

# KAMAL SANDESH

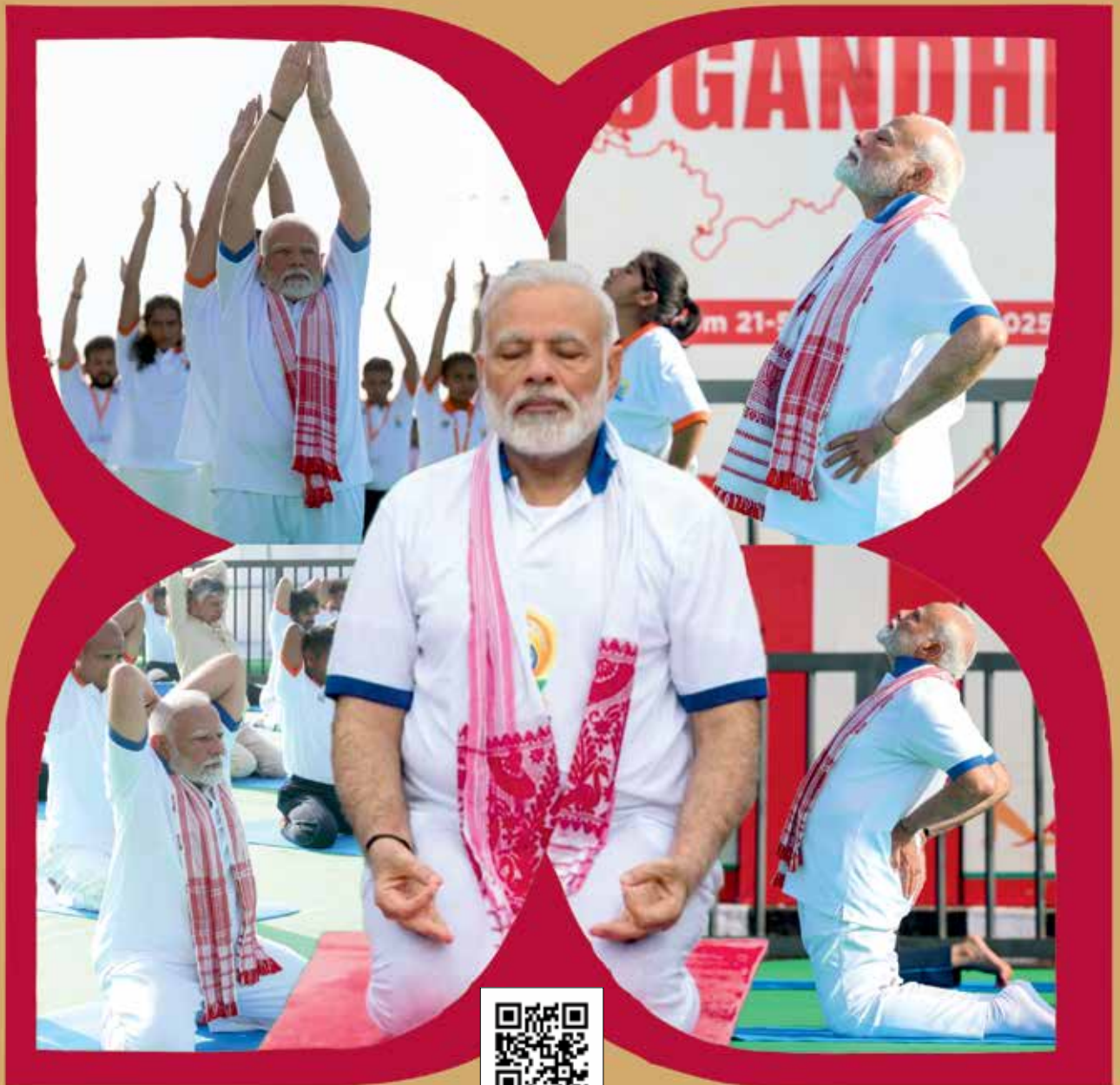
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**'EMERGENCY: A DEEP BLOW TO  
THE SOUL OF THE CONSTITUTION'**



## 'YOGA IS FOR EVERYONE AND FOR ALL'

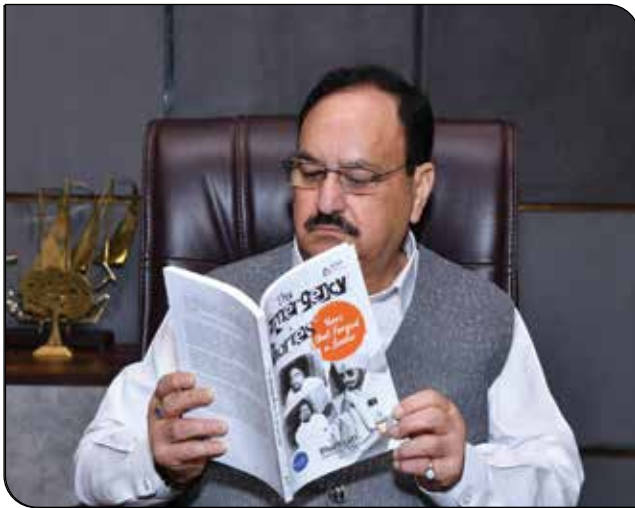




BJP National President & Union Minister Shri JP Nadda, BJP National General Secretary (Org.) Shri BL Santhosh and other leaders paying floral tributes to Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee on his Balidan Diwas in New Delhi on 23 June 2025



BJP National President & Union Minister Shri JP Nadda participating on the occasion of 11th International Yoga Day at Kartavya Path, New Delhi on 21 June 2025



BJP National President & Union Minister Shri JP Nadda reading the "Emergency Diaries: Years that Forged a Leader" published by BlueKraft on 25 June 2025. The book offers a compelling insight into the early years of Shri Narendra Modi and his fight against the tyrannical Emergency



Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah and other senior leaders unveiling the "Emergency Diaries: Years that Forged a Leader" on "Sanvidhan Hatya Diwas" in New Delhi on 25 June 2025



Madhya Pradesh BJP welcoming Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah at the inaugural session of Madhya Pradesh State BJP MP-MLA Training Camp in Pachmarhi on 14 June 2025



Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh participating at the concluding session of the three-day training camp for BJP MPs and MLAs of the state, organized in Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh on 16 June 2025

## EDITOR

DR. SHIV SHAKTI NATH BAKSHI

## ASSOCIATE EDITORS

RAM PRASAD TRIPATHY  
VIKASH ANAND

## CREATIVE EDITORS

VIKAS SAINI  
BHOLA ROY

## DIGITAL MEDIA

RAJEEV KUMAR  
VIPUL SHARMA

## SUBSCRIPTION & CIRCULATION

SATISH KUMAR

## E-MAIL

MAIL.KAMALSANDESH@GMAIL.COM

MAIL@KAMALSANDESH.ORG

PHONE: 011-23381428, FAX: 011-23387887

WEBSITE: WWW.KAMALSANDESH.ORG

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## SOCIAL MEDIA CORNER

**@Narendramodi**

Yoga brings people together, once again! Compliments to the people of Andhra Pradesh for the manner in which they have strengthened the movement to make Yoga a part of their lives. The #Yogandhra initiative and the programme in Visakhapatnam, which I also took part in, will always motivate several people towards good health and well-being. (21 June, 2025)



**@JPNadda**

The initiative to celebrate Yoga Day worldwide was taken by the esteemed Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji in 2014 at the UN. With the support of over 170 countries, every year June 21 is celebrated as International Yoga Day. #YogaDay



(21 June, 2025)

**@AmitShah**

The Modi government is continuously moving forward in the direction of freeing India from left-wing extremism, and one of the main reasons for this is strong coordination with the states. It is precisely because of this seamless coordination that security forces are achieving success against Naxalites. Today, in Nava Raipur, a review meeting was held with the DGP/ADGP and senior officials of Chhattisgarh, as well as Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, and Odisha, to uproot Naxalism and ensure the development of every state. (21 June, 2025)



**@Rajnathsingh**

Congratulations to @DivyaDeshmukh05 on her remarkable victory over World No. 1 Hou Yifan in the Blitz semifinal at the World Team Blitz Championships. Her performance reflects exceptional talent, focus and resilience. Wishing her continued success in the world of chess. (19 June, 2025)



(19 June, 2025)

**@B.L Santhosh**

Primary membership of @BJP4India has crossed 14Cr mark. A great effort every worker at booth level. Though we have stopped mega macro campaign, booth level activity has made it possible to cross 14Cr membership. Congratulations #SanghatanParv2024 (21 June, 2025)



**@Manohar Lal**

Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji, India is showcasing its engineering capabilities on a global stage. Structures like the Chenab Bridge, Atal Tunnel, and Bogibeel Bridge reflect India's engineering excellence. In the last 11 years, infrastructure development has connected every corner of India with one another. (11 June, 2025)

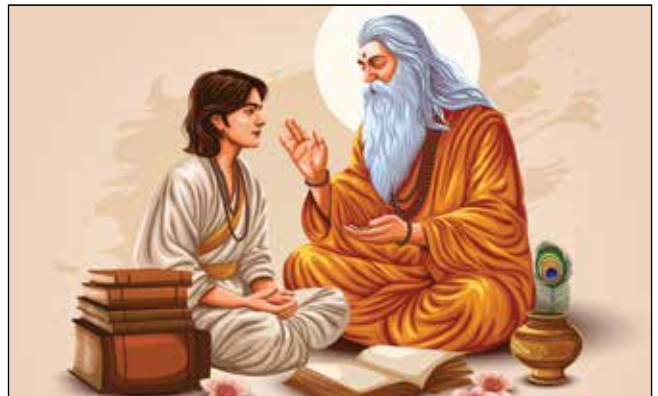


(11 June, 2025)



**Emergency...**

The nation can never forget this cruelty of Indira Gandhi



**KAMAL SANDESH PARIVAR**

wishes a very happy

**GURU PURNIMA** (10 JULY)

to all of its readers



# EMERGENCY - WHEN DEMOCRACY WAS MURDERED!

As the world celebrates the 11th International Yoga Day, the importance of yoga is now increasingly accepted and acknowledged by the people across the globe. The growing popularity of yoga can be understood from its becoming a mass movement in many parts of the world. The challenges which modern society poses to humanity, yoga provides solutions in the form of spiritual, moral, mental and physical progress along with preventive care and the overall well-being of any individual. It is an ancient gift of India to the world for the welfare of humanity. It was really heartening to see that on the appeal of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, 177 nations, the highest so far, co-sponsored the resolution in the UNO to declare 21st June as International Yoga Day every year. A resolution which was co-sponsored by 177 nations was supported by 193 nations, which was unanimous and a record. While the entire world has been celebrating International Yoga Day with immense enthusiasm and zeal, some people in India are still not comfortable with this huge national achievement solely for political reasons. While such political mindsets are continuously finding themselves marginalised politically, the attempts to popularise yoga are bearing fruit as people are including it in their daily routine.

**It was really heartening to see that on the appeal of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, 177 nations, the highest so far, co-sponsored the resolution in the UNO to declare 21st June as International Yoga Day every year**

The nation has observed the 50th anniversary of Emergency as 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas'. The name, 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas', appropriately describes the dark pages of the post-independence history of India when democracy was murdered and dictatorship was sought to be imposed on the nation. The fundamental rights were suspended, opposition leaders were incarcerated, censorship was imposed on media, the judiciary was coerced into silence, the constitution was trampled upon and the parliament was put under siege. It was a well-known fact that the emergency was imposed to bail out the then Prime Minister Smt Indira Gandhi, whose election was declared null and void by the Allahabad High Court while barring her from contesting any election for the next six years. As no relief was granted from the Supreme Court, Indira Gandhi responded by imposing emergency on the country. During those dark days, the country turned into a large prison as senior opposition leaders, including Jai Prakash

Narayan, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Lal Krishna Advani, George Fernandes, Chaudhary Charan Singh, Morarji Desai, Nanaji Deshmukh, Madhu Dandavate and Arun Jaitley were incarcerated. According to one estimate, more than 3 lakh people were arrested across the nation, and more than 30,000 people were jailed under draconian MISA. Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) was banned. As the heroic struggle for the restoration of democracy spread across the nation, people opposing the emergency had to pay a heavy price, and many even lost their lives while resisting the brutal suppression of democracy in the country. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi went underground to mobilise support against the emergency. It was the result of united and heroic struggle by the democratic voices in the country that democracy was restored and Congress under the leadership of Indira Gandhi was defeated in the elections.

While the democracy was restored as a result of the unyielding and uncompromising fight by all the democratic voices of the country, the nation is still facing the challenges of an anti-democratic and dictatorial mindset in public life. It is highly unfortunate to note that many political parties have become highly undemocratic in their functioning and become fiefdoms of certain dynasts, families and groups of self-seekers. They want to capture political power to impose their dictatorship on the country again. 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' reminds the nation of such attempts in the past and educates the coming generation about the struggles and sacrifices required to keep democracy alive in the country. Let the nation be prepared to guard democracy, its lofty values and ideals and defeat any tendency towards dictatorship in the future. ■



## Yoga is for everyone and for all, Beyond Boundaries, Beyond Backgrounds, Beyond age or ability: PM

The tranquil shores of Visakhapatnam witnessed a historic gathering as Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led the 11th International Day of Yoga (IDY) celebrations on 21 June 2025.

With over 3 lakh participants assembling at the venue, the event became the world's largest yoga gathering, underscoring yoga's universal appeal and India's leadership in promoting holistic health and well-being. Addressing the vast crowd and millions more globally, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi highlighted the essence of yoga as a unifying force. "Yoga is to unite," he reiterated, emphasizing how the practice transcends boundaries of geography, background, age, and ability

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said from the summit of Mount Everest to the depths of the oceans, from urban metropolises to rural hamlets, yoga has become a global language of inner peace and wellness.

Reflecting on the journey of International Yoga Day since its inception, the Prime Minister recalled India's proposal at the United Nations, which received support from 175 nations—an unprecedented show of global solidarity. Over the last eleven years, yoga has evolved from an ancient Indian practice into a worldwide wellness movement, symbolizing balance, discipline, and unity.

### Visakhapatnam: A Symbol of Natural Harmony and Progress

Lauding the scenic and progressive city of Visakhapatnam, PM Shri Modi thanked the people

and the Andhra Pradesh government for the excellent organization of the event. He extended appreciation to Chief Minister Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, Deputy CM Shri Pawan Kalyan, and Minister Shri Nara Lokesh for spearheading the successful "Yogandhra Abhiyan"—a statewide yoga initiative that engaged over 2 crore participants. The Prime Minister noted that this public participation reflects the spirit of Jan Bhagidari (people's participation), essential for building a Viksit Bharat (developed India).

Shri Modi particularly praised the inclusive nature of the campaign and Shri Lokesh's role in making yoga a true social celebration. The large-scale participation of youth, especially from rural and tribal regions, including 22,000 tribal students performing Surya Namaskar in record time, marked an inspiring milestone. The Prime Minister expressed pride in seeing how Divyang individuals are reading yogic texts in Braille and how



scientists are practicing yoga in space. He also noted enthusiastic participation of youth from rural areas in Yoga Olympiads. Shri Modi underscored that whether it is the steps of the Sydney Opera House, the summit of Mount Everest, or the vast expanse of the ocean, the message remains the same, “Yoga is for everyone and for all, Beyond Boundaries, Beyond Backgrounds, Beyond age or ability.”

### Theme 2025: "Yoga for One Earth, One Health"

This year's theme, “Yoga for One Earth, One Health,” underlines the interconnectedness of all life forms. PM Shri Modi elaborated that human health is intrinsically linked to the well-being of soil, rivers, flora, fauna, and the environment. He described yoga as a journey from “Me to We”, a transition from personal discipline to collective responsibility. Citing India's civilizational ethos of Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah—welfare of all—he urged the world to embrace yoga as a lifestyle that promotes harmony between individual well-being and planetary health.

The Prime Minister also addressed growing global challenges such as stress, anxiety, and instability. “Yoga is the pause button humanity needs—to breathe, to balance, to become whole again,” he said. Urging global citizens and policymakers to adopt yoga beyond personal practice, he envisioned “Yoga



“Today, on the occasion of the 11th 'International Yoga Day,' I practiced yoga with our yoga-loving brothers and sisters at Kartavya Path in New Delhi.

Yoga provides balance and health to our physical, mental, and spiritual dimensions, ensuring a happy and fulfilling life.

Due to the initiative of the respected Prime Minister Shri @narendramodi ji, yoga has gained global recognition, resulting in people worldwide becoming aware of yoga over the past 10 years and adopting it in their daily lives.

I extend my heartfelt greetings to all of you on 'International Yoga Day.'

**- JP Nadda, National President BJP**



“Attended the International Yoga Day celebrations at Northern Command Headquarters in Udhampur. Yoga gives clarity to the people in chaos. It is an art, a science, a philosophy, and spirituality. Those who practice Yoga in their daily lives have control over their body and mind. It makes us positive and proactive”.

**- Rajnath Singh, Defence Minister, GoI**



“Yoga, which brings unity to mind, body, and spirit, has become a part of people's daily lives worldwide. On the occasion of 'International Yoga Day,' practiced yoga with the community in Ahmedabad.”

**- Amit Shah, Union Home & Cooperation Minister, GoI**



for Humanity 2.0” where inner peace transforms into a global policy of peace and cooperation.

### **Scientific Validation and Digital Dissemination**

Highlighting efforts to integrate yoga into modern healthcare, PM Modi spoke of significant research by institutions like AIIMS, which shows yoga’s positive effects on cardiac, neurological, and mental health. The inclusion of yoga modules in medical education and the promotion of evidence-based therapy further reflect India’s intent to place yoga at the heart of contemporary wellness science.

Through the National Ayush Mission, yoga and wellness are being promoted digitally. The Prime Minister noted that over one million yoga-related events have been registered via platforms like the Yoga Portal and YogAndhra Portal, signaling a growing grassroots-level engagement with yoga.

To globalize India’s wellness offerings, the government has introduced e-Ayush visas, facilitating international visitors seeking holistic healing in India. PM Modi emphasized the “Heal in India” initiative, highlighting yoga’s pivotal role in establishing India as a hub for wellness tourism.

### **National Participation and Guinness World Records**

In his address, Union Ayush Minister Shri Prataprao Jadhav hailed PM Modi’s visionary role in elevating yoga to a global stage. He announced ten signature events under IDY 2025, including Harit Yoga (tree plantation), Yoga Parks, and Yoga Mahakumbh, with participation from over 10 lakh organizations.

Shri Jadhav also introduced Ayush Aahar—a healthy, Moringa-based diet—distributed at 70 locations in Delhi during the event.

Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu Naidu expressed pride in Andhra Pradesh’s enthusiastic celebration of the event and noted that the Yogandhra campaign had created multiple world records. Deputy CM Shri Pawan Kalyan and Minister Shri Nara Lokesh also participated actively, reinforcing the message that yoga is both a personal practice and a public movement.

### **A Nationwide Celebration of Wellness**

Celebrations were not confined to Visakhapatnam. Across India, cabinet ministers and dignitaries led yoga sessions in iconic locations. Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh participated in Udhampur, calling yoga “a way of life.” Home Minister Shri Amit Shah practiced yoga in Ahmedabad and remarked on its unifying power. Health Minister JP Nadda, at Kartavya Path in Delhi, said yoga nurtures physical, mental, and spiritual balance.

### **Over 9 lakh NCC cadets celebrate 11th International Day of Yoga**

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) also played a significant role in spreading the message. Over 9 lakh cadets participated in synchronized yoga sessions across India, including scenic locations such as Marina Beach, Dal Lake, and Shanti Stupa, underscoring the youth’s deep-rooted commitment to health and discipline.

In Delhi alone, over 100 events marked the celebration. From schoolchildren to defence attachés of 25 countries, the diverse participation painted a vibrant picture of yoga’s growing influence.

### **A Global Resolution for a Harmonious Future**

Concluding his speech, Prime Minister Shri Modi urged citizens worldwide to make yoga a part of their daily routine. He envisioned yoga as a jan andolan—a people’s movement—that can lead the world toward harmony, sustainability, and peace.

“Let Yoga for One Earth, One Health become a global resolution,” he declared, reinforcing that yoga is not just about individual health, but a collective path to global well-being. ■





# **EMERGENCY: A DEEP BLOW TO THE SOUL OF THE CONSTITUTION: JP Nadda**

BJP National President and Union Minister Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, in his address to the media on **'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas'** at the BJP Central Office in New Delhi on 25 June 2025, said the Emergency imposed on 25th June 1975 was a direct attack on democracy. Criticising the Congress party of having a dictatorial mindset, Shri Nadda said that Indira Gandhi trampled upon the Constitution under the pretext of internal unrest, suppressed press freedom, and jailed opposition leaders. The BJP National President strongly criticized the role of the Congress during the Emergency and stated that even today, the Congress continues to promote nepotism, individualism, and undemocratic values. He also paid tribute to the heroes who sacrificed their lives to protect India's democracy

**B** JP National President and Union Minister Shri JP Nadda said India is the world's oldest and largest democratic nation. However, there have been instances in the country where malicious attempts were made to undermine the very spirit of the Constitution.

These incidents are remembered as dark chapters in the history of Indian democracy. On this day, 50 years ago, the then Prime Minister from the Congress government, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, declared Emergency. It was not merely a political event, but a direct and

deliberate assault on democracy. On the midnight of 25th June 1975, Indira Gandhi imposed Emergency across the nation under the pretext of internal unrest and, in doing so, trampled the Constitution. Even after five decades, the Congress party continues to operate with the same mindset. Its intentions remain rooted in dictatorial tendencies.

### **In 1975, the court found Indira Gandhi guilty**

BJP National President stated in 1975, the court found Indira Gandhi guilty of violating the election code of conduct and disqualified her from holding any elected office for six years. In response, overnight, the electricity supply to media houses was cut, the entire opposition was imprisoned, and press freedom was completely suppressed. Article 352 was grossly misused to crush democracy. Parliament and the judiciary were rendered ineffective, and on the morning of 26th June, the Congress's dictatorial government formally imposed Emergency across the country. The opposition to the Congress dictatorship was not just a political stand—it was a movement to safeguard the soul of India and its Constitution.

In this struggle, nationalists risked their lives to uphold democratic values. Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, Chaudhary Charan Singh, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Rajmata Vijayaraje Scindia, Shri Murlī Manohar Joshi, and thousands of party workers and members of the ideological family were forcibly jailed by Indira Gandhi's regime.

### **Shri Modi took the truth about Congress to every village**

Shri Nadda said Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, as a RSS Pracharak, outwitted the dictatorial regime and with the support of lakhs of dedicated volunteers, took the truth about the Congress party's actions during the Emergency to every village, every street, and every household. He added that these stories of the Emergency, the courageous struggle of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, and many unheard incidents have been documented in the book 'The Emergency Diaries - Years that Forged a Leader'.

### **Important to remember and remind the nation of the pain**

BJP National President said it is important to

remember and remind the nation of the pain and trauma caused by the Emergency even 50 years later, and the murder of the Constitution, because the Congress party still operates with the same dictatorial mindset. He emphasized that we must all read this book to understand how Congress conspired to crush the country's democracy, and how true devotees of democracy, without fearing for their lives, exposed and resisted this conspiracy by documenting their struggle. Slogans like "India is Indira, and Indira is India" clearly reflected the Congress's mentality, under which Indira Gandhi turned the entire country into a laboratory of individualism and nepotism.

### **Congress party believes that only one family has the right to power**

Shri Nadda said that the Congress party believes that only one person and one family have the right to power in this country. That is why it once placed a 'Super Prime Minister' above its own elected Prime Minister. Even today, the Congress continues to operate with the same mentality. The party cannot accept that someone from a humble, poor background has risen to become the Prime Minister of India.

He added that the law-and-order situation in Congress-ruled states today mirrors the conditions during the Emergency—with the suppression of the opposition, blatant religious appeasement, and the arrogance of power on full display.

### **Indira Gandhi denied Justice H.R. Khanna the position of Chief Justice of India**

Shri Nadda highlighted that Indira Gandhi denied Justice H.R. Khanna the position of Chief Justice of India, despite his seniority, solely because he had delivered a judgment against her government. Congress ensured that any officer or judge who did not obey their directives was either removed or transferred. To safeguard her power, Indira Gandhi made undemocratic amendments that altered the very soul of the Constitution. During the Emergency, even if a citizen was shot, they had no right to approach the court.

### **Congress never apologized for imposing the Emergency**

Shri Nadda said that today Rahul Gandhi and the Congress party are making false appeals in the name



**PM PAYS TRIBUTE TO DEFENDERS OF DEMOCRACY ON 'SAMVIDHAN HATYA DIWAS'**

## **Anti-Emergency movement reaffirmed the vitality of preserving our democratic framework: PM Modi**

**O**n the solemn occasion marking fifty years since the imposition of the Emergency, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 25 June 2025 paid heartfelt tributes to the countless Indians who stood tall in defence of democracy during one of the darkest chapters in the nation's history.

Recalling the grave assault on constitutional values, the Prime Minister said that June 25th is observed as Samvidhan Hatya Diwas — a day when fundamental rights were suspended, press freedom extinguished, and countless political leaders, social workers, students, and ordinary citizens were imprisoned.

Shri Modi also reiterated the commitment to strengthen the principles in our Constitution and working together to realise our vision of a Viksit Bharat.

He further remarked that the anti-Emergency movement was a learning experience, which reaffirmed the vitality of preserving our democratic framework.

Shri Modi called upon all those who remember those dark days of the Emergency or those whose families suffered during that time to share their experiences on social media to create awareness among the youth of the shameful time from 1975 to 1977.

In a series of posts on X, he wrote, "Today marks fifty years since one of the darkest chapters in India's democratic history, the imposition of the Emergency. The people of India mark this day as Samvidhan Hatya Diwas. On this day, the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution were set aside, fundamental rights were suspended, press freedom was extinguished and several political leaders, social workers, students and ordinary citizens were jailed. It was as if the Congress



Government in power at that time placed democracy under arrest!"

"No Indian will ever forget the manner in which the spirit of our Constitution was violated, the voice of Parliament muzzled and attempts were made to control the courts. The 42nd Amendment is a prime example of their shenanigans. The poor, marginalised and downtrodden were particularly targeted, including their dignity insulted."

"We salute every person who stood firm in the fight against the Emergency! These were the people from all over India, from all walks of life, from diverse ideologies who worked closely with each other with one aim: to protect India's democratic fabric and to preserve the ideals for which our freedom fighters devoted their lives. It was their collective struggle that ensured that the then Congress Government had to restore democracy and call for fresh elections, which they badly lost."

"We also reiterate our commitment to strengthening the principles in our Constitution and working together to realise our vision of a Viksit Bharat. May we scale new heights of progress and fulfil the dreams of the poor and downtrodden." ■

of the Constitution. During the Emergency, those imprisoned were not even allowed to attend the last rites of their own relatives. To this day, Congress has never apologized for imposing the Emergency or for its undemocratic actions during that time. Before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Congress officially released a list of journalists to be boycotted, instructing its spokespersons not to participate in debates involving them. On one hand, they file cases against journalists while in power, and on the other hand, they boycott them when in opposition. This clearly reflects Congress's double standards on press freedom and democracy.

Shri Nadda said on this occasion, on my behalf and on behalf of crores of Bharatiya Janata Party Karyakartas, I pay heartfelt tribute and express gratitude to the true soldiers of democracy who sacrificed their lives in the great struggle to free the country from the curse of the Emergency. They not only protected the Constitution but also safeguarded the soul of the nation.

- On this day, 50 years ago, the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi imposed the Emergency on the country.
- This decision is still remembered as a dark chapter in the history of Indian democracy and a deep blow to the soul of the Constitution.
- On the 50th anniversary of the Emergency, it is important to remember this attack on the Constitution and remind others, because the dictatorial mindset of the Congress party continues even today.
- During the Emergency, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, then a Karyakarta, bravely challenged the dictatorial regime. Along with lakhs of volunteers, he took the truth about Congress's actions to every street and village.
- Congress still believes that only one family has the right to rule the country. It had even placed a 'super Prime Minister' above its own Prime Minister.
- To stay in power, Indira Gandhi made undemocratic amendments to the Constitution, changing its soul. ■

## 'The Emergency Diaries - Years that Forged a Leader' released

A new book, 'The Emergency Diaries - Years that Forged a Leader' published by BlueKraft was released by union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah in New Delhi on 25 June 2025.

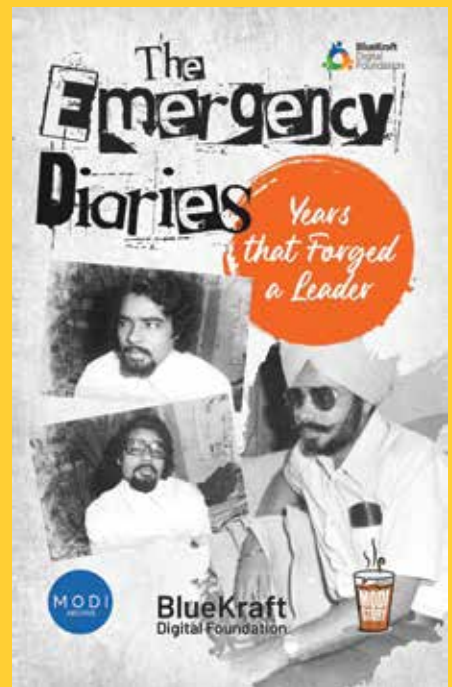
The book delves into the compelling role that Shri Narendra Modi, then a young

RSS Pracharak, played in the fight against Emergency.

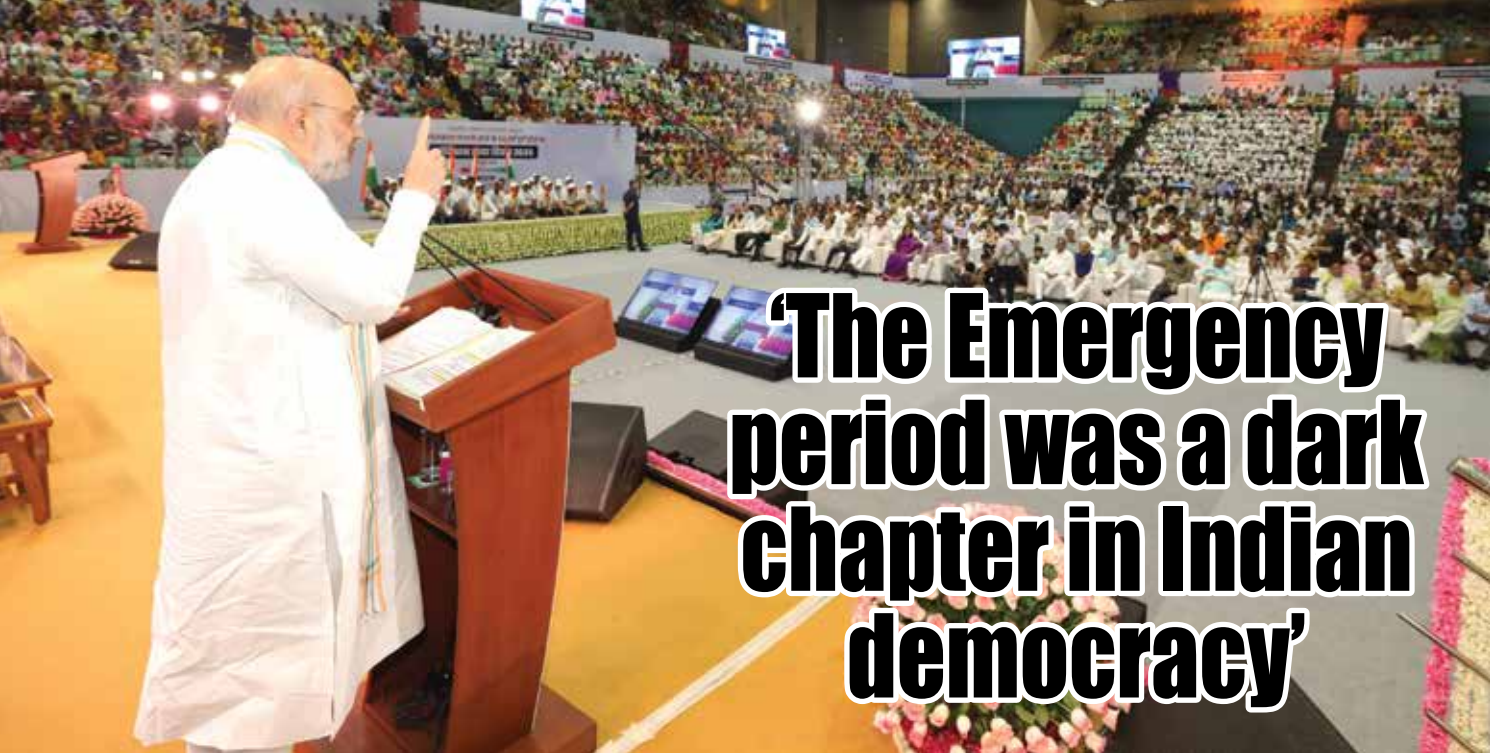
Based on first person anecdotes from associates who worked with the young Modi, and using other archival material, the book is a first of its kind that creates new scholarship on the formative years of a young man who would give it his all in the fight against tyranny.

After the release of the book, PM Shri Narendra Modi in a number of posts on X said, "When the Emergency was imposed, I was a young RSS Pracharak. The anti-Emergency movement was a learning experience for me. It reaffirmed the vitality of preserving our democratic framework. At the same time, I got to learn so much from people across the political spectrum. I am glad that BlueKraft Digital Foundation has compiled some of those experiences in the form of a book, whose foreword has been penned by Shri HD Deve Gowda Ji, himself a stalwart of the anti-Emergency movement."

"'The Emergency Diaries' chronicles my journey during the Emergency years. It brought back many memories from that time. I call upon all those who remember those dark days of the Emergency or those whose families suffered during that time to share their experiences on social media. It will create awareness among the youth of the shameful time from 1975 to 1977." ■







# 'The Emergency period was a dark chapter in Indian democracy'

**Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah on 25 June 2025 released the book 'The Emergency Diaries: Year that Forged a Leader' on the occasion of 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' organized in New Delhi to mark the completion of 50 years of Emergency, which describes in detail the tragic experiences of that period and the role of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Shri Shah said that the Emergency period was a dark chapter in Indian democracy, and it is important to remember it so that such an event is never repeated. During that time, the media, judiciary, and democratic rights were crushed. During the event, Union Ministers Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Lieutenant Governor Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena, Delhi Chief Minister Smt. Rekha Gupta, and Professor Shri Rambhadur Rai- a prominent voice against the Emergency, among others were present**

**S**hri Amit Shah said it is often said that certain unpleasant incidents should be forgotten in life, and while this may be appropriate in one's personal life, when it comes to society and nation, such incidents must be remembered for a long time so that they are never repeated. With this very objective, it is necessary to keep the youth and adolescents of the country cultured, organised, and ready to struggle. With this thought in mind, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji decided to observe June 25 as Samvidhan Hatya Diwas.

Union Home Minister said on this occasion, a book titled "The Emergency Diaries: Year That Forged a Leader" was also released, which describes Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji's experiences during the Emergency period. At that time, he was a young RSS pracharak who remained underground and was actively involved in the 19-month-long movement. He

played a significant role in the people's movement led by Shri Jayaprakash Narayan and Shri Nanaji Deshmukh.

## **Shri Modi met with the families of those imprisoned under MISA**

Shri Narendra Modi met with the families of those imprisoned under MISA during the Emergency, listened to their problems, and arranged medical treatment for them. He distributed underground newspapers among shopkeepers, at street corners, to students and women, and led the resistance movement in Gujarat. All of this was done at the young age of just 24–25, and his entire journey is chronicled in this book. The book also highlights the role of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the Jana Sangh, the efforts of the Lok Sangharsh Samiti, and the challenges faced during the satyagraha and public

awakening campaigns. Shri Narendra Modi was working underground during that time. He disguised himself in various forms—sometimes as a sadhu, sometimes as a Sikh, at times as an incense stick seller, and at other times as a newspaper distributor—to continue his work.

### “Total Revolution”

Shri Shah said that JP's slogan of “Total Revolution” had shaken the entire nation. The movement that began in Gujarat reached Bihar. The government in Gujarat fell, elections were held, Congress was removed, the opposition united, and a Janata Party government was formed. This was a major warning for Indira Gandhi. In the JP movement, students came together against inflation, railway workers united against injustice, anti-corruption movements were held across the country, and finally, on the 12th, the Allahabad High Court declared Indira Gandhi ineligible for membership of Parliament. When the stay was granted by the Supreme Court on June 24, the very same night, Emergency was imposed, silencing the court that had granted the stay, silencing the newspapers, and silencing All India Radio as well. 1,10,000 social and political activists were thrown into prison cells. At 4:00 a.m., a Cabinet meeting was convened without any agenda being circulated, and the Emergency was declared.

### Atmosphere of fear and terror created

Shri Shah said after a thorough investigation, the Shah Commission concluded that the atmosphere of fear and terror created across the country through detentions, forced sterilizations, and demolitions was unprecedented and had no parallel anywhere in the world.

### Democratic rights across the country were suspended

Prominent leaders such as Smt. Vijayaraje Scindia, Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, Shri Morarji Desai, Chaudhary Charan Singh, Raj Narain, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Lal Krishna Advani, Acharya Kripalani, Shri George Fernandes, Shri Arun Jaitley, Jaykishan Gupta, Satyendra Narayan Sinha, Gayatri Devi, Mulayam Singh Yadav, and leaders of the DMK were thrown behind bars without committing any crime. A total of 253 journalists were arrested, 29 foreign journalists were expelled from the country, and many newspapers protested by leaving their

editorial columns blank—The Indian Express and Jansatta being among the most prominent. Their electricity supply was cut off, and even parliamentary proceedings were censored. The judiciary was brought under control, and democratic rights across the country were suspended. The Constitution was amended through the 38th and 42nd Amendments, altering Articles 223-A and 223-B. Additionally, Articles 123, 213, 352, 519, and 356 were invoked to extend the tenure of the Lok Sabha.

### Kishore Kumar was banned from All India Radio

Shri Shah said that judges who delivered verdicts against the government were prevented from becoming Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Three senior judges were bypassed to appoint Justice A.N. Ray as Chief Justice. Shri Shah said that Kishore Kumar was banned from All India Radio, Manoj Kumar's films were censored, Dev Anand was barred from Doordarshan, and even films like 'Aandhi' and 'Kissa Kursi Ka' were banned.

### “Indira Against India”

Shri Amit Shah said the end of the Emergency has come because of the relentless struggle of thousands of warriors of democracy, who spent 19 months in jail and turned the slogan “Indira is India” into “Indira Against India”. It is because of this very legacy that today, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, a population of 140 crore is committed and moving forward with the resolve to make India number one in every field globally by 2047.

### Highlights

- The same young Modi who travelled across villages to oppose the Emergency and resist dynastic politics went on to dismantle Congress' family rule in 2014
- During the Emergency, the nation turned into a prison,
- The soul of the country was silenced, the judiciary was made deaf, and writers were stripped of their ink
- The real threat was to Indira Gandhi's chair, which led to the imposition of the Emergency
- The widespread detentions, sterilizations, and demolitions during the Emergency created an atmosphere of fear across the country, unmatched in history. ■



## HOME MINISTER ADDRESSES ON "AAPATKAL KE 50 SAAL" IN NEW DELHI



IT WAS NOT AN  
'AAPATKAL'  
IT WAS CONGRESS'S  
'ANYAYKAAL'  
- Amit Shah

Union Home & Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah addressed a program on "Aapatkal Ke 50 Saal" (50 years of Emergency) at Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya in New Delhi, on 24 June 2025. Shri Shah stated that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has decided to observe June 25 as 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas.' An incident like the Emergency, which shook the very foundations of democracy, must never fade from public memory. If society forgets such events, it poses a grave threat to any democratic nation. When such historical memories begin to recede from the consciousness of the youth and adolescents, seminars like this and commemorations such as 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' serve the vital purpose of reviving that memory. The event was also attended by Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation Chairman Shri Anirban Ganguly and Panchjanya's Chief Editor Shri Hitesh Shankar, among other dignitaries.

### 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas'

Shri Shah stated that many people often question the relevance of discussing the Emergency imposed 50 years ago. Even when Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi decided to observe June 25 as 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas', this question was repeatedly raised. However, today is the most appropriate day for such a seminar, as history tends to fade from public memory after five decades. The Emergency, which shook the very foundation of our democracy, must not be forgotten. If society begins to lose its memory of such a dark chapter, it poses a serious threat to any

democratic nation. Democracy and authoritarianism are not merely about individuals; they represent two contrasting tendencies of the human mind. These tendencies are deeply embedded in human nature and may resurface time and again as challenges before society and the nation. If authoritarianism can re-emerge as a threat, then a democratic spirit becomes equally vital for the nation's progress and welfare.

### No one had the courage to speak

Shri Shah, sharing his personal account of the Emergency, said that today, many casually remark, 'We weren't even born then,' but I was 11 years old at the time. Gujarat initially felt a lesser impact of the Emergency, as the Janata Party had formed the government there. However, that government was later dismissed, and within a year, Gujarat too came under the harsh grip of the Emergency. In my village, Karyakartas of the Jan Sangh, RSS volunteers, socialists, and individuals engaged in nation-building through the Sarvodaya Andolan were all branded as anti-nationals and thrown into prison. From my village alone, 184 people were packed into a blue prison van and taken to Sabarmati Jail. That scene has never left my memory and never will, for as long as I live. We revered our village elders in those days. Even today, I wonder, what was the fault of Professor Mangaldas? No one could answer that question then, and no one dared to. No one had the courage to speak, because the scene we had witnessed was nothing short of brutal and heart-wrenching.

## **The soul of the Constitution was crushed**

Union Home Minister stated that on the morning of June 25, 1975, the sun did rise, but its light was not free. That morning, citizens draped in the blanket of fundamental rights awoke shackled in the chains of dictatorship. On that very day, the soul of the Constitution was crushed, and democratically elected governments were toppled overnight. The youth of this nation must never forget this truth. History has shown us what happens when the dictatorial instinct hidden within an individual comes to the surface. This history must be explained to the youth of our country, who did not live through it and thus cannot fully grasp its gravity. Today, those who constantly invoke the Constitution, did they witness the morning of June 25? At precisely 8 a.m. that morning, the voice of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi echoed from All India Radio: "The President has declared a state of Emergency in the country."

## **The JP Movement took root**

Union Home Minister emphasized that it was in Gujarat where students first raised the banner of protest, which soon spread to Bihar. The JP Movement took root, railway employees went on strike, and voices rose across the nation against Congress's corruption. Shri Morarji Desai began a hunger strike, and the people of the country awakened. But drunk on the arrogance of the majority, Indira Gandhi's grip on power began to falter. To save her position, she threw the entire nation into the flames of Emergency.

## **1,10,000 opposition political leaders were thrown into jail**

During this Emergency, over 1,10,000 opposition political leaders were thrown into jail. And it wasn't just political leaders, journalists, editors, reporters, student leaders, and social workers were all imprisoned. The legislature, the executive, the judiciary, the press, the media, the artistic community, and the common citizen all were left stunned, watching helplessly as the democratic fabric of the country was torn apart. No one knew what to do. In the blink of an eye, the entire nation had been turned into a prison. Veteran leaders like Shri Jayaprakash Narayan, Shri Morarji Desai,

Chaudhary Charan Singh, the revered Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji, Shri Lal Krishna Advani Ji, Shri Nanaji Deshmukh, Shri George Fernandes, and Acharya Kripalani were locked away in dark prison cells. Even those who were members of Parliamentary committees were not spared; they too were jailed. Later, there was also a systematic attempt to topple the non-Congress governments of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

## **Indira Gandhi amended the Constitution**

Shri Shah highlighted that during the Emergency, Indira Gandhi amended the Constitution so extensively that those changes came to be known as a "mini Constitution." The Preamble was altered, Article 14 was amended, and even the Seventh Schedule was tampered with. Over 40 provisions were modified, and new articles and clauses were added. The 42nd Constitutional Amendment crossed all limits; it was a direct attempt to alter the very basic structure of the Constitution. The judiciary, too, was silenced. Judges considered favorable were appointed in advance, rendering the courts pliant. The manner in which various institutions and agencies were misused during that time is something this society, this nation, and its vigilant citizens can never forget. It is precisely for this reason that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has resolved that the Bharatiya Janata Party will observe 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas' so that this memory remains forever etched in the nation's consciousness.

## **Safeguarding the soul of the Constitution is a collective responsibility**

Shri Shah stated that safeguarding the soul of the Constitution is a collective responsibility of the people of this nation. Anyone who tampers with the original spirit and structure of the Constitution must be held accountable by the public, because in a democracy, it is the people who are the ultimate authority. Today is a day of remembrance for that very principle. Tomorrow is 'Samvidhan Hatya Diwas', and by observing it across the country, we can pass on these democratic values to the coming generations, our youth and adolescents. This value system will guide the nation's conscience for the next fifty years, and this is our solemn duty. ■

# NARENDRA MODI'S FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY DURING THE EMERGENCY

**D**eclared by PM Indira Gandhi on June 25, 1975, the Emergency was a dark 21-month period marked by suspended civil liberties, mass arrests, censorship, and state-sponsored authoritarianism.

- Triggered by the Allahabad High Court verdict disqualifying Indira Gandhi for electoral malpractices, the Emergency sought to stifle rising opposition, especially from the JP-led Total Revolution and movements like Gujarat's Navnirman Andolan.
- Over 1,00,000 people—political opponents, journalists, student leaders—were jailed under MISA; the RSS was banned on July 4, 1975. Its cadres went underground.

## The Emergence of Narendra Modi

- Aged just 25, Shri Narendra Modi, a full-time RSS Pracharak, operated in Gujarat, where he was tasked with keeping the organization alive underground.
- He worked under key Gujarat RSS figures like Laxmanrao Inamdar (Vakil Saheb), Keshavrao Deshmukh, and Vasanta Gajendragadkar, and also closely coordinated with Nanaji Deshmukh and Dattopant Thengadi, who led the national Lok Sangharsh Samiti.



## Master of Disguise: Modi's Underground Avatars

- Shri Modi evaded police capture for the entire duration of the Emergency, despite Gujarat Police being highly alert.
- He used ingenious disguises: a sadhu, a sardarji, an incense stick seller, and even an elderly Sikh with a turban to traverse districts undetected.
- He once posed as the son of Makarand Desai, a future BJP leader, during a mission to Mumbai—a plan he personally crafted to avoid surveillance.

## The Clandestine Communicator and Mobilizer

- Shri Modi oversaw the printing, translation, and nationwide distribution of anti-Emergency literature, especially the RSS's underground publications, using smuggled cyclostyle machines.
- He pioneered code systems, such as:
  - Swapping digits in phone numbers
  - Disguising meetings as religious ceremonies like Satyanarayan Puja
  - Chandan ka Karyakram – a code phrase for secret RSS meetings.
- He advised volunteers to scatter their slippers outside meeting venues to avoid police suspicion.





## Organizer of Resistance and Secret Networks

- Shri Modi organized key visits of anti-Emergency leaders like George Fernandes, Dattopant Thengadi, and V.M. Tarkunde to Gujarat.
- He oversaw:
  - Secret meetings in safe houses with multiple escape routes.
  - Satyagrahas in Gujarat, including in Dholka, Mehsana, Jamnagar, Palanpur, and Rajkot, with hundreds voluntarily courting arrest.
- He ensured the movement stayed decentralized, with each district and volunteer working independently but connected via covert channels.

## Innovator in Street-Level Protest Strategy

- Shri Modi encouraged students to stencil graffiti using steel frames for slogans like “Release JP” and “Remove Emergency”—enabling swift execution before police could respond.
- He assigned children as couriers to deliver files and messages—believing they would not attract suspicion.

## Moral Anchor and Youth Motivator

- In Porbandar, when all senior karyakartas were arrested and a young volunteer felt demoralized, Shri Modi told him:
 

“Even if you are alone, it doesn’t matter. One person is enough if his intent is right. Democracy must win.”
- He held motivational sessions with medical students, encouraging them to use their mobility for pamphlet distribution.

## Supporting Families of the Incarcerated

- Shri Modi took personal responsibility for:
  - Delivering financial support and food to the families of jailed Swayamsevaks.

- Organizing their medical treatment and emotional reassurance.
- Ensuring no one felt abandoned, thus keeping morale high across the Sangh.

## Recognized by Senior Leaders and the Global Press

- PM Shri Modi authored Sangharsh Ma Gujarat, documenting the anti-Emergency struggle. It was praised by then Gujarat CM Babubhai J. Patel.
- Foreign media like The Economist, The New York Times, and The Guardian acknowledged the RSS’s unique and organized resistance, particularly highlighting Gujarat as a key hub.

## Legacy and Lessons from the Emergency

- Shri Modi’s Emergency experiences deeply influenced:
  - His commitment to democracy and decentralization
  - His organizational style and crisis management capabilities
  - His resolve to protect civil liberties and expose authoritarian tendencies.
- As PM, he often references the Emergency as a cautionary tale and an ideological touchstone for democratic vigilance.

The Emergency was the crucible that forged Shri Narendra Modi’s leadership ethos. Operating in the shadows but with unwavering resolve, he embodied the underground heartbeat of Indian democracy.

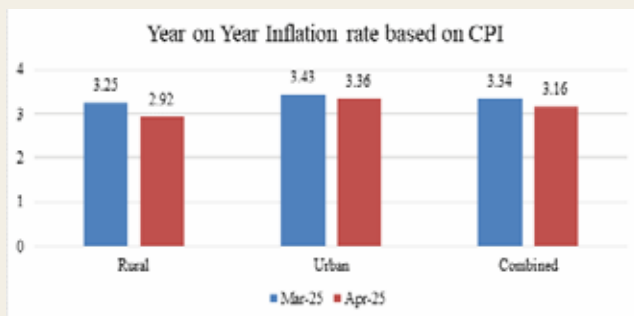
While others were silenced, he strategized. While others saw no option but to surrendered, he strengthened networks of resistance.

His journey from Pracharak to Prime Minister is not just political—it is the story of how India’s most defining democratic crisis shaped one of its most loved leaders. ■

# Consumer Price Index (CPI) for May, 2025 is 2.82%; the lowest year-on-year inflation after February, 2019

Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation released the CONSUMER PRICE INDEX NUMBERS ON BASE 2012=100 FOR RURAL, URBAN AND COMBINED FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 2025 on 12 June 2025.

- Headline Inflation:** Year-on-year inflation rate based on All India Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the month of May, 2025 over May, 2024 is 2.82% (Provisional). There is decline of 34 basis points in headline inflation of May, 2025 in comparison to April, 2025. It is the lowest year-on-year inflation after February, 2019.
- Food Inflation:** Year-on-year inflation rate based on All India Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) for the month of May, 2025 over May, 2024 is 0.99% (Provisional). Corresponding inflation rate for rural and urban are 0.95% and 0.96%, respectively. All India inflation rates for CPI(General) and CFPI over the last 13 months are shown below. A sharp decline of 79 basis point is observed in food inflation in May, 2025 in comparison to April, 2025. The food inflation in May, 2025 is the lowest after October, 2021.
- The significant decline in headline inflation and food inflation during the month of May, 2025 is mainly attributed to decline in inflation of Pulses & products, Vegetables, Fruits, Cereals & products, Households goods & services, Sugar & confectionary and Egg and the favourable base effect.
- Rural Inflation:** Significant decline in headline and food inflation in rural sector observed in May, 2025. The headline inflation is 2.59% (Provisional) in May, 2025 while the same was 2.92% in April, 2025. The CFPI based food inflation in rural sector is observed as 0.95% (Provisional) in May, 2025 in comparison to 1.85% in April, 2025.
- Urban Inflation:** Significant decline from 3.36% in April, 2025 to 3.07% (Provisional) in May, 2025 is observed in headline inflation of urban sector. Sharp decline is also observed in food inflation from 1.64% in April, 2025 to 0.96% (Provisional) in May,



2025.

- Housing Inflation:** Year-on-year Housing inflation rate for the month of May, 2025 is 3.16% (Provisional). Corresponding inflation rate for the month of April, 2025 was 3.06%. The housing index is compiled for urban sector only.
- Education Inflation:** Year-on-year Education inflation rate for the month of May, 2025 is 4.12% (Provisional). Corresponding inflation rate for the month of April, 2025 was 4.13%. It is combined education inflation for both rural and urban sector.
- Health Inflation:** Year-on-year Health inflation rate for the month of May, 2025 is 4.34% (Provisional). Corresponding inflation rate for the month of April, 2025 was 4.25%. It is combined health inflation for both rural and urban sector.
- Transport & Communication:** Year-on-year Transport & communication inflation rate for the month of May, 2025 is 3.85%(Provisional). Corresponding inflation rate for the month of April, 2025 was 3.67%. It is combined inflation rate for both rural and urban sector.
- Fuel & light:** Year-on-year Fuel & light inflation rate for the month of May, 2025 is 2.78%(Provisional). Corresponding inflation rate for the month of April, 2025 was 2.92%. It is combined inflation rate for both rural and urban sector. ■

# IT IS UNIMAGINABLE THAT VIJAYBHAI IS NOT IN OUR MIDST:PM

**S**hri Vijay Rupani, former Chief Minister of Gujarat and veteran BJP leader, tragically lost his life on 12 June 2025, at the age of 68, in the catastrophic crash of Air India Flight AI-171 shortly after take-off from Ahmedabad airport. Born in Rangoon (now Yangon), Burma, on 2 August 1956, Shri Rupani and his family relocated to Rajkot amid political unrest. He earned a BA and LLB from Saurashtra University, and began his political journey in student activism and the RSS, enduring imprisonment during the Emergency.

Shri Rupani steadily rose through the ranks: as Rajkot corporator (1987), mayor (1996–97), Rajya Sabha MP (2006–12), and Gujarat cabinet minister (2014), handling portfolios including Transport, Water Supply, Labour, and Employment. He remained Chief Minister of Gujarat from August 2016, to September 2021. Known for his calm demeanour, affable personality, and disciplined integrity, Rupani left an indelible impact on Gujarat's governance—steering the state through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and initiating measures to enhance its ease of living. He is survived by his wife, Anjali, son Rushabh, and daughter Radhika.

PM Shri Narendra Modi, who shared a long working relationship with Shri Rupani, remembered him as “humble and hardworking,” praising his dedication and service to Gujarat. Prime Minister met Vijaybhai Rupani's family and offered condolences. He said via X “It is unimaginable that Vijaybhai is not in our midst. I've known him for decades. We worked together, shoulder to shoulder, including during some of the most challenging times. Vijaybhai was humble and hardworking, firmly committed to the Party's ideology. Rising up the ranks, he held various responsibilities in the Organisation and went on to serve diligently as Gujarat's Chief Minister.”

Prime Minister also visited the crash site in Ahmedabad. He informed via X, “The scene of devastation is saddening. Met officials and teams working tirelessly in the aftermath. Our thoughts remain with those who lost their loved ones in this unimaginable tragedy.”

The BJP National President Shri Jagat Prakash



Nadda express deep sorrow. He said,” The news of the demise of former Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Vijay Rupani ji in the plane crash in Ahmedabad is extremely painful. He was a true soldier of the BJP organization and a dutiful public servant. The demise of Rupani ji is an irreparable loss for the BJP family. His thoughts and work in the field of development and public service of Gujarat will always be remembered. I express my deepest condolences to the bereaved family. May God grant a place to the departed soul in his lotus feet. Om shanti”.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah expressing condolences said, “I worked with Gujarat's former Chief Minister Vijaybhai Rupani ji in the organization for a long time. Whether it was strengthening the organization as the state president or keeping Gujarat's development journey dynamic as the Chief Minister, Vijaybhai fulfilled every responsibility with utmost dedication. It is difficult to believe that he is no longer among us. By nature, Rupani ji was calm and thoughtful, and his loyalty and discipline towards the organization were remarkable. Just a few days ago, I met him and had a detailed discussion on various topics, including organizational matters in Punjab. I spoke with his wife, Mrs. Anjali Rupani ji, and expressed my deep condolences. In this hour of grief, the entire BJP family stands with them. May God grant the departed soul a place at His divine feet. Om Shanti Shanti Shanti”

Leaders from across the political spectrum have extended condolences and paid tribute to the late leader, remembering him as a man of values, vision, and service. ■



# THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBLE STANDARDS IN DEALING WITH TERRORISM: PM

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the G7 Outreach Session held in Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada, on June 17, 2025, at the invitation of Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney. This session was part of the 51st G7 Summit, where global leaders gathered to discuss some of the most pressing international issues. The outreach theme focused on "Energy Security: diversification, technology and infrastructure to ensure access and affordability in a changing world."



## 50th anniversary of G7

During his address, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated the G7 on its 50th anniversary and emphasized the critical importance of ensuring energy security while maintaining sustainability. He highlighted India's approach to energy transition based on four pillars: availability, accessibility, affordability, and acceptability. Modi spoke about India's success in achieving its Paris Climate Agreement targets ahead of time and the country's pioneering role in global green initiatives. He referenced programs like the International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), Global Biofuels Alliance, and Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) as examples of India's leadership in sustainable development.

## Priorities and concerns of the Global South

Prime Minister expressed that uncertainty and conflicts in various parts of the world have had a debilitating impact on the countries of the Global South, and India took it as its responsibility to make the voice of the Global South heard at the world stage. He underlined that it was important for the world to understand the priorities and concerns of the Global South if the international community was serious about a sustainable future. Emphasising on security

challenges, he called upon countries to strengthen the global fight against terrorism. Thanking the global community for their strong support to India in its fight against terrorism, he expressed that the Pahalgam terror attack was not just an assault on India but on the entire humanity. He called for strict action against countries who support and promote terrorism. He further noted that there should be no double standards in dealing with terrorism and those who support terrorism should never be rewarded.

PM Shri Modi also spoke on the ethical dimensions of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence. He warned about their potential misuse in spreading misinformation and emphasized the need for balanced global regulation that promotes innovation while protecting societies from harm.

## Bilateral meeting with Canadian Prime Minister

On the sidelines of the summit, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney. The bilateral meeting marked a significant step toward normalizing relations between India and Canada after a two-year diplomatic standoff. The two leaders agreed to restore ambassador-level ties and renew cooperation on critical areas like technology, food security, education, and clean energy. ■

## Both leaders agreed to deepen bilateral cooperation further



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's historic visit to Cyprus on June 15–16, 2025, marked a significant milestone in India's diplomatic engagement with the Eastern Mediterranean. This was the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the island nation in over two decades and strategically reinforcing bilateral cooperation in trade, defence, maritime connectivity, and diplomacy. This landmark visit highlights the enduring friendship and trusted partnership between our two countries. In his remarks to the media, Prime Minister Shri Modi spoke of the strategic direction of the India-Cyprus partnership. India-Cyprus partnership also assumes importance in the larger context of the India-EU strategic partnership and India's growing engagement with the Mediterranean region.

On arrival in Cyprus, ceremonial welcome was accorded to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi at the Presidential Palace in Nicosia. Following this, the two leaders met for a tete-a-tete and delegation-level talks and a working lunch. President Christodoulides conferred upon Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi the Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III. This is the highest honour bestowed by Cyprus on foreign Heads of Government. Both leaders addressed a high-level business roundtable in the city of Limassol. They highlighted the importance of the growing investment, trade and technology ties.

A joint statement on the partnership was issued. The leaders reviewed progress in the ongoing bilateral cooperation and agreed to deepen it further. They discussed trade and investment, defense, fintech, maritime and shipping, connectivity including IMEC initiative, mobility and people-to-people ties. ■

## PM Modi's Historic First Visit to Croatia Boosts Bilateral Ties



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 18 June arrived in Zagreb, marking the first-ever visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Croatia since diplomatic ties began in 1992. He was warmly greeted at the airport by Croatian PM Andrej Plenković with a ceremonial welcome, including traditional Indian dance and slogans from the local Indian diaspora.

Shri Narendra Modi met with the President of the Republic of Croatia, H.E. Zoran Milanović in Zagreb. The two leaders held discussions on various aspects of bilateral relations. They reiterated their commitment to close and friendly ties between the two countries, based on shared values of democracy, rule of law and shared goal of international peace and stability. They expressed satisfaction at the diversification of bilateral cooperation in newer areas such as defence, start-up, sports and innovation. Shri Modi thanked President Milanovic for Croatia's strong support and solidarity extended to India in its fight against terrorism. The leaders also discussed close cultural linkages dating back many centuries which bind the two countries. They also discussed regional and global issues of mutual interest. They noted that India-EU strategic partnership has deepened in recent times, and this would add value to India-Croatia relations in several ways. The two leaders agreed to work together to unlock the full potential of India-Croatia ties.

### Agreements & MoUs Signed

1. Agriculture & allied sectors
2. Science & technology cooperation (2025–29)
3. Cultural exchange programme (2026–30)
4. Renewal of the Hindi Language Chair at the University of Zagreb ■



## 'A record 25 crore Indians have defeated poverty in the last decade'

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of multiple development projects worth over Rs 5,200 crore in Siwan, Bihar on 20 June 2025.

The Prime Minister announced that projects worth thousands of crores of rupees were inaugurated and foundation stones laid from the same platform, emphasising that these developmental initiatives will lead Bihar toward a brighter future and contribute to building a prosperous state. Shri Modi remarked that the projects will play a major role in the growth of regions like Siwan, Sasaram, Buxar, Motihari, Bettiah, and Arrah. He highlighted that these initiatives will ease the lives of the poor, the deprived, Dalits, Mahadalits, backward and extremely backward communities and extended warm congratulations to the people of Bihar for these projects.

Emphasising that for every resident of Bihar, self-respect is paramount, the Prime Minister remarked that my Bihari brothers and sisters demonstrate remarkable resilience, succeeding even in the most difficult circumstances. He asserted that they never compromise on their self-respect. However, the Prime Minister noted that the previous regimes severely hurt Bihar's pride. He criticized these regimes of rampant corruption, which turned poverty into Bihar's misfortune. Despite numerous challenges, he said, under the leadership of Shri Nitish Kumar, the present government has brought Bihar back on the path of development. Shri Modi cited that in the last 10–11 years, approximately 55,000 kilometers of rural roads have been constructed in Bihar.

He added that over 1.5 crore homes have been provided with electricity connections while 1.5 crore households have received water connections. Shri Modi noted that more than 45,000 Common Service Centres have been established across the state, highlighting that new start-ups are now emerging in small towns across Bihar. ■

## Odisha government done commendable work: PM

Addressing massive gathering PM Shri Narendra Modi said, "Today 20th June, is a very special day. Today, the first BJP government in Odisha has successfully completed one year. This anniversary is not just of a government — it is the anniversary of establishing good governance". He said this one year has been dedicated to public service and public trust. It has been a remarkable year of sincere efforts to live up to the trust of crores of voters in Odisha. The double-engine model of development that is working here is clearly showing its benefits. Even today, the inauguration and foundation laying of projects worth thousands of crores of rupees bears the mark of this double engine. The double engine has delivered double benefits to the people in Odisha. Let me give you an example. As you know, millions of poor families in Odisha were left out of the Ayushman Bharat scheme for a long time. Today, both the Ayushman Bharat Jan Arogya Yojana and the Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana are running together. As a result, around 3 crore people in Odisha are now assured of free medical treatment. A year ago, such a facility was unimaginable for so many people. Thanks to this double-engine model, we've achieved something even greater than expected — a golden opportunity, made even more special.

Here in Odisha, there are more than 23 lakh senior citizens above the age of 70. Through the PM Vaya Vandana Yojana, they are now eligible for free treatment up to 5 lakh rupees. That means our government has addressed one of the biggest worries of ordinary families. Similarly, earlier, farmers in Odisha were not receiving the full benefits of the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi. Now, farmers in Odisha are getting dual benefits — from both central and state schemes.

Shri Modi said, "I extend heartfelt congratulations to the people of Odisha and to all of you. I also convey my best wishes to Chief Minister Shri Mohan Majhi ji and his entire team. All of you have done commendable work and given new momentum to Odisha's development." ■





# WE'VE SHOWN HOW TO DEFEAT TERROR



**RAJNATH  
SINGH**

**T**errorism is a scourge on humanity. It thrives on misguided notions of revolution, martyrdom, and a romanticised view of violence. The assertion that "one man's terrorist is another man's freedom fighter" is a dangerous misnomer. True freedom can never be built on fear and bloodshed.

The currency of terrorism is fear. Yet, even in spreading fear, they have failed to instil any sense of pessimism. India is testimony to this fact. Whether it's 26/11 or the 2001 Parliament attack or the recent Pahalgam attack, India stands taller, stronger, and more resolute than ever. All peace-loving nations need to come together to eradicate this menace once and for all.

India has shown how this can be done. For decades, we have been a victim of state-sponsored cross-border terrorism originating from Pakistan. The recent Pahalgam attack was a brutal and failed attempt to fracture Indian unity. This was evident in the manner in which terrorists inquired about the religion of tourists before killing them. A similar attempt to threaten Indian unity emerged when Pakistan utilised drones and artillery to attack various religious

sites belonging to different faiths.

No religion can sanction such dastardly acts. Terrorists strategically invoke religion to justify their barbarism. This misuse of religion is not accidental or impulsive; it's a carefully crafted strategy to lend false legitimacy to atrocities.

India has made it clear that we have a zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism. Talks and terrorism cannot go hand-in-hand. Any future dialogue with Pakistan

**No religion can sanction such dastardly acts. Terrorists strategically invoke religion to justify their barbarism. This misuse of religion is not accidental or impulsive; it's a carefully crafted strategy to lend false legitimacy to atrocities**

will focus solely on terrorism and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Also, if Pakistan is serious, it must hand over UN-designated terrorists like Hafiz Saeed and Masood Azhar.

For a long time, we have reacted to terrorist acts while searching for a long-term vision and strategy. Our armed forces were earlier only allowed to engage in defensive action. With Surgical strikes (2016), Balakot strikes (2019), and now Operation Sindoor, India has made a fundamental reappraisal of its policy towards Pakistan-

sponsored terrorists.

It's now our policy that we will proactively eradicate terrorists wherever they are. Any act of terror is now considered an act of war. If there's a terrorist attack on India, a befitting reply will be given without differentiating between the govt sponsoring terrorism and terrorists themselves. If Pakistan is unable to rein in terrorists operating from its soil, it will have to pay the price.

At the 3rd 'No Money for Terror' ministerial conference on Counter-Terrorism Financing in New Delhi, PM Modi has categorically affirmed: "We consider that even a single attack is one too many and even a single life lost is one too many. So, we will not rest till terrorism is uprooted." With Operation Sindoor, GOI and armed forces demonstrated to the entire world that we are committed to uprooting terrorism. In a 'focused, measured and non-escalatory' operation, we targeted terrorist infra in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir. We know that military action against terrorists is necessary, but not sufficient: It's the foundation of terrorist infra that needs to be destroyed. Since Pakistan uses terrorism as a tool, India has successfully isolated Pakistan diplomatically and economically. We have kept the Indus Water Treaty 'in abeyance' until Pakistan credibly renounces its support for cross-border terrorism.

This decision carries significant



implications for Pakistan, which relies on the Indus river system for 80% of its 16mn hectare of agricultural land and 93% of its overall water usage, supporting 237mn people and contributing one-fourth of Pakistan's GDP

Terrorism is not just an Indian problem; it's a global problem. To effectively dismantle terrorist networks, we need to move beyond piecemeal efforts. This involves five key measures.

- First, define the term 'terrorism'. There's no consensus yet on what constitutes terrorism. The closest we have come to defining terrorism is in the Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism in UN, based on an Indian proposal. Semantic issues must not limit the battle against terrorism, we need a widely accepted definition for investigating or prosecuting terrorist acts, and ensuring terrorists' extradition from abroad.
- Second, we need to freeze finances of not only terrorist organisations but also states sponsoring terrorism. Multilateral agencies and donor countries must recognise that Pakistan has a history of misusing bailout packages and uses debt financing for sponsoring

funding needs to be cut off till the time Islamabad credibly and irrevocably renounces its terror operations.

- Third, something that was known for a long time but has become more evident is that state and non-state actors are two sides of the same coin in Pakistan. This

**Terrorism is not just an Indian problem; it's a global problem. To effectively dismantle terrorist networks, we need to move beyond piecemeal efforts. This involves five key measures**

was apparent recently when designated terrorists were accorded funerals with state honours and which were attended by military officials in uniforms. In Pakistan, there's a persistent threat that atomic weapons may end up with non-state actors. The international community must acknowledge this serious risk, and Pakistan's nuclear weapons should be placed under the supervision of International Atomic Energy Agency

- Fourth, there's a need to call out countries that use

cross border terrorism.

• Hence, Pakistan needs to be again greylisted by FATE, and all

surrogates to destabilise their neighbourhood. The scope and severity of reactions to terrorist acts cannot depend on where they occur or the nationality of the victims. When countries pick and choose which acts of terrorism to condemn based on convenience or interests, it weakens the collective response and emboldens perpetrators.

- Fifth, terrorist safe havens in Pakistan have worldwide implications due to both their international reach and their adoption of emerging technologies such as AI, autonomous systems, augmented reality, biotechnology, and nanotechnology. This is why global cooperation is essential to address the threat. It's time for all countries to come together and sign the Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism.

Advocating such a treaty, PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, said at the UN General Assembly, "We must firmly rebuff any ideological, political or religious justification for terrorism." Quoting Rabindranath Tagore, he went on to say, "From now onward, the anxiety that each country has for its own safety must embrace the welfare of the whole world." India remains steadfast in its quest to eliminate terrorism in all its manifestations.

We urge all peace-loving nations to join us. ■

**(The writer is Defence Minister, GoI)**



# FROM DREAMS TO DEEDS

Eleven years of inclusive growth have taken people beyond subsidies and services — and given them a firm belief in a better future



ASHWINI  
VAISHNAW

**A** NEW BHARAT is taking shape — where progress is measured not only in GDP, but in dignity and opportunity. Annam Lakshmi Bhavani, a homemaker from Kadapa, secures the Mudra loan to start a successful jute bag manufacturing unit. Jagdev Singh in Haryana makes decisions related to his crops using an AI app. And Meera Manjhi gets an LPG connection under Ujjwala, ensuring a smokeless kitchen and more quality time with her children. These are everyday realities of villages, towns, and cities across Bharat. These transformations stem from structural reforms and a leadership that believes in empowering the last citizen.

From the very beginning, our guiding philosophy has been *antyodaya* — uplifting people at the bottom of the pyramid. This vision, guided by the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is based on four simple yet powerful pillars. Building infrastructure that connects, growth that is inclusive, manufacturing that creates jobs, and simplifying systems that empower.

Capital expenditure has grown significantly in the past 11 years, reaching Rs 11.2 lakh crore in 2025-

26. This surge in public investment is most visible in India's infrastructure — physical, digital, and social. Over the past 11 years, nearly 59,000 km of highways have been built, and over 37,500 km of railway tracks laid. Recently, the Chenab and Anji bridges were inaugurated — symbols of a modern Bharat. For the people of Kashmir, the arrival of Vande Bharat through these bridges felt like a dream.

**From the very beginning, our guiding philosophy has been *antyodaya* — uplifting people at the bottom of the pyramid. This vision, guided by the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is based on four simple yet powerful pillars.**

This spirit of connectivity goes beyond railways to digital highways. India's digital public infrastructure (DPI) has become a global benchmark. UPI, Aadhaar, and Digilocker are now studied globally for their scale and inclusiveness. Over 141 crore Aadhaar registrations and 60 crore UPI transactions every day signify their reach and acceptance. The idea behind this is simple: Democratise technology.

The same vision drives the Indiaai Mission. Over 34,000 high-speed computer chips, known as GPUS, are now available to all at just one-

third the global cost. These chips are needed as part of AI development. To support this further, the Aikosha platform offers over 370 datasets and 200 ready to use AI models for learning and innovation.

This focus on accessibility extends beyond tech to education, healthcare, and basic services. Over the past 11 years, the number of medical colleges has grown from 387 to 780, and AIIMS institutions from seven to 23. MBBS and PG seats have also more than doubled. Over 530 million Jan Dhan accounts have been opened — more than the population of Europe. Forty million homes have been built, 120 million toilets constructed, and 100 million families now cook with clean LPG instead of wood fire. Tap water connections have also reached 140 million households under "Har Ghar Jal". Health insurance under Ayushman Bharat covers 350 million people, and 110 million farmers now receive direct income support through PM-KISAN. These numbers come alive through the stories of people like Meera Manjhi, the 100 millionth Ujjwala beneficiary. She mentions how Rs 2.5 lakh was credited directly to her bank account without any middleman. She now has tap water, free rations every month, and a smokeless kitchen under Ujjwala. This is inclusive growth at a magnitude not seen during any period in our recent history.

In 2015, we launched Make in India to create jobs and revive



industrial growth. Today, electronics manufacturing has increased six times to cross Rs 12 lakh crore. Electronics exports have increased eight times to cross Rs 3 lakh crore to become among the top exported goods. Bharat is now the second largest mobile phone producer. We are now deepening the manufacturing value chain by producing electronic components under the new Electronic Components Manufacturing Scheme.

Simultaneously, India's semiconductor mission is moving from blueprint to breakthrough. The country's first commercial lab is under construction; five OSAT units are underway; over 20 chipsets with indigenous IP have been designed by students and engineers in India. We have onboarded 270 universities with world-class EDA tools. This is the foundation for a semiconductor talent pipeline the world can rely on.

A silent revolution of the past decade has been in governance. Over 1,500 old laws were repealed and 40,000 plus compliances removed. New laws like the Telecom

Act and DPDP Act are built on trust and simplicity, treating citizens with dignity, not suspicion. This has encouraged investment, innovation, and formalisation, creating a virtuous growth cycle.

Bharat's approach to terror, too, has changed. From surgical strikes to air strikes and now Operation

**A silent revolution of the past decade has been in governance. Over 1,500 old laws were repealed and 40,000 plus compliances removed. New laws like the Telecom Act and DPDP Act are built on trust and simplicity, treating citizens with dignity, not suspicion.**

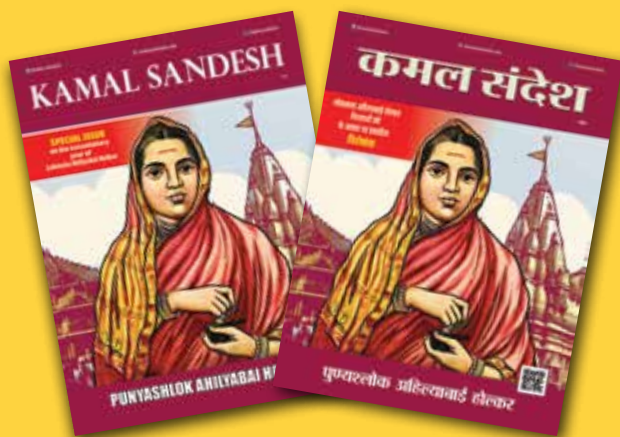
Sindoor, Bharat has shown clarity and courage in its fight against terror. Each response reflects a swift, decisive action — on our own terms. This new way of responding to terror attacks is part of the Modi doctrine. It is based on three pillars. Decisive retaliation on Bharat's terms, zero

tolerance for nuclear blackmail, and no distinction between terrorists and their sponsors. What made our response this time even more significant was the use of indigenous technologies and capabilities. A nation aspiring to become *viksit* must not only defend its people but do so with *atmanirbharta* — and Bharat did exactly that.

In 2004, at the end of Atal (Bihari Vajpayee) ji's tenure, India was the 11th largest economy in the world. Between 2004 and 2014, India remained at the 11th position, reflecting a decade of missed momentum. In the past decade, Bharat regained momentum due to the reformist policies of PM Modi. Today, we are firmly on the path to become the third-largest economy in the world.

Under the leadership of PM Modi, these 11 years of inclusive growth have given people something more valuable than subsidies or services. They've given them a belief. And a firm belief in a better future is what keeps the nation going. ■

**(The writer is Union Minister for Railways, Electronics & Information Technology, and Information & Broadcasting.)**



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# 11 Years of Empowering Shram Shakti & Building a Future-Ready Bharat



**DR. MANSUKH  
MANDAVIYA**

As India marches toward its centenary of independence in 2047, employment generation and social protection have been placed at the core of our mission for Viksit Bharat. Over the past 11 years, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's workforce has been at the centre of policy, planning, and progress. This shift has led to historic improvements in employment generation and the expansion of social protection coverage.

In 2014, India's employment landscape was fragmented, social security coverage was limited, and a vast majority of workers particularly those in the unorganised sector, remained outside the protective ambit of welfare schemes. Recognising the scale and urgency of this challenge, Modi government undertook bold and structural reforms.

Flagship initiatives such as Make in India, Skill India, Digital India, and massive infrastructure development drives created unprecedented momentum for employment generation. According to RBI KLEMS data, only 2.9 crore jobs were created between 2004

-2014. In comparison, over 17 crore jobs were generated between 2014 - 2024. As per PLFS data, the employment rate (WPR) rose from 46.8% in 2017-18 to 58.2% in 2023-24, while the unemployment rate (UR) declined from 6% to 3.2% during the same period. Not just this, employment generation in formal sector has also seen a substantial progress, with EPFO data showing that more than

**Flagship initiatives such as Make in India, Skill India, Digital India, and massive infrastructure development drives created unprecedented momentum for employment generation**

7.5 crore formal jobs have been created over the last seven years.

## **Empowering Yuva and Nari Shakti**

At the heart of India's growth journey lies the empowerment of Yuva and Nari Shakti. As a testament to this, the female employment rate (WPR) increased from 22% in 2017-18 to 40.3% in 2023-24, while the unemployment rate dropped from 5.6% to 3.2% during the same period. This shift has been even more significant in rural India, where female employment grew by 96%, and in urban areas, by 43%. These outcomes are the result

of transformative reforms and focused initiatives implemented by the Modi Government in last 11 years. Today, more than 70 Centrally Sponsored schemes across 15 ministries are dedicated to supporting women entrepreneurship, making them atmanirbhar.

Youth employability in India has also seen a significant rise, growing from just 33% in 2013 to around 55% in 2024. This progress is result of robust digital public infrastructure. Platforms such as the National Career Service (NCS) portal have emerged as one-stop solutions for employment-related services. Launched in 2015, so far, NCS has connected over 5.5 crore job seekers with 46 lakh employers, mobilizing more than 5 crore job vacancies. As a result, the youth employment rate (WPR) rose from 31.4% in 2017-18 to 41.7% in 2023-24, while youth unemployment dropped significantly from 17.8% to 10.2% in the same period, lower than the global average of 13.6%. Through digital skilling programs, entrepreneurship initiatives, and innovation-driven platforms, India's youth are evolving from job seekers to job creators.

## **Recognizing the Unorganised Workforce**

One of the most transformative achievements of the last 11 years has been the recognition of India's vast unorganised workforce. In

2021, Modi Government launched the e-Shram Portal, a first-of-its-kind national digital database for unorganized workers. In just 4 years over 30.8 crore unorganised workers, including gig and platform workers have been onboarded of this platform. This dynamic portal serves as a one-stop solution, connecting workers to various welfare schemes. Currently, over 13 Central Government social welfare schemes are integrated with e-Shram, offering seamless single sign-on and multilingual access. This is not just technological progress, it is a shift to a governance model that puts the worker first.

In addition, recognising the rise of the digital economy, we have also brought Gig and Platform workers into the policy fold. This year's Union Budget included a major announcement to onboard them onto the e-Shram portal and extend healthcare coverage under the Ayushman Bharat PM-Jan Arogya Yojana. With this, Modi Government is ensuring that this emerging workforce receives adequate protection and access to opportunities.

## **Reforming ESIC and EPFO**

During the last 11 years, significant measures have been undertaken to reform legacy institutions such as the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), which were long plagued by inefficiencies and red tapism. These reforms have brought not only unprecedented transparency but also greater efficiency to

the system. Initiatives such as the introduction of the Universal Account Number (UAN), Aadhaar integration, simplified auto-claim settlement, convergence with various schemes, and robust grievance redressal mechanisms have transformed service delivery and enhanced the ease of living for our workforce.

As a result of this, EPFO membership has grown from 11.78 crore in 2013–14 to 34.63 crore in 2024–25. The number of registered establishments rose from 7.96 lakh to 27.05 lakh during the same period. Additionally, the number of claims settled reached

**One of the most transformative achievements of the last 11 years has been the recognition of India's vast unorganised workforce. In 2021, Modi Government launched the e-Shram Portal, a first-of-its-kind national digital database for unorganized workers.**

over 6 crore in 2024–25, the highest ever in EPFO's history.

Meanwhile, ESIC has also seen substantial expansion, now covering nearly 700 districts from just 393 in 2013–14. The number of insured persons has increased from 1.95 crore to 4.09 crore between 2013–14 and 2024–25. Beneficiaries have also doubled from 7.89 Crore to 15.87 Crore during the same period. Today, ESIC offers advanced healthcare services such as chemotherapy, robotic surgeries, and digitised health records, significantly

enhancing healthcare access for workers.

## **Expanding Social Protection Coverage**

As a result of Modi Government's consistent efforts, India has made significant strides in expanding social protection coverage. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), India's social protection coverage has more than tripled rising from 19% in 2015 to 64.3% in 2025. Today, over 94 crore citizens are covered under at least one social welfare scheme, making India the second-largest welfare system in the world in terms of beneficiary count. India's social protection model is a testimony to our belief in "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" where economic growth and social security go hand in hand.

Over the past 11 years, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has undertaken significant measures to empower our Shram Shakti and lay the foundation for a Viksit Bharat. By prioritising employment generation, expanding social protection, strengthening institutional delivery, and leveraging digital infrastructure, the government has placed workers at the heart of the development agenda. As we move towards realising the vision of Viksit Bharat, India is not only preparing to be the world's largest workforce but also one of the most skilled, protected and empowered one. ■

**(The writer is Union Minister of Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports, GoI)**





# Changing Kashmir After Article 370



SHIV PRAKASH

Senior Congress leader and former External Affairs Minister, Shri Salman Khurshid, who was part of the delegation to Indonesia led by Shri Sanjay Jha for Mission “Pak Benakab” following Operation Sindoor, stated that the abrogation of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir was the right step taken by the Modi government. He remarked that the removal of Article 370 has ushered in democratic progress and economic prosperity in the region. The decision by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to revoke Article 370 on August 5, 2019, is historic and bold step. It has strengthened national unity and is proving to be a significant milestone in the development of Kashmir.

According to ancient beliefs, Kashmir is considered the land of Maharishi Kashyap and Mata Sati. During the reign of Emperor Ashoka and the Kushan dynasty, Buddhism had a significant influence on the region. Under the rule of Emperor Lalitaditya, Kashmir witnessed territorial expansion, and the Sanskrit language gained considerable respect and prominence. The revered Shankaracharya Temple, located near Srinagar, continues to stand as a symbol of the spiritual conquests of Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya. Over time, due to the influence and conversions by Muslim invaders, the Muslim population in Kashmir gradually increased.

At the time of India's independence, like other princely states, Maharaja Hari Singh of Kashmir merged the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir with India by signing the Instrument of Accession. However, the imposition of Article 370 in Kashmir under the influence of Sheikh Abdullah was a short-sighted decision by Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. This step created a rift in the unity and integrity of the nation. At that time, several prominent leaders, including Bharat Ratna Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, had opposed this move. The then National President of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, launched a nationwide movement against this special status with the slogan, “Ek desh mein do vidhan, do pradhan, aur do nishan nahi challenge” (“In one country, two constitutions, two heads, and two flags will not be tolerated”). He ultimately sacrificed his life under mysterious circumstances on 23 June 1953 while in detention in Kashmir. Since then, the removal of Article 370 remained a declared objective of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, and later, the Bharatiya Janata Party. This long-standing goal was finally fulfilled by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi during his second term, on 5 August 2019.

**The decision by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to revoke Article 370 on August 5, 2019, is historic and bold step. It has strengthened national unity and is proving to be a significant milestone in the development of Kashmir.**

After the abrogation of Article 370, the implementation of the Central Government's schemes dedicated to social and economic justice began reaching the people of Kashmir—many of whom had been deprived of these benefits until then. Today, all Indian citizens are permitted to purchase land in Kashmir. As a result, the region has seen the registration of over 500 properties and an investment of 3,500 crore in the real estate sector. The long-standing rule that denied Kashmiri women their ancestral property rights if they married outside the state has been abolished—marking a decisive step toward women empowerment. Furthermore, around 1.5 lakh families displaced from Pakistan—including Valmiki, Scheduled Caste, and tribal refugees—have now been granted full citizenship rights. Over 35 lakh individuals have received Domicile Certificates, giving them access to government services and opportunities. The implementation of national education laws has enabled more than 10 lakh children to receive free education. Additionally, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as well as economically weaker sections, have been extended the benefits of reservation. The inclusion of new communities in the list of socially and educationally backward classes, along with an increase in reservation quotas, is proving to be a transformative step in the upliftment of backward classes in the region.

Due to accelerated industrial development, investments worth 56,000 crore have generated employment for nearly 80,000 people in Jammu and Kashmir. More than 1,200 startups are now actively contributing to the

region's development and creating new employment opportunities. Handicraft products made by local artisans are also finding markets in new regions, enhancing income and preserving cultural heritage. Since the abrogation of Article 370, over 10,000 kilometers of roads have been constructed or upgraded, significantly improving connectivity. Major infrastructure projects like the Zojila and Chenani-Nashri tunnels have reduced travel time and made routes more accessible. The four-lane Jammu-Srinagar highway is a testament to the ongoing developmental transformation of the region. The long-awaited Chenab Bridge, inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, stands as a marvel of modern engineering. At 359 meters above the riverbed, it is the highest railway bridge in the world—surpassing even the Eiffel Tower in height. This achievement has been publicly praised by former Chief Minister Shri Omar Abdullah. Healthcare access has also expanded, with more than 13 lakh people receiving treatment under the Ayushman Bharat scheme. Jammu and Kashmir has also entered a new chapter of progress, as the region recently hosted Formula car racing events, signaling a growing environment of peace and tourism. Notably, Palli village in Jammu has earned the distinction of being India's first "carbon-neutral panchayat," highlighting the region's commitment to sustainable development.

After the removal of Article 370, Kashmir has witnessed a significant surge in tourism, driven by improved peace and stability in the region. According to official data, there has been a 50% increase in tourist footfall since 2019, with the total number of visitors reaching approximately 2.5 crore across the entire state.

Due to the government's policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism, there has been a consistent and significant decline in terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir. Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah informed Parliament that terrorist incidents have reduced by 92%. Additionally, there has been a continuous drop in the recruitment of new terrorists.

Pilgrimages to holy sites such as Vaishno Devi and Amarnath are steadily increasing, reflecting improved security and public confidence. The three-tier Panchayat elections held after the abrogation of Article 370 witnessed a remarkable voter turnout of 65%, underscoring the region's march toward peace and prosperity. In these elections, 32,000 elected representatives are now actively contributing to the development of their respective Gram Panchayats. Cultural and religious revival is also taking place. After 70 years, Diwali and Saraswati Puja were celebrated at the historic Maa Sharda Temple—originally

established by Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya. The temple was reopened on 23 March 2023 by Hon'ble Home Minister Shri Amit Shah. Formal worship has also resumed at the revered Kheer Bhavani Temple, marking a return to spiritual and cultural vibrancy in the region.

The then National President of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Shri Murli Manohar Joshi, undertook the historic "Bharat Ekta Yatra" from Kanyakumari to Srinagar with the aim of hoisting the national flag at Lal Chowk—a symbolic and historic location in Srinagar, the capital of Jammu and Kashmir. This resolution was fulfilled on 26 January 1992, when the tricolor was hoisted at Lal Chowk under tight police protection. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, then a key associate of Dr. Joshi, played an important role in the successful completion of this mission.

Today, after the abrogation of Article 370, the national flag flies proudly and freely at Lal Chowk—not under protection, but as a symbol of unity and peace. More importantly, the spirit of nationalism has taken deep root among the people of Kashmir. Locals are now celebrating national festivals with pride and enthusiasm, hoisting the tricolor at their homes. Notably, Shri Krishna Janmashtami, the revered Hindu festival commemorating the birth of Lord Krishna, was also celebrated with great joy and devotion at Lal Chowk itself—an inspiring testament to the cultural revival and inclusive spirit emerging in the region.

The abrogation of Article 370 has ushered in a new era, where Jammu and Kashmir is scripting a remarkable story of "development through heritage" under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The transformation in the region has been so profound that even citizens of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir are now expressing a desire to be part of India, inspired by Kashmir's development journey. However, heinous incidents like the recent terrorist attack in Pahalgam are desperate and nefarious attempts to derail this progress. But the people of India, united in spirit and bound by a shared sense of national pride, will respond to every conspiracy with resilience and determination—upholding the ideals of unity and integrity. Over the past 11 years, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's relentless efforts have successfully rekindled a strong sense of nationalism and belonging in the hearts of every Indian. This collective awakening is now the driving force behind the nation's progress and its unwavering stand against any threat to its unity. ■

**{The writer is National Jt. General Secretary  
(Organization), BJP}**



# INDIA REACHES FOR THE STARS, BRINGS THEIR LIGHT HOME



**DR. JITENDRA  
SINGH**

In the quiet fishing village of Thumba, Kerala, where India's space journey began with sounding rockets launched from a churchyard, few could have imagined the cosmic heights the nation would one day reach. It was a time of quiet resolve, when the dream of reaching the stars was nurtured with limited means but limitless ambition. Today, that dream has matured into a national mission, and as we mark eleven years of the Narendra Modi Government, India's space programme stands transformed – bold, inclusive, and deeply connected to the lives of ordinary citizens. This transformation is not just about rockets and satellites – it is about people. It is about how space technology has quietly entered the daily rhythm of life, from the farmer in a remote village to the student in a digital classroom.

Under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Modi and the strategic stewardship of the Department of Space, India has reimaged its space programme as a tool for development, empowerment, and opportunity. The reforms introduced since 2014 have opened new frontiers. The creation of IN-SPACe in 2020 allowed private companies to participate in space activities,

sparking a wave of innovation. Today, over 300 spacetechn startups are building satellites, designing launch vehicles, and developing applications that serve agriculture, education, healthcare, and navigation. These startups are not just creating technology – they are creating jobs, especially for young engineers and entrepreneurs in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.

The liberalized space policy has made space services more affordable and accessible,

**Today, over 300 spacetechn startups are building satellites, designing launch vehicles, and developing applications that serve agriculture, education, healthcare, and navigation. These startups are not just creating technology – they are creating jobs, especially for young engineers and entrepreneurs in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities**

bringing the benefits of advanced technology to the grassroots. India's satellites now play a vital role in weather forecasting, helping farmers plan their sowing and harvesting cycles with greater accuracy. In flood-prone regions, satellite data enables early warnings and disaster response, saving lives and livelihoods. During cyclones and droughts,

remote sensing helps authorities prepare and mitigate damage. In rural clinics, telemedicine powered by satellite connectivity allows doctors in urban centres to consult with patients in remote areas, bridging the healthcare divide. E-learning platforms, supported by satellite bandwidth, bring quality education to children in far-flung villages, ensuring that geography is no longer a barrier to learning.

The NavIC system, India's indigenous GPS network, is now used for navigation in vehicles, tracking trains and ships, and even guiding fishermen safely back to shore. In agriculture, satellite advisories help farmers monitor soil moisture, crop health, and pest infestations, enabling smarter decisions and better yields. These are not abstract benefits – they are real, measurable improvements in the lives of millions. The missions launched in the past decade have captured global attention. Mangalyaan reached Mars on its first attempt, showcasing India's engineering excellence. Chandrayaan-3 landed near the Moon's south pole, a region believed to hold water ice, and its rover conducted experiments that will inform future lunar missions. Aditya-L1 is now studying solar storms, helping scientists understand space weather and its impact on communication systems and power grids. The Gaganyaan mission, scheduled for 2027, will send Indian astronauts into space. But even





Looking ahead, India plans to build its own space station – the Bharatiya Antariksh Station – by 2035. The first module is expected to launch in 2028, and the recent success of the Space Docking Experiment has validated the technologies needed for this ambitious goal

before the crewed flight, the mission is already inspiring a new generation.

The training of astronauts, the development of safety systems, and the uncrewed test flights are creating a ripple effect – boosting research, attracting talent, and building national pride. Looking ahead, India plans to build its own space station – the Bharatiya Antariksh Station – by 2035. The first module is expected to launch in 2028, and the recent success of the Space Docking Experiment has validated the technologies needed for this ambitious goal. The station will allow long-term habitation and research, opening doors to deep-space exploration and interplanetary missions. To support these growing ambitions, India is developing the Next Generation Launch Vehicle

(NGLV), capable of carrying 30,000 kilograms to low Earth orbit. It will feature reusable stages and modular propulsion systems, making space access more affordable and sustainable.

A third launch pad at Sriharikota and a new spaceport in Tamil Nadu are being built to handle the increasing frequency of launches and to support commercial missions. India's space programme is also deeply collaborative. The NISAR mission with NASA will monitor Earth's ecosystems and natural hazards. The LUPEX mission with Japan will explore the Moon's polar regions with a heavier rover. These partnerships reflect India's growing stature as a trusted global space partner. But space is not just about exploration – it is also about responsibility. With

thousands of satellites orbiting Earth, space debris has become a serious concern. ISRO's Space Situational Awareness programme monitors debris in real time, developing strategies to avoid collisions and ensure the long-term sustainability of space activities. In every corner of the country, the impact of space technology is visible. In the Himalayan states, satellite data helps monitor landslides and glacial movements. In coastal regions, it supports marine conservation and disaster preparedness.

In tribal and remote areas, it enables digital inclusion through satellite internet. These are quiet revolutions-transformations that touch lives without fanfare. As we look to the next decade, the goals are clear: a crewed lunar landing by 2040, a fully operational space station, and a leadership role in global space innovation. These are not just dreams – they are strategic imperatives for a nation that has always believed in the power of science to transform society. From the bicycle sheds of Thumba to the docking maneuvers in orbit, India's space journey is a story of resilience, imagination, and relentless pursuit. It is a story that belongs to every citizen, every scientist, every dreamer. And as we celebrate eleven years of transformative governance, we also celebrate a nation that has truly reached for the stars – and brought their light back home. ■

**(The writer is Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, GoI)**

# PM Modi receives the highest honour of Cyprus -“Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III”

The President of Cyprus, H.E. Nikos Christodoulides, on June 16, 2025 conferred upon Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Cyprus's honour – the “Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III”.

Accepting the honour on behalf of 1.4 billion Indians, Prime Minister expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the President, the Government, and the people of Cyprus. He dedicated the award to the longstanding warm ties between India and Cyprus which are built on shared values and mutual trust.

Shri Modi further noted that the award was a recognition of India's age-old philosophy of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam” or “The World is one Family” that guides its vision for global peace and progress.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi embraced the honour as a renewed commitment to strengthening and diversifying the partnership between India and Cyprus.

He emphasized that the award was a symbol of the unwavering commitment of the two countries to peace, security, sovereignty, territorial integrity and prosperity. ■



## 23 Global Honors

*Celebrated by 140 Crore Indians*

— India's Unstoppable Global Ascent —



|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cyprus's Highest Honour – the Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III</li><li>Sri Lanka's highest civilian honour, The Mitra Vibhushana</li><li>Mauritius' The Grand Commander of the Order of the Star &amp; Key of the Indian Ocean</li></ul>                               | <b>2020</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>US Government's Legion of Merit</li></ul>   |
| <b>2024</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Kuwait's The Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer</li><li>Guyana's The Order Of Excellence</li><li>Barbados's The Order of Freedom</li><li>Nigeria's Grand Commander of the Order</li><li>Dominica's Dominica Award of Honour</li><li>Russia's Order of St. Andrew the Apostle</li></ul> | <b>2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bahrain's King Hamad Order of the Renaissance</li><li>Maldives' the Order of the Distinguished Role of Nishan Izzuddin</li><li>United Arab Emirates' Order of Zayed Award</li></ul> |
| <b>2023</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Greece's Grand Cross of the Order of Honour</li><li>France's Grand Cross of the Legion</li><li>Egypt's Order of the Nile</li><li>Republic of Palau's honour Ebaki Award</li><li>Papua New Guinea's the Order of Logohu</li><li>Fiji's Companion of the Order of Fiji</li></ul> | <b>2018</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Palestine's the Grand Collar of the State of Palestine Award</li></ul>  |
| <b>2021</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bhutan's Order of the Druk Gyalpo</li></ul>  | <b>2016</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Afghanistan's the State Order of Ghazi Amir Amanullah Khan</li><li>Saudi Arabia's Order of King Abdulaziz</li></ul>   |





PM Shri Narendra Modi meets the members of various delegations who represented India in various countries at his residence (7, Lok Kalyan Marg), in New Delhi on June 10, 2025



President of Cyprus, Mr. Nikos Christodoulides welcoming PM Shri Narendra Modi at the Historic Centre of Nicosia in Cyprus on June 16, 2025



PM Shri Narendra Modi participating at the 51st G7 Summit at Kananaskis in Canada on June 17, 2025



Prime Minister of the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Andrej Plenkovic welcoming PM Shri Narendra Modi at Banski Dvori in Zagreb, Croatia on June 18, 2025



PM Shri Narendra Modi along with TDP president Shri Chandrababu Naidu and others participating in the 11th International Day of Yoga at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh on June 21, 2025





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**TRIBUTE TO THE HEROES WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES TO PROTECT INDIA'S DEMOCRACY**



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