



PART A: News pertaining to Planning Commission



19.09.2014

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[Note : Now the Daily Digest is divided into two parts: Part A contains News pertaining to Planning Commission and Part B contains general News and Views]

1. Narendra Modi to launch 'Make in India' campaign; 1,000s CEOs to attend

The Pioneer: 19.09.2014

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the 'Make in India' campaign here next week at a mega function that will be attended by about a thousand global and domestic business leaders.

"On September 25, the Prime Minister will launch the Make in India programme," Power Minister Piyush Goyal said.

According to officials, several top global companies from countries including the US, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Poland, Australia, China, Italy, Germany and France are likely to attend the function.

It is expected that Modi would announce some major incentives for corporates setting up manufacturing hubs in the country.

In his maiden independence day address, Modi had invited the global business community to set up manufacturing facilities in India, giving the slogan 'come, make in India'.

To make it more successful, the campaign would be simultaneously launched in different state capitals including Mumbai, Chennai and Bangalore.

The campaign will also be telecast live in Indian embassies in countries in similar time zone as that of India.

The officials also said that prospective investors will be informed about India's growth story and the steps being taken by the government to improve investment climate here.

The move is aimed at generating huge employment, boosting trade and spurring economic growth

2. PM to launch Swachha Bharat Yojna on Oct 2

The Times of India: 19.09.2014

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** will launch his pet project of cleaning up the country , the Swachha Bharat Yojna, on Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary on October 2. The urban **development ministry** has initiated efforts for the cleanliness drive to begin from Delhi.

The preparato ry drive will begin from September 25, coinciding with the birth anniversary of late Jan Sangh leader Deen Dayal Upadhyay , where the **first stage** will begin with keeping homes clean, fol lowed by keeping neighbourhoods clean and then by keeping govern ment office pr emises clean.

The urban de velopment minis ter met with about 60 officials from various government departments including the New Delhi Municipal Council and other bodies who will be involved in the process.

The Delhi government will consider whether existing penal provisions to discourage people from dirtying the surroundings are good enough to support the renewed cleanliness drive. According to government sources, the Delhi government could come up with suitable changes to the penal provisions if there is a need for it.

The scheme will also include taking a cleanliness pledge for a year that could help motivate citizens to keep to their promise.

3. Plan to reduce infant mortality

The Hindu: 19.09.2014

It will be carried out with the extensive outreach mechanisms used for fighting polio

The Centre on Thursday launched a programme to reduce infant mortality and bring down the number of deaths to a single digit by 2030 from the current 29 deaths per 1,000 live births. The 'India Newborn Action Plan (INAP),' inaugurated by Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan, is the first step towards arresting infant deaths.

Asserting that India can reduce the deaths through "simple, cost-effective interventions" before and immediately after delivery, Dr. Vardhan said of the 2.8 million who die at birth worldwide, India contributes seven lakh. "These are preventable deaths and now we have an action plan to do it. I don't believe in long-range targets. We must achieve our goal within a short time," he said.

INAP has been prepared with the help of expertise drawn from distinguished members of a Technical Resource Group, he said, adding: "13.3 lakh children under the age of five years die in India and 7.56 lakh of them in their first month. We have studied in depth the reasons for these deaths and come out with comprehensive solutions."

The programme will be implemented under the existing Reproductive, Maternal, Child Health and Adolescents Plus (RMNCHA+) framework. The Minister said it would be carried out with the extensive outreach mechanisms used for fighting polio.

Praising Bill Gates and Melinda Gates who were present on the occasion for their valuable support to India's health programmes, particularly mother and child care, Dr. Vardhan said the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation was doing valuable work in the rural areas.

"Just as he revolutionised the basic human thought process through the personal computer revolution, Bill Gates has saved millions of lives by donating billions of dollars for transforming conditions of human existence. At a time when the anti-polio campaign was threatened for want of adequate funds, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation stepped in with help. They are invaluable partners in our fight against disease and death," Dr. Vardhan said.

4.



18/09/2014

Batting for PPP: Virendra Mhaiskar

Shobhana Subramanian Posted online: Friday, Sep 19, 2014 at 0000 hrs

For someone who is on the road a lot, Virendra Mhaiskar doesn't come across as travel-weary. That is probably because the soft-spoken entrepreneur from Maharashtra loves the outdoors and can't stay away even though it means spending most of his time away from home. The 43-year-old chairman and managing director of IRB Infra, who has been building roads for two decades now, is excited about his airport venture at the picturesque Sindhudurg on the Konkan coast, just a couple of hours from Goa. That, I realise, is what they mean when they talk of mixing business with pleasure.

It has taken many months to get a meeting with Mhaiskar for this column and I was beginning to think it would happen only on one of the many highways that his firm is working on; but here we are finally, at the Taj Mahal Hotel in Delhi, for breakfast. Half-past nine in the morning isn't really early but I reckon I will be better off with some strong black coffee to help me navigate the discussion on the roads sector, never easy at the best of times. My guest settles for a cup of tea.

With the economy going for a complete toss, so have developers' estimates of toll collections and construction costs. Mhaiskar's firm IRB Infra, which he set up in 1998, has been among those that have opted for rescheduling premium payments to the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)—for the Ahmedabad-Baroda and Timkur-Chitradurg stretches. While there has been much debate on PPP (public private partnership), risk-takers like Mhaiskar prefer it to the more traditional EPC—engineering, procurement and construction—route since the upsides can be bigger.

अर्थ नीति और विदेश नीति साथ-साथ

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी भारत की विदेश नीति को देश के आर्थिक विकास की जरूरतों के अनुकूल बनाने की दूरदृष्टि अपना रहे हैं।

कई लोगों की सोच के विपरीत प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के एजेंडे में अंतरराष्ट्रीय संबंध अहम हैं। उनके समय, निजी कार्यों और उनकी प्राथमिकताओं में बड़ा हिस्सा विदेश नीति का है। जापान, ऑस्ट्रेलिया, चीन और अमेरिका के साथ एक के बाद एक, चार उच्चस्तरीय यात्राओं की अंजाम देते हुए प्रधानमंत्री मोदी भारत की विदेश नीति की बरीयताओं को फिर से गढ़ने की यह पर हैं। उन्होंने एक अपरंपरागत राफ़्ट ग्रहण समारोह से अपनी शुरुआत की, जिसमें दुश्मन के सदस्य देशों के शासनाध्यक्ष और शीर्ष नेता उपस्थित थे। इसके बाद वह भूटान, नेपाल और ब्रिक्स विश्व बैंक के लिए ब्राजील गए। मोदी का कूटनीतिक कैलेंडर असामान्य रूप से व्यस्त हो गया है। उनकी जापान यात्रा के दौरान जैसी निजी केमेस्ट्री और विश्वास बहाली देखने की मिली, वह पहले कभी नहीं दिखी। इसी तरह, इस हफ्ते अहमदाबाद में चीन के राष्ट्रपति

शी जिनपिंग का आमनन हुआ। अपने कार्यक्रमों की अतीत से अलग और अव्वल बनाने का उनका प्रयास अचूक है। इन सब में कई खास तत्व हैं, जो ध्यान में रहने चाहिए। पहला, पड़ोसियों ने नई सरकार के लिए अपनी विदेश नीति में प्राथमिकता अपनाई है। लेकिन उनकी आर्थिक कूटनीति पर प्रमुखता अतीत से एकदम अलग है। दूसरा, मोदी ने आर्थिक कूटनीति व पुरानी सुविधों की जगह को पश्चिम से पश्चिम में केंद्रित किया। तीसरा, मोदी ने वर्तमान सच्चाइयों पर अतीत के कूटनीतिक पूर्वाग्रहों की छाया नहीं पड़ने दी। चीन, पाकिस्तान व अमेरिका के साथ संबंध के उनके प्रयास बताते हैं कि भारत के प्रबुद्ध राष्ट्रीय हितों की सुरक्षा के लिए वह कुछ अतिरिक्त कदम उठाने की तयार है। और अंत में, मोदी की विदेश नीति घरेलू प्राथमिकताओं के साथ-साथ और आपस में जुड़ी हुई आगे बढ़ रही है। विदेशी निवेश व सहयोग पर उनका जोर 'मेक इन इंडिया' के जरिये विनिर्माण क्रांति के आह्वान, आधारभूत संरचनाओं के सुधार से बड़े पैमाने पर रोजगार के मौके मुहैया कराने, स्मार्ट शहरों के विकास, हाई स्पीड रेलवे नेटवर्क बनाने और नदी-तटों के कायाकल्प पर है। यह सब करते हुए मोदी वह 'लाल रेखा' खींचने से परहेज नहीं करते, जो भारत की खाद्य सुरक्षा को पर्याप्त संरक्षण न देने वाली कारोबारी व्यवस्था को दरकिनार करती है और बताती है कि अपने हितों की रक्षा में यह देश कहां तक जा सकता है। हालांकि, विदेश नीति के ये प्रारूप तभी सचमुच में प्रासंगिक होंगे, जब यह देश विकास की अपनी कहानी को फिर से दोहराने में सफल होगा। मोदी का अपना नेतृत्व आर्थिक मोर्चे पर सफलता से जुड़ा हुआ है। यही वह मोर्चा है, जहां भारत की विदेश नीति को अनुकूल बनाने की दूर-दृष्टि मोदी अपना रहे हैं।

ऐसे में, अपनी भू-राजनीतिक और आर्थिक प्रमुखताओं को सुरक्षित रखते हुए तेजी से बदलती हुई दुनिया में भारत की विदेश नीति में क्या

प्राथमिकताएं हों?

पहली प्राथमिकता विश्ववास की कमी को पाटने की है।

एन के सिंह
पूर्व सांसद और पूर्व
केंद्रीय सचिव

अपने कई पड़ोसियों से भारत के रिश्ते आपसी भरोसे में कमी को परिभाषित करते हैं। हाल के समय में इससे घार पाना कूटनीतिक प्राथमिकता थी। पड़ोस में शांति, स्थिरता और मजबूत लोकतंत्र का विकास भारत और इस पूरे इलाके के हित में है। तीन दशकों की अपनी मौजूदगी के बावजूद, क्षेत्रीय बहुपक्षीय संगठन के रूप में दक्षिण आर्थिक समायोजन की अपनी स्थापित दृष्टि को पाने में बहुत पीछे है। इस दृष्टि को पाने में भारत अग्रणी भूमिका निभा सकता है। इसी तरह, भारत-चीन संबंध पारस्परिक कटुता और गहरे संदिग्ध के इतिहास से पीड़ित है। इस रिश्ते को सुधारने में सीमा विवाद का हल करना और कारोबार व वाणिज्य को बढ़ाना अहम है।

दूसरी, द्विपक्षीय कारोबार और निवेश को बढ़ाना। 1991 के आर्थिक सुधारों की पहल के बाद भी भारत वैश्विक कारोबार में महज 1.5 प्रतिशत का मामूली हिस्सेदार है। चीन जैसे देशों की तुलना में यह कम है। चीन वैश्विक कारोबार में 10 प्रतिशत से अधिक का हिस्सेदार है। भारत और चीन के बीच के कारोबार में भी चीन आगे है। इसी तरह जहां तक विदेशी निवेश का मुद्दा है, भारत दुनिया में 20वां स्थान रखता है और चीन को प्रायः कुल प्रत्यक्ष विदेशी निवेश के पांचवें हिस्से से भी कम भारत को निवेश हासिल है। यहाँ तक कि सिंगापुर से एक-तिहाई से कम विदेशी निवेश अपने यहाँ है।

तीसरी, राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा व रक्षा सहयोग। पड़ोस की चुनौतियों और सीमाओं पर लंबे समय से युद्ध जैसे हालात को देखते हुए भारत सुरक्षा चुनौतियों का सामना कर रहा है। यह दुनिया के सबसे बड़े हाथियार आयातक देशों में एक है। बदलती हुई दुनिया में जहाँ पुराने भू-राजनीतिक

समीकरण धराशायी हो रहे हैं, इसका राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा में महत्व है। इसके अलावा, राष्ट्रीय संसाधनों का बड़ा हिस्सा हाथियार खरीदने और उनकी समयबद्ध आपूर्ति की सुनिश्चित करने के लिए मौजूद है। दूसरी तरफ, घरेलू रक्षा विनिर्माण अपने शुरुआती चरण में हो है और बड़े निवेश और महत्वपूर्ण तकनीक के हस्तांतरण के बिना यह विकास नहीं कर सकता।

चौथी प्राथमिकता नए ऊर्जा स्रोतों तक पहुंच सुनिश्चित करना है। भारत की विकास-यात्रा में ऊर्जा सुरक्षा चुनौतियां गैरछात्र हैं। पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों का चीना सबसे बड़ा आयातक होने के कारण भारत अंतरराष्ट्रीय कच्चे तेल के उत्पादन और दाम में आते उतार-चढ़ाव के कारण आर्थिक मुश्किलों का सामना करता रहा है। नए ऊर्जा स्रोतों तक सुरक्षित पहुंच की स्पष्टता हाल के वर्षों में तेज हुई है। पश्चिम पश्चिमा और मध्य पश्चिमा में ऊर्जा के सस्ते स्रोतों के भंडार हैं, जो लंबे समय के अवैश्वस्य के कारण अब तक इस्तेमाल नहीं हुए। इसी तरह, नदी जल का बंटवारा और हिमालय की नदी-प्रणाली के विद्युतीय सामर्थ्य का दोहन भारत के सहृदयी राज्यों के लिए बेहद महत्वपूर्ण है। भारत की भावी विदेश नीति इसके भाव्य की ऊर्जा जरूरतों को उपेक्षित रखकर पूरी नहीं हो सकती।

अंतिम प्राथमिकता, भारत में इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के अभाव को पूरा करना। आधारभूत ढांचे से जुड़ी जरूरतें हैरत में डालने वाली हैं और देश के विकास-सामर्थ्य को हासिल करने के लिए महत्वपूर्ण हैं। दरअसल, आज के अधिकतर विकसित देशों में आर्थिक समृद्धि के आने से पहले इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर सेक्टर में बड़े पैमाने पर विकास हुआ। भारत की सड़कों, बंदरगाहों, रेलवे, विमानन, ऊर्जा और दूरसंचार के क्षेत्रों को अत्याधुनिक तकनीक के अलावा काफी निजी निवेश की जरूरत है। यह वह क्षेत्र है, जहां साझेदार देशों के लिए एक सुखद निर्यात होगी और इसलिए यह भारत की विदेश नीति के ढांचे में एक महत्वपूर्ण तत्व है।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने इन महत्वपूर्ण उद्देश्यों को पाने के लिए कुछ निश्चित कदम उठाए हैं। बीते चार महीने में इन प्राथमिकताओं के मद्देनजर प्रगति हुई है। भारत के प्रति निवेशकों के उत्साही रवैये से आने वाले समय में और प्रगति की आशा है। नरेंद्र मोदी भारत के लोकतंत्र, देश की आबादी और मांग से हासिल मूल योग्यताओं को प्रकाश में लाने में सफल रहे हैं। अगर सब कुछ अच्छा रहता है, तो भारत की विदेश नीति उम्मीद से भी कहीं अधिक बदल चुकी होगी।

(ये लेखक के अपने विचार हैं)



20 अरब डॉलर का निवेश करेगा चीन

दोनों देशों की द्विपक्षीय शिखर वार्ता में 16 मुद्दों पर हुआ समझौता

■ विशेष प्रतिनिधि, नई दिल्ली

भारत-चीन शिखर वार्ता में 16 मुद्दों पर समझौते हुए। गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र में चीन को दो औद्योगिक पार्क खोलने पर भी रजामंदी हुई। इसके अलावा दोनों देशों के बीच पांच साल के आर्थिक सहयोग के कार्यक्रम चलाने का समझौता किया गया। दोनों शिखर नेताओं प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और चीन के राष्ट्रपति शी चिन फिंग की मौजूदगी में वाणिज्य मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण और चीन के वाणिज्य मंत्री गावो हुआंग ने पांच साल की व्यापार एवं आर्थिक विकास योजना पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

इसके तहत विभिन्न परियोजनाओं में चीन 20 अरब डॉलर से अधिक का निवेश करेगा। दोनों औद्योगिक पार्कों में सात अरब डॉलर से अधिक का निवेश कर चीनी कंपनियाँ अति फास्ट और विजली घरों के संयंत्र आदि बनाएंगी। कैलाश मानसरोवर के लिए सिक्किम के नाथु ला होते हुए एक नया मार्ग खोलने का ऐलान किया गया है। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने कहा कि उत्तराखंड के अतिरिक्त नए रास्ते खुलने से बुजुर्ग तीर्थयात्रियों को विशेष सुविधा होगी। रेलवे क्षेत्र में कई अहम समझौते हुए। इसके तहत चेन्नै से



और बड़ी नजदीकियाँ : मोदी और चिन फिंग ने समझ लीं जरूरतें

गुजरात और महाराष्ट्र में चीन को दो औद्योगिक पार्क खोलने पर भी हुई रजामंदी

मैसूर के बीच बंगलुरु होते हुए मौजूदा ट्रनों की स्पीड बढ़ाई जाएगी और हाई स्पीड रेलवे प्रोजेक्ट के लिए चीन के सहयोग की पेशकश पर विचार किया जाएगा। साथ ही चीन भारत में एक रेलवे विश्वविद्यालय खोलने में मदद देगा।

2016 पुस्तक मेले में चीन बनेगा पार्टनर

भारत की विभिन्न परमाणु क्लबों में सदस्यता का विरोध करने वाले चीन ने मोदी-शी वार्ता के बाद परमाणु सहयोग की बातचीत शुरू करने का ऐलान किया। मोदी ने कहा कि इसकी बदौलत दोनों देशों के बीच ऊर्जा सहयोग को हम नए स्तर पर पहुंचा सकते हैं। शी ने शांघाई सहयोग संगठन(एससीओ) में भारत की सदस्यता को समर्थन देने का भी ऐलान किया।

भारत और चीन के 16 समझौते में शामिल

- कैलाश मानसरोवर के लिए नाथु ला होते हुए वैकल्पिक मार्ग
- दोनों देशों की रेलवे के बीच सहयोग
- रेलवे सेक्टर में एक्शन प्लान और खास परियोजनाएं
- व्यापार और आर्थिक सहयोग के कार्यक्रम
- आर्थिक सहयोग के लिए संयुक्त आर्थिक दल की 10वीं बैठक
- सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालयों के बीच ऑडियो विजुअल साझा करना
- कस्टम मामलों में परस्पर प्रशासनिक सहयोग
- भारत और चीन के अंतरिक्ष संगठनों के बीच सहयोग
- भारत और चीन के सांस्कृतिक मंत्रालयों के बीच सहयोग
- नेशनल बुक ट्रस्ट और चीन के प्रेस प्रशासन के बीच समझौता
- भारत और चीन के औषधि प्रशासन विभागों के बीच सहयोग
- मुंबई और शांघाई के बीच सिस्टर सिटी का समझौता
- अहमदाबाद और व्हांगचो के बीच सिस्टर सिटी का समझौता
- गुजरात और व्हांगतुंग के बीच सिस्टर राज्य का समझौता
- महाराष्ट्र औद्योगिक निगम और चीनी औद्योगिक पार्कों का समझौता
- गुजरात में औद्योगिक पार्कों की स्थापना के लिए समझौता

मोदी ने स्वीकारा चीन आने का आमंत्रण

समुद्री सुरक्षा और सहयोग पर बातचीत करने के लिये इस साल के अंत तक दोनों देश समुद्री सहयोग वार्ता करेंगे, जिसमें समुद्र में डकैती और समुद्र में आबाजाही की आजादी के बारे में भी चर्चा की जाएगी। राष्ट्रपति शी ने प्रधानमंत्री मोदी को चीन का जल्द दौरा करने का निमंत्रण दिया है, जिसने मोदी ने स्वीकार कर लिया है। इसके अलावा चीन के बहुप्रचारित समुद्री रेशम मार्ग में शामिल होने से भारत ने परहेज किया लेकिन चीन की ओर से प्रस्तावित दक्षिणी सिलक रोड गलियारा में शामिल होने पर भारत सहमत हो गया है।

कैलाश का नया रूट खुलेगा

■ पूनम पाण्डे, नई दिल्ली

चीनी राष्ट्रपति शी चिन फिंग की भारत यात्रा के दौरान दोनों देशों के बीच हुए कई समझौतों के साथ ही कैलाश मानसरोवर जाने वाले यात्रियों की सुविधा का रास्ता भी खुल गया। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने ऐलान किया कि चीन कैलाश मानसरोवर यात्रा के लिए सिक्किम के नाथुला दर्रे से रूट खोलने पर राजी हो गया है। मोदी ने कहा कि यह रूट उत्तराखंड से मौजूदा रूट के अलावा नया रूट होगा।

यात्रियों के लिए बेहद सुविधाजनक : मोदी ने कहा कि 'नया रूट खुलने से ज्यादा लोग कैलाश मानसरोवर जा सकेंगे क्योंकि



नए रूट से मोटर मार्ग के जरिए कैलाश तक पहुंचा जा सकेगा। साथ ही यह रास्ता बरसात में भी सेफ रहेगा। अभी यह यात्रा हर साल उत्तराखंड के लिपुलेख दर्रे से होती है। यह मार्ग काफी कठिन है और बरसात में काफी खराब भी हो जाता है। इस रूट से यात्रा पूरी होने में 22 दिनों का वक्त लगता है। नारायण आश्रम तक गाड़ी जा सकती है। इससे आगे करीब 150 किमी का सफर पैदल तय करना पड़ता है, लेकिन नाथुला दर्रे से रास्ता खुलने के बाद उस रूट से पैदल चलने की जरूरत नहीं होगी।

उत्तराखंड में विरोध : उत्तराखंड के कई इलाकों को इसी यात्रा के जरिए पहचान मिली हुई है। इसलिए यात्रा के लिए दूसरा मार्ग खोलना यहां पसंद नहीं किया जा रहा है।

आर्थिक शक्ति यानी 34 करोड़ का उपभोक्ता बाजार

चिन्मोद कुमार

चीन भारत के साथ करोड़ों बार बढ़ाना चाहता है। वह चाहता है कि भले ही सीमा विवाद चलता रहे, लेकिन व्यापारिक सम्झौते हों। चीन का दूरमन जापान भी वही चाहता है। इजराइल और अमेरिका की भी वही मंशा है। पाकिस्तान के साथ उसका कूटनीतिक रिश्ता बना रहे और भारत के साथ भी।

मूल वजह यह है कि भारत में 32-34 करोड़ का उपभोक्ता बाजार है। गरीबों का शोषण कर उभरता एक मध्यम वर्ग जो उनके उत्पादित तमाम उपभोक्ता सामान खरीदने को तैयार बैठा है। कार, फ्रिज, टीवी, नित नए बनते और बाजार में उतरते मोबाइल सेट जैसे सामान। तो फिर 31 करोड़ की आबादी वाले अमेरिका को, 12.7 करोड़ की आबादी वाले जापान को, आठ करोड़ की आबादी वाले जर्मनी को, 82 लाख की आबादी वाले इजराइल को, अन्य यूरोपीय देशों को इतना बड़ा उपभोक्ता बाजार और कहाँ मिलेगा जो उनके वित्तारित के सामान और जंगी हथियार खरीदे।

इसलिए विकास के पायदान पर बेहद नीचे

का एक पिछड़ा देश भारत, जहाँ दुनिया की एक बड़ी भूखी, निरक्षर, कुपोषण और रक्ताल्पता की शिकार आबादी रहती है, को एकबारगी बहुत बड़ी आर्थिक शक्ति के रूप में प्रचारित किया जा रहा है। तबकि एक गरीब मुल्क के बड़े उपभोक्ता बाजार की हथियार जा सके। इसलिए मोदी का डंका बज रहा है। प्रोटोकाल तोड़ कर जापान के राष्ट्राध्यक्ष उनका स्वागत करते हैं। सामान्य परिपाटी का उल्लंघन कर देश की राजधानी दिल्ली की जगह चीन के राष्ट्राध्यक्ष गुजरात से अपनी यात्रा शुरू करते हैं।

अच्छा, जरा विचारिए तो। चीन भारत में लक्ष्मी-गणेश की मूर्ति, जगमग रोशनी करने वाले खल्लों की लड़ियाँ से लेकर मोबाइल तक बेच रहा है। हमारे पास बेचने के लिए क्या है? अपना कच्चा माल और सस्ता मानवीय श्रम के अलावा। चीन के पास भी लौह-अयस्क का भंडार है। लेकिन वह भारत से लौह-अयस्क और कोयला खरीदता है। क्यों? क्योंकि लौह अयस्क और अन्य खनिज संपदा खत्म हो जाने वाली वस्तु है। वह अपने यहाँ की खनिज

संपदा को भविष्य के लिए बचा कर रखना चाहता है। और भारत? हमारी सरकारें? कच्चा माल बेच कर ही निहाल हो जा रही है। क्या है इसका अर्थशास्त्र। लौह अयस्क 46 रुपए टन, फाईन 3160 रुपए टन और कोयला 500 से 700 रुपए टन। और इनसे मिल कर बनने वाला परिष्कृत इस्पात? 34 हजार रुपए टन। कौन नहीं चाहेगा इस तरह का व्यापार? सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में चलने वाले

खाद कारखानों की बैठा दो, सेल की कच्चा खोद दो और निजी क्षेत्रों को यही माल बनाने के लिए बुलाओ। सस्ता श्रम, खनिज संपदा बेचो और वाहवाही भी लुटो। यही कर रहे हैं मोदी। यही है हमारी विकास नीति।

मुअनजोदड़ी और हड़प्पा जैसी विश्वविख्यात नागर सभ्यता के वारिस हम। शहर बनाने के लिए अर्जुनबध कर रहे हैं जापान से। जापान, जो दो लाख करोड़ का निवेश करने वाला है, क्या वह माले-मुफ्त है, जिस

पर हम निहाल हुए जा रहे हैं? पूंजी निवेश माने आज की तारीख में यह कि हर तरह के निरम-कानून, विस्थापन, वन नीति और पर्यावरण कानून को ताक पर रख कर विदेशी कंपनियों को आमंत्रित करना और उनके लिए तमाम तरह के श्रम कानूनों को निरस्त कर उन्हें सस्ता श्रम व कौड़ियों के मूल खनिज संपदा मुहैया कराना है। शहर निर्माण का मुख्य काम मल-जल की निकासी व्यवस्था ही है। या अन्य किसी भी किसी के निर्माण कार्य के लिए कोई भी विदेशी मुल्क अपने देश से मजदूर और अन्य निर्माण मशीनें ले कर नहीं आता। यह पारी के आधार पर ठेका प्राप्त करता है और यहाँ पेटी ठेकेदार रखता है। यही से सब कुछ जुटाता है और भारी मुनाफ़ा ले जाता है। मोदी छुपाते भी नहीं। एलानिया कहते हैं, 'वहाँ आपका रेंड टैप नहीं, रेंड कारपेट' स्वागत करेंगे। क्या है इसका निहितार्थ?

यानी, हमारे पास दक्ष लोग हैं। खनिज संपदा है, श्रम है। पूंजी नहीं। पूंजी बाहर से चाहिए। तभी तो कारखाना लगेगा। लोगों को रोजगार मिलेगा। यही है प्रचार का मुख्य विंदु।

लेकिन क्या हमने कभी यह जानने-समझने की कोशिश की कि अगर आज की तारीख में कोई उद्योग लगता है तो उसमें रोजगार कितना मिलता है? जापान के दो लाख करोड़ के निवेश से कितने रोजगार का सृजन होगा? हमारी जानकारी में तो चार मिलियन टन क्षमता का इस्पात कारखाना झारखंड के बोकारो में लगा था तो 52 हजार लोगों को नियमित रोजगार मिला था। लाखों लोगों को परोक्ष रूप से रोजगार। लेकिन आज की तारीख में जापान अगर कोई चार मिलियन टन क्षमता का इस्पात कारखाना देश में लगाता है तो चार हजार लोगों को भी रोजगार मिल जाए तो गनीमत। उनका तो सारा मुनाफ़ा ही इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि दो चार हजार बाबू किसके के लोगों, अभियंताओं को नियमित नौकरी दो और तमाम काम ठेका मजदूरों से कराओ। और कोई विरोध करे, जाँजब मजदूरों मांगे तो वह हथ करी जो मास्ते कारखाने के मजदूरों का किया। सरकार तो सदैव बनने के लिए तैयार बैठी है। देश का नव निर्माण तो देसी पूंजी, जनभागीदारी से ही हो सकता है, विदेशी पूंजी निवेश से नहीं।

PART B

NEWS AND VIEWS

Friday, 19th September 2014

Polity

: Seat-sharing formula: BJP gives
Ultimatum to Shiv Sena

Economy

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: Uneven recovery

Communication, IT & Information Division
Phone # 2525

Seat-sharing formula: BJP gives ultimatum to Shiv Sena

Party evolving Plan B to go it alone in Maharashtra

OUR BUREAU/AGENCIES

Mumbai, September 18

Setting itself on a confrontation path with its oldest ally, the BJP on Thursday gave the Shiv Sena an ultimatum to agree on a seat-sharing formula for the coming Assembly elections or face a breakdown of the alliance.

Having jacked up its demand for contesting 135 of the 288 seats, which has been rejected by the Shiv Sena, senior BJP leaders have communicated to Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray to decide by this evening whether his party is willing to conform to a "mutual and respectable" seat-sharing formula.

The alliance partners need to wrap up talks quickly, as just 28 days remain for Assembly elections in Maharashtra.

Today's ultimatum has come after a major brainstorming session of the BJP core group in Mumbai last night which was at-



Past perfect Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray with BJP leader Nitin Gadkari (file photo). PTI

tended by leaders including BJP chief Amit Shah, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, Rajiv Pratap Rudy, General Secretary in charge of Maharashtra and Om Mathur, the BJP's State election in charge, and State leaders.

The core group meeting is also understood to have discussed a Plan B in case the BJP has to go it alone.

Top BJP sources said the party is upset that the Shiv Sena, an ally of 25 years, has not given any re-

sponse to the proposal sent by it on the higher number of seats it wants to contest in the coming elections. In the 2009 elections, the BJP had contested 119 and the Sena 169 seats. However, this time the alliance "Mahayuti" has been broad-based with the inclusion of four more parties — RPI (Athawle), Rashtriya Samaj Paksha, Swabhimani Shetkari Paksha and Loksangram.

The party is particularly peeved that Thackeray has not

The ultimatum came after a brainstorming session of the BJP core group in Mumbai last night attended by leaders including BJP chief Amit Shah and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari.

responded to or was not in communication with the BJP leadership ever since the demand for 135 seats was put forth to him. In fact, without responding to the BJP's demand directly, he went public earlier this week on rejecting it.

Congress-NCP talks

The Congress and its ally NCP are also facing a similar situation, with the NCP demanding more seats from the former.

NCP spokesperson Nawab Malik told media persons that after the August 20 meeting between party supremo Sharad Pawar and senior Congress leader AK Anthony, there have been no formal meetings on seat sharing. "We are waiting for an invite from them," he said.

Raise policy rate to contain inflation: IMF to Reserve Bank of India

BS REPORTER
New Delhi, 18 September

Ahead of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s monetary policy review on September 30, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has suggested the central bank should raise its policy rate to counter "stubbornly high inflation".

Indian industry is, however, clamouring for a rate cut to boost industrial growth. Industrial growth declined to 0.5 per cent in June from 3.9 per cent in the previous month.

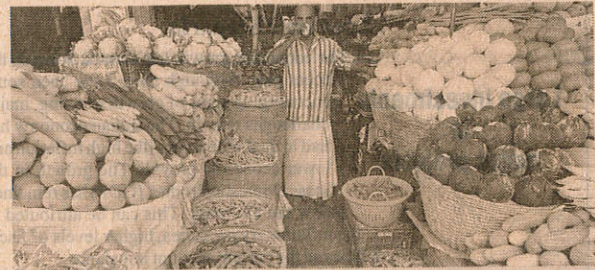
"Sustainably lowering inflation will require further increases in the policy rate," IMF said in a note to finance ministers and central bank governors of G20 countries, meetings between whom are underway in Australia.

Most economists have said RBI is likely to keep the policy rate intact, as upside risks

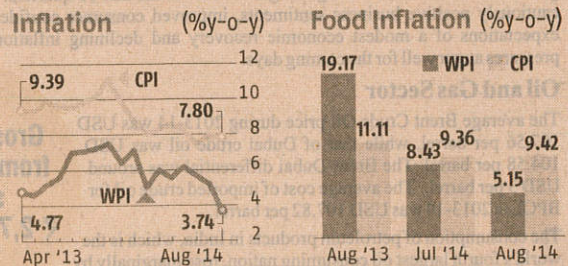
to inflation are high. "At present, looking at the unfolding trajectory of CPI (Consumer Price Index) and WPI (Wholesale Price Index) inflation, we expect an extended pause on the repo rate (the rate at which banks borrow from RBI)," said Ica senior economist Aditi Nayar.

"One of the factors keeping retail inflation high is elevated and sticky food inflation, in which case monetary policy has a limited role to play," she added.

WPI-based inflation fell to a 58-month low of 3.74 per cent in August from 5.19 per cent in July; during the same period, CPI-based inflation declined from 7.96 per cent to 7.80 per cent. Between July and August, food inflation decreased to 5.15 per cent from 8.43 per cent in WPI terms, while retail food inflation rose from 9.36 per cent to 9.42 per cent.



PRICE BURDEN



The base year for WPI-based inflation is 2004-05, for CPI-based inflation is 2010; Source: Commerce Department and Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

RBI has set a target of eight per cent CPI-based inflation by January 2015 and six per cent by January 2016.

Modi govt doubles UPA's solar mission

Capacity addition and pooling of costly solar energy with conventional power likely to bring down tariff

SHREYA JAI
New Delhi, 18 September

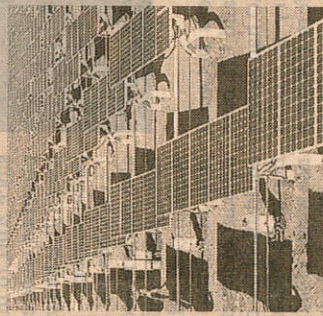
Giving a turnaround to the United Progressive Alliance (UPA)'s flagship solar power programme, the current government is set to double the target of the upcoming phase of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) to 3,000 Mw, the largest-ever tender for solar power in the country.

This would be the second UPA government's pet mission that would be carried forward by the Narendra Modi govern-

ment. Last week, the Cabinet had approved the second phase of the Unique Identification (UID) project. Piyush Goyal, the minister for coal, power and renewable energy, in his 100-day address, said the current targets of clean energy would be kept intact; their achievement period would be expedited to bridge gap in energy security and accessibility. The bidding for 3,000 Mw will take place in three tranches of 1,000 Mw each, and a single destination state at one time. Senior government officials close to the development said the proj-

ect would be rolled out with Andhra Pradesh.

"We would then see which state expresses interest thereafter. For now, Telangana has also expressed intention to be part of this central mega programme. We could consider the viability and various other factors before selecting the state," said the official. The solar power produced would be bundled with the unallocated thermal power in the ratio of 2:1, from earlier 1:1. The pooled power would be sold at the average rate to the state distribution utilities, with which the power



BRIGHTER PROSPECTS

- Govt doubles target of Phase-II, Batch-II bidding to 3,000 Mw
- Solar power to be pooled with thermal
- Cost likely to come down to ₹4-4.5 a unit
- Target till 2017: 10,000 Mw
- JNNSM target: 20,000 Mw by 2022
- Current cost of solar power: ₹6.5-8 a unit
- Current solar power capacity: 2,600 Mw
- Grid parity target shot down to 2017 from 2022-end

purchase agreement is signed. NVVN (NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam limited), the power trad-

ing arm of NTPC, has been designated as the authority to execute the programme. Confirming the development, Tarun Kapoor, joint secretary, ministry of new and

renewable energy, said bundled power would bring down the cost of solar power. "Our aim is to achieve grid parity in solar by 2017 at least. Large capacity addition and pooling of comparatively costly solar power with conventional power would bring down the power price and increase overall power capacity in the country," said Kapoor. NVVN officials said the average cost of bundled power would be around ₹4-4.5 a unit. "We are also hoping that big names in the power sector would bid for huge capacities. The capacity being large, NVVN is also look-

ing at an option of connectivity with the central transmission unit for alignment with the main grid," said a senior NVVN official. Second batch of bidding under the second phase of JNNSM targets to achieve 10,000 Mw of grid connected solar power by 2017. The cumulative target of the mission is to have 20,000 Mw of grid connected solar power by 2022. The current solar power capacity of the country is 2,600 Mw. Solar power price have come down to ₹6.5-7 a unit — a 60 per cent decline in past three years.

China to invest \$20 bn in India; 12 pacts signed

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

New Mansarovar route via Sikkim

- India and China on Thursday signed 12 pacts with key one being opening of a new route to Kailash Mansarovar via Nathu La in Sikkim. This is in addition to the existing Lipulekh pass in Uttarakhand and will help reduce hardship and journey time
- China will help strengthen the railway network in India by increasing speed of trains, studying feasibility of cooperation in high-speed railways and redevelopment of railway stations
- As part of the Five-year Trade and Economic Development Plan, the two countries will take steps to promote balanced trade relations. This includes enhanced cooperation between chambers of commerce and the financial sector

Nathu La in Sikkim in addition to the existing Lipulekh pass in Uttarakhand.

"The route through Nathu La will augment the capacity and reduce the hardship and journey time, enabling many more pilgrims to undertake the yatra," the MoU said.

Thanking Xi for opening up the route, Modi said it offered many benefits. "It makes Kailash Mansarovar accessible by a motorable road, which is especially ben-

eficial to the older pilgrims. It offers a safer alternative in the rainy season, makes the pilgrimage shorter in duration, and will help increase the number of pilgrims going there," said Modi after the delegation-level talks.

Among the other agreements, those pertaining to railways envisages increased cooperation in speed-raising on the existing Chennai-Mysore via Bangalore

CONTINUED ON P8

China ready with \$20 bn investment

FROM PAGE 1

railway line to 160-kmph; training to 100 Indian Railway personnel in heavy-haul transportation; cooperation in high-speed rail by conducting project feasibility study and detailed project report; redevelopment of existing railway stations by conducting pre-feasibility of two stations; and setting up a Railway University in India.

With New Delhi expressing concern over the growing trade imbalance, which stands at \$ 35 billion, the agreement on Five-year Trade and Economic Development Plan lays down a medium-term roadmap for promoting balanced and sustainable development of economic and trade relations between China and India on the principle of equality and mutual benefit.

The main objectives of the plan are to reduce bilateral trade imbalance; strengthen investment cooperation to realise \$20 billion investment from China in five years; a transparent, stable and investor friendly business

environment; and enhanced cooperation between Chambers of Commerce and financial sectors. These involve pharmaceutical supervision, including registration, speedier phytosanitary negotiations on agro-products for two-way trade, stronger links between Indian IT companies and Chinese enterprises, and increasing services trade in tourism, films, healthcare, IT and logistics. Xi announced that besides working together to improve the railway sector, China will set up two industrial parks — one each in Gujarat and Maharashtra — and also take steps to give more market access to products from India, including pharmaceuticals. The two sides also decided to enhance cooperation in matters related to customs administration and signed an agreement that will help strengthen cooperation to fight trans-border economic crimes and customs offences through sharing of information. It would also facilitate trade through enhanced customs cooperation.

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 18
India and China concluded a series of agreements, pledging \$20 billion investments in five years, opening up an additional route for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra besides enhancing cooperation in railways and giving greater access to India's pharma and farm products.

The two sides signed 12 agreements in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping. Four pacts were signed in Ahmedabad yesterday. Prominent among the ones signed today is an additional route to Mansarovar that has been under discussion for long and pursued by Modi. The pact signed by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and her Chinese counterpart Wang Yi envisages passage through

India's GDP to rebound to over 7% in 2-3 years, says Mayaram

PTI ■ CAIRNS (AUSTRALIA)

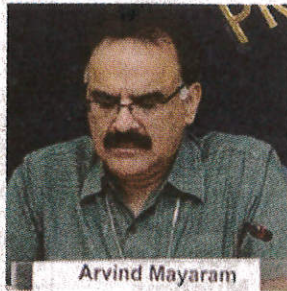
India is following economic growth inducing policies and is confident that the GDP will rebound to over 7 per cent in 2-3 years, Finance Secretary Arvind Mayaram said on Thursday while emphasising that business confidence is back.

Making an intervention during the G20 Deputies Meeting here, Mayaram said the Indian Government announced a slew of policy reforms and Budget reflected this in full measure.

"From 4.7 per cent growth in the last fiscal, the Indian economy grew by 5.7 per cent in Q1 of the current financial year 2014-15. Business confidence is back and even though still tentative, growth in industrial sector, specially manufacturing, is showing an uptick.

"We are confident that by pursuing growth inducing policies, the Government would contribute fully to going back to a +7 per cent growth within two to three years," he said.

He further said the policies pursued by the Emerging Market Economies (EMEs) to bring growth back have been effective and India stands committed to the incremental 2 per cent growth in the global GDP.



Arvind Mayaram

We are confident that by pursuing growth inducing policies, the Government would contribute fully to going back to a +7 per cent growth within two to three years
FINANCE SECRETARY
ARVIND MAYARAM

Mayaram, however, pointed out that while it would be imperative for the EMEs including India to continue the path of structural reforms, the uncertainty and volatility in external environment is worrisome and needs the attention of the G20.

"As the US Fed withdraws from unconventional monetary

policy, there will be an overhang on asset prices in the Emerging Markets and therefore, volatility in the currency markets," he said.

The decision on the exit from the Quantitative Easing (QE) programme that came in after the US FOMC (Federal Open Market Committee) meeting yesterday had an impact on the currency markets of many of the emerging market economies.

"The strength of G20 lies in taking international collaborative actions and not limiting to the individual country growth strategies. This concern was also raised by Mexico," the Secretary said.

Mayaram said the as discussions are taking place on domestic policies and actions, "we should also be discussing" G20 driven collaborative solutions which would reduce the impact of the possible near term repricing.

While countries would have to take actions commensurate with the space available to them, as IMF has themselves noted, macro prudential policies would be ineffective during downswings, he said.

In many of the countries, Mayaram added, the asse-
trepricing would result in pres-
sure on their currencies, lead-

ing to a spiral of tightening and derailing of all well laid growth strategy road maps.

"So, in order to ensure that the growth outcomes are still achieved, are there solutions that G20 can explore? Are swap lines a solution? Let us get the IMF to analyse whether it is so," he said, adding IMF are good at scenario analysis.

He opined that if an analysis can be made on loss of GDP in the face of exogenous shocks, but with swaps in place and in the absence of swaps, it would be useful.

The official also suggested that the IMF can also be asked to look at the cost of the swap and compare those to the benefits.

Mayaram further said it was possible that the swap facility may never be used as it more of a confidence building measure, rather than actual ammunition.

The benefits to the global financial system could potentially be large as it would reduce the amount of self-insurance that countries need to do.

"At the same time, if the swap facilities do get used, the benefits would include a reduction in the negative shock to EM and global GDP," Mayaram added.

Modi to launch 'Make in India' campaign; 1,000s CEOs to attend

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the 'Make in India' campaign here next week at a mega function that will be attended by about a thousand global and domestic business leaders.

"On September 25, the Prime Minister will launch the Make in India programme," Power Minister Piyush Goyal said.

According to officials, several top global companies from countries including the US, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Poland, Australia, China, Italy, Germany and France are likely to attend the function.

It is expected that Modi would announce some major incentives for corporates setting up manufacturing hubs in the country.

In his maiden independence day address, Modi had invited the global business community to set up manufacturing facilities in India, giving the slogan 'come, make in India'.

To make it more successful, the campaign would be simultaneously launched in different state capitals including Mumbai, Chennai and Bangalore.

The campaign will also be telecast live in Indian embassies in countries in similar time zone as that of India.

The officials also said that prospective investors will be informed about India's growth story and the steps being taken by the Government to improve investment climate here.

The move is aimed at generating huge employment, boosting trade and spurring economic growth.

Infosys partners Huawei; extends pact with others

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's second largest software services firm Infosys on Thursday said it has partnered China's Huawei Technologies to offer enterprise cloud, big data and communication solutions.

The announcement comes amidst visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

India has pressed its neighbour for export of IT services and promotion of tourism between the two countries.

China has committed USD 20 billion investment in India over the next five years and has agreed to provide greater market access to Indian products in farm, pharma and gems & jewellery sectors, with a view to reducing trade gap.

The Bangalore-based firm also expanded its partnership with US-based tech giant Microsoft on cloud services and with Hitachi Data Systems (HDS), a subsidiary of Japan-based Hitachi, on infrastructure and data centre solutions.

Infosys, a systems integration partner of Microsoft, will also establish a global 'centre of excellence' for Microsoft Azure Machine Learning that will train over 1,000 engineers by the end of fiscal year 2015, it said in a statement.

The firm in partnership with HDS will offer enterprises infrastructure and data centre transformation solutions and will also set up a centre of excellence for 'pay-per-use' solutions.

The IT services major said it will build a broad range of predictive analytics offerings using Microsoft Azure Machine Learning to help enterprises adopt and use advanced analytic tools and algorithms.

Infosys will accelerate its efforts to design frameworks, tools and accelerators to improve end user productivity for the digital workforce on Microsoft cloud platforms. These platforms, including Microsoft Office 365 and Microsoft Dynamics CRM Online, complement Azure solutions, it added.

Meanwhile, the firms will jointly develop IT solutions that combine Huawei's cloud infrastructure and service expertise from Infosys. These solutions will target enterprise customers looking to modernise their operations by leveraging cloud infrastructure.

Both parties will build reference architectures and standardised solutions for big data platforms, on Huawei hardware infrastructure, for joint go-to-market efforts.

Infosys' Cloud Ecosystem Hub, a solution that helps firms build and manage a unified hybrid cloud environment, will be integrated with Hitachi's Unified Compute Platform (UCP) to reduce time-to-market and simplify complex migrations. The combination will enable enterprises to move to a 100 per cent virtualised environment with management, orchestration and hypervisor integration, Infosys said.

Govt launches geo-informatics project to help assess horti crops

OUR BUREAU

Bangalore, September 18

The Agriculture Department has recently launched a new project to use geo-spatial applications for the assessment and management of horticultural crops such as onion, potato and mango.

The project called CHAMAN (Coordinated programme on Horticulture Assessment and Management using geo informatics) will be implemented at a cost of ₹13.38 crore for duration

of three years starting from 2014, according to an official statement.

Under the project, the remote sensing technology and sample survey techniques will be used for production forecasting of major horticultural crops in select districts.

Other components include geospatial applications for horticultural development and management planning (site suitability, post-harvest infras-

tructure, crop intensification, GIS database creation, orchard rejuvenation, aqua-horticulture). Besides, detailed scientific field level studies will be conducted for developing technology for crop identification, yield modelling and disease assessment.

Fruits such as banana, mango, citrus and vegetables such as potato, tomato, onion and chilli will be covered under the project.

Give New Govt a Chance in Gas Price Revision Case: SC

Panel of secretaries said to be in favour of honouring contracts with producers

Samanwaya Rautray & Rajeev Jayaswal

New Delhi: The government has told the Supreme Court that it would take a call on the contentious issue of gas price revision after a committee of secretaries examining the matter submits a report by the end of this month, prompting the court to defer hearing three PILs on it till November 14, 2014.

The committee is expected to submit its recommendations by September 30, 2014, Solicitor General Ranjit Kumar told the court. "We will know in three weeks (of any decision to hike or not hike)," he said. Government sources aware of the deliberations of the committee of secretaries said that the panel is in favour of honouring contracts between the government and oil and gas producers in letter and spirit, within the ambit of the Supreme Court's 2010 judgement, which says the government is the sole owner of gas.



Petroleum ministry sources said the broad contours of the report by the committee of secretaries was already known and the ministry would shortly send the gas price issue to the Cabinet for which a cabinet note was being prepared.

The court told the petitioners that the new government must be given a chance to apply its mind to the matter.

The court is hearing petitions challenging the erstwhile UPA government's decision to adopt a new pricing formula that would double the price of gas to an estimated \$8.4 per unit. The petitioners have also sought cancellation of the exploration agreement between RIL and the government and award the KG-D6 block to a state-owned entity.

The bench, comprising Justices Anil R Dave, Jasti Chelameswar and Kurian Joseph, exhorted former MP Gurudas Dasgupta and the other PIL petitioners to have faith in the "new popularly-elected government" and not raise allegations before giving the new government a chance.

"You seem to have no confidence in a popularly-elected government. If the government does something, it will be questioned in Parliament. Why should we determine whether a price hike is justified or not?"

"A new government has come. How can you conclude that it is inefficient, corrupt or collusive even before giving it a chance? You have to repose faith in the government. Should we be sitting in judgement unless it is a complete fraud?" Justice Dave again asked.

The bench shrugged off a demand by activist lawyer Prashant Bhushan, appearing for NGO Common Cause, for urgent court intervention to prevent the government from effecting any further price increase for already developed fields. RIL lawyer Harish Salve strongly resisted any such stay, on the ground that none of the gas supplied goes to the common man. "Most of it goes into manufacturing. Any price hike will also apply to PSUs," he said.

Will support India's UNSC bid, says China

Provided the border dispute is resolved amicably

BS REPORTER

New Delhi, 18 September

China has said it will support India's bid for permanent membership of the United Nations (UN) Security Council, provided the sides resolve their border dispute in an amicable manner.

"We will support India's seat in the UN Security Council. But neighbours might encounter problems. There has to be a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution to the border issues. I am confident China and India have the wisdom to embark on good neighbourly relations," Chinese President Xi Jinping said, while addressing an event organised by the Indian Council of World Affairs here on Thursday.

Xi, on a three-day visit to India, said, "We have taken notice of the observation that a grown-up China will be threat to many. A grown-up China will be firmly committed to a peaceful growth...Our goal is to become a modest and humble nation."

Even as reports of more Chinese troops entering Chumar village near the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh poured in, Xi said China believed in "living in harmony"



(From left) President Pranab Mukherjee with Chinese President Xi Jinping, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and China's First Lady Peng Liyuan, in New Delhi on Thursday

PHOTO: PTI

with its neighbours.

"Many Indian friends take great interest in China's development and wish China even more progress. The world has benefited from China's development...I am convinced South Asia, a sub-continent that holds infinite potential, will become a new pole of growth in Asia and beyond. A South Asia that enjoys peace, stability and prosperity serves the interest of the countries and people in the region and of China, too," he said.

On the increasing trade between China and India, he urged India to expedite talks for

a regional comprehensive economic partnership.

Quoting verses from Rabindranath Tagore's *Gitanjali*, as well as works by early Chinese travellers, he said China had always believed in spreading peace and harmony. He added China was, in the past, looked upon as a great power that gave the world porcelain, tea and silk.

Xi highlighted the fact that once, during a visit to China, Tagore had said he felt at home in that country, adding the poet and philosopher had developed a long-term relationship with Chinese culture.

Japan may pip China in high-speed rail race

ANUSHA SONI

New Delhi, 18 September

Superior technology and their experience in safety and signalling give Japanese firms an edge over the Chinese, who might have pitched strongly to become the technology partner for the coming ₹63,000-crore high-speed rail project between Mumbai and Ahmedabad, according to officials in the railway ministry.

Despite being cheaper, the Chinese technology is not the preferred option. Senior railway officials say besides technology, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is likely to fund the high-speed project. Officials said there was no formal movement on Chinese financing for the Mumbai-Ahmedabad corridor though China could look at funding future corridors.

A feasibility study is being undertaken by JICA, likely to conclude early next year. Besides, a business development study by French Railways (SNCF) is underway. Key locomotive manufacturers like Alstom and Bombardier have also shown interest for supplying locomotives. JICA has been financing key railway projects like the Western arm of the dedicated freight corridor, while two Chinese companies — CSR Sifang and CNR — are strong contenders for ₹3,000 crore worth locomotive projects in Madhepura and Marhowra.

"The Japanese have mastered the art of tunneling with about 74 per cent of its network in the hilly terrain. They are exemplary in signaling, control, rolling stock and in their safety record. As for the Chinese, there could be knowledge sharing on project implementation since they have created one of the largest high-speed network within few years," said a senior

KEY AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

Pacts signed between India & China on Thursday include:

Training in heavy haul transportation:

A training programme has been finalised for 100 persons

Increasing speed on existing lines:

Chennai-Bangalore-Mysore section has been identified for increasing speed to 160 kmph with cooperation from China

Redevelopment of railway stations:

Chinese side will conduct pre-feasibility of two stations with their financing and prepare a report indicating further course of cooperation

Cooperation in high-speed rail:

Chinese side will conduct project feasibility study and prepare a detailed report with their financing of a section to be advised by Indian Railways

Setting up of Railway university:

Chinese experience of rail universities will be used to develop a railway university here

railway official, who did not want to be named.

Recently, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe had pitched for a Shinkansen style high-speed train system in India.

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PM to launch Swachha Bharat Yojna on Oct 2

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch his pet project of cleaning up the country, the Swachha Bharat Yojna, on Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary on October 2. The urban development ministry has initiated efforts for the cleanliness drive to begin from Delhi.



The first stage will begin with keeping homes clean, followed by keeping neighbourhoods clean and then by keeping govt offices clean

The preparatory drive will begin from September 25, coinciding with the birth anniversary of late Jan Sangh leader Deen Dayal Upadhyay, where the first stage will begin with keeping homes clean, followed by keeping neighbourhoods clean and then by keeping government office premises clean.

The urban development minister met with about 60 officials from various government departments including the New Delhi Municipal Council and other bodies who will be involved in the process.

The Delhi government will consider whether existing penal provisions to discourage people from dirtying the surroundings are good enough to support the renewed cleanliness drive. According to government sources, the Delhi government could come up with suitable changes to the penal provisions if there is a need for it.

The scheme will also include taking a cleanliness pledge for a year that could help motivate citizens to keep to their promise.

Education key in proposed goals for post-MDG period

UNGA Plans 16 Targets For 2015-30

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New Delhi: Acknowledging that quality education is key to sustainable development, a new set of goals for the post-Millennium Development Goals (MDG) period has been proposed at the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Thursday.

Started in 2000, the MDG period expires in 2015. While many success stories have been scripted, majority of the goals fell short of expectation under the MDG. Previous United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Education for All Global Monitoring Report cited how almost 1 billion people are still likely to be extremely poor in 2015 and 57.8 million children are still out of primary school.

Therefore, the need to provide quality education to the greatest number of people is woven through all the new goals that will be effective from 2015 to 2030. United Nations secretary general Ban Ki-moon said: "Education is a fundamental right and the basis for progress in every country. Parents need information about health and nutrition if they are to give their children the start in life they deserve. Prosperous countries depend on skilled and educated work-

1 BN MAY REMAIN POOR IN 2015

UN's post-MDG plans

Poverty reduction | Almost 1 billion people are still likely to be extremely poor in 2015

Nutrition improvement | One in four children under age of 5 suffers from moderate or severe stunting, a sign of chronic malnutrition, underlying cause in more than a third of child deaths globally

Health gains | Pneumonia is largest cause of child deaths, accounting for 18% of total worldwide

Gender equality and empowerment | As many as 3.4 m births occur before girls reach age 17 in sub-Saharan Africa and South and West Asia, affecting one in seven young women

Missed targets of MDG

► Goal of getting all children in school by 2015 has been missed

► Globally, 57.8m children are out of primary school

► India, with 1.4 million children, ranks among top five nations with kids aged six to 11 out of school

► India will take at least another 56 years to achieve female youth literacy

► In India, even after completing four years of school, 90% of children from poorer households remain illiterate

ers. The challenges of conquering poverty, combating climate change and achieving truly sustainable development in the coming decades compel us to work together. With partnership, leadership and wise investments in education, we can transform individual lives, national economies and our world."

Education will be central to the success of the international targets that will replace the MDG. That's the key point of a new booklet released during the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Produced by UNESCO's Education for All Global Monitoring Report, the booklet states that new global development targets after 2015 should be based on a holistic approach to sustainable development.

It has set 16 goals starting with poverty reduction,

which indicates that education is critical to escape chronic poverty. It stated that one year of education is associated with a 10% increase in wages. Other goals include nutrition improvement with the help of education. If all women had a secondary education, they would know the nutrients that children need, the hygiene rules they should follow and they would have a stronger voice in the home to ensure proper care. Improved nutrition would save more than 12 million children from being stunted — a sign of early childhood malnutrition.

"The evidence is unequivocal: education saves lives and transforms lives, it is the bedrock of sustainability," says UNESCO director general Irina Bokova, "This is why we must work together across all development areas to make it a universal right."

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Ed

Uneven recovery

If there is one clear signal that comes out of the latest set of economic data released on inflation, industrial growth and trade, it is this: the recovery process is on but it is uneven and still in first gear. Wholesale price inflation was down at a five-year low of 3.7 per cent in August but retail price inflation, which is the benchmark for the Reserve Bank of India, is still sticky at 7.8 per cent. Industrial output growth was almost flat at 0.5 per cent in July after a 3.9 per cent rise in June, while export growth fell to a five-month low of 2.35 per cent in August. The see-saw in industrial output, especially of consumer durables and capital goods, clearly shows that the recovery is tentative as yet. Of course, the crucial automobiles sector is beginning to show firm signs of a turnaround with passenger car manufacturers seeing a return of demand. Maruti's Chairman R.C. Bhargava is on record as predicting at least 5 per cent growth for the industry this fiscal and a 10 per cent growth for his own company. The positive impulses from the auto industry are encouraging because it can have a cascading impact on downstream industries such as ancillaries that host thousands of jobs. Yet, it is worrying that the capital goods industry is still not seeing a viable change in its fortunes. If anything, this indicates that companies are still not willing to commit investment in fresh capacities.

This fact is also borne out by the poor credit offtake from banks. Despite the RBI's efforts to free up funds through the two cuts made in statutory liquidity ratio over the last few months, banks have not seen any increase in lending, which is something that RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan alluded to a few weeks ago. What lends confidence are two factors — the favourable show by the monsoon in the later half and the downtrend in global commodity prices, notably crude oil. The latter is bound to have a salutary impact on inflation and the fiscal deficit; diesel subsidy, for instance, has already been wiped out. With the next monetary policy announcement of the RBI close at hand, pressure is rising on the central bank to review its hawkish stance now that retail inflation is close to its benchmark of 8 per cent by January 2015. Dr. Rajan, of course does not seem to be in the mood to oblige, going by his remarks a couple of days ago, and rightly so. There is little point in tinkering with rates unless the downtrend in inflation is clearly established, which is not the case now. The approaching festival season will be crucial for industrial growth as purchases of durables and automobiles generally picks up during this period. That may well determine the robustness of the ongoing economic recovery.