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कर्मण्यकर्म यः पश्येदकर्मणि च कर्म यः ।

स बुद्धिमान्मनुष्येषु स युक्तः कृत्स्नकर्मकृत् ॥

He who sees inaction in action, and action in inaction, is wise among men; he is a Yogi, who has performed all actions.

Bhagavadgita, Chapter 4, Text 18

Editorial

When organization is supreme, then why.....?

A feeling of hurt is pervading the mind of every BJP karyakarta for quite some time. It is not for the first time that they have tasted defeat in elections, but they were never so disheartened or morose. But today every karyakarta is feeling depressed. He is perturbed. "What shall I tell" to the persistent, anxious queries of people.

In retrospect, we find that BJP had suffered a setback in 2004 too, similar to the one we faced in 2009. The only difference was that in 2004 BJP-led NDA was in power and this time in 2009 it was in opposition. At that time also BJP failed to make a mark in the electoral battles in Maharashtra, Arunachal and Haryana. It failed this time too. Somehow or the other, a feeling has surfaced as if the difference between the situation then in 2004 and that in 2009 is as much as between day and night. But it is not a fact. We have to care to ensure that nothing should be said or done that hurts the image and standing of the party in the eyes of the people. BJP is the only party which took birth in independent India and which by earning the confidence of people by waging people's fight against injustice, exploitation and highlighting the issues and causes dear to the people. From being in opposition it was crowned with the success of power. BJP still continues to be in power in 5-7 States in the country. BJP is a party whose leader Shri Syama Prasad Mookerjee earned martyrdom for the cause of "Kashmir is an integral part of India". BJP is a party whose leader Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay evolved the ideology of *ekatam manavaad* (integral humanism). BJP is a party that holds mirror to the heart and mind of India. BJP is a party which gave to the majority community the message of *sarv dharma sambhav* (equal respect to all faiths) and kept the flag of genuine secularism high.

BJP is a party whose edifice was raised and stands today on the strength of its well-wishers, supporters and cooperation of organizations espousing the same ideology. BJP is proud of its commitment to cultural nationalism. It also continues to feel strongly that Article 370 should be abrogated and uniform civil code enacted.

Leadership is a quality of those who earn the respect of others through the wisdom of the combination of their words and their actions.

-Walter Grant IV

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BJP continues to be the central point of Indian politics. It encompasses the goodwill earned through the pious acts of its founding fathers and illustrious successors in its political journey from Jana Sangh to Bharatiya Janata Party. People have made great sacrifices to keep the 'lamp (*diya*)' of Jana Sangh burning and made the message of *Kamal* reach every nook and corner of the country.

For the last three-four years BJP was continuously on the rise. Its standing and acceptance was on the increase. It was because of this that its national President Shri Rajnath Singh said: "BJP is a party on the rise". During the past years BJP dethroned Congress in assembly elections in a number of States like Punjab, Himachal and Uttarakhand. Lalu's jungle raj was brought to an end in Bihar. BJP had its government in Jharkhand. BJP thronged the streets to protect the prestige and honour of the Constitution.

In Gujarat BJP's opponents posed a great challenge to it to retain power. It became a matter of prestige. After a long, great struggle BJP won ultimately. Shri Narendra Modi formed a government for the third term consecutively. It was a slap on the face of his detractors who were shouting to send Shri Modi to jail.

By being voted to power on its own on the strength of people's support in Karnataka, BJP smashed the myth created by its opponents who said it is a party of the North. Doors of popularity opened for it in Karnataka and Shri Yedyurappa became the chief minister of the first BJP government in the South. BJP won victories in Nagaland and in Meghalaya too and was alliance partner of governments there.

At the same time we cannot

ignore the fact that BJP was not successful in the polls in UP. Election results in Rajasthan and Delhi hurt the karyakartas. In the Lok Sabha elections that followed, BJP failed to win even a single seat in Delhi. It performed poorly in Rajasthan also. The situation as developed in Rajasthan later pinched the heart of common karyakarta in the country. Where shall the party go without discipline and unity? Why did we lose Delhi, the heart of the country? Is the party leadership unaware of the reasons that led to its defeat in elections? BJP is answerable to the people and it becomes its duty

towards the people. What is happening in Karnataka can BJP karyakartas raise their head in pride when discipline was the hallmark of its day-to-day functioning.. No. Never. What is our weakness? Where are we weak? This we have to understand and address ourselves to these burning issues. We have to stem the rot and timely too. Putting the blame on others will help no leader, no worker of the party. Leadership will have to understand the reasons because of which the party has come to such a pass. The sooner it is done, the better. The time to act has come. ■

'Jeevem Sharadah Shatam' Long live Shri Lal Krishna Advani!

Bharatiya Janata Party leaders and workers, Kamal Sandesh Editor Shri Prabhat Jha, MP (Rajya Sabha), and Kamal Sandesh parivar wish Shri Lal Krishnaji Advani, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha many happy returns of the Day on his birthday on November 8.

BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh, General Secretary (Organisation) Shri Ram Lal, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha, Shri Arun Jaitley, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Deputy Leader (Lok Sabha), Shri S. S. Ahluwalia, Deputy Leader (Rajya Sabha), and all the Vice-Presidents and General Secretaries and National Secretaries of the Party have also extended their good wishes to him.



BJP committed to peace, prosperity and happiness : Karuna Shukla

Smt. Karuna Shukla is the National Vice-President of BJP. She is the prabhari of Jharkhand State. Kamal Sandesh spoke to her about the current electoral scenario in the State. Excerpts from her interview:



What are the issues in the election?

Stability of government, corruption, exploitation of the tribal majority people at the hands of Congress and RJD which thrust unpopular governments through manipulations and allurements and rising prices are some of the important issues.

Congress & RJD destabilized BJP-led Arjun Munda government by misusing the office of Governor. Later, they forced Shiboo Soren and Madhu Koda government whose scams are today the breaking news of the day. They just exploited Jharkhand neglecting the development of the State.

Development of the State is also a prominent issue. Successive governments forced by Congress and RJD only exploited the natural resources of the State and did little for the poor people.

BJP-led NDA government under Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had carved out three new States of Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh. While the BJP governments in Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh have made a name for themselves in development, Jharkhand has lagged behind. Will this also have an impact on the assembly elections?

Definitely. People are making comparison why Jharkhand continues to be backward while the other two States born simultaneously have progressed fast. The answer is obvious. In both the States of Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh, BJP governments of Shri Nishank and Dr. Raman Singh have sincerely worked for the development of the States. They have established new milestones in development. Jharkhand people have now

come to understand that they suffered because of Congress and RJD, as also JMM. So, they are this time going to give BJP clear majority so that the State gets stability and progress.

What would be the impact of Shri Babulal Marandi's party fighting elections against BJP this time?

Shri Babulal Marandi stands exposed in the eyes of the people. His joining hands with the discredited Congress will cost him very much. As I already said, Congress just gave impetus to corruption by supporting Shri Shiboo Soren and later Shri Koda. The people of Jharkhand have given a very clear message by making the sitting Chief Minister lose in an election. They are not going to compromise with corruption, lack of administration and their exploitation.

In this election BJP has not projected anyone as chief ministerial candidate. Under whose leadership will BJP contest the election?

When we contested first election for Chhattisgarh assembly then also we didn't project anyone as chief minister. So far leadership is concerned we are contesting under a collective leadership in Jharkhand. We are in elections with the resolve of collective leadership and development. We are committed to bring peace, prosperity and happiness to the people of Jharkhand. We want to restore confidence of the people of Jharkhand on the basis of development. As I have stated earlier our goal is to see that every poor gets food, every household gets meal and the ganga of development flows throughout the State. ■

People yearning to teach Congress a lesson Will vote BJP to power : Raghubar Das



The process of elections to State assembly has already set in Jharkhand. BJP has geared itself to face the challenge of its opponents. The rank and file of the Party is determined to ensure that it is voted to power with absolute majority. Shri Raghubar Das is the BJP State President in Jharkhand. Kamal Sandesh spoke to him on November 03 in Delhi. Excerpts from his interview:

What is the electoral scene emerging in Jharkhand?

The electoral scene in the State is very clear. All these years the Congress-led UPA government through corrupt means and practices and with the connivance of the then Governor dishonoured the verdict of the people which had returned BJP as the single largest party. Congress conspired to deprive BJP from forming a government. All this while the Congress just looted Jharkhand and helped others to loot it. No development worth the name took place in the State. As a result the people are yearning to teach Congress a lesson for this treachery with the people and bring in BJP with clear majority so that the State could really develop and prosper.

Jharkhand remained under President's rule. Has the development of the State not suffered on account of this?

Under President's rule the State had the experience of the worst ever government. Under President's rule there is expectation of relatively good governance, but the opposite happened. Law and order became the worst casualty. The development was only on paper, not visible to the eye. Congress and its allies turned the Governor's office into a den of corruption. The CBI raids have exposed the alleged corruption of the then Governor Shri Sibte Rizvi's PS and OSD and discovered benami property worth crores of rupees. Development was neglected and corruption prospered. People were cheated through successive governments thrust by Congress through underhand means.

Why did the UPA delay elections in the State?

Congress delayed elections as it wanted to

manipulate a puppet government to promote its own political and electoral agenda. But despite all its maneuvers and manipulations through allurements and threats, it failed to form a government. In the end, it was left with no other alternative but to order elections. In the meantime, it was only the poor people of Jharkhand who suffered a lot.

This delay in holding elections is going to benefit whom?

Certainly not the Congress. It did try to derive political benefit by delaying the elections because it was convinced that whenever elections are held, people are going to throw Congress out and vote BJP into power. The results of Lok Sabha elections in May this year were a clear indication. That is why it delayed elections as much as it could. All these tricks are now going to boomerang on the Congress and benefit BJP.

When Shri Shiboo Soren was defeated in the Tamar Vidhan Sabha bye-election and no party, including BJP, was then in a position to form a government, Congress should have immediately dissolved the House and ordered fresh elections to give the people the opportunity to elect a government of their choice. Had the Congress done that, the situation would not have deteriorated and come to such a pass as it is today. Congress extended its hand of patronage to Shri Madho Koda and that is why India's worst Rs.4800 crore scam has been exposed by the Income Tax Department and Enforcement Directorate. This scandal has made Jharkhand bow its head in shame in the country and the whole world.

Fingers were raised on the conduct of the earlier

Governor. What is the position now?

The then Governor cannot escape the responsibility for what happened in the Raj Bhawan under his nose. He had to be shifted to Assam. BJP demands that he should be immediately dismissed and an independent inquiry ordered into his property too.

Jharkhand and Uttarakhand States were carved out almost the same time in 2001. While Uttarakhand has enjoyed stability and progress, why has Jharkhand lagged behind?

BJP-led NDA government under Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had carved out three States of Jharkhand, Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh at the same time to give impetus to the development of the areas under these new States. While Chhattisgarh and Uttarakhand recorded remarkable progress under successive BJP regimes, it was Jharkhand which lagged behind because of the Congress party. Congress conspiracies and manipulations have pushed back the development of Jharkhand by 20 years.

What are the main issues in the assembly elections?

Numerous issues are going to dominate the assembly elections but mainly the main ones will be rampant corruption, lack of development, security of *aam aadmi's* life and property and, above all, the back-breaking unchecked prices which have made people's life miserable.

What about BJP's alliance in the State to fight the elections?

NDA allies of BJP and JD(U) are fighting the elections together. We are not entering into any other

alliance locally.

Is the Party going to project any chief ministerial candidate?

BJP is entering into the electoral arena under collective leadership and fighting the elections unitedly as one man. Our first priority is to ensure a decisive win for the party. The question of leadership will be decided later by the Party leadership as per the wishes of the elected MLAs.

How far are you going to give adequate representation to women and youths in the elections?

We have given adequate representation to women and youths. Among the 59 seats finalized today, 7 women and about 20 youths below the age of 35 years figure in the list. The nominations have been finalized in a most peaceful and cordial atmosphere and there is all-round satisfaction in the party.

Will BJP be able to maintain in the Vidhan Sabha election its record of excellent performance in Lok Sabha elections in May?

The elections will certainly reflect the trend set in the last Lok Sabha elections in a more decisive manner. From zero representation in Lok Sabha, we raised our tally to 8, winning 2/3rds of the seats contested in alliance with JD(U) which won one seat.

How united is the party in fighting the elections?

The Party is fully united to ensure decisive victory to form a government in the State. So are the people decided to return BJP to power so that their ordeal of sufferings ends and a new era of progress and prosperity is ushered in. ■

UPA & State Govt. responsible for UP cane crisis : Kalraj Mishra

The BJP has alleged that Union Agriculture Minister Shri Sharad Pawar in connivance with the sugar lobby was primarily responsible for the fixing of FRP around Rs 1.30 per quintal which caused much pain and discomfort to the cane farmers of Uttar Pradesh.

Addressing a Press conference at the state BJP headquarters in Lucknow on November 03 Senior BJP leader Shri Kalraj Mishra said that the Congress led Union and BSP led State governments were helping some big corporate houses for adopting anti-farmers policies which will prove disastrous in the

coming days.

Lashing out at the BSP government, Shri Mishra said that the state was not interested in betterment of the farmers which was evident by the fact that payment of cane worth Rs 4,000 crore was pending with the government itself. "Both the state and Central governments were under the clutches of a powerful sugar lobby," he said.

He said that due to the faulty policies of the governments the cane crop area was narrowing rapidly. "In 2007-08, UP witnessed cane crop in 28.05 lakh hectare while in 1909-10 it

came down to 17.4 lakh hectares," he said. "The production cost of cane was going up but its prices were not being raised in proportion," Shri Mishra said. "If farmers keep on losing interest in cane then the day is not far off when a serious crisis will emerge," he added.

Shri Mishra said that farmers were getting united in their fight against the wrong policies of the state and Central governments and the BJP will stand solidly by the farmers. He also ridiculed the BSP Government for failing to provide DAP at the time of the sowing of the Rabi crops. ■

Congress responsible for poverty & lack of development

People want a BJP government for peace and development

By Shiv Shakti Bakshi

The Election Commission has announced five phase election to 81 seats in Jharkhand legislative elections starting from November 03 to December 23 when the counting will take place. People of Jharkhand are getting a chance to elect a new assembly after a sordid saga of betrayal which resulted in massive loot and plunder of Jharkhand's wealth. While former chief minister Madhu Koda awaits arrest for minting money at the rate of Rs. 6, 00,00,000/- per day, the names of Congress and RJD leaders who supported him as chief minister are also coming out in the open. The Congress-JMM-RJD supported independent Madhu Koda led government which indulged in rampant corruption, loot, and plunder. The shameful misuse of the office of the governor to facilitate unholy nexus of loot and plunder only resulted in rising Naxal- Maoist violence in the state. While Jharkhand was looted, people were cheated; the Congress-JMM-RJD leaders were busy collecting the booty from the state.

Jharkhand which was formed as the 28th state of the Indian Union by the Bihar reorganization Act on November 15, 2000 will complete nine years on November 15. It is known for its abundant natural resources like Uranium, Mica, Bauxite, Granite, Gold, Silver, Graphite, Magnetite, Dolomite, Fireclay, Quartz, Feldspar, Coal (32% of India), Iron, Copper (25% of India) etc. Forests and woodlands occupy more than 29% of the state which is amongst the highest in India. Jharkhand remained a neglected part of Bihar lagging behind in development. Decades of neglect and discrimination had led to the demand of separate state of Jharkhand from Bihar. The region which was rich in minerals and natural resources could not see the light of progress. Bharatiya Janata Party spearheaded the movement of separate state in the name of "Vananchal Andolan" receiving immense support at the ground

level. Finally Jharkhand was carved out as separate state by the NDA government. But statehood has failed to ameliorate the condition of the people who continue to reel under abject poverty and unimaginable misery. People's Expectation Belied

It was expected that formation of separate state would unleash the forces of development and Jharkhand would move ahead on the path of progress. It is generally believed and even experience so far suggests that smaller states are not only easily manageable but can move faster on the path of progress and development. It was expected that the immense resources of Jharkhand would ultimately benefit the people of the state as in the case of Chhattisgarh, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Haryana etc. It was expected that Jharkhand would also move ahead at the national level. But people's expectation now stand belied even after a good start was made under BJP government. Now Jharkhand stands at the lower ladder of development at the national level without having recorded any significant change in people's life. The all-round development which was expected could not take place in Jharkhand even after having immense resources.

Jharkhand is known as a rich state inhabited by poor people-a tragic case of starvation, poverty and industrial backwardness amidst nature's unlimited bounties and blessings. Jharkhand is richest of all states when it comes to mineral wealth. As the repository of 40 per cent of the nation's minerals, the state can easily attract domestic and global corporate groups. The state contributes over 40 per cent of coal production in India and a proven iron ore reserve of 3.7 billion tonne- more than one fifth of the iron ore output in India. But the situation is such that a committee instituted by NSSO under the chairperson N C Saxena, estimated that 82% of Jharkhand's population was poor. This was a substantial increase in the ministry of rural

Jharkhand State Assembly Elections 2005

Party	Won
<u>BJP+</u>	36
<u>INC+</u>	26
<u>RJD</u>	7
<u>OTH</u>	12

development's figures — 42%. The extent of corruption in the state can be assessed from the fact that the total bribe paid by BPL families in Jharkhand in 2008 was around Rs 16 crore. This revelation was made in the annual survey report of Transparency International India (TII). Jharkhand was created from Bihar. Bihar is moving on path of development and Jharkhand has been put in back gear. The GDP growth rate of Jharkhand is even less than Bihar.

While the Congress led UPA was busy sharing the loot and plunder of Jharkhand wealth with Madhu Koda and his corrupt ministers, Naxal-Maoist outfits were continuously increasing their power. Recent cold blooded beheading of a police inspector Francis Induvar by Naxals in Jharkhand points to the magnitude of threat posed by Naxal- Maoist groups in the state. The Naxals have transformed 16 out of the 22 districts of the state into a 'guerrilla zone'. Altogether 124 people were killed by Maoists in 2006 in Jharkhand, 157 people in 2007 while another 207 lost their lives in 2008. In 2009 till August, about 150 people were killed by the Naxals. Naxal violence in Jharkhand has claimed the lives of nearly 1350 people so far including including the MP Sunil Mahto and MLA Ramesh Singh Munda since the creation of this new state.

Unethical power centric Congress Politics

Immediately after the elections to the state assembly in Feb 2005, Shibu Soren was sworn in as Chief Minister of Jharkhand even without giving a chance to the BJP which had emerged single largest party enjoying support of required number of independents. True to its tradition of misusing Governor's office for political purpose, Congress led UPA allowed the Governor Sibte Razi to install Shibu Soren as Chief Minister even when he had no majority in the assembly. Shibu Soren knowing well that he would lose the vote of confidence, resigned as chief minister before the vote of confidence and Shri Arjun Munda was sworn-in as Chief Minister on March 12, 2005 but could continue only till September 18, 2006 owing to machination by Congress and its allies who agreed to support Madhu Koda, an independent MLA as chief minister. The period of Madhu Koda Chief Ministership (September 18, 2006 to August 26, 2008) is marked by rampant corruption, loot and plundering of the wealth of Jharkhand. At the insistence of Shibu Soren, he was again sworn as chief minister on August 27, 2008 but could not continue beyond January 13, 2009 as he lost assembly elections which was constitutionally required for him to win to continue in office. Since then the people of the state were deprived

of an elected government by postponing the elections and keeping the state under President's rule. This entire political machination aimed at keeping BJP out of power through unethical political conduct has led the blocking of development works in Jharkhand. To remain in power was the main motto of entire manipulations in which Congress led UPA indulges at the cost of people's interest.

Congress led UPA supported corrupt Madhu Koda as chief minister

In a very shocking revelation a 4,500 crore scam has been unearthed. Former Jharkhand Chief Minister Madhu Koda has been booked by the Enforcement Directorate under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act for allegedly diverting state funds and making huge investments abroad. Senior officials of the ED said Koda, who ironically is the first Chief Minister to be booked under PMLA, is alleged to have made huge investments abroad besides those in India. Two cabinet colleagues of Koda have already been booked by the ED for alleged money laundering, foreign exchange violations and forgery. The Directorate had swung into action after Jharkhand vigilance department lodged a complaint and recently searched the homes of Hari Narayan Rai and Enos Ekka, both cabinet ministers in the Koda government besides that of the former Chief Minister. ED officials claimed they had come across documents suggesting that the ministers had amassed huge wealth including mines, real estate firms and properties in Hong Kong, Thailand and some other countries.

While the people of Jharkhand were reeling under abject poverty and miseries, Madhu Koda was rolling in wealth making around Rs. six crore every day as chief minister. The investigations so far suggest Congress-RJD-JMM leaders sharing the booty like yeateryear's Robert Clives. The office of Madhu Koda was used to loot the wealth of the people of which it was custodian. The announcement of the assembly elections has given a chance to the people of Jharkhand to elect a new government. People have seen the misrule of Congress-JMM-RJD supported Madhu Koda government which indulged in rampant corruption and loot forcing the entire state in back gear. President rule was no better for the State. The reported connivance of the then governor Syed Sibte Razi's OSD in corrupt practices tells the entire story. People are yearning to bring back BJP government so that the state may again march on the path of peace and development. People this time are set to give a clear mandate to BJP so that nightmare through which they had to pass is not repeated. ■

BJP will launch nationwide agitation against 'Anti-trader policies' : Rajnath

BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh on October 28 accused the Union UPA Government of ignoring the interests of the trading community despite their significant contribution to national exchequer. He was addressing protesters at a dharna organised by the traders' cell of BJP on Parliament Street in New Delhi against the Centre's "discriminatory policies".

Flanked by several senior central BJP leaders, Shri Singh said the sit-in was a symbolic protest to highlight the issue and declared that the party would launch a nationwide agitation to show how the traders had been ignored by the UPA Government.

He charged that despite the traders being regularly targeted by anti-social elements for ransom and loot the Government had failed to provide any protection to them. "The Government has also not taken any lesson from disparities in the Value Added Tax (VAT) system and is now bent upon enforcing the Goods and Services Tax from April 2010 though much work has to be

done to give it a formal shape," he added. Shri Singh regretted that the traders had not even been consulted on GST so far.

Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Shri Arun Jaitley lauded the role of traders in building up the national economy and said that after agriculture retail trade

trade, Shri Jaitley complimented the traders for protecting the country from the recent global recession that had severely impacted the world.

Senior party leader and former Union Minister Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi demanded a blanket ban on entry of domestic corporate houses and multinationals into retail trade.

He said retail trade should remain the sole domain of small retailers. "Any move to destabilize internal trade will be strongly opposed by the BJP," he warned.

BJP National General Secretary Shri Vijay Goal said whenever the Congress comes to power prices increase tremendously. He said

Union government's taxation policy and its wrong planning are responsible for price rise.

Others who participated are BJP National General Secretary (Organization) Shri Ramlal, Shri Kedarnath Sahani, Delhi BJP President Prof. Om Prakash Kohli, Shri Jagdish Mukhi and National Head Quarters In-Charge Shri Sham Jaju . ■



Rahul Sinha is new West Bengal BJP President

BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh has appointed Shri Rahul Sinha as the new state President of West Bengal on October 24. The post was vacant following the resignation of previous president Shri Satyabrata Mukherjee. Shri Rajnath Singh appointed the new president after accepting the resignation of Shri Satyabrata Mukherjee. After taking over the charge, Shri Sinha said his first task will be to strengthen the party organisation in the state.



Spectrum scam largest in independent India : Arun Jaitley

Press statement issued by Shri Arun Jaitley, Leader of the Opposition (Rajya Sabha) on spectrum for the 2-G license scam on October 26, 2009

The Central Bureau of Investigation has registered a regular case with regard to the allotment of spectrum for the 2-G license issued by the Department of Telecommunications in 2007. Offices of the Department of Telecommunications have been searched and various documents seized. Even when the investigations were going on and the accusing finger categorically points to the Telecommunication Minister, A. Raja, the Prime Minister has today made a statement that the allegations against the Telecom Minister A. Raja were not correct. He has further said that whatever the Opposition says is not always correct. To Shri A. Raja's statement that he had kept the Prime Minister informed of what he was doing, the Prime Minister has said – "I would not like to join the issue in the public with my Cabinet colleague." Obviously, the Prime Minister is in no position to agree or disagree.

The allegations against Shri A. Raja and the officers of the Department of Telecommunications are very clear. In 2007 an open license regime was recommended. Applications for telecom licenses

were invited setting 1st October, 2007 as the deadline. The first allegation is that even when applications were invited till 1.10.2007, an artificial cut-off date i.e. 25.9.2007 was created and applications received between 25.9.2007 and 1.10.2007 were summarily rejected and not considered. Rules of the game were changed after the game had begun. All friendly applicants, mostly real estate companies had been advised to put in their applications on or



before 25.9.2007. This is not the Opposition's charge as the Prime Minister has commented. It is now a judgment of the Delhi High Court, which has quashed the fixation of these cut-off date wherein many experienced players were left out and 9 licenses were issued to relatively inexperienced parties.

The next allegation relates to the amount to be charged for the licenses and the spectrum allocation

from these 9 operators. The license is merely an entitlement to operate the service. The physical operation can commence only after the allotment of spectrum. Together, the two were allotted at a price of Rs. 1650 crores per operator. This price was taken not on the basis of the 2007 market value of the license but on the basis of an auction held in 2001 which determined the 2001 price. Thus, a valuable public asset was being allotted in 2007 at a 2001 price. The Minister's contention that the TRAI had recommended this is wholly erroneous because the TRAI had recommended that "the entry fee determined in 2001 is not the realistic price for obtaining the license. Perhaps it needs to be re-assessed through a market mechanism." In any case a Government asset

should ordinarily be sold through an auction. The value of the license and spectrum in 2007 could not be the same as in 2001. The telecom market has grown phenomenally during this period. Obviously, the government and the Public Exchequer suffered a loss. The quantum of loss suffered in this case is easily determinable. The allottees post allotment did not operate the service. All that they owned was a



Rajnath Singh for revival of traditional Indian culture

BJP National President Shri Rajnath Singh has stressed upon the need for setting up of such institutions that would pave way for checking the cultural degradation and revive the traditional Indian culture. He said that mass public support was required to change the mindset of the people so that they were once again affiliated with the rich cultural heritage of the country. He said that it would be a dream come true when such villages would be set up all over the country.

Addressing a function at Nalagarh in Himachal Pradesh, he congratulated *Yug Chetna Vatsalya Peeth* for setting up their centre in Himachal Pradesh. Shri Singh said now the country demands unity among its inhabitants to fight the Naxal forces and by mushrooming of multi-national companies, the local industry of country is being suffocated.

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal joined Saadhvi Ritambhra, Shri Rajnath Singh and Mahamandleshwar Swami Parmanand Jee Maharaj in performing *bhoomi poojan* and foundation-stone

laying ceremony of Vatsalya Gram being created by *Yug Chetna Vatsalya Peeth* at Wariyan village near Nalagarh in Solan district on October 30.

Addressing a mammoth gathering of devotees of the area, Prof Dhumal welcomed the institution of the *Yug Chetna Vatsalaya Peeth* to set up a Vatsalya village in Himachal Pradesh and termed the endeavour as a right direction to protect the interest of people of the society and show maternal affection over them to help them grow into a responsible citizen of the society. Dhumal said that Indian culture had taught the universe the rich cultural and moral values which had global recognition. He said the basic ingredients of the strong system were getting eroded which was not in the best interest of the society.

He hoped that the village would emerge a source of inspiration to rest of the communities to come forward in creation of such infrastructural facilities to the under-privileged children by helping them to grow into responsible citizens. ■ (FOC)



shell company and a guaranteed spectrum. They availed the 74% FDI policy of the Government and found buyers/ joint venture partners from the international market. The companies were overnight valued at over 200 billion dollars (over Rs.9000 crores) and a large chunk of the equity was sold by at least 3 licensees to overseas partners at a price of Rs.6000 – 7000 crores. If the value of spectrum in each case was over Rs.9000 crores, obviously the Government lost over Rs. 7000 crores per each license. For the 9 licenses collectively along with the spectrum, the net evaluation exceeds Rs. 60,000 crores.

This loss would be further compounded because the additional spectrum being made available in the market at a throw away price would suppress the value of the 3-G spectrum for which the Government now plans an auction. If auction can be held for the 3-G

spectrum in accordance with the decision of the EOGM why was the same principle was not followed while allotting the 2-G spectrum.

The Bharatiya Janata Party had raised the issue in Parliament in the Monsoon Session. The Party had demanded that under section 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, a public servant is said to have committed an offence of criminal misconduct if he by corrupt or illegal means gets for himself or any other person a valuable thing or a pecuniary advantage.

This provision provides for a 7year imprisonment. It is clear that the crucial decisions in case were taken by the Minister himself. The Minister, Shri A. Raja is primarily liable for this offence.

It is unfortunate that the Prime Minister has chosen to comment on the innocence of the Minister even while the investigations are on.

There was no occasion for the Prime Minister to send such a signal to the investigative agencies directly under him. The fact that the Minister belongs to an alliance partner of the UPA could not be a ground for a cover-up operation. This country has been robbed of a large amount of money by this misdemeanour of the Telecom Department. The compulsions of the coalition politics should not come in the way of an honest investigation. Propriety requires that while the investigations are under way, the Minister should cease to be in office. His continuation in that Ministry is itself a deterrent to an honest and independent investigation. The entire Nation is closely watching this investigation. Let this investigation not result in holding civil servants guilty and the Minister innocent. It was the Minister who is the prime accused and the civil servants were only carrying out his dictates. ■

FM not serious on Direct Tax Laws : Jaitley

Taxes are very important for the functioning of a Government and tax laws are the instrument through which the government raises revenue for economic development of the country. Through it Government also tries to fulfill its goal of equitable distribution of income in the country. The present Income Tax Act of 1961 is a very old one with more than 4500 amendments over the period. Change in the Tax Laws is the need of the hour.

To initiate a fruitful discussion on the draft of new Direct Tax Code (DTC) Chartered Accountants Cell on October 23 organized a seminar in New Delhi, where a discussion paper on the Code was also released.

After the inauguration and introduction of guests CA Sushil Gupta, Guest Speaker CA Rahul Garg, senior partner PWC, delved on the implications of the provisions of the Code on International Taxation. He said the Code will have adverse impact on foreign investments in India. He highlighted that provisions relating to TDS have resulted in high rate of Withholding Tax and TDS even on those payments which are not chargeable to tax. The provision relating to issue of TDS certificate for lower applicability of TDS is also being withdrawn, further provision to override International treaty, if the same is later, will create loss of credibility in international arena. The complexity in Residential Status of the assessee on the basis of partial control will make their global income

being taxable in India, thereby rendering Global mergers and acquisitions difficult. The provisions of General Anti Avoidance Rules (GAAR), where CIT has been given power to declare any business arrangement impermissible if in his opinion it has been entered to take tax benefit is too draconian even for domestic companies.

These sentiments were shared by the other guest speaker CA Girish Ahuja, a direct tax expert. He added that the proposal to tax @ 2% of the value of gross assets of companies by shifting the basis of tax from profit to gross assets will



adversely affect investments in infrastructure sector where there is a requirement of huge capital with a long gestation period. Secondly, in the absence of exit route at present for sick and loss making companies, this provision will be very harsh on them and will add to these already sick companies. He added that there is no simplicity in the Code as claimed and it contains large numbers of definition. It is merely realignment of some difficult clauses to the chapters at the end. The attractive provision of low tax on income up to Rs. 10,00,000 is in effect a camouflage and will not

reduce tax liabilities as exemptions in relations to rent on house property and interest on loans for building house and incentive on investments in PPF etc have been withdrawn.

A discussion paper on Code prepared by the Technical Committee of the Cell, under the convenership of CA Raj Kumar Agarwal was also released. In his presidential remarks the National Convener of CA Cell CA Gopal K. Agarwal said that the Taxation Policy should be helpful as a tool for economic development of the country and facilitate voluntary compliance and increase Tax GDP

ratio. Exemption and incentives are used by law makers to promote sectoral growth and regional balances, but these have all been withdrawn. This will severely impede the effectiveness of code in bridging the divide between sectors, regions and hamper promotion of SME's. In place of these incentives, this Code provides exemption to some specific industries which fall in large industries segment.

There are some negative implications for the Capital Markets also, especially for Mutual Fund industry. The dividends from MF have been made taxable whereas dividends from equity remain exempt. This provision militates against the interests of small investors. Income of Non Profit Organizations (NPO) has also been made taxable @ 15% on excess of gross receipts over the permitted

outgoing. This taxability of income would result in scarcity of funds available with the NGOs for charitable activities. The nomenclature of 'charitable activity' has been changed to 'welfare activity', thereby creating confusion. Code also seems to be undermining the institution of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). Many administrative hindrances and irritants have also been covered. The discussion paper not only discusses the implications but also gives suggestions.

The chief guest, Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha, Shri Arun Jaitley, spoke on the intentions of finance minister and his attitude in dealing with such an important law. Formalization of any law requires that the law maker, the Finance Minister in this case, should have maintained a distance from the draftsman, and should have critically analyzed the documents but no such procedure was adopted. Secondly, this Code has ignored all the decisions of the past court cases which form the core of any Law. He reiterated that the main opposition party BJP will take today's debate and critical examination of the Code further and incorporate the aspirations of the people to both the Houses of Parliament. He praised the Cell's organizational skill, especially of its National Convener, for successfully organising this programme and bringing more than 450 top professional colleges to the party platform.

The programme received an overwhelming response. The chairman of Direct Tax Committee of Assocham, Shri Mridu Hari Dalmia (Prominent industrialist) was the Guest of Honor and spoke briefly on the provisions effecting industrial growth of the country. Other prominent personalities among the audiences were, CA Subhash Agarwal, CA N. C. Maheshwari, Central Council Members CA Vinod Jain and CA C. G.S. Nanda, Regional Council Members CA Sudhir Agarwal, CA Bhagwan Das Gupta (Chairman NIRC) and CA Rajesh Sharma, CA Anil Gupta and CA Praveen Kant, Shri B.K. Sabharwal (Chairman ANMI NR) and State Conveners of BJP CA Cell, CA Akhilesh Jain (M.P.), CA Sanjay Kapoor (Punjab) and CA Sumit Mittal (Jharkhand). CA Avineesh Matta presented a vote of thanks. ■

Uttarakhand Govt launches Atal Adarsh Gram Yojna on State foundation day

On the occasion of State foundation day, State Government has launched Atal Adarsh Gram Yojna and seminars were organised at district, block and Nyaya Panchayat level in the state. Govt departments have opened their stalls, distributed their brochures and information details about their department's welfare schemes, so that people can collect information about the program. On that occasion concerned Ministers, MLAs, District Panchayat Presidents have released Government development books.

Sources said at block level, functions will be organised in between November 9-10 and BDO will be nodal officer in which Kshetra Panchayat member and District Panchayat member would present in their respective area. Nyaya Panchayat would organise similar function at their head office on November 9 and Panchayat member or senior gram Pradhan would release Government's development plan or ongoing projects and its effect. In Nayay Panchayat programmes multipurpose camp will be organised and local representatives will be invited to discuss about the special feature of Atal Adarsh Awas Scheme.

As per Atal Awas Scheme, 670 Nyaya Panchayat would be developed as Rural Development Centre. Sources also made it clear that this scheme is an initiative of the State and would be executed as Abhinav Flagship program. ■



Chhattisgarh emerges a young confident state : Raman Singh

Chhattisgarh in the nine years of its existence has emerged as a young confident State.

Even at a nascent stage it can boast of development in all areas including establishment of hospitals, schools, roads, electricity and other infrastructure facilities and basic amenities.

Speaking to the media persons after his return from South Africa and Mauritius, Chief Minister Dr. Raman Singh said that the State's anniversary has further strengthened the resolve for making it best in the country. "In past few years, the State has progressed in all spheres to achieve the goal for which it was created in 2000," Dr. Raman Singh told. He further said the state's foundation day anniversary will boost the ongoing development work while it has strengthened the resolve to rid the state of Naxal problem with the cooperation and help of the people. Talking about his foreign visit Dr. Singh said that the visit was successful in promoting Chhattisgarh to the industrial and trading community of South Africa as a fast emerging socio-economic and tremendous potential investment state. ■

Steep rise in prices of food items

Aam aadmi pushed to edge

Vegetables and other food items have become almost twice as costly in the last two months, putting the people under great strain. Though, the housewives are the most harassed lot not knowing how to balance their kitchen budget but the rising prices have really harassed the middle class people the most. People say that they had never witnessed in their life such a steep rise in prices of essential commodities.”

Over the last two months time the prices of potato has gone from Rs 6 per kg to Rs 26 per kg. Even ordinary green leafy vegetables like bathua and methi saag, which were never sold above Rs 10 per kg are now selling at Rs 60 per kg. The prices of sugar have gone up from Rs 24 a kg to Rs 36 a kg now. Prices of cereals (dal) have registered a rise of Rs 30 to Rs 50 a kg. A tea pack of 500 gm has gone up by Rs 30 to Rs 40 while rice has registered an increase of Rs 10 to Rs 20 per kg pack. The branded wheat flour bag of 50 kg has gone up from Rs 500 to Rs 700. The price of a thali in a restaurant has gone up Rs 10-20 and the quantity of food items being served in the thali has roughly become half than two months earlier.

In the mean time, Mother Dairy's decision to hike prices of milk again takes the cake even as the common man is finding it difficult to make both ends meet in the face of spiralling prices of essential commodities. This is the third or fourth such revision this year. While prices of essential commodities and vegetables have been on the rise, another round of increase in milk

prices, DTC fares and a proposal for further hike in Metro ticket rates have added to the burden of *aam aadmi*. Although the prices of pulses, grains and edible oils have been shooting through the roof, the Union Government has done precious little to arrest the trend. The prices of pulses like arhar, moong and urad have doubled in one year's time. Arhar, according to

the Government-run Kendriya Bhandar rates, was at Rs 46 per kg in 2008 and in October 2009 this is being sold at Rs 89 per kg. Similarly, the moong dal used to be sold at Rs 36.50 per kg last year and this month it is priced at Rs 72.50. The price of sugar was at Rs 28 per kg in June 2008 and now it is being sold at Rs 35 per kg. The table speaks volumes about the rise in prices of vegetables. ■

Infra growth slips to 4% in September

Infrastructure sector growth falling to 4 per cent in September, 2009 which again put a question mark on talks of economic recovery in the country. According to Experts were insisting all through that recovery is still a long term story and many hurdles needed to be overcome. They were proved right.

Economic experts said, “The fall is definitely a challenge for the economy but as a major dip is seen coming from the coal and the cement sector, it clearly highlights that their must have been a mismatch on the demand and supply front”.

The coal and cement which had led the chart in August by showing an impressive growth of 12.9 per cent and 17.6 per cent respectively, slipped to 6.5 per cent each in September, according to the official data released on October 28.

However, on a year-on-year basis, the September growth of the six sectors remained unchanged at 4 per cent, which also remains a concern for the experts. With infrastructure growth losing its grip again experts are keeping their fingers crossed for the upcoming September IIP numbers. ■

Exports plunge 13% in September

India's exports remained downhill for 12 months in a row, declining by 13.8 per cent to \$13.6 billion in September 2009, but the damage to exports inflicted by the recession in big markets seems to be bottoming out.

Due to a sharp drop in crude oil prices to \$76 per barrel from a peak of \$147 per barrel last year, the country's imports fell by a drastic 31.3 per cent in September this year to \$21.3 billion. As a result, the country's trade gap narrowed to \$7.7 billion against \$15.3 billion in the same month in 2008, according to official data released on November 04. For the April-August period of the current fiscal, the overseas shipments dropped by 28.5 per cent to \$77.9 billion from \$108.9 billion in the same period last year. However, the fall in September shrank by about six per cent as compared to 19.4 per cent in August. The exports for 2008-09 now stands revised to \$185 billion.

Similarly, the non-oil imports dipped \$30.4 per cent to \$15.03 in September 2009 from \$21.59 billion in the same month of the last fiscal. ■

Naxals are at war with country : Prakash Javadekar

Press statement issued by BJP National Spokesperson Shri Prakash Javadekar, MP on Naxal problem on October 28, 2009.

It should be clear now that Naxals are at war with the country. The ferocity and frequency with which Naxals are attacking pre-decided targets indicate their intentions. There should be no doubt in anybody's mind that Naxals are fighting a political battle, wherein they do not recognize the Constitution of India and are determined to use violence as a weapon to achieve its political objective. BJP condemns various attacks unleashed by Naxals in various parts of the country and warns the Govt. that if resolute action is not initiated, this menace will grow shriller.

The Rajdhani Express being held hostage in West Bengal is the indication of new tactics adopted by Naxals to show this as a people's

movement. They killed 15-16 and 17 policemen during the Maharashtra in last three months. They abducted and killed policemen in Palamu, Jharkhand, Orissa and elsewhere in the country. They attacked and killed BJP MP's son in Chattisgarh and tribals in various parts of the country. With rapid action they want to terrorise tribals, police and administration in Naxal belt spread around 167 districts of 10 states.

It is explicit that Naxals do not want development to take place in these districts as they perceive it as a handicap in their movement. They



are using tribals as shield for their war. Unfortunately so called Human Rights activists, who make loud noise on other occasions are silent against such violence and sufferings of the common masses.

The Nation must know about the Govt. action plan to tackle

this menace. BJP demands three pronged approach to win this violent war. One that there has to be a coordinated police action without any delay, two their external links must be cut off, three development programmes must be delivered in the best possible way to give justice to the tribals. ■

Courts ask Kerala, Karnataka police to probe 'Love jihad'

Is there a movement called 'love jihad'? The courts in Kerala and Karnataka have asked police to probe charges that Muslim youths were luring non-Muslim women with the promise of marriage and forcibly converting them to Islam.

According to the IANS report, the Hindu and Christian groups in the two southern states are alleging existence of a well-funded network of Muslim youths who lure women with promises and expensive gifts with the sole purpose of converting them into Islam.

The Kerala High Court on October 26 expressed its

unhappiness over the nature of investigations into 'love jihad' and asked police to file a detailed report by Nov 11. The police in their report said that no 'love jihad' or 'romeo jihad' existed in the state. But in the last paragraph of the report, they said there were suspicions that some conversions may have taken place in this manner.

Meanwhile in Bangalore, following the Karnataka High Court's order October 21 to probe the existence of such a network, state Home Minister Shri V.S. Acharya asked the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) to

initiate investigations.

The CID will find out the source of funds and the people behind such a movement, if it exists and submit report in 15 days, Shri Acharya told reporters after meeting senior police officials.

Justice K. Sreedhar Rao and Justice Ravi Malimath gave the order during hearing of a habeas corpus petition by C. Selvaraj of Chamarajnagar district, Karnataka. Selvaraj said in his petition that his daughter Siljaraj was missing since August last year. He came to know that she had eloped with a Muslim youth to Kerala. Siljaraj, who was brought before the court by police, told the judges that after her married to Aksar of Kannur in Kerala she was undergoing religious training after getting converted to Islam. ■

Deoband Darul Uloom opposes the recitation of Vande Mataram

BJP condemns Union Home Minister for attending Deoband seminar

Termining the 'fatwa' (edict) issued by the Deoband Darul Uloom opposing the recitation of Vande Mataram and calling it anti-national, the BJP has condemned the Union Home Minister Shri P Chidambaram for attending the ongoing conference of the Islamic Institution.

Uttar Pradesh BJP President Shri Ramapatiram Tripathi said on November 05 that the BJP will not tolerate the insult of the national song and those who issued a 'fatwa' against its recitation must be booked under the appropriate sections of the law. He said that Vande Mataram was the mantra of the freedom struggle and all the revolutionaries recited it. The Congress since 1896 is reciting the Vande Mataram itself and in every convention the party has recited the national song.

"However, it is surprising and unfortunate that the Home Minister

attended the seminar of those who are opposing the recitation of the national song. The Home Minister's attendance in the seminar proves that the Union Government was hand-in-glove with anti-national elements," he said. "Only after getting the support of the Congress-led UPA Government the anti-national forces were opposing the national song," he added. Shri Tripathi alleged that the Congress in its pursuit of minority votes has "blessed" the anti-national elements. He said that the Congress must immediately come out with its point-of-view on the 'fatwa' issued by the Deoband against the national song. He also condemned the Deoband for its call to Naxals to join hands with them. "This is nothing but a call of the separatists and it will not be tolerated by national forces," he said. He apprehended that the objective of the ongoing conference of Deoband was endangering the unity and integrity of the country. ■ (FOC)

'Vande Mataram' not un-Islamic, say Muslim groups

It is not un-Islamic to sing "Vande mataram", two prominent Muslim groups in Madhya Pradesh said on November 05, two days after the clerics' body Jamiat Ulema-i-Hind approved an earlier fatwa against the national song. Claiming to have translated the song into Urdu, the All India Muslim Tehwar Committee (AIMTC) and the National Secularism Front of India (NSFI) say it is simply a prayer to keep the nation safe. "It is not against Islam or un-Islamic. This is the reason why several Muslim freedom fighters chose to lay down their lives singing 'Vande mataram'," claimed AIMTC chairman Osaf Shahmeeri Khurram.

Khurram told the IANS that, "Vande mataram" is not a prayer to a mother goddess. "It is a prayer to the almighty to keep the nation safe and thus there should be no problem in singing or reciting it". "Even Jamiat Ulema-i-Hind chief Mehmood Madani's grandfather Maulana Hussain Ahmed Madani and his father Asad Madani who was also a Congress MP had sung 'Vande mataram' on various occasions," he claimed.

"Had 'Vande mataram' been un-Islamic then Maulana Hussain Ahmed Madani, Maulana Hasrat Mohani, Maulana Obeidullah Sindhi or martyr Ashfaqullah would not have laid down their lives singing 'Vande mataram'." Khurram, asserted that the Jamiat Ulema-i-Hind and Darul-ul-Uloom in Deoband - which had issued the original fatwa - were ignorant of the facts.

NSFI president Irshad Ali Khan Afridi also said "Vande mataram" was not un-islamic. "The controversies arise only because people who issue such diktats have failed to understand it. They are, it seems, not aware of the facts," Afridi said. "Why did no cleric oppose music director A.R. Rahman when he sang the song which not only became quite popular but also took him to new heights of his career?" he asked. ■ (FOC)



Special on Iron Man's birthday the nation celebrated on October 31

He united the nation

By SK Sinha

October 31 is the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. We should observe it as National Integration Day. His contribution in integrating the nation will remain unparalleled in history.

Hyderabad was the largest Princely State of India. It was of the size of France but was landlocked. The Nizam was toying with the idea of declaring independence. He was perhaps the richest man of the world. There were rumours that he was negotiating to buy Goa from the Portuguese to find an outlet to the sea.

Mohammed Ali Jinnah wanted Hyderabad to accede to Pakistan. The Nizam got Sir William Monckton, the leading lawyer of Britain, to negotiate for him with the Government of India. Endless talks were took place for nearly a year.

Kasim Rizvi, a Muslim zealot, had organised the Razakar party with nearly one lakh members. He also had a youth brigade armed with an assortment of weapons. The Razakars looked upon Hyderabad-Delhi differences as a Hindu-Muslim conflict. Jinnah had threatened retaliation, if India acted against the Nizam.

There were reports of gun-running by British mercenaries, bringing weapons by air from Pakistan and some European countries. The Razakars were not only committing atrocities on the

Hindus, leading to their exodus from Hyderabad, but had got emboldened to raid Indian villages across the border.

The Sardar was not a man to take this lying down. He decided that the time for action had come. Jawaharlal Nehru was on a tour out of the country and the Sardar was holding the fort in Delhi. The Sardar maintained that Hyderabad was a

efficient State Army of about 30,000 soldiers with some tanks and artillery. Gen El Adroos, the Turkish chief of the Hyderabad Army, was an able General. The Razakars would support the Hyderabad Army. India would get bogged down in a long-drawn war.

The Sardar sent for the two Indian Army Commanders, Rajendrasinhji in the south and Cariappa in the west. Rajendrasinhji assured him that he could defeat the Hyderabad Army in a swift military action. Cariappa was asked if he could defend the western front against Pakistan without asking for any reinforcements. Cariappa replied in the affirmative.

The Sardar's mind was made up. He ordered police action in Hyderabad. Within a week the Nizam signed the Instrument of Accession.

Not only in the case of Hyderabad but also on other issues, the Sardar displayed great foresight and remarkable ability to take hard decisions. Having opposed the two-nation theory and any division of India all his life, he was pragmatic enough to realise that in the conditions prevailing in mid-1947 there was no alternative to partition.

His decision to salvage the wreck of 1947 was an act of great statesmanship. Had there been any patchwork unity solution with a weak Centre, India may have suffered disastrously. It may not

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel worked tirelessly to integrate the various Princely States with the Indian Provinces to create the Union of India. The Nizam of Hyderabad tried to defy him, but had to flee in the end. We should observe the Sardar's birth anniversary as National Integration Day

cancer in the stomach of India. The cancer had to be cured if India was to survive.

All the inputs provided to the Sardar urged no military action in Hyderabad. The Army Chief, Gen Sir Roy Boucher, advised that the Indian Army should not be asked to open a second front in Hyderabad when it was embroiled in Jammu & Kashmir.

The intelligence input was that Hyderabad had the largest and most

have been possible to integrate all the Princely States.

The minority population in India was 12 per cent in 1947. In an undivided India today, it would have been over 40 per cent. Petro-dollar funded Islamists would have swamped the country. India would have broken up into several countries like erstwhile Yugoslavia or would have become a Lebanon on a bigger scale.

Another instance of his foresight was the letter the dying Sardar wrote to Nehru in 1950 warning him about China. Had his warning been heeded, India would not have suffered the humiliation of 1962.

No memorial has been put up to the Sardar in Delhi where memorials abound. The memorial of the Sardar at Karamsad, his home village, is the modest double-storey house built by his father. Jhaverbhai Patel had fought in the uprising of 1857. He was wounded at Gwalior when the Rani of Jhansi attained martyrdom. He was taken a prisoner and released after a few years.

On return to his village he had built the house in which his two sons, Vithalbhai and Vallabhbai, were born. No other family in India can boast of such a distinguished record from 1857 to 1947. The room in which the Sardar was born has an eternal lamp burning. The wick and oil for the iron lamp are provided by the village panchayat.

The house built by his father was the Sardar's only immovable property. Fabulously rich Princes, including the richest man in the world, had buckled under him. Yet when he died he had a bank balance of Rs 230.

Disregarding the near unanimous recommendation of all the Provincial Congress Committees, Mahatma Gandhi chose

Nehru to be the Prime Minister. As a disciplined disciple, the Sardar readily accepted the unfair decision. Had the Sardar been made the Prime Minister, the history of India may have been different today.

Successive Governments of his own party have tried to ignore the Sardar. Not only no memorial was put up for him in Delhi, he was not even awarded the Bharat Ratna for a long time. Fifty years after his death, he was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna.

Doordarshan, known as His Master's Voice, displays pictures every day of some dozen great Indians starting from the Mahatma, the members of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty, and others who contributed towards making India great. Sardar Patel is not included in this list. Let the people of India pay tribute to the Sardar in their hearts and observe October 31 as National Integration Day. ■

*The writer is former Governor of Jammu & Kashmir and Assam.
Courtesy: The Pioneer*

Delhi BJP protests against increase in prices

A delegation of BJP legislators led by Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Prof. V. K. Malhotra took out a demonstration from Shaheed Park to Delhi Secretariat on November 04, to protest against the increase in the prices of essential commodities. Carrying placards and banners and wearing aprons, the protestors raised slogans against the "anti-people" policies of the Congress led Delhi Government during the protest. They were stopped and detained by the Delhi police midway through the protest and were taken to the Indraprastha Estate police station.

The Delhi BJP MLAs who participated in the march included Shri Jagdish Mukhi, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Shri H.S. Balli, Shri Jai Bhagwan Aggarwal, Shri Karan Singh Tanwar, Shri Sahab Singh Chouhan, Shri Ramesh Bidhuri, Shri Mohan Singh Bisht, Shri Shyam Lal Garg, Shri Naresh Gaur, Shri Sat Prakash Rana, Shri S.P. Ratawal, Shri Kulwant Rana, Shri Sunil Vaidya, Shri Anil Jha, Shri Pradyman Rajput, Shri O.P. Babbar, Shri Subhash

Sachdeva, Shri Srikishan Tyagi and Shri R.N. Bansal.

Following the march, Prof. Malhotra presented a memorandum to Chief Minister Smt. Sheila Dikshit against the recent increase in the fares of DTC and Blue Line buses, inflated electricity bills, rise in the prices of essential commodities and non-availability of ration to the poor at the fair price shops.

In the memorandum, the legislators demanded that the decision to increase DTC and private bus fares and milk prices be rolled back immediately; power bills be corrected and subsidised power be provided to the poor and the water charges and metro rail fares not be increased.

Further, the delegation has demanded that items of daily need such as rice, wheat, pulses, sugar and kerosene be made available at subsidised rates through government-owned ration shops, and food items and other essential commodities be immediately de-linked from the forward trading and their prices be controlled. ■ (FOC)

India's Leftist intellectuals are promoting Islamic terrorism

By Dr Babu Suseelan

For centuries, Hindu society has been active in producing intellectuals, philosophers, psychologists, scientists, political theorists, artists, poets, spiritual leaders and life scientists. Islamic invasion, Christian colonialism, destruction of Sanskrit education and Marxist influence had a disastrous influence on the Hindu society. The social and psychological conditioning suffered by Hindus lead frequently to the erosion of cultural identity and the depersonalisation of individuals. It is, therefore, not surprising that the production of intellectuals dwindled.

The repercussions of long period of Islamic oppression and colonisation, in the wake of social and cultural disintegration and the trauma suffered by Hindus as a whole, persist even today. Everybody seem to agree that Hindu civilisation is now facing a crisis. Entrenched forces from within and without have joined together to de-structure or destroy our thoughts, beliefs, practices and values.

Hinduism has never been a unified, monolithic movement and there has been a great deal of disagreement among Hindus as to how to protect themselves and their interests. There are several Hindu spiritual organisations, and cultural movements in different parts of

India. Unfortunately politically, spiritual movements has not resulted in an over-reaching Hindu strategy in politics, in the media, in academics, and other areas of social-political life.

It is time for Hindus to join

In India, these intellectual mafia's commitment for Hindu bashing has reached a new pinnacle with the national ascendance of Italian born Sonia as the leader of the Congress Party. The Congress Party's snobbery and insensitivity to the Hindus has created a pseudo-secular culture whose leaders appear unwilling or unable to communicate with the majority Hindus. They are unable to communicate in the cultural language of the majority.

together, to discover its causes and to assume the responsibility of formulating a solution. It is time to rally our values, our self-esteem and fight for our moral ideals with full, righteous confidence. The intellectual group is one that manifests a collective capacity for dealing with the wide-ranging needs and problems in national life. Intellectuals of a nation are expected to maintain connections with the country's past culture, present social, economic, and political groups and concerns itself with

renewing and maintaining internal strengths. But this is not what we see today in India.

In India, the anti-Hindu mafia has become the "gatekeepers" of Indian minds. The anti-Hindu intellectual zombies have entrapped the members in a servitude and set in motion a malignant process by creating powerlessness in the majority communities. They join together with our enemies from within and without to demean and discredit the culture, and its perennial philosophy that sustains the social bonds for centuries. Our intellectual zombies are competing with our enemies to make Hindus more powerless and prevent them from acquiring skills and self-esteem to regain lost strength and acclaim. Indeed, the greatest threat to India and Hindus today is

the political opportunism of the phony secular intellectuals who are inclined to promote Islamo fascism and dismissing or understating internal and external threats. If we ask our moral relativists, agnostics, secularists, liberals and media pundits-they will come up with sticky puddle of stale syrup of tolerance, love, global programmes, universalism, and co-existence with jihadi terrorists, Marxist murderers and crusaders. India's intellectual zombies had become apologists for the Islamo fascists, Marxists and

underground Maoists. They want to replace Hindu tradition, and its eclectic philosophy with the reductionist dogmas of Islam, Marxism and deconstruction. They have sold our nation for a price and joined with our adversaries and engage in “the socialisation of the anti-social, or acculturation of the anti-cultural, or the legitimisation of the subversive” under the influence of modernism. Intellectual discourse is corrupted by moral relativism,

leftist cultural criticism and subversive modernism. By blurring the lines between good and evil, right and wrong, spirituality and fanaticism, these intellectual zombies have rendered our society more vulnerable to evil influences.

One of the tragic errors of India is that too many of its best minds believe as they did in the past—that the solution is to rely on more tolerance, inaction and passivity. They are neither humanist or nationalists.

7Their goal is to demolish Hindu values and to put barriers on Hindu spirituality and place as many obstacles as possible in the way of Hindutva. Their response against Islamic terrorism goes against the commonest of commonsense and only serve to protect anti-nationalists. They are significantly out of touch with reality. What we need most urgently is to recognise that our tolerant culture cannot exist without a philosophy of confrontation of intolerant ideas.

Our present state of cultural disintegration and political oppression is maintained and prolonged by intellectual zombies, posturing as intellectual leaders. India’s intellectual zombies are living in a fantasy world embracing “all religions are the same”, and tolerance of intolerance is a positive virtue. They generally consist of

frustrated, alienated and misguided intellectual zombies who serve as catalysts, inciting, and actualising the prevalent sentiment of Hindu hatred. They also endorse extra privileges for Muslims and provide a sort of moral justification for Hindu oppression. These modern intellectual zombies have succeeded in misdirecting the public and have extinguished the flame of protest, and they have no answer to halt the triumphant advance of brute jihadis and Marxist murderers. They have no answer to those voices demanding freedom from oppression, liberty from bogus secularism and reason from political idiosyncrasy.

Fumbled strategy

One of the greatest challenges facing our intellectuals today is objectively examining the roots of the present social-political-pathology and malady afflicting Hindu society and developing a strategy that will lead to a lasting solution of our predicament. The inability to grasp the roots of Islamic terrorism, coercive religious conversion and social disturbances is the result of moral relativism, agnosticism and non-judgmental attitude prominent in India’s liberal thought.

A political ideology directed by bogus secular political leaders whose purpose is to help and empower our enemies is deceptive. In India, these intellectual mafia’s commitment for Hindu bashing has reached a new pinnacle with the national ascendance of Italian born Sonia as the leader of the Congress Party. The Congress Party’s snobbery and insensitivity to the Hindus has created a pseudo-secular culture whose leaders appear unwilling or unable to communicate with the majority Hindus. They are unable to

communicate in the cultural language of the majority.

How should Hindus revitalise its strategy? Hindus must better educate and explain the Islamic threat to the general audience. Education at all levels should indicate Hindus in the history, philosophy, mechanics, virtues, responsibilities, and achievements of Hindus. Tolerance and diversity need not mean acceptance of oppression and tyranny. India’s intellectual zombies offer misbegotten solutions, ignore inconvenient facts and hide behind Islamic mafia and promote meaningless universalism. The universal pretensions cannot be used without addressing the proper scale of coercive religious conversion, psychological warfare by foreign agencies, subversive activities of anti-national groups and jihadi terrorism. Instead of putting the blame where it belongs, India’s intellectual zombies, when confronted with social-political problems, invent fantasies to keep the public in darkness. Real problems confronting India and Hindus are too scary for intellectual zombies to comprehend

Identifying with your adversary without proper reflection is an exaggerated tendency toward grandiosity. It is an expression of narcissism, one of the deepest wellsprings of India’s liberal tendencies towards unreality. The self-defeating belief system, lead to unreality-to the feelings that somehow Muslims will become fair-minded and do justice. India’s intellectual zombies are in self-delusion that virtually gets in the way of reality, clouding their judgments on important matters leading to bad decisions. Unreality, self-delusion, and denial are the hallmarks of their disease and

treatment. It is a treatment in that it promotes adjustment to harsh reality of Islamic violence and terrorism. This treatment of escapism, denial, and self-blame are worse than the disease. It is this collective disease of India's intellectual zombies, the unhealthy side of reality that is badly in need of treatment.

This liberal unreality, denial, escapism, appeasement and irrational tolerance is narcotic. While each dose "cures" the pain of harsh reality or previous abuse, it further strengthens the disease. Escape from reality, and hiding behind a thick wall of denial, may provide India's intellectual zombies a brief respite from cruel reality of Islamic atrocities and promote a false adjustment to the cruel world of Islamists. But it is not a true or effective cure for Islamic brutality, hostility and demand for extra privileges.

The most human quality we have is our ability to conceptualise, rationalise and act. As a nation, our greatest hope for improving ourselves and becoming better is to use our mind and capacity to think. It takes intellectual capacity to think and makes change for the better. Why, even after physical independence, Indians shape their reality, interpret or appraise events to please their long term oppressors and tormentors?

Why intellectuals shape their thought to justify evil deeds of Muslims, Marxists and phony secularists? Why they downplay external threats or turn off unpleasant internal disturbances created by anti-national elements? It is strange that alienated intellectuals, leftist academicians and phony secularists develop an unconscious cravings and urges to feel good, to feel wonderful or to feel exalted delight in front of adversaries and tormentors. They

restructure their thoughts and develop self-defeating behaviours to please their oppressors. They have limited intellectual competencies to handle conflicts and social problems created by Islamic fascists, subversive agents, and psychological warfare operatives. It is difficult for them to assertively handle social conflicts or to say "no" to social pressure to participate in self-destructive behaviours. They often lack the skills to question unhealthy and disastrous policies and activities of our enemies.

For any dangerous social or political challenge or problem situation, India's intellectual zombies come up with automatic anti-Hindu thoughts including blame game. These automatic Hindu blame games that pop up quickly are not rational or evaluative in nature. This self-destructive behaviour of intellectual zombies is reinforced by few bread crumbs thrown at them, and few applauses by jihadis, subversive agents and the bogus secular crowd. What is to be done?

The intellectual zombies that champions the adversary culture now dominate the cultural establishments-the publishing houses, media, museums, book publications, government public relations, television, theatre, the cinema, the academia, and the national educational institutions. They promote cultural-moral relativism and mindless universalism. This "relativism of truth and values" has corrupted the moral character of India. India's phony intellectuals and bogus secular politicians are not attuned to the values of freedom, equality, individual rights, spiritual culture, peace, progress and justice. These alienated, self-serving intellectuals

are no longer committed to liberty, fairness, equal opportunity, openness and prosperity. They are busy promoting freedom for Islamic tyrants, strengthening conversion gangs and assisting subversive groups. Silencing of the Hindus and the suppression of all inclusive, tolerant, and uplifting Hindu ideas is their pastime.

Hindu organisations should identify Hindu intellectuals and channel resources toward formulating and promoting Hindu vision of public policy. Hindu intellectuals should penetrate community intellectual institutions such as journals, theatre companies, study groups, book publishers, electronic media and music clubs. Vital intellectual institutions should be established to create a culture that thinks critically and discuss ideas and philosophies that shape government policies, education and social policy.

Pseudo secular forces have joined with our enemies to restrict the terms of public debate. Hindu intellectuals should address specific issues and concerns that cut across Hindu communities around the globe. In the public sphere, the culture and values of the pluralistic, all inclusive Hindu values should help fashion public policies and political goals.

Only Hindu philosophy points to theoretical systems that yield needed understanding of human beings and their psycho-social-cultural environments. In order to survive in this world of communication, political realities, information warfare, media manipulation and psychological warfare operations, Hindus need to design an action agenda for turning Hindutva into proactive realities in the public field. ■

Courtesy: The Organiser

MP CM launches *Sanjha Chulha Yojana* to eradicate malnutrition

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has described *Sanjha Chulha Yojana* as a revolutionary beginning for ending malnutrition in the State. It is a major challenge to remove the curse of malnutrition. This new arrangement will help in this cause. Chief Minister Shri Chouhan was inaugurating *Sajha Chulha Yojana* on the premises of Middle School and Anganwadi at Parwalia Sadak village in Bhopal on November 03.

Shri Chouhan said that his Govt's endeavour is to ensure that all the children get education and no child is left out. Midday-Meal Scheme in schools and distribution of nutritious diet at Anganwadis are important parts of the Government's efforts to attract children towards education and removal of malnutrition.

The Chief Minister said that earlier these schemes were being conducted separately due to which their monitoring and quality were affected on one hand and on the other profits were pocketed by contractors. He said that the new system of combined kitchen will not only facilitate proper monitoring and improve quality but will also provide employment to women's self-help groups.

Speaking on the occasion Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Shri Gopal Bhargava said that *Sajha Chulha Yojana* has been implemented with a view to eradicating malnutrition in the State. The scheme will be implemented jointly by the two departments so that its benefits can also be received

by mothers along with children.

Minister of State for Women and Child Development Smt. Ranjana Baghel said that participation of everyone is necessary in fulfilling the resolve of Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan of providing nutritious food to children. The Minister noted that Take-home Ration Scheme launched by Agro has yielded good results.

Earlier, Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan formally inaugurated the kitchen of *Sajha Chulha* by worshipping Devi Annapurna. Shri Chouhan, Shri Gopal Bhargava and Smt. Ranjana Baghel also served food to the children of the school and the Anganwadi. After serving food to children, Shri Chouhan and the two



ministers also tasted Kheer and other dishes.

It may be mentioned that freshly cooked food prepared in schools' kitchen shades by local self-help groups is served under Mid-day Meal Scheme. Now, these groups will provide

nutritious food to children ranging from 3 to 6 years of age under Integrated Child Development Scheme in the rural areas under *Sanjha Chulha Yojana*. Nutritious food will also be provided to Anganwadi children ranging from six months to 3 years, 3 to 6 years, pregnant women and nursing mothers on Mangal Diwas. The responsibility of food distribution under *Sanjha Chulha Yojana* will rest with Anganwadi workers. The Anganwadi workers will collect food

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British High Commissioner provides 300 crore for development & 80 crore aid to fight malnutrition

British High Commissioner Richard Stagg on November 03 said that of the Rs.300 crore provided to Madhya Pradesh for development programmes from his country's Department for International Development (DFID), were to tackle malnutrition.

Addressing a joint press conference with DFID head Michael Anderson, Stagg said the quality of life in slums has improved in Madhya Pradesh with the aid. The two said that though the state government has been taking various steps in tackling malnutrition, it should also be kept in mind that malnutrition is not the problem of lack of food alone but a more complex problem. "Only supplementary feeding among the children in the age group of 3 to 6 years is not enough to tackle malnutrition. It should be taken to the household level among the children of 0 to 2 years age group", they said. The duo also visited the slum areas in Bhopal where the DFID assisted programmes are being implemented and expressed satisfaction over the pace of works. ■

Maoist menace spreading fast

By Balbir K Punj

The daring seizure of the Bhubaneswar-Delhi Rajdhani Express on October 27 has exposed the extent to which the Indian state and civil society is vulnerable to the evil designs of nihilistic and anarchist elements. Given the present socio-political environment, the war against the Maoists will be difficult and long.

Over the years, the Maoists have permeated the system, particularly academic circles and the media. They share an ideological paradigm with the ruling dispensation in West Bengal and Kerala.

They also have a working relationship with the Congress with both parties using each other at mutual convenience. Influenced by competitive politics, Ms Mamata Banerjee, with enormous clout in the Union Cabinet, is also the Maoists' ally. She is obviously trying to beat the CPI(M) at its own game. Through this strategy she may reap short-term political benefits, but the overall cost to the country will be great.

While few in the country subscribe to the 'lynch law' propagated by the Maoists, the Indian establishment is full of moles sympathetic to them for various reasons. Apart from their ideological cousins who occupy respectable positions in civil society and operate as the public face of the Maoists, they also find ready support from political formulations that function in India as China's fifth column.

Maoist cadre consist of desperate tribals who have been

alienated from the mainstream by the venality and neglect of our political establishment. The vacuum has been filled by an ideology which has failed the world over and created oppressive regimes wherever it has succeeded.

The innocent tribals risk their lives thinking that their war against the Indian state is a war for their rights and a better future. But nothing could be further from truth. Destroying schools, roads, bridges, and health centres and opposing industrial development can never lead to any progress or betterment in the lives of the neglected tribals.

Where does the Indian Left, particularly the CPI(M), stand in this war? Marxists and Maoists share a common creed and world view. The differences between the two are superficial.

Though they have a common goal, they do differ in detail and strategy. While the Maoists have waged an open war against the Indian state, the Marxists are trying to wreck the system from within. For both, Chinese concerns override that of India.

With so much in common, how does one explain the internecine strife between the two? Since violence is central to Communism, bloodshed is inevitable. One only has to recall how the CPI(M) deals with its political opponents in its strongholds of Kerala and West Bengal to get a sense of this. Evidence abroad include horror stories of Communist treatment to 'class enemies' in the erstwhile Soviet Union and its satellite states in eastern Europe, and the genocide

in Cambodia under the regime of Pot Pol.

The handling of dissention within the party by Lenin, Stalin, Mao and Pot Pol was no different. Dissent has always been crushed with a heavy hand. So the occasional instances of violence between the Maoists and the CPI(M) in West Bengal are nothing more than friendly fire.

It is in this context that one has to see the trading of 21 captured Maoists accused of waging war against the Indian state for the abducted police officer from Sankrail by the West Bengal Government. The capitulation of the CPI(M)-led State Government to the Maoists also comes at a critical time when the Union Government is planning to launch an all-out offensive on the Left-wing extremists. Was it ideological affinity that motivated Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee to call off the police action against the beleaguered Maoists and provide them with much needed reprieve?

The last Congress-led UPA Government at the Centre and the various Congress-led State Governments were in a stupor vis-à-vis the Maoist menace, especially as long as Mr Shivraj Patil was the Union Home Minister. The present incumbent at North Block has injected some dynamism into the counter-insurgency effort against the extremists and has set into motion some concrete, co-ordinated measures.

But with the surrender in West Bengal, the Maoists are most likely to be strengthened in their belief

that the political class can be manipulated through their pressure tactics. Mr Chidambaram might have been tactical in leaving the decision regarding the abducted police officer to the West Bengal Government. It was a clever move on his part. But what happens if the Maoists take to abducting police officers on a regular basis to pressurise the state apparatus?

Recall the Union Home Minister's refusal to surrender in the earlier case of police officer Francis Induvar.

No doubt the officer lost his life, but the brutality of his killing had put the Maoists on the back foot and the Government's refusal to surrender had sent out a strong message that the Indian State was not soft. Nonetheless, the Maoists knew that in case of the Marxists the response would be different. Why is this so?

After the shameful surrender of the Marxists to the demands of the Maoists, the people will now be watching the Union Home Minister as to whether he too will succumb to the crypto-Communists or will he stand his ground. The Congress has many moles that condone Maoist violence. They make common cause with the Arundhati Roys and make heroes out of Maoists like Kobad Ghandy. ■

Courtesy : The Pioneer

DTC Bus fare hike anti-people : Kohli

Terming it "anti-people", the BJP has criticised the Delhi Government's decision to increase bus fares in the Capital, pointing out that it will put more burden on the people who are already suffering a great deal because of all-round price rise.

Delhi BJP President Prof. O. P. Kohli said the lower and middle income groups would be the worst hit by the increase in bus fares as only people with limited means travel by DTC and



Blueline buses. Prof. Kohli said increasing fares on the ground that the DTC had suffered losses was not a reasonable justification: "The reason for the losses should be found out and efforts made to control it by efficient management and administration. The decision to increase fares instead of making the DTC efficient is an anti-people step."

Double Whammy : Malhotra

Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Prof. V. K. Malhotra also criticised the hike calling it a "double whammy" for the Capital's poor. "In an environment of unprecedented inflation when people belonging to the weaker sections of society are struggling to make both ends meet, this increase in bus fares has hit them where it hurts the most," he said.

Prof. Malhotra said the recent spate of purchases of high-end luxury buses had only exacerbated the situation, pushing the public utility even deeper into the red. "The Delhi Government has repeatedly failed to stem these losses which are due to systemic malfunctions and instead of improving its managerial and maintenance practices it is resorting to taxing the commuter, which is unfair and unprecedented," he said, calling for a rollback of the hike. "Otherwise," Prof. Malhotra warned, "the BJP would be forced to join the masses in opposing this move on the streets." ■ (FOC)

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from the kitchen of the self-help group. A banner will be pasted on the vehicle carrying Mid-day Meal food to Anganwadi centres. The group will provide a certificate to Anganwadi workers about the quantity and quality of food. If need be, District Collector will have samples of food grains checked while various committees will keep checking the quality of cooked food from time to time. This scheme of the State Government is definitely going to increase number of children in schools. Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Shri Gopal Bhargava, Minister of State (independent charge) for Women and Child Development Smt. Ranjana Baghel, MLA Shri Brahmanand Ratnakar, Zila Panchayat president Shri Lakhani Singh Meena, Janpad Panchayat president Smt. Lila Rajput, Shri Manohar Patidar were also present on the occasion. ■ (FOC)

Nishank seeks separate Ministry for hill States

With an intention to ensuring the overall development of the Himalayan State, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank has demanded a separate Union Hills Development Ministry.

Addressing a conference of Himalayan States in Shimla on October 30, Shri Nishank said the Union Government should keep the policy and the budget of the department separate.

Uttarakhand's forest, water and environment resources are for the nation, therefore the Union Government should give a financial compensation for the preservation and maintenance of the resources, the CM said, adding, the State's forests keep digesting carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen so the Centre should give Rs 10 crore annually for its maintenance.

"The State Government is promoting eco-tourism, ayurveda, yoga tourism and small food processing industries. Global warming is affecting our precious herbals and State residents are not getting good road, electricity and water as per their requirement because we have to protect forest reservoir free of cost," he said.

In view of plains, the Centre is formulating several development plans, which are unsuitable for the hills, so he advocated for separate policy of hilly states.

Shri Nishank further said increasing industrialisation, urbanisation and globalisation have made phenomenal changes in weather and environment. Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and

other Himalayan States are also becoming its victim. These days everybody is vocal about environment but Uttarakhand is working in this regard and leaving several projects in mid ways because forest department had not given its go-ahead therefore the State deserves appreciation the Union Government, the CM said.

He reiterated that if the Himalaya gets affected then the entire nation would feel its jolt. Uttarakhand's forest is releasing oxygen worth Rs 10,000 crore to the nation. To ensure financial progress, the Centre should make separate policy to preserve its ecology.

Glacier are source of water for most of the rivers, once it get affected then water problem would aggravate, said Nishank. He expressed dissatisfaction over melting of glacier and said 1,439 out of more than 9,000 glaciers are found in Uttarakhand alone and contributing to 500 cubic kilometre water.

He said, "There is a need to make some changes in day-to-day



life, check releasing of greenhouse gases and increase the forest cover then we can reduce the effect of global warming".

Shri Nishank also said its initiative should not affect the progress of the State, so we will have to consider this while preparing a plan to check its effect. By creating hurdle between forest department and local inhabitants, we could not execute new strategy, the Chief Minister said. By lifting dead trees or wastes from forests, the State can earn around Rs 1,500-2,000 crore per annum, he informed.

Union Forest and Environment Minister Shri Jairam Ramesh, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal, Uttarakhand's PCCF Shri RBS Rawat and others were present in the meeting. ■

Prabhash Joshi, founder editor of Jansatta no more



Shri Prabhash Joshi, veteran journalist, columnist and Chief Editorial Adviser of Jansatta, (The Indian Express Group's Hindi daily), died of a heart attack in New Delhi on November 05 night. He was 72. Shri Joshi worked as the resident editor of The Indian Express in Chandigarh, Ahmedabad and Delhi before he became the editor of Jansatta, a post he held for 12 years. Shri Joshi is survived by his wife Usha, daughter Sonal, sons Sandeep and Sopan and four grandchildren. ■ (FOC)

Odisha mining scam impossible sans big fish's help BJP reiterates demand for CBI probe

The Central team of BJP on November 05 visited the mining areas of Joda and Barbil in Odisha. The team visited Kashia of ESSEL Mining, Chormaldar of Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC) and Loidapada and Regudi of Rambahadur Thakur Limited (RBTL). After inspecting these sites, senior BJP leader and Rajya Sabha member Shri Balbir Punj said there was rampant looting of minerals even in the reserve forest areas." Officials, politicians and businessmen have joined hands to loot the rich minerals of a State like Odisha," he said.

Making a scathing attack on the Naveen Patnaik Government for its involvement in the multi crore mining scam, Shri Punj said the vigilance probe ordered by the State Government was just an eye wash. "A scandal of this proportion could not be possible without the help and encouragement of big fish who are yet to be arrested," he said

Terming the mining scam a huge one, he said in an ordinary theft, police initiates action to arrest the thief. "It also initiates action to

seize the materials and make an inquiry to find out where the theft materials are being sold. Later, steps are being taken to seize it," he said, adding that nothing has been done in this case.

"The Government should make it clear where the theft materials are being sold. Steps should also be taken to recover the materials," he said, adding that mining was still going on in the reserve forest areas.

He further said "All the laws regarding forests have been violated". Demanding a CBI probe into the mining scam, Shri Punj said if the Chief Minister was innocent he would have gone for a CBI inquiry. "A CBI inquiry can expose the entire scam," he said, adding that BJP has confidence in CBI. On being asked how the BJP could rely on CBI which released Quattrocchi, he said the people involved in the mining scam were not relatives of

any highly influential person.

Commenting on the statement of the Chief Minister that BJP's statement on mining scam was politically motivated, Shri Punj said



"Shri Patnaik is the Chief Minister due to a political process and not part of any entertainment. We are in politics. We have raised this issue. Rather than resisting it, the Government must accept for a CBI inquiry," he said, adding that the party would rake up this issue in both the Houses of the Parliament.

Coming down heavily on the Naveen Patnaik Government, BJP leader and member of the BJP Central team and Shri Chandan Mitra said, "All roads of corruption and mis-governance leads to Naveen Niwas. All these things are handled and manipulated by the Chief Minister's Office and his residence." All the major corporate houses are also involved in it, he said. "Shri Patnaik and his number two are doing all these things and managing it," Shri Mitra said, adding that people have lost faith in the Government.

After the team submits its report to the BJP central leadership it will call a Press conference on this issue, Shri Mitra said and added that a memorandum would also be submitted to the Prime Minister. ■ (FOC)



UTTARAKHAND

CM spreads awareness about global warming

Uttarakhand has been making phenomenal contribution for preserving environment since ancient times. The State has 65 per cent forest cover and produces oxygen for world. These views were expressed by Chief Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank while speaking on 'Green Battle & Media and Building Brand', which was organized by Symbiosis Institute of Media and Communication on October 30.

He said although nature itself maintains equilibrium but we will have to maintain it also. Since ancient times Uttarakhand residents do plantation work on festive seasons so the State is having abundance of forest reserve. To check global warming we have to organize people's movement to conserve environment.

Shri Nishank further said the Himalayas are a model for the world and State residents preservation plays important role in its. We are playing important role to conserve environment and also protecting national forest resource.

He said the media plays a key role in preservation of forests. Chipko movement started from Uttarakhand and media publicized this on national and international arena. He said now it is the time for all of us to make good contribution to protect the environment by planting one sapling on their part.

State to prepare cooking gas from pine leaves

If all goes well, Uttarakhand will soon be able to produce domestic cooking gas from pine leaves which otherwise only become a catalyst for devastating forest fires in which the State has to lose forest produce worth crores of rupees and invaluable wildlife every year.

The fact remains that at a time when the Government is finding it hard to meet its energy needs, proposal like preparing cooking gas through unconventional means could go a long way. To produce domestic cooking gas from pine leaves the State Government would engage some private companies and a few proposals regarding offers of interest from some companies have already been received, said the sources.

The pine forests in the State account for 16 per cent of the total forest cover, but use of pine remains

restricted to domestic use as fuel and timber wood. If the plan succeeds we can have availability of waste pine leaves up to one lakh metric tonne said Uttarakhand Additional Chief Forest Conservator, while talking to *The Pioneer* in an exclusive interview.

More importantly, if the forest produce like pine leaves are put to good use, we can be benefited in many ways, he further said adding first of all utilisation of pine leaves would help prevent fire incidents to a large extent.

So on the one hand such initiatives would help the State Government meet its energy needs, on the other it will be able to maintain flora and fauna and will also provide jobs.

Centre curtailed Kumbh Mela fund

Uttarakhand BJP Sahprabhari Dr. Anil Jain alleged that the Union Government has curtailed Rs 330 crore funds for the Uttarakhand Government, which was supposed to be spent on the upcoming Kumbh Mela preparation. It is clear that the Congress-led Union Government is treating Uttarakhand in step-motherly fashion, he said.

Shri Anil Jain said although the people have elected five Congress MPs from the State but they are not raising the State issues. They are mum on this issue because they talk about Uttarakhand only during election but the BJP keeps talking about the State whether it is in ruling or Opposition.

He said the Govt. intentionally reduced the State quota on kerosene, rice and wheat. Even they are not ready to give additional amount of food grain in view of the upcoming Kumbh Mela, which attracts millions of pilgrims from across the State and nation. It is true nature of the Congress and hoped that people will teach them a lesson in the next Assembly election.

KERALA

BJP opposes move for Islamic banking

The Bharatiya Janata Party State General Secretary Shri A.N. Radhakrishnan has said that the government decision to set up an Islamic investment company for promoting Islamic financing was a clear violation of the model code of conduct. The decision to incorporate a company was taken after the model code of conduct

came into force. The government did not have any right to announce new policies after the code of conduct came into force.

He said the decision came following the intervention of Finance Minister Thomas Isaac and Industries Minister Elamaram Karim. The investment of Rs 1000 crore in the proposed company would affect the existing banking system, he said.

ODISHA

Maoists with the help of Christians killed Swami Laxmanananda

According to a *Pioneer* report, former inspector-in-charge of Kotagada police station of Kandhamal district in Odisha Hare krushna Pradhan on November 05 informed the one-man Judicial Commission Justice Sarat Chandra Mohapatra probing the assassination of seer Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati that he was an obstacle for Maoists.

“They had eliminated the religious leader to spread their base in Kandhamal. The Maoists with the help of Christians killed Swami Laxmanananda Saraswati,” he said. The officer also told about the conflict between Kandha and Pana communities over fake certificates. This was another reason behind the violence in Kandhamal, he said.

It is noteworthy, that the Judicial Commission has quizzed several other government officials and hundreds of activists and would visit Kandhamal for hearing from November 09 till 13.

CHANDIGARH

BJP demands resignation of Sharad Pawar & Ahluwalia

The Chandigarh unit of Bharatiya Janata Party took a strong notice of the sky-high price hike in all the items of day-to day life of citizens. The price hike has disturbed the routine budget of families and particularly the housewives are suffering the most.

In a joint Press statement Shri Purshotam Mahajan, city BJP acting president and general secretary Shri Sanjay Tandon said: “It is strange that instead of taking immediate steps to curb the price hike the Food and Supplies and Agriculture Minister Shri Sharad Pawar

and Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia have bowed down before the problem.”

“Such statements indicate that the concerned ministers are helpless in the matter and they do not have the willingness to handle the situation in right perspective. The helplessness shown by the minister and the Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission indicate that they are incapable to tackle the situation and hence have no right to retain their portfolios,” they said.

The Chandigarh BJP demands that Shri Sharad Pawar and Shri Montek Singh should resign immediately for their failure to tackle the problem; otherwise Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh should sack them in the interest of general public.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

World Bank to replicate Hamirpur, Mandi model

The top consultant of World Bank, Ian Moise, on November 05 said the success of Hamirpur and Mandi districts in sanitation and water programmes in India is worth emulating. The govt. is implementing such programmes aided by the global financial body. He said the World Bank will replicate Hamirpur, Mandi model in other parts of the world.

Revealing this, Hamirpur deputy commissioner Abhishek Jain said that Moise was quite impressed by the job done by the administration, protecting and conserving 500 traditional water sources in the district under NREGA. All these sources were being covered, grilled and proper entrance were being constructed so that no animal could pollute these sources. A survey of educational organisations and health was conducted in the district to know the sanitary needs of these institutions so that shortcomings of all these units could be met with under the Total Sanitation Campaign and the *Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan*, he added.

He also told that community toilets were also being constructed in the district at 60 places so that the local public and the tourists could be benefited. He said though Hamirpur was a small district in terms of the area, but it was declared the topper recently in all fields by the State Government. The district had a better literacy rate, road connectivity and overall socio-economic milieu. ■

FOUNDATION OF YOGA

By Sri Swami Sivananda

Develop virtues like generosity, forgiveness and love. Mere Yogic Kriyas alone will not help you much. Do self-analysis daily and eradicate your faults and evil, slavish habits. Rectify your defects such as selfishness, pride, jealousy and hatred. You must cultivate a compassionate and loving heart first. At all times you must share what you have with others and practice selfless service. Then only will you get purity of heart.

Yoga is unity, identity, homogeneity, oneness and sameness with God.

Many aspirants neglect these preliminaries and jump, out of curiosity, to Yogic Kriyas for getting psychic powers. It is really a serious blunder. They will have a hopeless downfall.

Therefore, be careful. Mere Yogic Kriyas cannot bring about the desired results. The purification of the heart is of paramount importance. The aspirant must free himself from lust, anger, greed, jealousy, hatred, egoism, vanity, attachment, pride and delusion. This is more difficult than control of breath or the practice of Yoga Asanas.

Virtuous qualities such as mercy, tolerance, adaptability, courage, patience, balance state of mind and cosmic love should be assiduously cultivated. Sages have always laid great stress on selfless service, generous charity, purity and simple living.

With firm faith, application, perseverance, careful attention to even small details, and fortitude in trials, you must set foot and proceed on the path of Sadhana.

Yoga is not hidden in caves, not sequestered in thick Himalayan forests. It is not in taking mountain

herbs. God is not a coward to run away from towns, cities and villages. Practice Yoga in your own home. When the desire to practice Yoga comes, it means that liberation is near at hand. Now, take the plunge.

It is a blessing to be a Yogi. Practice Yoga and preach. Hatha Yoga ensures good physical and mental health. You must utilize this to the best advantage by deep meditation on the Atman or inner Self. Self-realization should be your



goal. This should be achieved by the constant remembrance of God, by righteousness, by a life of virtue and by the practice of Yoga.

Becoming a Yogi does not involve the abandonment of anyone or neglect of any duties. It means switching over from a life of purposelessness to the path of God. It entails a change of your attitude towards life and in the methods pursued for liberating yourself. True and lasting renunciation is, after all, a matter of the attitude of the mind.

There is only one institution for you which can train you to evolve into a full-bloom Yogi, and that is where Providence has placed you-your own home. Mind is indeed the cause of bondage and liberation; a restless mind will find rest nowhere except in its own annihilation. The mind should be attacked on all sides with every possible type of weapon-with the repetition of God's Name,

study of religious scriptures, devotion, practice of silence, service. Pranayama, Japa, prayer, Kirtan and meditation. All these should be combined.

Do not look upon Yoga as something beyond you or as calling for any extraordinary efforts. You can remain in your station of life, carry on your work and at the same time embark on the Yogic path. Do Japa, prayer, Kirtan, meditation and Asanas regularly.

Any effort in the direction of Yoga never goes in vain. You will realize thereby the fruits of even a little Yogic practice.

Yes, there is a popular notion that Yoga is only for the intelligentsia. It is not so. Yoga is for all. Everyone can and should practice Yoga from his own station in life. I can impart to your noble self training in one of the most ancient Hindu medicine - the great miracle panacea for all ills-Yoga. Become a Yogi from this moment.

The aim and end of Yoga is Self-realization. Yogic methods should not be applied for mere material gains.

Yoga does not consist in just reading books and discussion at a club table. It consists in practicing what you already know.

Every activity - from the rearing of children to the management of the home - can be readily converted into Yoga. Kindly study the first six chapters of the Gita again and again. Merely running away from crowds is not a sign of Yoga. The performance of all actions as an instrument in His hands, and with the consciousness that this world is pervaded by Him, the Supreme Spirit, is called Yoga. ■

(Excerpts from the Teachings of Swami Shri Sivanandaji Maharaj of Divine Life Society, Rishikesh).