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Fortnightly Magazine

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Keeping under control all the senses, the self controlled should meditate on Me; since for one whoses senses have been brought under control is established in perfect knowledge

– (Bhagavadgita : Ch.-II, 61)

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“countrymen trusted me on the matter of black money, still I wished to repeat my aim that whatever money had illegally gone abroad from India should return.”

-Narendra Modi

“BJP membership drive from November 1 to March 31, 2015 is not to increase the party's power but give more strength to the people of India.”

-Amit Shah

Chhath Pooja : October 29, 2014

Chhath Puja is an ancient Hindu festival and only Vedic Festival dedicated to the Sun God, Surya. Chhath Puja is performed on Kartika Shukla Shashthi, which is the sixth day of the month of Kartika in the Hindu Calendar. This falls typically in the month of October or November in the Gregorian Calendar.

The Chhath Puja is performed in order to thank Surya for sustaining life on earth and to request the granting of certain wishes. The Sun, considered the god of energy and of the life-force, is worshipped during the Chhath festival to promote well-being, prosperity and progress. In Hinduism, Sun worship is believed to help cure a variety of diseases, including leprosy, and helps ensure the longevity and prosperity of family members, friends, and elders.

The rituals of the festival are rigorous and are observed over a period of four days. They include holy bathing, fasting and abstaining from drinking water (Vrata), standing in water for long periods of time, and offering prashad (prayer offerings) and arghya to the setting and rising sun.

Although it is observed most elaborately in Bihar, Jharkhand, Eastern UP and the Terai regions of Nepal in modern times, and is more prevalent in areas where migrants from those areas have a presence, it is celebrated in all regions and major urban centers in India.

Chhath is a festival of bathing and worshipping, that follows a period of abstinence and segregation of the worshipper from the main household for four days. During this period, the worshipper observes purity, and sleeps on the floor on a single blanket. This is the only holy festival which has no involvement of any pandit (priest).

The devotees offer their prayers to the setting sun, and then the rising sun in celebrating its glory as the cycle of birth starts with death. It is seen as the most glorious form of Sun worship. ■





Initiative in the direction of making BJP number one in the world

It is the wish of the BJP National President to make Bharatiya Janata Party number one in the world in terms of its membership. At present China has the number one political party in terms of membership. Congratulations to BJP President for such an approach. Such approach of the party president inspires everyone to work.

For last two decades people have become indifferent towards politics. Negativity has grown in people. The sentiment that “we are not concerned” has increased. Such kind of sentiment is not good for democracy. Democracy will get weakened by this approach and in the last two decades India has been weakened due to indifference of people.

In the 2014 Lok Sabha elections Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi created a history. He made efforts tirelessly to break the political negativity and indifference in the people. He was successful to certain extent and this is the reason that people gave full majority to BJP.

This is the reason that Amit Shah has decided to connect the mood of the people with the party. There are many political parties in the country but if we look at them, most of them are confined within the boundaries of certain families. We may leave CPI and CPM as exceptions. But the condition of both these parties is also very miserable and people say that both these parties are counting their last breath. Here is a party BJP which conducts membership drive every six year and elections are held from the post of national president to mandal president every three year. So far Congress is concerned, its existence cannot be imagined without Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi. For Congress, Sonia ji and Rahul ji are working as ventilators. The reality is that the Congress will be finished without Sonia ji and Rahul ji.

While membership drive has started with full vigour, it has to be noted that strong democracy in the party has to be further strengthened. Discussion and dialogue in any party makes its internal democracy strong. In parties internal discussions should always exist. Except BJP, discussions are almost nil in other political parties.

In parties independent discussions-dialogue-talks should continuously take place. People’s organizations should always discuss with the people also. The attempt to confine democracy in the last ten-fifteen years is dangerous.

The shape and form of BJP is expanding. While the acceptance of Narendra Modi is increasing among the people, the acceptability of BJP is expanding. The BJP National President Amit Shah has understood this mood. This is the reason that he has fixed the target so that people may say that Bharatiya Janata Party is the party with largest membership in the world.

Everyone should join in this sacred work. BJP has given an opportunity to the countrymen to dial a number from their mobile and get membership. “Online is free”. It is a big decision. The manner in which Amit Shah by remaining in the background is making BJP move ahead step by step in different states is praiseworthy.

BJP National President Amit Shah will have to take one more praiseworthy step. Along with membership, to get the members connected ideologically he will have to make historic efforts to help party literature and ideology reach village to village. If BJP is successful in doing this then BJP will not be foremost in the membership alone but ideologically also it will become number one in the world. ■

'Saath aaye, desh banaye' : Narendra Modi

Matter of pride to become a member of BJP, says Modi

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the online nationwide membership drive (Sadasyata Abhiyaan) of BJP on 01 November 2014 from BJP headquarters in New Delhi with an aim to enroll at least three times its current membership from the current 3.5 crores – which would make it world's largest political. This is the first

membership through SMS is also possible. BJP workers are required to renew their membership every six years and the new membership would be valid for 2015-21. The party plans to prepare a database of members, link them to BJP booths in their localities and hold regular meetings.

After launching the online nationwide membership drive

get registered as party member and BJP Karyakartas would then meet the individual and handover the registration receipt.

Speaking at the launch of the drive PM Shri Narendra Modi said that the aim of the membership drive is to ensure that people from all sections of society should be represented in the party. He added that the poor and illiterate should also feel

that they are a part of BJP. He stated BJP should be expanded in such a way that it represents people of all strata and be able to fulfill dreams of all. "Our country is full of diversity. BJP should also be seen as full of diversity. The bouquet of crores of BJP workers should be such that people from all regions should



time the BJP has set such an ambitious membership target, far beyond the 20% benchmark of previous years, and the drive will go on till March 31, 2015. If it manages to meet its target, it would have overtaken the Communist Party of China, the world's largest with nearly 87 million workers. The BJP has launched a toll-free number – 18002662020 – to facilitate the drive, laying stress on new-age technology for which renewal of

(Sadasyata Abhiyaan) Shri Modi became the first member of the party to register online and he was followed by party National President Shri Amit Shah. Shri Modi also thanked the party for allowing him to become the first member of BJP through the online drive.

Now to join BJP the interested individual will have to give a missed call and address on a toll free number. Followed by which one will immediately

feel that their flower is also represented in this bouquet," he said.

Shri Modi noted that people's expectations from political leaders and parties have changed over the years and they now expect them to play an important role in public life and help improve their lives. Contending that BJP has raced ahead of its rivals in the country, he told the party cadres to reach out to all sections of the society

so that it represents the country's true diversity. "The era of mass agitations for politics seems over... Now people expect parties and their leaders to play significant role in public life," he said. Modi said to run the country and take it forward, one has to bring a change in it.

"The better the information flow from bottom to top, the healthier is the decision-making process at the top. Till there is no perfect flow of information from bottom to top, perfect guidance from the top is not possible," he said.

The Prime Minister said that for the development of the party, its horizontal as well as vertical growth is essential and called upon partymen not to leave a single village unrepresented.

Terming BJP as an important democratic organ across the world, he said the party should aspire to be an inspiration for all political parties globally and said it never positioned itself like a force to reckon with in the democratic order. "BJP is one of the most important organizations in the world. Yet we have never positioned it like

that. To be a member of BJP is to live the disciplined life it demands... every member of BJP is a representative of the people," he added.

Shri Modi asked research scholars from universities and social scientists the world over to study the process of the party's membership drive on how a person takes his first step in politics. "The membership drive should be cited as a case study before the world," he said inviting research scholars from across the world to see and study this "pure and democratic" exercise to reach every section of society.

Further encouraging the people PM said that when one becomes the member of the party which is in power the individual also becomes a representative of the people. Encouraging people to be a part of politics, he said that BJP is a party of the diversity. "Contrary to popular belief, politics is not tainted. If it was bad, Mahatma Gandhi would never have been a part of it," he said.

He told the party cadres not to bother about other parties, contending that BJP has already taken a big lead. "Put your everything into it... Like you do during an election campaign... It (the drive) should become an inspiration for parties across the world," the Prime Minister told the BJP cadres.

Throwing light on how the politics has changed in the recent times he said that "Nation expects political parties, workers, leaders to play an important role. Indian politics has changed. Now people expect parties to play significant role in public

Article IX of BJP constitution deals with membership.

It says :

Article IX: MEMBERSHIP

- (A) 1. Any Indian citizen of the age of 18 years or above who accepts Articles II, III and IV of the Constitution shall, on making a written declaration in the Membership Form (Form A) and on payment of a prescribed subscription, become a member of the Party, provided that he is not a member of any other political party.
2. The term of membership will ordinarily be of 6 years (as decided by the National Executive from time to time). With the beginning of the new term all members of the Party will have to fill membership form again. In the meantime membership will cease by death, resignation or removal.
3. No person shall become a member except in his place of permanent residence or where he carries on his usual vocation but at one time he shall not be a member at more than one place

The member will have to apply in writing to the District/ State concerned for a change of place.

- (B) The subscription received from the members shall be distributed in the following proportion among the units every three years :

National	10%
State	15%
District	25%
Mandal	50%

Article X: TERM

The term of each Council/ Executive/ Committee and all office-bearers and members thereof shall ordinarily be three years.

life.”

PM also congratulated BJP for turning digital at a time when the Central Government is also talking of digital India. He complimented the party Karyakartas and the party President Shri Amit Shah for using the modern technology to strengthen the party.

Earlier, delivering the introductory speech on the occasion, BJP National President Shri Amit Shah said, “It’s an important and fortunate day for all of us because our membership drive was going to be launched by PM Shri Narendra Modiji.

Shri Amit Shah said that the drive from November 1 to March 31, 2015 is not to increase the party’s power but give more strength to the people of India. “It is increasingly important that more and more people join BJP. We are starting this membership drive at a time when our party is in power and a new movement of development has begun,” He said.

Shri Shah said that whoever wants to join the party can join merely by dialing a toll-free number. “People can join the BJP by just giving a miss call on a toll free number. Thereafter, you will immediately get registered and the party members will come to meet you and handover the registration receipt to you,” Shri Shah said.

He said the party’s aim is to have three times its current membership from the current 3.5 crores. “This membership drive has to be taken differently by all BJP cadres as the party is in power now. This membership drive is very important for the party.

Once more and more people get associated with it, the party will be strengthened and so will the country and the country,” he said. ■

Highlights of his speech:

- BJP has given me immense pride by offering this opportunity. It’s a matter of pride to become a member of such a party. I’m going to be the first member...it is “sone pe suhaga!”
- I know what it means to be a member of BJP. A BJP member has to fulfill society’s expectations.
- Let’s invite universities. Let them see how BJP is carrying out the membership drive.
- Our country is diverse. BJP should also be diverse. Everyone should feel like they’re part of the BJP. Every section of society must feel represented.
- Important that we have horizontal (development of villages) as well as vertical development.
- There should be one BJP member in every Indian village. Right from a remote village in Andaman to Leh in Ladakh.
- Indian government has envisioned a ‘Digital India’. Here ‘Digital BJP’ is being launched.
- This is a great effort, it deserves appreciation.
- There is a negative perception about politics. Politics isn’t bad. If it was, Mahatma Gandhi would have never stepped into it.
- This should serve as inspiration to every political party.

BJP aims to break records with its membership drive : Nadda

Presiding over a meeting of party leaders from seven North Eastern states and the states of Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam BJP National General Secretary Shri J P Nadda said the party is aiming to break all records in inducting new members during a membership drive to be launched from November 1. “We would like to break all records in terms of our membership drive throughout India this time. The membership drive will be launched at our central party office tomorrow and will continue till March 31, 2015. The membership will be for six years,” Shri Nadda said.

He said other than the old method of filling up forms for membership; the party was also taking help of technology to reach out to the masses. “Apart from the age-old method of filling up forms, we are also taking help of technology.

There will be online registration as we will be launching an exhaustive campaign process. He said, “We are going to touch all corners, all sections of the society through this membership campaign. We have planned an exhaustive campaign schedule,” he said.■

BJP Membership drive in States

PUNJAB

BJP plans to enroll 21 lakh new members

Motivated by the performance in the Lok Sabha polls and after the recent victory in Haryana Assembly polls, a rejuvenated Bharatiya Janata Party in Punjab is planning to enroll 21 lakh members in the State. State party affairs in-charge Shri Ram Shankar Katheria's maiden visit after taking over the new assignment mainly focused on expanding the party's base, reaching out to the unexplored areas and sections, bring into party fold maximum people to strengthen party organization.

Interacting with media persons Shri Ram Shankar Katheria said, "The membership drive was launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on November 1, and we'll be launching it from November 09 in Jalandhar which would continue till March 31, 2015, he said. For Punjab, the target has been fixed at 21 lakh. The state has been divided into 33 districts, which covers a total of 21,450 booths. "We have given the target of 100 members from every booth in all villages, towns and cities, which is compulsory, either personal or online," he said.

To make it a success, the BJP state unit has also decided to hold special four-day camps in all 33 districts. Party's state leadership, including BJP State President Shri Kamal Sharma, will also be available on one of these camps, the he said.

CHHATTISGARH

Dr. Raman Singh kicks off BJP's online membership campaign

The Bharatiya Janata Party's online membership campaign in Chhattisgarh was started by Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh in presence of party's National General Secretary Shri JP Nadda at party's office 'Ektam Parisar' in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

Shri Singh also reviewed party's membership drive through online system . Addressing the workers on the occasion, Shri Nadda said that BJP's online membership is increasing day-by-day and the party will break all the records with maximum number of

members.

He said that the membership can be easily counted for Lok Sabha, Vidhan Sabha and booth level from this system. Each member will be given an identity number and on the basis of which the party worker can trace his name, address, booth number and voter ID, Shri Nadda said.

BJP State president Shri Dharamlal Kaushik said that the membership is renewed after every six years. After launching the membership drive in Raipur, the campaign will be started in all districts. The target given by the national leadership will be achieved.

A large number of people of Muslim community led by Saleem Asharfi also took membership which was being provided online as well as offline by giving receipt.

MADHYA PRADESH

Our drive will reach bus stands, railway stations and airports : Nandkumar Singh

Launching online membership campaign in Madhya Pradesh, BJP State President and MP Shri Nandkumar Singh Chouhan called on the people to make BJP membership drive a huge success for realising the imagination of a strong India. Senior BJP leader Shri Meghraj Jain has been made in-charge of the State membership drive and has started knitting warp of it in all the 56 organizational districts of the State, he added. Shri Singh in a statement said, "By making an individual a member of the party, we should make him feel honoured. This would on the one hand make the new entrant in the party honoured and on the other hand would strengthen the party," he added.

Shri Singh said that where 9 to 10 crore members would be made at national level we have to carry forward our membership ahead from 2.21 crore. Phased programme has been made for the membership and we need to achieve our target of for it before March 31, 2015.

He said that from next month our drive would reach bus stands, railway stations and airports where party office bearers would welcome the visitors and would honor them with party membership. ■

Devendra Fadnavis takes oath as Maharashtra CM

Devendra Fadnavis was on October 28 sworn-in as Chief Minister of the first BJP government in Maharashtra at a grand ceremony. 44-year-old Fadnavis, a third time MLA was administered the oath of office and secrecy by Governor Shri C Vidyasagar Rao at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai in the presence of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, BJP National President Shri Amit Shah, several Union ministers and leaders like Shri LK Advani and Shri MM Joshi among others. Chief Ministers of BJP-ruled states including Smt. Vasundhara Raje (Rajasthan), Smt. Anandiben Patel (Gujarat), Shri Manohar Parrikar (Goa), Shri Raman Singh (Chhattisgarh) and Shri Manohar Lal Khattar (Haryana) and those governed by allies including Shri Chandrababu Naidu (Andhra Pradesh) and Shri Parkash Singh Badal (Punjab) also attended the event. Top



industrialists along with other eminent personalities, including from Bollywood were present at the packed venue when seven Cabinet Ministers and two Ministers of State also took oath. ►►

Manohar Lal Khattar sworn-in as Haryana CM

Narendra Modi, Sushma Swaraj, Rajnath Singh among others attend the ceremony



Shri Manohar Lal Khattar was sworn-in as CM of Haryana at Panchkula on October 26. While PM Shri Narendra Modi paid little heed to the protocol to attend the swearing-in, his cabinet ministers, including Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Shri Rajnath Singh, and the party's state leaders too made it to the ceremony in full strength.

Along with CM designated Manohar Lal Khattar Shri OP Dhankar, Shri Ram Bilas Sharma, Shri Anil Vij, Smt. Kavita Jain, Captain Abhimanyu and Shri Narvir Singh also took oath as cabinet ministers. Apart from these cabinet ministers three ministers of state (MoS), Shri Bikram Singh Thekedar, Shri Krishan Kumar and Shri Karan Dev Kamboj, too were administered the oath of office and secrecy. They all will hold independent charges.

As the new CM assumes office, he will be confronted with weak state finances. The new regime will have a tough job putting state's fiscal situation in order as it faces huge revenue deficit and ballooning debt in the wake of "populist" decisions taken by the previous government, says an expert. It is also going to be a major challenge for the first BJP-led Haryana government to fulfill its election promises, including raising old age pension, providing foodgrain at Rs 1 per kg to BPL families given the "precarious" financial position of the state, he said.

Apart from these public confidence needs to be restored in the wake of huge cases of scams & corruption reported from the State.



The 10-member Devendra Fadnavis ministry sworn in along with CM-designate in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a blend of youth and experience.

The seniormost among them is **Eknath Khadse** (born in 1952), Leader of Opposition in the outgoing 12th State Assembly. A prominent leader from Jalgaon district in North Maharashtra, he was Finance Minister during the Shiv Sena-BJP regime in 1995-99.

Shri Sudhir Mungantiwar (born 1962) is a former president of Maharashtra BJP. He was a minister for some time during the Shiv Sena- BJP regime in 1995-99. He hails from Chandrapur district in Vidarbha.

Shri Vinod Tawde (born 1963), who was effective as leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council, hails from Sindhurg district in coastal Konkan region and is an electronics engineering graduate. Shri Chandrakant Patil, an MLC from Pune graduates seat. Hailing from Kolhapur district in western Maharashtra.

Smt. Pankaja Munde (born 1979) won her second term as MLA from Parli in Marathwada region. She was made a member of the state BJP core committee after the death of her father Gopinath Munde in a road accident in Delhi in June.

Shri Vishnu Savara won from Vikramgad constituency in Palghar district. He was a minister during the Sena-BJP government in the 90s.

Shri Prakash Mehta represents Ghatkopar East constituency in Mumbai. He is a former Mumbai BJP president. He was a minister during the Sena-BJP government in the 90s.

Among the ministers of state who took oath today was also **Shri Dilip Kamble**, who won the October 15 poll from Pune Cantonment defeating sitting MLA Ramesh Bagve, a former minister, by over 14,000 votes. **Ms Vidya Thakur** is former deputy mayor of Mumbai. She defeated Shiv Sena leader Subhash Desai from Goregaon Assembly constituency in the recently held assembly polls. ■

PM invites suggestions on dealing with drug addiction

Taking up the cause of addressing the menace of drug addiction, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi invited suggestions from the public as well as NGOs on ways to mitigate the problem.

Shri Modi, who touched upon the issue in his 'Mann Ki Baat' programme on radio last Sunday, said the views and experiences could be shared on MyGov website. "During 'Mann Ki Baat' programme, I talked about many friends writing to me on menace of drugs. I said I will take it up in next programme," he tweeted. "I invite you to share your views on the issue of mitigating the menace of drugs. If you worked in this area, please share your experiences," he added in another tweet.

The Prime Minister asked NGOs that are working on this to share their experiences as well. "It will be wonderful to know about the work being done."

He also suggested that those having personal experience but not wanting to share it in public may write to him directly. He has promised to talk about this social problem in his next 'Mann Ki Baat' programme, expected after a month.

In his last such programme, Shri Narendra Modi had cited a letter received by him from a citizen talking about the problem of drug addiction.

He had said youth are the asset of the country and the nation cannot afford to see them falling into the problem of drug abuse. "The issues I touch are the ones on which government comes under attack. But how long will be hide things? For good intent, the truth has to be spoken and I will keep doing it," he said.

He had said the government has a responsibility to address social problems like drug addiction and it will create an environment in this regard. ■

Five phase elections in Jharkhand, J-K announced

Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir and Jharkhand will be held in five phases between November 25 and December 20, it was announced on October 25 by election commission. Votes will be counted on December 23. Jharkhand and Jammu and Kashmir will vote on November 25, December 2, December 9, December 14 and December 20, Chief Election Commissioner VS Sampath said at a press conference in New Delhi. ■

Confidentiality clauses and the battle for tracing black money outside India

By Arun Jaitley

The world is increasingly moving towards a more structured and organized struggle against illegal money parked in tax havens or even otherwise transacted at foreign soil. Originally the tax havens were completely non-cooperative. However, international pressure has compelled some of them to relax the rigidity against non-disclosure.

Almost all countries which entered into Double Taxation Avoidance Treaties or have a domestic legislation, as in the case of US, that has an extra-territorial application insist that information parted to the receiving State would be subjected to confidentiality clauses. The confidentiality clauses make it incumbent that disclosure would be made only after prosecution is filed before a charging court. Thus the issue is not whether but when disclosure can be made. The debate is not between disclosure and non-disclosure of confidential information. It is between unauthorized disclosure in violation of tax treaties and disclosure as per tax treaties. An unauthorised disclosure in violation of tax treaties entails that the disclosure is made for collateral purposes. It is usually not accompanied by any evidence or proof. But when a disclosure is made in pursuance

of a charge sheet in a court of law where a criminal prosecution is filed, it would certainly be a disclosure substantiated by adequate proof and evidence.

A disclosure in violation of tax treaties helps the account holder. The reciprocating state would treat this as a violation of a tax treaty and refuse to provide

the global coalition which is moving in the direction of automatic sharing of information or not? Does it ensure all information is supported by substantial evidence and proof or only wishes to remain restricted to sloganeering? In the recent meeting of about 50 countries in Berlin which proposed automatic sharing of

A disclosure in violation of tax treaties helps the account holder. The reciprocating state would treat this as a violation of a tax treaty and refuse to provide any evidence in support of the unauthorized account. The holder of the unauthorised account in the absence of any proof and confirmation from the reciprocating State would get the benefit in any investigation or prosecution and then claim that "I stand vindicated".

any evidence in support of the unauthorized account. The holder of the unauthorised account in the absence of any proof and confirmation from the reciprocating State would get the benefit in any investigation or prosecution and then claim that "I stand vindicated". In fact, a pre-mature disclosure would additionally alert the account holder to prepare some documentation or a sham defence. It may even enable him to destroy evidence.

India has to take a conscious call. Does it want to be a part of

information, India could not participate since a prevalent view is that confidentiality clauses are unconstitutional in Indian law. This view requires reconsideration. An automatic exchange of information would relate both to authorized and unauthorised movement of money. Why should any information with regard to authorized movement of money be made public? Why should information even in relation of unauthorized movement of money be made public only for political or collateral purposes?

Why should the account holder be alerted in advance? It should be put to an authorized use with collection of evidence and filing of prosecution.

The United States has legislated the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, 2010 (FATCA). The FATCA contains a confidentiality clause. It makes it mandatory for foreign financial institutions (FFIs) to register with the appropriate authority and exchange information. The foreign financial institutions are required to enter into agreement with the US Internal Revenue Service. Alternatively foreign governments can sign agreements with US government. Mandatory exchange of information subject to confidentiality clause being necessary. FATCA mandates the deduction and withholding of tax equal to 30% on a US source

undertaken by our government to revive the Indian economy. The Reserve Bank of India has already informed the Government of India about the serious and adverse

procedure. A disclosure without evidence would ensure that evidence is never available.

Notwithstanding its clarity, why should someone with adequate understanding of the

The United States has legislated the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, 2010 (FATCA). The FATCA contains a confidentiality clause. It makes it mandatory for foreign financial institutions (FFIs) to register with the appropriate authority and exchange information. The foreign financial institutions are required to enter into agreement with the US Internal Revenue Service. Alternatively foreign governments can sign agreements with US government.

consequences of non-compliance of FATCA by India. Several countries have already subscribed to FATCA.

An unauthorised disclosure of information is fraught with both investigation and economic

subject, demand a disclosure in violation of the treaty. The Congress Party's stand is understandable. It does not want evidence to be forthcoming in support of the names available with SIT. Are some others ill informed, just indulging in bravado or are they Trojan horses? I am sure the SIT which has been entrusted by the Supreme Court with the investigation, will succeed in bringing out the truth while realising the full implications of the subject matter.

The NDA Government has had an exemplary record in this matter. The first decision of its Cabinet Meeting was to accept the Supreme Court direction in constituting the SIT. It has complied with every decision of the SIT. It made available all the names in its possession to the SIT on 27th June, 2014 itself. It will continue to support the SIT fully and unequivocally in search of truth. ■

(The writer is Union Minister of Finance & Defence)

payment to recalcitrant FIIs or FFIs in non compliant countries which do not meet with the requirements of FATCA. Such 30% withholding will also be imposed by other FATCA compliant countries against non compliant countries. The consequences of not signing the the agreement with US under FATCA would be disastrous. It will negate the efforts being

consequences. They can sabotage the investigation. They can attract sanctions in the form of withholding taxes. It is obvious that in a choice between unauthorised disclosure and disclosure as per treaties, the latter is both a fair and beneficial proposition. It will help in collection of evidence and exposure of a wrong doing in accordance with law and fair

Sardar Patel gave us “Ek Bharat” – let us all make “Shreshth Bharat”: Modi

Flagging off the “Run For Unity” on the occasion of Sardar Patel Jayanti, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 31st October, the birth anniversary of Sardar Patel recalled the mantra of “*Ek Bharat: Shreshth Bharat*” and said that Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel gave us “*Ek Bharat*” (*United India*), and we should all work towards creating “*Shreshth Bharat*” (*Best India*). He was addressing a large gathering of youth and people from all walks of life, at Rajpath in New Delhi.

The Prime Minister referred to Sardar Patel Jayanti as an inspirational moment, and said a country that forgets history, cannot create history. He said India’s glorious heritage will always be an inspiration for its aspirational youth. He reminded the people that India’s rich heritage can never be divided on ideological lines. He remembered former Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi, noting that today was her death anniversary.

Mentioning Sardar Patel’s unique contribution to the freedom struggle, the Prime

Minister drew a comparison of the Sardar’s relationship with Mahatma Gandhi, to the relationship between Swami

always be vigilant to guard this unique strength of unity in diversity. He regretted that thirty years ago, India’s fabric of unity



Vivekananda and Ramakrishna Paramahansa.

The Prime Minister also spoke of Chanakya’s vision of a united India, and said the Sardar had, through his strategic foresight, converted that dream into reality.

On India’s unity in diversity, the Prime Minister said this diversity gives us strength. He said India’s people should

in diversity had been attacked, as one specific community had been targeted.

The Prime Minister administered the pledge of unity to the assembled people and later flagged off the Run For Unity. Even as he exhorted people to begin the run, the assembled youth enthusiastically waited for the Prime Minister to lead the run.

Eventually, the Prime Minister led the Run For Unity.

Union Ministers Shri Arun Jaitley, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Shri Venkaiah Naidu and Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, and Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Shri Najeeb Jung, Rajya Sabha MP & BJP National Vice President Shri Prabhat Jha were present on the occasion.

Earlier, the Prime Minister paid floral tributes at the statue of Sardar Patel, at Patel Chowk on Parliament Street. ■

Sidelights – Run For Unity Event at Rajpath, New Delhi

- PM's arrival was greeted with slogans and cheers. 'Bharat Mata ki Jai' resounded everywhere.
- PM led the chant of 'Sardar Patel amar rahe' before addressing the gathering.
- PM dwelled at length on the unbreakable bond between Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel in his speech.
- Run for Unity was flagged off by the PM. The enthusiastic crowd competed with each other to participate. PM came down from the stage to be among the people. PM also ran some distance to encourage the participants. People kept on pouring in the run long after he left.
- Youth and children formed the most enthusiastic contingent among the runners.
- Sports personalities including Olympics, Asiad and Commonwealth medal winners and cricketers drew huge applause from the crowd.
- Illustrating India's Unity in Diversity, the Prime Minister said:

Hkkk vud] Hkko ,d--- jkT; vud] jk"V^a ,d---
 ifk vud] y{; ,d--- ckyh vud] Loj ,d---
 jx vud] frjak ,d--- l ekt vud] Hkj r ,d---
 fjokt vud] l ldkj ,d--- dk;l vud] l dYi ,d---
 jkg vud] efty ,d--- pgjs vud] e tdku ,d---

BJP Youth Delegation to visit China

Bharatiya Janata Party has received an invitation from International Department of Communist Party of China (IDCPC) for strengthening political relationship of ruling parties of both the countries. Under the leadership of Sh Sidharth Nath Singh , National Secretary BJP a 14 member team is visiting China from 26th Oct to 4th Nov. The delegation will visit 4 cities of China which are Hangzhou, Beijing, Chongquig and Shanghai.

The four cities selected have their own identities. Hangzhou is an industrial town, Beijing is the political capital, Chongquig is a rural area with urban infrastructure and Shanghai a modern city.

The delegation will interact with Zhejiang Federation of Industry and Commerce, Alibaba Company and other business associates, Asian Bureau of IDCPC, Liangjiang Economic Development Zone and a banquet will be hosted by Vice Minister of IDCPC. The delegation will also visit Chongquing's City Service hotline office and one stop Public Service Center.

For better understanding of how political parties work in their respective countries the delegation will be meeting CPC members at various levels including Community level CPC organisation. Party level interaction will give a better understanding of how public opinion helps in shaping social and economic policies of their respective countries. Apart from meetings and interactions the delegation will also make two important visits for in depth knowledge of how One Stop Service window is provided for Business in China and a village to see how China coordinates rural area development and agricultural upgrading for higher income of farmers.

BJP's Youth delegation to China comes after 2011. The invitation by IDCPC is in line with the visit of President Xi to India and Prime Minister Modiji's government agenda of building modern cities, rural development with urban amenities, one stop window for business, one stop public service center and other development schemes. ■

Narendra Modi takes 'Clean India' Campaign to the Ganges

Picks up spade, cleans Assi Ghat in Varanasi

Bringing Swachh Bharat campaign to his Lok Sabha constituency, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 08 November 2014 wielded a spade to remove silt deposited along the banks of River Ganga in Varanasi and nominated nine persons, including Chief Minister Shri Akhilesh Yadav, to carry forward the cleanliness drive in UP.

Shri Modi arrived at the Assi Ghat where he climbed down three stairs and worked through an uneven muddy track to reach a makeshift stage where five priests were waiting for the Prime Minister to assist him in a special Ganga puja. The Prime Minister spent close to 15 minutes offering prayers to the river, as hymns echoed through speakers installed at the venue.

After the prayers, Shri Modi, who was accompanied by a few BJP leaders including party State president Shri Laxmikant Bajpai and city mayor Shri Ram Gopal Mohale, picked up a spade and began vigorously digging the huge amount of silt that had deposited along the ghat after the rainy season. Significantly, he did not stop after a few strokes but carried on to fill basket after basket with silt as a small crowd cheered him on with slogans.

Speaking to media persons assembled at the spot, he said that just like the launch of

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PM shares his vision for Varanasi's renewal (Kayakalp)

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi described Varanasi as an important part of India's heritage, and underlined his resolve to restore it to its position of global pre-eminence. He was interacting with leading citizens from various strata of society in Varanasi. He said he is talking to and receiving suggestions from a lot of people in this regard. The Prime Minister gave examples of the redevelopment of London post World War 2, which retained its original character; and the redevelopment of Bhuj post the 2001 earthquake. He said Kashi needs similar renewal.

- ◆ Ruling out any big announcements, the Prime Minister mentioned some key elements of his vision for Varanasi's renewal:
- ◆ Making Banaras Hindu University a wi-fi university; modernizing it and placing it alongside the best universities of the world.
- ◆ Separate toilets for boys and girls in schools.
- ◆ Cleaning of the Ganga using latest technology.
- ◆ Provision of clean drinking water.
- ◆ Modernization of the Ganga ghats ensuring dignity of women.
- ◆ Creating a contemporary ambience and feel for the Ganga aarti, using modern lighting.
- ◆ Running a special "Palace on wheels" train for Kashi.
- ◆ Small battery operated cars for Kashi.
- ◆ Solid waste management for the town.
- ◆ Enough seating for everyone at Varanasi railway station.
- ◆ Modern restrooms in public places.
- ◆ Solar lighting in public places.
- ◆ Creating a global market for handlooms and handicrafts using e-commerce.
- ◆ Free emergency ambulance service.

The Prime Minister remarked that thanks to modern tools of communication, he had perhaps received more support than even Mahatma Gandhi for the Swachhta Abhiyaan. He said awareness is growing among people. An atmosphere is being created where people will start hating dirt.

The Prime Minister said that on the basis of his experience over the last six months, he sees no reason why the country should remain where it is today. Noting that the whole world is looking to India today, he said it is up to India to take best advantage of the situation. ■

PM lays foundation stone of Trade Facilitation Centre and Crafts Museum in Varanasi

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today made a strong pitch for re-establishing Varanasi on the global map through revitalization of its traditional textile industry. Speaking after laying the foundation stone of the Trade Facilitation Centre and Crafts Museum, and inaugurating the Powerloom Service Centre in this historic city, the Prime Minister said the Union Government is working towards revitalizing the textile sector through a scientific approach, coupled with infusion of appropriate technology. He said this Centre that was envisioned in Varanasi, was the beginning of a comprehensive vision for this sector.

He said this Centre would encapsulate the heritage of Varanasi at one place. The Prime Minister said there is need to understand the changing demands and needs of the customer, and create new products which satisfy his need, to retain the customer.

The Prime Minister said ladies in every family in India had heard of the term "Banarasi Saree." Every mother wanted to gift a Banarasi

saree to her daughter for her wedding. He asserted that this represents an assured market of crores of sarees for Varanasi. The requirement now is to meet this demand and satisfy the customer with modern design, products and service.

Observing that after agriculture, textiles was the sector



which generated maximum employment, the Prime Minister said that textile workers weave not just cloth; but through the harmonious nature of their workplace, they also weave the fabric of a cohesive, harmonious society. He said this "Ganga Jamuni tehzeeb" was Varanasi's heritage, and indeed the heritage of India.

The Prime Minister narrated an anecdote of how he had seen a

"Banaras street" in Boston, USA. This was a street where "Gurus" lived, he said, adding that the whole world knows of the heritage of Banaras. He exhorted the people of the city to now use e-commerce and strategically tap the global market. He called upon people to work towards creating a modern, active, vibrant, forward-looking Banaras.

The Prime Minister said he had not come to Varanasi to make tall promises and his actions would speak for themselves.

He announced the Union Government's decision for a Rs. 2375 crore revival package for district cooperative banks. 16 of these banks are in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. This would ensure easy availability of credit to the lower and middle class, and help revive the handloom and powerloom sector.

The Prime Minister also visited an exhibition showcasing the traditional arts and crafts of Banaras.

The Governor of Uttar Pradesh Shri Ram Naik, and the Union MoS (IC) for Textiles Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar were present. The Prime Minister specifically thanked Shri Ahmad Hasan, Minister in the Uttar Pradesh Government, for being present on the occasion. ■



Swacch Bharat Campaign in Delhi on Gandhi Jayanti, he was nominating nine noted persons from UP to take the drive forward in the state.

Besides the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, those nominated by Shri Modi include Bhojpuri actor Shri Manoj Tiwari, Sufi singer Shri Kailash Kher, comedian Shri Raju Srivastava, cricketers Shri Mohd Kaif and Shri Suresh Raina, Chancellor of University of Blind at Chitrakoot Swami Ram Bhadracharya, Sanskrit scholar Shri Devi Prakash Dwivedi and writer Shri Manu Sharma. ■

Positive social energy can help create a model village : Narendra Modi

PM Modi selects Jayapur as the village under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on October 7 visited Jayapur village of Varanasi district. He announced that as the Lok Sabha Member of Parliament from Varanasi, he had selected Jayapur as the village under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana.

that it is not MPs who are taking guardianship of the village under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, but villagers who were taking MPs under their wing, through this scheme. He said that a good public representative has a lot to learn from villagers, their wealth of experience and

progressing over the last 60 years.

The Prime Minister said that if one village developed as an Adarsh Gram, it would influence several others, and officers would also get an idea of how best to implement schemes. The Prime Minister laid a lot of emphasis on generating social consciousness, and making significant achievements through the collective will of the people. Every village should celebrate its birthday, and all should participate in this celebration, the Prime Minister said, adding that this is the best way to end casteism. Can we decide that we will not allow Jayapur to become dirty; can we ensure children wash hands before eating, the Prime

Minister asked the large, vociferous gathering, asserting that these things did not require Government intervention.

He said such positive social energy can help create a model village.

The Prime Minister also called for every family in Jayapur village to celebrate the birth of every girl child as a festival. The Prime Minister said he has a lot of plans for Varanasi, but he hopes to achieve these objectives through people's power - Janshakti. ■



Setting at rest all speculation over why he was choosing Jayapur, the Prime Minister recalled that soon after he was nominated to contest the Lok Sabha elections from Varanasi, he had learnt of a tragic fire incident in this village. He had then spoken to officers and people to coordinate relief efforts for the village. Stating that bonds forged in times of distress were timeless, the Prime Minister asserted that this was the sole reason for choosing Jayapur.

Shri Narendra Modi said

their insights on solving problems. He said the *Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana* does not mean infusing additional funds in a village, but ensuring that schemes are properly implemented, and the entire village participates in solving problems and ensuring development. "I come to beseech Jayapur - adopt me. Teach me how to solve the problems of villages," the Prime Minister said. He said he wanted to remove the deficiencies that had prevented villages from

Film stars, industrialists pick up broom to contribute in PM's CLEAN INDIA MISSION



एक कदम स्वच्छता की ओर

Two days after Sachin Tendulkar accepted Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Clean India Challenge, industrialist Anil Ambani on October 29 picked up a broom, urging the nation to follow suit. He was one of the nine people nominated by Modi to take the 'Clean India' message forward. Shri Ambani was seen cleaning the streets of Mumbai early on Wednesday morning. He has in turn nominated 9 other people including actor Amitabh Bachchan, boxer Mary Kom and tennis super star Sania Mirza to take up this challenge. He has also nominated Shobha Dey, Shekhar Gupta, Prasoon Joshi, Hrithik Roshan and southern actor Nagarjuna for the challenge.

When Amitabh Bachchan took up the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'

In Mumbai October 30, ever since PM Narendra Modi asked every individual to contribute to the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or the Clean India Campaign on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, celebrities from various fields have been participating to keep the mission going. Bollywood actor Shri Amitabh Bachchan also joined the league.

Salman Khan, who accepted the invite sent by PM Narendra Modi for the 'Clean India Campaign' or the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, initiated the task on October 23. The Bollywood superstar contributed to the nationwide campaign by transforming a part of Karjat in Mumbai he also seen painted a house to give it a new look. Here's what Khan tweeted:

I once again thank @narendramodi for taking up the Swachh Bharat initiative and nominating me.

-Salman Khan

The actor took the opportunity to inspire and request all his fans on Facebook and followers on Twitter to take part in the 'Clean India Campaign' by nominating each of them.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi appreciated the salman efforts and tweeted:

The effort by @BeingSalmanKhan is a significant one that will inspire several people to join Swachh Bharat Mission. #MyCleanIndia

-Narendra Modi

Actor Abhishek Bachchan has been named a goodwill ambassador to represent the state of Maharashtra in Swachhata Abhiyan, along with eight other eminent personalities, some of which include singer Sunidhi Chauhan, Reliance Industries director Nita Ambani and Marathi film star Makrand Anaspure. ■

Pakistan has to make a conscious choice of peace with India : Arun Jaitley

Pakistan should draw a red line whether it wants to talk to government of India or those who want to break India, Defence Minister Shri Arun Jaitley said on 05 November asking it to make a “conscious” choice. India, he said, was “ready to speak to Pakistan” and is “willing to normalise the relationship” but “then there are a few red lines”.

“We create the environment, we fix up a dialogue at the level of Foreign Secretaries, our Foreign Secretary is to visit Pakistan (and) literally a few hours before that they invite the separatists for a dialogue to their High Commission (in New Delhi).

“So I think a new red line has to be drawn in Pakistan to reconsider this question that who they want to speak to? Do they want to speak to the Government of India or they want to speak to those who want to break India,” he said at the India Economic Summit in New Delhi.

“So unless Pakistan makes the conscious choice, a dialogue with Pakistan will not be possible,” he said.

India in August called off a scheduled foreign secretary-level talks after Pakistan’s envoy met Kashmir separatists on the eve of the dialogue.

Referring to ceasefire violations by Pakistan on the Line of Control, he said the consequences of its “misadventure” like firing on

civilian population and uprooting of village, “would be an unaffordable cost for Pakistan.”

Shri Jaitley, who is also the Finance Minister, said New Delhi has given three messages to Pakistan.

“The first is that we want to talk. So we invited them. The second is we send a foreign secretary there. But they must

decide whether they are ready to speak to our foreign secretary or to speak to those who want to break India. The third is that this kind of a situation in international border cannot go on. “That’s not an environment for a dialogue... India would like to normalise the relationship. But whether Pakistan wants to normalise the relationship depends on Pakistan,” he said. ■

President dissolves Delhi Assembly



President Pranab Mukherjee on November 5 dissolved the Delhi Assembly after which the Election Commission (EC) withdrew the notification issued for holding bypolls in the national capital. A notification issued by the Home Ministry said that President Pranab Mukherjee has dissolved the “Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi with immediate effect” on November 4. The by-elections were to be held in the three Assembly constituencies - Mehrauli, Tughlakabad and Krishna Nagar - after the BJP leaders from these areas were elected to Lok Sabha. The EC had earlier announced that elections in these constituencies were scheduled to be held on Nov 25. The national capital is headed for fresh polls after Union Cabinet approved Lt Governor Najeed Jung’s report which recommended dissolution of the Delhi Assembly after holding talks with AAP, BJP and Congress. Delhi has been under President’s Rule since February 17 after the Arvind Kejriwal-led government resigned after 49 days. ■

PM hosts Diwali Milan for NDA MPs

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi said on 22 October 2014 that 400 odd MPs of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) together represented a force with tremendous positive energy, which could help chart a new course for the country. “Let us think big. Let us think far. Let us think above politics,” Shri Narendra Modi said. He was speaking at a Diwali Milan hosted by him at 7 Race Course Road, for MPs of the National Democratic Alliance.

Talking about the recently launched Swachhta Abhiyaan, the Prime Minister said the initiative has received tremendous response from all sections of society. He called upon all NDA MPs to connect with people as they undertook efforts for Swachh Bharat in their areas. He urged them to visit schools in their areas over a five-day period beginning November 14th – the 125th birth anniversary of India’s first Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, and explain to children the importance of hygiene. This would send a positive message, he said.



The Prime Minister said that achieving Swachh Bharat is tough, but just as people of this country got together to eradicate polio, in the same spirit, Swachh Bharat can also be achieved. The Prime Minister urged the MPs to take to the people, the work done by the NDA Government for the welfare of the poor. The Prime Minister felicitated BJP President Shri Amitbhai Shah. Shri Amit Shah, in his remarks on the occasion, also called upon the MPs to go and explain to the people, the work being done by the NDA Government. Greeting the assembled MPs on the occasion of Deepavali, senior leader Shri L.K. Advani said that this Diwali was the best he had ever witnessed, as the party had risen to unprecedented heights. Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley briefed the MPs on the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, coal, gas pricing and diesel deregulation. Rural Development Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari spoke about the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana and Labour Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar briefed the MPs on the various initiatives taken under the Shramev Jayate Karyakram. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri Venkaiah Naidu gave some tips to the MPs for the upcoming winter session of Parliament. ■

Dr Harsha Vardhan gives prominence to alternative medicine

Finally Ayurveda, the ancient science of India might get its required attention. Health minister Dr Harsha Vardhan has taken necessary steps to ensure the same. In this context the nearly dozen upcoming All India Institutes of Medical Sciences across the country will have ‘huge’ departments of alternative medicine with a special focus on ayurveda, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said on 07 November.

‘We want to ensure that ayurveda gets proper recognition in modern day science,’ Harsh Vardhan said at the 6th All India Congress on ayurveda here. He also mentioned that creating huge departments of Ayush in the modern AIIMS will aid for holistic development of medicine and healing. Here are some of the benefits of living life the Ayurvedic way.

According to Dr Harsha Vardhan, Ayurveda has given to the world most of the things which modern medicine wasn’t adapt to. Modern medicine came up with solutions to most human problems after Ayurveda had presented the solutions for the same. He also informed that government had been keen to provide Ayurveda with its requisite attention since the independence. Here are seven types of ayurvedic massages one should know about.

Lok Sabha Speaker Ms. Sumitra Mahajan, who was also present said that there are numerous methods in Ayurveda but these have not been tapped properly. She also informed that to ensure better research and work is done on the field of Ayurveda the government is exporting more raw material than finished drugs and goods. She said there is a need to ensure a comprehensive quality control mechanism as far as Ayurvedic drugs are concerned. ■

Making Bengal the den of jihadi terror

By Balbir Punj

As the Government of West Bengal is seen compromising security, the question for Union Minister for Home Affairs Rajnath Singh is: How far will he tolerate the alarmingly rising threat to security in the entire region?

The trail of Burdwan blast looks like enveloping the Trinamool Congress like a python's grip and squeezing the ruling coterie in West Bengal. Three weeks ago, a house owned by the West Bengal ruling party leader was rocked by a blast of a bomb in the making.

When the State police searched the place, a bomb in the making and a few other crumbs were all that were found. The persons who rented that house happened to be from Bangladesh, and what they were doing in that house got the media smelling around. Resultantly, more suspicious have come tumbling out.

The ruling party there seemed to be obfuscating issues and preventing a full-scale probe into the premises. The media revelations made it imperative that the Central agency dealing with terrorism, the National Investigation Agency, take over the probe.

Instead of welcoming such a move, the State's Chief Minister and the TMC supremo sought to place all sorts of hurdles, quoting the Constitution and the law to prevent such intervention of a legal authority. The Centre had to act with your leave if possible,

without it if necessary. The latter alternative got a National Security Guard contingent to enter the blast house.

What the NSG, led to the spot by a local boy, found was not only beyond description; it was a damning evidence of a long-standing Trinamool closing of the eye to jihadis making use of the TMC's minority magnanimity to turn the place into a virtual factory to make bombs, grenades and other items, with some of them already dispatched to Bangladesh. Day by day the NIA probe exposed more and more the links to a host of jihadi elements both here and in the neighbouring nation.

That only confirmed what

the Intelligence Bureau had told the Union Government, which New Delhi duly conveyed to Dhaka: The Islamic orthodoxy in Bangladesh under the leadership of Jamaat-e-Islami was teaming up with some elements in that country's Army to stage a military coupe to topple Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Government and install a pro-jihadi regime.

The India part of the conspiracy was to light bomb fires across this country and try to seize and hold as hostage an Indian leader of great political value. In Bangladesh, pro-Jamaat leaders who had collaborated with the Pakistani Army to terrorise and suppress Bangladeshi leaders in 1970 had all been put behind bars and the trial courts had given death sentences to many of them – though an appeal got them to a lesser sentence of life-terms.

The liberal elements supporting the Hasina Government had got her to return the Constitution to its primal commitment to equality of all religions, had begun demonstrations against this reduction in the sentence on these jihadi leaders. The warning to the Dhaka Government from New Delhi was timely in this context.

But what happened in Burdwan focuses equally or more on the TMC's role in the entire affair. The very first question that arises is: Why was the TMC Government trying to

As the Government of West Bengal is seen compromising security, the question for Union Minister for Home Affairs Rajnath Singh is: How far will he tolerate the alarmingly rising threat to security in the entire region? The trail of Burdwan blast looks like enveloping the Trinamool Congress like a python's grip and squeezing the ruling coterie in West Bengal. Three weeks ago, a house owned by the West Bengal ruling party leader was rocked by a blast of a bomb in the making.

block the NIA investigation into the Burdwan blast? The vast amount of bombs, grenades and other items discovered by the NSG team in the very house that the State police had searched the previous day and did not find this incendiary treasure, is enough of an evidence to question the desultory nature of the State police's search.

Normally this discrepancy between what the State police found and the NSG acting on behalf of NIA found at the same

Normally this discrepancy between what the State police found and the NSG acting on behalf of NIA found at the same spot later could also be attributed to the State police's inefficiency. But the fact that the TMC Government sought to block the NIA from getting into this search shifts the finger of suspicion to the TMC's own role in it.

spot later could also be attributed to the State police's inefficiency. But the fact that the TMC Government sought to block the NIA from getting into this search shifts the finger of suspicion to the TMC's own role in it.

More evidence has since come in. In another location in a Government land just outside the district headquarters of Birbhum, the NIA has found a terrorist training centre run by the jihadis. After the Burdwan blast on October 2, all the occupants except one 'disappeared'.

From these houses, the NIA had seized computers, data cards, and documents related to jihadi teachings. The NIA has revealed that the land that belonged to the Government and had been given to tribals, had been illegally 'sold' to the three

jihadi trainers, out of whom only one could be apprehended by the agency.

From the Burdwan house to the Birbhum land, everywhere, where the jihadis were training personnel, making bombs and storing them, there is a chain of connections with the TMC.

To be fair to the TMC and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, it is possible that all these house-owners and others in her party involved may not have come to her notice at all. And that the

Islamist terror groups who misused these areas had got their real purpose in renting/buying these properties, hidden from the actual owners and the TMC cadres.

But this fig leaf falls to the ground when we examine the virulence with which the Chief Minister wanted to keep the NIA and the Union Government out of the probe. Considering Ms Banerjee's role leading the movement against the Left Front regime – which itself was soft on the Islamist terror groups – and the Muslim orthodox clerics, she should have welcomed the NIA probe.

The TMC cadres are seen involved in facilitating terrorists activities. One does not know how many more Burdwan-like events are flourishing in West

Bengal. We know that the Islamist and Muslim orthodox groups have shifted loyalty to the TMC ever since Ms Banerjee's ascendance in West Bengal politics.

These events are indicators of the jihadi elements getting an upper hand in West Bengal politics, first with the Left Front and now with the TMC. Forget about the packaging and labels, the hard reality is all the 'secular' parties end up encouraging radical Islam in their relentless pursuit of Muslim votes.

Among events that strongly support these observations were the riots that shook Kolkata during the Left Front regime on the issue of some waste paper packages unloaded from a ship containing torn pages from the holy book of Islam. The most damning evidence of terror links is the finding of the police investigations into the Saradha chit fund scam.

The Sheikh Hasina Government has been cooperating with New Delhi in tracking down jihadi elements seeking refuge in her country. Its gesture of capturing and returning to India of many of the terror leaders from India, hiding in Bangladesh, is a shining example of a joint effort to curb terrorism.

But as the Government of West Bengal is seen compromising security, the question for Union Minister for Home Affairs Rajnath Singh is: How far will he tolerate the alarmingly rising threat to security in the entire region? ■

(The writer is BJP Rajya Sabha member)

Recovery of black money from abroad is an article of faith : PM

From Our Correspondent

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has said that recovery of black money from abroad is an article of faith, and a commitment for him. Sharing his thoughts with citizens on the programme "Mann Ki Baat" over All India Radio for the second time on November 2, the Prime Minister said that though he was sure that countrymen trusted him on the matter of black money, still he wished to repeat his aim that whatever money had illegally gone abroad from India should return.

He said it was natural in a democracy that there could be different views about how to approach this issue, but he wished to assure the people on the basis of the information currently with him, that the Government was on the right track.

The Prime Minister said no one could have imagined that the Swachhta Abhiyaan would become such a mass movement. He said good results are already visible.

He said there are two aspects of this matter. The first is how the existing dirt can be removed. But the second, equally important aspect is how people are now enthused to say that henceforth, they will not do anything that spreads dirt. The Prime Minister said children too are now aware about cleanliness.

Shri Narendra Modi expressed satisfaction that people from all walks of life who come to meet him - these include



Government officers, sports persons, cine-stars, businessmen, scientists etc - talk about taking responsibility for social issues. The Prime Minister said he sees this as a big change.

The Prime Minister praised the officers of the Ministry of Human Resource Development for coming up with two innovative schemes for specially-abled children. The first is: one thousand scholarships for specially-abled children to pursue technical education. The

second is: a grant of one lakh rupees each to all Kendriya Vidyalayas and all Central Universities for creating appropriate infrastructure for the specially abled.

The Prime Minister also expressed happiness that sales of Khadi had more than doubled since his last radio address, when he had suggested to people to keep one khadi garment at home.

The Prime Minister referred to his visit and interaction with soldiers at Siachen on Diwali day. He said he went there because we could celebrate Diwali only because of them.

He congratulated the army men who had recently won the Cambrian Patrol event in Britain, where armies from 140 countries had participated.

The Prime Minister invited suggestions from people on how to tackle the menace of drug abuse among the younger generation. He said he would talk about this subject in his next radio address.

Shri Narendra Modi stated that an active citizen is the biggest strength of development. In order to enable people without access to internet to communicate with him, the Prime Minister has invited people to write to him at: "Mann ki Baat, Akashvani, Sansad Marg, New Delhi-110001." ■

Nehruvians discredited modern India's builder

By A Surya Prakash

The usual suspects have already begun to grumble over the Modi Government's decision to observe Sardar Patel's birth anniversary as National Unity Day. The Iron Man of India deserved this honour decades ago

The Narendra Modi Government's decision to observe October 31, the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) and to mount a nationwide campaign to acquaint the country's 1.3 billion citizens of the extraordinary achievements of this great son of India, will be hailed by all patriotic citizens.

This is the first major step taken by a Union Government over the last six decades to accord Sardar Patel, who was instrumental in securing the accession of 554 princely States into the Indian Union and for the unification of the country, his rightful place in the pantheon of national leaders.

Apart from being a leading light in the freedom movement, Sardar Patel played a critical role during the most sensitive, nascent phase in independent India's history. As the country's first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister, he had to grapple with the bloody riots and the influx of millions of refugees in the horrendous aftermath of the partition; play a key role in the drafting of the country's Constitution; and, more importantly, unite a nation, which stood splintered into 554

parts. The last named task — the unification of India — was an extraordinary achievement which only a man with foresight, determination and true grit could have achieved. Therefore, but for Sardar Patel's iron will and doordrishti, the political map of

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India which we are all so used to, would never have existed. Instead, India would have been a truncated nation with many secessionist time bombs ticking away in different regions.

In brief, here is what the Sardar did: Following the departure of the British, all princely States had the option to either accede to India or Pakistan or remain independent. In other words, a united India would emerge only if all the States below the Pakistan border acceded to India. If any chose to align with Pakistan or remain independent, a united India would be an impossibility. Also, if States deep within the Indian heartland decided to accede to Pakistan (as desired by Hyderabad State in the south), India's unity and integrity would be in peril, and in future, these States would have posed a major threat to national security and provided Pakistan multiple bases for cross-border terrorism. Finally, India's map would have looked jagged with several mini-Pakistans blotting the landscape. The unification of India was therefore paramount and Lord Louis Mountbatten, the Governor-General, concluded that there was just one man — Sardar Patel — who

had the courage, tenacity and ingenuity to undertake this responsibility. Sardar Patel was entrusted the task and in a brief time he achieved the country's unification by coaxing, cajoling and, at times, bamboozling, some reluctant princes; he got 554 of them to sign on the dotted line. This included the State of Hyderabad which was ruled by the Nizam.

The Nizam was keen to accede to Pakistan and Sardar Patel made every effort to get him to join India. When the Nizam offered resistance and even encouraged communal violence against his Hindu subjects, the Sardar asked the Indian Army to march in and capture the State. Jawaharlal Nehru foolishly wanted Hyderabad to take its own decision and was opposed to its forceful integration. But Sardar Patel was absolutely clear in his mind that Hyderabad State could not be outside the Indian Union. He is reported to have said that he "did not want an undigested lump in India's belly". But, for his foresight, India would have had a Pakistani enclave in her belly. One can well imagine its consequences!

The Sardar also brushed aside Nehru's objections and flew in troops to Srinagar in the nick of time to save whatever is left of the State of Jammu & Kashmir. But for his firm resolve and quick action, Pakistani troops, which were on the outskirts of Srinagar, would have overrun the remaining parts of the state. Similarly, his decisiveness enabled the integration of Junagadh and a few other States on the western

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coast into the Indian Union.

A fact that is hidden from the public by Nehruvian historians is that, of the 554 States that had to be integrated, Nehru gave Sardar Patel the responsibility to integrate 553, which the Iron Man accomplished with ruthless precision. Nehru kept the responsibility of integration of Jammu & Kashmir with himself. We all know the price that India is paying for this decision.

Yet, the man who constructed the India of our dreams and who was literally the builder of the nation, was never accorded the exalted status that he deserved. Starting with the days of Nehru, this family ensured that no national leader – be it Sardar Patel, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose or BR Ambedkar – were given his due, lest it diminish the image of Nehru and some lesser mortals thrust on the nation by fate or political circumstances. As a result, Sardar Patel's incredible contribution towards the unification of a nation literally in tatters after the British made their exit on August 15, 1947, has never been highlighted. This despicable plan to wipe Sardar Patel out of the national consciousness was abetted by historians and media persons who were patronised by the Nehru-Gandhis. Egged on by the Prime Ministers from this family,

these phonies who belonged to the Nehruvian or Marxist schools, not only hid the truth about the Sardar's phenomenal contribution, but also tried to tarnish his secular, democratic image and paint him as a Hindu communalist.

On the other hand, Nehru was painted as a great democrat. But the truth about his 'election' as the first Prime Minister was never told. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's observation last year that India's history would have been different if Sardar Patel had become India's first Prime Minister, is not without basis. In 1946, when the Congress had to elect the party president/ Prime Minister, 12 of the 15 Pradesh Congress Committees proposed Sardar Patel's name. The remaining three committees did not nominate anybody. However, Nehru, the 'great democrat', was unwilling to accept the verdict and told Mahatma Gandhi that he would not be number two to anybody. Mahatma Gandhi then persuaded Sardar Patel to withdraw his nomination and ensure the 'unanimous' election of Nehru as Congress president and Prime Minister-in-waiting! In other words, the Sardar combined magnanimity with toughness.

These are just a few of the reasons why the Modi Government's initiative must be welcomed. Although Sardar Patel is getting the recognition due to him, 60 years too late, it can no longer be said that we are an ungrateful nation, at least with regard to Sardar Patel. ■

(The writer is a renowned columnist)

BJP State Prabharis announced

On October 21 BJP National President Shri Amit Shah has appointed following Organisational State Prabharis:

No.	STATE	PRABHARI
1	Andhra Pradesh	Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Shri Ramen Deka
3	Assam	Shri Mahendra Singh
4	Bihar	Shri Bhupendra Yadav
5	Chhattisgarh	Prof Ram Shankar Katheria
6	Dadra Nagar Haveli	Smt Poonam Mahajan
7	Daman & Diu	Smt Poonam Mahajan
8	Delhi	Shri Prabhat Jha
9	Goa	Shri Purushottam Rupala
10	Gujarat	Dr Dinesh Sharma
11	Haryana	Dr Anil Jain
12	Himachal Pradesh	Shri Shrikant Sharma
13	Jammu & Kashmir	Shri Avinash Rai Khanna
14	Jharkhand	Shri Trivendra Singh Rawat
15	Karnataka	Shri P. Muralidhar Rao
16	Kerala	Shri H. Raja
17	Lakshydweep	Shri H. Raja
18	Madhya Pradesh	Shri Vinay Sahasrabuddhe
19	Maharashtra	Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda
20	Odisha	Shri Arun Singh
21	Punjab	Prof Ram Shankar Katheria
22	Rajasthan	Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda
23	Telangana	Shri P. K. Krishnadas
24	Tamilnadu	Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
25	Tripura	Shri Sunil Deodhar
26	Uttar Pradesh	Shri Om Prakash Mathur
27	Uttarakhand	Shri Shyam Jaju
28	West Bengal	Shri Siddharth Nath Singh

Amit Shah forms team to probe death of BJP worker in West Bengal

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah on October 29 constituted a three-member representative team to probe alleged murder of a BJP worker in West Bengal's Birbhum district. BJP vice-president Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Member of Parliament(MP) will be convenor of the team and Shri Kirti Jha Azad, MP and Shri Udit Raj, MP will be members. The team will soon visit the spot where violence took place and take stock of the situation.

Amit Shah appoints new in-charge of OFBJP

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah has appointed Shri Vijay Chauthaiwale as in-charge of OFBJP (Overseas Friends of BJP). BJP National President also dissolved all National Cells of BJP till the reformation. Reformation of Cells is proposed.

Amit Shah appoints Dinesh Sharma as National Membership Incharge

BJP National President Shri Amit Shah appointed Dr. Dinesh Sharma, BJP National Vice-President and Mayor of Lucknow (UP) as National Membership Incharge of Bharatiya Janata Party. Besides, Shri Shah appointed the following office bearers as Co-Incharge of the National Membership Campaign.

Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, National Vice-President

Shri Arun Singh, National Secretary

Smt Sudha Yadav, National Secretary

Shri C.T. Ravi, Former Minister, Government of Karnataka.

TAMILNADU

Won't Disturb Rama Sethu's alignment for SSCP : Nitin Gadkari

Union Shipping and Transport Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari in Ramanathapuram on 05th November assured that the Sethusamudaram Ship



Canal Project (SSCP) would be implemented without disturbing the current alignment of the Rama Sethu.

After conducting an aerial survey of the natural structure, Shri Gadkari told reporters at the Coast Guard' Mandapam station that the matter would be discussed by the Union Cabinet and a report be submitted to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi who would take a final call on implementing the project through a new alignment.

Meanwhile, the minister, who met the family members of the five fishermen who were sentenced to death in Sri Lanka, assured them of Centre's action to obtain their release. Further promising that the Union government would make arrangements for the aggrieved families to meet the fishermen through the Indian embassy in Sri Lanka, Shri Gadkari assured a permanent solution to the fishermen's problem.

"The Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister will be briefed over the plight of fishermen and the Centre will take steps to find a lasting solution to the problem," he said.

Minister of State for Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises Shri Pon Radhakrishnan and Sethusamudaram Project CMD Athulya Mishra accompanied Shri Gadkari.

WEST BENGAL

Didi lost her balance seeing steady rise of BJP in Bengal : Rahul Sinha

The West Bengal BJP has come down heavily on Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for terming it an ally of the Marxists.

Criticizing Ms Banerjee for bringing wild charges, State BJP President Shri Rahul Sinha said "she has lost her balance seeing the steady rise of the BJP in the State." Informing that his party had already acquired a 6 lakh-strong membership which would be increased three-fold in days to come Shri Sinha said he would "commit suicide than to team up with the CPI(M).

"Banerjee had earlier said that the BJP was hiring CPI(M) goons to attack the Trinamool workers." "The dichotomy in her words are clear as she had herself met the CPI(M) leaders after the Lok Sabha elections and offered to help them rebuild their organisation," Shri Sinha said.

Meanwhile, alleged Trinamool goons once again attacked the BJP workers torching their houses at Basanti village in South 24 Parganas. The attack was allegedly carried out by the men of the Trinamool Pradhan, the victim's family members alleged. The police were investigating the matter.



CHHATTISGARH

New State working committee formed

Bharatiya Janata Party on 03 November announced its new State Working Committee in Raipur. The Committee was announced by party's State unit President Shri Dharamlal Kaushik with the consent and approval of BJP National President Shri Amit Shah. The new Working Committee has new Vice Presidents like -Shri Chandrashekhar Sahu, Shri Girdhar Gupta, Shri Major Anil Singh, Shri Hemchand Yadav and Shri Vikram Usendi.

SarvShri Shivratna Sharma continued to be retained by the party as General Secretary alongwith Bhupendra Savanni and Krishna Kumar Rai with the names of Rampratap Singh and Pawan Sai announced as State General Secretary (Organisation) and State Joint General Secretary (Organisation) respectively. Chhagan Lal Mundra, Srinivas Rao Maddi, Nirmal Sinha, Yashwant Jain, Lakhan Lal Dewangan, Champadevi Pawel and Roopkumari Chaudhary have been appointed as Secretaries. While Leelaram Bhojwani has been made Treasurer and Subhash Rao is the party's Office In-charge.

SarvShri Sachchidanand Upasne, Dr Subhau Kashyap, Shrichand Sunderani and Sanjay Shrivastava are appointed as the spokespersons for the party.

KARNATAKA

BJP protests against increasing sexual assaults on women and children in State

BJP leaders, including party national vice-president Shri B S Yeddyurappa, party state president Shri Prahlad Joshi, leader of Opposition in the Assembly Shri Jagadish Shettar and MP Shobha Karndlaje joined BJP workers in their march towards Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's residence to protest against the state government's alleged failure in preventing sexual assaults on women and children. The BJP leaders accused the state government of trying to cover up the recent death of the 13-year-old girl in Tirthahalli. The

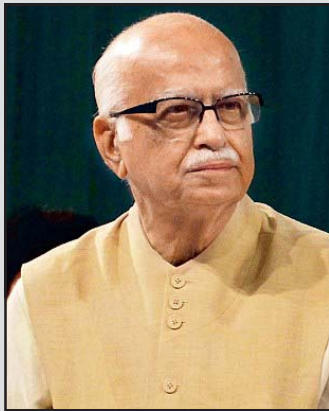


march began from the party's office in Malleswaram.

Things turned nasty when BJP workers were stopped by the police near Seshadripuram and detained. Tempers ran high when police personnel tried to detain Ms. Karandlaje. Accusing the police of high-handedness, she strongly protested when police personnel, including women cops, tried to drag her to a nearby police van.

She staged a dharna at Nehru Circle in Seshadripuram and demanded an apology from the police. She relented only after Police Commissioner promised action against those who treated her roughly.

Addressing party workers, Shri Yeddyurappa accused the Congress government led by Siddaramaiah of total failure in preventing rapes and other assaults on women and children in the state. He also demanded that the government order for an impartial probe into the Tirthahalli case and arrest the culprits immediately. ■



"Jeevem Shardah Shatam"

Birthday : 8 November

All the BJP leaders, Karyakartas, Kamal Sandesh Editor Shri Prabhat Jha and Kamal Sandesh Parivar join the nation in wishing their Margdarshak Shri Lal Krishna Advani a very happy birthday and pray for his long life to continue to guide the Party and the nation for long. ■

Yoga

By Sri Swami Sivananda

Benefits of Yoga Practice

Life today is full of stress and strain, of tension and nervous irritability, of passion and hurry. If man puts into practice a few of the elementary principles of Yoga, he would be far better equipped to cope with his complex existence.

Yoga brings in perfection, peace and lasting happiness. You can have calmness of mind at all times by the practice of Yoga. You can have restful sleep. You can have increased energy, vigour, vitality, longevity and a high standard of health. You can turn out efficient work within a short space of time. You can have success in every walk of life. Yoga will infuse in you new strength, confidence and self-reliance. The body and mind will be at your beck and call.

Yoga brings your emotions under control. It increases your power of concentration at work. Yoga discipline gives poise and tranquillity and miraculously rebuilds one's life. The Yoga way of life deepens man's understanding and enables him to know God and his relationship with Him.

Yoga leads from ignorance to wisdom, from weakness to strength, from disharmony to harmony, from hatred to love, from want to fullness, from limitation to infinitude, from

diversity to unity, and from imperfection to perfection. Yoga gives hope to the sad and forlorn, strength to the weak, health to the sick and wisdom to the ignorant.

Through Yogic discipline, mind, body and the organ of



speech work together harmoniously. For a Yoga practitioner, a new outlook, a new health, a new awareness and a new philosophy rush in and vividly transform his life.

Lust for power, material greed, sensual excitement, selfishness, passion for wealth and lower appetites have drawn man from his true life in the spirit into the materialistic life. He can regain his lost divine glory if he practices, in right earnest, the principles of Yoga. Yoga transmutes animal nature into

divine nature and raises him to the pinnacle of divine glory and splendour.

Beware of Siddhis

If a Yogi is not careful, if a Yogi is not well-established in the preliminary practices of Yama and Niyama, he is unconsciously swept away from his ideal by temptation—Mara or Satan. He uses his powers for selfish ends and suffers a hopeless downfall. His intellect becomes blind, perverted and intoxicated. His understanding gets clouded. He is no longer a divine Yogi. He becomes a black-magician or Yogic charlatan. He is a black sheep within the fold of Yogis. He is a menace to the society at large.

Many people are attracted to the practice of Pranayama and other Yogic exercises, as it is through Yoga that psychic healing, telepathy, thought-transference and other great Siddhis are obtained. But Yoga is not for attaining Siddhis or powers. If a Yogic student is tempted to attain Siddhis, his further progress is seriously retarded. He has lost the way.

Do not stop Sadhana when you get a few glimpses and experiences. Continue the practice till you attain perfection. Do not stop the exercise and move about in the world. Examples are not lacking. Numerous persons have been ruined. A glimpse cannot give you safety. The Yogi who is bent upon getting the highest Samadhi must reject Siddhis whenever they come. Siddhis are invitations from Devas. Only by rejecting these Siddhis can one attain success in Yoga. ■

(Source: Divine Life Society)