

# BJYM

## *Magazine*

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### *Sushasan* under Modi Sarkar







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भारत 2023 INDIA

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# Message from the BJYM President



Namaskar!

I hope the December edition of the BJYM Magazine finds you in good health. Prime Minister Modi ji instituted 25th December as the 'Good Governance Day' to mark the birth anniversary of late Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji.

Friends, Bharatiya Janata Party derives its inspiration from the history and polity of India. India has a rich history of republics, kingdoms and empires spanning millennia. India has pioneered systems of panchayats, municipal governance, and management of large states and statecraft. Be it the meticulously planned towns of Sindhu-Saraswati Civilisation or the development of roads, agriculture, and social defence through the suppression of crimes of the Mauryan period. The efficient administrative system or water management of the Vijayanagara Empire, or hospitals and welfare system of the Chola period, good governance has been the core of Indian Polity.

Unfortunately, even after independence, India suffered from poor governance. Generations of Indians have lived difficult lives without access to good roads, clean water, electricity, and quality education. Most of the northeast was not connected with railways, and most villages of India lacked access to all-weather roads. The human cost of such neglect and failure of governments of dynastic parties is incalculable.

Atal ji re-established good governance as the core ideal of the government. And Prime Minister Modi has continued and strengthened this tradition of Sushasan since 2014. There is a remarkable improvement in India's administrative and governance system driven by transparency, accountability and accessibility. Under him, the revolutionary task of digitisation of governance is underway.

We have removed thousands of redundant laws, thus streamlining the administrative work and removing obstacles for businesses and common people. The ease of doing business and living has consistently improved in the last eight years due to an unwavering focus on infrastructure, urban planning and an anti-corruption drive. The widespread irregularities and corruption in the delivery of welfare schemes are a thing of the past.

Prime Minister Modi has brought good governance and service delivery to the centre of the Indian political discourse. People, even at the grassroots, today realise the importance of good governance. Good governance has become a non-negotiable in Indian politics. It has become a core issue around which people vote in elections.

Friends, this edition of the BJYM magazine contains articles written by our karyakartas and young supporters on how Modi ji has redefined governance. I hope it will enrichen your knowledge about the transformation underway as we enter the Amrit Kaal of Bharat. I also extend my warm wishes on the occasion of Christmas to those who are celebrating it. May we continue to serve the people of India with utmost dedication.

Vande Mataram!

**Tejasvi Surya**  
**National President**  
**Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha**



# Editorial

Good Governance is the cornerstone of the Modi government. As India enters Amrit Kaal, we witness a remarkable transformation in the compact between people and the government. Under PM Modi, India is moving away from the politics of patronage towards the politics of development. And good governance is at the heart of this transformation. One of India's main challenges in implementing government policies has been the local power structures mediated through the patronage politics of caste and identity. It is where the Modi government has acted as a disruptor par excellence.

The unprecedented delivery of public goods and services like housing, electricity or gas cylinders, expansion of the social safety nets and health services, apart from financial inclusion programmes like Mudra and Jan Dhan Yojna through the use of technology like Aadhaar and DBT ensured that the first time, beneficiaries and the poor got the benefits they were entitled too.

Prime Minister Modi has undermined the old patronage model of politics where a person would benefit only if her caste supported the party in power, which created a 'politics of unfreedom' for the socially and economically weaker castes. The universal and direct provision of public goods and the public provision of private goods have caused significant disruption on the ground, transforming the relationship between the state and the people.

The unprecedented digitisation of the government has cut through the red tape and made life easier for the middle class. It's no longer just the government at the doorstep, but it's a 24\*7 government presence on the mobile phone. The focus on urban infrastructure and planning, revamping the administration of higher education, new tax regimes like GST, simpler passport services or issuing various certificates have made life easier for the common person. Endless queues at government offices have become a thing of the past.

Today, India is building infrastructure like nowhere else, be it roadways, waterways, railways or airports. It has become possible due to the deep governance and administrative reforms undertaken in the last eight years, which have removed the legal ambiguities and bureaucratic hurdles and improved the ease of business.

This edition of the BJYM Magazine focuses on the theme of good governance to mark the 'Good Governance Day' celebrated on the birth anniversary of late Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji on 25th December. We hope that it will be an engaging and informative read for everyone.



# Sushasan: Core Philosophy Driving Transformation under PM Modi



India is undergoing unprecedented transformation under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi ji. Through the three pillars of “Seva, Sushasan and Antodaya – service, good governance and uplifting the most marginalised”, PM Modi has sought to bring about transparency, responsibility, accountability, and honesty in provisioning good governance to the citizens of our country.

## **Sushasan – Transparency, Accountability**

In the past, the funds allocated by the Central Government meant for various welfare schemes, especially grant in cash, would be sent to the respective state governments, which would then

send it further down to the districts, where from it would reach the subdivisions and development blocks, panchayat, municipality etc.

Because there were multiple layers through which the funds traversed, it paved way for middle-men to crop up, who demanded their 'share of cut' before the fund was sent further down, eventually leading to the final recipient – a citizen in need, being left with only a fraction of the funds actually meant for them. This had given raise to such a level of corruption that the then Prime Minister of our nation had to confess in public that “only 15paise from every ₹1 sent for the welfare of people reaches them”.

It was a plainly stated and acknowledged

fact, and what it showed was the sheer helplessness of the person at the helm of our nation. For me, this stands out as a prime example of everything that was wrong with the governance system.

In contrast, instead of complaining about the existing system and its inherent flaws, one of the very first actions that Narendra Modi ji undertook after assuming the office of the Prime Minister was to change the system fundamentally, and eradicated all the loopholes that made the system inefficient, made the system transparent and the government responsible for ensuring welfare for all.

## **Ensuring Financial Inclusion – JAM Trinity**

Not many may realise this, but it was





## ARTICLE

Modi ji's vision of "Jan Dhan Account" and "Currency Note Ban", that encouraged every citizen to open up their bank accounts. This contributed immensely towards the financial inclusion of those sections of citizens, who had otherwise been left out of the system so far. Using the JAM trinity of "Jandhan", "Aadhar" and "Mobile technology", Modi ji transformed the way government provided service, ensured empowerment and financial inclusion of every section of the society.

Initiatives like seeding of Aadhar data with the bank accounts, leading to Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), development of the United Payments Interface (UPI) and the development of digital payments in mere 8-years' time is nothing short of a financial miracle. The hallmark of Modi government has been that each and every action of the government is preceded by developing a vision, holistic planning, allocating resources, and appointing the right agency/individual for implementation of the plan to realize the vision.

Today, every Indian takes pride in the

fact that under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji, the citizens are getting 100 percent of their share of welfare measures directly deposited in their accounts, with no middlemen involved. As of date, almost 10,000 services of the Central, State and local self-government have become available online. From scholarships, payments to farmers, government assistance, everything is transferred directly to the bank account of individual citizens.

Imagine the scale of financial inclusion and empowerment that people have been made a part of, today India is the world's leading nation in terms of digital economy. In the year 2021, 40 percent of all real-time digital financial transactions across the world happened in India, worth over ₹ 20,000 crore every day, and the beginning of all this can be traced back to PM Modi ensuring every citizen had a Jan Dhan Account opened up.

That is what sushasan is all about.

### Infrastructure Development

One of the key impediments towards the development of our nation was lack of world class infrastructure. Despite India achieving high growths through the decades of 1990s and early 2000s, the rate of infrastructural growth was abysmal.

In 2013-14 when the UPA government was in power, only 12km of highway was being constructed in a day, today it has reached an average of 37kms per day. A staggering 300 percent rise in mere eight years.

Same is the story of growth in every sphere of infrastructure be it rural roads, railways, airport, or ports. Through various initiatives like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, Inland Waterways, Dry/land ports, UDAN, Parvat Mala, and now PM Gati Shakti thereby ensuring seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services from one mode of transport to another.

Thus facilitating the last mile connectivity of infrastructure and also reduce travel time for people. All these together are set to revolutionize travel



Image credit: Suwin Puengsamrong

and transportation in our nation.

### **Manufacturing Revolution and Export Promotion**

In 2014, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the reins of our nation, India had been tagged as one of the so-called “Fragile Five” nations alongside Indonesia, Brazil, Turkey, and South Africa, that were headed for 'economic collapse'. In 2022, India has emerged as the fastest growing economy among the large economies in the world. Along with ensuring the benefits of welfare measures reaching every citizen, and the development of world class infrastructure, the Central Government under PM Modi has worked tirelessly to turn India, into an international manufacturing and exports hub. Beginning with the reduction in Corporate Tax rates, ensuring investment policy reforms, reduction in compliance burden through improved 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking today India has become the leading nation to attract investment in the manufacturing sector.

India's 'Ease of Doing Business' rank has improved dramatically from 142 in 2013-14 to 63 in 2020-21 (out of 190 economies). India's 'Trade Facilitation Ranking' has seen a massive rise from 146th in 2018 to 68th in 2021, and in terms of 'World Competitiveness Ranking' India today stands at 37th (out of 63-nations) as compared to 43rd a year before.

Thanks to the forward thinking policies

of our government under PM Modi, today India has emerged as a leading exporter of goods and services, with total exports reaching nearly US\$ 670 billion or over ₹50 Lakh Crores for the first time in 2021-22.

Not many may realise this, but today India is exporting over US\$75 million or ₹580 crore worth of goods and services every hour.

Thanks to these policies India's overall exports in April-September 2022 grew by an estimated 21.03 per cent to \$382.31 billion, over the same period last year.

The share of exports of goods and services in GDP has increased from 18.8 per cent in 2017-18 to 21.4 per cent in 2021-22, i.e. from Rs 32,11,521 crore to Rs 50,63,885 crore.

This is happening because of the visionary leadership of Modi ji, who introduced various programs like Skill India, Digital India, Make in India, Vocal for Local, Performance Linked Incentives (PLI) and so many other such programs, which has made India hands down the most important investment and manufacturing destinations in the world.

More importantly, all these have helped instil a sense of confidence and attitude of “Yes! We can do it” in every citizen of our nation.

### **Antodaya - Reaching the Last Person – Hallmark of a Sushasan**

At the end of the day, there is only one

measure of success when it comes to the various governance initiatives is this – how do these measures translate in real terms, often measured in terms of how it benefits the most marginalised sections of the society?

In the last two years our world has faced unprecedented and terrifying health, and socio-economic scenario due to the COVID Pandemic, and the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Nations across the world have suffered untold of miseries due to the fall out of these two major phenomenon. Amidst all this, India has emerged as the only bright spark and a ray of hope for the entire world.

Today, India is the only country that has provided over 220 crore+ Free Vaccines, to its citizens, and supplied vaccines to numerous other countries. India has reached economic support to Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Bangladesh, and is rescuing Sri Lanka from its financial crisis. India has sent humanitarian aid to war torn countries like Afghanistan and Ukraine, and is working towards finding a peaceful resolution between Russia and Ukraine.

Despite the crisis engulfing the entire world, it is to the credit of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently acknowledged “despite COVID, India saw 'extreme poverty' was maintained below 1% in India due to Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKY)”.

Imagine, our government was able to bring down 'extreme poverty' at a time of unparalleled global crisis.

The scale at which our government worked is unprecedented in human history, and this the “Sushasan” through which PM Modi ji is transforming our nation.



Image credit: Xtock Images

**Author: Raju Bista,**  
MP Darjeeling and National  
General Secretary, BJYM.  
He is also a National Spokesperson of BJP



# How PM Modi's JAM Trinity is Impacting Real Lives

In 2014, when the campaign slogan of BJP was "maximum governance, minimum government" – an idea that promised people ease of living and doing business, socio-economic reforms, and transparency.

PM Narendra Modi led the election campaign with the promise of good governance and development. PM Modi's brilliant track record in efficient governance as the Chief Minister of Gujarat and his administrative experiences and skills helped the BJP deliver a winning campaign.

True to his promise, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, after assuming office in 2014, has remained firm in his resolve to keep strengthening good governance that is "pro-people" and with a "citizen-first" approach. A key step in this direction

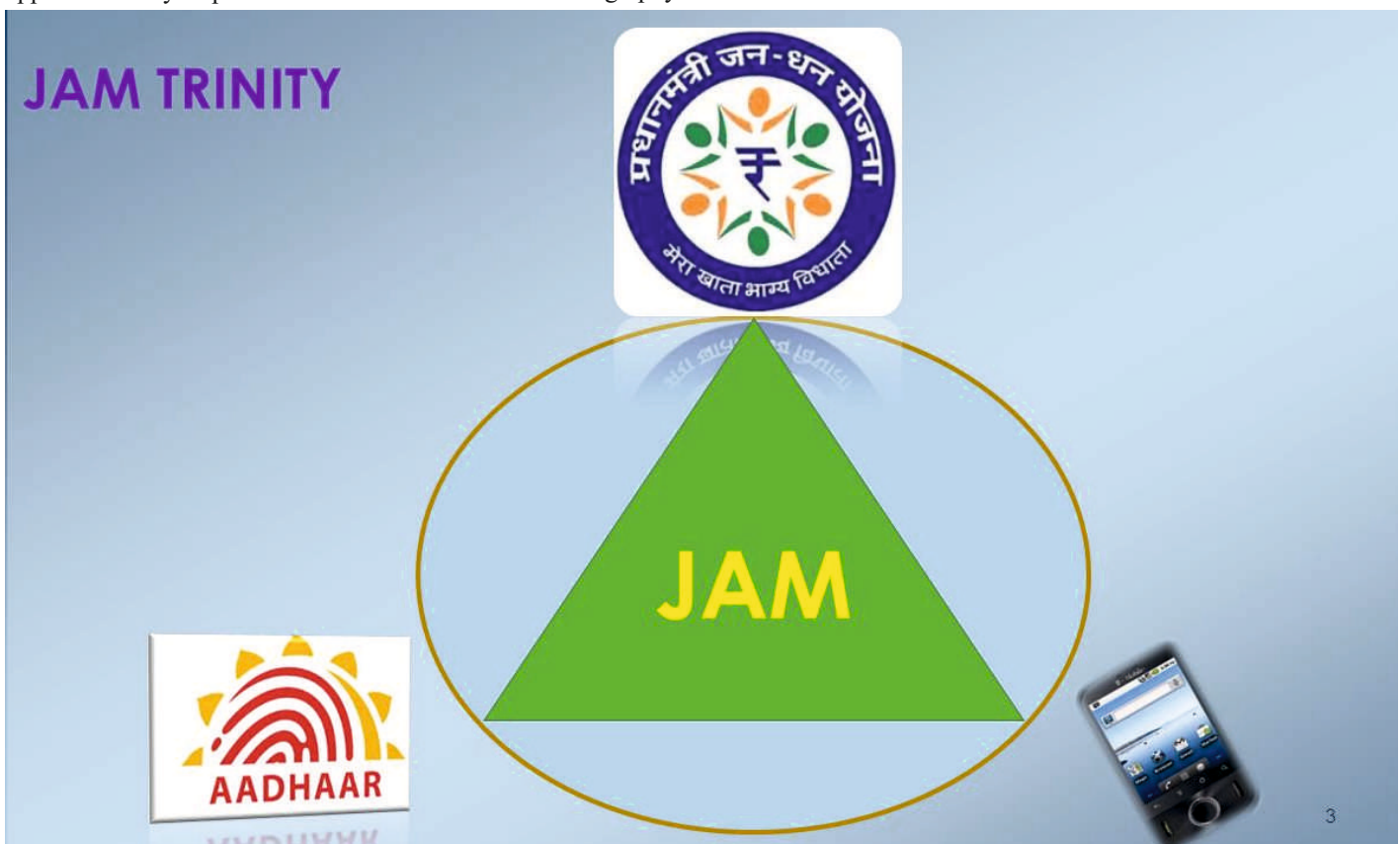
was envisioning and implementing the JAM - Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile trinity to improve the delivery of government benefits to citizens. The JAM trinity seamlessly integrates three primary components - Bank account, Aadhar number, and Mobile number to make governance transparent, accountable and hassle-free.

Under the JAM trinity plan, India has witnessed a paradigm shift in the public service delivery system and the implementation of government schemes. Leveraging the power of technology, the Modi Government focussed on strengthening the DBT system for last-mile delivery of welfare schemes in India.

Before 2014, most benefit transfers were made through physical distribution

channels, which suffered from heavy leakages through middlemen and political interference. During those days, availing of government benefits meant people had to grease the palms of clerks and be on the good books of politicians but remained deprived of welfare benefits. The system was so corrupt that even former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, in his honest assessment of the nation's delivery system, said that 'out of every one rupee, only 15 paisa reaches the beneficiary'.

During the Coronavirus pandemic, the JAM trinity proved to be a game-changer and helped reach out to the citizens living in the farthest corners of the country. Today India's welfare delivery system, one of the largest and most efficient systems, is winning praise





across the globe.

To realize the vision of PM Modi's JAM trinity plan, the government started its homework way back in 2014 by launching one of the biggest financial inclusion initiatives in the world – the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY). The sole mandate of PMJDY was to open bank accounts for every adult Indian in an affordable manner. Today, 100% of households in India are connected to the banking system.

Next, by integrating bank accounts with the Aadhar system and mobile numbers, the government has delivered a robust system wherein people receive benefits from various government schemes directly into their accounts.

Today, farmers receive their cash subsidies directly in their bank accounts; mothers, students, and senior citizens do not have to run pillar-to-post to avail of welfare benefits provided by the Government.

Using technology, the government has effectively removed the 'middlemen' from the welfare delivery system and eliminated leakages and scope for any bias or discretionary actions in the delivery of Government welfare benefits. Today, Indian citizens, irrespective of caste, creed, or religion, have access to basic government support without getting beholden to any political party or leader.

The success of the JAM trinity plan has endeared PM Modi to the people at the grassroots. People in the farthest and most remote corners have witnessed the visible impact and experienced the changes the Modi government brought in their lifetime.

The positivity with which PM Modi works has also been acknowledged and appreciated by global leaders and nations, especially India's effective handling of the COVID-19 pandemic. While many nations had problems imposing COVID restrictions imposed



by the Government, PM Modi involved and supported communities and sought to seek the support of the people. The guidelines and rules were overwhelmingly supported and followed by 140 crore Indians.

Under PM Modi, the government sought technology intervention to develop effective vaccination and COVID management systems. Without a hitch, the Government of India implemented the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) to distribute free rice and grains to the poor during the pandemic in 2020. The scheme is continuing to this day across the nation. Besides feeding and vaccinating its citizens, India supported and extended help to neighbouring countries and nations worldwide.

Despite the stiff challenge, India remained resilient and managed an effective response and emerged as a global role model. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarkable leadership and consistent efforts by the government since 2014 to augment India's healthcare capacity helped the country fight the pandemic.

To understand how PM Narendra Modi and his policies have touched the lives of ordinary people, one needs to look around and speak to people in their vicinity, especially from the rural regions.

A simple conversation with senior citizens, women, farmers, or other beneficiaries will tell you the story of a change. Be it the electricity connection, gas cylinder, bank accounts, ration, Ayushman Bharat, housing schemes, the Swachh Bharat toilet, or the farmer subsidies, the Modi Government, without a doubt, has touched the lives of every Indian household and perhaps every individual in some way or other.

With his constant emphasis on social justice, equality, and respect, PM Narendra Modi has become the most vocal and strong champion of the poor and the weak. His government's policies and welfare schemes extensively support the underprivileged and the marginalized.

**Author: Vaibhav Singh,**  
National General Secretary of BJYM and in-charge of BJYM Delhi and BJYM Bihar



# Good Governance and Peerless Leadership of Prime Minister Modi

A good exercise for anyone who wishes to objectively gauge the success of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership and governance track record would be to scan top headlines from countries across the world cursorily. Even as PM Modi was campaigning in Gujarat, giving an account of his work for over 22 years, and people clamoured to hear him speak, there were unprecedented protests in China seeking the end of the zero-Covid policy and accountability from the Chinese leadership. In Iran, women took to the streets against gender and social oppression by the morality police and

won.

In the USA, massive job cuts in the high-tech industry, fears of a looming recession dominate the narrative and a rising anxiety against a "weak" leadership. Elsewhere, the war between Russia and Ukraine continues to fatigue the already frayed nerves of most European countries. England is almost playing a game of musical chairs for its top position, even as inflation is out of hand. Several European nations are facing an energy crisis, coupled with prospects of economic slowdown and large-scale people discontent. Closer home, Pakistan to Sri Lanka, there is

economic, social and political chaos.

In such an uncertain world, India witnesses a rising GDP growth rate and record high levels of tax collections. The Central government is leading the country's transformation with record investments and immaculate implementation of infrastructure projects – ports, airports, railways, roads, and power. The armed forces have been brought to pace and speed after a lost decade under a rudderless UPA regime – we have more weapons being procured, more force modernization underway and better accountability to concerns of the forces – those serving, retired and their



Image credit: Martin Sylvest





families.

Beyond hard infrastructure, the Modi government is improving the lives and prospects of people with humungous and sustained skill development programs with a focus on pragmatic livelihood creation, creating a better social insurance blanket for education and healthcare. Start-ups are growing, and the enterprising nature of the people, especially the youth, is being unleashed to create massive wealth. The ease of doing business and investing continues improving on the one hand, and the ease of living on the other. Masses have resolved early but strongly to re-elect PM Modi for a third term. The victory of 2024 will likely be bigger than 2014 and 2019.

But such good results don't happen easily. Its fountainhead is the top leadership's vision, clarity of purpose and focus. PM Modi has not only steered India better than almost any other country through the biggest crisis humanity has faced in a century – the Coronavirus Pandemic – but, while doing so, ensured that he strengthens

people's trust in democracy.

The free distribution of rations for nearly four out of five Indians, on the scale, volume and time stretch, is a marvel of a feat. Only the most entitled among us would fail to appreciate the importance of a first bank account, first free house from the government, first toilet at home, first direct cash transfer of a benefit, zero pilferage in welfare schemes, first time having a house with electricity, with a health insurance umbrella for the entire family.

India has had a history of vexatious unresolved issues that have consumed its emotional energies since its Independence. But the Modi government showcased unprecedented courage to make good the party's historical promises like the Ram Janmabhumi temple at Ayodhya, the removal of an unfair special status for Jammu & Kashmir, and the banning of triple talaq. PM Modi's leadership is thus about managing past issues and leading the country during unprecedented crises, like Covid, and keeping a balance between issues and concerns – ensuring

development, welfare, and support, without losing focus on culture, national pride and ensuring reforms.

The decision to remove thousands of outdated laws, end the culture of VIPs raging around with red lights beacons, ensuring no VIP overstays in a bungalow, among others, have ended the age-old misuse of power. Even a simple decision to let people self-attest documents instead of seeking an official's attestation further empowered citizens. The biggest issues during past regimes – terrorist attacks, corruption, the indifference of the powerful to citizens' issues and concerns, policy paralysis, and inaccessible politicians – are all but forgotten.

The leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has not only made India safer and more prosperous but has also given all Indians hope and pride. As India enters Amrit Kaal, the bond between the people and the leadership of PM Modi will propel India into a better future for all.

**Author: P. M. Sai Prasad,  
National Treasurer, BJYM and  
in-charge of BJYM Assam**





# India: Emerging Land of Opportunities under Good Governance of PM Modi

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi is one of the most respected politicians globally, a man who has perpetually demonstrated his ability to understand exactly how to make a 'connect' to the hearts and minds of the voters of India. Ever since Prime Minister Narendra Modi took charge in May 2014, his first key mantra has been "Maximum Governance, Minimum Government".

Narendra Modi successfully completed two decades in public office last year. No other modern Indian politician has achieved such a remarkable milestone. Under his leadership, India has been relentlessly strengthening its position on the global stage and the Indian economy has also shown sustainable & rapid growth amid the global financial crisis. India's growth story is outshining the rest of the world, along with an assertive role and drives to transform the nation into one of the world's great powers.

Apart from the massive social,

infrastructural, and industrial growth Modi was credited with bringing to Gujarat as Chief Minister, Modi as Prime Minister made a historic decision aimed to connect every household of the nation to the banking system through one of the largest financial inclusion in the history of India. Subsidies now go directly to the bank accounts of the poor or beneficiaries, removing corruption. India has also witnessed revolutionary changes under Modi, from the repeal of long-due Articles 370 & 35A giving special status to Jammu & Kashmir to banning Triple Talaq, solving the problem of marriage and women's rights of millions of Muslim women. Modi's governance reforms have deep social impact.

One thing, India is aware of is that Modi is not corrupt like most of the politicians of all political parties across the nation. This fact can be ascertained only by looking at the condition of his brothers and family members & imagining the fate of other politicians and their

families. Modi has shown that he is courageous enough to make even unpopular decisions for the sake of the future of this nation like demonetization & GST. He brought basic social reforms by introducing Ujjawala Scheme for Subsidized gas cylinders for more than 30 million women & Ayushman Bharat Scheme, a vital scheme for the common people of India for getting free & standard medical treatment. India is also witnessing a new dawn in its space journey as ISRO not only creating new milestones but also encouraging private players to be an active part in it, like the launch of Vikram S by Skyroot.

Modi has always focused on the need to expand cooperative and competitive federalism to achieve all-around growth for the states and as a nation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been a man who always puts India first. He is the one who made the world look at India from a new perspective, responsible for billions of foreign investments, made us believe that we could be a global





'manufacturing hub' through his Make in India initiative, vowed to clean India & create awareness among every Indian.

There are so many transformational changes happening in India like the Railway Ministry listening to the smallest problems of the common people, evacuation exercises from foreign soils by the Foreign Ministry, PM continuously encouraging young people to be innovators, PM promoting vocal for local initiatives, National security being given topmost priority like never before, Lesser attacks on Army personnel, especially in Naxal areas & Reduced terrorist attacks.

Under Modi's able and visionary governance, India is leading not just in the manufacturing sector but also proving its leadership in service sector activity globally. Modi made the real amalgamation of the North East and its people to mainstream India for the very first time ever since India's independence. North Eastern states are

booming in railway connectivity, new airports, and a huge rise in exports & agricultural output.

One major aspect of Modi's governance is his call for decolonization. He urged everyone to look for the traces of slavery within and around them so that India could completely eliminate the traces of servitude. He also pointed out that because of the colonized mindset; talent in India often gets stuck in the shackles of language. He urged the people of India to be proud of the Indian languages, whether they know them or not. Under Modi's governance, India is advancing from its colonial past and creating a new identity for itself; like removing Saint George's cross from the Indian Navy flag, renaming & redeveloping Rajpath to Kartavya Path, and so on. India is living in its golden era of diplomacy in Modi's decisive and accomplished leadership. India's current G20 presidency is a great example of it. PM Modi said India's G20 presidency

will be inclusive, ambitious, decisive, and action-oriented, noting that the country is taking the charge at a time when the world is grappling with geopolitical tensions, economic slowdown, and rising food and energy prices.

Transparency, accountability, and citizen orientation have become hallmarks of Modi's model of governance. Modi is sincerely & relentlessly working to improve the living standards of the weaker sections of society. Modi knows the pulse of this nation, its dreams, and fears, its needs, and desires because he has traveled with his eyes and ears wide open. Modi is the ideal representative of the young and ambitious Indians who have now put him in office twice at the center. For Modi, there's no alternative to good governance. Prime Minister Modi's vision is- Inclusive growth!

**Author: Amarjeet Verma,**  
Co-in-charge, Policy and Research,  
BJYM Bihar





# Good Governance: The Modi Way



Image credit: REUTERS

**T**he BJP broke all its previous records in the recently held Gujarat assembly elections. The ruling party not just won a record number of 156 seats in the 182-member state assembly but also increased its vote share to 52.5 percent, its highest in the state to date. With this historic victory, the BJP also eclipsed Congress' record for the 1985 elections, when it won 149 seats under the leadership of the late Madhavsingh Solanki, riding on the sympathy wave following the assassination of former prime minister Indira Gandhi.

Even in Himachal Pradesh, where the

party was voted out of power, the difference in the vote share between the winning and the losing side was a mere 0.9 percent. While Congress secured 18,52,504 votes with a 43.90 percent vote share, the BJP received 18,14,530 votes with a 43 percent vote share.

Also equally instructive are the BJP's victories in the Kudhani and Rampur by-polls. While in Kudhani the party trumped the caste arithmetic of the JDU-led mahagathbandhan, registering a victory by a margin of 3,632 votes, in Rampur, a region populated predominantly by the Muslim voters, it is the maiden victory for the party.

What explains this continuing electoral success of the party that not very long ago was ridiculed as 'the cow belt party'? Noted psephologist Pradeep Gupta writes, "Mahatma Gandhi was a pioneer in the art of winning hearts, and now in the twenty-first century, Modi has taken it a notch further. He has practiced human politics. This is the mantra that has helped him win elections for two decades despite a relentless opposition".

The sheer impact of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's human politics can be seen in these numbers: In 2013 BJP had just four Chief Ministers of its own and one Chief Minister of the NDA alliance.



The party had 773 MLAs across the country. In the last 9 years, the numbers have gone up to 11 Chief Ministers on their own and five Chief Ministers of allied parties. The number of BJP MLAs has today risen to 1370 MLAs. These numbers give us a clear idea of how Prime Minister Modi's leadership has helped the party expand its social and geographical foothold across the country.

Since he took power in May 2014, Prime Minister Modi has brought a paradigm shift in every sphere of governance. Policymaking has got a new definition under his leadership. Modi brought innovation and inventiveness into the realm of governance, making it smoother and people-oriented. His undivided focus on good and effective governance reflects itself in the successful execution of schemes like Jan Dhan, Ujjwala, Mudra, and Ayushman Bharat.

There are five broader areas where India's performance over the past eight years has been truly impressive. These include;

1. Social welfare
2. Infrastructure development
3. Digital transformation

#### 4. Financial inclusion

#### 5. Economic growth

On the social welfare front, particularly, the Modi government has done a phenomenal job by making the social welfare infrastructure in the country more robust and effective. A closer look at the numerous welfare measures of the Modi government suggests that the idea of welfare of this government is deeply rooted in the philosophy of Antyodaya. Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay while propounding the idea of Antyodaya said, "the measurement of economic plans and economic growth cannot be done with those who have risen above on the economic ladder but of those who are at the bottom." Unlike previous regimes, this government has shown both, the vision and the determination, to bring out changes in the functioning of the government.

Policies, per se, do not provide ready-made answers to a problem, they need honest execution at various levels to have the desired impact. The greatest difference that Prime Minister Modi has brought in the realm of governance is that today policies are not only being framed on paper but are also being executed on the ground with greater sincerity. It's probably happening for the

first time in the history of independent India that the benefits of social welfare policies are reaching only to the genuine beneficiaries. With less pilferage and honest execution on the part of the government, these schemes are not only producing desired results but also meeting the deadline to achieve a particular target.

To corroborate my argument, let me cite only two examples of major policy moves of the Modi government and how they have fared so far.

- First, the construction of new toilets under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM). In 2015, nearly half of India's population of around 568 million people were forced to face the indignity of defecating in open spaces due to a lack of access to toilets and public awareness. As per a UNICEF report, India alone accounted for 90 percent of the people in South Asia and half of the 1.2 billion people in the world that defecated in the open. By 2019, however, the number of people without access to toilets reduced significantly by an estimated 450 million people. Significantly, within five years of the launch of the Swachh Bharat Mission,



approximately 98 million toilets were constructed across the country.

- Second, the 100 percent electrification under 'Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana - Saubhagya'. In September 2017, the PM launched the Saubhagya Yojana to ensure the electrification of all willing households in the country in rural as well as urban areas. As per the government data, all of India's 597,464 census villages have got electricity now. It's important to note that when Narendra Modi took office in May 2014, there were around 18,452 villages in the country without electricity. Interestingly, the government achieved that target of 100 percent village electrification 12 days ahead of a deadline set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In an electoral democracy like India, it is politically very tempting for the political parties to make tall promises and then retreat from those promises. The Modi government, which is in the ninth year of its power at the centre, has been able to retain the trust of the masses only because it has never made false promises and then it has constantly delivered on the promises it made.

Consider these numbers associated with some of the flagship schemes of the Modi government:

- The Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), a national mission on financial inclusion launched in August 2014, has added over 46 crore new bank accounts under its fold in the last eight years. The deposits under PMJDY have touched a whopping Rs 1.73 lakh crore, with operative accounts as a percentage of the total PMJDY accounts, standing at a healthy 81.2 percent in August 2022.
- The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY), a flagship scheme launched in May 2016 with an

objective to make clean cooking fuel such as LPG available to rural and deprived households, has seen the distribution of 9.6 Crore LPG connections.

- Rs 2.16 lakh Crore has been transferred to eligible farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana. The amounts were transferred directly to the bank accounts of eligible beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer mode, using modern digital technology.
- Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in September 2018, has witnessed 3.23 crores of hospital admissions till May 2022. Under the scheme, which is also India's biggest healthcare insurance scheme, a claim amount of Rs. 36,500 Crore has been disbursed while the treatment worth Rs 21,584 crore has been provided to over 3 crore beneficiaries.
- More than 34.42 crore beneficiaries have received Rs 18.60 lakh crore loan under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) since its launch in April 2015. What is more important is that more than 68 percent of the loan accounts have been sanctioned to women and 22 percent of the loans have been given to new entrepreneurs who had not availed of any loan since the inception of the scheme, the minister added. Beneficiaries belonging to the SC/ST/ OBC category have received 51 percent of total loans sanctioned so far.

'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas, Sabka Vishvaas' is not a mere political slogan, rather, it's the very essence of the foundational values that govern the functioning of the Narendra Modi government. His government is determined to improve the living standard of every citizen of the country

and in doing so it is doggedly working to remove all the handicaps that have ailed this country all these years.

If India is self-assured of its standing in global power politics today it is solely because of the confident and determined leadership of Prime Minister Modi. At a time when the world is faced with several existential issues, the global community is looking toward India with great hope and expectations. India, under Narendra Modi, is all braced up to lead the world through one of its most tumultuous periods. An exceedingly large number of people in India and the world, particularly those who have been the victims of corrupt political practices and unscrupulous policies, see in Narendra Modi the hope of a better future. The world at this moment needs a leader who can rise above narrow political considerations while giving the world renewed hope in humanity.

I find the words of the Late Lata Mangeskar about Narendra Modi most appropriate to conclude this article. "By temperament, Narendra Bhai is not what we conventionally imagine of a politician...His pursuits are different. He has no attachment to power. His goal is larger; to be able to do something for the people of India. His passion lies in the fact that he wants the growth story to be meaningful for every person in our country. In India's history, the name Mahatma Gandhi is etched in golden letters because he turned the entire freedom struggle into a mass movement. He motivated every citizen to think that any action they do would strengthen India's resolve for freedom. In the same spirit, Narendra Bhai is turning India's development journey into a mass movement. He is connecting every citizen of India to this goal."

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# Mission Karmayogi: Enhancing Governance through Capacity Building in Civil Services



## KARMAYOGI BHARAT

National Program for Civil Services  
Capacity Building

शीघ्रमुत्तिष्ठ भद्रं ते नियतं कार्यमाचर ।  
न कालमतिवर्तन्ते महान्तः स्वेषु कर्मसु ॥ ९ ॥

(Rise therefore from thy seat, and be it well with thee to perform the prescribed duties; because it does not become the best of men, to be belated in the discharge of their duties.)

*Mokṣopāyaśāstra, Verse 5.10.9*

The National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB), “Mission Karmayogi” envisioned by the Government, addresses the changing needs and aspirations of the citizen. Anchored by an apex body and headed by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, it is designed to enhance the civil services under a national programme. The programme's core theme is the recognition that a suitable government workforce requires a competency-driven capacity-building approach. The workforce will focus on imparting competencies critical to discharge its roles. This will be achieved through a Competency Framework for Civil Services that will be totally indigenous to India.

### Challenges of Indian Civil Services post partition of India

Public administration in the newly

independent India was marred by severe political and social upheaval. Although the system was able to withstand the pressures arising from the Second World War, the disastrous partition and the eventual division of the administration dealt a severe blow to its functioning and morale. More than half of the ICS officers either resigned or moved to service in Pakistan. At that time, the nation was in great need of administrative expertise, given the migration and violence (Maheshwari, 1984). Perhaps the most important expectation of Indian public administration was its reorientation from a colonial administration to a “citizen” administration. Those who were once subjects, the public, became the new masters. It would be right to say that Indian public administration rose to the challenge and even exceeded many expectations (Maheshwari, 1984). There

was broad-based support for this new “people” administration from across the political class, with national leaders expressing their confidence in the institution.

### What does Mission Karmayogi (National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building) entail?

Mission Karmayogi (National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building) has six pillars—**Policy Framework, Institutional Framework, Competency Framework, Digital Learning Framework, Electronic Human Resource Management System, and the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**. This ambitious effort has long been considered urgent given the need for greater capacity building among public administrators, many of whom have little formal training or qualification in core topics of administration and governance upon





joining the prestigious Indian Civil Services. There has been renewed focus on capacity building for India's civil servants. The central government's Mission Karmayogi program is envisaged as the most comprehensive bureaucratic capacity-building initiative to empower government employees to become more “creative, proactive, professional and technology-enabled.” The focus of such reform is to enhance the administrative capacity and effectiveness of public administration in India. This initiative, announced in 2020, will task the newly formed Capacity Building Commission, comprised of experts from multiple fields, with creating and implementing capacity-building plans. This approach will break silos in capacity building, and democratize knowledge on an equitable basis across civil services. Besides the delivery of training and capacity building, service matters such as confirmation—like the completion of probation, deployment, work allocation, work assignment, and notification of vacancies—will be integrated within the proposed competency framework.

### **The institutional framework of NPSCSB (National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building):**

- 1 Prime Minister's Public Human Resources (HR) Council
- 2 Capacity Building Commission.
- 3 Special Purpose Vehicle for owning and operating the digital assets and the technological platform for online training
- 4 Coordination Unit headed by the Cabinet Secretary

### **The vision of the Programme**

The NPSCSB aims to embark on a learning transformation program that will address the capacity-building issues of the Civil Services through a comprehensive online platform - iGOT Karmayogi. iGOT Karmayogi aims to provide online, face-to-face and blended learning and manage the lifelong learning records of the officials.

Linkages between these two aspects will pave the way to -

- AI-enabled assessment of competency levels
- Competency gaps in an individual

- Data-driven strategic HR decision-making, both leading to Strategic HR management of the Government.

The entire Programme will be managed by a robust Institutional Framework with shared ownership between the Centre and the States. This will be complemented by a Policy Framework that involves -

- Implementable policies
- Aligns government modalities
- Creates positive momentum

Through a robust monitoring and evaluation system of all components at every level, the Programme will create a culture of accountability and transparency, while enabling a clear line of vision between strategy and implementation.

### **The digital platform “iGOT Karmayogi”**

iGOT Karmayogi is an online learning platform being developed as an integral part of the Digital India stack for the capacity building of all government employees. It will provide 'anytime-anywhere-any device' learning to train around 2.0 crores users which were so far unachievable through traditional measures. The platform is envisioned to evolve into a vibrant and world-class marketplace for content modeled on FRACs. Supported by a robust e-learning content industry the content can be curated by individual government ministries or organizations. This can be done either in-house or through knowledge partners. Carefully crafted and vetted content from top-notch institutions, universities, private content providers and individual resources will be made available as training modules.

To transform the Indian civil services capacity-building landscape, a robust digital ecosystem is developed for enabling continuous anytime-anywhere learning to make the officials future ready. A comprehensive online platform



# Mission Karmayogi

**Infrastructure**

(Design, implement, enhance and manage the digital platform and infrastructure)

**Content**

(Create, buy, source internally, curate content and ensure validation of the content on iGOT-Karmayogi)

**Assessments**

(Manage and deliver proctored assessment services)

**Data Analysis**

(Manage governance of telemetry data and create & manage dashboards for viewing at all levels)

**IPR**

(Manage and own the IPR of all assets created on behalf of Government)



to guide civil service officials in their competency-based capacity-building journey by enabling online, face-to-face, and blended learning, facilitating discussions through topical forums, managing career paths, and enabling reliable assessments that credibly signal the competencies of officials.

Karmayogi Bharat shall own, manage, maintain and improve the digital platform, iGOT Karmayogi, on behalf of the Government for the implementation of the National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) -

Mission Karmayogi. Based on global transformative practices, iGOT Karmayogi will be adopting the Watch-Think-Do-Explore- Test model.

**The Future Ahead**

Mission Karmayogi aims to prepare Indian civil servants for the future by making them more creative, constructive, imaginative, innovative, proactive, professional, progressive, energetic, enabling, transparent, and technology-enabled. Empowered with role-specific competencies, the civil servant will be able to ensure efficient

service delivery of the highest quality standards. The capacity augmentation of civil servants plays a vital role in rendering a wide variety of services, implementing welfare programs, and performing core governance functions. A transformational change in the capacity of civil service is proposed to be affected by organically linking the transformation of work culture, strengthening public institutions, and adopting modern technology to build civil service capacity with the overall aim of ensuring efficient delivery of services to citizens. The future of the country cannot be progressive without a reformed bureaucracy.

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# Efficient and Effective Governance under PM Narendra Modi

Before 2014, under the UPA Government, the future of the country was in sheer darkness of corruption, visionless governance, and directionless decisions. The neighbouring countries were fearless and were creating a lot of tension on borders and also sponsoring terror outfits. Every day, newspaper headlines were threatening the nation with the news of bomb blasts, terrorist activities, and big scams giving big jolts to the economy. Million, trillion dollars corruption scams were shocking the nation. Moreover, the arrogance and shameless behavior of the ruling party leaders disgruntled the people of the country. As a result, in that hopeless situation, a man from Gujarat came up as a ray of hope. He was the chief minister of Gujarat, Mr. Narendra Modi. Under Modi's inspiring leadership and efficient Governance, Gujarat development Model caught the whole world's attention. NDA trusted his capabilities, and so do the people of

India. This is a brief description of where the path of a beautiful success story starts. And under the dynamic leadership of PM Narendra Modi, India is ready to take back its lost glory.

From his past experiences as the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi was aware of the fact that we can only make the nation strong through good, efficient, and honest Governance. Governance is the process of making decisions and putting those decisions into action. And his government did that with strong guts and virility. He understands the importance of this and that's why the same year he became the Prime minister of India he declared 25th December to be celebrated as Good Governance day. On 23rd December, 2014, former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya were awarded the highest civilian honor in the country, the Bharat Ratna. Following the declaration, Narendra Modi declared 25th December as Good Governance

Day. Following are a few highlights of the steps taken in this direction by the Modi Government, which will always be remembered and will be the footprints of future generations.

## Towards a Swachh Bharat

"A clean India would be the best tribute India could pay to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150 birth anniversary in 2019," with these words Shri Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat Mission at Rajpath in New Delhi. On 2nd October 2014, Swachh Bharat Mission was launched throughout the length and breadth of the country as a national movement. While leading the mass movement for cleanliness, the Prime Minister exhorted people to fulfill Mahatma Gandhi's dream of a clean and hygienic India. Shri Narendra Modi himself initiated the cleanliness drive at Mandir Marg Police Station. Picking up the broom to clean the dirt and later on whole nation followed him.

## Connecting India like Never Before

Building the infrastructure for a resurgent India Right from day one, NDA Government's push for infrastructure has been evident. Be it Railways, Roads, or Shipping the Government is focusing on augmenting the infrastructure to aid in connectivity. For the first time, the Railways budget focused on structural reforms and infrastructure changes. Announcement of new trains, which used to be an annual political gimmick has now become a routine activity. Numerous passenger-friendly amenities like Wi-fi at railway stations, passenger helpline (138), security helpline (182), paperless unreserved ticketing, e-catering, mobile security app, and CCTV cameras for the safety of women, etc have been



Image credit: Apoorva Dimri



# INDIAN ECONOMY



launched. And the most advanced Vande Bharat will turn out to be a game changer.

## Putting the Indian Economy on a Fast-Track

India becomes the fastest-growing large economy in the world under the NDA Government. It has been a historic year for the Indian Economy. From a period of low growth, high inflation, and shrinking production, the NDA Government has not only strengthened our macroeconomic fundamentals but has also propelled the economy to a higher growth trajectory. Various rating agencies and think tanks have predicted that India's growth would accelerate sharply in the next few years under the NDA Government and before 2030 India will be in the top 3 economies of the world.

## Powering India's Growth

India has set off on an ambitious mission, a mission to provide electricity to 18,000 villages that are still in darkness after almost 7 decades of

independence. PM Modi, in his Independence Day speech, announced that all remaining villages shall be electrified within 1000 days. Rural Electrification is happening at a rapid pace and is being done in an unbelievably transparent manner.

## Namami Gange

'It is my destiny to serve Maa Ganga' said PM Modi when he was elected in May 2014 to Parliament from Varanasi, which is situated on the banks of Ganga in Uttar Pradesh. The River Ganga is important not only for its cultural and spiritual significance but also because it hosts more than 40% of the country's population. Addressing the Indian community at Madison Square Garden in New York in 2014, the Prime Minister said, "If we are able to clean it, it will be a huge help for the 40 percent population of the country".

## Unleashing India's Entrepreneurial Energy

PM Narendra Modi once said, "I strongly believe that India has a lot of

latent entrepreneurial energy, which needs to be harnessed so that we become a nation of job givers, more than job seekers". And due to this vision, the NDA Government is focused on giving a boost to entrepreneurship. The 'Make in India' initiative is based on four pillars to boost entrepreneurship in India, not only in manufacturing but also in other sectors. New Processes: 'Make in India' recognizes 'ease of doing business' as the single most important factor to promote entrepreneurship. New Infrastructure: The availability of modern and facilitating infrastructure is a very important requirement for growth.

## Leveraging the Power of JAM: Jan Dhan, Aadhar, and Mobile

So many years have gone by after Independence, but India still had a large part of the population who had no access to banking services. This meant, they had neither any avenues for Savings nor any opportunity to get institutional credit. PM Modi launched the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana on 28th August 2014 to address this fundamental issue.



Within a matter of months, this scheme has radically transformed the lives and futures of many.

### **Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao: Caring for the Girl Child**

Our Mantra should be: 'Beta Beti, Ek Samaan' 'Let us celebrate the birth of the girl child. We should be equally proud of our daughters. I urge you to sow five plants when your daughter is born to celebrate the occasion.' -PM Narendra Modi to citizens of his adopted village Jayapur. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) was launched by the Prime Minister on 22nd January 2015 at Panipat, Haryana. BBBP addresses the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of women's empowerment over a life-cycle continuum. It is a tri-ministerial effort of the Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family

### **Empowering Farmers for a Prosperous India**

Multiple steps taken to give a major boost to Agriculture Farmers have always been the backbone of our country & the NDA Government is striving to strengthen this backbone of the country through innovative and solid measures. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana will give a boost to productivity by ensuring irrigation facilities. The Vision

is to ensure access to some means of protective Irrigation for all agricultural farms. Farmers are being educated about modern irrigation methods to give 'Per Drop More Crop'. Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana has been launched to motivate groups of farmers to take up organic farming. A special scheme has

**Strike on Corruption:** Modi government in 2018 amended India's Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, to introduce a number of new provisions including criminalizing the act of giving bribes, taking bribes, and putting in place an effective deterrence for such actions by individuals as well as corporate entities. And also free and unrestricted access to information is an antidote to corruption and added that the use of technology and e- governance have proved to be powerful tools especially in removing corruption in the delivery of public service.

**Space Reforms:** It was PM Modi who unlocked the sector for private participation two years ago. Space reforms have unleashed innovative potentials of Start-Ups within a short span of time. From a couple of Space Start-ups three-four years back, today we have 102 start-ups working in cutting-edge areas of space debris management, nano-satellite, launch vehicle, ground systems, and research.

With the integration of R&D, Academia, and Industry with equal stake, it is safe to say that a Space Revolution led by ISRO along with the Private Sector and Start-ups is on the horizon."

### **Building Educational infrastructure:**

In the 70 years of the previous government, 6.37 lakh primary schools were built by the education department. In the tenure of eight years of the Modi government, 6.53 lakh primary schools have been built.

### **Glorifying India's Historical**

**Monuments:** Be it the construction of a grand Ram temple, the grand and divine Kashi, the Mahabharata circuit, the Ramayana circuit, and the revival of Kedarnath and the development of Somnath. The Statue of Unity is, in a way, at the center of reflection of the history of India in modern times.

**National e-Government Strategy:** The organization's mission states: "Make all government services accessible to the common person in their locality, through common service delivery outlets, and ensure efficiency, transparency," and the organization's vision reads, "reliability of such services at low costs to realize the basic demands of the common man."

Other initiatives include the establishment of the NITI Aayog, the Make in India program, the Lokpal Bill, and others.

These were a few examples of the Visionary, Efficient and Effective governance of the Modi Government. Which has changed the image of India worldwide. A confident and roaring India is undoubtedly 'swayamev mrigendra' a Super Power. And all this has changed in just 8 years. But still, a lot of tasks to be done, and hopefully under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Sh. Narendra Modi India shall definitely achieve that.

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# Redefining Governance through Connecting with People: The Modi Way in Uttarakhand

There is certainly no need for a hallmark for good governance when one can easily see the impact and the change that good governance brings. Things have changed no doubt and one can not just see but also feel the changes that have set in since 2014.

The power no longer remains accumulated in the corridors of the capital, thanks to Prime Minister Modi's vision of Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas. The Prime Minister has decentralized power and channelized it by touching every corner of the country and ensured that a person living in the farthest corner of the country can feel the change that he has envisioned to bring.

In the hill state of Devbhumi Uttarakhand, the all weather roads have made traveling easier and benefitted the villagers too. Construction of roads have acted as a boon for the state's tourism and hence in the economy. Tourism has been facilitated by safe and comfortable travel and at the same time, these roads have ensured that essential items and services are easily available for the tourists and the locals.

Good governance doesn't need to be defined in a set of words. Good governance is evident from the response that the residents of these villages have given to the construction of roads. Educational facilities, health facilities and others were largely affected because of the lack of better roads. Construction

of roads have brought along road transport facilities which is a thriving example of how a vision for good governance can directly impact the lives of so many in the villages.

Before 2014, no one even thought about the conditions of the villagers in the hills, no one gave any heed to the struggles the villagers of the hills had to face. When power is concentrated in the ultra-urban lanes of cities, it will definitely keep people in the hills, people in the villages away from governance. Good governance implies catering to the needs of the people and ensuring ease of living. The way in which a series of schemes have been launched by PM Modi, it simply gives an assurance that at least now, the pain





of the villagers of the hills is being heard and action is being taken.

The perception on ground has undergone a significant change ever since PM Modi won 2014 elections. The perception has materialized since then. With schemes like PM Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana, PM Ujjwala Yojana, the Atal Ayushman Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, Har Ghar Jal scheme etc, PM Modi has addressed some of the basic tenets of life and living. He has redefined democracy by catering to the needs of the people. The idea of 'Good Governance', for PM Modi, seems to lie in the very principle of Antyodaya.

The three Ds: Development, democracy and decisiveness are interrelated. A strong majority government guides decisiveness and eventually ensures development. This has been the case of India since 2014. Breaking the shackles of coalition governments, the country has given full majority to PM Modi twice. This has resonated in the decisiveness in which PM Modi has ensured that governance remains close to the people and not centralized.

Someone sitting in an urban colony would never be able to understand the changes that these significant steps have brought in the lives of thousands in villages and semi-urban areas. It is

significant to note how these changes are not absolute but tend to impact other facets of life too. Especially, in the hills, where there has been issues related to health and education, these schemes have made a difference and they carry the ability to reduce the curse of migration that has befallen upon the hill state of Uttarakhand.

Construction of roads, for example, would pave the way for establishment of hospitals, schools and eventually lead to reverse migration.

As per PIB's release on 7th December, 2021, the number of eligible families in Uttarakhand under PMJAY was over 5,20,000. One can imagine the change that just one scheme has brought in the lives of so many people. Over 68% households have tap water supply in Uttarakhand alone. The Har Ghar Jal has largely reduced the water problem.

Undoubtedly, these aren't just mere schemes but have proved to be the game changer in the lives of the villagers. PM Modi's mantra of good governance is based on the very foundation of *bharat* and *bharatiya sanskriti*. With 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' and 'Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah', PM Modi is leading a massive drive to unite the countrymen and direct them towards progress and development.

Lives of the villagers have undergone a shift; as far as people's response to PM Modi's policies is concerned, their response to the schemes arise from their love for PM Modi.

The popular slogan, given by PM Modi— "Maximum Governance, Minimum Government" has brought forth change at the foundational level. It is quite well known that PM Modi took over as PM in 2014 when India was struggling through the blots of corruption and scams. This certainly has played a crucial role in hindering the progress of the nation. It wouldn't be wrong to state that prior to 2014, India had become a tool to cater to the selfish needs of a few and India's interests were undermined.

PM Modi has led the change and redefined good governance. For the poor, the villagers, the meaning of governance has definitely changed. To them, it is no more a distant dream but a support in proximity. The decentralization has played a transformational role in changing the perception on ground. We know that good governance has its roots in the tenets of democratic ideals and PM Modi has ensured that people can truly feel the power of democracy. Likewise, The Vibrant village program will tend to play a key role in the geopolitical realms and further add to the reverse migration. Time and again, PM Modi has been visiting Uttarakhand— monitoring the Kedarnath dham rejuvenation project and taking care of the citizens' too. With all these changes, PM Modi's direct connection with the public has proved to be instrumental. Yes, governance is a two-way street and people's response to PM Modi's schemes is due to the connection that 'Modiji' has with the people and this connection will surely resonate in the months and years to come.

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# New Paradigm of Governance: Reinventing the Bureaucracy

The Irish poet Oscar Wilde once poignantly remarked “The bureaucracy is expanding to meet the needs of the expanding bureaucracy”. This is the unfortunate reality in most postcolonial developing societies, crudely referred to as the former colonies of imperial powers in the third world. From the onset of company rule in our subcontinent up until very recently, the Indian growth story has more of them than not been entangled in bureaucratic sloth &

legalese. The dead hand of the Indian bureaucracy weighed down the hopes & aspirations of Indians from diverse walks of life, be it an entrepreneur aspiring to tap into global markets or a homemaker wanting a simple landline connection. Archaic rules & outdated procedures were the preferred tools for stifling the go-getter spirit of Indians who dared to dream big. In the hinterland of India, it was often said that the three most important individuals in the nation were the PM, CM & DM. The

DM's were the zamindar reincarnate post the abolition of Zamindari vide the 1st amendment to the constitution of India. No wonder the District Magistrates were rather evocatively named 'collector'; our inheritance from the bygone days of the Raj. The colonial era was followed by the era of Nehruvian socialism; both were equally effective in stifling the entrepreneurial spirit of India so much so that almost every educated middle-class Indian child aspired to enter the hallowed portals of 'babudom'. The 'Lal batti' was the ultimate ego booster & a 'sarkari' job with a pension was the ultimate achievement. Our erstwhile colonial masters achieved what they intended; to create a class of clerks & paper pushers who would perpetuate colonial rule. The 'brown sahib' or the new Macaulayputra's was our post-independent inheritance of certain Indians who were more English than the English themselves & were disdainful of anything Indian or 'native'. Destiny came full circle when a 'chaiwallah' of humble origins showed the mirror to a large section of our bureaucracy & asked them to perform or perish. The aim of our Hon' Prime Minister was singular: to have a future-ready bureaucracy aligned to the realities of 21st-century India & to the aspirations of Indians.

Any institution is relevant if it keeps pace with time. The bureaucracy is no different; with this, in mind, the BJP-led NDA under the able stewardship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and through the auspices of the Department of Personnel & Training has initiated far-reaching institutional reforms in the Indian bureaucracy to make it relevant, dynamic, pragmatic, goal-oriented & most importantly future ready. The typical bureaucrat starts their career at





the subdivision level & moves up the hierarchy to the apex policy-making level; usually heading departments or ministries in states or at the Centre. Any policy is as effective as its implementation keeping in mind the end beneficiary. With this in mind, the hon' Prime minister has asked IAS officers to visit the district of their first posting to see the changes that have taken place in the past 30-odd years and also to better understand the wants & needs of the end beneficiaries. A bureaucrat in sync with the aspirations of the people would be in a pole position to better frame government schemes. The basis of the modern-day social contract between a democratic state & its citizens is trust. The citizens by & large trust the state but trust has been less than forthcoming the other way around. Ordinary citizens had to get documents pertaining to identity & educational qualification among others 'attested' or verified by a group A or Class 1 officer of the government of India or the states. The logic behind this practice of colonial origins was that a citizen was deemed unworthy of being trusted unless verified by a civil servant. This caused endless harassment, and delays & made open avenues of illegal gratification. PM Modi put an end to this humiliating practice by asking various government departments to trust ordinary citizens who would now be able to self-attest their documents leading to bridging the trust deficit in governance. The online digitization service Digi locker under the Digital India initiative has now ensured citizens have access to their authentic documents from original issuers on their smartphones.

Some cliches are invariably true. One of them being 'The government has no business to be in businesses'. Nehruvian socialism coupled with a soviet style command economy made the union government take over profitable private sector industries & turn them into loss-



# DIGILOCKER

## An Initiative under Digital India

making, revenue-guzzling behemoths incapable of delivering even basic services to the end consumers. They were invariably run by bureaucrats, especially those of IAS fame. IAS officers; considered generalists by every definition of the term were expected to run everything from airlines to power utilities. The Hon'ble PM recently remarked that would bureaucrats run everything from airlines to fertilizer companies thereby stressing the need for the private sector to be at the forefront of the business with the government restricting itself to certain strategic sectors like atomic energy. This vision of the Hon'ble PM was realized with the government finally disinvesting in Air India & handing the company back to its original & rightful owner; Tata sons. Fossilized in thought & ossified in action; bureaucrats working in silos could never deliver profits or surplus in most of the Public Sector Undertakings or departments. It was a breath of fresh air when the Hon'ble PM opened up various ministries ranging from corporate affairs to civil aviation for lateral entry at the joint secretary level for specialists with appropriate domain knowledge. This would go a long way in loosening the iron grip of the bureaucracy over departments where they lack requisite competence.

Henry Ford the legendary automobile magnate said 'Most people spend more time in going around problems than in trying to solve them'. To make sure

legacy issues & long pending roadblocks are tackled effectively by an empowered bureaucracy PM Modi launched mission Karmayogi. This is a truly visionary step that aims to reform the bureaucracy while enhancing capacity building to transform from rule-based to role-based Human Resource management. An ecosystem of shared online training infrastructure would better integrate the various services under a common umbrella. Much of the learning would be on-site & need-based from private learning content creators thereby enhancing the capacity to tackle challenges in every realm of government endeavor. In conclusion, as one walks along the somber confines of Raj Ghat leading to Sadaiv Atal; the memorial of former Prime minister Bharat Ratna late Atal Bihari Vajpayee; one reflects on the life & times of the statesman who ushered in good governance in India not as a compulsion but as a policy. On the 26th day of December, we celebrate the birth anniversary of this modern Karmayogi as a good governance day. His astute student; the visionary PM of India Narendra Modi said 'Good governance depends on the ability to take responsibility by both administrations as well as people'. As citizens of India, we must do our bit to usher in Ram Rajya; the best-known paradigm of good governance.

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# Digital India: Leading the Nation from Expectation to Aspiration

This year, India celebrated its 75th year of Independence. Since its independence, it has organically developed at its own pace of development. In this, the Planning Commission's role is relevant in directing the macroeconomic growth of the country. However, the Commission had multiple limitations to reflect on. One of the key limitations was taking a view of the country for the next five years and shifting it as per the pressures from the national and regional agenda setters. The other prominent limitation was that it undermined the idea of taking the welfare provisions directly to the beneficiary. The structures of the state finances and institutions were such that the beneficiaries across the country had to depend on the last-mile bureaucracy. The outcome of the macro planning process and dependency on the last mile

bureaucracy was inefficient governance for the welfare of the people. It is well articulated by former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's famous remark that only 15 paise of every rupee for the welfare of the downtrodden reaches them. This top-to-bottom approach of Union-based planning limited the access to welfare provisions for the poor of the country. It also undermined the agency of the poor people of the country. At the policy level, it had always been thought that poor people are not capable of taking decisions for themselves. They just need public good in material form to sustain their lives. This form of governance led the poor in the country to have an expectation to survive.

In the mid of the year 2014, India began its new governance culture under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi. At the time he

took up the leadership of the country, the incumbent government was popular for several corruption charges. He took over the leadership of the country which was still living in the hangover of colonial legacy and an adjustment-based governance model for the satisfaction of regional agenda setters by the incumbent government.

Since 2014, India has grown significantly across all sectors of the economy. This growth has complemented the development of its citizens exponentially. This is being achieved by incorporating the philosophy of Integral Humanism and the concept of 'Antyodaya', leading towards the approach of pro-poor, pro-farmer, and pro-rural centric policies.

In India, the linkages of policies and their implementation are unorganized and skewed due to the over-dependency on the last-mile bureaucracy. Prime Minister Modi was aware of this situation given his robust experience of transforming the governance in Gujarat during his tenure as the Chief Minister. Reforming the governance landscape of the country has been his priority since the day he took the charge of Prime Minister. The government under his leadership enabled the nation to a rapid digital adoption of technology-based services. This journey for technology adoption is across the socio-economic demography of the country, the benefits

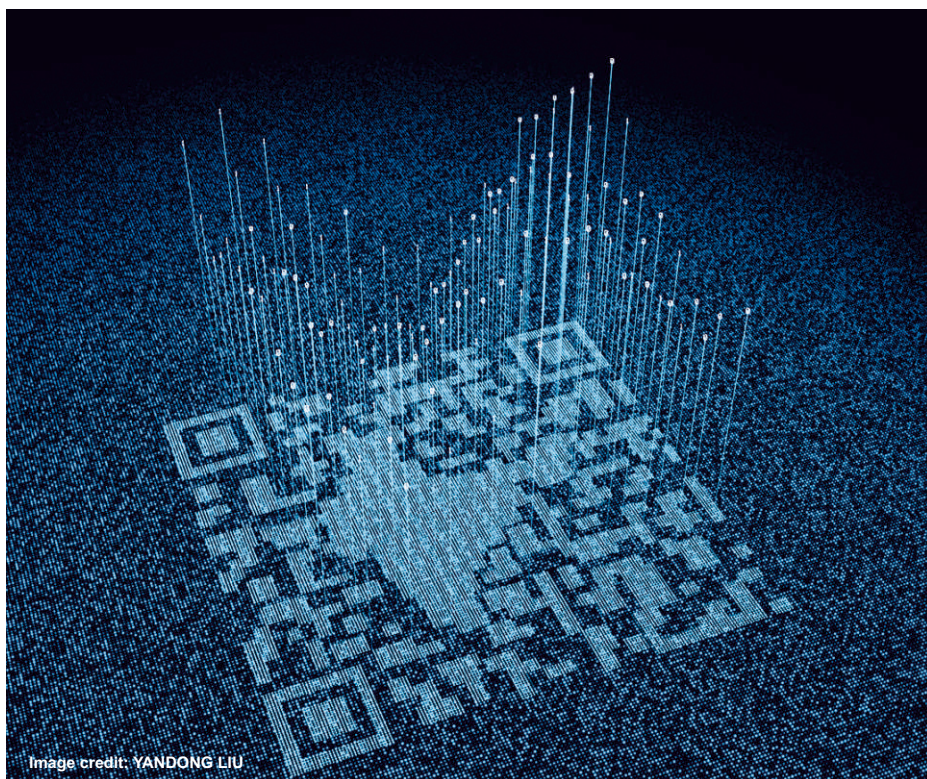


Image credit: YANDONG LIU







Image credit: NIKS ADS

of which have transferred to the diverse sections of people in the country.

From scaling the use of 'Aadhar' to the envisioning of the 'Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission', the consecutive governments under the Prime Minister have transformed the governance of the country in leaps and bounds. India has innovated extensively in digital public goods. In the year 2019 – 20, over 3 trillion was transferred through DBT, and the quantum grew to Rs 5.5 trillion in 2020 – 21 and 6.3 trillion in the last previous financial year. During the previous financial year, nearly 73 crore people received DBT benefits in cash, and 105 crore people received a DBT benefit in kind. As per the claim from

the government it has managed to save Rs 2.2 trillion from leakages by using the DBT regime and by insisting on Aadhar – linked bank accounts to limit access to the welfare in the wrong hands.

The government is taking up digital initiatives for the welfare of the citizens at multiple facets of government interventions. This ranges from Aadhar bank account linking to UPI BHIM to FAST Tag and more. The key outcome of these digital interventions is not just limited to convenient access to welfare mechanisms of the people at the grassroots. It is also empowering the nation in digital literacy. The outcomes of which are multiple ranging from educating the society to women

empowerment, especially from the lower wrung of the society to come forward and participate in the process of development. The key impact of PM Modi's governance reforms based on digital transformation is enabling a closer link between the government and the citizens.

We are living in the historical transition of governance in the country. In this transition, people will move from the position of expectation from the government to the position of aspiration for making India a great nation at the global level. This is all possible due to the visionary leadership of the prime minister with the zeal to constantly transform the governance landscape of the country.

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# सुशासन के मंत्र से विकास की गाथा लिखते नरेंद्र मोदी

प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी जी की सरकार का मूल मंत्र दीनदयाल उपाध्याय के “अंत्योदय की परिकल्पना है”। पिछले 8 वर्षों से भारत सरकार तथा उसके पहले के लगभग 13 वर्ष गुजरात सरकार में इसी मूल मंत्र को केंद्रबिंदु में उन्होंने सरकार चलाई है।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने अपने कामकाज में हमेशा से गरीब कल्याण को सर्वोपरि रखा है उनके जनकल्याण के कार्यों के विश्लेषण यदि हम करें तो उसमें कोरोना काल में गरीब कल्याण अन्न योजना सबसे महत्वपूर्ण है, जिसके तहत 80 करोड़ देशवासियों को मुफ्त में खाद्यान्न दिया जा रहा है।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने राजनीति की संस्कृति बदल दी है क्योंकि सुशासन राष्ट्र की प्रगति के लिए बेहद महत्वपूर्ण कारक है जिसके माध्यम से उनकी सरकार देश की जनता को पारदर्शी एवं जवाबदेह प्रशासन देने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है, जो आम लोगों की बेहतरी के लिए काम करेगी।

आजादी के 70 साल बाद देश के गरीबों को पहली बार इस बात का अनुभव हुआ कि गरीबों का अस्तित्व भी इस देश में है और उनकी भी सुनी जाती है। उन्हें पहली बार अहसास हुआ कि केंद्र में गरीबों की चिंता करने वाली सरकार हैं। देश के लगभग 60

करोड़ लोगों के जीवन में उत्थान पिछले 8 वर्षों में श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की सरकार में हुआ है। आजादी के 70 साल बाद गरीबों को घर मिला, उन घरों में बिजली, पानी, गैस और शौचालय पहुंचा। श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी सरकार में पहली बार गरीबों के जीवन में सार्थक परिवर्तन आया। कांग्रेस की सरकारों ने गरीबी हटाओ के नारे में लगाए, उनके नेताओं ने गरीबों के घर खाना भी खाया, इसके बल पर उन्होंने चुनाव भी जीते, लेकिन गरीबी नहीं गई। गरीबों के जीवन स्तर को ऊपर उठाया तो प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने क्योंकि उन्होंने गरीबी को देखा है, गरीबी का अनुभव किया है और गरीबी को जिया भी है।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी हाल ही में कहा था कि पंच प्रण को सुशासन का पथ प्रदर्शक होना चाहिए। अमृत काल में भारत के विकास की परिकल्पना को साकार करने में पंच प्रण की भूमिका महत्वपूर्ण होगी। प्रधानमंत्री हमेशा कहते हैं कि जीवन की सुगमता प्रत्येक नागरिक का अधिकार है इसीलिए उन्हें आगे बढ़ाना भारत सरकार की प्राथमिकता रही है। इसी संकल्प को देखते हुए सशक्त किसान समृद्ध भारत, नए भारत की नारी शक्ति, आयुष्मान भारत के साथ ही संपूर्ण देश में सड़कों का जाल बिछाया जाना मजबूत ढांचे से विकास को रफ्तार देने की सोच परिलक्षित होती है। युवा नेतृत्व में विकास, देश की अर्थव्यवस्था में सुधार, विकास दर 8.2 प्रतिशत, विश्व में सबसे तेजी से बढ़ने वाली अर्थव्यवस्था प्रमाणित हुई है। प्रौद्योगिकी संचालित भारत पूरे विश्व में भारत के सम्मान को ऊंचा रखा है। पूर्वोत्तर भारत में विकास का अरुणोदय किया जाना, राम मंदिर, धारा 370 जैसी ऐतिहासिक निर्णय को मजबूती से पालन करना, विरासत के गौरव का संरक्षण एवं सम्मान करना मोदी जी की







सरकार की प्राथमिकता रही है।

मोदी सरकार ने सबसे पहले उन योजनाओं पर ध्यान दिया, जिन्होंने सामान्य जन के आत्मगौरव, आत्मविश्वास को बढ़ाया और उनकी बुनियादी जरूरतों को पूरा किया। देश के करोड़ों लोग ऐसे थे, जिन्होंने बैंक में प्रवेश तक नहीं किया था। ऐसे लोगों के लिए जनधन योजना चलाई गई। इस योजना के तहत लगभग 45 करोड़ देशवासियों को बैंक से जोड़ा गया। यह एक बड़ी उपलब्धि है। ऐसी ही उपलब्धि वाला है स्वच्छ भारत अभियान। इस अभियान के तहत देश में 11 करोड़ से अधिक शौचालय बने और देश के छह लाख से अधिक गांव शौच मुक्त हुए। उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत भी गरीब परिवारों को गैस कनेक्शन मिला। देश की नौ करोड़ महिलाओं को परंपरागत चूल्हे के धुएं से आजादी मिली है। मोदी सरकार ने नया जल शक्ति मंत्रालय बनाया, जिससे अब तक नौ करोड़ से अधिक परिवारों को पीने का स्वच्छ जल मिला है। देश में 22 एम्स बन रहे हैं और आयुष्मान भारत योजना के जरिये गरीबों को

पांच लाख रुपये तक का मुफ्त इलाज देकर स्वस्थ भारत का सपना पूरा किया जा रहा है। भारतीय प्राचीन सांस्कृतिक विरासत है, जिसे नरेंद्र मोदी के प्रयासों के बाद वैश्विक पटल पर एक अलग पहचान मिली। साढ़े तीन दशक के बाद लागू हुई नई शिक्षा नीति और सेंट्रल विस्टा बनाने जैसे साहसी निर्णय भी मोदी सरकार की दूरदृष्टि एवं सुशासन के उदाहरण हैं।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में भाजपा सरकार ने पिछले 8 वर्षों में राजनीतिक आर्थिक, समाजिक और धार्मिक क्षेत्रों में क्रांतिकारी निर्णय लेते हुए अभूतपूर्व काम किए हैं जिससे देश की प्रगति में नए आयाम स्थापित हुए। आजादी के बाद नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व वाली सरकार के 8 सालों में दुनिया के मानचित्र पर भारत की छवि निखर कर सामने आई। सामान्य नागरिकों की बुनियादी जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए "सबका साथ, सबका विकास, सबका विश्वास, सबका प्रयास" की सोच को मोदी सरकार अपनाया

है।

सुशासन किसी भी लोकतांत्रिक देश की सबसे बड़ी ताकत होती है। यह पंडित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय के अंत्योदय सिद्धांत पर आधारित है, जिसमें उन्होंने सरकारी योजनाओं का लाभ अंतिम व्यक्ति को मिलने की बात कही है। मोदी सरकार में न सिर्फ सरकारी योजनाओं का लाभ अंतिम व्यक्ति को मिला, बल्कि पद्मश्री, पद्म भूषण और पद्म विभूषण जैसे सर्वोच्च सम्मान भी उन सामान्य लोगों के हाथों में आए, जो हर दृष्टि से इसके हकदार थे।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने सुशासन का राज कायम किया है उन्हीं के कार्यपद्धिती एवं छवि के कारण ही सुशासन और पारदर्शिता के साथ-साथ जवाबदेह सरकार की परिकल्पना साध्य हुयी जिसे निरंतर अपार जनसमर्थन प्राप्त हो रहा है।

लेखक: अजय धवले,  
लेखक कॉर्पोरेट लॉयर हैं। ये उनके निजी विचार हैं।

# Architect of New India: Narendra Modi



Image credit: reuters

**S**hri Narendra Modi, who rose from humble beginnings to become Gujarat's Chief Minister and then India's Prime Minister, he has become a household name throughout the world. The early trials of his life not only taught him the importance of hard labour, but also exposed him to the unavoidable sorrows of ordinary people, which encouraged him to devote his life to serving people and the country since his childhood. Before mentioning about his service, his journey of reaching at this level itself is of note worthy inspiration. During his two-decade of service to the country, he has carried on the success of Gujarat's growth model to India's holistic growth and development. Under his excellent leadership, our country has seen unprecedented levels of

people-centric nation-building activities.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ushered a paradigm change in governance, leading to inclusive, developmental, and corruption-free government, by walking the road of “Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas.” The Prime Minister has been working at a breakneck speed to ensure that schemes and services are delivered to the people at their doorstep. Today, India is home to Ayushman Bharat, the world's biggest healthcare programme, which provides top-quality, inexpensive healthcare to India's underprivileged and neo-middle classes. Because of the Modi government's pro-business policy, India has become a magnet for foreign investors. With the goal of making India self-sufficient, Prime Minister Narendra

Modi announced the Aatmanirbhar Bharat package, which is about 10% of India's GDP in 2019-20.

Hon'ble Prime Minister throughout his 20 years in the Constitutional Office, as well as how he has brought unity and peace to the nation by guaranteeing national security. Furthermore, the government's effective decision-making has overcome decades-old deadlocks such as the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, the provision of equitable opportunity to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and the defensive system against the Covid-19 epidemic. He has established a number of programs aimed at empowering women and fostering gender equality. By uprooting concerns at the grass-roots level, the government has gained the public's confidence and has a direct line





of communication with them.

One of the longest serving elected leaders in our country, Shri Narendra Modi, has come a long way in electoral politics, first as the Chief Minister of Gujarat and now as the Prime Minister. The 1.3 billion strong nation has been swayed by his charisma and political acumen, have developed a strong political and economic bonding, thus making him the world's most popular leader. He has revitalized India's social and security landscape, delivered on his commitment to the people and selflessly worked day-in and day-out for providing corruption-free and people-centric governance. The holistic development of our society and country by revitalizing the rich traditions of the land, passionately raising social issues plaguing India and then effectively addressing them through public discourse and participation has enriched our nation's journey under an able-leader.

The humanitarian and compassionate face of Indian diplomacy shone in a variety of ways under the Modi government, in addition to cultural outreach. In this spirit, the administration also went out to the world's 30 million Indian diaspora, reinvigorating their feeling of belonging to India and enlisting their help in the national revival mission. Moreover, terming NRIs as Nation's brand ambassadors and leaving no stone unturned to nurture their lives in every way possible, Shri. Narendra Modi touched their lives and brought them closer to India.

Shri Narendra Modi has carried forward the best practices of the past and worked towards the glorious future of the nation. He has reiterated on different occasions as to how his administrative experience in Gujarat helped him understand the nuances of every sector in a better way. Various central government schemes, like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana

(PMAY), and international initiatives led by India, specifically the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) have been embedded with the owner-driven reconstruction approach and emphasis on multi-hazard resistant construction and capacity building implemented during the earthquake in Gujarat (2001).

The understanding of the 'Vikas Path' the path to development requires infrastructure connectivity of not only the mainland and coastal areas but also of the hinterland led to the speedy, focused and priority driven development of infrastructure dedicated towards making Indian products more competitive by cutting down logistic costs and improving supply chains and securing the strategic locations along the border areas.

He is the key proponent for making the country digitally empowered in the field of technology. The electronically improved infrastructure in the country led by increasing internet connectivity has made government services available at the doorstep of people living in every corner of the country. Government programmes and projects, like BharatNet project, optical fiber network, are not only constantly expanding their reach at the Gram panchayat level but have also provided access to technology driven services to the island UTs, the recent instance being inauguration of the first ever undersea optical fibre cable project for Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Shri Narendra Modi showed the path of inculcating the vigour to convert a crisis into an opportunity. His clarion call for Aatmanirbhar Bharat or self-reliant India at the time of the pandemic brought forth India's unhealthy and insatiable dependencies on import and gave India the apt moment for course correction. The Aatmanirbhar programme goes beyond indigenization, and aims to make India self-reliant in political, economic,

military, social, and cultural aspects while rediscovering and developing India's inherent strengths. The idea is not to go alone, but rebalance being strategically dependent and strategically interdependent. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been a uniting force as he has weaved the nation together by providing equitable access to technology, eliminating the middleman, prioritising transparency, fulfilling the pledge of One Nation One Constitution and proving grassroots level of democracy and grievance redressal and direct delivery of welfare schemes to the beneficiaries.

It goes without saying that with the advent of Shri Narendra Modi, first as the Chief Minister of Gujarat and then as the Prime Minister of India, signalled the start of a new era of people-centric governance, developmental diplomacy, active foreign policy engagements, grass-root level outreach and performance based politics. Upholding the promise of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas", Shri Narendra Modi led NDA government continues its legacy of good governance in its second consecutive term at office. He has successfully ushered an inclusive, development-oriented and corruption-free governance facilitating speed in decision-making. No Indian prime minister has ever before generated the kind of tenor and volume of academic literature that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has, spanning across various fields of governance, public policy as well as foreign policy.

As Shri Narendra Modi approaches his 20th year in the Constitutional office, it is vital to recognise the accomplishments of the administrations that he led from the front. During his leadership, he faced many obstacles, but he handled them all well and created a standard of excellent governance that continues to inspire leaders across the world. He used his political acumen to address challenges that the people were



facing, and he did it more successfully than anybody else.

At a very young age Shri Narendra Modi had decided to dedicate his life in the service of the people and since then has been fulfilling the role of a dynamic, decisive and development-oriented leader who has emerged as a ray of hope for the dreams and aspirations of a billion Indians. He displayed his skills as a grass root level worker, an organiser and an administrator during his 13 year long stint as the Chief Minister of his home state of Gujarat, where he ushered a paradigm shift towards pro-people and proactive good governance.

History was scripted in the forecourt of Rashtrapati Bhawan on the evening of 26th May 2014 as Narendra Modi took oath as the Prime Minister of India after a historic mandate from the people of India and has been since then making efforts to bring a qualitative difference in the lives of the people. He has led by example and learned from our ancient traditions, for instance every year PM Modi visits soldiers to celebrate Diwali, the tradition he started over since he took over the position of PM in 2014.

The maiden budget, presented by then-Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley, signaled the start of a new era of people-centered governance. With the release of many welfare measures from the paper to the public, a new chapter in India's growth story was added.

Considering power as the key player in the economic development of the country, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana was envisaged, in order to provide round the clock uninterrupted power supply to all homes.

In today's world, a digital infrastructure was required to complete tasks quickly and easily with only one click. Given the importance of the digital ecosystem, the Digital India campaign was launched to further bridge the digital divide by ensuring broadband connectivity at the

village level, improved access to services through IT enabled platforms, greater transparency in government processes, and increased indigenous production of IT hardware and software for exports.

The Shri Narendra Modi administration is dedicated to achieving universal housing by 2022 and hence, in 2014, it was proposed to offer an extra tax benefit on home loans in order to encourage people, particularly the young, to own homes. Establishment of a Low-Cost Affordable Housing Mission, based at the National Housing Bank was also suggested in 2014. Incentives for the building of low-cost, affordable homes was devised.

Under the leadership of Shri Modi, the External Affairs Ministry established a new 'States Division' in October 2014 to coordinate facilitation efforts between Mission/Post(s) and State/Union Territories Governments, as well as foreign diplomatic and trade missions in India. Municipal bonds allowed for money to be raised directly from the market.

The Central Government started the Sagarmala initiative in 2015 with the goal of leveraging the country's coastline and inland waterways to boost industrial growth. With the development of inland waterways, Sagarmala is projected to lower the cost and time of moving

products, helping industry and export/import commerce. The project is massive, with 150 projects distributed over four main sectors and a total budget of Rs 4 lakh crore. One, upgrade port infrastructure and expand capacity by adding up to six new ports. Two, by constructing rail corridors, freight-friendly expressways, and inland waterways, increase port connection. Three, at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust in Mumbai, construct 14 coastal economic zones (CEZs) and a special economic zone (SEZ) with industry clusters to allow port-led industrialization. Developing the abilities of fishermen and other coastal and island people is number four on the list.

*Bharatmala Pariyojana*, an umbrella programme for the highways sector that focuses on optimising the efficiency of freight and passenger movement across the country by bridging critical infrastructure gaps through effective interventions such as development of Economic Corridors, Inter Corridors, and other initiatives, was launched with the goal of bringing a new wave of development to the country in the form of well-maintained and developed roads. To empower the farmers of our country, E-NAM was created in 2016 to improve agricultural marketing consistency by simplifying procedures across integrated





marketplaces, reducing information asymmetry between buyers and sellers, and encouraging real-time price discovery based on actual demand and supply. The program's goal was to connect APMCs across the country with a single online market platform, allowing for pan-India trading in agricultural commodities and improved price discovery through a transparent auction process based on produce quality, as well as quick online payment. The Ministry of Civil Aviation took a monumental step towards making flying a reality for the average person in small towns under the visionary leadership of Shri Modi. Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) is a ground-breaking plan to grow the regional aviation industry. It's a market-based system where airlines compete for seat subsidies. This global first-of-its-kind programme established inexpensive, economically feasible, and lucrative regional flights, making flying accessible to the general public, even in tiny communities. The central government, under the visionary leadership of Shri Modi, declared plans to renovate and improve 22,000 rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) in 2018. Physical infrastructure was enhanced in these GrAMs through MGNREGA and other government schemes. Furthermore, the central government announced the establishment of an Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund with a corpus of INR

2000 crore for developing and upgrading agricultural marketing infrastructure in the 22000 Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) and 585 Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) in 2018 to empower the farmers.

To provide online access to health services and ensure last-mile delivery, the Indian government launched a number of apps, including Swasth Bharat Mobile, ANM Online Application (ANMOL) for beneficiary data collection, Kilkari for audio messages during pregnancy, National Health Portal, Online Registration System, and others.

On February 21, 2016, the Honourable Prime Minister inaugurated the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) initiative from the state of Chhattisgarh. The mission's goal is to establish rurban clusters, which will help the region grow more broadly by creating a cluster of urban villages that retain and foster the spirit of rural community life with an emphasis on fairness and inclusivity, without compromising with facilities regarded to be inherently urban in character. Under the leadership of Shri Modi, the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act of 2016 established the Real Estate Regulatory Authority to safeguard house buyers while simultaneously boosting real estate investments. A minimum of 70% of purchasers' and investors' money would be held in a separate account

under the RERA statute. This money will thereafter be used only for building and land expenditures by the builders. Before the sale agreement is completed, developers and builders cannot ask for more than 10% of the property's cost as an advance payment. Builders are required to produce original papers for every job they take on. Builders are not allowed to make modifications to the blueprints without the buyer's permission. The Government of India in 2017, under the leadership of Shri Modi, approved the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) as a new Central Sector Scheme to cater the needs of the Himalayan Region. Under the NESIDS rules, the State Governments of the North Eastern Region got 100 % central financing for projects pertaining to physical infrastructure such as water supply, power, and connectivity, as well as social infrastructure like elementary and secondary education and health. So far, a total of 22 projects costing Rs. 885.44 crore have been selected for funding under the New Scheme of NESIDS for different States of North Eastern Region. Following the "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" initiative, the government linked the disconnected through rural digital infrastructure projects like BharatNet, as well as initiatives for the North-East Region, Left-Wing Extremism (LWE) Affected Areas, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep. It was envisioned as an information superhighway, with a powerful middle-mile infrastructure connecting Gram Panchayats to broadband connection. It sought to link all 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats in the country and offer 100 Mbps connection to all gram panchayats to allow the delivery of e-governance, e-health, e-education, e-banking, Internet, and other services to rural India.

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# Ideal Leadership: 8 Years of Good Governance under PM Modi

A renewed interest in the Bhartiya Janta Party was perceived to be growing around June 2013 when Narendra Modi was declared the chief of the party's election campaign for the 2014 general elections. In the days and months to come, Modi would weave an impressive and dominant narrative that would give rise to a strong and compelling emotion for a change. This would eventually grow into a massive wave that would sweep away the Congress dispensation which had ruled India for a decade, from 2004 to 2014.

Since, May 2014, worldwide interest both in the Narendra Modi-led government and the party BJP has kept growing. Modi's election to the centre was particularly significant, given that it was for the first time in three decades that a single party won the majority seats to form the government at the Centre. BJP racked up a stunning 282 seats on

its own, the highest number of seats won by any party since the 1984 Lok Sabha elections when the Congress, led by then prime minister Rajiv Gandhi won a decisive victory.

After being elected into the government, Modi-led India has witnessed enormous growth. India is now progressing on every front in the world and the reason for all this is the Prime Minister's Mantra of "Minimum Government Maximum Governance". India has seen a major transformation in the past eight years, after independence these eight years seem to be the ideal "Swarnim Yug" for India and the pace at which India is growing and moving on the path of becoming a developed nation is commendable. In these eight years, the nation has witnessed that India is on right path for attainment to become the desirable nation in the world. The Modi government believes in "Sabka Saath Sabka Vishwas" which is the important

principle of good governance. Peoples participation in a democracy and consensus orientation are the reasons behind the establishment of good governance under the Modi reign. During these eight years, the entire world has seen major transformations in India on political, societal, economical, institutional fronts. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has always emphasised increasing the impact of governance and reducing the interference of the government.

Over the last eight years, many public welfare schemes have been launched by the government and they all have been executed in the light of principles of good governance. For instance Jan Dhan Yojana encouraged people to open bank account, this led to financial inclusion of each and every individual who had been left out of the system. Linking of Aadhar Data with the bank accounts, Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), development of



the United Payments Interface (UPI) and the digital payments in mere eight years is nothing short of a financial miracle.

Modi's USP has been that each of his actions have been preceded by a vision, holistic planning, resource allocation, and appointment of the right agency / individual for implementation.

Rajiv Gandhi once, while criticising the system of allocation of funds from central government to municipalities level said that funds allocated by the central government for welfare schemes, especially grants in cash, would travel to the state governments, then to the districts, and then to the sub-divisions, development blocks, panchayats, municipalities, etc before finally reaching the beneficiary. Because there was unnecessary interference of middlemen. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi while taking jibe at the corruption went on to say that only 15 paise from every 1 rupee spent for the welfare of people reaches them. From my point of view,

this is an example of how the past leaderships lacked the effective ways to establish good governance.

However, now the entire scenario has been changed now, transparency has been established to such an extent that all the middlemen have been cropped out. So far, almost 10,000 services of the central, state and local self-government have become available online. From scholarships, payments to farmers, government assistance, everything is transferred directly to the account of citizens.

In the previous regimes main obstacle in the nation's growth was the lack of world class infrastructure. Despite of having the highest growth rate in 1990s and early 2000s, the rate of infrastructural growth was negligent. Under the UPA regime only 12 km of highway was constructed in a day which has exponentially increased to an average of 27 km in a day in 2017-18. Infrastructural development has seen

tremendous growth under the current regime be its rural roads, railways, airports, or ports. Initiatives like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, inland waterways, dry/land ports, UDAN, Pravatmala, and now, PM Gati Shakti, have ensured seamless connectivity for the movement of people, goods, and services. All of this has aided in reducing travel time for people.

After 75 years of Independence India has now become self-reliant to such an extent that when the entire world failed to clamp down on the effect of the deadly coronavirus the Modi government worked tirelessly to provide the citizens with the vaccine and the vaccine distribution drive was appreciated by the entire world. In past, we have seen that India used to wait for other nations to get aid in order to solve the huge crisis but now with the mantra of Atmanirbhar Bharat India is now growing at an enormous pace.

The central government under PM Modi has worked tirelessly to turn India into an international manufacturing hub. Beginning with the reduction in corporate tax rates, ensuring investment policy reforms, and reduction in compliance burden to improve the 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking, today India has become the leading nation to attract investment in the manufacturing sector. The forward-thinking policies of the Modi government have resulted in total exports reaching nearly an all-time high of 670 billion in 2021-2022.

Someone has said it right that the right leadership is of utmost importance for any nation to grow and without any doubt, it can be said that India under Modi is developing at an unprecedented pace. It is because of his idea of governance that the dream of becoming global power has been relinquished again.

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# PM Modi and Social Empowerment through Good Governance

Vedas, Upvedas, Vedangs, Upanishads or the Subhashitas, 700 verses of Shrimad

Bhagavad Gita, Maharishi Valmiki's Ramayana and Ved Vyas' Mahabharata, and Chanakya's Arthashastra highlight a unique connection between characters and code of conduct. How a leader should lead? How should the rights of citizens be protected? How to hold each person accountable? And most importantly, how to protect the individual and collective rights and duties of its citizens while maintaining law and order? All these questions are directly or indirectly associated with the concept of 'good governance'. All these questions find answers in our ancient scriptures. Each scripture comes across as a guide when it comes to understanding the term Good Governance.

The concept of governance is not new; it is as old as human civilization. One can define governance simply as the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented). It is a process of interaction that involves laws, norms, power or language of an organized society over a social system. In 1992,

the World Bank set out its definition of Good Governance. It defined Good Governance as "the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic and social resources for development".

As far as the Indian narrative on Good Governance is concerned, referring to the Indian scripture, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi had referred to two shlokas, the first being वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् (the whole world is family) and the second being माता भूमि पुत्रोहं पृथिव्या (land is our mother and we are her son). The first Shloka 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam' denotes India's compassion for the world and the second, social harmony and an environment of mutual trust and respect for a better tomorrow.

PM Modi-led BJP government has advocated for a policy of upliftment, and empowerment and emphasized developmental politics. All of its policies follow the philosophy of 'Integral Humanism', Antyodaya, that works for the upliftment of the poorest, most deprived groups of people. For instance, the Jan Dhan Yojana which was announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his Independence Day address

in 2014 has been the foundation stone for the government's people-centric economic initiatives. This indicates how financial inclusion is a national priority of the government that enables inclusive growth. Besides, during the covid-19 pandemic, we have witnessed the remarkable swiftness and smoothness with which Direct Benefit Transfer has provided financial security to the vulnerable sections of society, regardless of their caste, religion and socio identities.

Similarly, the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana / Package is a comprehensive relief package of Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore Yojana for the underprivileged to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus. This was announced in March 2020 to reach out to the poorest of the poor, with food and money in hand, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential supplies and meeting essential needs.

Today, not only our citizens but the global community is appreciating initiatives taken by the Indian government during the covid-19 pandemic. As of March 2022, the Indian government has started to administer vaccines for 12-14 years olds. Plus, as of April 2022, India has administered more than 186 crores of doses overall. It is indeed a pride that developing country like India has taken the front seat in producing 60 per cent of global vaccines. In fact, standing true to its Neighbourhood First and Act East policies, India has taken the lead in supplying vaccines to not only South Asian countries but all across the globe. Besides, going back to the first term of PM Modi, it was indeed a historic and remarkable achievement that former EAM Sushma Swaraj became the first



Image credit: REUTERS

# Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana



from India to address the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) meeting in Abu Dhabi as the guest of honour. Similarly, till now, PM Modi has received many international awards from Islamic countries such as the order of Abdulaziz Al Saud (Saudi Arabia, 2016), the State Order of Ghazi Amir Amanullah Khan (Afghanistan, 2016), Grand Collar of the State of Palestine Award (Palestine, 2018), Order of Zayed Award (UAE, 2019), Order of St. Andrew award (Russia, 2019) etc, to name a few. It is pertinent to note that most of these awarding countries are Islamic, thus indicating an important aspect of the secular values of the BJP leadership. In recent times, the Indian government is not only extended collaboration on humanitarian aid but also on defence ties with South-East Asian countries, the USA, Russia, Israel as well as Saudi Arabia. It is pertinent to note that one of PM Modi's greatest achievements is building an excellent relationship with all Islamic countries in the world. Under the tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India had made significant strides in its relations with the countries of the Persian Gulf. In fact, more recently, even Pakistan's former PM Imran Khan praised India's foreign policy stating that its policy is independent and centred on the people. Furthermore, in an attempt to uplift the livelihood of minorities, the Ministry of Minority Affairs is implementing the Prime Minister's new 15-point programme for the welfare of minority

communities. Various ministries/departments of the central government implement the social welfare schemes for the welfare of notified minorities viz, Christians, Sikhs, Jains, Muslims, Buddhists and Parsis. In fact, in one of the 2019 Parliament sessions, the Minister of Minority Affairs revealed that the Modi government has spent Rs 22,000 crore in the past six years on Minority welfare and has awarded scholarships to around 3.2 crore students belonging to minority communities, namely Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Parsis, Buddhists and Jains. Since the funds allocated by the Ministry are in the proportion of the population of the six groups, consequently, Muslims are the biggest beneficiaries.

In Bhagwat Geeta, Shri Krishna says, यद्यदाचरति श्रेष्ठस्तत्तदेवेतरो जनः। स यत्प्रमाणं कुरुते लोकस्तदनुवर्तते॥ meaning, 'by performing their prescribed duties, King Janak and others attained perfection. One should also perform their work to set an example for the good of the world. Whatever actions great people perform, common people follow. Whatever standards they set; all the world pursues.' A similar kind of leadership can be witnessed by looking at the PM Modi Government through its policies, objectives and goals that promoted politics of development which can be reflected in all spheres in the values of वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् "The World Is One Family" and सवेभवन्तु सुखिनः Global harmony". Consequently, this

politics of development has resulted in a decrease in communal violence in the country whereas the year 2008 still remains the year of the highest instances of religious violence.

According to political science theorists, the characteristics of a successful state are stability, security, status, economic growth and political liberalization. In fact, stable governance refers to an end state where the state provides essential services and serves as a responsible steward of state resources. It is also an integral and fundamental responsibility of the state to protect its citizens and sovereignty from foreign aggression, infiltration from a terrorist group or global economic trends that compromise the nation's welfare and security.

Today, India under the able leadership of PM Modi is at the global table, be it the Vaccine Maitri initiative, humanitarian aid provided to Afghanistan and Ukraine, the BrahMos deal with the Philippines or its space innovation, India plays a crucial role in the world stage. Plus, as far as internal security is concerned, India has not experienced a single major terror attack since PM Modi's government came to power in 2014. Thus, it can be rightly said that the current government has certainly embarked on a journey to ensure the stability, security, status, and economic prosperity of the country with its politics of development and 'nation first' policy.

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# Transformational Development Under the Modi Government

The people of Bharat are more optimistic than ever, the nation is at the cusp of becoming a true Vishwa Guru under the able leadership of our Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Damodar Das Modi.

Today, there are ample opportunities provided to a youngster who doesn't have to worry merely about taking care of his family but can now aspire to dream big and make a life for himself and build a better nation. Right from his skill development across various Skill Development centers to finding a job or setting up his own business, the Government supports youngsters to lead their own lives in a financially sound and decent manner.

In the 1992 report by the World Bank, titled "Governance and Development", Good Governance was defined as "the manner in which power is exercised in the management of a country's economic

and social resources for development". Good governance has 8 major characteristics. It is participatory, consensus-oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and follows the rule of law.

The Mann Ki Baat is a flagship radio communication programme in which the Prime Minister connects to the people of the country, speaking directly to their hearts. The PM speaks of people who do noble and outstanding work in various domains to improve the life of people and society at large. The people who are being ignored of their due recognition by bringing them to light and appreciating them. Good governance starts locally, by bringing to light such events the Prime Minister urges the people to indulge in the collective and grand scheme of Governance.

The Prime Minister and his fellow

ministers are accessible to the common public across various platforms and they seek feedback from the public on a continuous basis. Every ministry takes into consideration the grievance of a citizen with utmost responsibility and tries to provide an amicable solution. 'One Day Governance' is a flagship scheme launched by the PM that focuses on providing time-bound services to the citizens by leveraging technology and the e-governance infrastructure. The main objective of this program was to provide access to Government-to-citizen services. This very model is being rolled out all across the country.

Similarly, the strengthening of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code is the right step in systematically recovering bad debts. Under the bold and daring program on self-reliance - "Aatma Nirbhar Bharat" the cost of manufacturing mobile devices has been



reduced to a large extent. In the year 2014, there were 02 mobile manufacturing units in the country, whereas presently there are about 200 units. India is now in the second position in the world for manufacturing mobile phones and is also a large exporter of mobiles with upwards of \$5.5 Billion.

The country has made huge progress; in 2014 there were 6 cr Broadband users which have now increased to 80 crore users. Approximately 100 Gram Panchayats (GPs) were connected to the Internet in the country and now more than 1,70,000 GPs in the country are connected. Internet users in the rural areas of the country are growing at a faster rate than the urban area thanks to the local manufacturing of mobile phones making them more affordable to the common man. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, the cost of data has reduced from ₹300 per GB in 2014 to ₹10 per GB in 2022. The Average Data used per person is 14 GB per month, and the reduction in the cost of data has brought considerable savings per month for citizens. Thus, launching Bharat onto a springboard in the liberalization of the upcoming world data revolution.

The Government is also committed to infusing around \$30 billion to ensure last-mile network accessibility for 4G and 5G in every village across the country.

Time and again the members of parliament under the Modi Sarkar consult industry experts and the public across various domains seeking their valuable inputs for budget preparation, forming of a policy, etc. The Government has a lot of pro-public policies and it strongly believes in having a dialogue with all the stakeholders to brainstorm and solve a problem. The Government is in constant touch with the problems faced by the people through various people-reach



Image credit: deepadesigns

initiatives. There was an instance when we know the Farm Law was repealed after failing to break the demand gridlock of the protestors. Another example, despite facing public flak, is the withdrawal of the Data protection bill when the Government realized the need for intensive public consultation across an even broader section of society. It is highly optimistic to finally see a Government putting the nation's interests above oneself. Every country needs a visionary leader and a strong mandate of the people to drive a nation to its highest potential and glory. We are fortunate to have one such leader who guides the country on the path of a strong growth trajectory.

The highly challenging target to achieve a GDP of \$5 trillion by 2024-25 was boldly set by the PM. In the past decade (FY 2008-17), India invested about \$1.1 trillion in infrastructure alone. To achieve this objective the Government in its recent budget announced allocating Rs. 10 lakh crore (US\$ 130.57 billion) to enhance the infrastructure sector and many other projects taken up all across the country. Thus, employing people and building the nation.

When it comes to technology, the world applauds Bharat for the Digital revolution under Prime Minister Modi, where payments via electronic mediums have reached 23 billion transactions worth 38.3 lakh crore recently.

India is also emerging as a global pharmaceutical powerhouse with our pharma exports skyrocketing to 137% from 37.99 to 90.32 thousand crores. Even during the most difficult of times, our country has lent a helping hand to the world by supplying vaccines and other aid materials during the Covid pandemic.

The per capita spending on healthcare has increased to ₹1815 in the year 2018-19 from ₹1042 in 2013-14, an increase of 74% keeping in mind the importance of healthcare for its people. The dignity of rural women was restored by the construction of household toilets. The number of domestic LPG beneficiaries is ever-increasing with about 14 crore beneficiaries getting access to a new LPG connection in the past 8 years. The internet penetration in the country has seen a jump of 3.3x times with 25.15 crore internet connections in 2014 to 83.37 in 2020.

All these were made possible due to the dynamic and ever-evolving policy needs that the leadership believes in. The Government is transparent in the way it conducts its business, the way its finances are handled, and its functionaries are held accountable for their actions. Unlike other Governments of the past, the Modi Sarkar is accessible to the people of all strata, even the most downtrodden in society have a chance to make their voices heard. Thanks to the



# Atma Nirbhar Bharat Scheme



Image credit: seeyah panwan

pro-public and people-centric policies being implemented all over the country without any geographical and cultural bias.

In terms of education, on average two colleges have been set up every day since 2014 providing quality education to future leaders of tomorrow. Providing access to basic rights such as water, sanitation, a banking system, health care, education, and employment was always a top priority to the Modi government right from the very beginning. Various Banking sector reforms like increasing the deposit insurance coverage from 1 lakh to 5 lakh per depositor restored the trust of the common man in the once corrupt banking system. The poor and rural families were underinsured when it came to health insurance. The sickness of a family member would wipe off any financial resources available to the family. The Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) was thus launched to provide insurance coverage of Rs.5 Lakh per family per year for secondary and tertiary healthcare hospitalizations.

In his clarion call for a self-reliant India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan and stressed the five pillars to sustain the

growth: Economy, Infrastructure, System (Modern Technology), Vibrant Demography and Demand. The Honourable Prime Minister also announced ₹ 20 Lakh Crore Rupees Economic Stimulus focusing on Land, Labour, Liquidity, and Laws. The Government is in many ways forward-thinking, future-oriented with the vision to lead the world and not be led anymore. The desire to set a positive example of Bharat to the world is one of the key driving factors of its foreign policy and trade. Under the Gati Shakti masterplan, the Government has renewed its focus on creating capital assets like roads and infrastructure, creating direct and indirect employment. Delivering good governance goes a long way but it slowly and softly impacts the lives of people across the spectrum.

Under the PM Awas Yojana (rural), the Centre has provided assistance of Rs 1.95 lakh crore to the beneficiaries. The Central assistance of Rs 1.18 lakh crore has been provided under the PM Awas Yojana (urban). The highlight of PM Awas Yojana is that the ownership is given in the name of a woman member or jointly, and each house has water, power, toilet, and gas connection. The basic rights of people in rural areas were fulfilled when 70 million piped water

connections were delivered in three years.

In the last 8 years, India has repealed more than one and a half thousand old and irrelevant laws and reduced more than 32 thousand compliances leading to better governance and efficient functioning of the bureaucracy.

Unlike the previous family-ruled parties of India, where the policies were eaten away mostly by middlemen, the common man today is benefited one way or the other by the present Government. The policies implemented under the Modi Government truly reach each and every Indian.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has always focused on providing transparent and quality governance across all levels of Government to all members of society. The goodness he has dedicated to the country will go a long way in realizing the country's potential and ambition in the near future. Touching the lives of all the fellow brothers and sisters of Bharat is the Modi way of good governance.

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# New Paradigm of Electronic Governance

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister of India on 26 May 2014, since then his mantra has been *Minimum Government – Maximum Governance and initiatives have been towards e-governance*. As per UNESCO International Bureau of Education, Governance is structures and processes that are designed to ensure *accountability, transparency, responsiveness, rule of law, stability, equity and inclusiveness, empowerment, and broad-based participation*.

E-Governance has immense advantages if it is systematically done. E-Governance enhances the effectiveness and delivery of government services, improves relationships between the government and business and industry, Digitally Information availability empowers citizens, enabling more effective and efficient governance, helps

in Administration with less corruption and more openness, as well as more convenience for residents and business entities, helps in cost-cutting and increased income, Government's legitimacy will grow, and the organisational structure will flatten, improves interactions between the public authorities and the civil society by reducing paperwork and *red-tapism* in the administrative process, which leads to improved planning and coordination between different levels of government, revamping administrative procedures. The benefits of E-Governance have been well and timely assessed by the Government under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

On 1 July 2015 Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the flagship programme of the Government of India, "Digital India" to make India a digitally

empowered society and knowledge economy by improving internet connectivity and developing India's digital infrastructure.

The UN e-government survey rankings are used to assess a country's level of e-governance throughout the world. As of 2014–12, India was ranked 118 out of 182 countries in the world with an E-Government Development Index (EDGI) Composite Score of 0.3834. For the year 2022, India has been ranked 105 among 193 participating countries with an E-Government Development Index (EDGI) Composite Score of 0.5883.

India had 658 million users according to the World Population Review in January 2022, while a report released in July 2022 by the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)-Kantar stated that there are already 692 million active Internet users in the nation that amounts roughly 47% of India's



Image credit: sdecoret



population using the Internet. Though the Internet penetration rate in India was growing it saw a sudden surge between the year 2014 and 2015, with a growth of 9% in a year. Another similar surge can be seen between the years 2018 and 2019, with a growth of 11.98% in a year.

The Government of the day has adopted multiple measures to push India towards E-Governance, by adopting Technology-driven solutions to Existing Problems. The adoption of such a solution has been facilitated by the adoption of a platform by expanding infrastructure, such as installing optical fibre cables; lowering the cost of devices by promoting the development and manufacture of electronic devices; incentivizing the adoption of these technologies by coupling them to basic services and facilities, such as subsidies; and transferring the necessary skills to ensure that citizens not only adopt these technologies but also contribute to them through skill development programmes.

#### **Initiatives Taken by Modi**

**Government and Its Progress:** Though having some constraints i.e. National Optical Fibre Network Infrastructure Setup, Adoption of Internet, Internet Data Speed, Cyber Security, Digital Coordination and Standardization, Private Sector Digital Participation and Manpower, India is performing exceptionally well in developing its digital infrastructure and making digital governance a priority. Some of the initiatives taken by the government are as:

#### **Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana**

**(PMJDY):** Guinness World Records has confirmed that the Department of Financial Services, Government of India, created 18,096,130 bank accounts in one week as part of the Financial Inclusion Campaign, recognising the accomplishments accomplished under PMJDY. More than 46.25 crore beneficiaries banked under PMJDY since its inception, Average deposits per

Jan Dhan account rose to Rs 3,761 in August 2022. This is one of the most significant financial inclusiveness programmes of the Government of India.

**Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT):** DBT intends to deposit subsidy payments from several Indian welfare programmes directly into the bank accounts of the recipients. Initially, this scheme was launched in just 20 districts in 2013. This scheme was successfully carried ahead by Modi Government and was proven highly useful during the COVID period transferring more than Rs 36,659 Crore in the Bank accounts of 16.01 Crore beneficiaries during the COVID - 2019 lockdown.

#### **JAM - Jan Dhan Aadhar Mobile -**

**Trinity:** JAM Trinity refers to the initiative of the Indian government to connect people's Jan Dhan accounts and Aadhaar cards to stop the leakage of government benefits. About 44 crore beneficiary accounts under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) have been incorporated with "JAM" as of October 2021.

**Smart City:** By the year 2022, the government wants to have built 100 smart cities across the nation with cutting-edge municipal infrastructure and communication systems. One of the major objectives of a smart city project is Economic development and harnessing technology, especially technology that leads to Smart.

**DigiLocker:** As part of its Digital India project, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Indian government offers the online service DigiLocker. On March 19, 2022, DigiLocker reached the milestone of 101 million users. The programme enables users to digitise 560 documents and keep them as digital copies.

**E-Sign Framework:** An Aadhaar bearer can electronically sign a document using the Aadhaar eSign service, which is available in India. By verifying the

Aadhaar bearer via the Aadhaar-based e-KYC (electronic Know Your Customer) service, the signature service is made possible.

#### **Pradhan Mantri Ghar Tak Fiber**

**Yojana:** Launched under the Bharatnet Scheme, the PM Ghar Tak Fibre Yojana 2022 would install optical fibres across all villages. The duty of building an optical fibre network throughout India will now be delegated by the PM Modi-led Union government under the Public Private Partnership format. All around the nation, these optical fibres will link communities to Gram-Panchayats and village blocks. In the Union Budget 2022, the Finance Minister announced that BharatNet broadband will get ready by the year 2025.

**Wi-Fi Hotspots:** The PM-WANI programme will help the central government achieve its goal of creating 10 million Wi-Fi hotspots, which is outlined in the National Digital Communication Plan. PDOs will not need a licence from the DoT in order to provide broadband internet over these open Wi-Fi networks. In addition to enabling small business owners like chai wallahs, kirana shops, and restaurants to increase their income, the spread of public Wi-Fi networks across the nation thanks to PM WANI will hasten the spread of public broadband services through Wi-Fi networks.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's model of E-Governance will not only bring efficiency and effectiveness to the model of Governance but will also bring Transparency and Irresponsibility in administration which is the quintessence of vibrant democracy. India is at the cusp of major digital reform and this reform will foster the Prime Ministers' vision to transform India into a developed economy.

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# Driving Electricity Sector Reforms

In the 21st century, a nation's economic and social development remains highly dependent on the development of its energy Sector. The Indian dream of an infallible economic powerhouse is unlikely to succeed without being an energy-secure nation. Over the past eight years, significant progress has been achieved by the Indian state, in not just securing its energy demands, but also ensuring a sustainable energy future for the world. Under Prime Minister Modi's leadership, India has played a significant role globally in promoting renewable energy sources.

During COP26 the prime minister presented to the world the 'Panchamrit' – to deal with the problem of climate change. The vision includes for India to achieve net carbon emission zero by the year -2070. However, the path to achieving this requires significant actions on part of all stakeholders. At present India has successfully made itself an electricity surplus state, however, most of this electricity is produced through coal-based or non-renewable resources. The need of the hour remains to change these sources to cleaner sources of energy. This would require a tremendous amount of capital infusion along with major structural reforms in the electricity sector. One facet of transformation is now underway for the Electricity Distribution Companies ("DISCOMS").

Access to electricity has been recognized as a fundamental right by the Indian courts, making it the state's duty to ensure that electricity reaches every home. In essence, electricity finds a place in the concurrent list of the constitution, making it available for both state and center to legislate and regulate

upon. Since 1947 various legislations have allowed deep political influence on the day-to-day functioning of the DISCOMS. Major policy decisions were taken without being mindful of the financial viabilities or capital-generating capacities of these companies ultimately leading to crippling corruption. Since DISCOMS are at the consumer end of the sector, ill financial health has been a concern for states as well as the central government. In order to improve the condition of these debt-ridden DISCOMS. In FY 20-21, the Government of India infused 90,000 Cr just in the DISCOMS in addition to allotment of another 3 lakh crores as part of a scheme that would provide some assistance to DISCOMS for infrastructure creation, conditional upon the fact that steps were to be undertaken by the companies to rectify their finances. This has not been the first occasion, previously many state-owned DISCOMS have been bailed out at regular intervals. However even after a massive capital infusion. The DISCOMS remain under high financial stress.

At present many states are undergoing a situation where huge tariff hikes have become a necessity. To resolve this the government has decided to "enable operations of multiple distribution companies in any area and end the current state government-owned monopoly regime in the power distribution business. The central government has made several attempts in the last six years to amend the law by drafting amendment bills 2014, 2018, 2020, and the current draft of 2021, which seeks to facilitate the entry of private capital into the distribution business." Unfortunately, the bill faces

extreme opposition from certain state governments on account of the loss of revenue.

In a bid to address the same, the central government began the privatization of DISCOMS in Union territories. The aim of the government is to conduct these bids in a manner that states could use these as reference points. The adopted model revolves around the creation of a special purpose vehicle, from which equity shares are to be sold to the highest bidders. The bids have also envisaged the building of special trusts to run the company alongside a special trust of employees. In states where privatization doesn't seem feasible, the commissioning of independent directors is being proposed to improve the corporate governance of DISCOMS. This privatization is expected to significantly improve the quality of services and decrease operational Losses. The Electricity Amendment Bill (2022) also aims to enable provisions for cost-reflective tariffs to recover all operational costs and dissipate the pending liabilities of DISCOMS. However, this cannot be possible if different state governments enact adversarial policies, including offering subsidies for political gain. The need of the hour is to enact uniform policies that would help transform the energy source and help India meet her promises. Simultaneously the state governments would be required to increase tariffs if needed to enable the transformation. In case the 2021 bill, is successfully passed, India would be able to showcase another successful story in the field of distribution, just like in the field of generation i.e become the world leader. The new horizon should not just be making power available to India but now towards making Indian power available to the world.

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