Volume 3, Issue 16

NEW INDIA SAMACHAR

February 16-28, 2023
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UNLEASHING THE POTENTIAL

INFRASTRUCTURE AND INVESTMENT

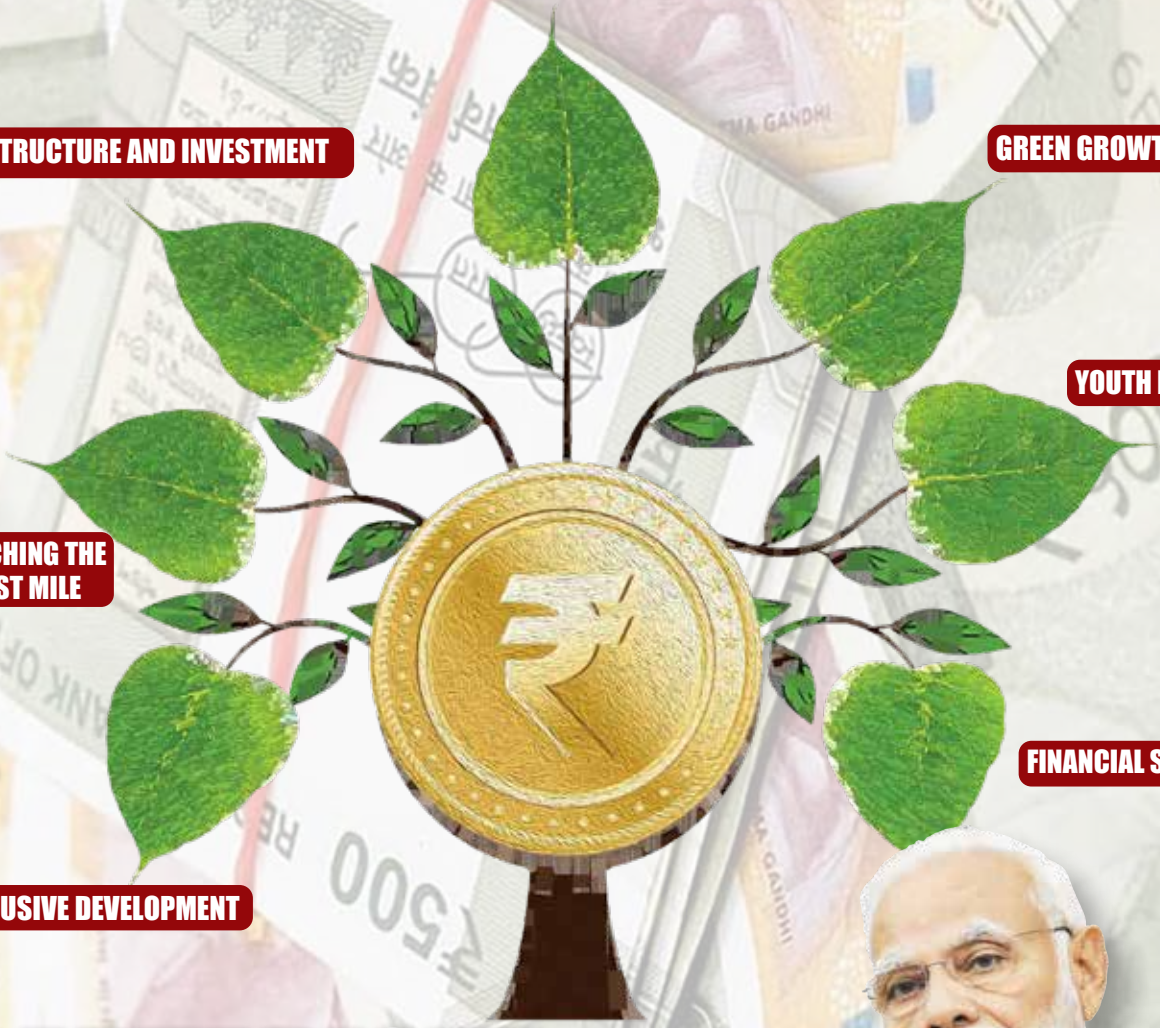
GREEN GROWTH

YOUTH POWER

REACHING THE LAST MILE

FINANCIAL SECTOR

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT



SAPTARISHI

JOURNEY TO SWARNIM BHARAT

The first general budget of Amrit Kaal is focusing on seven priorities to realize the big resolution of becoming a developed India



"PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, EVERYONE'S EFFORT AND 'PERFORMING ONE'S DUTIES TOWARDS THE COUNTRY' STRENGTHENS THE REPUBLIC"



Since the year 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been addressing the nation with his monthly programme Mann Ki Baat. On 29 January, Prime Minister Narendra Modi once again addressed the nation in his first Mann Ki Baat of 2023. During this programme he said I am very happy to interact with all of you once again. In his address, PM Modi dwelled on the issues of climate change, bio-diversity, wetlands, Kashmir, and tribals and echoed that democracy is in our veins and India is the mother of democracy.This time many personalities associated with the tribal community have received Padma awards. Prime Minister Modi said that it is a matter of pride to give him this award. An excerpt...

- **SHARED MESSAGES OF CITIZENS PRAISING REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS:** This time also many aspects of the Republic Day celebrations are being praised a lot. Pulkit from Jaisalmer writes to me that it was great to see the workers who built the Kartavya path during the 26th January parade. Jaya from Kanpur writes that she enjoyed seeing different aspects of Indian culture in the tableaux included in the parade. Women Camel Riders and the women contingent of CRPF, who took part in this parade for the first time, are also being highly appreciated.
- **DEMOCRACY IN OUR VEINS:** Democracy is in our veins, it is in our culture - it has been an integral part of our work for centuries. By nature, we are a Democratic Society. Dr. Ambedkar had compared the Buddhist monks union to the Indian Parliament. He described it as an institution where there were many rules for Motions, Resolutions, Quorum, Voting and counting of votes.
- **YOGA DAY AND MILLETS:** Yoga Day and our different types of coarse grains - Millets have a lot in common. Just as people have made yoga and fitness a part of their lives by taking active participation on a large scale; similarly people are adopting millets on a large scale.
- **NUTRITIOUS AND DELICIOUS DISHES MADE FROM MILLETS:** Today G-20 summit events are going on in every corner of India and I am happy that in every corner of the country, wherever the G-20 summit is being held, nutritious and tasty dishes made from millets are included in it. You can imagine that this effort of the country and the increasing demand of Millets in the world is going to give strength to our small farmers.
- **IMPROVEMENT IN INDIA'S RANKING:** Today India's ranking is 7th in Patent Filing and 5th in Trademarks. Talking about patents only, there has been an increase of about 50 percent in the last five years. In the Global Innovation Index too, India's ranking has improved tremendously and now it has reached 40th position, while in 2015, India was far behind at the 80th position in the Global Innovation Index.
- **'KACHRE SE KANCHAN':** It was mentioned in a United Nations report that 50 million tonnes of E-Waste is being thrown away every year. So utilizing E-Waste is no less than making 'Kachre Se Kanchan'
- **ENTHUSIASM FOR SPORTS RISES:** In Kashmir, there is a lot of enthusiasm among the youth regarding sports. In the coming times, many of these youth will win medals for the country and will hoist the tricolour.
- **OUR EFFORTS SHOULD GO ON RELENTLESSLY:** To strengthen our Republic our efforts should go on relentlessly. The Republic becomes strong 'by public participation', 'by everyone's effort', 'by performing one's duties towards the country', and I am satisfied that, our 'Mann Ki Baat', is the emphatic voice of such dutiful fighters. We will meet again next time with interesting and inspiring stories of such dedicated people.

TUNE INTO MANN KI BAAT BY SCANNING QR CODE

NEW INDIA
SAMACHAR

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

THE GENERAL BUDGET BOOSTS VISION OF BUILDING A DEVELOPED INDIA

Greetings!

"*Sangchchhadhwam Samvadhwam San Woh Manansi Jantaam*". It means that we should all walk together, step by step, with a flow of unity in our resolution voices and with our consciences connected to each other. Imbibing this Vedic shloka with the approach of "Sabka Prayas" and public participation, the result of the development initiatives in the last nine years is that many basic facilities have either reached 100 percent of the population today or are just near the target of completion. This is the foundation that boosts confidence in building a developed India in the coming 25 years.

Against this backdrop, the first general budget of Amrit Kaal is full of energy to make the dreams of Swarnim Bharat come true. This is our cover story this time, in which it has been highlighted how New India is ready to take a leap with seven priorities in the form of 'Saptarishi' whose goal is to build such a nation by 2047, which is associated with the glory of the past and which has every golden chapter of modernity. Building a nation that is self-sufficient and is also able to fulfill its humanitarian obligations. A nation where there is no poverty and its middle class is able to live an affluent life. Its youth power and women power stand at the forefront to give direction to society and the nation. Its youth are two steps ahead of time. An India whose diversity is brighter, whose unity is unshakable.

In the personality section, read the story of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the immortal son of Mother India, on his birth anniversary (February 19). The stories of the unsung heroes who were awarded the Padma Awards, and the Children who won national bravery awards are part of this issue. 'Pariksha Pe Charcha', which has always been motivating for the students appearing in the examinations, also features in this issue.

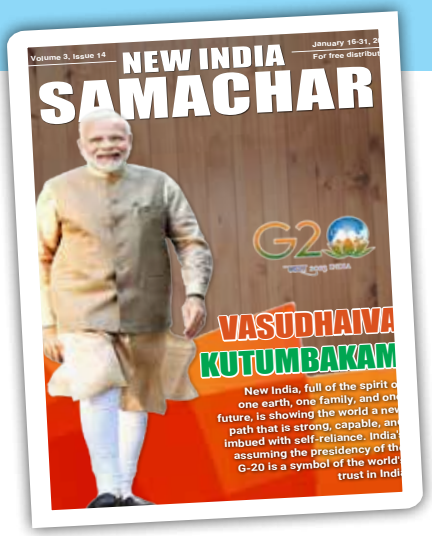
Keep sending your suggestions to us



(Satyendra Prakash)

Read/Download the magazine available in Hindi, English and 11 other languages.
https://newindiasamachar.pib.gov.in/

MAIL BOX



Many initiatives are underway in the interest of the nation

Giving information about the progress of the nation in a very interesting way, the whole team deserves congratulations for publishing the New India Samachar magazine. The 16 to 31 January 2023 issue throws light on every aspect of the G-20. Many good things are happening in the interest of the nation by citizens in our country.

Hari Vishnoi
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Get detailed information about all the schemes

I read the magazine's issue of 1st to 15th January and found out that detailed information about all the schemes of the village is available in it. This magazine is spreading knowledge in rural areas. Nice to read your article on the return of Indian artefacts to India. I am living in a rural area. I read this magazine regularly and I get a lot of interesting information.

Chhabiram Verma
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The best editorials and articles are published in the magazine

New India Samachar magazine is getting better day by day. The editorials and articles in the magazine are excellent. In this issue, I liked the article on Swami Vivekananda and India's chairmanship of the G-20 Summit. Also, read about Indian Army Day in detail. Some unforgettable special works are happening during the tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The start of the MV Ganga Vilas cruise on the river from Banaras to Dibrugarh created a lot of enthusiasm among tourists from abroad.

Shrigopal Srivastava
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It is a pleasure to read New India Samachar

I have been reading New India Samachar magazine regularly. It is a pleasure to read this magazine. India is moving towards progressive development. I appreciate the efforts of Prime Minister Modi in the interest of the nation. Gratitude to the editor that a place has also been given to those forgotten martyrs of India who made an unforgettable contribution to the freedom movement. The best part is that the magazine is published not only in Hindi but in many languages. As an Indian citizen, I feel proud that this time our nation will chair the G-20 summit. **Anand Joshi, anandjoshi1973@gmail.com**

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EVIDENCE OF 2500 YEARS OF CONTINUOUS HABITATION IN PURANA QILA, EXCAVATION STARTED AGAIN



Identified as the ancient Indraprastha settlement, Purana Qila has evidence of continuous habitation for 2,500 years. The Archaeological Survey of India has started the excavation of Purana Quila for the third time after 2013-14 and 2017-18 which is being led by Vasant Swarnkar. In the last excavation, evidence of pre-Mauryan layers was found. This time the focus is on placing the Painted Gray Ware culture in a stratigraphical context.

Early excavation findings and artefacts include the Painted Gray Ware (a pottery tradition) dating back to 900 BCE. This includes pottery sequences from the Maurya to the Shunga, Kushan, Gupta, Rajput Sultanate, and Mughal periods. Purana Qila, excavations have been done earlier also for the discovery and evidence of Pandava civilization and culture. The old fort, dating back to the 16th century, was built by Sher Shah Suri and Humayun, the second Mughal emperor. Padma Vibhushan Prof. BB Lal also carried out excavations inside the fort and its precincts in the years 1954 and 1969–73.

ISSUANCE OF AADHAAR TO THE ADULT POPULATION ALMOST COMPLETE, NOW IT'S TIME TO UPDATE

The work of issuing Aadhaar numbers to the adult population in the country is almost complete. The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has now intensified work on five areas to provide continuous assistance to the countrymen in daily life, further strengthening data security alongwith playing a stellar role in furthering the cause of good governance and promoting 'ease of living'.

In this series, UIDAI has urged such people to update their Aadhaar data, who have obtained their Aadhaar 10 years ago and have never updated it in subsequent years. You can get your Aadhaar updated by submitting proof of identity and address on the myAadhaar portal or by visiting an Aadhaar centre.

The five core areas are – resident centricity, expanding the usage of Aadhaar, security and privacy, continuous technology upgradation, and collaborate with global economies and support them in their aspiration to achieve SDG 16.9 (provide legal identity for all). Since the first Aadhaar number was generated in 2010, UIDAI has issued over 135 crores Aadhaars and has carried out more than 88 crores authentication transactions so far.

NATION SHEDDING THE MENTALITY OF SLAVERY

RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN'S GARDENS WILL NOW BE CALLED 'AMRIT UDYAN'



Names and symbols reminiscent of slavery are now becoming a thing of the past. Moving in this direction, several initiatives have been taken, including eradicating the mentality of slavery in Amritkaal. Rajpath was renamed Kartavya Path, indigenous cannons were used on Independence Day and Republic Day, the George V statue was replaced by Netaji, featuring Shivaji Maharaj's seal in the Navy flag, and the date of the presentation of the budget changed. President Droupadi Murmu has named the gardens of Rashtrapati Bhavan "Amrit Udyan" in the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. On January 29, the President participated in the inauguration ceremony of Udyan Utsav-2023 before the "Amrit Udyan" was opened to the general public. This garden will be open to the general public from 31 January to 31 March, except for every Monday, 8 March, and 26 March. This time it will be open exclusively for farmers on March 28, for the differently abled on March 29, for paramilitary forces and police personnel on March 30, and for women, including tribal women SHGs, on March 31.

During the Udyan Utsav, visitors will be able to see 12 varieties of tulips. Also, they will be able to get information about trees, plants, and flowers by scanning the QR code in the garden. Online booking can be done at https://rashtrapatisachivalaya.gov.in or https://rb.nic.in/rbvisit/visit_plan.aspx. in six slots from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On arrival without an online booking, registration will have to be done at the facilitation counter as well as at the self-service kiosk near Gate No. 12 of Rashtrapati Bhavan.

JAN DHAN ACCOUNTS TOTAL BALANCE SURGE TO RS 1.80-LAKH CR

The 47.84 crore basic bank accounts opened under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) had a balance of Rs 1.80 lakh crore as of December 2022. Out of this, 26.54 crore are women account holders. Latest figures show that the number of PMJDY account holders in semi-urban and rural areas is around 32 crore. The rest of the accounts are in urban and metropolitan bank branches.

RuPay debit cards are issued to PMJDY account holders with an accidental insurance cover of Rs 1 lakh (Rs 2 lakh for account holders after August 28, 2018). Amidst all this, there are around 20 crore PMJDY account holders who do not have a functional debit card.

TARGET OF SETTING 10 THOUSAND JANAUSHADHI KENDRAS BY 2024

Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), the Government has set a target of increasing the number of Jan Aushadhi Kendras to 10,000 by March 2024 in order to provide cheap and high-quality generic medicines to the people of the country. These medicine centers offer 50% to 90% less expensive medications than branded pharmacies. There are 1759 different types of medicines and 280 different types of surgical instruments available here.

The Department of Pharmaceuticals and the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers have approved the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India's (PMBI) proposal to invite online applications for the establishment of new Jan Aushadhi Kendras in 651 districts across the country.

In the fiscal year 2021-22, these centers sold medicines and surgical instruments worth Rs 893.56 crore, saving the general public Rs 5300 crore. While Rs 758 crore was sold in the current fiscal year 2022-23 through November 30, 2022, resulting in an estimated savings of Rs 4500 crore for citizens.



CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI MAHARAJ

BRAVE WARRIOR, POPULAR RULER, AND BRILIANT STRATEGIST

Many heroes have graced India with their extraordinary bravery, sacrifice, and dedication. Shivaji's name stands out among them. Remembering Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj fills all Indians with pride. Shivaji is a name that means "brave warrior," "popular ruler," and "brilliant strategist." He was also very concerned about social issues and religious beliefs. Indians will never forget his efforts to modernise the army, build a navy, replace Persian as the official language with Marathi and Sanskrit, and drive out foreign invaders in the 18th century. India will always be grateful for his sacrifices.

BORN: FEBRUARY 19, 1630
DIED: APRIL 3, 1680

With his coronation in 1674, Shivaji Maharaj chased away the foreign invaders with the proclamation of Hindavi Swaraj. He worked for years to lay a strong foundation of Swaraj, Swadharma, and Swabhasha in India, on which our country built a strong structure. From a common man to attaining the title of Chhatrapati, Shivaji Maharaj won many battles with his courage and intelligence, including the capture of several hill forts

near Poona-Raigarh, Kondana, and Torna at the age of just 18–19 years. The treaty to save the fort, the call between the hills to register a victory over the opposition, the treaty with Maharaja Jaisingh to save the fort of Purandar, and the escape from the captivity of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb show his cleverness.

Shivaji Maharaj was born on February 19, 1630, in Shivneri Durg, to Shahji Bhonsale and Jijabai (Rajmata Jijau). The brave Shivaji learned politics and war skills as a child.

Shivaji Maharaj founded the Maratha Empire. His birth name was Shivaji Bhonsle, but he was given the title "Chhatrapati" or "Chief of Kshatriyas" at the time of his coronation due to his administrative and leadership abilities. Shivaji Maharaj' heroics and his enduring saga has also had an impact on India's current geography. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says, "It is a very big question: what is our past, what is our present, and what is it if Shivaji Maharaj is not there." It is difficult to imagine India's glory without Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. "His sagas after him, his inspirations, have continuously played the role that Chhatrapati Shivaji played in that era."

While establishing the Maratha Empire, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj began expanding it. He not only won many wars, but he also used his wits to save his empire from the Mughal Emperor, defeating the Mughal army on several occasions.

He conducted numerous new war science experiments and pioneered a new technique of guerrilla warfare. With the help of his disciplined army and well-organized administrative units, Shivaji provided a proper and progressive administration. Despite all of the plans for conquest and state expansion, Shivaji maintained that his rule should be popular with and beneficial to the people. He wrote social and political theses to support this. Shivaji's state was secular.

Shivaji Maharaj extolled Indian beauty by establishing good governance based on religion, nationality, justice, and public welfare. In his state system, Shivaji also appointed eight ministers known as Ashta Pradhan. Peshwa made the most significant contribution. Shivaji Maharaj died on April 3, 1680, but his biography inspired many revolutionaries in India's freedom struggle, who sacrificed their bodies, minds, and wealth for India's freedom.

"Hindavi Swaraj" by Shivaji Maharaj is a great example of good governance, justice for the backward and disadvantaged, and courage in the face of oppression. Hindavi Swaraj, means self-rule by Indians. Whatever party governs India, the basic ideology has always been to keep the country free of all foreign military and political influence. Shivaji Maharaj is said to have used the words "Hindavi Swarajya" for the first time, in a letter.

Veer Shivaji's management, the country's use of maritime power, the establishment of a navy with its own strength, and water management are still exemplary subjects. With the same inspiration as Shivaji Maharaj, India removed the traces of slavery and colonialism on September 2, 2022, and accorded a new flag for the Indian Navy that fully reflects Indianness and the power of the Navy. Until now, the Indian Navy's flag bore the George Cross insignia. The naval flag's Shivaji Maharaj emblem makes every Indian proud of its rich culture. Remembering Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on his birth anniversary, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had said, "Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's outstanding leadership and emphasis on social welfare have inspired people for generations." He was always steadfast in his support for the values of truth and justice. We are committed to fulfilling their vision."

COVER STORY

First General Budget of Amrit Kaal

'SAPTARISHI'

GUIDING INDIA'S JOURNEY TO SWARNIM BHARAT



The third general budget of the new decade of the 21st century and the first general budget of the Amrit Kaal is moving towards the goal of fulfilling the grand vision of a developed India. Its aim is to take advantage of the foundation prepared in the last nine years and adopt a holistic and long-term approach focusing on 'Saptarishi' i.e. seven priorities. This is a developmental budget showing the roadmap of Amrit Kaal, whose goal is to give preference to the deprived sections, ease to the middle class, and dreams of development of all sections of the aspirational society - village-poor, farmers, artisans, youth, women, elders, and entrepreneurs. So that in the journey of development for the next 25 years in a phased manner, and in the golden year of independence, building a modern new India on the foundation of a self-reliant India with the spirit of 'Sabka Prayas' and 'public participation'.

This first budget of Amritkaal will build a strong foundation to fulfill the grand vision of a developed India. This budget gives priority to the underprivileged. This budget will fulfill the dreams of today's aspirational society - village-poor, farmer, middle class. Come, now the new budget is in front of you, let's go ahead with new resolutions. In 2047, we will make a prosperous India, a capable India, and a prosperous India in every way. Let us take this journey forward.

– NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER



Often it is rarely seen that all sections feel empowered in the same general budget. But the first general budget of Amrit Kaal, presented with the resolution of Swarnim Bharat, has become a beacon of new hope among the middle class, villages, poor farmers, women, youth, and entrepreneurs. Thinking of Nation First, and taking bold decisions are the key to building a strong economy. This is quite visible in the successive budget of the new India. With the vision that the development of the nation should be all-round and inclusive, the manner in which the central government has scripted the story of development in the last nine years has now become the foundation stone of the dream cherished for the Swarnim Bharat of 2047. The Amrit Kaal which started after the completion of 75 years of independence envisages making the country a golden bird again and a self-reliant India. The general budget for 2023-24 is building on the momentum of the budget presented in the past years.

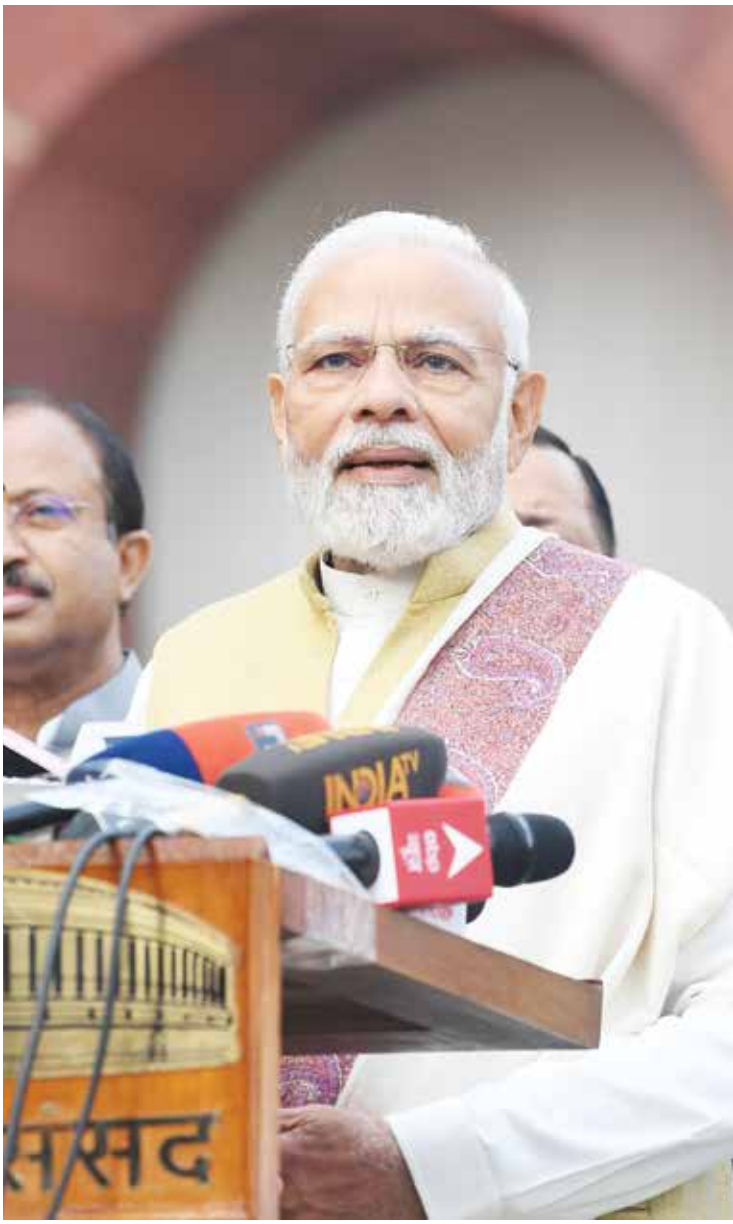
Its aim is to meet contemporary needs and fulfill the dream of Swarnim Bharat in the next 25 years.

In a very fast-changing India its middle class has become a major stream in every sphere of life, be it development or system, courage or ability to take a resolution. The middle class is a huge force to fulfill the dreams of a prosperous and developed India. Just as the youth power of India is the special strength of India, similarly the growing middle class of India is also a great power. In order to empower the middle class, our government has taken many decisions in the past years and has ensured ease of living.

– NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

If we try to understand the first general budget of Amrit Kaal in a few words, then it is a public-oriented and visionary budget dedicated to the development of the country. This budget stresses empowering and enabling the villages, poor, farmers, tribals, Dalits, backward, exploited, underprivileged, disabled, economically backward, and middle-class people.

The size of the General Budget - 2023-24 has increased to more than Rs 45 lakh crore, which shows that India's economy is growing rapidly even in the Covid era. Despite the global crisis caused by the Covid crisis and the Russia-Ukraine war, the increase in the size of the country's budget to Rs 45 lakh crore reflects that India is a fast-growing economy. This budget has holistically laid out the blueprint for the next 25 years of development for the country with an emphasis on various dimensions. It aims to provide greater opportunities for citizens, provide a strong impetus to growth and job creation, and strengthen macroeconomic stability. This is not just a financial document for the development of the current financial year, but a blueprint for the country to lay the foundation of a developed economy.



MANN KI BAAT OF EVERY INDIAN ALONG WITH THE MIDDLE CLASS

In the last nine years, several initiatives have empowered the poor, poverty has

FOUNDATION STONE OF PROSPEROUS INDIA...

This curiosity may arise in anyone's mind that after 75 years of independence, why has the country needed such a resolution? In fact, there comes a time in the life of every nation when it redefines itself. The biggest pandemic in the last 100 years changed the world, changed the way of working and people's thinking shaped new innovations, then for India, the youngest country in the world, the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav brought such an opportunity, when India once again took the pledge of becoming a Swarnim Bharat. The foundation stone of this big resolution has been prepared in the last nine years.

It is the result of the long-term thinking of the Central Government that in the last nine years, the per capita income has doubled to Rs 1.97 lakh. The size of the Indian economy has also increased and it has become the 5th largest economy in the world from the 10th largest economy 9 years ago. The membership of the Employees' Provident Fund Organization has more than doubled to 27 crores. In the year 2022, a total of 7,400 crore digital payments worth Rs 126 lakh crore have been made through UPI. Toilets have been built in 11.7 crore houses under the Swachh Bharat Mission. Under the Ujjwala scheme 9.6 crore LPG connections were given. Targeting 102 crore people, the figure for anti-covid vaccination has crossed 220 crore doses. 47.8 crore Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan bank accounts have been opened in the country. 44.6 crore people have got insurance coverage under PM Suraksha Bima Yojana and PM Jeevan Jyoti Yojana. Cash transfer of Rs 2.2 lakh crore was done to 11.4 crore farmers under PM Samman Kisan Nidhi.

Now, in the first general budget of Amrit Kaal, seven priorities have been set, which have been called 'Saptarishi', to realize the resolution of Swarnim Bharat. To further strengthen the health infrastructure, one hundred and fifty-seven new nursing colleges will be established in co-location with the existing 157 medical colleges established since 2014. The Center will appoint 38,800 teachers and support staff in 740 Eklavya Model Residential Schools for 3.5 lakh tribal students in the next three years. To further the goal of providing pucca houses to all, the outlay for PM Awas Yojana has been increased by 66 percent to Rs 79,000 crore. Not only this, a capital fund provision of Rs 2.40 lakh crore has been made for Railways, considered the lifeline of India, which is 9 times more than the amount provided in 2013-14 and the highest ever.



This year's middle-class friendly budget will strengthen everyone's efforts for 'Developed India'. This budget is a major step in the direction of a capable India, affluent India, self-reliant India, powerful India, and dynamic India. In this 'Azadi Ka Amritkaal', this budget has made a huge contribution to fulfilling the resolutions of a developed India while discharging its duties. This is a popular budget. It is an all-encompassing budget, all inclusive budget, an all-pleasing budget and a budget that touches all.

– NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

The general budget has given a historic gift to middle-class working people. Now employed people will not have to pay any tax on an annual income of Rs 7 lakh.



been reduced and the size of the middle class has increased. Against this backdrop, making the middle class the charioteer of development in growing India, their aspirations have been given special attention in this budget. India's middle class is transforming very fast, whether it is development or system, courage or ability to take resolutions, today India's middle class has become a catalyst of change. The middle class is a credible force to fulfill the dreams of a prosperous and developed India. Just as the youth power of India is a special strength of India, in the same way, the growing middle class is also a great power of India. In order to empower the middle class, the government has taken several decisions in the past years and ensured ease of living. The general budget has given a historic gift to middle-class working people.

The agriculture credit target has been increased to Rs 20 lakh crore with a focus on animal husbandry, dairy, and fisheries. For the next 3 years, 1 crore farmers will be provided help in natural farming. For this, 10,000 Bio Input Resource Centers will be set up. Not only this, the National Digital Library for Children and Adolescents, PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 has been announced to give flight to the dreams and boost the competence of the youth. Under this, 40 Skill India Centers will be set up across the country, which will enhance the skills of the youth and provide them an opportunity to move forward. PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman i.e. PM Vikas will bring a big change in the lives of crores of 'Vishwakarma'.

This budget will make cooperatives the pivot of the development of the rural economy. The government has brought the world's largest food storage scheme in the cooperative sector – storage capacity and an ambitious plan to form new primary co-operatives has also been announced in the budget. This will expand the area of milk and fish production along with farming, as a result of which farmers, cattle keepers and fishermen will get a better price for their produce.

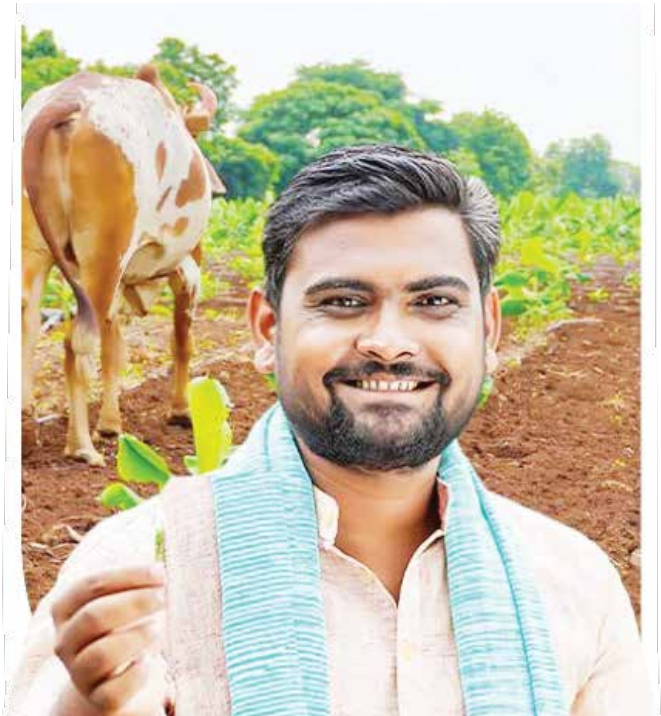
A special initiative has been taken for women's empowerment with the announcement of Mahila Samman Vikas Patra. Under it, women will now get 7.5% interest annually on savings of Rs 2 lakh.

The decision to increase the limit of the amount that can be kept in the bank's savings account for senior citizens from Rs 4.5 lakh to Rs 9 lakh is also a good initiative. Also, the limit of the Senior Citizen Savings Scheme has also been increased from Rs 15 lakh to Rs 30 lakh. These schemes are very important in the direction of women's empowerment and the welfare of senior citizens.

EMPHASIS ON IT-TECHNOLOGY WITH GREEN DEVELOPMENT

The world is celebrating the International Year of Millets. Against this backdrop, giving special emphasis to various varieties of coarse cereals in the general budget they have been given a new identity as 'Shri-Anna' and many schemes have also been made for its promotion. Small farmers will benefit from this budget. Along with this, emphasis has been laid on promoting the agriculture sector through technology while connecting agriculture with modernity so that the farmers get comprehensive benefits in the long run.

A fund of Rs 35,000 crore has been given for energy transition. Capital investment is being increased by 33% to Rs 10 lakh crore, which is about 33 percent more than in 2019-20. Compared to 2014, investment in infrastructure has been increased by more than 400 percent. An unprecedented investment of ten lakh crore rupees in infrastructure will give new energy and speed to India's development. This will create new employment opportunities for the youth



The Current tax rate in the country is 42.74%, among the highest in the world. The Budget has now reduced the highest surcharge (on income above Rs 5 crore) rate from 37% to 25% in the new Tax regime. This will result in the reduction of the maximum tax rate to 39%."

– NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

and provide new income opportunities to a large population. In this budget, along with Ease of Doing Business, the campaign of credit support and reforms for industries has been taken forward. An additional loan guarantee of Rs 2 lakh crore has been arranged for MSMEs.

Interest-free loans to states have also been carried forward for one year. To increase regional connectivity, 50 new airports, helipads, water arrow drones, and advanced landing grounds will be developed. The government will spend Rs 10,000 crore every year on the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund. A credit guarantee of Rs 9 thousand crores will be given to MSMEs. With this, they will also be able to get an extra collateral-free credit of Rs 2 lakh crore. This will give new strength to the domestic economy and this will also boost employment. 50 tourist sites will be developed in the country.

Certainly, the first general budget of the Amrit Kaal is a budget to realize the vision of New India in the 100th year of independence. This budget will build a strong foundation to fulfill the grand vision of a developed India. This budget gives priority to the underprivileged. This budget will fulfill the dreams of today's aspirational society-village-poor, farmer, middle class, because it has a framework for the development of all classes which shows that the Indian economy is on right track and moving towards a bright future.

Let us know how the new India is moving on the path of Amrit Kaal with the 'Saptarishi' i.e. Seven Sutras announced in the general budget...

1

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

INDIA'S POPULACE WILL BE STRENGTHENED

Over the last nine years, the Central Government has made inclusive development possible by including farmers, women, other backward classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Divyang, and economically weaker sections. The development of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh, and the North East has also received special attention. This Amrit Kaal budget will help speed up the pace of inclusive development.

NEW PHARMA INDUSTRY INNOVATION WILL MAKE TREATMENT EASIER

Provisions have been made in the budget to meet the needs of new innovations and technology in the field of medicine, as well as hospitals, doctors, and medicines, for a healthy life.

TO MEET THE NURSING NEEDS

157 nursing colleges will be established in 157 government medical colleges built after 2014. A mission will be launched to eradicate sickle cell anaemia by 2047.

In the affected tribal areas, awareness campaigns and universal screenings of 7 crore people aged 0-40 will be carried out.

PHARMA INDUSTRY

The budget increased 11.5 times: from Rs 100 crore to Rs 1250 crore.



To encourage new research in the field of health, research facilities will be provided to private medical colleges as well as people associated with the private sector in selected laboratories of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). With new innovations in medical technology being introduced on a daily basis, encouragement will be given to include new subjects of innovation in the courses of the pharmaceutical sector.

TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED FARMERS

Given the importance of farmers to the country's progress, the government has set a goal of connecting the country's farmers to modern technology, in which case digital public infrastructure will be built first. Farmers will be able to access comprehensive farmer-centric solutions, such as crop planning, credit and insurance, crop estimation assistance, market intelligence, the agri-tech industry, and start-ups, as a result of this.



FARMERS TO RECEIVE A FAIR PRICE FOR CROP SALES

The budget includes provisions to ensure that farmers can store their products properly and sell their crops at a fair price at the right time. The budget will include a plan to build massive, decentralised storage capacity. In the next five years, the government will work with panchayats to establish a large number of multi-purpose cooperative societies, primary fishing societies, and dairy cooperative societies.

FARMER

The farmer loan will be increased up to Rs **20** lakh crore

FISHERIES

A sub-scheme will be started in the PM Matsya Sampada Yojana with an investment of Rs

6,000 CRORE

ATMANIRBHAR CLEAN PLANT PROGRAMME

A self-reliant clean plant programme will be started with an expenditure of Rs

2200 CRORE

TO ENSURE ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR EVERYONE

The National Digital Library will be established to provide high-quality books to children and adolescents from various regions, languages, subjects, and levels. The Central Government will encourage states to establish physical libraries for them at the panchayat and ward levels, as well as infrastructure to access the National Digital Library.

THE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION:
2.9 percent of GDP of FY-2023



- The Indian Institute of Millets Research in Hyderabad will be promoted as a Center of Excellence to make India a global hub for Shree Anna.
- A new sub-scheme of the PM Matsya Sampada Yojana will be started so that fishermen, fish sellers, and micro- and small enterprises can become more efficient in their work.
- Cooperative societies that begin manufacturing by March 31, 2024 will be eligible for a 15% minimum tax rate, just like corporations.
- On paying the dues of sugarcane farmers before 2016–17 to sugar cooperatives, that amount will be included in the expenditure.
- The upper limit of deposits and loans given in cash to Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS), and Primary Cooperative Agricultural and Rural Development Banks (PCARDBs) has been raised to Rs 2 lakh per member.
- District education and training institutes will be prepared as vibrant centres of excellence for the training of teachers.

REACHING THE LAST MILE

2 SO THAT NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND

The concept of inclusive development cannot be realised until the country's underprivileged are developed. In order to further focus on the goal of "reaching the last mile and the person," in the last 8–9 years, the central government formed separate ministries of AYUSH, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairy, Skill Development, Jal Shakti, and Cooperatives. This year's general budget has also given priority to last-mile connectivity. This budget will realise the aspirations of today's aspirant society: village poor, farmer, middle class.



ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS AND BLOCK PROGRAMMES WILL BOOST MORALE.

Following the success of the inclusive development programme, which was implemented in 112 backward districts across the country, the central government has launched an aspirational block programme covering 500 blocks to improve government services in a wide range of areas, including health, nutrition, education, agriculture, water resources, financial inclusion, skill development, and basic infrastructure.



PRIME MINISTER PVTG DEVELOPMENT MISSION

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF TRIBAL GROUPS WILL IMPROVE



The government's efforts have reawakened the aspirations of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes. This is the same group that has been deprived of the benefits of development the most. Now basic amenities are reaching it. PM Narendra Modi-led government has taken unprecedented decisions for tribal pride, due to which their development is gaining momentum.

PM AWAS YOJANA

DREAM OF OWNING A HOUSE BECOMES REALITY

More funds have been allocated in the budget for 2023 to the PM Awas Yojana, which was launched to provide a pucca house to every citizen of the country. More people will benefit, and more houses will be built in rural and urban areas. By increasing the expenditure in this priority scheme of PM Modi, it will reach the last mile faster.

A budget of Rs 79,000 crore allocated to PM Awas Yojana, 66% more than the previous budget.



Pradhan Mantri PVTG Vikas Mission will be launched to improve the socio-economic conditions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). Under this, basic amenities like safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, education, health and nutrition, road and telecom connectivity, and livelihood opportunities will be provided to PVTG families.



RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS AND ASSISTANTS

38,800 teachers and assistants will be hired over the next three years to staff 740 Eklavya model residential schools for 3.5 lakh tribal students.

PM PVTG MISSION

In the next three years, Rs 15,000 crore will be spent on the PM PVTG mission.

WATER FOR DROUGHT-PRONE AREAS

The Upper Bhadra Project will receive Rs **5,300 CRORE** central government funding to provide permanent micro-irrigation facilities and fill surface water tanks with drinking water in Karnataka's drought-prone central region. The arrangement of water in drought-prone areas will benefit both the people and the agricultural sector.



BHARAT SHARED REPOSITORY OF INSCRIPTION (BHARATASHRI):

The budget announced the setting up of Bharat Shared Repository of Inscription (Bharatashree), a digital epigraphic museum. Under this, one lakh ancient records will be digitised in the first phase.

In this SHRI stands for Shared Repository of Inscription.



ASSISTANCE TO POOR PRISONERS

Financial assistance will be provided to poor prisoners who are unable to pay a fine or bail amount.



This budget will lay a solid foundation for realising the grand vision of a developed India. The underprivileged are prioritised in this budget. This budget will realise the aspirations of today's aspirational society, including the poor of the villages, farmers, and middle-class citizens.

NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

3 INFRASTRUCTURE AND INVESTMENT

ASPIRATIONAL INDIA TO GET NEXT-GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE



Prime Minister Narendra Modi's focus has been on multi-modal connectivity and infrastructure to make life easier. Whether it is the new generation Vande Bharat train or greenfield airports and world-class facilities in railways, the growing network of metro trains, or the Ganga Vilas cruise, aspirational India wants next-generation infrastructure in every sector. Determined to meet these expectations of a new India, the government has increased investment in infrastructure by 400% in the last 9 years despite economic constraints in the global pandemic. This time, about 33% more than the revised estimate of last year, 10 lakh crore rupees will be spent on capital investment.



The government's 10th budget and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's 5th budget focussed on development. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has included infrastructure and investment in the seven priorities of Amrit Kaal. The government will spend Rs 13.7 lakh crore, including grants-in-aid for the creation of capital assets worth Rs 3.7 lakh crore, to enhance infrastructure and production capacity. Out of this, about Rs 2.5 lakh crore will be spent this year on the construction of roads and bridges. The Government believes that investment in these sectors has a multi-dimensional impact on growth and employment.

10 LAKH CRORE

rupees Capital investment, it is 3.3 percent of GDP. Three times more than the year 2019-2020.

3.7 LAKH CRORE

rupees Grant-in-aid will be given for infrastructure.

The 50-year interest-free loan to state governments will be continued for one more year with an increased expenditure of Rs.

1.3 LAKH CRORE

2.4 LAKH CRORE

rupees Provision for capital expenditure in Railways, which is 9 times more than in 2013-14 and the highest ever.

Investment in infrastructure has increased by 400% as compared to 2014. This time investment of 10 lakh crores on infrastructure will give new energy and speed to India's development. This investment will create new employment opportunities for the youth, providing new income opportunities to a large population."

– NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

- To increase regional connectivity, 50 new airports, helipads, water arrow drones, and advanced landing grounds will be developed.



- Government will spend 10000 crore rupees every year for the urban infrastructure development fund. It will be managed by the National Housing Bank. This expenditure will be done on Tier-2 and Tier-3 infrastructure.

- 75 thousand crore rupees will be spent on 100 transport infrastructure projects for last-mile connectivity of ports, coal, steel, and fertilizer sector.



Cities will be incentivized to improve the creditworthiness of municipal bonds.

- For urban sanitation, 100 percent cleaning of septic tanks and sewers will be done by machine and scientific management of waste will be taken care of.



UNLEASHING THE POTENTIAL

4 TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE THROUGH EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGY



Prime Minister Narendra Modi believes that good governance is the key to the nation's progress. The government is committed to set up a transparent and accountable governance system that works for the betterment and welfare of the common citizens. Mission Karmayogi for efficient human resource management and their capacity development for a transparent and accountable governance system with emphasis on Artificial Intelligence, National Data Policy, simplification of KYC, PAN for the digital system in business, e-courts for speedy justice, Fintech, use of 5G is encouraged in the budget. Under Mission Karmayogi, the government has launched a platform named iGOT Karmayogi for integrated online training on which lakhs of government employees are enhancing their skills and continuously learning adopting a people-centric approach. Several measures have been proposed in the budget to exploit fully the potential of our economy.



ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER

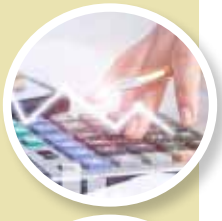
Three centers of artificial intelligence will be set up in top educational institutions of the country with the aim of solving the problems of different fields and promoting artificial intelligence in India. Under it, human resources will be trained along with motivating the ecosystem of artificial Intelligence.

It has been decided to simplify KYC norms. In this, such a KYC system will be encouraged, which can easily meet the needs of Digital India.



TECHNOLOGY WILL IMPROVE EASE OF LIFE

- An integrated filing process system will be put in place to avoid filing the same information with different government agencies separately.
- PAN account will be used as a common identifier across all systems of government agencies for various business activities, making it easier to do business.
- DigiLocker will be set up for use by MSMEs, large businesses, and charitable trusts. This will help in keeping the documents safe and sharing the information as and when required.
- A one-stop solution for identity and residential address matching using DigiLocker and Aadhaar will be provided.
- A National Data Governance Policy will be brought in to spur innovation and research by start-ups and academia.
- Fintech services including PM Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, Video KYC, and UPI have been included to make it seamless. The scope of documents available in Digi Locker will be expanded for more fintech services.
- An IIT will be given a research and development grant for 5 years to promote the indigenous production of lab-grown diamonds and their machines.



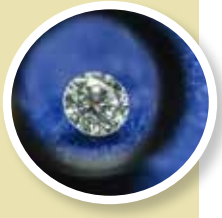












Over 39,000
compliances were reduced to promote ease of doing business

More Than 3,400
legal provisions were removed from the category of crime

100
labs will be set up in engineering institutes to develop applications using 5G services.

E-court project phase-3 will start with an expenditure of Rs 7,000 Crore



This budget will give an unprecedented push to green growth, green economy, green energy, green infrastructure, and green jobs, for a sustainable future. In the budget, we have laid a lot of emphasis on technology and the new economy.

– NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER



5 GREEN GROWTH
TOWARDS ZERO CARBON EMISSIONS GOAL

To give impetus for promoting an eco-conscious lifestyle, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has presented the concept of "LIFE," i.e., an eco-friendly lifestyle. India is accelerating its efforts to achieve "Panchamrit" and net-zero carbon emissions by 2070 in order to spur green industry and economic transformation. With this in mind, a sizable fund has been announced in this budget, specifically for the expansion of the hydrogen campaign. The budget includes special provisions for green development, such as environmental protection, traditional farming, pollution prevention, energy self-sufficiency, and so on.

GREEN HYDROGEN MISSION

COUNTRY MOVES FORWARD ON THE PATH OF GREEN DEVELOPMENT

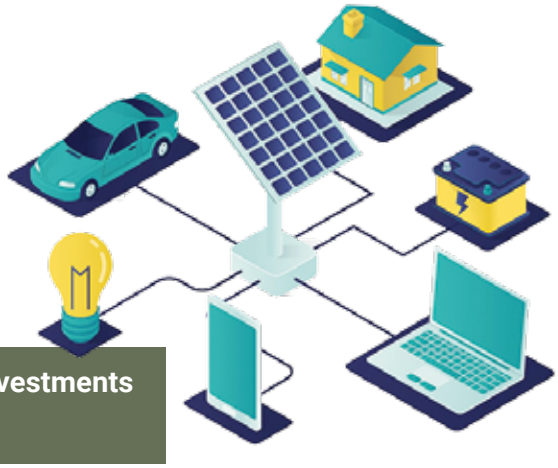


- The National Green Hydrogen Mission will assist the economy in transitioning to a low-carbon economy. India has set an annual production target of 5 MMT for 2030.
- Promoting green hydrogen production will reduce the economy's reliance on crude oil-based fuel. It will also aid in the creation of new jobs.

The National Green Hydrogen Mission was recently launched, with a budget of Rs

19,700 CRORE

ENERGY STORAGE PROJECTS



To propel the economy toward sustainable development, the government will assist in the establishment of a 4,000 MWH battery energy storage system. For this, a detailed outline will also be prepared for pumped storage projects.

A budget of Rs 35,000 crore has been earmarked for capital investments in energy transition, net zero goals, and energy security



RENEWABLE ENERGY EVACUATION: Rs 20,700 crore will be invested in the construction of an interstate transmission system for the evacuation of 13 GW of renewable energy in Ladakh. This project will receive a Rs 8300 crore contribution from the central government.



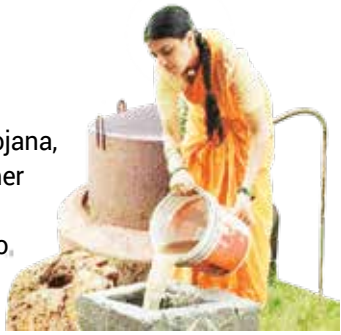
GREEN CREDIT PROGRAMME: A Green Credit Program will be launched under the Environment (Protection) Act to encourage behavioural change in the general public. Under this, not only will common citizens, businesses, and local governments be encouraged to engage in environmentally sustainable activities, but there is also a provision to help raise additional resources for such activities.



PM-PRANAM: As part of the PM-PRANAM initiative, i.e., the PM Program for Restoration, Awareness, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother Earth, states and union territories will be encouraged to promote the balanced use of alternative and chemical fertilisers.

GOBARDHAN YOJANA

Farmers and the environment will benefit from it.



- The primary goal of the Gobardhan Yojana, which was launched to increase farmer income, is to promote cleanliness by reducing agricultural waste while also providing farmers with employment.
- The central government will set up 500 new "waste to wealth" plants under the Gobardhan (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) scheme to promote a circular economy.
- Under the scheme, 200 Compressed Biogas (CBG) plants will be covered with an investment of Rs 10,000 crore.

INDIAN NATURAL FARMING BIO-INPUT RESOURCE CENTRE

- Over the next three years, one crore farmers will be assisted in making the transition to natural farming.
- For this, 10,000 Bio-input Processing centres will be set up, which will create a distributed micro fertiliser and pesticide manufacturing network at the national level.
- **MISHTI:** The government is determined to build on India's success in the forestry sector. For this, an initiative named "Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Income" (MISHTI) has been taken. Under this initiative, mangrove plantations will be done in coastal areas with the help of coordination between institutions like MGNREGA and CAMPA.
- **AMRIT DHAROHAR:** This will promote unique conservation values. The scheme will be implemented over 3 years to promote optimum use of wetlands and enhance bio-diversity, carbon stocks, eco-tourism opportunities, and income for local communities.



6 YOUTH POWER
EMPOWERMENT OF THE AMRIT GENERATION

It cannot be denied that India's biggest strength is its youth population. This is the reason why the central government has come up with a new National Education Policy focused on skill development to empower the youth and help them realise the dream of the "Amrit Generation." At the same time, economic policies have been adopted to generate employment on a large scale, and work has been done to promote business opportunities. Prime Minister Narendra Modi understands the importance of youth power in the country, which is why he has placed a special emphasis on them. Youth power has received special attention in this year's budget as well.

PRADHAN MANTRI KAUSHAL VIKAS YOJANA 4.0

Prime Minister Narendra Modi believes, "No matter how educated you are, no matter how many degrees you have, you should keep on enhancing your skills. You should always be preparing for new skills." These words by Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlight the significance of skill. He often places emphasis on enhancing skills and has been taking initiative as well. A glimpse of this was also seen in this budget, in which Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 was announced.

- Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana 4.0 will be launched to skill lakhs of youth in the next three years.
- It will provide on-the-job training, industry partnerships, and uniformity of courses according to the needs of the industry.
- New-age courses like Coding, AI, Robotics, Mechatronics, 3D Printing, and drones will be included in this.



Attraction to skill provides strength and enthusiasm for living." Skill is not just a means of earning a livelihood and money. Life needs enthusiasm and determination to live; then skill becomes our driving force and brings new inspiration for us. Energy works. And no matter what your age is, be it youth or old age, if you are learning new skills, then your enthusiasm for life will never decrease.

- NARENDRA MODI,
PRIME MINISTER



SKILL INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE

30 Skill India International Centres will be set up to provide international opportunities to skilled youth from different states.

NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP PROMOTION SCHEME

Under the All India National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme, Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) will be launched to provide financial assistance to 47 lakh youth over a three-year period.

INTEGRATED SKILL INDIA DIGITAL PLATFORM

The introduction of the Integrated Skill India Digital Platform will allow the digital system for skill improvement to further develop. It will facilitate demand-driven formal skill enhancement and connect employers, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

TOURISM PROMOTION

50 selected tourist destinations will be developed as a complete package for domestic and foreign tourists.

ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITY MALL

Unity Mall will be set up in the state capitals to promote the sale of one district and one product, GI products and other handicraft products.

KRISHI VARDHAK NIDHI

Krishi Vardhak Nidhi will be set up to help young entrepreneurs in starting agri-startups in rural areas.





FINANCIAL SECTOR

7 DIGITAL TRANSACTIONS MADE IT EASY TO AVAIL LOANS

After 2014, the country's financial sector underwent massive changes and reforms. Financial reforms and the use of technology have simplified, facilitated, and expanded the reach of financial transactions. Digital transactions have increased by 76% last year. It is now easier to get and repay bank loans. In light of this, the government will continue to support digital public infrastructure in 2023-24.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION REGISTRY

Efficient flow of credit, promoting financial inclusion, and ensuring economic stability.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRAL DATA PROCESSING CENTER

Expediting administrative procedures for prompt response to companies under the Companies Act.



CREDIT GUARANTEE FOR MSMES

A corpus has been created by the government for MSME entrepreneurs, in which Rs 9000 crore has been approved. It has been decided to start this scheme on April 1, 2023. Apart from this, collateral-free guaranteed loans of up to Rs 2 lakh crore can be given. This is expected to increase capital inflow in the MSME sector.

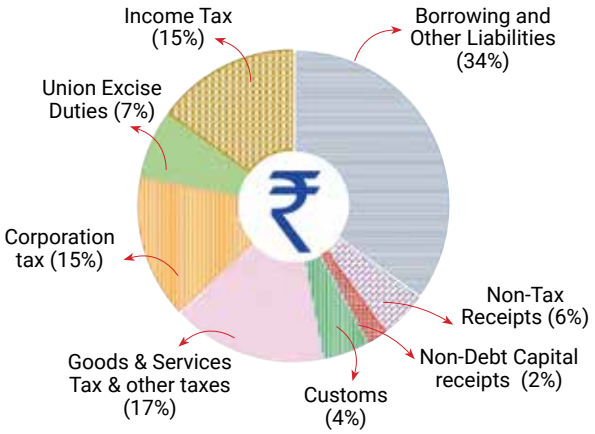


MAHILA SAMMAN SAVINGS CERTIFICATE

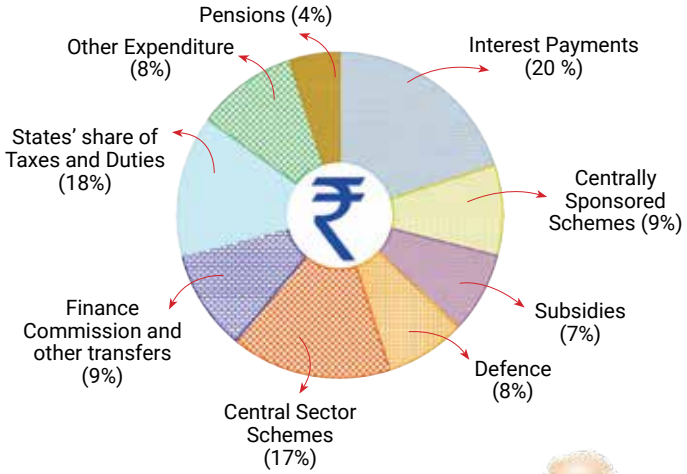
By March 2025, a new small savings scheme for women—the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate—will be made available. In this, up to Rs 2 lakh can be deposited for 2 years at a 7.5 percent annual interest rate.

FROM WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME TO THE GOVERNMENT, WHERE IS IT SPENT

Rupee Comes From



Rupee Goes To



BENEFITS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

The deposit amount under the savings scheme for senior citizens has been increased from Rs 15 lakh to Rs 30 lakh. The maximum deposit limit for the Monthly Income Account Scheme has now been increased from Rs. 4.5 lakh in a single account to Rs. 9 lakh, and in a joint account from Rs. 9 lakh to Rs. 15 lakh.



FISCAL MANAGEMENT

- Interest-free loan to states for 50 years.
- States are allowed a fiscal deficit of 3.5 percent of GSDP.
- The revised estimate of the fiscal deficit in 2022–2023 is 6.4 %
- This is estimated at 5.9% (BE) in the 2023–24 budget and is targeted to be brought down to 4.5% by 2025–26.

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR THE YEAR 2023–24

- Total receipts (other than borrowings): Rs 27.2 lakh crore.
- Total expenditure Rs 45 lakh crore.
- Net tax receipt Rs 23.3 lakh crore.
- Fiscal deficit estimated at 5.9 percent of GDP.
- Target to bring down the fiscal deficit below 4.5 percent of GDP by the year 2025–26.

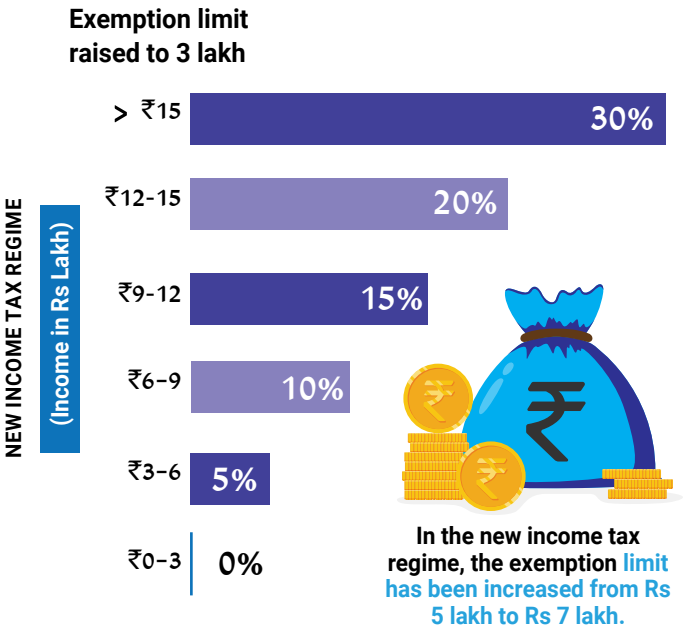


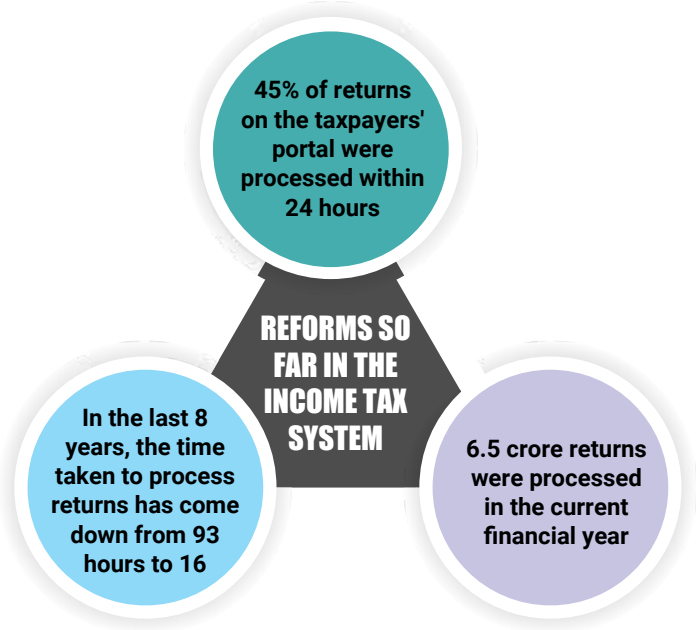
NEW TAX SYSTEM OF NEW INDIA



The last full budget of the present government is the testimony of the firm thinking, inclusive vision, and efficient economic policy of the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.In the last 9 years, due to robust economy, poverty is decreasing at an annual rate of 12% between the period of 2015-21, on the other hand, one-third of the population has come to the middle class club. In order to expand the aspirations of this middle class, the rebate in income tax has been increased by Rs 2 lakh to Rs 7 lakh which has been made income tax-free in the new tax regime. Finance Minister Sitharaman said tax slabs have been changed after a long time. The change in the income tax slab will benefit the middle class.

SIMPLIFIED PERSONAL INCOME TAX FOR THE MIDDLE CLASS





The changes made in personal income tax are based on the principle of reducing the compliance burden, promoting entrepreneurial spirit, and giving tax relief to the citizens. These 5 announcements will become the basis of the country's aspirations and progress.

1. Under the new tax system, the number of tax slabs has been reduced from 6 to 5. No changes have been made to the old tax system. The exemption limit for computing income tax for income above Rs 7 lakh has been increased from Rs 2.5 lakh to Rs 3 lakh.
2. The benefit of the standard deduction will also be given to salaried and pensioner category taxpayers in the new tax regime. A standard exemption of Rs 50,000 will be given to the salaried and Rs 15,000 to the pensioner. Till now it was applicable only in the old system. Salaried employees earning Rs 15.5 lakh or more will get a benefit of Rs 52,500.
3. The Current tax rate in the country is 42.74%, among the highest in the world. The Budget has now reduced the highest surcharge (on income above Rs 5 crore) rate from 37% to 25% in the new Tax regime. This will result in the reduction of the maximum tax rate to 39%."
4. Tax exemption on payment received in lieu of leave on retirement to a non-government salaried employee has been increased from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 25 lakh. For the first time in 20 years, the amount of this exemption was changed.
5. The new tax regime will be kept in default in ITR from the financial year 2023-24. The option of availing the benefits of the old tax regime has also been continued.



- Income taxpayers of 'Profits from business and profession' can change the old regime only once, after which the new tax regime will be applicable to them. Others can choose the old system each year.
- Due to these exemptions and changes in the system of income tax, 38 thousand crore rupees will be saved by the people while in some cases 3000 crore rupees will come extra to the government.
- The central government brought an alternative new tax regime in the year 2020-21.

TAX BENEFITS UP TO 20-25%

In the new tax regime, a person with an annual income of up to Rs 9 lakh will have to pay only Rs 45,000 and Rs 1.50 lakh in the case of Rs 15 lakh, which is only 5% and 10% of his income, respectively. This income group will get the benefit of up to 20-25% in taxes.



In order to empower the middle class, our government has taken many decisions in the past years and has ensured ease of living. We have reduced the tax rate, as well as made the process easy, transparent, and fast. Our government, which has always stood with the middle class, has given huge tax relief to the middle class.

– NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER

DEFENCE SECTOR

A ROBUST BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE, MODERNISING DEFENCE SERVICES

India is moving forward in the defence sector with the mantra of intent, innovation, and implementation. This mantra has accelerated India's development over the years to the point where India is now one of the world's most powerful countries, not just in South Asia. Until 8-9 years ago, India was recognised as the world's largest defence importer; however, the new India has demonstrated determination, innovation, and willpower, and "Make in India" is now a success story in the defence sector. The government has made a maximum provision of Rs 5.94 lakh crore at 13.18 percent in the new budget for indigenization of defence products and modernization of defence systems.The government is determined to strategically strengthen border areas. The Border Roads Organization has been given a budget of Rs 5,000 crore, a 43% increase over the previous year, to strengthen border infrastructure, primarily along the northern border. Border infrastructure will be improved, increasing border connectivity with strategically important infrastructure such as the Sela Tunnel, Nechiphu Tunnel, and Sela-Chhabarela Tunnel. Research, innovation, and technology development are regarded as critical for strengthening the armed forces and promoting the self-reliance mission, for which the DRDO has received increased funding in the budget.

- Rs 1,62,600 crore will be spent on modernization and infrastructure development for defence services.
- Defense R&D will be strengthened with a budget of Rs 23,264 crore.
- Rs 1,38,205 crore has been budgeted for defence pensions so that the requirements of "One Rank, One Pension" are met.



ALLOCATION FOR SPECIFIC MINISTRIES

₹ in Lakh Crore


Ministry of Defence — 5.94


Ministry of Road Transport and Highways — 2.70


Ministry of Railways — 2.41


Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution — 2.06


Ministry of Home Affairs — 1.96


Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers — 1.78


Ministry of Rural Development — 1.60


Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare — 1.25


Ministry of Communications — 1.23

PM VISHWAKARMA KAUSHAL SAMMAN WILL STRENGTHEN THE SPIRIT OF AATMANIRBHAR BHARAT

New scheme for traditional artisans and craftsmen commonly known as Vishwakarma has been announced in the budget. The handicrafts made by them strengthen the spirit of self-reliant India. For the first time, a support package has been announced for this group. This scheme will help the artisans to improve the quality of their products as well as connect them with the MSME value chain. The scheme will not only provide financial assistance but will also help with advanced skills, training, exposure to modern digital technologies, brand promotion, and linkages with local and global markets. This will benefit the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, women, and weaker sections.



GOVERNANCE MANTRA
CITIZEN IS ALWAYS RIGHT



Recruitment and promotion in a transparent manner instill confidence in the youth. This transparency motivates them to appear in various competitions with better preparation. At present, the central government is continuously working in this direction and is organizing employment fairs for this. While the youth are being empowered through the employment fair, their participation in the development of the country is also being ensured. On January 20, Prime Minister Narendra Modi handed over government appointment letters to about 71,000 youths in the first job fair of the year 2023.

The year 2023 started with new hopes for a bright future. It brought joy to those 71 thousand of households whose family members got the opportunity to do government service. On the occasion of the distribution of appointment letters to about 71,000 people recruited in government departments and organizations under the employment fair, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Today's event will spread a new ray of hope not only among the successful candidates but also in crores of families. In the coming days, lakhs of more families are going to get government jobs." The employment fairs have now become the hallmark of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government. There has been a massive change in the recruitment process and entry into Central Services has become more streamlined and time-bound than before.

During the programme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "You must have heard, it is said in the business world that the consumer is always right. Similarly, our mantra in governance should be Citizen is Always Right. The same feeling gives more strength to the service instinct within us. Last year, the first employment fair was organized on the occasion of Dhanteras.

FAIR AND TRANSPARENT RECRUITMENT

- On 20 January 2023, appointment letters were distributed to about 71,000 newly recruited employees in government departments and organizations.
- On 22 November 2022, appointment letters were given to more than 71,000 youth in more than 45 cities of the country.
- Earlier, 75,000 appointment letters were handed over in October 2022.

THE SELECTED CANDIDATES WILL BE APPOINTED ON VARIOUS POSTS

These newly selected candidates from across the country will hold various positions under the Government of India - Junior Engineer, Loco Pilot, Technician, Inspector, Sub Inspector, Constable, Stenographer, Junior Accounts Personnel, Gramin Dak Sevak, Income Tax Inspector, Teacher, Nurse, Doctor, Social Security Officer, PA, MTS.

MESSAGE OF "EK BHARAT SHRESTHA BHARAT"

IN NAMING THE 21 ISLANDS OF THE ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

Andaman and Nicobar Islands, a part of India where the tricolour was first hoisted and India's first independent government was established in 1943. On the occasion of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's birth anniversary, "Parakram Diwas," on January 23, Prime Minister Narendra Modi named 21 islands in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands group after 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees and also unveiled the model of the National Memorial dedicated to Netaji to be built on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the naming ceremony of 21 uncharted Andaman and Nicobar Islands after 21 Param Vir Chakra winners on the 126th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, who shone like the pole star in the country's freedom struggle. Andaman's identity was linked to colonial symbols rather than freedom struggle memories, and even the names of our islands were imprinted with slavery. However, Ross Island is now known as Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island, and Havelock and Nile Islands are known as Swaraj and Shaheed Islands, respectively. Netaji himself had gave the Swaraj and Shaheed names, and when the Azad Hind Fauj government completed 75 years, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government reinstated these names.

"Today is a historic day for Andaman and Nicobar Islands," Prime Minister Narendra Modi





BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE COMMEMORATED AS A SPECIAL WEEK

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's birth anniversary was commemorated as a special week as part of Azadi Ke Amrit Mahotsav by the Ministry of Home Affairs. On this occasion, special events were held in cities associated with Netaji's life, from Gujarat to the Far North East, including Prabhat ferries, exhibitions, painting competitions, and cultural programmes. It culminated on Subhash Island in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where Netaji blew the independence trumpet for the first time.



21 ISLANDS ARE NAMED AFTER PARAM VIR CHAKRA AWARDEES

● Major Somnath Sharma ● Subedar and Honorary Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh ● Second Lieutenant Ram Raghoba Rane ● Nayak Jadunath Singh ● Company Constable Major Peeru Singh ● Captain GS Salaria ● Lieutenant Colonel (then Major) Dhan Singh Thapa ● Subedar Joginder Singh ● Major Shaitan Singh ● CQMH Abdul Hameed ● Lt. Col. Ardeshir Burjorji Tarapore ● Lance Nayak Albert Ekka ● Major Hoshiar Singh ● Second Lieutenant Arun Khetrapal ● Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon ● Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran ● Naib Subedar Bana Singh ● Captain Vikram Batra ● Lieutenant Manoj Kumar Pandey ● Subedar Major (then Rifleman) Sanjay Kumar ● Subedar Major Retd (Honorary Captain) Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav

SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE DISASTER MANAGEMENT AWARD, 2023

Odisha State Disaster Management Authority and Lunglei Fire Station, Mizoram, have been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award for 2023 in the institutional category. The Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award has been instituted by the Government of India to recognise and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organisations in India in the field of disaster management.

said, congratulating everyone on the occasion of Parakram Diwas. "When history is made, future generations not only remember, understand, and evaluate it, but they are also constantly inspired by it." During the programme, the Prime Minister also unveiled a model of the National Memorial, which will be built on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island and dedicated to Netaji. Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated, "Veer Savarkar and many other heroes like him touched the highest pinnacle of penance and sacrifice for the country on this land." The sounds of that unprecedented passion and incredible agony can still be heard from cellular jail cells. Behind the naming of these islands is the specific message of "Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat." Prime Minister Modi said that this is a message of the immortality of the sacrifices made for the country and the bravery and prowess of the Indian Army. Awarded the Param Vir Chakra of the Indian Army, these brave soldiers hailed from different states and spoke different languages and dialects. They lived different lifestyles, but it was Maa Bharti's service and unwavering devotion to the motherland that united them. Prime Minister Modi said, "Just as the sea connects different islands, the spirit of "Ek Bharat, Shrestha Bharat" connects every child of Mother India." From Major Somnath Sharma, Peeru Singh, and Major Shaitan Singh to Captain Manoj Pandey, Subedar Joginder Singh, Lance Naik Albert Ekka, Veer Abdul Hameed, and Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran, all these 21 paramveers had one resolve: nation first! This resolution is now immortalised forever. On this occasion, a hill in Andaman was named after Kargil War Captain Vikram Batra. The naming of these islands is dedicated not only to the Param Vir Chakra awardees but also to the Indian Armed Forces. ■

A NEW LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT INITIATIVE...

YOUTH JOIN AMRIT KAAL'S EFFECTIVE INITIATIVE "KNOW YOUR LEADERS"



The Amrit Kaal chapter is taking on new dimensions thanks to the Parliament's ambitious initiative. The Lok Sabha Secretariat's "Know Your Leader" programme is proving to be effective in raising awareness among young people about the lives and contributions of great national leaders. In this episode, which was recorded on January 23 in the Central Hall of Parliament, 80 youth participants also took part in a programme organised to pay tribute to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.



The country's youth are not only participating in the unique initiative "Know Your Leaders," but they are also being inspired by the inspiring life stories of the nation's great fighters. On January 23, 80 youth participants from various regions of the country also took part in a series of programmes honouring great leaders held in the Parliament's central hall. These young people were chosen as part of the "Know Your Leaders" programme, which was developed in collaboration with the Ministries of Education and Youth Affairs and Sports of the Government of India. All of these young people, as well as Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, and other senior politicians, had the opportunity to pay tribute to Netaji. As winners of all-India competitions organised by the Ministries, these youths from various states and union territories represented their areas in this programme.









Out of these 80, 31 youth also had the chance to share their thoughts on Netaji's contribution. In Hindi, Sanskrit, English, and regional languages, the youth participants discussed Netaji's contributions and recalled his life's inspiring ideals.

PRIME MINISTER INTERACTS WITH THE YOUTH

The Prime Minister spoke with the young people chosen to take part in the ceremony in Parliament to honour Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on Parakram Divas at his residence on Lok Kalyan Marg. The Prime Minister discussed various facets of the life of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. He also suggested that they should try to read biographies of historic personalities to learn the kind of challenges they faced in their lives and how they overcame those challenges. The youth were overjoyed at the opportunity to meet the Prime Minister and sit in Parliament's central hall.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 'KNOW YOUR LEADERS' PROGRAMME

- You must have seen and heard the Prime Minister, Lok Sabha Speaker, Rajya Sabha Chairman, and other dignitaries pay their respects to the portraits of great men in Parliament House's central hall. However, a new era has begun in the golden age of independence. Now, the country's youth are drawing inspiration from the lives of the nation's exemplary men by participating in these tribute programmes at Parliament House. The government or Parliament have added a new dimension to the ongoing initiative to connect citizens with government with this programme.
- Under the new concept of youth participation in paying tribute to national leaders on their birth anniversaries, eleven birth anniversary programmes for national leaders have been organised in the Central Hall of Parliament. The first event occurred on October 2, 2022, on the birth anniversary of Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri; nine other events have since taken place.
- Participants are also taken on a tour of Parliament House, Kartavya Path, the War Memorial, Rajghat, the National Cleanliness Center, and the Prime Minister's Museum.
- The Parliamentary Research and Training Institute for Democracy (PRIDE) sends a letter to the MPs and District Magistrates of the selected participants. The Parliament makes plans for participant selection. They are given books about national leaders, a handwritten copy of the Constitution on a pen drive, and other digital materials after attending the wreath-laying ceremony.
- The "Know Your Leader" programme has been launched as an effective medium to spread greater knowledge and awareness in the country about the lives and contributions of national icons among the youth of India using the wreath-laying programmes held in Parliament. They are chosen through an elaborate, objective, and merit-based process that includes quizzes on Diksha Portal and MyGov, district- and state-level speech competitions, and selection from universities through competitions on the lives and contributions of leaders.



PEOPLE'S PADMA

The country's top Padma honour is no longer just reserved for 'special' people, but it has become accessible to the common man as well. Now common people can make nominations or self-nominate on the national portal. Those who kept the country above all, devotedly engaged in their work for the principle of the nation first and never expected any reward, such selfless people are now being selected for Padma awards.

Like the Padma award ceremony of 2022 on the red carpet of Rashtrapati Bhavan, where common citizens came in slippers and loincloth to receive the awards, this year too was remarkable as in the list of Padma Samman of 2023 included the names of ordinary citizens working day and night to preserve tribal culture, language and traditional arts. Lok Padma i.e. Padma Samman announced on January 25, includes names of such people who have been involved in the upliftment of the needy for many decades, treating patients at a nominal fees, bringing the youth on the right path in Naxal-affected areas, preserving the tradition of ancient Indian musical instruments, empowering the nation with the gift of natural farming. Due to the honor being given to unknown heroes, now the number of applicants for the Padma Awards are also increasing.

Those who received Padma Awards for their dedication and service at the grassroots level include Hirabai Lobi from Gujarat, Mangala Kanti Rai from West Bengal, Muni Venkatappa from Karnataka, Ghulam Mohammad Zaz from Jammu and Kashmir, Kapil Dev Prasad from Nalanda, Bihar and Tula Ram Upreti from Sikkim who are anonymous faces. This time there is a good representation of the tribal community

PADMA AWARDS TO 106 FOR THE YEAR 2023

Awards are given in three categories: Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of high order), Padma Shri (distinguished service)

Padma Vibhushan	Padma Bhushan	Padma Shri	
6	9	91	The awardees include 19 women and 7 awarded posthumously

PADMA VIBHUSHAN AWARDEES

BALKRISHNA DOSHI (POSTHUMOUSLY)



ZAKIR HUSSAIN



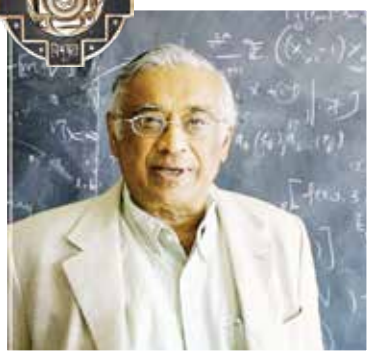
SM KRISHNA



DILIP MAHALANABIS (POSTHUMOUSLY)



SRINIVASA VARDHAN



MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (POSTHUMOUSLY)



THE COMPLETE LIST OF PADMA AWARDS CAN BE ACCESSED AT https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/specificdocs/documents/2023/jan/doc2023126155301.pdf

and people associated with tribal life in this list. Now the whole country has become familiar with Janum Singh Soy, Dhaniram Toto and B. Ramakrishna Reddy engaged in preserving Toto, Ho, Kui, Kuvi and Manda languages and culture. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has appealed to the youth to know in detail the inspiring life of Padma awardees and also tell others. Honouring the personalities who have contributed to the development of the country and society will also inspire the new generation. Let's know their remarkable achievements...

MANGALA KANTI RAI: SARTAJ OF SARINDA



102-year-old Sarinda maestro Mangala Kanti Rai of West Bengal will be given the Padma Shri. Mangala Kanti Rai has been playing the Sarinda musical instrument which looks like a violin since childhood. Apart from preserving Sarinda through workshops for the last eight decades, he has performed in many places across the country including Delhi, Guwahati, Darjeeling. Mangala Kanti Rai is famous for extracting the unique sounds of various types of birds from this Sarinda Yantra. Rai is also known as the oldest living folk musician in West Bengal.

GHULAM MOHAMMAD ZAZ: 8TH GENERATION OF SANTOOR CRAFTSMAN



Santoor craftsman from Jammu and Kashmir, Ghulam Mohammad Zaz, is the eighth generation of his family of craftsmen of stringed instruments including santoor. His family is known for making santoor for 200 years. Zaz, who has been involved in making musical instruments for almost 7 decades, says that as long he is alive, he will continue to make musical instruments. Ghulam Mohammad Zaz, who is recognized as the last artisan of santoor from Kashmir, says that this art is dying but I hope someone will take it forward and not let it die. The central government has described him as the 'Sartaj' of santoor in the award.

AJAY KUMAR MANDAVI: INSPIRATION TO LEAVE THE GUN AND PICK UP THE CHISEL



Ajay Mandavi, a resident of Govindpur village in the Kanker district of Chhattisgarh, is proficient in wood carving. He will be awarded the Padma Shri for 2023 for inspiring Naxal-affected and misguided youths to leave guns and pick up chisels by connecting them with Gond tribal art. Kaker has transformed the lives of over 350 youths who had lost their purpose in life and picked up a gun, by imparting wood carving art training in jail and elsewhere.

PARSHURAM KOMAJI KHUNE: SHOWS THE YOUTH THE RIGHT PATH BY CONNECTING THEM WITH FOLK DANCE



Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district is in limelight these days because of Parshuram Komaji Khune, the recipient of the Padma awards. Jharipatti Rangbhoomi artist Parshuram has been announced to be given the Padma Shri award for his work in the field of theatre. Along with giving more than 5000 stage performances, he has played more than 800 roles. Jharipatti folk theater is staged during the harvest season of Dham in Maharashtra against social evils. Similarly, by connecting the misguided youth of Naxal-affected areas with folk dance, he brought them into the mainstream and rehabilitated them. To remove social evils, folk theater is used in this area.

TULA RAM UPRETI: PADMA SHRI AT THE AGE OF 98 FOR ORGANIC FARMING



Tula Ram Upreti, a resident of Pakyong district of Sikkim, is being awarded the Padma Shri for his incomparable contribution in the field of agriculture. Tularam, 98, is a small farmer. He had an affinity for traditional farming since childhood. That's why he adopted such methods that more crops could be harvested. He engaged in organic farming for better crop production and nutritious produce with environmental protection. When he gained popularity, he also started giving training in natural farming. Thanks to the hard work of farmers like Tularam Upreti, dependence on chemicals in Sikkim's agriculture sector has come down drastically.

HIRABAI LOBI: SIDDI COMMUNITY LEADER AND SOCIAL WORKER



Hirabai Lobi of Gir Somnath district of Gujarat will be given the Padma Shri. She has opened many kindergartens to educate children in the tribal Siddi community. She established the Women's Development Foundation in 2004, through which she is working to make women self-reliant by doing sewing work and opening grocery stores. By listening to the radio, she learned the method of making organic fertilizers and started working in that direction. So far, about a dozen cooperative societies have been started.

SNAKE CATCHERS VADIVEL GOPAL AND MASI SADAIYAN HONOURED WITH PADMA SHRI



Vadivel Gopal and Masi Sadaiyan are experts in catching dangerous snakes from the Irula tribe. They have been selected for the Padma Award in the category of Social Work (Animal Welfare). They have traveled to other parts of the world for snake catching and training snake catchers. They use indigenous techniques of catching snakes inherited from their ancestors. They have demonstrated the skill of catching snakes in many countries including America, Thailand. In 2017, the duo went to Florida on behalf of the University of Florida for the Python Detection Pilot Project, where they surprised everyone by catching more than 27 pythons.

MUNISHWAR CHANDER DAWAR: LENDING A HELPING HAND TO POOR



Dr. Munishwar Chandra Dawar, retired from the army, is called the 'God' of the poor on earth by the people of Madhya Pradesh. In this era of inflation, patients are treated at a nominal fee of Rs 20. It has been announced to give Padma Shri to Munishwar Chandra Dawar for his service to society. During the 1971 Indo-Pak war he treated many jawans during his posting in Bangladesh. After taking early retirement at the end of the war, he started his practice in Jabalpur in 1972. He started the treatment with a fee of just Rs 2.

11 CHILDREN AWARDED WITH PM RASHTRIYA BAL PURASKAR 2023

INDOMITABLE COURAGE AND VALOUR OF THE AWARD WINNERS IS AN INSPIRATION TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH



'New India' is creating a robust picture of development on the canvas of the world horizon and is working to change the fate of the countrymen. The parents are keen to grab the golden opportunities of New India for their children. They are giving new wings to the flight of their children. President Droupadi Murmu rewarded and encouraged 11 such children with Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2023 at an award ceremony in New Delhi on 23 January. Also, Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with these award winners at his residence on 24 January...



Children are an invaluable asset to our country. Every effort made to build their future will shape the future of our society and country. We should do everything possible for their safe and happy childhood and bright future. By awarding children, we encourage and recognize their contribution to nation.

MEET THE PM RASHTRIYA BAL PURASKAR AWARD WINNERS, KNOW THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

ANUSHKA JOLLY



Delhi-based 14-year-old Anushka Jolly was given the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar award in the field of social service. She created a unique app called 'Anti Bullying Squad Kavach'. This app is providing mental health counseling to students. This helps students deal with bullying and cyberbullying.

HANAYA NISAR



A resident of Jammu and Kashmir, Hanaya Nisar is 14 years old. She has received the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar award in the field of sports. In 2018, at the age of 12, she represented the country and won a gold medal at the 3rd World SQAY Martial Arts Championship held in Chingju, South Korea.

ADITYA SURESH



16-year-old Aditya Suresh from Kerala was given the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in the field of art and culture. He was suffering from the bone disease since birth. Despite this, he performed in more than 500 programmes. He has also presented programmes on TV.

ADITYA PRATAP SINGH CHAUHAN



A resident of Chhattisgarh Aditya Pratap Singh Chauhan was given the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in the field of innovation. He has developed a novel and low-cost technology called 'Micropa' which detects and filters microplastics from drinking water.

ALANA MEENAKSHI KOLAGATLA



11-year-old Alana Meenakshi Kolagatla from Andhra Pradesh was given the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in the field of sports. She is an international chess player. She has won many titles at the national and international levels.

GAURAVI REDDY



A resident from Telangana Gauravi Reddy was given the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in the field of Art and Culture. In 2016, she was the youngest dancer nominated to the International Council of Dance. She has performed classical dance in various programmes.

RISHI SHIV PRASANNA



8-year-old Rishi Shiva Prasanna of Karnataka was given the Prime Minister's Rashtriya Bal Puraskar for Innovation. With an IQ of 180, Rishi Siva Prasanna from Karnataka is the youngest certified Android application developer. The Ministry of Culture chose him as one of 40 Indian youth icons. He is also the author of "Elements of Earth."

ROHAN RAMCHANDRA BAHIR



Rohan Ramchandra Bahir of Maharashtra was awarded the Prime Minister's Rashtriya Bal Puraskar for bravery. He demonstrated incredible bravery by jumping into the river to save the life of a 43-year-old woman, putting his own life in danger. He donated his prize money to his village's Ganpati festival.

SAMBHAB MISHRA



Sambhab Mishra of Odisha has been awarded the Prime Minister's Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in the field of art and culture. He has contributed numerous notable articles and books to renowned publications. He was the youngest recipient of the prestigious "Fellowship of the Royal Asiatic Society" London award in the society's 200-year history

SHAURYAJIT RANJIT KUMAR KHAIRE



10-year-old Shauryajit Ranjit Kumar Khaire from Gujarat was given the Prime Minister's Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in the field of sports. He is a national-level Mallakhamb player. In the 2022 National Games, he was the youngest medalist in all sports and won a bronze medal in the standing pole open category.

SHREYA BHATTACHARJEE



Assam's Shreya Bhattacharjee was given the Prime Minister's Rashtriya Bal Puraskar in the field of art and culture. she is a skilled tabla player who holds the record for the longest tabla performance. Her name has been recorded in the "India Book of Records." She has been awarded many other awards for tabla playing, including the 9th Cultural Olympiad.

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI INTERACTED WITH THE AWARDEES

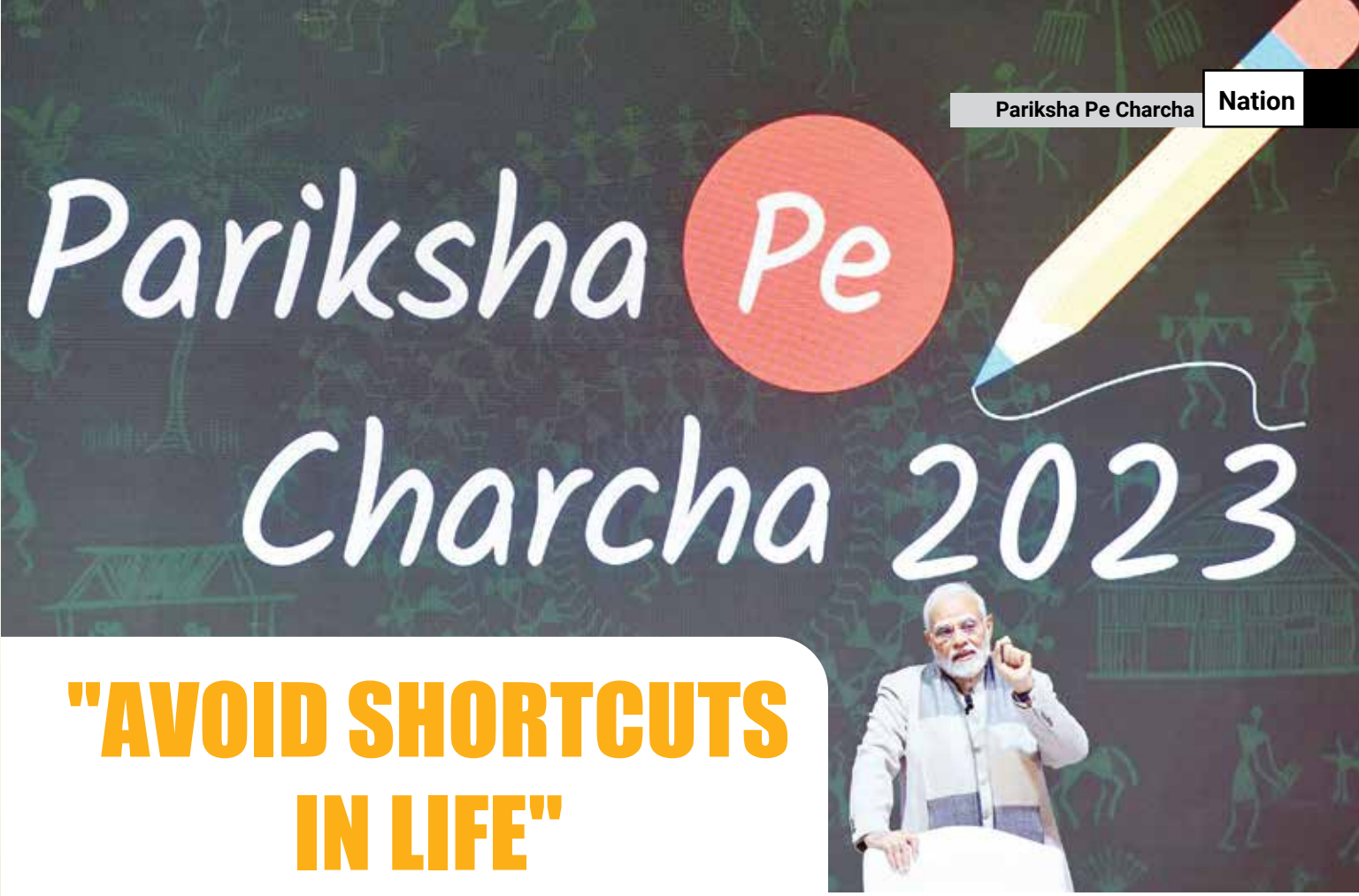


Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with the winners of the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar on January 24. He presented mementos to all the award winners and discussed their achievements one by one. Prime Minister Modi posed a series of questions to the children on a variety of topics. He also suggested that the award winners start by solving small problems and gradually build up the capability to move ahead in life. PM Modi also spoke with the children about the importance of family in dealing with children's mental health and problems, the benefits of playing chess, pursuing arts and culture as a career, research and innovation, spirituality, and many other topics. On January 24, the Prime Minister's National Children's Award recipients also visited the Prime Minister's Museum in New Delhi.

PRIME MINISTER'S RASHTRIYA BAL PURASKAR IS GIVEN FOR EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

The Government of India presents the Pradhan Mantri Rashtirya Bal Puraskar to children in the age group of 5 to 18 years for their exceptional achievements in six categories: innovation, social service, academics, sports, art and culture, and bravery. Each awardee receives a medal, a cash prize of Rs one lakh, and a certificate. This year, 11 children from across the country have been given the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2023 under various categories. The awardees include 6 boys and 5 girls from 11 states and union territories

President Droupadi Murmu said at the award function, "Some of the award winners have shown such indomitable courage and valor at such a young age that I was not only surprised but overwhelmed to know about them. Their example is inspirational for all children and youth. President Murmu said that we got freedom after a tough struggle. So it is expected from the new generation that they all should recognize the value of this freedom and protect it. She advised the children to think about the interest of the country and work for the country wherever they get a chance.



"AVOID SHORTCUTS IN LIFE"

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's much-awaited "Pariksha Pe Charcha" programme is proving to be a boon in relieving children's exam anxiety and preparing them for future challenges. Parents, teachers, and students all take part in the programme, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi converses with them on a variety of life and exam-related topics. This unique and popular initiative has not only boosted students' confidence, but has also assisted them in managing stress and staying fit. Prime Minister Modi spoke with students, teachers, and parents at the 6th edition of the programme in Delhi on January 27.

The sixth edition of *Pariksha Pe Charcha* was held at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi for the first time during the Republic Day celebrations. On this occasion, those travelling to New Delhi from other states were also treated to a glimpse of Republic Day. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said during the programme, "The Pariksha Pe Charcha is also my exam." Millions of students take my exams, which pleases me. "It is a privilege for me to see what my country's young minds are thinking." Children actively inquire, express their concerns, and express their personal pain. "These questions are like a treasure trove for me," Prime Minister Modi said. He stated that he wishes to compile all of these questions, which will be analysed by social scientists in the coming years, so that we can obtain a comprehensive thesis about the minds of young students in such dynamic times. This year, approximately 38.80 lakh people registered for Pariksha Pe Charcha, with over 16 lakh students from the state board taking part. PM Modi was joined by approximately 2400 students. Thousands of students watched the show live from their respective schools at the same time. The show was broadcast live on Doordarshan and other major television channels.

PARTICIPATING STUDENTS VISITED PLACES OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

To familiarise students with our rich heritage, they were taken to places of national importance such as Rajghat, Sadaiv Atal, the Pradhan Mantri



URGE TO DE-STRESS

Our students, our parents, and our teachers should decide in their lives that the increasing burden of examinations should be reduced as much as possible. Life should be made as simple as possible. If you do this, then the exam will become a celebration in itself. The life of every examinee will be filled with enthusiasm, and this enthusiasm is the guarantee of excellence. This is my best wish for you.







TEACHERS' ROLES IN MOTIVATING STUDENTS

Prime Minister Modi said that teachers should be flexible and not be too strict about the subject and syllabus. Teachers should always encourage students' curiosity because it is their greatest asset. Prime Minister Modi stated that instead of humiliating weak students, teachers should reward smart students by asking questions. "I believe that instead of using corporal punishment to establish discipline, we should choose dialogue and harmony," Prime Minister Modi said.

STUDENTS' BEHAVIOUR

Prime Minister Modi stated, "We should give children opportunities to expand, not bind them. You should encourage your children to attend various classes in society. The development of students in society should be approached holistically." He advised parents to continue motivating their children to try new things. He also advised parents to keep an eye on their children's moods and situations in relation to their own.

EXPECTATIONS SHOULD NOT BE PLACED ON CHILDREN: He requested parents not to place expectations on their children.



MANTRA TO STUDENTS

DEALING WITH DISAPPOINTMENT: It's natural for family members to have high expectations, and there's nothing wrong with that. However, if family members have expectations based on social status, this is cause for concern. Prime Minister Modi stated that staying focused can alleviate the pressure of expectations.

EXAM PREPARATION AND TIME MANAGEMENT: Prime Minister Modi stated, "We should be aware of time management in life, not just for exams." He said, students can learn the importance of micromanaging their time and scheduling specific times for each subject by watching their mothers.

UNFAIR MEANS AND SHORTCUTS IN EXAMS: "This is a very dangerous trend," said the Prime Minister. "Copying in the exam will not lead to success in life. You may succeed in one or two exams, but you will fail in life. The strength within you will carry you forward," he said. "Exams come and go, but life should be lived to the fullest. So, we should avoid taking shortcuts."

HARD WORK VS. SMART WORK: Prime Minister Modi stated that every task should be checked first. He cited the example of a skilled mechanic who repaired a Jeep in two minutes for two hundred rupees, claiming that work experience is more important than time spent working.

RECOGNISING POTENTIAL: Prime Minister Modi stated, "We should never be under the impression that we are average, because even if we are average, there will be something extraordinary in us; all you have to do is recognise it and develop it."

DEALING WITH CRITICISM: "Sometimes it is important to note who is critical of your work," Prime Minister Modi said. You take it positively if he is yours; if someone you dislike criticises you, you become enraged. Put critics in a box if they continue to criticise habitually because their intentions are different.

GAMING AND ONLINE ADDICTION: Prime Minister Modi stated, "The rising average screen time is an alarming trend. God gave us free will and an independent personality, and we must always be wary of becoming slaves to our gadgets."

POST-EXAM ANXIETY: Prime Minister Modi said, the primary cause of post-exam anxiety is refusing to accept whether or not the exam was completed successfully. He argued that an exam is not the end of the world and that obsessing over test results shouldn't be a part of daily life.

BENEFITS OF LEARNING NEW LANGUAGES: PM Modi said, "By making an effort to learn a regional language, you are not only learning about language becoming an expression but also opening doors to the history and heritage associated with the region."

Museum, Kartavya Path, and others. Winners of the art festival, as well as students and teachers from various states, participated in the Republic Day Parade on January 26 and took part in the Beating Retreat on January 29.

"EXAM WARRIORS" TO BE RELEASED IN 11 INDIAN LANGUAGES

In 2018, the Prime Minister published "Exam Warriors," a book about exam preparation. This book will be published in 11 Indian languages, including Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Oriya, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, and Urdu, due to its unprecedented success. This book has also been reprinted in Hindi and English in revised editions. ■



75TH FOUNDATION YEAR OF NCC

AMRIT PEEDHI: THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND THE NATION'S DEVELOPMENT JOURNEY

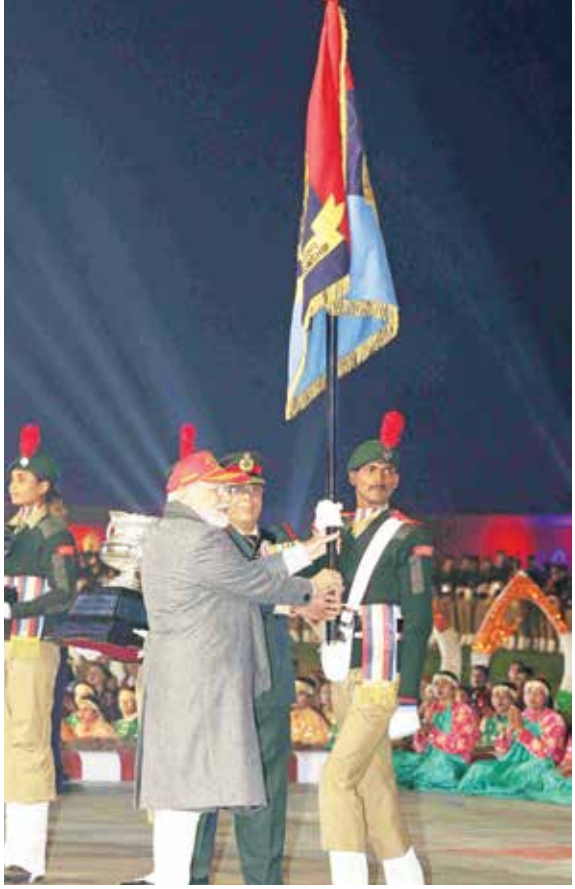
When dreams turn into determination and life is dedicated towards it, success surely follows. This is a time of new opportunities for the youth of India and the whole world is looking toward India. When the country is full of energy and enthusiasm of the youth, they are always be at the centre of policy making. Along with 75 years of independence, NCC is also celebrating its 75th anniversary. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the NCC rally at Cariappa Ground in Delhi on 28 January.





The government is promoting new and innovative ways to make the dreams of youth come true because youth power is the driving force behind India's development journey. This Amrit generation will take the country to a new height in the coming 25 years and make India self-reliant and developed. The NCC Cadets, as the youth generation of India, represent the AMRIT generation of the country.

Emphasizing the importance of youth as the prime energy driving a nation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "When dreams turn into resolve and lives are dedicated towards it, success is assured." This is a time of new opportunities for the youth of India. Everywhere, it is clear that India's time has come. The whole world is looking towards India, and it is all because of the youth of India. This is not just the Amrit Kaal of India, but the Amrit Kaal of India's youth, and when the nation celebrates 100 years of its independence, it will be the youth who will be at the pinnacle of success. In such a situation, we should not miss any opportunity and keep moving forward with the determination to take India to new heights.



"The most important energy to run any nation is the youth. This is a time of new opportunities for the youth of India. Everybody is saying that India's time has arrived. The youth of the country is also benefiting from the way India is continuously carrying out reforms in its defence sector."

NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER



NCC IS CELEBRATING ITS 75TH FOUNDATION YEAR

- This year NCC is celebrating its 75th year of establishment. The Prime Minister released a special Day Cover and a commemorative specially minted coin of Rs 75 denomination to commemorate 75 successful years of NCC during the event.
- In the true Indian spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, 196 officers and cadets from 19 other countries were invited to participate in the celebrations.
- Unity Flame - Kanyakumari to Delhi was handed over to the Prime Minister and was lit at the Cariappa Ground. The rally was held as a hybrid day and night event and will also include a cultural program on the theme 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.
- 1500 girls have been admitted to Sainik Schools as these schools were thrown open for the girl students for the first time.

MORE THAN 14 LAKH NCC CADETS IN THE COUNTRY

As per the latest data of Ministry of Defence, the number of NCC cadets in the country is a little over 14.09 lakh. Among these, the number of boy cadets is more than 9.09 lakh while the number of girl cadets is more than five lakhs. The boys NCC cadets comprise 64.52% of the total strength while the percentage of girl NCC cadets is 35.48. Uttar Pradesh has the maximum number of NCC cadets registered, followed by Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. NCC also works to provide training through Air Force and Navy. The Air Force has 62 NCC units and the Navy has 71 units.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "This is a time of immense possibilities for the daughters of the country." In the last 8 years, the number of daughters in the police and paramilitary forces has almost doubled. During the last decade, the participation of girls in the NCC has been increasing continuously. I was watching the parade that took place here; the daughter also led it. He also suggested that the NCC cadets visit places like the National War Memorial, the Police Memorial, the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Museum in the Red Fort, the Prime Minister's Museum, so that they can get ahead in life.



DEVELOPMENT ON FAST TRACK

Prime Minister lays foundation stone and inaugurates multiple projects worth Rs. 50,000 crore in Mumbai and Karnataka

In Amrit Kaal, the nation has resolved to build a developed India. India can only advance if every citizen, family, and state joins this campaign. Transportation, roads, and safe drinking water became more widely available across the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched and laid the foundation for projects worth approximately Rs 50,000 crores in Mumbai and Karnataka on January 19. With this, Mumbai has taken a new direction in its development. This is yet another significant step toward a developing India.

On January 19, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurated projects related to Mumbai's development worth approximately Rs 39,000 crore in the metro rail, railway, road-transport, and health sectors. Under the PM SVANidhi Yojana, cash transfers (DBT) have been made into the bank accounts of one lakh Mumbai street vendors. The PM SVANidhi Yojana has benefited over 35 lakh road users across the country, including 5 lakh in Maharashtra. In addition, as part of the Jal Jeevan Mission in Karnataka, he laid the foundation stone for a multi-village drinking water supply scheme at Codekal in Yadgiri district, as well as inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for several other development projects, including the Narayanpur Left Bank Canal expansion, reconstruction, and modernization project.

This is the first time since independence that India is dreaming big and having the courage to pursue those dreams. In the last eight years, we have changed our approach. Today, India is investing in upgrading its physical and social infrastructure with a forward-thinking and modern approach. While housing, toilets, electricity, water, cooking gas, free medical treatment, medical colleges, AIIMS, IIT, and IIM are rapidly expanding, so is modern connectivity.

During the programme, Prime Minister Modi stated, "We are working on the complete transformation of cities across the country. We intend to introduce a biofuel-powered transportation system. In addition, mission-mode

MUMBAI

Projects worth Rs 38,800 crores for Mumbai

- Lines 2A and 7 of the Mumbai Metro Rail dedicated to the city. The metro line that connects Dahisar E to DN Nagar (yellow line) is 18.6 kilometres long, while the line that connects Andheri E to Dahisar E (red line) is 16.5 kilometres long.
- Launched the Mumbai1 mobile app as well as the National Common Mobility Card.
- Laid foundation for seven sewage treatment plants
- Inaugurated 20 Hinduhridaysamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Aapla Dawakhana. Health check-ups, medicine, examinations, and treatment will all be provided for free in these dispensaries.
- Laid foundation stones for the redevelopment of the 360-bed Bhandup Multispecialty Municipal Hospital, the 306-bed Siddharth Nagar Hospital, and the 152-bed Oshiwara Maternity Home.
- Launched road concretisation project for around 400 kilometres of roads in Mumbai.
- Foundation stone laid for the redevelopment of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, which will cost Rs 1800 crore.

KARNATAKA

Projects worth Rs 10,800 crore in Karnataka

- Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, the foundation stone of the Yadgir Multi-Village Drinking Water Supply Scheme was laid at Codekal in the Yadigari district. More than 700 rural settlements and approximately 2.3 lakh households in three towns in the Yadigari district will benefit from this project.
- Inauguration of the Narayanpur Left Bank Canal Expansion, Reconstruction, and Modernization Project. A canal project with a capacity of 10 thousand cusecs can irrigate 4.5 lakh hectares of arable land. This project will benefit more than three lakh farmers in 560 villages in Kalburgi, Yadigari, and Vijaypur districts.
- A 65.5-km and 71-km stretch of the Surat-Chennai Expressway (NH-150-C) six-lane greenfield road project was laid. This expressway will connect six states: Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. This will reduce the distance from 1600 km to 1270 km.
- Around 1475 unregistered settlements in Kalburgi, Yadgiri, Raichur, Bidar, and Vijayapura were declared new revenue villages. More than 50,000 beneficiaries in these settlements were formally recognised by the issuance of title deeds to their lands.

The role of our cities in creating a developed India is paramount. In the next 25 years, many cities in the state are going to accelerate the growth of India, so preparing Mumbai for the future is a priority of this double-engine government.

-Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



work for hydrogen fuel-related transportation systems is underway in the country.

"The people of Mumbai, the common people here, are facing problems; this city is yearning for development; this situation can never be acceptable in 21st-century India," Prime Minister Narendra Modi says. It will never happen in Shivaji Maharaj's Maharashtra. "Our top priority is development." PM Modi stated during the Karnataka programme that water security is a critical issue for the development of 21st-century India. If India is to develop, it must overcome water security challenges lke border security, maritime security, and internal security.



PM MODI'S ADDRESS TO THE FIRST BATCH OF AGNIVEERS

AGNIVEERS WILL LEAD THE NATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Joining the three wings of the Indian Army as Agniveer has become a matter of pride and honour for the youth today. By joining the Agnipath scheme, the youth are not only realizing their dream of serving the nation but also securing their future in the army and other fields for the future. The first batch of Agniveers has started their training. Addressing the maiden batch on January 16, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, Agniveer will become a game changer in strengthening the armed forces and preparing them for the future...

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address made it clear that the Agniveer scheme would make the armed forces more youthful and technically viable. Along with modernizing the armed forces, efforts are being made to make them self-reliant. In the 21st century, the ways of fighting wars are changing. Amidst the challenges of contactless warfare and cyber warfare, technologically enabled soldiers will play a vital role in the armed forces. Especially the present generation of youth has this potential, hence Agniveer will play a vital role in our Armed Forces in times to come.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while expressing his eagerness to see women Agniveers in all three armies, has said that the Agnipath scheme will empower women. Women Agniveers are enhancing the pride of the Navy. Respect for teamwork and leadership skills will create a new dimension in the personality of Agniveers.

RESERVATION AND PRIORITY FOR AGNIVEERS

After four years of military service, Agniveers are expected to prove themselves fit, disciplined and upbeat. It has been decided to provide a 10% horizontal reservation for the post of constable or rifleman to the ex-Agniveers when the first batch will be available for recruitment. Relaxation in the upper age limit and physical efficiency test will be given during recruitment. Many Agniveers ready for service will be specifically involved in aircraft maintenance, flight safety, air cargo, administrative work, information technology, drones, etc., and will have valuable experience that will be relevant to the aviation industry. This is the reason why the concerned stakeholders are being sensitized by the Ministry to give priority in employment to Agniveers.

IGNOU HAS PREPARED A SYLLABUS FOR AGNIVEERS

The Indira Gandhi National Open University has developed courses that recognize in-service training as credit towards a bachelor's degree for eligible defence forces personnel, including Agniveers. The curriculum has a provision to give up to 50% credit for in-service skill education or training. Successful completion of the requirements of the program will lead to the award of a bachelor's degree equivalent to any other equivalent traditional course recognized by the All India Council for Technical Education and the UGC.



PROVIDING SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL PROBLEMS

"A small group of determined and like-minded people can turn the tide of history." This statement by the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, is turning out to be true in the G-20 meetings chaired by India. The outlook of the world towards India has changed. India which was once dependent on others for the solution to most of its challenges is today becoming the medium of solution for the problems of the world. In the second fortnight of January, in the meetings of the Infrastructure Working Group, Health Working Group, International Financial Infrastructure Working Group and Startup-20 Partnership Group, India showed its ability to solve problems and meet global needs...

It is India's endeavor to find collective solutions to the current global challenges together with the G-20 member countries. Ready to fulfill the responsibility given to the nation, the first meeting of the Startup-20 Partnership Group, was held in Hyderabad on January 28-29 with the aim of finding solutions from innovation which is at the center of Indian civilization and culture. Through this group, India aims to deliberate on a vision for startup policy frameworks.

India has the world's third-largest ecosystem of startups, where innovative ideas are shaping the future of change. Where in 2014 the number of startups was very small, it is now reaching 90 thousand. This group will prove to be helpful in putting forward the success story of startups on the world stage under the India's presidency of G-20 which is making fast progress according to the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Shri Amitabh Kant, India's G-20 Sherpa said at the event, "This is the first engagement group that kickstarts technology, innovation, and movement. It is born out of India's strong belief that the world needs more and more technology." Startup20 has three main task forces: the Foundation and Coalition Task Force, Finance and Inclusion & Sustainability. In the series of 5 programs to be held in Startup-20, the concluding conference will be held on July 3, 2023, in Gurugram.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL STRUCTURE WORKING GROUP MEETING

The maiden meeting of the first International Financial Structure Group of G-20 was held in Chandigarh on 30-31 January. India said it would be happy to share the outline of its development model, adding that India looks forward to learning from everyone. This year we aim to find practical global solutions through our priorities and outcomes and discussions. In the process, we will also have a keen interest in amplifying the voices of developing countries. Now we cannot leave anyone behind.



PRIVATE FINANCING IN THE CITIES OF THE FUTURE

CITIES AND GOVERNMENTS SHOULD GET READY

Globally, urbanization is increasing rapidly. Cities are developing on many different themes including smart cities, cyber cities, and green cities. Under this backdrop, the first meeting of the G-20 Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) under the chairmanship of India on private financing for such cities along with the challenges and opportunities of the cities of the future, was held at Pune, Maharashtra which is also known as Queen of Deccan on 16-17 January.

The two-day meeting of the IWG was attended by 64 participants from 18 member countries, 8 guest countries, and 8 international organizations. In the meeting chaired by India and co-chaired by Australia and Brazil, the topic 'Financing Cities of the Future - Inclusive, Strong and Sustainable' was at the center of discussion. This theme underlines the message of development based on equality. The theme has been chosen keeping in mind the work done under previous presidencies.

Developing infrastructure as an asset with the 2023 infrastructure agenda, making cities economic hubs of growth, building future-ready urban infrastructure, the role of cities in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals, and energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable infrastructure with the introduction of private financing among many other topics were also discussed.

A workshop on Financing the Cities of the Future brought together international experts to discuss the issues of how cities of the future must integrate their key administrative functions – their planning and financing – to enhance private participation. It also discussed how cities and governments can position themselves to increase private funding for the cities of the future. The Finance Ministry is guiding the G20's infrastructure agenda to ensure that the G20 acts as a global catalyst to visualize new ideas and accelerate collective action. After the conclusion of the meeting, on 17th January, the guests got a glimpse of the cultural history of Pune which blends rich history and modernity and tasted the cuisine of the city. The second meeting of the Infrastructure Working Group has been scheduled on March 28 and 29, 2023, in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. ■

G-20 CAN FURTHER EXPAND THE AGENDA OF INFRASTRUCTURE

The G-20 is a forum that can take forward the infrastructure agenda. The theme of India's chairmanship of G-20 is 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' keeping in mind that India will set the direction of the infrastructure-related agenda for 2023.

G-20 PRESIDENCY: FIRST MEETING OF THE HEALTH WORKING GROUP

UNIQUE GLOBAL INITIATIVE - 'HEAL IN INDIA' 'HEAL BY INDIA' AND 'HEAL FROM INDIA'

On one hand, patients come to India for better treatment from Vishwa Kutumb, on the other hand, our health professionals are serving patients in other countries as well. The central government is now not only expanding its scope but is preparing to take the global healthcare industry by storm. With this thought, the Government of India presented the unique initiative 'Heal in India' and 'Heal by India' to the member countries in the first meeting of the G-20 Health Working Group chaired by it. India considers this a great opportunity to showcase its health sector potential, resources, and initiatives on this big platform....

Four meetings of the G-20 Health Working Group are to be held under the chairmanship of India. As part of which the first meeting was held in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala from 18 to 20 January. From preparedness to dealing with health emergencies, facilities like digital health and telemedicine were discussed in the meeting. The meeting was attended by participants from the European Union and special invitees, apart from the G-20 member states. In the meeting, India outlined how it is preparing an action plan to provide modern healthcare to the world community. How telemedicine service along with 'Heal in India' and 'Heal by India' will pave the way for the 'Heal from India' initiative.



Four meetings of the G-20 Health Working Group are to be held under the chairmanship of India, in which the first meeting was held in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala from 18 to 20 January. From preparedness in dealing with health emergencies, facilities like digital health and telemedicine were discussed in the meeting.

India has set three priorities for discussion in the G-20 health track, including solutions to prevent health emergencies, safe universal health coverage, and improving healthcare service delivery with digital health innovation and solutions. On the first day of the meeting, Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar echoed that India's policy regarding the pandemic should be a defining part of the health policy. In fact, today the whole world is interconnected, and because of this, any crisis can become an economic crisis. Therefore, for the availability of equitable health services to all, efforts are being made to create a framework that can remove the disparities in health services around the world.

In the meeting, Member (Health) of NITI Aayog, Dr VK Paul described Medical Value Travel (MVT) as an important means of addressing healthcare inequities around the world. The purpose of the G-20 would be to encourage bridging this gap. There is a great opportunity to utilize traditional medical systems like Ayurveda in the medical value travel sector which is growing at a rate of over 23 percent. The G-20 meeting emphasized on setting up of a dedicated board and agency, effective governance, and policy framework to strengthen the medical value travel ecosystem. Also, the need to provide insurance portability under the insurance policy at the international level, coverage of traditional systems of medicine, and liberal visa policy, as well as better air connectivity, were emphasized. ■



THE 1111TH "AVATARAN MAHOTSAV" OF LORD SHRI DEVNARAYAN

"INDIA IS AN EXPRESSION OF OUR CIVILISATION, CULTURE, GOODWILL, AND POTENTIAL"

India's people are proud of their thousands of years of history, civilization, and culture. Many civilizations perished around the world due to their inability to adapt to changing conditions. There were numerous attempts to divide India geographically, culturally, socially, and ideologically, but no force could destroy it. India is more than just a country; it is a reflection of our civilization, culture, harmony, and potential. That is why India is laying the foundation for its glorious future today. On January 28, Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke at a function commemorating Lord Shri Devnarayan's 1111th incarnation day in Bhilwara, Rajasthan.

Social power has played a significant role in India's journey over the past thousands of years. It has been our good fortune that at every critical juncture, such energy emerges from within our society, whose light guides everyone and brings happiness to everyone. Addressing a function organised to mark the 1111th "Avataran Mahotsav" of Lord Shri Devnarayan in Bhilwara, Rajasthan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "Lord Devnarayan was also such a force, an incarnation, who protected our lives and our culture from tyrants." At the age of 31, he became immortal. It is possible only for the universal incarnation to become immortal in the public mind.

He dared to rid society of its ills, to unite society, and to spread the spirit of harmony. Lord Devnarayan worked to create an ideal system by uniting various segments of society. This is why Lord Devnarayan is revered and trusted by people from all walks of life. That is why, in public, Lord Devnarayan is still regarded as the family's head, with whom the family's joys and sorrows are shared. Lord Devnarayan has always prioritised service and public welfare. Every devotee takes this lesson and inspiration with them when they leave their location. There was plenty for him in his family, but instead of comfort, he chose the





LORD SHRI DEVNARAYAN IS WORSHIPED

Lord Shri Devnarayan is worshipped by the people of Rajasthan, and his followers are spread across the country. They are particularly honoured for their public service. 'Bhala ji Bhala, Dev Bhala'. 'Bhala ji Bhala, Dev Bhala'. In this statement, there is a wish for righteousness; there is a wish for welfare. The path shown by Bhagwan Devnarayan is Sabka Vikas (everyone's development) through Sabka Saath (everyone's support). Today, the country is walking on this path. For the last 8–9 years, the country has been trying to empower every neglected and deprived section of society.

GURJAR COMMUNITY HAS BEEN SYNONYMOUS WITH PATRIOTISM

Gurjar society has been synonymous with bravery and patriotism. Whether it is the defence of the nation or the preservation of culture, the Gurjar community has always served as a sentinel. The Bijolia peasant movement, led by Krantiveer Bhoop Singh Gurjar, also known as Vijay Singh Pathik, was a major source of inspiration during the freedom struggle. Many such warriors have given their lives for the country, including Kotwal Dhan Singh and Jograj Singh. Not only that, but great female role models like Rampyari Gurjar and Panna Dhay inspire us every moment. This demonstrates that the Gurjar sisters and daughters have made significant contributions to the country and culture, and this tradition is still being enriched today. Today, it is critical that the new generation and youth of our Gurjar community take Lord Devnarayan's messages and teachings more seriously. This will also empower the Gujjar community and help the country progress.

BREAK FREE FROM SLAVERY, BE PROUD OF YOUR HERITAGE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that on the occasion of Independence Day last year, he had urged the Red Fort to walk on Panch Prana. The aim is that we all take pride in our heritage, get out of the slavery mindset, and remember our duties towards the country. Walking on the path shown by our sages and remembering the valour of our sacrifices and our brave hearts is also part of this resolution. Rajasthan is a land of heritage. There is creation; there is enthusiasm and celebration. There is also hard work and charity. Bravery is a household ritual here. Rang-raag is synonymous with Rajasthan. Equally important are the struggles and restraints of the people here. This inspirational place has been a witness to the personalities of many glorious moments in India. From Teja-ji to Pabu-ji, from Goga-ji to Ramdev-ji, from Bappa Rawal to Maharana Pratap, great men, people's heroes, folk gods, and social reformers have always shown the country the way. There is hardly any period of history in which this soil has not inspired the nation.

difficult path of service and public welfare.

He also used his energy for the welfare of living beings. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in the programme, "This is the 1111th incarnation year of Lord Devnarayan; at the same time, India presided over the G-20, and in that too, Lord Devnarayan descended on a lotus." Even in the logo of the G-20, the whole earth has been placed on top of a lotus. This is also a big coincidence, and we are those people who have been born with lotus, and that is why our relationship with you is somewhat deep. During the ceremony, Prime Minister Modi visited the temple, did parikrama, and also planted a Neem tree. He also performed the Purnahuti in the ongoing Vishnu Mahayagya in the Yajnashala. ■

ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF DIRECTOR GENERALS OF POLICE

FOCUS ON BETTER CENTER-STATE COORDINATION

Policing and security challenges are continously changing, which requires making police administration more efficient through technology. With this aim, the 57th Director General of Police Conference started on January 20 in Delhi, which laid focus on moving firmly down the path of adapting future technologies to the needs of the police. The three-day conference was attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on January 21 and 22 and emphasized increasing cooperation between state police and central agencies.



Human resource management has been one of the top priorities of the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. At the All India Conference of Director Generals of Police, Prime Minister Modi stressed making police forces more sensitive, making them friendly to emerging technology thorugh training, taking advantage of technological solutions like biometrics etc, and strengthening traditional police systems like foot patrolling etc. He also stressed the importance of the National Data Governance Framework to facilitate the exchange of data between agencies as well as reforms in prison management. Along with the border, strengthening coastal security was also discussed. The three-day conference was held in hybrid mode from 20 to 22 January 2023. Around 100 invited members including DGPs of State and Union Territories and heads of Central Armed Police Forces and Central Police Organizations participated in the conference physically and around 600 members from across the rest of the country participated in the conference virtually.

SIGNIFICANCE OF DGP/IGP CONFERENCE HAS INCREASED

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken a keen interest in the DGP Conference since 2014 and has also encouraged holding annual DGP conferences across the country. Moving away from an earlier culture of token attendance, PM Modi encourages free and informal discussions by attending all sessions of the conference, allowing top police officers to directly brief the prime minister on major policy-making and internal security issues affecting the country. Earlier, this type of conference was held only in Delhi, but Prime Minister Modi made a new beginning by organizing it outside Delhi.

VENUES OF DGP CONFERENCES SINCE 2014

• **2014**	Guwahati
• **2015**	Dhordo, Gulf of Kutch
• **2016**	National Police Academy, Hyderabad
• **2017**	BSF Academy, Tekanpur
• **2018**	Kevadia, Gujarat
• **2019**	IISER, Pune
• **2020**	virtually due to Covid
• **2021**	Police Headquarters, Lucknow

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Various issues including cybercrime, technology in policing, challenges in countering terrorism, left-wing extremism, capacity building, and prison reforms were discussed during the conference.

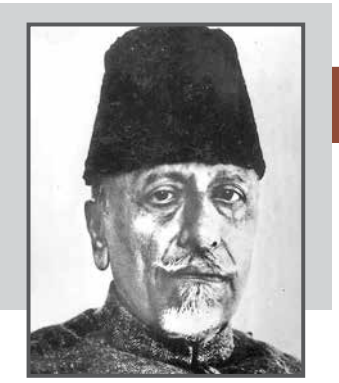


PROMOTING THE SPIRIT OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE MOTTO OF 'EK BHARAT SHRESHTHA BHARAT'

India has a rich and glorious history, replete with tales of indomitable courage, valor, and sacrifice of its heroes. During the freedom struggle, the lovers of freedom from every part of the country showed the spirit of patriotism and promoted the basic mantra of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat. At the time of British subjugation, they fought against British injustice and after independence, they played a key role in building a new India through their thoughts and organizational skills. In this series of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav read the stories of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Vijay Singh Pathik, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, and Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar who instilled patriotism among the countrymen and raised their opposition to uproot the British rule…

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD

STERLING CONTRIBUTION IN THE PROGRESS OF EDUCATION



BORN: 11 NOVEMBER 1888, DIED: 22 FEBRUARY 1958

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, a poet and polyglot who was well-versed in several languages like Arabic, English, Urdu, Hindi, Persian, and Bengali, was born on November 11, 1888, in Mecca. He received traditional Islamic education from his father and other teaching scholars at his home in Calcutta.

He adopted the surname "Azad" as a sign of his mental emancipation from the narrow outlook of religion and life. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad became active in journalism and politics at an early age. He joined the revolutionary movement against British rule after being inspired by two prominent revolutionaries from Bengal, Aurobindo Ghosh and Shyam Sundar Chakravarty. Within two years, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad helped establish secret revolutionary centers across northern India and in Bombay. In 1912, Maulana Azad started a weekly magazine in Urdu called Al-Hilal. The government banned Al Hilal in 1914. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad started another weekly newspaper, Al-Balagh, with the mission of propagating Indian nationalism and Hindu-Muslim unity, which was not only banned by the government in 1916 but also expelled him from Kolkata. Maulana Abul Kalam met Mahatma Gandhi during the Khilafat Movement after which he joined the Congress in 1920. Just three years later, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad became the youngest President of the Indian National Congress at the age of 35. He was jailed several times by the British from 1920 to 1945 due to his activism in the freedom struggle. While strongly opposing the partition of the country, he envisioned an India that would embrace both Hindus and Muslims. He used to especially participate in the discussion on subjects related to education in the Constituent Assembly. He believed that India as a nation should aspire to high educational standards. As the country's first education minister from 1947 to 1958, he advocated free and compulsory education for all children up to the age of 14.

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD BREATHED HIS LAST ON FEBRUARY 22, 1958. HIS AUTOBIOGRAPHY, "INDIA WINS FREEDOM," WAS PUBLISHED IN 1959, AFTER HIS DEATH.

Abul Kalam Azad established the Adult Education Board for the education of illiterate adults. He was also instrumental in setting up the University Grants Commission and other educational institutions, such as the Indian Institute of Science and the IITs. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad breathed his last on February 22, 1958. His autobiography, "India Wins Freedom," was published in 1959, after his death.

He was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1992. To remember his invaluable contribution to the field of education, November 11 is celebrated as National Education Day. Paying tribute to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad on his birth anniversary, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, " He was an ingenious thinker and a sharp intellectual. His role in the freedom struggle has been very inspiring. He was always very enthusiastic about the field of education and worked tirelessly to promote brotherhood in society."

STEADY GROWTH IN INDIA'S TEA PRODUCTION



There is a story in India that just as the British came and left the English language, in the same way, grandmothers used to say that the Britishers came and left India addicted to tea. Tea was undoubtedly discovered in China, but between 1835-40 in India, the then Governor Lord William Bentinck formed a committee in India to apprise the people of Assam about tea after which tea plantation started in Assam. After this, the Indian Tea Association was established in 1881, and tea was spread into the international market. India today is the second largest producer of tea. India has been exporting tea worth more than Rs 5000 crore continuously for the last five years. Tea gardens also have an important role in strengthening the path of a developed and self-reliant India.

Only 41.90 crore kg of tea was produced in India in 1970-71, which has increased to 128.03 crore kg in 2020-21. Tea is an integral part of Indian heritage as tea is not just a beverage for Indians, it is an emotion, symbolizing India's Atithi Devo Bhava culture. The tea sector has played a significant role in employment generation in the country. Not only the growers, cultivators, and exporters but many startups are based on tea.



*Figures for the year 2020-21 based on 4th Advance Estimates.

- India is the second largest producer of tea in the world.
- India's Assam, Darjeeling, and Nilgiri teas are considered among the finest teas in the world. Darjeeling tea has also got a GI tag.
- Various steps taken for the tea industry include the Plant Protection Code, a suitable environment for plantations and ensuring the safety of workers, etc.

REVOLUTIONARY VIJAY SINGH PATHIK

LIT THE FIRE OF FREEDOM WITH HIS PEN



BORN: 27 FEBRUARY 1882, DIED: 28 MAY 1954

Vijay Singh Pathik, known as 'Rajasthan Kesari' and 'Rashtriya Pathik', was born on 27 February 1882 in a village called Guthawali Kala in Bulandshahr district of Uttar Pradesh. His father's name was Chaudhary Hamir Singh Rathi and his mother's name was Kamal Devi. Since childhood, Pathik was strongly influenced by the patriotism of his grandfather, Dewan Indra Singh Rathi, who was martyred in the First War of Independence in 1857. The original name of Vijay Singh Pathik was 'Bhoop Singh', but after the 'Lahore Conspiracy' he changed his name to Vijay Singh Pathik, and then he was known by this name till the end of his life. Due to love and respect, he is also known as 'Rajasthan Kesari' and 'Rashtriya Pathik' among the people.

Vijay Singh Pathik was one of the brave revolutionaries who fought for India's independence. He came in contact with revolutionaries like Rash Behari Bose and Sachindra Nath Sanyal in his youth. Long before Mahatma Gandhi's 'Satyagraha Movement', Vijay Singh Pathik had started the task of awakening the farmers for freedom through a movement known as 'Bijolia Kisan Andolan'. He played a key role in taking the freedom struggle to the villages and towns. He went from village to village and organized people and motivated them to join the peasant movement. It is believed that in this movement the British had to bow down and accept the demands of the farmers.

Vijay Singh Pathik was also a good poet, writer, and journalist who used his writing to spread the message of freedom to the common people. He started his journalism during the freedom movement and brought out a weekly paper named 'Rajasthan Kesari'. Afraid of his popularity in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, the government banned it. Pathik also made his mark as an author by writing several books. Due to his efforts 'Rajasthan Seva Sangh' was established in Ajmer in 1920. This organization raised its voice against the evil practices spread in society. Vijay Singh Pathik died on 28 May 1954. In 1992, the Government of India issued a postage stamp in memory of the revolutionary poet Vijay Singh Pathik.

RAFI AHMED KIDWAI: RAISED HIS VOICE FOR THE WELFARE OF FARMERS



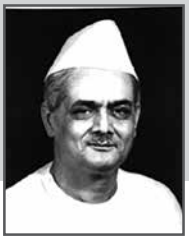
BORN: 18 FEBRUARY 1894, DIED: 24 OCTOBER 1954

Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, who played an active role in India's freedom movement, was born in a landlord family on 18 February 1894 in the Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh. Despite this, he raised his voice for the welfare of the poor and farmers. He worked to free the farmers from the zamindari system. He was constantly striving to end the exploitation of the farmers by the landlords. He is also remembered for taking tough decisions without wavering in the midst of challenges. He became active in the freedom movement while studying law and became popular due to his extraordinary organizational skills. He was especially active in the Khilafat Movement in the 1920s and also joined the Non-Cooperation Movement at the call of Mahatma Gandhi. Rafi Kidwai was arrested many times and remained in jail for a long time in many movements including the non-cooperation movement.

After his every release from jail, he would come out with new enthusiasm and inspire people more fervently by holding public meetings against British rule. His biggest strength was that he went beyond all limits to help people. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai was also elected to the Constituent Assembly from the United Provinces. After the country got independence, he was appointed as the Minister of Communications. He inaugurated the first-night air mail service. The first Van Mahotsav was celebrated in the country in 1950 by the then Environment Minister Rafi Ahmed Kidwai. Its purpose was to create awareness about the impact of deforestation on wildlife and forest dwellers. Since 1950, Van Mahotsav is celebrated annually during the first week of July from 1st July to 7th July. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai died on 24 October 1954.

GANESH VASUDEV MAVALANKAR

LEFT LAW PRACTICE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT



BORN: 27 NOVEMBER 1888, DIED: 27 FEBRUARY 1956

Ganesh Vasudev Mavalankar, India's renowned freedom fighter and the first speaker of the Lok Sabha, was born on 27 November 1888 in Baroda, Gujarat. He is also fondly known as 'Dadasaheb' and GV Mavalankar. Mavalankar came to Ahmedabad in the year 1902 for higher education and did his B.A from 'Gujarat College'. After obtaining a law degree from 'Mumbai University', he started a law practice in Ahmedabad and within a short span of time carved a niche for himself.

However, having a keen interest in social work as well, he came in contact with eminent leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and within a short span of time he joined many prominent social organizations in Gujarat. He played an active role in the independence movement from Gujarat in the 1930s-1940s and went to jail several times. He spent about six years in jail and undertook reform work for the welfare of inmates. He was a learned man with knowledge of several languages. He also actively participated in the Non-Cooperation Movement and Salt Satyagraha. Mavalankar always played a pivotal role in rescue work during times of natural calamity, famine, social crisis, or any kind of political crisis. He exhibited a special interest in writing and has many literary achievements.

His book 'Manavtana Jharna' written in the Gujarati language consists of true stories of the prisoners whom he met and guided during their prison term from the period of 1942 to 1944 during the freedom struggle. GV Mavalankar was elected to the Bombay Legislative Assembly in 1937 representing Ahmedabad city. He was the Speaker of the Bombay Legislative Assembly from 1937 to 1946. He was elected the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha in May 1952 after the first general elections of independent India and was elected unopposed. As Speaker of the first Lok Sabha, Mavalankar set procedures and conventions in line with the ethos of the country.



PMO India @PMOIndia

अमृतकाल का ये पहला बजट विकसित भारत के विराट संकल्प को पूरा करने के लिए एक मजबूत नींव का निर्माण करेगा। #AmritKaalBudget



Rajnath Singh @rajnathsingh

पूज्य बापू की पुण्यतिथि पर मैं उन्हें नमन करते हुए अपनी विनम्र श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ। विश्व शांति और भारत की प्रगति का जो मार्ग उन्होंने दिखाया वह आज भी बहुत प्रासंगिक है। उनकी प्रेरणा से ही आज एक नए और आत्मनिर्भर भारत का निर्माण प्रगति पर है।



Amit Shah @AmitShah

सिख धर्म के सातवें गुरु, गुरु हर राय जी के प्रकाश पर्व पर उनके चरणों में नमन करता हूँ।

नैतिकतावादी जीवन और अध्यात्म की राह दिखाने वाले गुरु हर राय जी के जनसेवा और मानवता के लिए किए गए कार्य सम्पूर्ण विश्व के लिए प्रेरणीय हैं।



Nitin Gadkari

The wetlands are dependable for diverse ecosystems and the biodiversity will be degraded if the wetlands cease to exist. On the occasion of #WorldWetlandsDay, let's pledge to its sustainable restoration.



Dr. S. Jaishankar

Glad to meet Speaker of National Assembly of Zambia, Nelly Mutti and her delegation today in Parliament House.

Discussed our economic & development cooperation, as also people to people ties. Assured that India will speak up for the Global South in G20.



Office of Dr Mansukh Mand...

Making India Global Millets Hub!

The @FSSAIIndia will soon set guidelines for schools, hospitals and Govt canteens to incorporate millets as nutritional options in the food menu: Minister Dr @MansukhMandviya

Budget designed to fulfil dreams of all sections: Modi

Smriti Kak Ramachandran

NEW DELHI: The first Union Budget of Amrit Kaal, or the 25 years in the run-up to 2047 when Independent India turns 100, will build a strong foundation for a developed India and fulfil the dreams of an aspirational society including the poor, the middle-class, and farmers, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Wednesday.

In a televised speech soon after Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Budget in Parliament, Modi said the provisions prioritise the deprived sections, including craftspersons, who he dubbed as the creators of the nation.

The Budget announced assistance for craftsmen that will enable them to improve the quality, scale and reach of their products, while integrating them with the MSME value chain, he said. The scheme will also afford access to advanced skill training, knowledge of modern digital techniques, and efficient green technologies and social security, he added.

"For the first time, the country has come up with many schemes as a tribute to the hard work and creation of these people. Arrangements have been made for training, credit and market sup-

continued on P 28



Revolution is on its way: PM on 'Milletpreneurs'

In the 97th edition of Prime Minister's Mann ki Baat programme

SNS & AGENCIES



"The United Nations has taken up the decision to promote both internationl Yoga Day and International Year of Millets arise India's proposal. Yoga is also related to health and the millets also play an important role in health

Modi chairs meeting of Council of Ministers ahead of Budget

SNS & AGENCIES

PM: Govt working to empower every section of society

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jaipur, January 28



PM Narendra Modi

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA Modi on Saturday said his government is working to empower every section of society that has faced deprivation and neglect, and is moving ahead with the mantra of "Varchit ko Variyata (preference to the underprivileged)". Modi is on a visit to Bhilwara district in Rajasthan on the 1111th incarnation festival of folk deity Lord Shri Devnarayan, revered by people of the Gurjar community.

Addressing a gathering at Mallaun Dungri village after taking part in a ritual to mark the occasion, the prime minister said the world now looks at India with high hopes and the country has shown its strength and power. Today, India asserts itself on global platforms and is reducing its dependency on other countries, he added.

Highlighting the contribution of the people of the Gurjar community in the freedom struggle and other movements, the prime minister said it is the misfortune of the country that such personalities did not get the place in history which they deserved. However, Modi said, the new India is correcting the mistakes done in the past.

Many attempts were made to break India ideologically but no power has succeeded, he said, adding, "India is not just a landmass, but an expression of our civilisation, culture,

"People should stay away from any thing which is against the unity of the nation," he added.

For the last eight-nine years, the country has been trying to empower every section of society that has been neglected and deprived, Modi said. "We are moving with the mantra of giving preference to the underprivileged." He said social power has played a huge role in India's journey of thousands of years. "Let us take pride in our heritage, get out of the slavery mindset and remember our duties towards the country," the prime minister added.

Lord Devnarayan always gave priority to social service and public welfare, and put all his energy towards the welfare of the people, he said.

Highlighting the schemes and programmes of the central government, the prime minister said, "Earlier, the poor used to worry about rations but today, they get full and free rations. Ayushmann Bharat has removed the worries of

PM takes up environment impact of e-waste disposal

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Only 15 to 17% of the e-waste generated every year is recycled, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday drawing attention to consequences of mounting e-waste, dedicating a major portion of the 97th edition of his Mann ki Baat radio address to environmental issues.

In his address, the first this year, the PM also referred to the recently conferred Padma awards, saying that the selection of candidates from various communities, more specifically the Scheduled Caste and tribal communities, has been healed.

There is a need to create awareness about the safe disposal of gadgets, the PM said.

"Today's latest devices are also e-waste of the future. When somebody buys a new device or changes an old device, it is important to know whether it is being discarded in the right way or not," he said.

Carefully discarded e-waste can not only save the environment, but can also give a fillip to the movement of recycle and reuse, he said.

"A United Nations report says that nearly 50,000,000 tonnes of e-waste is generated every year. Even if all the commercial planes made in human history are weighed together, it will still be less than this amount. Every second 800 laptops are being thrown away. You will be surprised to see

Today's latest devices are also e-waste of the future. When somebody buys a new device, it is important to know how the old one is being discarded

NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister



No power could finish India: PM in Rajasthan



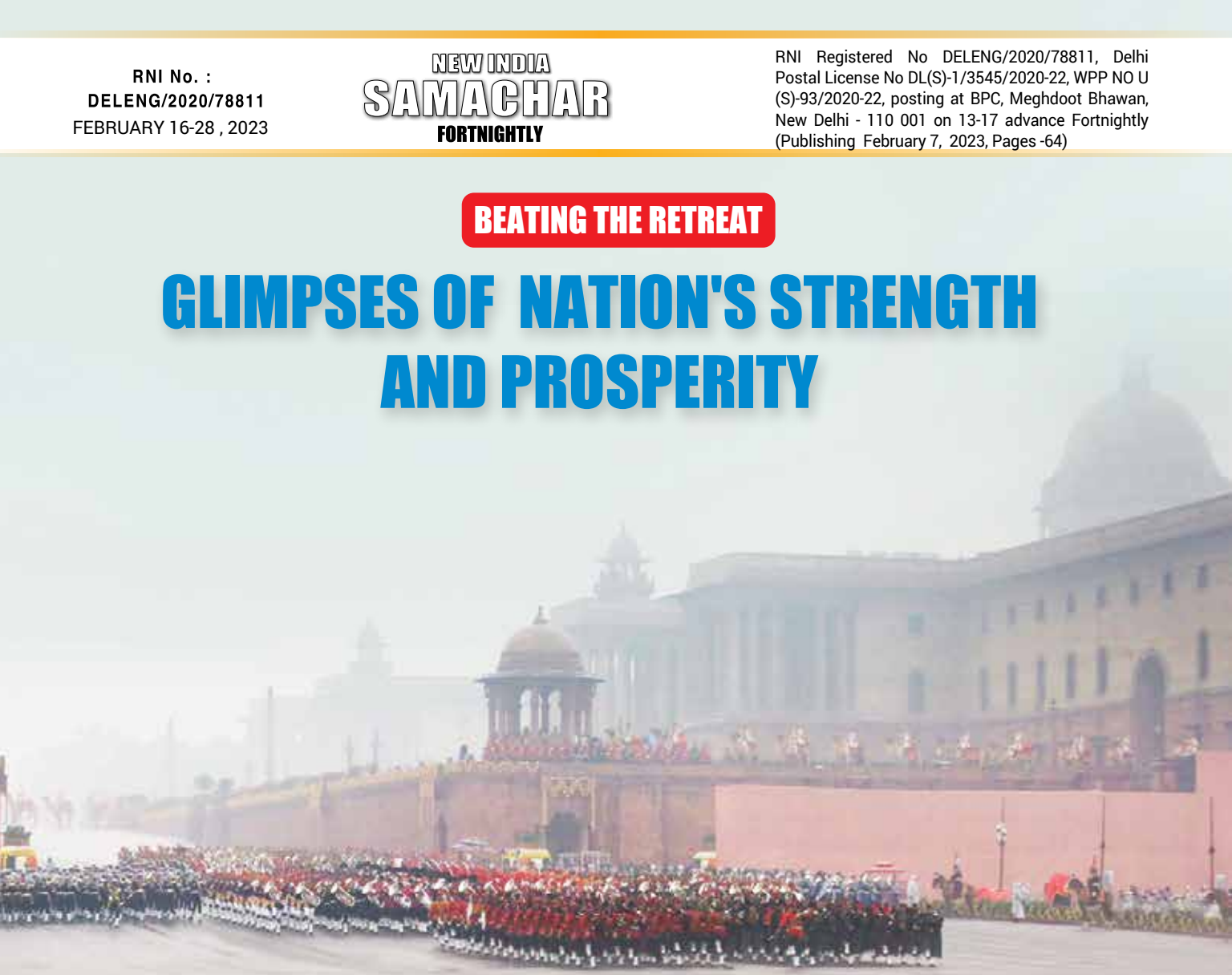
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NEW INDIA
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BEATING THE RETREAT

GLIMPSES OF NATION'S STRENGTH AND PROSPERITY



During 'Beating the Retreat' 2023 the three wings of the army, police, and CRPF bands played 29 Indian tunes including Indian classical ragas in the midst of rain. The ceremony began with the group band playing 'Agniveer' and concluded with 'Saare Jahan Se Accha' in presence of President Droupadi Murmu. For the first time in the ceremony, a 3-D anamorphic projection was carried out on the facade of the North and South Block. Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, CDS General Anil Chauhan, and the chiefs of the three services were also present at the ceremony. Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted glimpses of Beating the Retreat…







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