Police Memorial Day and paid his tributes to police personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty at the National Police Memorial in New Delhi on 21 October, 2023 and said the Central government is bringing three new laws which will change the criminal justice system in the country.

### **Police has always proved itself**

Speaking at the event, Shri Amit Shah said, "In any nation, border security or internal security is not possible without an alert police force. I have observed that police duty is the toughest among all the people serving the country. In any weather or festival, a policeman is always on duty to maintain law and order. Whether it is terrorism, crime, or huge crowds, police have always been there to secure the lives of the common people. The police of our nation has always proved itself on every point."

### **Government of India bringing three new laws**

Shri Amit Shah said, "The Government of India is bringing three new laws under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi which will change our criminal justice system. All three were built during the British period. Now, not only will Indianness be reflected in these laws, but the rights of every citizen will also be protected in the spirit of our Constitution".

### **65 percent reduction in terrorism**

The Home Minister further emphasized that due to the contribution of police personnel, in the last year, there has been a 65 percent reduction in terrorism, militancy, and naxal attacks. "Whether it is an area of leftist extremism, be it the North East states, be it Jammu and Kashmir. Our soldiers have succeeded in keeping the situation normal at these three places," he said.

### **Zero-tolerance policy against terrorism**

"Keeping the zero-tolerance policy against terrorism, we have not only made strict laws, but by setting up the Police Technology Mission, it is our effort to become the best force against terrorism," he added. ■



# BJP National President meets President of Tanzania

**B**haratiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda met President of United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Ms Samia Suluhu Hassan, who is also the President of ruling party of Tanzania Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) on 11 October, 2023 at New Delhi.

Shri Nadda apprised the President about BJP's vision and organisational structure. He also discussed the party's social inclusion initiatives for upliftment of poor, women and marginalised sections of the society. He also explained the role of information technology used by the party to connect with the wider population. Both the leaders have resolved to continue such party to party dialogue in the future too.

It is to be noted that a senior delegation from CCM visited India in the month of January on invitation of BJP under the 'KNOW BJP' initiative. H. E Samia Suluhu Hassan has served as president of Tanzania



since 2021. She is the first woman to serve as president of the country. H E Samia Suluhu Hassan was accompanied by several leaders of CCM. Dr Vijay Chauthaiwale, In-Charge, Foreign Affairs Dept, BJP was also present in the meeting. ■

## NEW GOVERNORS OF ODISHA AND TRIPURA APPOINTED

**P**resident of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu has appointed Shri Indra Sena Reddy Nallu as Governor of Tripura and Shri Raghubar Das as Governor of Odisha. An official statement from



the President's Secretariat issued on 18 October 2023, said, "The President of India is pleased to make the following appointments:- Shri Indra Sena Reddy Nallu as Governor of Tripura and Shri Raghubar Das as Governor of Odisha."

BJP National Vice President and former Chief Minister of Jharkhand Shri Raghubar Das has been appointed as the 26th governor of Odisha.

A former BJP National Secretary Shri Indra Sena Reddy Nallu has also thrice served as an MLA in Andhra Pradesh. ■

## ORGANISATIONAL APPOINTMENT

### BJP National President appoints Jatinder Pal Malhotra as State President of Chandigarh



**B**haratiya Janata Party National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda on 13 October, 2023 appointed Shri Jatinder Pal Malhotra as the BJP State President of Chandigarh. As per the BJP's official release this appointment comes into immediate effect". ■

**PM dedicates multiple development projects in Pithoragarh**

# **“THIS DECADE IS GOING TO BE THE DECADE OF UTTARAKHAND”**

**T**he Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth about Rs 4200 crore in sectors including rural development, road, power, irrigation, drinking water, horticulture, education, health and disaster management, among others in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand on 12 October, 2023.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said, “I always feel blessed when I am in Uttarakhand amongst you”.

## **Performed pooja at Parvati Kund**

Earlier, the Prime Minister performed pooja and darshan at the Parvati Kund. “I prayed for the good health of every Indian and the strengthening of the resolution of ‘Viksit Bharat’. I asked for blessings so that all the aspirations of the people of Uttarakhand get fulfilled.

The Prime Minister also mentioned his meetings with the soldiers, artists and self-help groups and expressed happiness about meeting pillars of security, prosperity and culture. The Prime Minister reiterated that this decade is going to be a decade of Uttarakhand.

The Prime Minister narrated about the development strides made by India. “The world is recognizing India and the contribution of Indians”, he said. He mentioned India’s global appreciation for the G20 presidency and the organization of the summit. The Prime Minister credited the people for the success of the country as they chose a stable and strong government at the centre after a long gap. He said he carries the trust and confidence of 140 crore Indians in his global presence.

## **13.5 crore Indians came out of poverty**

The Prime Minister informed that more than 13.5 crore Indians came out of poverty in the last 5 years and credited the all-inclusive approach of the



Government where those in the remotest of places also receive government benefits. “The world is amazed”, Shri Modi emphasized as he explained that among the 13.5 crore people are those who dwell in remote and hilly regions. He emphasized that these 13.5 crore people are an example that India can uproot the nation’s poverty on its own.

## **All-time high medal tally**

The Prime Minister underlined India’s sporting prowess and talked about the joy of the all-time high medal tally in the country. Uttarakhand sent 8 athletes in the contingent and teams of Lakshya Sen and Vandana Kataria won medals. On the call of the Prime Minister, the audience cheered the achievement by the raised flashlights of their mobile phones. The Prime Minister said that the government is providing full support to athletes for their training and infrastructure. Today foundation stones were laid for the hockey ground in Haldwani and the velodrome in Rudrapur. The Prime Minister extended his wishes to the state government and the Chief Minister for wholehearted preparation for the national games.





### Vibrant Village scheme

The Prime Minister said that the Vibrant Village scheme has turned the last villages into the first villages of the country. "Our effort is to bring back people who have left these villages. We want to increase tourism in these villages", he said.

### Women-led development

Talking about the steps to ensure women-led development, the Prime Minister said "Our government is committed to removing every difficulty and every inconvenience of mothers and sisters. That's why our government gave permanent houses to the poor sisters. We built toilets for our sisters and

daughters, gave them gas connections, opened bank accounts, arranged for free treatment and free ration. Under the Har Ghar Jal Yojana, sisters of 11 lakh families in Uttarakhand have got the facility of piped water." He also mentioned the scheme for providing drones to the women's self-help groups that he announced from the ramparts of the Red Fort. These drones will help in agriculture and even in the transportation of the produce.

### Devotees coming for Char Dham Yatra reaching 50 lakhs

The Prime Minister said that the efforts of the double-engine government related to the development of tourism and pilgrimage in Uttarakhand are now bearing fruit. This year the number of devotees coming for Char Dham Yatra in Uttarakhand is reaching around 50 lakhs. With the blessings of Baba Kedar, the first phase related to the reconstruction of Kedarnath Dham has been completed. Many works are also being done in Shri Badrinath Dham. He mentioned the ease that will ensue after the completion of ropeways in Kedarnath Dham and Hemkunt Sahib.

Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami was present on the occasion among other Ministers from Government of Uttarakhand. ■

## INDIA AND SRI LANKA RESUME FERRY SERVICE AFTER FORTY YEARS

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 14 October addressed the launch of ferry services between Nagapattinam, India and Kankesanthurai, Sri Lanka via video message. Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister remarked that India and Sri Lanka are embarking on a new chapter in diplomatic and economic relations and the launch of a ferry service between Nagapattinam and Kankesanthurai is an important milestone in strengthening the relations.

Underlining the shared history of culture, commerce and civilization between India and Sri Lanka, the Prime Minister pointed out that Nagapattinam and nearby towns have been known for sea trade with many countries including Sri Lanka and the historical port of Poompuhar finds a mention as a hub in ancient Tamil literature. He further added that the ferry service brings

alive all those historical and cultural connections.

During the recent visit of President Wickremesinghe, the Prime Minister informed that a vision document was jointly adopted for an economic partnership with the central theme of connectivity. "Connectivity is not only about bringing two cities closer. It also brings our countries closer, our people closer and our hearts closer", Shri Modi said. He emphasized that connectivity enhances trade, tourism and people-to-people ties, while also creating new opportunities for the youth of both countries. .

Prime Minister Shri Modi emphasized that partnership for progress and development is one of the strongest pillars of India - Sri Lanka's bilateral relationship. "Our vision is to take development to everyone, leaving none behind", he said. ■

## Cabinet approves Minimum Support Prices for Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2024-25

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) on October 18, 2023 for all mandated Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2024-25.

Government has increased the MSP of Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2024-25, to ensure remunerative prices to the growers for their produce. The absolute highest increase in MSP has been approved for lentil (masur) at Rs.425 per quintal followed by rapeseed & mustard at Rs.200 per quintal. For wheat and safflower, an increase of Rs.150 per quintal each has been approved. For barley and gram an increase of Rs.115 per quintal and Rs.105 per quintal respectively, has been approved.

The increase in MSP for mandated Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2024-25 is in line with the Union Budget 2018-19 announcement of fixing the MSP at a level of at least 1.5 times of the All-India weighted average Cost of Production. The expected margin over All-India weighted average Cost of Production is 102 percent for wheat, followed by 98 percent for rapeseed & mustard; 89 percent for lentil; 60 percent for gram; 60 percent for barley; and 52 percent for safflower. This increased MSP of rabi crops will ensure remunerative prices to the farmers and incentivise crop diversification.

Moreover, to extend the benefits of the Kisan



**MSP FOR RABI CROPS**  
Cabinet approves increase in Minimum Support Prices for all mandated Rabi Crops for Marketing Season 2023-24

Crops	MSP for Rabi Crops (2022-23)	MSP for Rabi Crops (2023-24)	Increase in MSP (Absolute)
Wheat	2015	2125	110
Barley	1635	1735	100
Gram	5230	5335	105
Lentil (Masur)	5500	6000	500
Rapeseed & Mustard	5050	5450	400
Safflower	5441	5650	205

(Rs. Per Quintal)

CABINET DECISIONS | 18 OCTOBER 2023

Credit Card (KCC) Scheme to every farmer across the nation, Government has launched the Kisan Rin Portal (KRP), KCC Ghar Ghar Abhiyaan, and Weather Information Network Data Systems (WINDS) with the aim to provide timely and accurate weather information to empower farmers in making timely decisions regarding their crops. These initiatives aim to revolutionize agriculture, enhance financial inclusion, optimize data utilization, and improve the lives of farmers across the nation. ■

## 4% DA HIKE APPROVED FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

**48.67 lakh Central Government Employees and 67.95 lakh pensioners to benefit**

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 18 October approved to release an additional instalment of Dearness Allowance (DA) to Central Government employees and Dearness Relief (DR) to pensioners w.e.f. 01st July 2023 representing an increase of 4% over the existing rate of 42% of the Basic Pay/Pension, to compensate against price rise. This increase is in

accordance with the accepted formula, which is based on the recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission. The combined impact on the exchequer on account of both Dearness Allowance and Dearness Relief would be Rs.12,857 crore per annum. This will benefit about 48.67 lakh Central Government employees and 67.95 lakh pensioners. ■



### CABINET APPROVES ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AUTONOMOUS BODY MERA YUVA BHARAT

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 11 approved establishment of an autonomous body Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) to serve as an overarching enabling mechanism powered by technology for youth development and youth led development and provide equitable access to youth to actualize their aspirations and build Viksit Bharat across the entire spectrum of the Government.



The primary objective of Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) is to make it a whole of Government platform for youth development. Under the new arrangement, with access to resources & connection to opportunities, youth would become community change agents and nation builders allowing them to act as the Yuva Setu between the Government and the citizens. It seeks to harness the immense youth energy for nation-building.

Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), an autonomous body will benefit the youth in the age-group of 15-29 years, in line with the definition of 'Youth' in the National Youth Policy. In case of programme components specifically meant for the adolescents, the beneficiaries will be in the age-group of 10-19 years.

### The establishment of Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) would lead to Leadership Development in the Youth:

- Improve the leadership skills through experiential learning by shifting from isolated physical interaction to programmatic skills.
- Investing more in youth to make them social innovators, leaders in the communities.
- Setting the focus of the Government on Youth Led development and to make the Youth "active drivers" of development and not merely "passive recipients".
- Better alignment between youth aspirations and community needs.
- Enhanced efficiency through Convergence of existing programmes.
- Act as a one stop shop for young people and Ministries.
- Create a centralized youth data base.
- Improved two-way communication to connect youth government initiatives and activities of other stakeholder that engage with youth.
- Ensuring accessibility by creating a phygital ecosystem. ■

### CABINET APPROVES GREEN ENERGY CORRIDOR (GEC) PHASE-II

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, on 18 October approved the project on Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase-II – Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) for 13 GW Renewable Energy Project in Ladakh.

The project is targeted to be set up by FY 2029-30 with total estimated cost of Rs.20,773.70 crore and Central Financial Assistance (CFA) @ 40 percent of the project cost i.e. Rs.8,309.48 crore.

Keeping in view the complex terrain, adverse climatic conditions and defence sensitivities of Ladakh region, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID) will be the Implementing Agency for this project. State of the art Voltage Source Converter (VSC) based High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) system and Extra High Voltage Alternating Current (EHVAC) systems will be deployed.

The transmission line for evacuating this power will pass through Himachal Pradesh and Punjab up

to Kaithal in Haryana, where it will be integrated with the National Grid. An interconnection is also planned from this project in Leh to existing Ladakh grid so as to ensure reliable power supply to the Ladakh. It will also be connected to Leh-Alusteng-Srinagar line to provide power to Jammu & Kashmir. The project will entail setting up of 713 km transmission lines (including 480 km HVDC line) and 5 GW capacity of HVDC terminal each at Pang (Ladakh) and Kaithal (Haryana).

The project will contribute to achieving the target of 500 GW of installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuels by year 2030. The project will also help in developing long term energy security of the country and promote ecologically sustainable growth by reducing carbon footprint. It will generate large direct & indirect employment opportunities for both skilled and unskilled personnel in power and other related sectors, especially in Ladakh region. ■

### **CABINET APPROVES PRODUCTIVITY LINKED BONUS (PLB) OF RS 1968.87 CRORES FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES**

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 18 October approved Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) equivalent to 78 days' wages for the financial year 2022-23 to all eligible non-gazetted Railway employees namely Track maintainer, Loco Pilots, Train Managers (Guards), Station Masters, Supervisors, Technicians, Technician Helpers, Pointsman, Ministerial Staff and other Group 'C' staff (excluding RPF/RPSF personnel).

In recognition of this excellent performance by the Railway staff, Union Government has approved payment of PLB of Rs 1968.87 crore to 11,07,346 railway employees. The performance of Railways in the year 2022-2023 was very good. Railways loaded a record cargo of 1509 Million Tonnes and carried nearly 6.5 Billion Passengers.

Many factors contributed to this record performance. These include improvement in infrastructure due to infusion of record Capex by the Government in Railways, efficiency in operations and better technology etc.

Payment of PLB will act as an incentive to motivate the Railway employees for working towards further improvement in performance. ■

### **CABINET APPROVES ROYALTY RATES FOR MINING OF THREE CRITICAL AND STRATEGIC MINERALS- LITHIUM, NIOBIUM AND RARE EARTH ELEMENTS**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 11 October approved amendment of Second Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 ('MMDR Act') for specifying rate of royalty in respect of 3 critical and strategic minerals, namely, Lithium, Niobium and Rare Earth Elements (REEs).



Recently, the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment act, 2023 was passed by the Parliament, which has come into force from 17th August, 2023. The Amendment, among other things, delisted six minerals, including Lithium and Niobium, from the list of atomic minerals, thereby allowing grant of concessions for these minerals to private sector through auction.

Further, the amendment provided that mining lease and composite license of 24 critical and strategic minerals (which are listed in Part D of the First Schedule of the Act), including Lithium, Niobium and REEs (not containing Uranium and Thorium), shall be auctioned by the Central Government. ■



### 7 BRIDGE PROJECTS APPROVED WORTH RS 118.50 CRORE IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH UNDER THE SETU BANDHAN SCHEME

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari on October 12 in a post said in Arunachal Pradesh under the Setu Bandhan Scheme approval has been granted for 7 bridge projects with a cumulative cost of 118.50 Crores, in the fiscal year 2023-24.

#### The approved bridges are as follows:

- RCC bridge over Pacha River at Lachang, connecting Laimoya, Nerewa & Sorrowa villages in East Kameng District.
- RCC bridge from Goang to Donigaon village over Pacha river at Goang, on the way to Donigaon in East Kameng District.
- 3 bridges on NH-313, spanning from Roing-Anini road to New Chidu village via NHPC colony in Lower Dibang District.
- Double Lane steel composite bridge with RCC Decking at Kharsa, Dirang in West Kameng District.
- RCC bridge at Pikte Point across the river Sigen to connect Tabiripo Saku village on Koyu-Goye road in Lower Siang District.
- RCC bridge over Ngopok River on Mebo-Dholla road in East Siang District.
- Steel Composite bridge over river Panyor to connect Chullyu & Kebi village near Yazali Agri-Farm in Lower Subansiri District.

Shri Gadkari said enhancing connectivity across regions, and fostering economic development, these projects align with our commitment to improving the overall quality of life and promoting the socio-economic growth of Arunachal Pradesh. ■

### 19.42 LAKH NEW WORKERS ENROLLED UNDER ESI SCHEME IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2023

The provisional payroll data of ESIC reveals that 19.42 lakh new employees have been added in the month of August, 2023.

Around 24,849 new establishments have been registered and brought under the social security umbrella of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation in the month of August, 2023, thus

ensuring more coverage.

Data evidently reveals that more jobs have been generated for the youth of the nation as out of the total 19.42 lakh employees added during the month, 9.22 lakh employees up to the age group of 25 years constitute new registrations which is 47.48 % of the total employees.

Gender-wise analysis of payroll data indicates that net enrolment of female members has been 3.73 lakh in August, 2023. The data shows that a total 75 transgender employees have also got registered under ESI Scheme in the month of August, 2023. It shows that ESIC is committed to deliver its benefits to every section of the society.

The payroll data is provisional since the data generation is a continuous exercise. ■

### COAL SECTOR BRINGS 2734 HECTARES OF LAND UNDER GREEN COVER IN FY 2023-24

#### Coal PSUs to Develop 19 New Eco-parks; 15 Eco-parks already Established

Coal Ministry's commitment towards environmental conservation continued to soar in the financial year 2023-24, with over 51 lakh saplings planted, bringing more than 2734 hectares of land under green cover, surpassing the current fiscal target of 2400 hectares. Additionally, 372 hectares have been covered by grassing which is stabilizing soil, improving moisture retention and preventing erosion in reclaimed land. During the fiscal 2022-23, Coal/Lignite PSUs under the Ministry of Coal, planted approximately 50 lakh saplings, covering 2370 hectares of land.

Over the last five years, Coal and Lignite PSUs, have added 10,894 hectares of land to the green cover by planting more than 233 lakh saplings as per the time to time guidance and supervision of the Coal Ministry. Massive plantation drives are undertaken annually in coal sector, encompassing various areas, including avenue plantation, plantation on overburden dumps, residential colonies, riverbanks and roadsides. Innovative methods like miyawaki plantation, seed ball plantation, development of grassland and drone technology for planting in challenging terrains have also been adopted.

India's Coal Sector has taken significant strides in transforming its ecological footprint, contributing to

the nation's sustainability goals and environmental conservation. With a relentless focus on greening and reclamation of mined-out areas, Coal/Lignite PSUs have played a pivotal role in enhancing India's forest and tree cover. These efforts are not only in alignment with the National Mission for a Green India (GIM), a crucial component of the National Action Plan on Climate Change, but also contributing towards Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) commitment to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through increased forest and tree cover by 2030. ■

### **DEFENCE MINISTRY SIGNS CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST INDIAN COAST GUARD TRAINING SHIP**

The Ministry of Defence signed a contract for the construction of one Training Ship for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) with Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL), Mumbai at a cost of Rs 310 crore under the Buy (Indian- IDDM) category in New Delhi on October 17, 2023. This is the first dedicated training platform with integral helicopter capabilities that will provide basic sea training to 70 Coast Guard and other international under-trainee officers to prepare these budding mariners on the multi-dimensional maritime aspects of Coast Guard life.

This training ship with advanced and modern high-tech surveillance and monitoring systems will provide profound insight and expertise to the ICG cadets on the challenges at sea while ensuring the security of coastline and offshore assets.

The majority of equipment and systems will be sourced from indigenous manufacturers, including MSMEs. The project envisages to generate significant employment over a period of three years. While meeting the objectives of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat', the contract would also boost the indigenous shipbuilding capability and help in bolstering maritime economic capabilities. ■

### **'APNA CHANDRAYAAN' WEB PORTAL LAUNCHED**

#### **10 special modules on Mission Chandrayaan-3 also launched at the event**

Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan

launched a web portal 'Apna Chandrayaan' having activity-based support material such as quiz, puzzles, etc for school students on Mission Chandrayaan-3 developed by NCERT under the aegis of the Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education, in New Delhi on 17 October. He also released 10 special modules on Chandrayaan-3, offering a comprehensive overview of its various facets - including scientific, technological, and social aspects, as well as the emotional journey and team spirit of the scientists involved. ■

### **RETAIL INFLATION EASES TO 5 PERCENT IN SEPTEMBER, 2023**

The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has released All India Consumer Price Index (CPI) on Base 2012=100 and corresponding Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) for Rural (R), Urban (U) and Combined (C) for the month of September 2023 (Provisional). CPIs for Sub-Groups and Groups for both All India and all States/UTs have also been released.

The price data are collected from selected 1114 urban Markets and 1181 villages covering all States/UTs through personal visits by field staff of Field Operations Division of NSO, MoSPI on a weekly roster. During the month of September 2023, NSO collected prices from 99.8% villages and 98.3% urban markets while the market-wise prices reported therein were 88.7% for rural and 92.0% for urban. ■

### **WHOLESALE PRICES DECLINE**

Wholesale prices, as measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), contracted for the sixth consecutive month in September, according to data released on 17 October by the Union Ministry of commerce and industry, coming in at -0.26% from -0.52% for the previous month. The contraction of nearly 0.3% in September 2023's WPI print positively surprised analysts. A Bloomberg poll of economists had projected a 0.3% expansion in WPI for September 2023. The lower-than-expected WPI data comes after a sharp fall in the benchmark inflation rate, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), from 6.8% to 5% between August and September. ■



## IMF RAISES INDIA'S FY24 GDP GROWTH FORECAST TO 6.3%

**India is a global bright spot, a powerhouse of growth and innovation: Prime Minister**

Commenting on the growth forecast of IMF, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi said that India is a global bright spot, a powerhouse of growth and innovation. It is because of strength and skills of our people, Shri Modi said.

He has also reiterated commitment that we will continue to strengthen our journey towards a prosperous India, further boosting our reforms trajectory.

Responding to the X threads of IMF, the Prime Minister said; "Powered by the strength and skills of our people, India is a global bright spot, a powerhouse of growth and innovation. We will continue to strengthen our journey towards a prosperous India, further boosting our reforms trajectory."

India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal year has been raised to 6.3% from 6.1% earlier, the International Monetary Fund said in its October 2023 World Economic Outlook (WEO) report that was released on October 10.

The global lender expects retail inflation in the South Asian nation to rise to 5.5% in 2023/24 before easing to 4.6% in 2024/25.

"Growth in India is projected to remain strong, at 6.3% in both 2023 and 2024, with an upward revision of 0.2 percentage points for 2023, reflecting stronger-than-expected consumption during April-June," the IMF said. The Reserve Bank of India has projected consumer price index (CPI)-based inflation for the



current fiscal year at 5.4% while GDP growth is seen at 6.5%.

Monetary policy projections are consistent with achieving the Indian central bank's inflation target over the medium term, the IMF said. The country's current account deficit is expected to remain at 1.8% of GDP in FY24 and FY25, the IMF added. IMF cut its growth forecasts for China and the euro area and said overall global growth remained low and uneven despite what it called the "remarkable strength" of the U.S. economy. ■

## INDIA LEAVES EUROPE BEHIND IN 5G NETWORK EXPANSION

In a LinkedIn post on October 21, Vice President of Strategy and Corporate Affairs at Ericsson, Ivan Razon appreciated the remarkable expansion of 5G in India during the period between May 2022 and August 2023. He added that India has made remarkable progress in 5G Standalone availability, while



Europe lags behind.

Ericsson

executive's

comments coincide with a period in which India has achieved significant progress in the deployment of 5G networks. Telecom companies in India have been extending their network coverage to provide swifter and more dependable connectivity to both consumers and businesses throughout the country. ■



## Modi's commitment for corruption-free governance in Gujarat

By: Mansukh Mandaviya

*PM Modi Story*

Shri Narendra Modi ushered in a paradigm shift in governance that paved the way to inclusive, development-oriented and corruption-free governance in Gujarat. Shri Modi took oath as Gujarat Chief Minister on 7th October, 2001 for the first time and he made it a mission to deliver corruption-free governance to the people of Gujarat.

The policies introduced by CM Shri Narendra Modi gave a new dimension to the state's governance introducing transparency and assuring corruption-free governance, at times through bold decision-making and standing firm with those decisions.

Gujarat was marred by widespread electricity theft in the state. These thefts incurred huge dents in the state's exchequer. Most of these thefts were by the farmers in the rural Gujarat where electricity was nearly a distant dream.

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister shares an interesting anecdote on how Shri Modi curbed this mass electricity theft.

CM Shri Narendra Modi decided to put up posters of farmers with handcuffs all



He introduced building Bori Bandh (sack dam) under the MNREGA scheme and ran this campaign for a year. This campaign resulted in connecting every small street to the Bori Bandh (Sack Dam) scheme

over Gujarat. He announced that government will not allow electricity theft in the state. Shri Modi made it mandatory for everyone to install meters.

His decision was severely opposed and many movements took place against the state government. At that time, we all were kind of not sure about his decision.

"I also suggested him not to move ahead with this decision because it will create a bad impression and it may result

adversely in the coming elections. After giving a good ear, Shri Modi told me that the real problem in the state was not electricity rather it was the water supply."

After sometime he started working for the improvement of water supply and made the check dams which he took as a mission.

He introduced building Bori Bandh (sack dam) under the MNREGA scheme and ran this campaign for a year. This campaign resulted in connecting every small street to the Bori Bandh (Sack Dam) scheme. As a result, the water level increased and the places which were under black zone also flourished with water. This ended the problem of water scarcity.

Moving ahead with his decision, Shri Modi announced that electricity will be provided for eight hours on a regular basis for metered connections and the electricity theft should end.

After this, not only electricity was used efficiently, but water scarcity was also addressed. Eight hours of electricity availability proved useful to the farmers. It turned out to be a revolutionary step taken by CM Shri Modi. ■

## Senior BJP leader Sartaj Singh passes away

Former Union minister and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Shri Sartaj Singh passed away in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh on October 12 following a brief illness. He was 83 and is survived by his wife and three daughters.

He served as PWD minister in government of Madhya Pradesh. He won the Lok Sabha elections five times from the Hoshangabad seat. He was also elected as an MLA twice.

He also served as Union Cabinet Minister, Health and Family Welfare from 16 May 1996 to 1 June 1996.

Shri Singh came into the limelight in 1998 after he defeated powerful Congress leader and former Union minister late Arjun Singh from Hoshangabad Lok Sabha constituency.

The BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda

expressed grief over the leader's demise and said on X "The news of the demise of former Union Minister and former Minister of Madhya Pradesh Government, senior leader Shri Sartaj Singh Ji, is very sad. May God rest the departed soul in His feet and grant

strength to the bereaved family members to bear this immense sorrow. Om Shanti!"

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan expressed grief over Singh's demise and said he was a popular leader from the Itarsi-Narmadapuram (Hoshangabad) region. Shri Chouhan said Shri



Sartaj Singh as a role model for younger generations, noting his dedication to people's welfare, transcending caste-based divisions. Shri Chouhan described Sartaj Singh as a dedicated politician who selflessly worked for the betterment of the state's residents. ■

**KAMAL  
PUSHP**

Sahyog, Samarpan  
Aur Sanskar



## DUVVURI RADHAKRISHNA REDDY

Sri Duvvuri Radhakrishna Reddy from Mypadu village in Andhra Pradesh was an RSS Mukhya Shikshak during 1965-67. He took part in the satyagraha against emergency and was jailed for more than a year in Nellore. He was an active party worker who held significant positions in the BJP. ■



**Sri Duvvuri  
Radhakrishna  
Reddy**

Date of Birth  
01/06/1951

State  
Andhra Pradesh

Town/City  
Mypadu Village

Post in Organisation  
State Vice President

Gender  
male

District  
Nellore

Level  
State

Active years  
1972-2012



# PM FLAGS OFF NAMO BHARAT RAPIDX TRAIN CONNECTING SAHIBABAD TO DUHAI DEPOT



**The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 20 October inaugurated the priority section of Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor at Sahibabad RapidX Station in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. He also flagged off the Namo Bharat RapidX train connecting Sahibabad to Duhai Depot, marking the launch of the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) in India. Shri Modi dedicated to the nation, two stretches of east-west corridor of Bengaluru Metro.**

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said that today is a historic moment for the nation as India's first Rapid Rail Service, the Namo Bharat Train is being dedicated to the people. Shri Modi recalled laying the foundation stone for the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor four years ago and marked its operation today on the Sahibabad to Duhai Depot stretch. He reiterated the government's commitment to inaugurate the projects whose foundation stones are laid and expressed confidence that he will be present to inaugurate the completion of the Meerut stretch of RRTS after one and a half years.

## **PM Modi travelled on board the Regional Rapid Train 'Namo Bharat'**

Shri Modi shared his experience of traveling in the Namo Bharat earlier and expressed delight at the transformation of Railways in the country. He also informed that women make up the entire support staff and the locomotive pilots of the newly inaugurated Namo Bharat Train.

"Namo Bharat is a symbol of the strengthening women power in the country", Shri Modi said. The Prime Minister congratulated the people of Delhi, NCR and Western Uttar Pradesh for today's projects on the auspicious occasion of Navratra. The Prime Minister said that the Namo Bharat train has modernity and speed. "Namo Bharat Train is defining the new journey of New India and its new resolutions", the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister reiterated his belief that India's development lies in the development of the states. He said that two stretches of Metro will further strengthen the connectivity at the IT hub of Bengaluru. He informed that about 8 lakh passengers are traveling by Metro everyday.

The Prime Minister stressed that Namo Bharat is a glimpse of India of the future and exemplifies the transformation of the nation with growing economic muscle. The Prime Minister said that this 80 km Delhi Meerut stretch is just the beginning as the first phase will see many areas of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan being connected with Namo Bharat Train. In the coming days, Shri Modi informed that a similar system will be created in the other parts of the country to improve connectivity and create new avenues of employment.

Underlining the thinking of multi-modal connectivity, the Prime Minister said that Delhi's Sarai Kale Khan, Anand Vihar, Ghaziabad and Meerut bus stations, metro stations and railway stations are being connected by Namo Bharat system.

## **Bengaluru Metro**

The two metro stretches that will be formally dedicated to the nation by the Prime Minister Shri Modi connect Baiyappanahalli to Krishnarajapura and Kengeri to Challaghatta. These two metro stretches were opened for public service from 9th October 2023 to provide convenience to the public commuting on this corridor, without waiting for formal inauguration.

# PM inaugurates 9th G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20)

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 13th October inaugurated the 9th G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20) at Yashobhoomi, New Delhi. The summit is being hosted by the Parliament of India under the broader framework of India's G20 Presidency with the theme of 'Parliaments for One Earth, One Family, One Future'.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister welcomed the dignitaries to the G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit on behalf of 140 crore citizens of India. "The Summit is a 'Maha Kumbh' of all Parliamentary practices from across the globe", the Prime Minister remarked. Underlining that all the delegates present today hold the experience of the Parliamentary framework

from different countries, Shri Modi expressed great satisfaction with today's event.

Referring to the festive season in India, the Prime Minister said that G20 kept the festive fervor going throughout the year as G20 festivities pervaded many cities where G20-related events were organized during India's presidency. These festivities were augmented by events like the moon landing of Chandrayaan, a successful G20 summit and the P20 summit. "The biggest strength of any nation is its people and their will power and this summit is a medium to celebrate that", he said.

In line with the theme of India's G20 Presidency, the theme of the 9th P20 Summit is 'Parliaments for One Earth, One Family, One Future'. Speakers of Parliaments

of G20 members and invitee countries attended the event. The Pan-African Parliament also took part in the P20 Summit for the first time after the African Union became a member of G20 at the New Delhi G20 Leaders' Summit on 9-10 September 2023.

The thematic sessions during this P20 Summit will focus on the following four subjects - Transformation in People's Lives through Public Digital Platforms; Women-led development; Accelerating SDGs; and Sustainable Energy Transition.

A pre-summit Parliamentary Forum on LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) was also held on 12 October 2023 to deliberate upon initiatives towards a greener and sustainable future in harmony with nature. ■

## Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor

- The 17 Km priority section of Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor will connect Sahibabad to 'Duhai Depot' with stations at Ghaziabad, Guldhar and Duhai on the way.
- The foundation stone for Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor was laid by the Prime Minister on 8th March 2019.
- RRTS is a new rail-based, semi-high-speed, high-frequency commuter transit system.
- With a design speed of 180 Kmph, RRTS is a transformational, regional development initiative, which is designed to provide high-speed trains for intercity commuting every 15 minutes, which can go up to a frequency of every 5 minutes as per requirement.
- A total of eight RRTS corridors have been identified to be developed in NCR.
- The Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS being developed at a cost of more than Rs 30,000 crore and will connect Delhi to Meerut in less than an hour of travel time going through the urban centres of Ghaziabad, Muradnagar, and Modinagar.
- RRTS being developed in the country, is a state-of-the-art regional mobility solution and is comparable to the best in the world.
- It will provide safe, reliable and modern intercity commuting solutions in the country. In line with PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, the RRTS network will have extensive multi-modal integration with Railway stations, Metro stations, Bus services etc. ■



# WOMEN'S RESERVATION BILL: HISTORICAL COURSE CORRECTION

**Shri Narendra Modi aptly called its passage an Agni Pareeksha for the MPs. An Agni Pareeksha indeed is: an Agni Pareeksha to restore the traditional glory of Bharat, which stood for equality and balance; an Agni Pareeksha to reclaim the highest pedestal that women have enjoyed since time immemorial; and an Agni Pareeksha to rise above political misgivings and stand together for the Naari Shakti.**



**G KISHAN REDDY**

**A**s the historic Naari Shakti Vandan Adhinyam was introduced in the Parliament, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi aptly called its passage an Agni Pareeksha for the MPs. An Agni Pareeksha indeed is: an Agni Pareeksha to restore the traditional glory of Bharat, which stood for equality and balance; an Agni Pareeksha to reclaim the highest pedestal that women have enjoyed since time immemorial; and an Agni Pareeksha to rise above political misgivings and stand together for the Naari Shakti. Parliament, a temple of modern democratic Bharat, must embody the spirit of Ardhaareshwar, a symbol of equality and perfect balance brought about by the co-equal feminine.

In a world grappling with gender inequality and injustice, Bharat stands as a beacon of historical reverence for women. For centuries, Bharatiya

culture has celebrated women as embodiments of Shakti, recognising their immense potential as scholars, warriors, queens, and leaders. Be it the spiritual realm, where women are revered as Tridevi, manifesting strength, wisdom, and prosperity; ancient texts like the Vedas and Upanishads with hymns composed by women scholars; or early civilisations, where warrior queens led their kingdoms to victory and prosperity. Women

**Women in ancient Bharat were not only educated but also actively participated in philosophical discussions and religious ceremonies.**

**India celebrated renowned philosophers and scholars like Gargi, Lopamudra, and Maitreyi, the valorous Rani Padmini, Rani Durgavati, Rani Rudrammadevi, Rani Ahilyabai Holkar, and many such legendary women...**

in ancient Bharat were not only educated but also actively participated in philosophical discussions and religious ceremonies. India celebrated renowned philosophers and scholars like Gargi, Lopamudra,

and Maitreyi, the valorous Rani Padmini, Rani Durgavati, Rani Rudrammadevi, Rani Ahilyabai Holkar, and many such legendary women, centuries before the modern world even granted voting rights to them.

## Importance of Shakti Tradition

The Ramayana and Mahabharata portray strong and influential women like Sita Mata, Draupadi, and Kunti, who played crucial roles in shaping the narratives and events of these epic sagas. The reverence for women extends to their roles in family settings as well. She is the Sah Dharmacharini, which means she is an equal partner in Grihastha Dharma, where she, along with her husband, leads the household and by extension, the civilisation onto the path of righteousness and Dharma. Uniquely, within Sanatan Dharma, the Shakti tradition is distinctive in its exclusive devotion to the divine feminine, represented as Shakti or the divine mother.

Echoing these cultural values, a Sanskrit quote beautifully articulates the role of women as architects of society: Nāri Samājasya Kuśalavāstukārā

Needless to say, Bharatiya Naari



held positions of great reverence and respect, a tradition that spanned countless generations. However, over the years, repeated assaults overshadowed this feminine significance ingrained in our cultural values and traditions. Consequently, in modern-day India, women's representation in legislatures (both Union and State) glaringly lagged owing to a lack of political commitment and initiative.

Since 2014, Modiji has taken it upon himself to recalibrate the gender equality compass of India. It all began with changing the narrative from women's development to the mission of women-led development. Naari Shakti has been placed at the core of Bharat's development journey. Be it supporting women to overcome socio-economic barriers to their empowerment or ensuring they grow from strength to strength, an ecosystem is being developed where women, 50 per cent of India's population, have equal opportunities to realise their potential to the fullest.

While departing from the past practices of adopting piecemeal welfare measures, the government, post-2014, adopted a strategic lifecycle approach by designing policy interventions at several stages of a woman's life cycle and needs. The most fundamental of those is ensuring that women lead lives of dignity and safety. The 9.6 crore smoke-free kitchens under the Ujjawala Yojana, which has not only provided millions of women with ease of living but

has also saved them from chronic respiratory ailments; the 12 crore toilets under the Swachh Bharat Yojana, which enabled women to have safe and dignified access to toilets in their own homes, eliminating concerns about safety and preserving their dignity; or even the 12 crore tap water connections under the Jal Jeevan mission—all these measures have all uplifted women from a life of drudgery and disenfranchisement.

On the other side of the spectrum, age-old societal shackles were broken to bring about a social transformation not seen in decades. Be it raising the marriageable age of women from

Since 2014, Modiji has taken it upon himself to recalibrate the gender equality compass of India. It all began with changing the narrative from women's development to the mission of women-led development

18 years to 21 years, increasing the paid maternity leave period from 12 weeks to 26 weeks, or banning the unfair practice of Triple Talaq, similarly, the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao mission launched a full-throttle campaign against heinous social practices against girls, and as a result, the NFHS-5 reported a positive sex ratio of 1,020 women (per 1,000 males).

Indeed, Modiji's has stood by the Naari Shakti as she rises to claim her eminence as an embodiment of Shakti. As evident, PM Modi's vision of women's empowerment is adopted as a multi-pronged approach to

address challenges right from birth: nutrition, health, schooling, career and employment, familial and maternal life, serving the nation, and assuming leadership roles. The Women's Reservation Bill is the seal of power given to those intentions, a Shankhnaad that Shakti has risen and is ready to take the reins of our great nation. The Women's Reservation Bill emerges as a modern-day talisman that reverberates with the ancient respect and equality accorded to women in this civilisation. With this amendment bill and several other initiatives under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi, we are taking a historical course correction, a journey that realigns our footsteps to the original glory of Bharat—a land where women's voices were heard, their roles celebrated, and their contributions valued.

### **Empowering Bharatiya Women**

The Women's Reservation Bill, introduced by Modiji on the auspicious occasion of Ganesh Chaturthi, won a near unanimous vote, a blessing by Vighnaharta himself, who paid obeisance to Mata Paarvati for creating him, nourishing him and protecting him, by removing all obstacles facing the bill for 22 years! With this, Prime Minister Narendra Modi undertook yet another massive step towards gender equality and empowering Maa Bharti, and the popular sentiment of 150 crore Bhartiyaas. Modi Hai to Mumkin Hai resonates in my mind yet again! ■

**(The Writer is State President - Telangana BJP, Union Minister For Culture, Tourism And DoNER, GoI)**

**PM launches 511 Pramod Mahajan Grameen Kaushalya Vikas Kendras in Maharashtra**

## **INDIA IS PREPARING SKILLED PROFESSIONALS FOR THE WORLD: PM**

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi launched 511 Pramod Mahajan Grameen Kaushalya Vikas Kendras in Maharashtra via video conferencing on 19 October, 2023. Established across 34 rural districts of Maharashtra, these Kendras will conduct skill development training programs across various sectors to provide employment opportunities to rural youth.

The Grameen Kaushalya Vikas Kendras will conduct skill development training programs across various sectors to provide employment opportunities to rural youth. Each Kendra will train about 100 youngsters in at least two vocational courses. The training will be provided by empanelled industry partners and agencies under the National Skill Development Council.

Speaking about the establishment of 511 Pramod Mahajan Grameen Kaushalya Vikas Kendras in Maharashtra, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi underlined that today is a huge step for the skill development of millions of youths making this day a memorable one.

The Prime Minister said that the demand for skilled Indian youth is growing globally. Referring to the increasing age profile in the demography of many countries, the Prime Minister mentioned a study that says that 16 countries have planned to provide employment to about 40 lakh skilled youth. "India is preparing skilled professionals for the world, not just for itself", the Prime Minister said. He said that the Skill Centres in Maharashtra will prepare the local youth for global jobs and will skill them in construction, modern farming, media and entertainment, and electronics.

For long, the Prime Minister pointed out that the previous governments lacked farsightedness and seriousness towards skill development which resulted in fewer job opportunities for the lakhs of youth due to lack of skills. The Prime Minister underlined that the present government understood the need for skill development and created a separate ministry dedicated to it with its own budgetary allocation and multiple schemes.

The Prime Minister underlined the contribution of skill development initiatives in bolstering social justice. The Prime Minister mentioned the philosophy of Babasaheb Ambedkar that focussed on industrialization for the upliftment of Dalits, backwards



and tribals as their landholdings were meagre. Due to a lack of skills in the past, these sections were deprived of the opportunity of getting quality jobs. He said that the most benefit from the Government's skill development initiatives is being derived by the poor, Dalit, backward and Adivasi families.

Emphasizing the need for new skills for India's agriculture sector, the Prime Minister pushed for natural farming to protect Mother Earth. He talked about the need for skills to assess balanced irrigation, Agri-product processing, packaging, branding, and skilling people to get connected with the online world. "Various governments of the country will have to further expand their scope of skill development", Shri Modi added.

Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Eknath Shinde and Deputy Chief Ministers of Maharashtra, Shri Devendra Fadnavis and Shri Ajit Pawar were present on the occasion among others. ■

## GLOBAL MARITIME INDIA SUMMIT 2023

# PM UNVEILS A BLUEPRINT FOR THE INDIAN MARITIME BLUE ECONOMY

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the third edition of Global Maritime India Summit 2023 in Mumbai on 17 October. During the programme, the Prime Minister unveiled 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047', the long-term blueprint for the Indian maritime blue economy. The blueprint outlines strategic initiatives aimed at enhancing port facilities, promoting sustainable practices, and facilitating international collaboration. In line with this futuristic plan, the Prime Minister dedicated to the nation and laid the foundation stone of projects worth more than Rs 23,000 crores that are aligned with the 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047' for the Indian maritime blue economy

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi welcomed everyone to the 3rd edition of the Global Maritime India Summit 2023. In the changing world order, the Prime Minister underlined that the world is looking towards India with new aspirations. He stated that India's economy is constantly strengthening in a world dealing with economic crisis, and the day is not far when India will become one of the top 3 economies in the world.



### Biggest Maritime Event

The summit is the biggest Maritime Event in the country and will witness the participation of Ministers from across the globe representing countries from Europe, Africa, South America, and Asia (including central Asia, Middle East and BIMSTEC region). The summit is also to be attended by Global CEOs, Business leaders, Investors, Officials, and other stakeholders worldwide.

### PM dedicates more than 300 MoUs

The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of Tuna Tekra all-weather deep draft terminal, to

be built at a cost of more than Rs 4,500 crores at Deendayal Port Authority in Gujarat. This state-of-the-art greenfield terminal will be developed in PPP mode. The terminal, which is likely to emerge as an international trade hub, will handle next-gen vessels exceeding 18,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) and will act as a gateway for Indian trade via the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC). The Prime Minister also dedicated more than 300 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth more than 7 lakh crore for global and national partnerships in the maritime sector. ■

## NCCF SHOULD BECOME SELF-RELIANT BY ACHIEVING A TURNOVER OF 50,000 CR: AMIT SHAH

Union Minister Shri Amit Shah on 20 October addressed the Board of Directors of National Cooperative Consumers Federation of India Limited (NCCF) in New Delhi. Shri Amit Shah said that NCCF should become self-reliant by achieving a turnover of Rs 50,000 crore by the year 2027-28. He said that NCCF should emphasize

on making Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and other cooperative institutions across the country its members so as to ensure that the proportion of cooperatives in the share of capital of NCCF is relatively higher. Union Minister of Cooperation said that for this purpose NCCF will have to develop its business plan and change its business approach.

Shri Shah said NCCF is playing an important role in fulfilling PM Shri Modi's vision of 'Sahakar se Samridhi'. He said under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister, the Ministry of Cooperation, since its inception, has taken 52 initiatives to strengthen the cooperative movement in the country and increase the share of cooperatives in the GDP. ■





# THE LAND OF RIVERS AND THE VISION OF A VIKASIT BHARAT

**Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi flagged off the world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Dibrugarh, MV Ganga Vilas, marking a watershed moment. The 51-day cruise travelled unhindered for 3,200 km across 27 different river systems, allowing tourists to experience our heritage, culture and urban landscape at 50 tourist spots along the way**



**SARBANANDA SONOWAL**

In January 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Dibrugarh, MV Ganga Vilas, marking a watershed moment. The 51-day cruise travelled unhindered for 3,200 km across 27 different river systems, allowing tourists to experience our heritage, culture and urban landscape at 50 tourist spots along the way. In the last decade, India has witnessed many such transformative shifts in our approach to transportation, and at the heart of this evolution lies the revival of our traditional waterways network.

## Bharat, the land of rivers

The Government's reform-centric approach is catalysing the emergence of inland waterways transport (IWT) as an environment-friendly, cost-effective transportation mode. As a significant boost, the National Waterways Act 2016 was enacted,

which identified 111 waterways spanning over 20,000 km for scientific study, development, and operation as viable means of transportation.

Subsequently, the Sagarmala National Perspective Plan was launched, identifying cargo-

**As a significant boost, the National Waterways Act 2016 was enacted, which identified 111 waterways spanning over 20,000 km for scientific study, development, and operation as viable means of transportation**

specific opportunities for waterways transportation, followed by the enactment of the Inland Vessels Act 2021 that replaced the century-old law of 1917. These policy reforms ushered in a new wave of investments, greater ease of doing business and exponential economic growth along the national waterways (NW).

The new IV Act enables complete digitisation of the IWT sector, harmonises IWT regulations across States, raises navigation safety and cargo protection standards, enhances administrative transparency, and facilitates integrated development

of inland and coastal waterways. Digital platforms such as Cargo Data Portal (CAR-D) and Portal for Asset & Navigation Information (PANI) have also been created to allow for seamless sharing of cargo and infrastructure related information between various stakeholders leading to greater data-driven decision making.

The impact of these reforms is the six-fold growth in national waterway cargo, from 18.07 MTPA in 2014 to 108.88 MTPA in 2023. This is an example of the Government's 'reform-perform-transform' vision.

## Investment, skill development and employment

The Prime Minister gave the 'Arth Ganga' and 'Mahabahu-Brahmaputra' holistic vision for the complete rejuvenation, infrastructure development and livelihood generation along NW-1 (Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System) and NW-2 (Brahmaputra River). With a whole-of-government approach and the 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas' model of governance, India's 'water highways' have become the backbone of rapid economic development and social inclusion.

The Maritime India Vision 2030

envisages increasing IWT cargo share to 5 per cent, surpassing 200 MTPA in volumes and accommodating over 700 million passengers by 2030. Recognising the immense socio-economic potential, the Government also increased the funds invested for developing NWs by 247 per cent, from 1,517 crore between 1986 to 2014, to investing over 5,200 crores between 2014 and 2023. This has led to the creation of over 51,000 new job opportunities.

We have prioritised 26 potential high-traffic National Waterways for phased development. Some of the key projects on NW-1 and NW-2 include multi-modal terminals at Varanasi, Sahibganj and Haldia, a navigational lock at Farakka, and passenger-cum-cargo jetties at Jogighopa, Bogibeel and Dibrugarh. A 22,000 crore mega waterways connectivity project is also under development for linking Kalinganagar, Talcher and other industrial clusters of Odisha via NW-64 (Mahanadi River) and NW-5 with Paradip and Dhamra Ports. Similar development works has been prioritised on NW-10 (Amba River) and NW-28 (Dabhol Creek-Vashishti River) in Maharashtra.

### **Ashta Lakshmi, the new growth engine of India**

Under the Prime Minister's visionary and dynamic leadership, India's North Eastern Region has seen transformational growth in the last decade and is steadfastly moving towards becoming India's new growth engine of the 21st century. To bring the region to

the forefront, 20 North Eastern Region rivers were declared National Waterways in 2016 for holistic planning and infrastructure development.

Significant investments are also being made to develop seamless road and rail connectivity, and other essential logistics infrastructure, including building the northeast's first ship repair facility at Pandu port. This will greatly reduce the time and cost of repair for inland vessels plying on the Brahmaputra River.

**Under the Prime Minister's visionary and dynamic leadership, India's North Eastern Region has seen transformational growth in the last decade and is steadfastly moving towards becoming India's new growth engine of the 21st century**

Further, two institutes have been established in 2023 to harness the potential of youth power — the Maritime Skill Centre for Northeast in Guwahati and the School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication in Agartala. These institutes will tap into the immense talent pool and make India's northeast a leading hub of sector research, education and training.

The Government is also working towards developing the Eastern Waterways Connectivity Transport Grid — a network of 5,000 km of navigable national



and international waterways. We are also making fast progress in operationalising the Kaladan Multi-modal Transit Transport Project, offering alternative connectivity from India's eastern coast to the north-eastern states through Myanmar's Sittwe Port — which I inaugurated in May this year. These developments will enhance the integration of India's northeast with ASEAN and BIMSTEC countries, accelerate regional growth, enhance people-to-people connections, and build deeper trade ties.

To showcase India's huge maritime potential, the Ministry is hosting the 3rd Global Maritime India Summit 2023 from October 17th to 19th in Mumbai under the theme 'connect – collaborate - create'. This edition brings together government and business leaders from 70+ countries and over 3,000 eminent delegates to deliberate on emerging maritime priorities and explore investment opportunities in India's shipbuilding, ports, inland and coastal water transportation, maritime start-ups and other sectors. India goes full steam ahead towards the vision of a Vikasit Bharat. ■

**(The writer is Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and AYUSH, GoI)**



# HISTORIC DECISION FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



**RAJKUMAR  
CHAHAR**

The vision of not only women's upliftment but women-led development has become the policy since the inception of Narendra Modi government at the centre since 2014. The vision of the Prime Minister to empower the women in India further strengthened with the passage of 'Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam' or Women's Reservation Bill 2023 in the historic occasion of the special session of new Parliament building. With it, Shri Narendra Modi's resolution to attain the dream of women's reservation in the legislature, pending for decades, easily became law. It was possible only for the resolve, bold decision, determination, and honest initiative of the Prime Minister. Now the path has been paved for 33 percent women's reservation in Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies in India.

The history of this bill was quite long. Efforts were being made to pass this women's reservation bill was three decades old. There were various kinds of obstacles in the path of this bill ensuring women's reservation. But, when the intentions are pure and transparency in the efforts, then it brings good results even after overcoming numerous difficulties.

It is also a record in itself that this bill got widespread support in both the Houses. Now the dates of 20-21 September will be written in golden words because of the historic passage of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam by both houses of the Parliament with record votes on these dates. Almost everyone in the new Parliament House, rising above the boundaries of party line, voted in its favor.

The Prime Minister also made the occasion special and called a special session with a special purpose to enter the new building of the Parliament and to pass the Adhiniyam. Now, whenever there is talk of the inauguration of the new Parliament building, every Indian and especially women will feel proud because the passage of the legislation was associated with it on its very first day and first session. In fact, the new Parliament created a new history and this will be discussed for many generations to come.

## Provisions in Nari Shakti Vandan Act, 2023

(128th Amendment Act of the Constitution, 2023)

- Through this bill, amendments were made in Articles 339AA, 330A, 332A and 334A.
- Through Section 339AA, 33 percent seats will be reserved for women in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.
- Through 330A, one-third of the seats to be filled by direct

election in the Lok Sabha (including seats reserved for women belonging to SCs and STs) will be reserved for women.

- Through 332A, seats will be reserved for women in the Legislative Assembly of every state. In clause 3 of the article, one third of the seats including SC and ST will be reserved for women.
- A new provision has been added in 334A under which the period of women's reservation will be for 15 years. If needed in future, Parliament will have the right to extend the period of reservation.
- Currently the number of seats in the Lok Sabha is 543. As soon as the law comes into force, the number of women members will increase to 181 which is currently 82.

The dream that the country was waiting for the last several decades has now become reality. Following the signature of the Hon'ble President of India, the law has been made on 29 September, 2023. Now, 33 percent reservation for women in Lok Sabha and Assemblies has been granted. This is a proclamation of the new democratic commitment of the 'New India'. This is a very strong step towards building a developed India in 'Amrit Kaal'. This is a direct proof of Prime Minister Shri Modi's resolve to improve the standard of living of women, to improve the quality of life, and to bring a new



era of women-led development in the country.

## **Making the impossible possible**

There were efforts and talks for women's reservation for three decades. Before this, the bill was brought in Parliament four times but was never passed. It was hung in the name of consensus. In such a situation, the question is natural that how Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi got this bill passed with consensus in a single attempt. Why didn't this happen earlier? The only reason for this is a dynamic vision of PM. Today, there is a strong government at the Centre with full majority, whose identity is taking bold decisions and getting them implemented. It's passing in both the Houses is a testimony to the fact.

## **Other initiatives for empowerment of women**

- Special assistance was given to women during the Covid period.
- During April-June 2020, an amount of more than Rs 30 thousand crore was transferred to the accounts of 20 crore women.
- 14 crore refill cylinders were given free under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana.
- There are about 1.2 crore self-help groups in India, of which 88 percent are entirely women self-help groups. 9 crore women are included in these.
- The limit for giving guarantee free loans to women self-help groups was increased from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh.
- More than 10 crore poor

families in the country have been given LPG connections under Ujjwala. World Health Organization figures show that due to this effort of the Central Government, the cases of respiratory diseases among women have reduced by 20 percent.

- Over 27 crore Jan Dhan accounts, special fixed deposit schemes, StandUp India, more than 27 crore MUDRA loans to women, or Mission Poshan, each of these programs introduced by the Modi government also played a vital role in empowering the women. Women taking the lead

Not As a result of the welfare initiatives of Modi government, the number of women in technical education in industrial training institutes has doubled since 2014. About 43 percent of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) graduates in India are women. Nearly one-fourth of space scientists in India are women. The talent and hard work of women scientists is behind the success of major programs like Chandrayaan, Gaganyaan and Mission Mangal. Today, women are taking admission in higher education in India in greater numbers than men. The country has the highest percentage of female pilots in the civil aviation sector. Women officers are being deployed in operational roles and on combat fronts in all the armed forces.

## **India's push for women empowerment in G-20**

Shri Narendra Modi also put

forward the issue of women-led development in front of the entire world. While presiding over the G-20, India made the world realize that women and daughters can not only participate in policies but are also capable of securing their position in policy-making. This is because for the present central government, women empowerment is not a political issue but a resolution. An example of this is seen when Shri Modi was the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Shri Modi had given the entire amount received as salary for the education of the daughters of Gujarat Secretariat employees. Not only this, he also donated the amount received from the auction of gifts for the education of girls. Prime Minister had also handed over his social media account to 7 women on International Women's Day in 2019. This wonderful example of equality in words and deeds is actually giving equal rights and opportunities to women in India.

With the passage of the Nari Shakti Vandan Act in Parliament, we begin an era of stronger representation and empowerment for the women of India. This is not just a law; this is an honour to the countless women who have taken the country forward and has contributed in making India strong and prosperous. Nari Shakti Vandan Act will determine the role of women power in the development of India. This will prove as a milestone in the making of a developed India in the 'Amrit Kaal' till the year 2047. ■

**(The writer is National President of BJP Kisan Morcha)**

# YOUR DREAM IS MY RESOLUTION: PM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the programme marking the 125th Founder's Day celebration of the Scindia School in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh on October 21, 2023. During the programme, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the 'Multipurpose sports complex' in the school and presented the school's annual awards to distinguished alumni and top achievers. The Scindia School was established in 1897 and is atop the historic Gwalior Fort. The Prime Minister also released a commemorative postal stamp on the occasion.

The Prime Minister paid floral tribute to the statue of Shivaji Maharaj. He also took a walkthrough of the exhibition showcased on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Modi congratulated everyone on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the Scindia School. He also congratulated the citizens on the occasion of the Foundation Day of Azad Hind Sarkar. The Prime Minister expressed gratitude for getting the opportunity to become part of the celebrations of the prestigious history of the School and the city of Gwalior. He mentioned Rishi Gwalipa, music maestro Tansen, Mahad Ji Scindia, Rajmata Vijaya Raje, Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Ustad Amjad Ali Khan and said that the land of Gwalior has always produced those who



become an inspiration for others. "It is the land of Nari Shakti and valour", the Prime Minister said as he emphasized that it was on this land that Maharani Gangabai sold her jewellery to fund the Swaraj Hind Fauj. "Coming to Gwalior is always a delightful experience", the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister also mentioned the contribution of the Scindia family to the preservation of the culture of India and Varanasi. He remembered several ghats constructed by the family in Kashi and contributions to BHU. He said that today's development projects in Kashi must be a matter of satisfaction for the luminaries of the family.

Telling the students that the world is their oyster, the Prime Minister told them about the new avenues that have been opened for them including space and defence sectors. The Prime Minister asked the students to think outside of the box and reminded them how initiatives taken by the former railway

minister Shri Madhavrao such as starting Shatabdi trains were not repeated till three decades and now the country is seeing Vande Bharat and Namo Bharat trains.

## Highlights

- PM lays foundation stone for Multipurpose Sports Complex in the school.
- Releases commemorative stamp in honour of 125th anniversary of the Scindia School.
- Over the past decade, the nation's unprecedented long-term planning has resulted in groundbreaking decisions.
- Our endeavour is to create a positive environment in the country for today's youth to prosper.
- Every student of the Scindia School should strive to make India a Viksit Bharat, be it in the professional world or any other place.
- "Whatever India is doing today, it is doing it on a mega scale" ■

# IGNITING COLLECTIVE GOODNESS: MANN KI BAAT@100

## Now available online

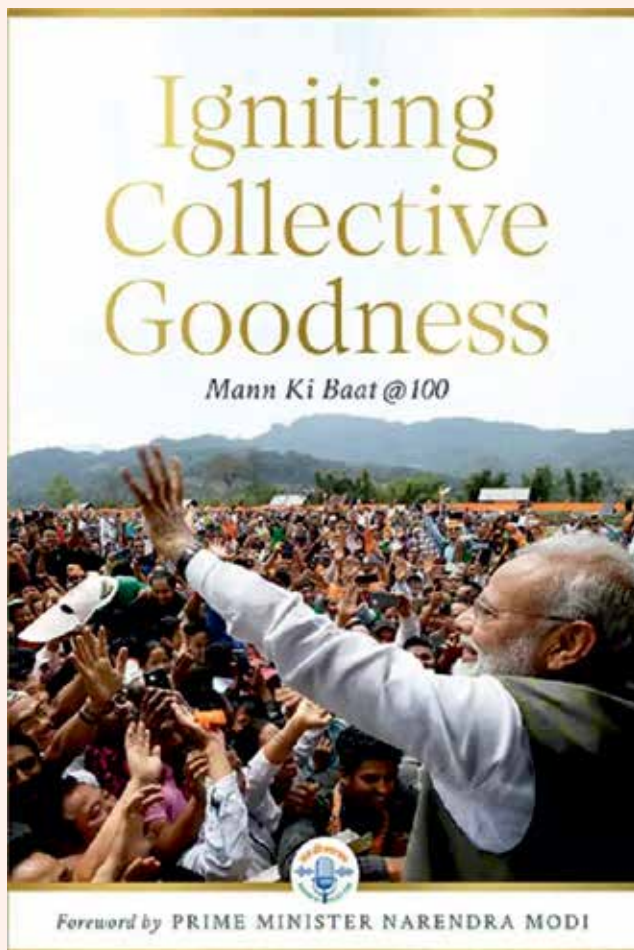
The journey of Mann Ki Baat, which commenced on Vijay Dashami in 2014, has been meticulously chronicled to celebrate the significant milestone of 100 episodes of this popular radio show. The book, 'Igniting Collective Goodness: Mann Ki Baat @ 100,' pays tribute to this inspirational journey, featuring a special foreword authored by Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself. Now available online, the book goes beyond being a mere collection of transcripts or a reflection of the past; instead, it serves as a compelling chronicle of India's evolving narrative of progress.

'Igniting Collective Goodness: Mann Ki Baat @ 100' provides valuable insights and offers a comprehensive, section-by-section analysis that encompasses a wide spectrum of sectors and regions. The first section delves into the unique approach taken by PM Modi to establish an effective two-way dialogue between himself and the nation. The second section sheds light on how PM Modi's appeals for social change consistently resonate with the citizens of the nation. The third section celebrates the richness of India's civilization, and the fourth and final section presents statistical data related to the popular radio show. Additionally, this section also presents both qualitative and quantitative analyses of the listeners and episode content, uncovering captivating insights.



**@narendramodi** I am happy that several people over the years have undertaken extensive research on #MannKiBaat and shared their insightful findings with people. Another such effort is the book 'Igniting Collective Goodness' by @BlueKraft, which chronicles how this programme has become a means for societal change. Congratulations to them for this work. [mkb100book.in](http://mkb100book.in)

'Igniting Collective Goodness: Mann Ki Baat @ 100' highlights Prime Minister Narendra Modi's unique approach in recognizing individual and collective efforts not just in India but also overseas. The book demonstrates how these developments, from environmental conservation to technological



innovation, cultural preservation to social welfare, have ignited thoughtful conversations and research, advancing the nation's progress and prosperity. It all comes down to the Prime Minister's fitting reference to Mann Ki Baat as "Guno ki puja" in the 100th episode.

### About 'Mann Ki Baat'

The radio show Mann Ki Baat, in many ways, stands as an innovative and audacious experiment. The program broke away from the traditional political discourse and governance discussions, establishing itself as a dialogue with the nation. Its focus has consistently been on the lives and stories of ordinary individuals who have brought about extraordinary change in society. It continues to be a source of inspiration for Indians to spark social change at their own level, regardless of their location. ■



## PM reviews the progress of India's Gaganyaan Mission

# India to send Man to Moon by 2040

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired a high-level meeting on October 17, 2023 to assess the progress of India's Gaganyaan Mission and to outline the future of India's space exploration endeavours.

The Department of Space presented a comprehensive overview of the Gaganyaan Mission, including various technologies developed so far such as human-rated launch vehicles and system qualification. It was noted that around 20 major tests, including 3 uncrewed missions of the Human Rated Launch Vehicle (HLMV3) are planned. First demonstration flight of the Crew Escape System Test Vehicle is scheduled on 21 October. The meeting evaluated



the mission's readiness, affirming its launch in 2025.

Building on the success of the Indian space initiatives, including the recent Chandrayan-3 and Aditya L1 Missions, Prime Minister directed that India should now aim for new and ambitious goals, including setting up 'Bharatiya Antariksha Station' (Indian Space Station) by 2035 and sending first Indian to the Moon by 2040.

To realize this Vision, the Department of Space will develop a roadmap for Moon exploration. This will encompass a series of Chandrayaan missions, the development of a Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGLV), construction of a new launch pad, setting up human-centric Laboratories and associated technologies.

The Prime Minister also called upon Indian scientists to work towards interplanetary missions that would include a Venus Orbiter Mission and a Mars Lander.

Prime Minister Shri Modi expressed confidence in India's capabilities and affirmed the nation's commitment to scaling new heights in space exploration. ■



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**KAMAL SANDESH - DEDICATED TO NATIONAL CAUSE**



PM Shri Narendra Modi flagging off the RapidX train 'Namo Bharat' between Sahibabad to Duhai Depot in Uttar Pradesh on October 20, 2023. After launching, the PM also interacting with school children and crew of RapidX train onboard.



PM Shri Narendra Modi at the inauguration of the 9th G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20) at Yashobhoomi in New Delhi on October 13, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi performs pooja and darshan at Parvati Kund at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand on October 12, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi addressing at the launch of 'Pramod Mahajan Grameen Kaushalya Vikas Kendras' in Maharashtra on October 19, 2023



PM Shri Narendra Modi inaugurating the 3rd edition of Global Maritime India Summit (GMIS) 2023 on October 17, 2023





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## NaMo App has significant section which helps to connect with the local MP: PM

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi informed that NaMo App has a significant section which helps to connect with the local Member of Parliament. Shri Modi said this section will go a long way in furthering our democratic spirit. He also said that it will enable an easy way to deepen connection with concerned local MP, facilitate engagement with the MP and also help to participate in various activities being organised.

### The Prime Minister posted on X;

"NaMo App has a very interesting section which will go a long way in furthering our democratic spirit. It will enable an easy way to deepen connect with your local MP, facilitate engagement with the MP and also help to participate in various activities being organised. From interesting cultural programmes to vibrant sporting tournaments, it will be easier for MPs and their constituents to connect. nm-4.com/mymp"



**Recognition** Share your work with other party members and be recognized

**Empowerment** Realize your potential by executing task effectively and efficiently

**Networking** Connect with other party members who are doing great work

**Participation** Leverage collective power of ideas and efforts powering inclusive growth



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**सशक्तिकरण** सशक्तिकरण पार्टी को प्रभावी रूप से कार्य करने में मदद करता है और कुशलता से कार्य करने में मदद करता है।

**जालबंदी** जालबंदी पार्टी के अन्य सदस्यों के साथ जुड़ने और अन्य काम करने में मदद करता है।

**भाग्यशक्ति** भागीदारी सम्मेलन विचारों को एक साथ आने के लिए मिलती है और इससे भी सशक्तिकरण और विकास होता है।

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