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'Operation Sindoor: A symbol of the indomitable courage of our soldiers'



**'140 CRORE INDIANS ARE UNITED
IN BUILDING A VIKSIT BHARAT'**



BJP National President & Union Minister Shri JP Nadda welcoming the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi at NDA Chief Ministers' Conclave held in New Delhi on 25 May 2025



BJP National President & Union Minister Shri JP Nadda addressing a press conference at the conclusion of NDA Chief Ministers' Conclave held in New Delhi on 25 May, 2025



BJP National President & Union Minister Shri JP Nadda visits Adi-Kailash, a sacred place of spirituality and culture in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand on 18 May, 2025



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah participating in the Tiranga Yatra in Gandhinagar, Gujarat on 18 May, 2025



Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurating and laying the foundation stone of various development projects in Naranpura, Gujarat on 18 May, 2025



Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh visits the Bhuj Air Force Station in Gujarat and interacted with brave Air Warriors and soldiers on 16 May, 2025

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SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER



@Narendramodi

The valour and courage of our forces forced Pakistan to kneel down. The enemies of the country have seen what happens when vermilion turns into gunpowder.

(22 May, 2025)

@JPNadda

"While building a healthy planet, let us ensure that no one is left behind"- at the 78th World Health Assembly, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi reiterated India's unwavering commitment to global health through inclusion and collaboration. He stressed the importance of shared responsibility in facing future pandemics and strengthening global resilience. Under his leadership, India continues to support global health efforts by sharing innovations, research, and best practices to build a healthier, more equitable world for all.

(22 May, 2025)



@AmitShah

A landmark achievement in the battle to eliminate Naxalism. Today, in an operation in Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, our security forces have neutralized 27 dreaded Maoists, including Nambala Keshav Rao, alias Basavaraju, the general secretary of CPI-Maoist, topmost leader, and the backbone of the Naxal movement. This is the first time in three decades of Bharat's battle against Naxalism that a general secretary-ranked leader has been neutralized by our forces. I applaud our brave security forces and agencies for this major breakthrough. Also glad to share that after completion of Operation Black Forest, 54 Naxalites have been arrested and 84 Naxalites have surrendered in Chhattisgarh, Telangana, and Maharashtra. The Modi government is resolved to eliminate Naxalism before the 31st of March 2026.

(21 May, 2025)



@Rajnathsingh

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi has approved another semiconductor unit under the India Semiconductor Mission, this time in Uttar Pradesh near Jewar. This project will manufacture display chips for mobiles, laptops & more, a vital leap towards self-reliance in chip manufacturing. A game-changing step that will create jobs, attract major investment and strengthen Aatmanirbhar Bharat. I thank to PM Modi for this decision.

(14 May, 2025)



@B.L Santhosh

In a matter of 7 days she (Colonel Sofiya Qureshi) is an icon for young generation. Not just by press briefing but by her life & legacy of her family. Daughter of Vadodara, Daughter in law of Belagavi, Pride of Bharat. #OperationSindoor.

(14 May, 2025)



@Shivraj Singh Chouhan

India's big leap - now a \$4 trillion economy! It is a moment of pride for every Indian that India has become the 4th largest economy of the world under the visionary leadership of respected Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji. This achievement reflects India's continued economic growth, strong economy and growing role on the global stage. This achievement is a strong milestone in the journey towards a developed India @ 2047. Expressed my views on the national interest topic of #OneNationOneElection at Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi. Today the resolution of 'One Country-One Election' has become the voice of the entire nation. Come, join this important initiative and be a part of the journey towards a developed India.

(21 May, 2025)



NDA SWEEPS ASSAM PANCHAYAT POLLS

ZILA PARISHAD	TOTAL SEATS	SEATS WON	VOTE SHARE
	397	300	76.22%

ANCHALIK PANCHAYAT	TOTAL SEATS	SEATS WON	VOTE SHARE
	2192	1436	66%



KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR

wishes a very happy

GANGA DUSSEHRA (05 JUNE)

to all of its readers



PAKISTAN ISOLATED GLOBALLY

As Operation Sindoor showed to the world the matchless courage and determination of India's armed forces, the nation's resolve to fight against terror has been further strengthened under the strong and decisive leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who has led the country from the front. Along with punishing the terror outfits in their haven, India adopted a tough diplomatic and economic stance after suspending the Indus Waters Treaty, expelling diplomats, and halting trade with Pakistan. The nation has conducted intensive global diplomacy with many nations to convey that the strikes were legal, limited and aimed only at terror actors, ensuring global understanding. The nation has shown a new paradigm of restraint and strength aided with precision and purpose in its calibrated and principled response against terrorism. Today, India's resolve to fight against terrorism is appreciated and supported across the globe.

In another masterstroke, India formed seven all-party teams of 59 MPs, including members from both the ruling NDA and opposition, to visit 32 countries and the European Union. After the successful completion of Operation Sindoor, the Indian delegations visited several countries to convey evidence of Pakistan's involvement in terrorism while conveying that India's military response was proportionate and solely directed at terrorist training facilities. Furthermore, they sought to ensure international understanding of India's actions as lawful and carefully considered.

The nation has shown a new paradigm of restraint and strength aided with precision and purpose in its calibrated and principled response against terrorism. Today, India's resolve to fight against terrorism is appreciated and supported across the globe

These teams met foreign ministers, parliamentarians and think tanks to present India's case, which has also reassured Indian citizens that the entire country stood together against terrorism. This has further increased public confidence and national morale. The public sentiment reflected widespread appreciation of India's balanced strategy, as retaliation through Operation Sindoor was combined with mature diplomatic outreach via elected representatives.

The delegations emphasised that India struck only terror camps and showed restraint, even in the face of Pakistan's long history of harbouring terror, training them, sponsoring them and exporting them across the borders. Countries like France, Italy, Indonesia, South Africa and the UAE issued supportive or understanding statements. No major world power disagreed with India's stand, showing the effectiveness

of the delegation's outreach. While often overlooked, India's delegation also made visits in nations in the Caribbean and Pacific. Countries like Trinidad & Tobago, Fiji and Guyana, which are home to large Indian diasporas, publicly backed India's position and appreciated the Modi government's proactive diplomatic explanation. These nations amplified India's message at regional forums. The delegations secured pledges of deeper counterterrorism cooperation from several countries. Offers were made for intelligence sharing, counter-extremism training and stronger legal action against terror financing. Pakistan's efforts to internationalise the issue largely failed as many countries acknowledged its long-standing role in harbouring terror groups. The delegations helped diplomatically isolate Pakistan.

The Operation Sindoor established a "new normal" where India can respond to terror militarily without triggering war. This signalled that Pakistan's nuclear threat would no longer deter Indian retaliation. The delegation's success contributed to this doctrine by showing that global opinion can be shaped if India acts decisively but diplomatically, ensuring strategic credibility without isolation. As Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi made it clear that terror and talk, terror and trade cannot go together while blood and water cannot flow together, India has reasserted its sovereignty, reiterating its uncompromising stand against terrorism. ■

shivshaktibakshi@kamalsandesh.org



140 crore Indians are united in building a Viksit Bharat: PM Modi

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone, inaugurated and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 24,000 crore in Dahod, Gujarat on 26 May, 2025. Addressing the gathering, he remarked that May 26 holds special significance as it marks the day he first took the oath as Prime Minister in 2014. He acknowledged the unwavering support and blessings of the people of Gujarat, who entrusted him with the responsibility of leading the nation. The Prime Minister highlighted that this trust and encouragement have fueled his dedication to serving the country day and night. Over the years, India has taken decisions which were unprecedented and unimaginable, breaking free from decades-old constraints and advancing across every sector. "Today, the nation has emerged from an era of despair and darkness into a new age of confidence and optimism", he added.

"140 crore Indians are united in building a Viksit Bharat", exclaimed Shri Modi, emphasising the importance of manufacturing essential goods within India, stating that self-reliance is the need of the hour. He remarked that India is advancing rapidly in the global manufacturing sector, noting that both domestic production and exports are increasing consistently. India is now exporting a wide range of products, including smartphones, automobiles, toys, defense equipment, and medicines. He further stated that India is not only manufacturing rail and metro technology but also exporting it globally.

Citing Dahod as a prime example of this progress, where major projects worth thousands of crores were inaugurated and launched, Shri Modi highlighted the Dahod Electric Locomotive Factory as a significant achievement. He recalled laying its foundation stone three years ago and expressed pride that the first electric locomotive has now been successfully manufactured. He flagged off the locomotive, marking a moment of pride for Gujarat and the entire nation. Additionally, he announced that Gujarat has achieved 100% electrification of its railway network, calling it a remarkable milestone and congratulated the people of Gujarat for this achievement.

Highlighting the rapid development of India's railway sector over the past 10-11 years, Shri Modi emphasized the expansion of metro services and the introduction of semi-high-speed trains, transforming connectivity across the country.

Shri Modi highlighted that Gujarat has made remarkable progress across multiple sectors, including education, IT, semiconductors, and tourism. He emphasized that the state has established itself as a leader in various industries. He remarked that a major semiconductor plant is being set up in Gujarat with an investment of thousands of crores, further strengthening India's position in the global semiconductor industry. He stated that these initiatives are creating new employment opportunities for lakhs of youth in Gujarat, contributing to the state's economic growth and development.

PM Narendra Modi Addresses 20 Years of Gujarat Urban Growth Story

LAUNCHES URBAN DEVELOPMENT YEAR 2025

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 27 May delivered a keynote address in Gandhinagar marking the celebration of 20 years of the Gujarat Urban Growth Story and formally launched the Urban Development Year 2025, building upon the initiative first introduced in 2005.

Addressing a large gathering, PM Modi reflected on the transformative journey of Gujarat's urban infrastructure over the past two decades. He praised the Gujarat Government for using the 20-year milestone not merely for celebration, but as an opportunity to shape a forward-looking roadmap for sustainable urban development aimed at future generations.

National Security and Operation Sindoor

Opening his remarks with reference to his two-day visit across Vadodara, Dahod, Bhuj, Ahmedabad, and Gandhinagar, PM Modi shared his experiences of witnessing a wave of patriotism sweeping the nation, amplified by the success of Operation Sindoor, launched on May 6, 2025. He described the mission as a definitive turning point in India's fight against terrorism, citing the operation's effectiveness—nine terrorist bases were neutralized in just 22 minutes, with every detail captured through camera documentation to ensure transparency.

The Prime Minister declared that recent events mark a shift from what was once considered "proxy war" to direct, structured military strategy employed by Pakistan. He referenced funerals of terrorists in Pakistan being conducted with full state honors as evidence of this shift. "This is not just infiltration; this is structured warfare," PM Modi stated, affirming India's commitment to providing equally decisive responses.

Historical Context and Diplomatic Stance

The Prime Minister revisited history, recounting the first terrorist attack on India in 1947, and criticized the decision to not heed Sardar Patel's vision of reclaiming Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. He emphasized that while India has always stood for peace and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (the world as one family), the country must respond strongly when its sovereignty is challenged.

India's Economic Growth and Global Standing

Shifting focus to economic progress, PM Modi celebrated India among the fastest growing economy in the world



since 2014, even as the country battled challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical tensions. He emphasized the importance of self-reliance, particularly urging citizens to reduce dependency on foreign goods and to embrace 'Made in India' products.

Gujarat's Development Model

Reflecting on Gujarat's transformation since its formation, PM Modi recalled the doubts that surrounded the state's developmental potential due to its geographic and economic challenges. However, Gujarat has since emerged as a global hub for diamonds, finance (GIFT City), and tourism, thanks to visionary planning and focused initiatives.

He outlined Gujarat's governance model of assigning specific focus areas to individual years—such as education, tourism, and urban renewal—as a blueprint for holistic development.

Role of Cities and Urban Bodies

PM Modi emphasized that urban centers must not merely expand with population, but evolve as economic engines. He urged municipal corporations across India to assess the current status of their local economies and set growth targets. "Urban bodies should support agro-based industries, encourage entrepreneurship, and create value-added markets instead of focusing solely on malls and shopping complexes," he said.

Vision for the Future

In conclusion, PM Modi reiterated his belief in India's potential to lead globally, not just economically but in innovation, culture, and diplomacy. He called on citizens to join "Operation Sindoor" not only as a military initiative but as a national movement for economic self-reliance. He encouraged people to identify and replace foreign products in their daily lives and embrace local manufacturing through the 'One District, One Product' approach. ■

PM MODI BHUJ, GUJARAT VISIT

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 26 May laid the foundation stone, inaugurated, and dedicated to the nation development projects worth over Rs. 53,400 crore in Bhuj, Gujarat. Addressing a large gathering, the Prime Minister extended greetings to the people of Kutch and paid homage to revered freedom fighter Shyamji Krishna Varma and Ashapura Mata, the presiding deity of the region.

Reflecting on his deep personal connection with Kutch, the Prime Minister recalled the challenges the region faced in the past—from water scarcity to the devastating 2001 earthquake. He emphasized that the resilience and determination of the people of Kutch have transformed the region into a thriving hub of economic and social progress.

A major highlight of the visit was the unveiling of large-scale infrastructure and green energy projects. PM Modi declared that Kutch is emerging as the world's largest hub for green energy, particularly in the fields of green hydrogen and solar power. He laid the foundation stone for a new green hydrogen plant, emphasizing that the technology used is entirely indigenous. He also noted that the Khavda solar power complex is one of the largest of its kind in the world, placing Kutch firmly on the global renewable energy map.

The Prime Minister also focused on the importance of coastal and maritime development. Citing India's ancient port cities like Lothal and Dholavira, he emphasized the role of coastal regions in economic prosperity. He noted that Kandla and Mundra ports handle nearly one-third of India's maritime trade and inaugurated new shipping-related infrastructure including a jetty and expanded cargo storage facilities. A special maritime development fund announced in the Union Budget further underscores the sector's strategic importance.

Shri Modi praised the rapid industrial growth in Kutch, especially in textiles, food processing, ceramics, and salt production.

In agriculture, PM Modi applauded the transformation brought about by the Narmada canal project, which revived farming in the drought-prone region. He noted that Kutch now exports mangoes,



dates, pomegranates, cumin, and even dragon fruit to international markets. He emphasized that local youth, who once migrated for jobs, are now finding employment within the region.

Tourism was identified as a vital sector for employment generation. The Prime Minister celebrated the popularity of the Rann Utsav and highlighted Smriti Van's global recognition by UNESCO. He proposed organizing a Beach Festival in Mandvi and mentioned the Namo Bharat Rapid Rail between Ahmedabad and Bhuj, expected to boost regional tourism further.

The Prime Minister also marked the day's symbolic importance—it was on May 26, 2014, that he took oath as India's Prime Minister. He noted that since then, India has risen from the 11th to the 4th largest economy.

Addressing national security, he reiterated India's zero-tolerance policy against terrorism and elaborated on Operation Sindoor, a military initiative to neutralize terror threats. He criticized Pakistan's continued support for terrorism and urged its citizens to challenge the destructive path their country is on.

Concluding his address, Prime Minister Shri Modi extended greetings for the upcoming Kutchi New Year, Ashadhi Beej, and expressed pride in Kutch's journey. He reaffirmed the region's role as a beacon of hope and development for India's future.

The Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel, Union Minister for Power and Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Manohar Lal were present among other dignitaries at the event. ■

Both security and prosperity essential for building a developed India: PM Modi



The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated, laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth Rs 26,000 crore in Bikaner, Rajasthan on 22 May 2025. Addressing the occasion, he welcomed the large gathering at the event, acknowledging the significant participation of people from 18 states and union territories who joined online. He highlighted the presence of several governors, chief ministers, lieutenant governors, and other public representatives. The Prime Minister extended his greetings to all esteemed dignitaries and citizens connected from across the country.

Shri Modi stated that he arrived at the event after seeking the blessings of Karni Mata, emphasizing that these blessings further strengthen the nation's resolve to build a developed India. Mentioning the inauguration and foundation stone laying of development projects worth Rs. 26,000 crore, he underscored their significance in advancing the country's growth. He extended his congratulations to the citizens for these transformative initiatives.

India is now investing six times more in infrastructure development

Highlighting the ongoing transformation of India's infrastructure, emphasizing the nation's commitment to modernization, the Prime Minister pointed to the rapid

advancements in roads, airports, railways, and railway stations over the past 11 years. "India is now investing six times more in infrastructure development compared to previous years, a progress that has captured global attention", remarked the Prime Minister, pointing out iconic infrastructure projects across the country, citing the remarkable Chenab Bridge in the north, the Sela Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh, and the Bogibeel Bridge in Assam in the east. In western India, he noted the Atal Setu in Mumbai, while in the south, he highlighted the Pamban Bridge, India's first of its kind.

Continuous efforts to modernize our railway network

Emphasising India's continuous efforts to modernize its railway network, Shri Modi underlined the introduction of Vande Bharat, Amrit Bharat, and Namo Bharat trains as symbols of the country's new speed and progress. He remarked that nearly 70 routes now operate Vande Bharat trains, bringing modern rail connectivity to remote regions. He further pointed out the significant infrastructure advancements over the past 11 years, including the construction of hundreds of road overbridges and underbridges, as well as the laying of over 34,000 kilometers of new railway tracks.

The Prime Minister stressed that the modernized railway stations have been named Amrit Bharat Stations and that over 100 such stations have been completed.

Underlining that government investments in infrastructure not only drive development but also create employment opportunities and boost business activities.

Approximately Rs. 70,000 crore has been invested in Rajasthan's road infrastructure

Shri Modi highlighted the substantial benefits Rajasthan is gaining from ongoing infrastructure development. He noted that high-quality roads are being constructed across villages and even in border areas. Over the past 11 years, approximately Rs. 70,000 crore has been invested in Rajasthan's road infrastructure alone. He stated that the central government is set to spend nearly Rs. 10,000 crore on railway development in the state this year, marking a 15-fold increase compared to pre-2014 levels. He remarked on the flagging-off of a new train connecting Bikaner to Mumbai, further enhancing connectivity.

Unwavering spirit of Rajasthan

Emphasising the unwavering spirit of Rajasthan, stating that nothing is greater than the country and its people, the Prime Minister condemned the terrorist attack on April 22, where assailants targeted innocent lives based on their faith. He remarked that while the bullets were fired in Pahalgam, they wounded the hearts of 140 crore Indians, uniting the nation in resolve against terrorism. He highlighted the decisive response by India's armed forces, stating that they were given full operational freedom. He noted that in a meticulously executed operation, the three forces collaborated to dismantle Pakistan's defenses, forcing them into submission. He revealed that in response to the April 22 attack, India struck back within 22 minutes, destroying nine major terrorist hideouts. "This action demonstrated the nation's strength, proving that when the sacred sindoor turns into firepower, the outcome is definitive", exclaimed the Prime Minister. He also pointed out a significant coincidence—five years ago, after the Balakot air strike, his first public rally was in Rajasthan. Similarly, following the recent Operation Sindoor, his first rally is again in Rajasthan, in Bikaner, reaffirming the land's deep-rooted valor and patriotism.

Outlining the three key principles established through Operation Sindoor in India's fight against terrorism, the Prime Minister stated the first principle



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with other senior leaders performing Darshan and Pooja at Karni Mata Temple in Bikaner, Rajasthan on May 22, 2025

- any terrorist attack on India would be met with a decisive response, with the timing, method, and terms determined solely by India's armed forces. Second, he asserted that India would not be intimidated by nuclear threats. Third, he emphasized that India would no longer differentiate between terrorist masterminds and the governments that support them, rejecting Pakistan's distinction between state and non-state actors. Highlighting ongoing global efforts to expose Pakistan's role in fostering terrorism, seven distinct groups, comprising leaders from various political parties and foreign policy experts, are actively working to present Pakistan's true face to the world, he added.

Shri Modi asserted that Pakistan can never win a direct confrontation with India, recalling its repeated failures in past conflicts. He emphasized that, unable to succeed in open battles, Pakistan has long used terrorism as a weapon against India, resorting to violence and creating an atmosphere of fear. He declared that Pakistan had underestimated India's resolve, stating that under his leadership, the nation stands strong and unwavering. "Any terrorist attack on India would result in severe consequences, with Pakistan paying a heavy price—borne by its military and its economy". ■

Vision of Viksit Bharat can be realized through Viksit States: PM Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired the 10th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi 24 May, 2025. It was attended by Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors representing 24 States and 7 UTs. This year's theme was Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat@2047. The meeting commenced with a minute of silence in the remembrance of the victims of Pahalgam terrorist attack.

The Prime Minister said that it is the aspiration of every Indian for the country to be a Viksit Bharat. It is not the agenda of any party but the aspiration of 140 crore Indians. He observed that if all States work together towards this goal, then we will make stupendous progress. He also said that we should commit that every State, every city, every village will be developed, and then Viksit Bharat will be achieved much before 2047.

India emerged among top five economies

PM said that India has emerged among top five economies of the world and 25 crore have escaped poverty. He emphasised that India needs to increase the speed of this transformation. He encouraged States to leverage their manufacturing strengths. He said that the Government of India has announced the Manufacturing Mission.

PM observed that Global investors are hugely interested in India. He encouraged the States to utilise this opportunity and make it easy for investments. Citing recent trade agreements with UAE, UK and Australia, he said States should utilise it to the optimum.

Emphasizing on skilling, Prime Minister said that NEP gives emphasis on Education and Skill. He said States must plan for various skills which are attuned to modern technologies like AI, Semiconductor, 3D printing.

PM cited cyber security as a challenge as well as an opportunity. Hydrogen and Green Energy were emphasised by him as arenas of immense potential and opportunities.

PM emphasised on the huge strength of Nari Shakti

PM emphasised on the huge strength of India's Nari Shakti. He urged to change laws for women so that they can join the growth trajectory. He observed that there



should be reforms in public and private sectors for working women with focus on their ease of working.

PM encouraged States to Interlink Rivers within States to battle water scarcity as well as floods. He appreciated Bihar which has recently started Kosi-Mochi connection grid. He also appreciated Aspirational Districts Programme which has been a success through collective efforts.

Prime Minister said that in agriculture, we must focus on lab to land. He talked about the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan in which about 2,500 scientists will go to villages and Rural Centres in the coming days in which they will deliberate on topics such as crop diversification and chemical-free farming. He asked all CMs to support this endeavour.

'Operation Sindoor should not be treated as a one-off initiative

Prime Minister mentioned that 'Operation Sindoor should not be treated as a one-off initiative and we must adopt a long-term approach. Prime Minister mentioned that we must modernize our approach to civil preparedness. He said that the recent mock drills have reignited our attention to civil defence states should institutionalize Civil Defence preparedness.

The CMs and LGs praised Operation Sindoor for its precision and targeted strikes which led to destruction of terror infrastructure. In one voice, they praised PM's leadership and the valour of the Armed Forces. They also praised the efforts towards Aatmanirbharta in the defence sector which have strengthened the defence forces and bolstered confidence in our capabilities. ■



‘Operation Sindoor: A symbol of the indomitable courage of our soldiers’

Bharatiya Janata Party National President and Union Minister Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda addressed a press conference at the conclusion of NDA Chief Ministers' Conclave held in New Delhi, on 25 May 2025. The meeting was attended by 20 Chief Ministers and 18 Deputy Chief Ministers of NDA. Shri Nadda shared that two resolutions were passed during the conclave. The first resolution was in support of 'Operation Sindoor,' carried out under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The second resolution has been related to the caste-based census, which was approved by the Union Cabinet. The resolution emphasized that while we do not believe in caste-based politics, it is crucial to integrate the deprived, oppressed, marginalized, and Dalit communities into the mainstream of society.

Operation Sindoor was successfully accomplished

Shri Nadda said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Operation Sindoor was successfully accomplished. In this mission, the way Indian armed forces and brave soldiers served the nation has been appreciated. The valour displayed by our army has also received widespread praise. In this context, a resolution was unanimously passed, which highlights the leadership abilities of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji in Operation Sindoor, as well as the ongoing efforts towards a Strong India (Sashakt Bharat), Capable India (Samarth Bharat), and Self-Reliant India (Atmanirbhar Bharat). It can also be said that the exactness with which our army struck terrorism in Pakistan with precision and lethal efficiency was also discussed in detail in this resolution.

Cabinet approved the caste-based census

Shri Nadda stated that the cabinet, under the

PM CHAIRS THE NDA CHIEF MINISTERS' CONCLAVE

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired the NDA Chief Ministers' Conclave. He emphasised the need to add momentum to our development trajectories and ensure the benefits of a double-engine government reach the people in an effective manner. In a thread post on X, he wrote: "Participated in the NDA Chief Ministers' Conclave in Delhi. We had extensive deliberations about various issues. Various states showcased their best practices in diverse areas including water conservation, grievance redressal, strengthening administrative frameworks, education, women empowerment, sports and more. It was wonderful to hear these experiences."

"I emphasised the need to add momentum to our development trajectories and ensure the benefits of a double-engine government reach the people in an effective manner. Spoke about building stronger synergies in key areas be it cleanliness, sanitation, healthcare, youth empowerment, agriculture, technology and more." ■

leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the caste-based census. This has been part of our vision from the very beginning. The Government of Bihar, especially under the leadership of Shri Nitish Kumar, was the first to propose this initiative. Building upon that foundation, the proposal was passed. This decision was widely appreciated, and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi received heartfelt commendation from all quarters. Through this resolution, we have sent a clear message that our politics is not driven by caste divisions. Our core objective is to ensure the inclusion of the deprived, the oppressed, the marginalized, the

Dalits, and all those who have remained outside the mainstream of society. The caste-based census is a significant step in this direction, and we are committed to taking it forward with determination.

‘Operation Sindoor’ a symbol of the indomitable courage

BJP National President stated that with regard to ‘Operation Sindoor’, the Prime Minister described it as a symbol of the indomitable courage of our soldiers. He also said that India must move rapidly towards development and be made strong and self-reliant, and special focus is needed in this direction. A detailed discussion was also held on the campaign launched against Naxalism. Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah elaborated on the government’s strategy, provided guidance, and briefed all Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers on how this issue has been addressed.

Shri Nadda stated that there was an in-depth discussion on how various states, particularly all states, have developed best practices in administrations. Deliberations were also held on the innovations that have been implemented to advance India and the new elements introduced in governance. The NDA focused specifically on seven best practices. For instance, the Olympics organized in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh were highlighted.

Union Minister Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda mentioned that the efforts made in water conservation across drought-affected regions of Bihar were an important point of discussion. The meeting also addressed the actions taken in Assam to curb child marriage. The success of the Pradhan Mantri Suryaghar Yojana in Gujarat was also appreciated.

BJP National President stated that Uttarakhand Chief Minister Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami gave a detailed presentation on the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code in the state. He explained the steps taken for its implementation, the obstacles that were overcome, and how the Code is helping to integrate people into the mainstream. Serious deliberation and discussion took place on this subject. A presentation was also made on the administrative reform efforts undertaken by Maharashtra. It was suggested that a few representatives from each state be selected to study Maharashtra’s experience and implement it in their respective states. Uttar Pradesh provided

information about the work being carried out under Project Alankar. Through this project, efforts have been made to bring the infrastructure of Government Senior Secondary Schools and +2 Colleges to the saturation point. The objective is to strengthen infrastructure for higher and secondary education. The address of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was also conveyed to all, in which he said that study groups should be formed to examine the best practices discussed, so that every state can implement them locally. Emphasizing the need for a self-reliant India, he stated that this should not be just a government initiative but embraced as a mass movement. Participation of all citizens is essential in this endeavour.

PM placed special emphasis on environmental conservation

Shri Nadda stated that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi placed special emphasis on environmental conservation, urging state governments to give particular attention to the monitoring and maintenance of the Amrit Sarovars that have been created. This is not a one-time effort, but that their effective use and upkeep must be ensured. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also suggested that a study should be conducted to assess how much water recharge has taken place from these water sources. Along with this, our traditional water sources such as wells and stepwells, should be cleaned and revitalized as a campaign. Cleanliness should be a continuous part of our lives; it is not a 10 or 15-day program, but a sustainable process in which we all must participate.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi also called upon all state governments to plan minimal and innovative programs on the occasion of Environment Day on June 5, which bring positive changes in the environmental sector of the state.

Additionally, the NDA government, led by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, is about to complete 11 years in office. On this occasion, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi urged all Chief Ministers of NDA-ruled states on June 9 to consider how to celebrate the 11th year, what programs should be organized, and how the progress India has made in these 11 years can be presented to the public. He requested all state governments to deliberate on these matters. ■

Rising North East is more than just an investors' summit—it is a movement and a call to action: PM Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Rising North East Investors Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on May 23, 2025. Extending a warm welcome to all the dignitaries to the event, the Prime Minister expressed pride, warmth, and immense confidence in the future of the North East region. He recalled the recent Ashtalakshmi Mahotsav held at Bharat Mandapam and emphasized that today's event marks a celebration of investment in the Northeast.

Underscoring India's status as the world's most diverse nation, Shri Modi said, "the Northeast is the most diverse region of our diverse nation". He emphasized the vast potential spanning trade, tradition, textiles, and tourism, stating that the region's diversity is its greatest strength. He remarked that the Northeast is synonymous with a thriving bio-economy and bamboo industry, tea production and petroleum, sports and skill, as well as an emerging hub for eco-tourism. He further noted that the region is paving the way for organic products and stands as a powerhouse of energy.

Critical role of Eastern India in achieving a Viksit Bharat

Emphasizing the critical role of Eastern India in achieving a Viksit Bharat, the Prime Minister underscored the Northeast as its most vital component. "For us, EAST is not just a direction but a vision—Empower, Act, Strengthen, and Transform—which defines the policy framework for the region", he stated, highlighting that this approach has placed Eastern India, particularly the Northeast, at the center stage of India's growth trajectory.

Prime Minister highlighted the transformative changes witnessed in the Northeast over the past 11 years, emphasizing that the progress is not merely reflected in statistics but is tangible on the ground.

Infrastructure is the foundation of development

Underlining that robust infrastructure plays a key



role in making the tourism sector attractive and instilling confidence among investors, Shri Modi highlighted that well-developed road, power infrastructure, and logistics networks form the backbone of any industry, facilitating seamless trade and economic growth. He remarked that infrastructure is the foundation of development and that the government has initiated an Infrastructure Revolution in the Northeast.

Northeast a rising force in trade with Indo-Pacific nations

Highlighting the ongoing development of Guwahati, Imphal, and Agartala as Multi-Modal Logistics Hubs, the Prime Minister noted that the establishment of Land Custom Stations in Meghalaya and Mizoram is further expanding international trade opportunities. He emphasized that these advancements are positioning the Northeast as a rising force in trade with Indo-Pacific nations, unlocking new avenues for investment and economic growth.

Rich cultural heritage of the Northeast

Shri Modi highlighted the rich cultural heritage of the Northeast, emphasizing its deep-rooted connection to music, dance, and celebrations. He noted that the region is an ideal destination for global conferences, concerts, and destination weddings, positioning it as a complete tourism package. He stated that as development reaches every corner of the Northeast, its positive impact on tourism is evident, with visitor numbers doubling. ■

'If Pakistan dares to spread terror again, the response will be so fierce that its future generations will remember it for centuries'

Union Home Minister & Minister of Cooperation and Senior BJP leader Shri Amit Shah addressed a public meeting in Nanded, Maharashtra on 26 May, 2025. Referring to the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Shri Amit Shah mentioned 'Operation Sindoor' and stated that India is no longer a weak nation but a country with decisive leadership that responds to terrorist attacks through surgical and air strikes. Shri Shah also shared details about the ongoing 'Operation Black Forest' against Naxals in Chhattisgarh and called for the complete elimination of Naxalism from the country by 31 March 2026.

While referring to the recent cowardly attack on May 22, where Pakistan-sponsored terrorists brutally targeted and killed innocent tourists in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir, Shri Shah noted Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's strong message from Bihar: "Wherever the terrorists may hide, they will be hunted down and eliminated." Pakistan seems to have forgotten that this is no longer the India of weak Congress-led governments. For the past 11 years, the country has been under the strong leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the decisive governance of the Bharatiya Janata Party, which has responded to every attack with strength and resolve. When the Uri terror attack occurred, India responded with a surgical strike across the border. The Pulwama attack was answered with a powerful airstrike. And now, after the cowardly attack in Pahalgam, the Indian Army has destroyed hundreds of terrorist hideouts under 'Operation Sindoor.'

Union Home Minister stated that 'Operation Sindoor' has sent a clear message to the world: anyone who dares to challenge India's Army, its people, or its borders will face severe consequences. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has made it absolutely clear that any attack on innocent Indian civilians will not be answered with mere bullets, but with heavy artillery.

Shri Shah remarked that while Operation Sindoor was underway, another mission, 'Operation Black Forest,' was also active, symbolizing India's strategic strength and resolve. In Chhattisgarh, CRPF, Chhattisgarh Police, and BSF jointly destroyed Naxalite hideouts located on a 5,000-foot-high hill. In this operation, first 27 and then 31 Naxalites were killed, taking the total to 36 Naxalites eliminated so far. Several Naxalites have surrendered,



Pakistan seems to have forgotten that this is no longer the India of weak Congress-led governments. For the past 11 years, the country has been under the strong leadership of PM Shri Narendra Modi and the decisive governance of the BJP

and many have also been arrested. By March 31, 2026, Naxalism will be completely eradicated from the soil of this country.

Union Home Minister stated that after Operation Sindoor, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi decided that this is not just an issue for the Centre but a matter concerning the entire nation. Therefore, an all-party delegation of Members of Parliament will be formed and sent to various countries around the world to expose Pakistan's terrorist face on global platforms. When this decision was made, a prominent leader of the Uddhav Sena remarked, "I don't understand which Baarat is going." This is the same party that once belonged to Balasaheb Thackeray. If Balasaheb were alive today, he would have embraced Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji for Operation Sindoor. It is unfortunate that leaders of the Uddhav Sena are now referring to such nation-centric efforts as a "Baarat."

Union Home Minister said that under the leadership of Shri Devendra Fadnavis, the BJP government will work towards making Maharashtra the number one state in the country once again. Prime Minister has resolved to make India a developed nation by 2047, and I firmly believe that the sacred land of Maharashtra — of Shivaji Maharaj, Lokmanya Tilak, and Savarkar Ji, will have the greatest contribution in achieving this goal. ■

OPERATION SINDOOR

The Rise of Aatmanirbhar Innovation in National Security

INDIA'S GROWING TECHNOLOGICAL SELF-RELIAANCE

Operation SINDOOR emerged as a calibrated military response to an evolving pattern of asymmetric warfare, one that increasingly targets unarmed civilians along with military personnel. The terrorist attack on tourists in Pahalgam in April 2025 served as grim reminder of this shift. India's response was deliberate, precise, and strategic. Without crossing the Line of Control or international boundary, Indian forces struck terrorist infrastructure and eliminated multiple threats. However, beyond tactical brilliance, what stood out was the seamless integration of indigenous hi-tech systems into national defence. Whether in drone warfare, layered air defence, or electronic warfare, Operation SINDOOR marks a milestone in India's journey towards technological self-reliance in military operations.

Air Defence Capabilities: Tech as the First Line of Protection

On the night of 07-08 May 2025, Pakistan attempted to engage a number of military targets in Northern and Western India including Awantipura, Srinagar, Jammu, Pathankot, Amritsar, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Adampur, Bhatinda, Chandigarh, Nal, Phalodi, Uttarlai, and Bhuj, using drones and missiles. These were neutralised by the Integrated Counter UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) Grid and Air Defence systems.

Air Defence systems detect, track, and neutralise threats using a network of radars, control centres, artillery, and both aircraft- and ground-based missiles.

On the morning of May 8, the Indian Armed Forces targeted Air Defence Radars and systems at a number of locations in Pakistan. An Air Defence system at Lahore was neutralised.

PERFORMANCE OF SYSTEMS

As part of Operation SINDOOR, the following were used:

- Battle-proven AD (Air Defence) systems like the Pechora, OSA-AK and LLAD guns (Low-level air defence guns).
- Indigenous systems such as the Akash, which demonstrated stellar performance

AKASH is a Short Range Surface to Air Missile system to protect vulnerable areas and vulnerable points from air attacks. The AKASH Weapon System can simultaneously engage Multiple Targets in Group Mode or Autonomous Mode. It has built in Electronic Counter-Counter Measures (ECCM) features. The entire weapon system has been configured on mobile platforms.

India's Air Defence Systems, combining assets from the Army, Navy, and primarily the Air Force, performed with exceptional synergy. These systems created an impenetrable wall, foiling multiple attempts by Pakistan to retaliate.

The Integrated Air Command and Control System (IACCS) of the Indian Air Force brought all these elements together, providing the net-centric operational capability vital for modern warfare.

Offensive Actions with Pinpoint Accuracy

India's offensive strikes targeted key Pakistani airbases- Noor Khan and Rahimyar Khan with surgical precision. Loitering munitions were used to devastating effect, each finding and destroying high-value targets, including enemy radar and missile systems.

Loitering munitions also known as "suicide drones" or "kamikaze drones", are weapons systems that can

hover or circle a target area, searching for a suitable target before attacking.

All strikes were executed without loss of Indian assets, underscoring the effectiveness of our surveillance, planning, and delivery systems. The use of modern indigenous technology, from long-range drones to guided munitions, made these strikes highly effective and politically calibrated.

Indian Air Force bypassed and jammed Pakistan's Chinese-supplied air defence systems, completing the mission in just 23 minutes, demonstrating India's technological edge.

Evidence of Neutralized Threats

Operation SINDOOR also produced concrete evidence of hostile technologies neutralized by Indian systems:

- Pieces of PL-15 missiles (of Chinese origin)
- Turkish-origin UAVs, named "Yiha" or "YEEHAW"
- Long-range rockets, quadcopters and commercial drones

These were recovered and identified, showing that despite Pakistan's attempts to exploit advanced foreign-supplied weaponry, India's indigenous air defence and electronic warfare networks remained superior.

Performance of Systems: Air Defence Measures of the Indian Army

On May 12, Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, Director General Military Operations, in the Operation SINDOOR press briefing highlighted the excellent performance of a mix of legacy and modern systems.

Preparedness and Coordination:

Since precise strikes on terrorists were conducted without crossing the Line of Control or International Boundary, it was anticipated Pakistan's response would come from across the border.

- A unique blend of Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems, Electronic Warfare assets, and Air Defence Weapons from both Army and Air Force
- Multiple defensive layers from the International Boundary inward:
 - a. Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems
 - b. Shoulder-Fired Weapons
 - c. Legacy Air Defence Weapons



d. Modern Air Defence Weapon Systems

This multi-tier defence prevented Pakistan Air Force attacks on our airfields and logistic installations during the night of May 9-10. These systems, built over the last decade with continuous government investment, proved to be force multipliers during the operation. They played a crucial role in ensuring that both civilian and military infrastructure across India remained largely unaffected during enemy retaliation attempts.

ISRO's contribution: At an event on May 11, ISRO Chairman V Narayanan mentioned that At least 10 satellites are continuously working round-the-clock for the strategic purpose to ensure the safety and security of the citizens of the country. To ensure the safety of the country, the nation has to serve through its satellites. It has to monitor its 7,000 km seashore areas. It has to monitor the entire Northern part continuously. Without satellite and drone technology, the country can't achieve that.

The Business of Drone Power: A Rising Indigenous Industry

The Drone Federation India (DFI), is a premier industry body representing over 550 drone companies and 5500 drone pilots. DFI's vision is to make India a global drone hub by 2030, and it promotes the design, development, manufacturing, adoption and export of Indian drone and counter-drone technology worldwide. DFI enables ease of doing business, promotes the adoption of drone technology, and hosts several programs like Bharat Drone Mahotsav. Some companies involved in the

drone space are:

- **Alpha Design Technologies (Bengaluru):** Partnered with Israel's Elbit Systems to build SkyStriker.
- **Tata Advanced Systems offers a full range** of integrated solutions across Defence & Security and has served as a trusted partner to India's armed forces for over six decades.
- **Paras Defence & Space Technologies** operates within the Defence and Space segments, distinguished by Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured (IDDM) capabilities.
- **IG Drones** is a Drone Technology Company for manufacturing and R & D of Drones specialized in defence and other industry applications along with provider of drone related services like drone surveying, mapping & inspection by industry experts. The company has partnered with Indian Army, Government of India, multiple State Governments, among others.

The Indian drone market is projected to reach \$11 billion by 2030, accounting for 12.2% of the global drone market.

Drones at the Centre of Modern Warfare

The integration of drone warfare into India's military doctrine owes its success to years of domestic R&D and policy reform. Since 2021, the ban on imported drones and the launch of the PLI (Production Linked Incentive) scheme have catalyzed rapid innovation. The scheme of Production Linked Incentive for drones and drone components of Ministry of Civil Aviation was notified on 30th September, 2021 with a total incentive of Rs 120 crores spread over three Financial Years (FYs), FY 2021-22 to FY 2023-24. The future lies in autonomous drones with AI-driven decision-making, and India is already laying the groundwork.

Defence exports crossed the record figure of about Rs 24,000 crore in Financial Year 2024-25. The aim is to increase the figure to Rs 50,000 crore by 2029, and make India a developed nation and the world's largest defence exporter by 2047.

Make in India continues to power the growth of the defence sector.

India has emerged as a major defence manufacturing hub, driven by the "Make in India"

initiative and a strong push for self-reliance. In FY 2023-24, indigenous defence production reached a record Rs. 1.27 lakh crore, while exports soared to Rs. 23,622 crore in FY 2024-25, a 34-fold increase from 2013-14. Strategic reforms, private sector involvement, and robust R&D have led to the development of advanced military platforms like the Dhanush Artillery Gun System, Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun, Light Specialist Vehicles, High Mobility Vehicles, Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas, Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH), Light Utility Helicopter (LUH), Akash Missile System, Weapon Locating Radar, 3D Tactical Control Radar, and Software Defined Radio (SDR), as well as naval assets like destroyers, indigenous aircraft carriers, submarines, frigates, corvettes, fast patrol vessels, fast attack craft, and offshore patrol vessels.

The government has backed this growth with record procurement contracts, innovations under iDEX, drives like SRIJAN, and two Defence Industrial Corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Key acquisitions such as LCH (Light Combat Helicopters) Prachand helicopters and the ATAGS (Approval for Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System) highlight the shift towards indigenous capability. With targets of Rs. 3 lakh crore in production and Rs. 50,000 crore in exports by 2029, India is firmly positioning itself as a self-reliant and globally competitive defence manufacturing power.

Conclusion:

Operation SINDOOR is not just a story of tactical success. It is a validation of India's defence indigenization policies. From air defence systems to drones, from counter-UAS capabilities to net-centric warfare platforms, indigenous technology has delivered when it mattered most. The fusion of private-sector innovation, public-sector execution, and military vision has enabled India to not only defend its people and territory but also assert its role as a hi-tech military power in the 21st century. In future conflicts, the battlefield will increasingly be shaped by technology. And India, as shown in Operation SINDOOR, is ready, armed with its own innovations, backed by a determined state, and powered by the ingenuity of its people. ■

CABINET APPROVES EXPANSION OF 5 IITS

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, on May 7, 2025 approved expansion of academic and infrastructure capacity (Phase-`B' construction) of five new IITs which had been established in the States/UT of Andhra Pradesh (IIT Tirupati), Kerala (IIT Palakkad), Chhattisgarh (IIT Bhilai), Jammu & Kashmir (IIT Jammu) and Karnataka (HT Dharwad).

- The total cost for the same is Rs 11,828.79 crore over a period of four years from 2025-26 to 2028-29.
- The Cabinet has also approved creation of 130 faculty posts (at the level of Professor i.e. Level 14 & above) in these IITs.
- Five new state-of-art research parks are also coming up to strengthen industry-academia linkage.

Student strength in these IITs will be increased by more than 6500 in the next four years. 'Total number of students in 23 IITs has increased 100 per cent from 65,000 to 1.35 lakh in the past 10 years. ■

CABINET APPROVES SEMICONDUCTOR UNIT IN UTTAR PRADESH

Semiconductor mission: Consistent momentum

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 14 May approved the establishment of one more semiconductor unit under India Semiconductor Mission.

Already five semiconductor units are in advanced stages of construction.



With this sixth unit, Bharat moves forward in its journey to develop the strategically vital semiconductor industry.

The unit approved is a joint venture of HCL and Foxconn. HCL has a long history of developing and manufacturing hardware. Foxconn is a global major in electronics manufacturing. Together they will set up a plant near Jewar airport in Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority or YEIDA.

This plant will manufacture display driver chips

for mobile phones, laptops, automobiles, PCs, and myriad of other devices that have display.

With the demand for semiconductor increasing with the rapid growth in Bharat, this new unit will further add to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji's vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

96% OF C-130J AIRCRAFT WING NOW MANUFACTURED IN INDIA

This report outlines India's growing prominence in global aerospace and defence manufacturing, as highlighted by Major Partha P Roy Chowdhury, Commercial Lead for Japan, India, and Bangladesh at Lockheed Martin. Speaking on 13 May, at an industry event in Chennai, Shri Chowdhury provided critical insights into India's increasing contribution to Lockheed Martin's global operations, particularly in southern India.

India currently manufactures 96% of the C-130J aircraft wing, showcasing its advanced precision engineering and large-scale manufacturing capability.

The remaining 4% is limited due to intellectual property constraints from the U.S., pointing to an opportunity for India to develop sovereign capabilities.

Over 90% of Lockheed Martin's Indian suppliers are based in southern states, including Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka. Southern India's MSMEs are recognized for global-quality standards, precision manufacturing, and cost competitiveness. Shri Chowdhury emphasized that infrastructure in this region matches or surpasses international benchmarks. ■

INDIA LAUNCHES FIRST CLUSTER OF CCU TESTBEDS IN ACADEMIA-INDUSTRY COLLABORATION FOR CEMENT INDUSTRY

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) recently unveiled a pioneering national initiative: five Carbon Capture and Utilisation (CCU) testbeds in the cement sector, forming a first-of-its-kind research and innovation cluster to combat industrial carbon emissions.

This is a significant step towards India's Climate Action for fostering National Determined Contributions (NDCs) targets and to achieve net zero decarbonisation pathways for Industry Transition.,

GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS

towards the Government's goal to achieve a carbon-neutral economy by 2070.

Carbon Capture Utilisation (CCU) holds significant importance in hard-to-abate sectors like Cement, Steel, Power, Oil & Natural Gas, Chemicals & Fertilizers in reducing emissions by capturing carbon dioxide from industrial processes and converting it to value add products such as synthetic fuels, Urea, Soda, Ash, chemicals, food grade CO₂ or concrete aggregates. CCU provides a feasible pathway for these tough to decarbonise industries to lower their carbon footprint and move towards achieving Net Zero Goals while continuing their operations efficiently. As a unique initiative and one of its first kind in India, DST has approved setting up of five CCU testbeds for translational R&D, to be set up in Academia-Industry collaboration under this significant initiative of DST in PPP mode, engaging with premier research laboratories as knowledge partners and top Cement companies as the industry partner. ■

DRDO DEVELOPS HIGH-PRESSURE POLYMERIC MEMBRANE FOR SEA WATER DESALINATION

Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) on 15 May, 2025 successfully developed indigenous nanoporous multilayered polymeric membrane for high-pressure sea water desalination. Defence Materials Stores and Research & Development Establishment (DMSRDE), the Kanpur-based laboratory of DRDO, has developed the technology for desalination plant in Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ships, based on their operational requirement to address the serious challenge of stability when exposed to chloride ions in saline water. The development has been completed in a record time of eight months.

DMSRDE, along with ICG, successfully carried out initial technical trials in the existing desalination plant of Offshore Patrolling Vessel (OPV) of ICG. The initial safety and performance trials of the polymeric membranes were found to be fully satisfactory. The final operational clearance will be given by ICG after 500 hrs of operational testing. ■

AADHAAR AUTHENTICATION CROSSES 150 BILLION TRANSACTIONS

e-KYC transactions surge nearly 40% in April 2025, enhancing customer experience and business ease



across sectors

UIDAI's AI-Driven face authentication sees growing adoption with 14 crore transactions, enabling seamless service delivery

The total number of Aadhaar authentication

transactions have crossed 150 billion (15,011.82 Cr) marks, making it a milestone moment in the journey of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and for the broader Aadhaar ecosystem.

The landmark highlights the extensive usage and utility of Aadhaar, and the growth of digital economy in the country. The cumulative number was achieved by the end of April 2025, since inception.

Aadhaar based authentication has been playing a stellar role in aiding ease of living, in effective welfare delivery, and voluntarily availing various services offered by service providers. ■

LAKHIMI MISTRI – A WOMEN MASON INITIATIVE UNDER PMAY-G LAUNCHED

In a significant milestone for rural development in Assam, Union Minister for Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan on 17 May attended the virtual Grihapravesh ceremony of 55,000 houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G) in Guwahati today. On this occasion Shri Chouhan announced the sanctioning of 3.76 lakh more houses under PMAY-G for the current financial year.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Chouhan emphasized the government's commitment to enhancing rural infrastructure and improving the quality of life for marginalized and underprivileged communities. The Union Minister praised Assam's remarkable achievement of completing 20 lakh houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G). As part of the event, PMAY-G beneficiaries who have successfully completed and moved into their new homes were felicitated by the minister. ■

Modi government resolves to eliminate Naxalism before 31st of March 2026: Amit Shah

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, said on 21 May 2025 that in a landmark achievement in the battle to eliminate Naxalism, the security forces have neutralized 27 dreaded Maoists, including Nambala Keshav Rao, alias Basavaraju, the general secretary of CPI-Maoist, in an operation in Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh. The Home Minister applauded the brave security forces and agencies for this major breakthrough.

In a post on X, Union Home Minister said, “A landmark achievement in the battle to eliminate Naxalism. Today, in an operation in Narayanpur, Chhattisgarh, our security forces have neutralized

PM MODI HAILS THE EFFORTS OF FORCES TO ELIMINATE THE MENACE OF MAOISM

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the efforts of forces, reaffirming Government's commitment to eliminate the menace of Maoism and ensuring a life of peace and progress for our people.

Responding to a post by Union Minister, Shri Amit Shah on X, Shri Modi said: “Proud of our forces for this remarkable success. Our Government is committed to eliminating the menace of Maoism and ensuring a life of peace and progress for our people.”



84 Naxalites have surrendered in Chhattisgarh, Telangana, and Maharashtra. The Modi government is resolved to eliminate Naxalism before the 31st of March 2026.”

Highlights

27 dreaded Maoists, including Nambala Keshav Rao, alias Basavaraju, the general secretary of CPI-Maoist, topmost leader, and the backbone of the Naxal movement. This is the first time in three decades of Bharat's battle against Naxalism that a general secretary-ranked leader has been neutralized by our forces. I applaud our brave security forces and agencies for this major breakthrough. Also glad to share that after completion of Operation Black Forest, 54 Naxalites have been arrested and

- In a landmark achievement in the battle to eliminate Naxalism, our security forces neutralized 27 dreaded Maoists in Chhattisgarh.
- The neutralized 27 dreaded Maoists includes Nambala Keshav Rao, alias Basavaraju, the general secretary of CPI-Maoist, topmost leader, and the backbone of the Naxal movement.
- This is the first time in three decades of Bharat's battle against Naxalism that a general secretary-ranked leader has been neutralized by our forces.
- Home Minister applauds brave security forces and agencies for this major breakthrough
- After completion of Operation Black Forest, 54 Naxalites have been arrested and 84 Naxalites have surrendered in Chhattisgarh, Telangana, and Maharashtra. ■



HOW GEM HAS TRANSFORMED INDIA'S PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

The platform has helped to weed out corruption and provide business opportunities to startups, MSMEs, women and businesses in small towns



PIYUSH GOYAL

The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has rapidly emerged as a world leader in providing a transparent, inclusive and efficient platform for public procurement. It connects more than 1.6 lakh government buyers with 23 lakh sellers and service providers, becoming a key engine of Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

In nine years since PM Modi launched the transformative digital initiative, GeM has revolutionised the way government buys goods and services by weeding out corruption and giving business opportunities to startups, MSMEs, women and businesses in small towns.

The user-friendly platform is a true gem that has replaced the notorious directorate general of supplies and disposals, which had opaque and uncompetitive systems that gave an unfair advantage to a privileged few. Befittingly, the commerce and industry ministry's new office, Vanijya Bhawan, has been built

on land once occupied by this obsolete body.

Since its inception in 2016, orders worth more than Rs. 13.4 lakh crore have been transacted on the GeM portal. Public procurement via the platform rose to a record Rs. 5.43 lakh crore in 2024-25. GeM aims to raise its annual business to Rs. 7 lakh crore in the current fiscal. GeM has undoubtedly emerged as a technological behemoth in the public procurement landscape. The magnitude of business transacted is likely to

Since its inception in 2016, orders worth more than Rs. 13.4 lakh crore have been transacted on the GeM portal. Public procurement via the platform rose to a record Rs. 5.43 lakh crore in 2024-25

make it the world's largest public procurement portal, surpassing well-established institutions like South Korea's KONEPS, in the near future.

GeM has given greater opportunities to honest businesses, created jobs, and

supported India's economic growth. In this context, GeM's significance goes far beyond its phenomenal growth in financial terms. GeM also serves as a critical engine of equitable growth in line with PM Modi's mission of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas. It provides startups, small businesses and women-led enterprises an easy path to showcase their products and services to government buyers without any intermediaries. By eliminating barriers to entry, the platform empowers small, home-grown businesses to participate in e-tenders and expand their businesses.

Guided by the principle of inclusivity, GeM has incorporated various strategic initiatives to support the growth of small businesses. These include systems to help government buyers identify and select products and services offered by MSEs and women-led businesses.

Dedicated storefronts on GeM like Startup Runway and Womaniya have effectively increased the visibility of these businesses as well as their share in public procurement. This has helped the government meet and exceed its goals of 25% procurement from Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) and 3% from



women-led businesses. Nearly 38% of the business transacted on GeM is awarded to MSEs, and procurement from women enterprises stands at nearly 4%.

As of April 2025, more than 30,000 startups have conducted business worth over Rs. 38,500 crore through GeM. Further, 181,000 Udyam-verified women entrepreneurs have secured orders worth nearly Rs. 50,000 crore on the GeM portal.

These changes have translated into savings ranging from 33% to 96% for certain order sizes. This remarkable reduction is a welcome change in line with the government's mission to enhance Ease of Doing Business and Ease of Living for the benefit of the citizens of the country.

An independent evaluation by the World Bank shows that buyers on GeM save about 9.75% on the median price. This has led to huge savings of an estimated Rs. 1.15

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lakh crore in public procurement using taxpayer money. GeM procurement helped state-run NTPC save Rs. 2,000 crore using reverse auction in a Rs. 20,000-crore contract. GeM has also helped transparent and cost-effective procurement of defence equipment, vaccines, drones and services like insurance.

In a major relief to small enterprises, GeM has significantly reduced its transaction charges recently. Orders exceeding Rs. 10 lakh will incur lower transaction

charge of 0.30%, while orders worth over Rs. 10 crore will incur a capped fee of Rs. 3 lakh — a significant decrease from the previous Rs. 72.50 lakh.

With a robust technological infrastructure, the platform is continuously evolving by offering new and easier ways to do business using technological solutions. GeM has deployed an AI-powered chatbot called GeMAI, a tool trained in conversational analytics and business intelligence. The smart chatbot is available in eight vernacular languages and is equipped with latest technologies including voice command functionality to further enhance Ease of Doing Business on GeM portal.

GeM also offers financing products for MSE sellers. This gives collateral-free financing in less than 10 minutes for eligible purchase orders. The platform has introduced GeM Sahay 2.0, which serves as a single window to secure loans up to Rs. 10 lakh. More initiatives and technological solutions are in the works to make the platform more inclusive and competitive.

The GeM portal stands as a pivotal engine in driving India's economic growth and development objectives of PM Modi. It will always run the extra mile to empower and uplift the marginalised sections of the society and promote entrepreneurship, while ensuring that taxpayer money is efficiently used to procure high-quality products at a competitive price. ■

(The writer is Union Commerce and Industry Minister)



OPERATION SINDOOR

India's Unyielding Strike Against Terror



TARUN CHUGH

Today, as I write these words, India stands taller than ever. Our tricolour flutters proudly, and a resounding confidence fills the air. Operation Sindoor has rewritten the rules of engagement for New India. This is our victory, the victory of 1.4 billion Indians who refused to bow down to terror. As a BJP karyakarta and a proud Indian, I feel immense pride in what our nation has achieved under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's bold leadership.

It all began with a heinous act of terror that shook our conscience. On April 22, bloodthirsty terrorists struck pilgrims and tourists in Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir, slaughtering innocent men, women, and even children simply because of their faith. Families on holiday were massacred before their loved ones' eyes. Twenty-eight of our brothers and sisters lost their lives in that barbaric attack. The nation was outraged and heartbroken. I still remember the pain and anger in every voice I heard after Pahalgam – a collective cry that said, "Enough is enough!" Prime Minister Modi channeled that anguish into resolve. He vowed in no uncertain terms that those behind this carnage would face the full might of India. No more

empty condemnations, no more restrained responses. This time, India would do whatever it takes to deliver justice.

The decision was made at the very top with absolute clarity. PM Modi's leadership has always been decisive, dynamic, and bold, but in this moment of crisis, he surpassed even himself. He gave our armed forces a free hand – complete operational freedom – to strike at

PM Modi's leadership has always been decisive, dynamic, and bold, but in this moment of crisis, he surpassed even himself. He gave our armed forces a free hand – complete operational freedom – to strike at terror wherever it lurked

terror wherever it lurked. Gone was the hesitancy of the past; there was zero tolerance for delay or dithering. For the first time in decades, India's response would not be limited to diplomatic notes or border skirmishes. We would take the fight straight into the enemy's lair. I was privy to the determination at the highest levels – the message was clear: every drop of innocent Indian blood spilled in Pahalgam would be avenged. The old playbook of "restraint" was thrown out. New India, under Modi ji, was about to

demonstrate a new doctrine: terror attacks on our soil will be treated as acts of war.

Thus began Operation Sindoor—a name symbolic of the sacred vermilion that terrorists tried to wipe off. In the early hours of May 7, our armed forces launched a bold strike deep inside Pakistan and PoJK. The Indian Air Force carried out precision airstrikes on terror camps in Bahawalpur, Muridke, Muzaffarabad, and other locations. These were the epicentres of global jihad, churning out terrorists for decades. That night, our missiles turned these camps into rubble.

Pakistan reacted with panic and cowardice. Instead of dismantling terror networks, it responded with artillery and rocket fire targeting Indian civilians. But we were prepared. Our air defence systems neutralised every intrusion. Not a single Indian military installation was harmed. The Pakistani response failed miserably.

Reports came pouring in: over 100 dreaded terrorists were eliminated in that first wave alone. Among them were several top commanders who had been living lavishly under Pakistan's protection, plotting evil against India for decades. They had grown complacent, thinking they were safe across the border. Operation Sindoor proved them terribly wrong – not one of those terrorists was beyond India's long reach. Think about it: those who orchestrated



the killing of our people were taken out in one masterstroke. Justice was served, cold and precise. In my many years in public life, I have never seen such a swift and righteous retribution.

Pakistan's reaction, as expected, was a mix of shock, denial, and mindless aggression. For the first few hours, their generals seemed dumbfounded – they couldn't believe India had the nerve and capability to carry out such deep strikes. There was chaos in their ranks. But soon their habitual cowardice kicked in: instead of accepting reality and dismantling the terror networks that had provoked our wrath, Pakistan decided to lash out blindly. In a desperate attempt to "retaliate," they began firing artillery and rockets across the Line of Control and the international border. But here's the stark difference: India targeted terrorists, while Pakistan, true to its cowardly nature, targeted innocent civilians and our forward villages.

Then came the second phase. On May 10, our forces struck again—this time targeting Pakistan's military infrastructure. Air Bases at Sargodha, Skardu, Jacobabad, and Bholari were hit. The Nur Khan Airbase near Islamabad, their pride, was struck, sending a message: no place is safe if you support terror. Pakistan's defence spine

was shattered. Their F-16s were grounded. Their generals were in shock.

Having failed to hurt us militarily, Pakistan began to panic. But India was not done yet. We had dealt a mighty blow to terrorist infrastructure, and now it was time to make sure Pakistan's ability

Operation Sindoor is more than a military operation. It is the declaration of a confident, assertive India. Under Modi ji, India has shown that it will strike first, strike hard, and strike where it hurts. We have exposed the farce of nuclear blackmail. We have drawn a new red line

to sustain conflict was crippled. Enter Operation Sindoor's second wave – an even more devastating round of strikes that truly broke Pakistan's defensive spine and the last remnants of its will to fight. In the predawn darkness of May 10, while Pakistan was still licking its wounds, the Indian Armed Forces – primarily our Air Force – executed a series of precision attacks on Pakistan's own military assets. If the first strike was against terrorists, the second was a warning shot straight at the

Pakistani military: stop this madness or we dismantle your toys.

Our targets in this wave were carefully chosen to deliver a knockout punch. Across Pakistan, several key Air Force bases and installations were pinpointed. Sargodha, the pride of the Pakistan Air Force and home to their F-16 fighters, was struck with heavy munition, leaving its runways crumpled and several aircraft destroyed in their hangars. Skardu airbase up in the northern region, which Pakistan uses to threaten us in Ladakh, was similarly hammered. In the south, bases like Jacobabad and Sukkur that they thought were safe in the Sindh province were not spared either. Near Karachi, the Bholari airfield – a relatively new base they boasted about – was put out of commission. Each of these bases saw explosions lighting up the night, courtesy of our Sukhoi and Mirage fighters launching standoff missiles from within Indian airspace and our long-range artillery across the border. Within 20-25 minutes, multiple Pakistani Air Bases had been effectively crippled.

Let me highlight one particularly bold strike that still sends shivers down the enemy's spine: our forces targeted the Nur Khan airbase at Chaklala, Rawalpindi – virtually in the backyard of Islamabad. This base is adjacent to Pakistan's prestigious military HQ and the nerve center of their nuclear command. By hitting it, India conveyed an unmistakable message: even your most sensitive installations are vulnerable if you abet terror. The strike caused significant damage to infrastructure there. I am sure, at that moment,

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BUILDING A NEW BASTAR



VISHNU DEO SAI

For nearly four decades, Bastar lived under the shadow of left-wing extremism. Today, it stands on the cusp of transformation. Fear is giving way to hope, driven by targeted welfare programmes for the people of the tribal heartland and sustained by strategic security operations.

Rooted in the tribal heritage of Chhattisgarh, our government draws inspiration from the strength and rich culture of its people to build a peaceful and prosperous region. Our goal is clear. To eradicate decades-long extremism by March next year and bring Bastar's people into the mainstream of development. Our government has been prioritising direct engagement with the people of the region since we assumed office in 2023. I have visited Bastar 77 times so far, primarily to give shape to schemes that address local needs.

These visits are more than administrative duties. They are heartfelt efforts to walk alongside villagers, listen to their aspirations, and ensure progress reaches their doorsteps. The trust of Bastar's majority tribal population in the government has increased after they have seen the administration, led by one of their own, deliver tangible results. This connection has convinced communities that my

government is committed to action and to healing the wounds of the conflict.

Once heavy with the acrid smell of gun-powder, Bastar's air today carries the fragrance of mahua flowers, a cherished symbol of tribal life. Markets that were once deserted are today vibrant hubs of commerce. Schools, shut down by insurgents, are now welcoming students. More than 50 primary schools have been reopened and seven new ones established in Sukma Roads, once under the grip of extremists, are now bustling with life.

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Bastar's return to normalcy and develop the establishment of a branch of the Indian Overseas Bank in Jagargunda, a remote and historically volatile region that has faced decades of insurgency. This initiative will provide access to banking facilities for residents across 12 villages.

Celebration of traditional tribal festivals like Bastar Pandum, along with the Bastar Olympics, testify to the region's desire to embrace development while cherishing its

heritage. This transformation is a result of the collaboration between the Centre and the state.

In the past 17 months, 1,355 extremists have surrendered and have opted for rehabilitation and a better life. Around 1,429 others have been apprehended, and more than 420 extremists have been neutralised. The network of extremists has weakened substantially. The state's police report notes a 40 per cent reduction in violent incidents.

Chhattisgarh's new policy-it guarantees rehabilitation within 120 days-offers vocational training and financial aid to those who lay down arms and helps them join main stream society. Our government has prioritised the delivery of essential services to the region's remotest villages. Additional forces will be deployed to ensure the safety of the local people and the unhindered execution of development works.

The Niyad Nella Nar Yojana, "Aapka Accha Gaon in the local dialect, launched in February 2024 with a Rs 20-crore budget, brings government schemes directly to tribal households in 130 Maoist-affected villages. It provides access to healthcare, education, security, and infrastructure through 61 security camps-turned-facilitation centres. Forest Department offices, closed for 25 years, have been reopened in Jagargunda and four other places, restoring governance in Bastar's core forest zones. Under the PM Awas Yojana, over 50,000 pucca houses have been

built, offering tribal families safe and dignified living spaces. The Jal Jeevan Mission has provided clean tap water to approximately 12 lakh households, improving health and quality of life.

Recognising the importance of forest-based livelihoods, our government has increased the prices of tendu patta is used for bidi production—from Rs. 4000 to Rs. 5,500 per standard bag. These efforts are tailored to the needs of Bastar's diverse tribal communities, including Gond, Maria and Muria. Through initiatives like the Jan Ashirwad Yatras and public outreach campaigns, our government has heard people's grievances. Significant funds have been allocated through the Bastar Development Authority to drive growth across the region, including for Kondagaon, Bastar, Kanker, Bijapur and Narayanpur. Additional resources have been provided to Sukma district.

Our government is committed to building a future

Our government is committed to building a future where Bastar thrives as a hub of opportunity. Over 300 km of new roads are under construction, connecting remote villages to markets and service and fostering economic growth

where Bastar thrives as a hub of opportunity. Over 300 km of new roads are under construction, connecting remote villages to markets and service and fostering economic growth. Industrial Training Institutes and skill development centres are training Bastar's youth to succeed in a modern economy. By promoting ecotourism and showcasing the region's rich tribal culture, our government aims to

create sustainable livelihoods while inviting the world to witness Bastar's beauty.

Reducing violence, empowering communities and building infrastructure are steps towards a Bastar that stands tall with dignity and opportunity. The day is not far when the stain of left-wing extremism will be erased from the region, and its tribal communities will celebrate development and embrace a peaceful and prosperous future. ■

(The writer is Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh)

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Pakistan's top brass in Islamabad must have felt the ground slip from beneath their feet. For decades they hid behind their nuclear threat, believing India's hands were tied. That illusion was shattered on May 10. Nowhere in Pakistan was safe from India's reach – not even the locations they thought we would never dare to target. This psychological shock was perhaps even greater than the physical damage. Pakistan's generals finally realised that India had called their bluff emphatically.

It was at this point that Pakistan begged for a ceasefire. The same country that once issued threats now pleaded for peace. But PM Modi was clear—India had achieved its objectives, but this was only a suspension, not a termination. Any future terror attack will be seen as an act of war. Our doctrine has changed.

Operation Sindoor is a new strategic doctrine in action. We do not react; we act. We do not tolerate; we eliminate. This is New India. Our Armed Forces displayed unmatched bravery, precision, and professionalism. Our Rafale pilots flew into hostile skies. Our missile units targeted with surgical accuracy. Our Navy ensured maritime dominance. This was a joint triumph.

PM Modi visited Adampur Air Force Station to salute

our warriors. He roared "Bharat Mata ki Jai!" and said, "When our soldiers chant this, enemies tremble." He praised our forces for destroying not just terror camps, but Pakistan's audacity. He made it clear: any future attack will be met with decisive force.

The toolkit cabal—the left-liberal nexus—predictably tried to undermine our victory. They questioned the need for force, demanded evidence, and parroted enemy propaganda. But the nation saw through their lies. The people stood with our forces and our leadership. Patriotism drowned their propaganda.

Operation Sindoor is more than a military operation. It is the declaration of a confident, assertive India. Under Modi ji, India has shown that it will strike first, strike hard, and strike where it hurts. We have exposed the farce of nuclear blackmail. We have drawn a new red line. Terror and talks cannot go together. Terror and trade cannot go together. Blood and water cannot flow together.

To our soldiers, we offer our eternal gratitude. To PM Modi, we owe our national pride. To our enemies, we have sent a clear message: never again. ■

Bharat Mata ki Jai. Jai Hind.

(The writer is National General Secretary of BJP)



COUNTING CASTE IS INCLUSIVE HINDUTVA



GURU PRAKASH

ON APRIL 30, the NDA government announced its decision to collect caste data in the upcoming national Census. The move has surprised people in political circles and analysts alike. In a country where caste runs deep, through both daily life and the political calculus, this step marks not just a policy shift but a defining moment in modern Indian governance.

The Narendra Modi government's decision is timely, bold and forward-looking. It has received bipartisan support, especially in my home state of Bihar. Babasaheb Ambedkar once said that India had yet to attain social democracy. The government's move is a tribute to Ambedkar's vision and mission. It is a move that will enable and ensure social justice and cohesion.

Including caste data in the Census isn't just a bureaucratic decision. It is a longpending transformation. The last time India conducted a detailed caste census was in 1931. That was under British rule. Since then, we have relied on outdated estimates, political guesswork and patchy surveys. The 2011 Socio-economic and Caste Census

(SECC), started under the UPA government, could have filled the gap — but it was bogged down by inconsistencies, underreported data, and, in the end, was never officially released. It was a missed opportunity, and perhaps a reflection of political hesitation to confront uncomfortable truths.

Neither Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, nor Manmohan Singh could make such a move. When PM Modi came to power in 2014, he asserted in his speeches that the deprived sections of

The Modi government's intervention will now ensure a systematic approach to the caste census, which is in accordance with Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's vision of empowering the last citizen in the village

society were at the centre of this government. The announcement of the caste census reaffirms that stand. It is important to recall and acknowledge that PM Modi comes from an OBC community in Gujarat and, with tireless hard work, he rose to be the CM and was subsequently elected PM of the country.

For nearly a century, caste enumeration has been absent from the Census. The blame falls squarely on the Congress party's lackadaisical attitude

towards social justice. Congress has historically been against such important policy decisions because it is not genuinely committed to mending social fissures. Congress and its allies are only interested in serving their personal and familial interests. Their invocations of social justice are marred by lies and hypocrisy. It is also important to remember that Congress's SECC had its fair share of glaring flaws.

The Modi government's intervention will now ensure a systematic approach to the caste census, which is in accordance with Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's vision of empowering the last citizen in the village. Moving beyond state-level divides on the issue, the central government will ensure transparency in bringing out a Census that facilitates human-centric development and helps society come together. It will reaffirm that we are one. Congress must be reminded of the way it has paid short shrift to tall Dalit leaders like B R Ambedkar and Babu Jagjivan Ram when party leaders try to push their false propaganda of championing Dalit empowerment and assertion.

Adding caste data to the next Census isn't just a bureaucratic move. It's a political and moral milestone. It challenges the Opposition's claim that the BJP is out of step with caste-based inequities.

The recent by-election results in Uttar Pradesh tell a compelling

story. The BJP'S mix of inclusive Hindutva and grounded caste outreach struck a chord with voters — undercutting the narrative that only caste arithmetic wins elections. The Opposition's belief that a caste census would automatically tilt the balance proved off the mark.

The Modi government's resolve to empower the subaltern has been discernible throughout its tenure. Be it accommodating those from the SC, ST, and OBC communities in the Union Cabinet or ensuring India got its first tribal woman President or ensuring representation for subaltern leaders in governments by appointing them as chief ministers or deputy CMs. Its actions show the country that it not only cares for subalterns but is also resolute in enabling them to occupy the

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highest echelons of power.

To top it all, Samajwadi Party supremo Akhilesh Yadav — Congress's ally in UP — was seen in a poster where half the frame was his face, the other half Babasaheb Ambedkar. The Samajwadi Party and its leaders clearly have little sympathy for Dalits and their icons and have merely used them as token vote

banks.

PM Modi has led and shown the way. Seventy-eight years after Independence, India is poised to take its rightful place amidst global uncertainties. The caste census comes as a policy imperative that can be showcased to the world, to display that India is uniquely positioned to solve deep-rooted social divisions. While this will not happen overnight, we are making rapid strides.

I hope the Modi government uses to its full advantage Web 3.0 technologies in the process of conducting the Census, which will show the world India's technological ability. With caste enumeration, India's policymakers will be able to shape public policies that improve the lived reality of citizens. ■

(The writer is National Spokesperson of BJP)

PM MODI ADDRESSES THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON SPACE EXPLORATION (GLEX) 2025

INDIA'S SPACE VISION IS ROOTED IN THE ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY OF 'VASUDHAIVA KUTUMBAKAM': PM

Prim Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Global Conference on Space Exploration (GLEX) 2025 via video conferencing on May 7, 2025. Welcoming the distinguished delegates, scientists, and astronauts from across the globe, he highlighted India's remarkable space journey at the GLEX 2025, stating that, "space is not merely a destination but a declaration of curiosity, courage, and collective progress".

He emphasized that India's space achievements reflect this spirit, from launching a small rocket in 1963 to becoming the first nation to land near the Moon's South Pole. "Indian rockets carry more than payloads—they carry the dreams of 1.4 billion Indians", he remarked, stating that India's space advancements are significant scientific milestones and proof that the human spirit can defy gravity. He

recalled India's historic achievement of reaching Mars on its first attempt in 2014. He highlighted that Chandrayaan-1 helped discover water on the Moon, Chandrayaan-2 provided the highest-resolution images of the lunar surface, and Chandrayaan-3 furthered understanding of the Moon's South Pole. "India developed cryogenic engines in record time, launched 100 satellites in a single mission, and successfully deployed over 400 satellites for 34 nations using Indian launch vehicles", he pointed out, underlining India's latest accomplishment—docking two satellites in space this year—calling it a major step forward in space exploration.

Shri Modi reaffirmed that India's space journey is not about competing with others but about reaching greater heights together. He emphasized the collective goal of exploring space for the benefit of humanity. ■

UDAN SCHEME: CONNECTING INDIA, ONE FLIGHT AT A TIME

The dream of affordable air travel for the common citizen began to take tangible form with the first UDAN flight. This landmark flight took off on April 27, 2017, connecting the serene hills of Shimla to the bustling metropolis of Delhi

The sky, long seen as a symbol of aspiration, was once an unattainable dream for many in India. To bridge this gap, the Government of India, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, launched the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) – UDAN (“Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik”) on October 21, 2016. Rooted in the Prime Minister’s vision that even a common man in slippers should be able to afford air travel, UDAN aims to democratize aviation by making flying accessible and affordable for all. Implemented by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, this flagship scheme has since transformed India’s regional connectivity landscape.

The dream of affordable air travel for the common citizen began to take tangible form with the first UDAN flight. This landmark flight took off on April 27, 2017, connecting the serene hills of Shimla to the bustling metropolis of Delhi. On April 27, 2025, this landmark event, which marked the beginning of a transformative journey in Indian aviation, opening up the skies to countless citizens, will complete 8 years.

The UDAN scheme was conceptualised under the National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP) 2016, with a 10-year vision, to connect Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities through a market-driven yet financially supported model. The scheme incentivised airlines through concessions and Viability Gap Funding (VGF) to operate on regional routes, ensuring affordable fares and improved accessibility.

Components of UDAN Scheme

- Viability Gap Funding (VGF): Financial support to airlines to ensure affordable fares.
- Airfare Cap to ensure affordability.
- Collaborative Governance between Centre, States,



Airport Authority of India (AAI), and private airport operators.

Stakeholder Incentives:

The government has implemented several supportive measures to attract airlines to operate flights in less lucrative markets:

Airport Operators: They waive landing and parking charges for RCS flights, and the Airports Authority of India (AAI) does not levy Terminal Navigation



From Inception to Expansion since its launch in 2016, the UDAN scheme has evolved through multiple rounds, each expanding India's regional air connectivity scope and scale

Landing Charges (TNLC) on these flights. Moreover, a discounted Route Navigation and Facilitation Charge (RNFC) is applied.

Central Government: For the first three years, excise duty on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) purchased at RCS airports is capped at 2%. Airlines are also encouraged to enter code-sharing agreements to expand their reach.

State Governments: States have committed to reducing VAT on ATF to 1% or less for ten years and providing essential services such as security, fire services, and utility services at reduced rates.

This collaborative framework has fostered an environment where airlines can thrive while serving regions that have long been overlooked.

Evolution of the UDAN Scheme: From Inception to Expansion since its launch in 2016, the UDAN scheme has evolved through multiple rounds, each expanding India's regional air connectivity scope and scale. Below is a summary of the key phases:

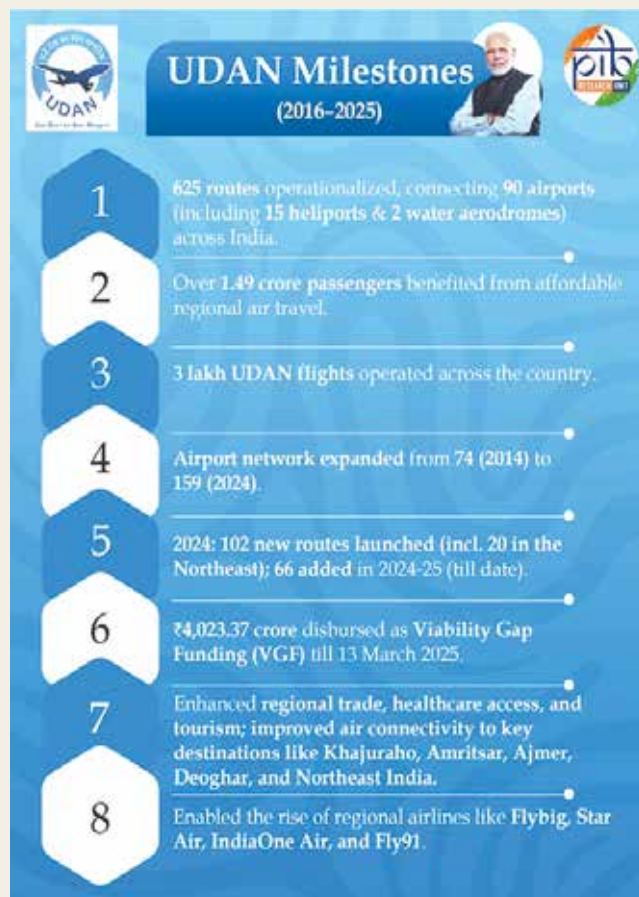
UDAN 1.0 (2017)

- As UDAN entered its 9th year in October 2025,

the scheme has achieved significant milestones

- Key Innovations and the Road Ahead for Regional Connectivity

UDAN is more than a policy—it's a transformative movement that has redefined the aviation narrative in India. By bridging the skies between Bharat and India, the scheme has made the dream of affordable air travel a reality for millions. It has not only brought remote regions onto the national aviation map but has also spurred local economies, boosted tourism, and generated employment across the country. As India marches towards becoming a global aviation hub, UDAN



stands tall as a symbol of inclusive growth, resilience, and visionary governance, carrying the aspirations of a new India, one flight at a time. ■

‘ONE WORLD FOR HEALTH’, RESONATES WITH INDIA’S VISION FOR GLOBAL HEALTH: PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the 78th Session of the World Health Assembly in Geneva on 20 May 2025 via videoconferencing. Addressing the gathering, he extended warm greetings to all attendees, highlighting this year’s theme, ‘One World for Health,’ and emphasized that it aligns with India’s vision for global health. He recalled his address at the 2023 World Health Assembly, where he had spoken about ‘One Earth, One Health.’ He remarked that the future of a healthy world depends on inclusion, an integrated vision, and collaboration.

Emphasizing that inclusion is at the core of India’s health reforms, Shri Modi highlighted Ayushman Bharat, the world’s largest health insurance scheme, which covers 580 million people and provides free treatment. The programme was recently expanded to cover all Indians above the age of 70 years. He noted India’s extensive network of thousands of health and wellness centers that facilitate early screening and detection of diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and hypertension. He also underlined the role of thousands of public pharmacies that provide high-quality medicines at significantly lower prices. Highlighting the role of technology in improving health outcomes, Shri Modi underscored India’s digital initiatives like the digital platform that tracks the vaccination of pregnant women and children and the unique digital health identity system, which is helping integrate benefits, insurance, records, and information. He remarked that with telemedicine, no one is too far from a doctor. He highlighted India’s free telemedicine service, which has enabled over 340 million consultations. Reflecting on the positive impact of India’s health initiatives, he noted a significant decline in Out-of-Pocket Expenditure as a percentage of Total Health Expenditure. Simultaneously, he emphasized that Government Health Expenditure has increased considerably.

“The health of the world depends on how well we care for the most vulnerable”, underlined the Prime Minister, highlighting that the Global South is particularly impacted by health challenges and stressed that India’s approach provides replicable, scalable, and



Global South is particularly impacted by health challenges and stressed that India’s approach provides replicable, scalable, and sustainable models. He expressed India’s willingness to share its learnings and best practices with the world, especially with the Global South

sustainable models. He expressed India’s willingness to share its learnings and best practices with the world, especially with the Global South. Looking ahead to the 11th International Day of Yoga in June, the Prime Minister encouraged global participation. He highlighted this year’s theme, ‘Yoga for One Earth, One Health,’ and extended an invitation to all countries, emphasizing India’s role as the birthplace of Yoga.

Shri Modi extended his congratulations to the World Health Organization (WHO) and all member states on the successful negotiations of the INB treaty. He described it as a shared commitment to fighting future pandemics through greater global cooperation. He emphasized the importance of building a healthy planet while ensuring that no one is left behind. Concluding his address, the Prime Minister invoked a timeless prayer from the Vedas, he reflected on how, thousands of years ago, India’s sages prayed for a world where all would be healthy, happy, and free from disease. He expressed hope that this vision would unite the world. ■

OPERATION SINDOOR HAS MADE EVERY INDIAN PROUD: PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 25 March 2025 in his 122nd Episode of monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat', highlighted the valour displayed by our forces during Operation Sindoor and a new confidence and enthusiasm to the fight against terrorism across the world and Excerpts:



Today the whole country is united against terrorism; filled up with anger and resolve. Today every Indian holds the same resolve that we have to end terrorism. The valour displayed by our forces during Operation Sindoor has made every Indian proud. The precision and accuracy with which our forces destroyed the terrorist hideouts across the border is amazing. Operation Sindoor has lent a new confidence and enthusiasm to the fight against terrorism across the world.

Operation Sindoor is not just a military mission; it is a picture of our resolve, courage and a transforming India and this picture has infused the whole country with a sense of patriotism and has painted it in the hues of the tricolour. You must have seen that in many cities, villages and small towns of the country, Tiranga Yatras were organised. Thousands of people came out holding the tricolour, to pay their respects & honour to the country's armed forces. In many a city, a large number of youth came together to become Civil Defence Volunteers... and we saw that the videos from Chandigarh went viral. Poems were being written on social media, songs of resolve were being sung. Little children were creating paintings that carried great messages hidden in them.

I had gone to Bikaner just three days ago. There, children had gifted me one such painting. 'Operation Sindoor' has influenced the people of the country so much that many families have made it a part of their lives. In Katihar in Bihar, Kushinagar in UP, and many other cities, children born during that period have been named 'Sindoor'.

Our soldiers destroyed terror bases; it was their indomitable courage, along with the power of weapons, equipment and technology made in India. It also included the resolve of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'. The sweat of our engineers, our technicians, in fact,

Operation Sindoor is not just a military mission; it is a picture of our resolve, courage and a transforming India and this picture has infused the whole country with a sense of patriotism and has painted it in the hues of the tricolour

that of everyone... is involved in this victory. After this campaign, a renewed energy is visible in the whole country regarding 'Vocal for Local'. Many things touch the heart.

Apart from this, recently Khelo India Games were a big hit. Five cities of Bihar hosted the Khelo India games. Matches of different categories were held there. The number of athletes who reached there from all over India was more than five thousand. These athletes have praised the Sporting Spirit of Bihar and the warmth shown by the people of Bihar.

The 20th of May was celebrated as 'World Bee Day'; a day which reminds us that honey is not just sweetness; it is also an example of health, self-employment and self-reliance. During the last 11 years, a sweet revolution has taken place in beekeeping in India. 10-11 years ago, honey production in India was around 70-75 thousand metric tons in a year. Today it has increased to around 1.25 lakh metric tons. That is, there has been an increase of about 60% in honey production.

This change is not only visible in figures; it is also clearly visible on the ground level in the villages. There is an example of Korea district of Chhattisgarh, where tribal farmers have created a pure organic honey brand named 'Sonhani'. Today that honey is being sold on many online portals including GeM, that is, the hard work of the village is now going global. ■

NDA Sweeps Panchayat Polls In Assam

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has secured a sweeping victory in the 2025 Assam Panchayat elections, consolidating its political presence in the state.

The alliance secured 300 out of 376 Zilla Parishad seats, capturing more than 76 per cent of the vote share. This landslide win not only reflects the alliance's widespread grassroots support but also underscores the growing confidence of the electorate in its governance model. The ruling alliance also fared impressively in the Anchalik Panchayat elections, winning 1,436 out of 2,192 seats across the state. With a substantial vote share of 66 per cent in these local bodies, the NDA has demonstrated its strong foothold at the village and block levels.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the people of Assam for this thumping victory and said, "Gratitude to the people of Assam for the unequivocal support for NDA's development agenda. Our efforts to boost Assam's progress will continue with full vigour. I would like to appreciate all NDA Karyakartas who worked among the people and effectively conveyed our development agenda."

The BJP National President and Union Minister Shri JP Nadda extended his warm gratitude to the people of Assam and said, "My heartfelt gratitude to the people of Assam for trusting the NDA in the Assam Panchayat Elections 2025. This mandate is a testament to the people's confidence in the development-oriented policies and the remarkable progress Assam is witnessing under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodi ji. I congratulate CM Shri @himantabiswa ji, State BJP President Shri @DilipSaikia4Bjp ji, and all the dedicated @BJP4Assam karyakartas for their exceptional contributions in securing this victory.

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah in an X post said, "Gratitude to the people of Assam for granting the NDA a historic victory in the Panchayat Election 2025. This victory is an endorsement of PM @narendramodi Ji's people-centric policies that have brought about a new era of peace and prosperity in Assam. My heartfelt congratulations to CM @himantabiswa Ji, Assam BJP President @DilipSaikia4Bjp Ji, and the @BJP4Assam Karyakartas for their dedicated efforts to carry Modi Ji's message of development door-to-door." "Together, we will build a developed Assam for all," he added. ■



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PM Shri Narendra Modi at the foundation laying, inauguration and dedication to the nation various projects at Bhuj, in Gujarat on May 26, 2025



PM Shri Narendra Modi receives warm welcome by people at Gandhinagar in Gujarat on May 27, 2025



PM Shri Narendra Modi attends the Rising North East Investors Summit in Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on May 23, 2025



PM Shri Narendra Modi receives a warm welcome during the inauguration of various projects in Bikaner, Rajasthan on May 22, 2025



PM Shri Narendra Modi in a group photograph during the 10th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog, in New Delhi on May 24, 2025



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