



BJYM

Magazine

APRIL 2025 VOL 43

**HONOURING
AMBEDKAR
BUILDING
BHARAT**

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Remarks of the Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi**



The people of India have seen time and again how one Party, led by one dynasty, has indulged in every possible dirty trick to obliterate the legacy of Dr. Ambedkar and humiliate the SC/ST communities.

The list of the Congress' sins towards Dr. Ambedkar includes getting him defeated in elections, not once but twice. Pandit Nehru campaigned against him, making his loss a matter of prestige and denying him the Bharat Ratna. Denying his portrait a place of pride in Parliament's Central Hall.

Congress can try as they want, but they can't deny that the worst massacres against SC/ST Communities have happened under their regimes. For years, they sat in power but did nothing substantive to empower the SC and ST communities.

It is due to Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar that we are what we are! Our government has worked tirelessly to fulfil the vision of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar over the last decade. Take any sector - be it removing 25 crore people from poverty, strengthening the SC/ST Act, or our government's flagship programs like Swachh Bharat, PM Awas Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission, Ujjwala Yojana and more. Each of them has touched the lives of the poor and marginalised.

Our government has worked to develop Panchteerth, the five iconic places associated with Dr. Ambedkar. For decades, there was a pending issue on land for Chaitya Bhoomi. Not only did our government resolve the issue, but I have also gone to pray there. We have also developed 26 Alipur Road in Delhi, where Dr. Ambedkar spent his last years. The government has also acquired the house where he lived in London. When it comes to Dr. Ambedkar, our respect and reverence is absolute.

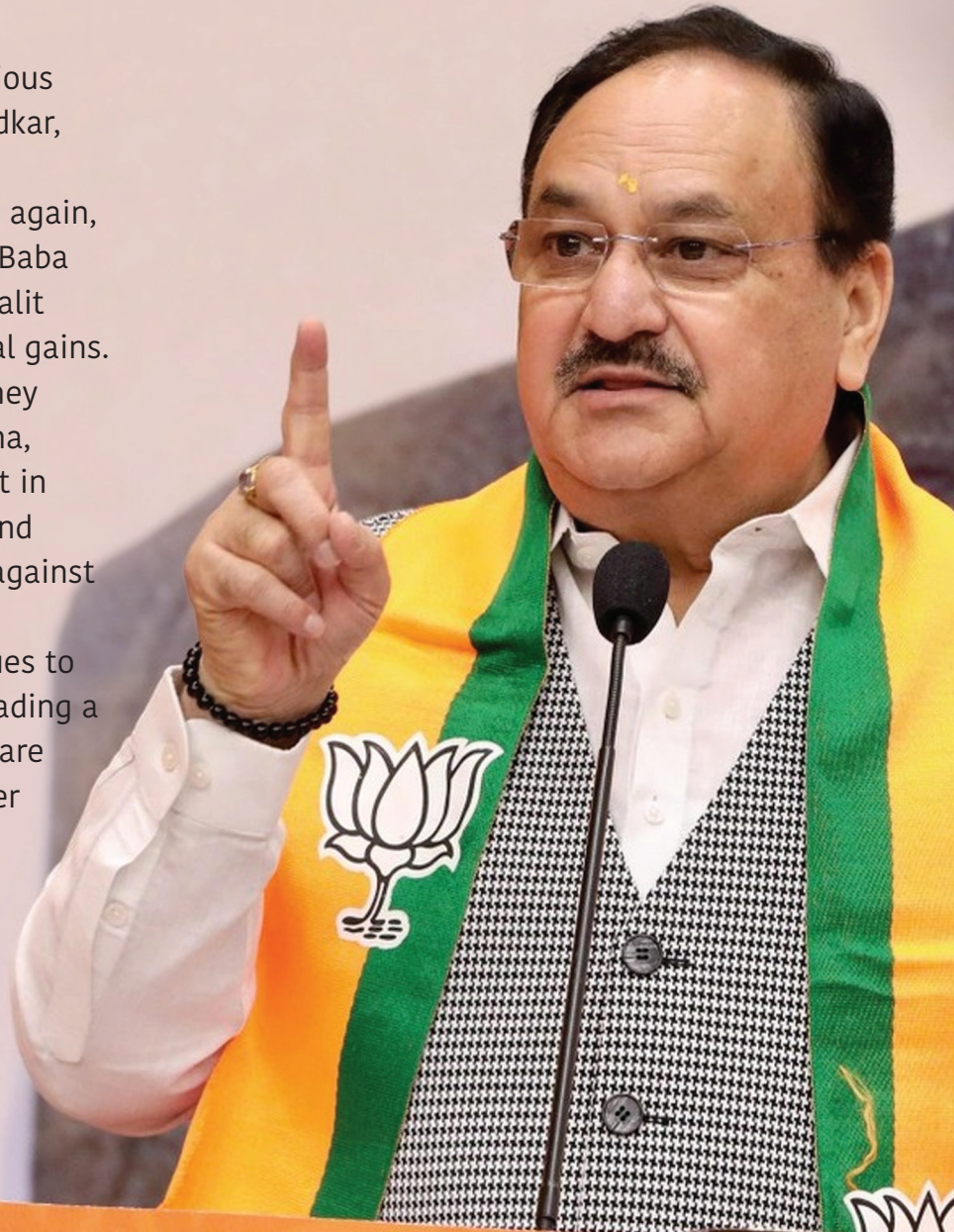
Source: X



Congress party must look in the mirror before lecturing others on respecting Baba Saheb Ambedkar. They have stooped to the level where they spread lies. The Congress Party has a malicious history of being anti-Ambedkar, anti-Dalit, anti-poor, and anti-Constitution. Time and again, Congress has backstabbed Baba Saheb Ambedkar and our Dalit communities for its political gains. This is well documented. They denied him the Bharat Ratna, refused to place his portrait in Parliament's Central Hall, and Pandit Nehru campaigned against him, even defeating him in elections. Congress continues to mislead the nation by spreading a false narrative. The people are well-informed and will never accept their lies.

Source: X

Remarks of the BJP President **Shri J P Nadda**



संविधान निर्माता, भारत रत्न
डॉ. भीमराव अंबेडकर

Message from the BJYM National President **Shri Tejasvi Surya**

Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar was not just the architect of our Constitution—he was the conscience of a modern India rooted in liberty, dignity, and justice. Yet, the political history of independent India is replete with attempts to sideline his contributions and erase his legacy. For decades, the Congress party paid mere lip service to his name while actively marginalising him in policy, in parliament, and national memory.

It is the Bharatiya Janata Party, under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, that has restored Dr Ambedkar to the centre of our national consciousness. From developing the Panchteerth to commemorating his birth anniversary across the globe, from digitising his writings to establishing institutions like the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, this government has translated reverence into real action.

The BJP is not merely honouring Dr. Ambedkar's legacy; it is fulfilling it.

Through landmark constitutional amendments that strengthen social justice, restore state rights to identify Other Backward Classes (OBCs), and ensure women's representation in legislatures, we are building the very Republic Dr. Ambedkar dreamed of—just, inclusive, and empowering.

For the youth of this nation, and particularly for BJYM karyakartas, this is a moment of pride and responsibility. We must be the torchbearers of the ideals Dr. Ambedkar stood for: education, nationalism, entrepreneurship, and equal opportunity. We must also counter those who seek to distort his memory for political convenience—reminding the nation that it was not Congress but the BJP that gave him the honour, the platform, and the place he deserved.

Let us move forward with the spirit of Kalyan, Samman, aur Pratinidhitva—Welfare, Respect, and Representation. Let us build an India where samta and samrasta are not slogans but a lived reality.

Vande Mataram!
Tejasvi Surya

MP Lok Sabha,
Bengaluru South





As we reflect upon India's journey towards social justice and equality, one truth stands tall: no political force has honoured Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's legacy as sincerely, extensively, and effectively as the Bharatiya Janata Party under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji.

For decades, Dr. Ambedkar—the principal architect of our Constitution and the fiercest advocate for the marginalised—was not only politically ostracised but also systematically erased from India's mainstream narrative by the Congress. Despite his towering intellect, pioneering reforms, and unmatched contribution to nation-building, Dr. Ambedkar was humiliated, defeated in elections through collusion, denied his rightful place in governance, and even disrespected in death. Memorials were neglected. His writings were forgotten. His vision was reduced to tokenism.

From transforming places associated with Dr. Ambedkar into national memorials to organising global commemorations of his 125th birth anniversary, from launching initiatives like the BHIM App, Stand-Up India, and Mudra Yojana to empowering Dalit entrepreneurs and students, the BJP has turned reverence into action. The development of the Panchteerth—the five sacred sites associated with Ambedkar's life—is more than symbolism; it is a declaration that his life, struggles and philosophy are now central to the Indian political and developmental imagination.

The youth of India must know this truth: Congress never gave Bharat Ratna to Ambedkar. It was the BJP-supported government in 1990 that finally did. Congress blocked his elections, buried his resignation letter, and rejected the memorial at 26 Alipur Road. It was Prime Minister Modi who built that shrine. It took a BJP government to recognise Dalit refugees from East Pakistan through the Citizenship Amendment Act. It took the BJP to install his statue in the Supreme Court and his portrait in the Parliament.

Where Congress misused constitutional amendments to erode liberties and centralise power—especially during the Emergency—the BJP used constitutional tools to expand rights, strengthen social justice, and empower the marginalised. Under Vajpayee ji and Modi ji,

amendments have strengthened reservations, given constitutional status to the OBC Commission, extended SC/ST reservations in legislatures, and ensured women's reservation in Parliament.

These aren't policy decisions. They are ideological commitments.

As BJYM karyakartas, we must be intellectually equipped and politically assertive to counter the distortions that accuse the BJP of being anti-Dalit. Let us be clear—those who betrayed Ambedkar in his lifetime and insulted him in their textbooks cannot lecture us on justice or equality.

Dr. Ambedkar stood for education, dignity, and self-reliance. So do we. Through initiatives like PM-SURAJ, the National SC/ST Hub, SHREYAS, and revamped scholarship schemes, our government is building the very Republic Ambedkar envisioned—a nation where opportunity reaches the last person standing.

We at BJYM must champion this cause of welfare, respect, and representation. In our speeches, outreach, and daily work, let the world know: the BJP is not just honouring Ambedkar's memory; it is living his mission.



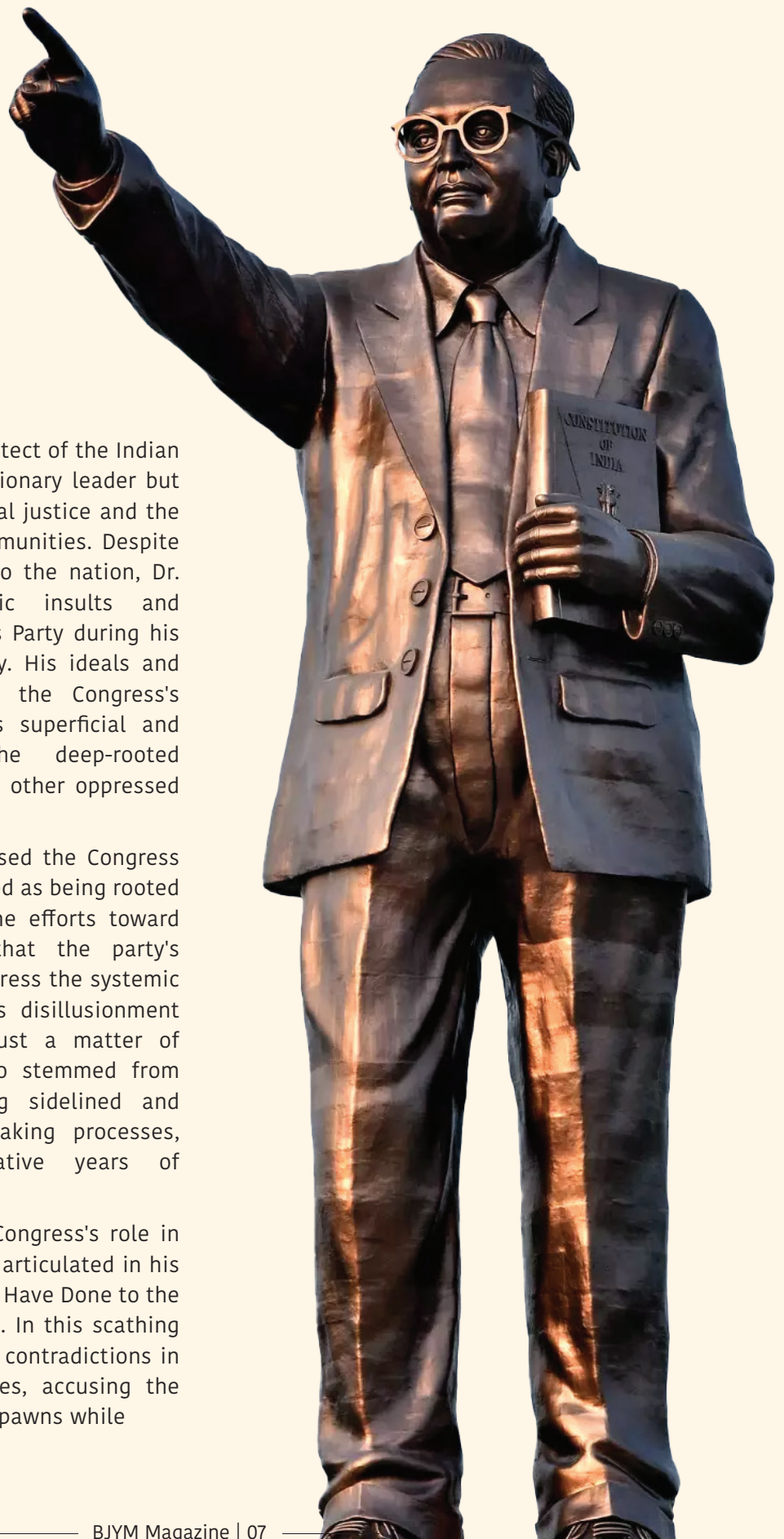
प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी के द्वारा श्री थावरचन्द गेहलोत, केन्द्रीय सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री की उपस्थिति में 07 दिसम्बर, 2017 को डॉ. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर की प्रतिमा का अनावरण
Unveiling of the Statue of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar by Shri Narendra Modi, P.ing Minister in the presence of Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment on 07 December, 2017

From Tokenism to Marginalization: How Congress Betrayed Dr Ambedkar

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the chief architect of the Indian Constitution, was not only a visionary leader but also a tireless advocate for social justice and the upliftment of marginalised communities. Despite his unparalleled contributions to the nation, Dr. Ambedkar endured systematic insults and marginalisation by the Congress Party during his lifetime and even posthumously. His ideals and principles often clashed with the Congress's approach, which he viewed as superficial and insincere in addressing the deep-rooted inequalities faced by Dalits and other oppressed communities.

Dr. Ambedkar consistently opposed the Congress Party's politics, which he criticised as being rooted in tokenism rather than genuine efforts toward social reform. He believed that the party's leadership failed to grasp or address the systemic issues of caste oppression. His disillusionment with the Congress was not just a matter of ideological differences but also stemmed from personal experiences of being sidelined and excluded from key decision-making processes, including during the formative years of independent India.

Dr. Ambedkar's critique of the Congress's role in Dalit upliftment is most notably articulated in his book, *What Congress and Gandhi Have Done to the Untouchables*, published in 1945. In this scathing work, Dr. Ambedkar exposed the contradictions in Congress's policies and practices, accusing the party of using Dalits as political pawns while





failing to address their real issues. He argued that the Congress often resisted measures that would have empowered Dalits, such as reservations, which Dr. Ambedkar championed as essential tools for their political and social empowerment.

Furthermore, Dr. Ambedkar's exclusion from the political mainstream under Congress's dominance was evident in their efforts to prevent his election to the Constituent Assembly and later in the orchestrated campaigns to defeat him in parliamentary elections.

Posthumously, Congress continued to undermine Dr. Ambedkar's legacy by failing to honour his contributions adequately. For decades, they resisted initiatives to memorialise him or recognise his pivotal role in shaping modern India.

Dr. Ambedkar's critique of Congress was not merely an academic exercise but a call to action for Dalits to assert their rights and challenge the entrenched hierarchies perpetuated by the party's policies. His life and work stand as a testament to his unwavering commitment to equality and justice, something that was unacceptable to the Congress.

Systematic Suppression: Hostility towards Dr Ambedkar in Constituent Assembly and Government

Conspiracy to Defeat Dr Ambedkar

- **Bombay Presidency Legislative Election:** In 1936, Ambedkar founded the Independent Labour Party, which contested the 1937 Bombay election to the Central Legislative Assembly for 13 reserved and 4 general seats, securing 11 and 3 seats, respectively. Congress attempted to defeat him in the 1937 Bombay Presidency legislative election by fielding a famous Cricketer named Baloo Palvankar against him. Baloo Palvankar lost to Ambedkar, but it demonstrated the hostility of Congress to Dr Ambedkar.
- **Election to Constituent Assembly:** The Constituent Assembly had 296 members, including 31 reserved for Scheduled Castes, who were elected by Provincial Legislative Assemblies. Propelled by prejudice and vengeance, the Congress's Bombay Premier, B.G.Kher, ensured that Dr Ambedkar didn't go to the Constituent Assembly from Bombay. It was the Namasudra leader, Jogendra Nath Mandal, who ensured that Dr Ambedkar was elected to

the constituent election from Bengal.

- The areas whose representatives voted for Dr Ambedkar, like Barisal, Jessore-Khulna, and Faridpur, were later allowed by the Congress to go to Pakistan despite not being Muslim-majority areas. This necessitated Dr Ambedkar to be re-elected to the constituent assembly. The Hindu Mahasabha leader and a vocal critic of Nehru, Shri M. R. Jayakar, resigned his seat from Pune for Dr Ambedkar to be elected to the constituent assembly.
- **1952 Lok Sabha elections:** The Congress, under the direct supervision of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, joined hands with the Communists to ensure Dr. Ambedkar's defeat. This manipulation was spearheaded by S.K. Patil from the Congress and Communist leader Shripad A. Dange. Together, they orchestrated a campaign against Dr. Ambedkar, fielding the relatively unknown Narayanrao Kajrolkar, who managed to defeat Dr. Ambedkar. Dr. Ambedkar filed a joint election petition before the Chief Election Commissioner to set aside the result and declare it null and void. They claimed, among other things, that an aggregate of 74,333 ballot papers had been rejected and not counted.
- **1954 By-Election:** In by-election for the Bhandara constituency, Congress repeated its efforts to keep Dr. Ambedkar out of Parliament by fielding Kajrolkar again. Even Prime Minister Nehru personally campaigned against Dr. Ambedkar. Dr. Ambedkar's loss was not just an

electoral defeat; it was a statement by the Nehruvian State that there was no space for dissenting intellect or a critique of its hegemony. In a letter to Edwina Mountbatten, Nehru mentioned the need to defeat Dr. Ambedkar in the 1952 elections, further demonstrating Congress's hostility towards him.

- **Removal from Administrative Positions:** Congress removed him from the Labour Ministry, which he had held since 1942 in the Viceroy's Executive Council, when Nehru formed his first interim government in 1946.
- **Nehru's Opposition to Dr. Ambedkar for Drafting the Indian Constitution:** Nehru initially intended to appoint British constitutional expert Ivor Jennings to draft the Indian Constitution, but Dr. Ambedkar was ultimately brought in to undertake the task.
- **Marginalization in Government:** As a minister in Nehru's Cabinet, Dr. Ambedkar was deliberately sidelined:
 - He was excluded from key Cabinet committees on defense and foreign affairs, despite his expertise in economics and law.
 - Even routine responsibilities and portfolio transfers were denied to him, reflecting Congress's reluctance to involve him within the government.
- **Resignation from Nehru's Cabinet:** Dr. Ambedkar's resignation from Nehru's cabinet in 1951 further highlighted his disillusionment





with the Congress. Curiously, Congress ensured that the resignation letter of Dr Ambedkar was not archived, and no copies of it can be located to date. However, in his resignation speech on 10th October 1951, he cited five reasons for his decision:

- 1. Congress's attempts to sideline Dr. Ambedkar from economic policies and institutions despite his being the first Indian to earn a PhD in economics. He was not even appointed to be a member of the main Committees of the Cabinet, such as the Foreign Affairs Committee or the Defence Committee. The Cabinet appointed him to the Economics Affairs Committee when Prime Minister Nehru had gone to England. But Nehru removed him as soon as he got back under the guise of restructuring the committees.
- 2. The Congress government's neglect of issues of Dalits and only focusing on Muslims.
- 3. His opposition to Nehru's handling of the Kashmir issue and inaction in defending Hindus in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).
- 4. He criticised Nehru's foreign policy, which he predicted would isolate India.
- 5. Nehru's lack of commitment to passing the Hindu Code Bill, a crucial reform that Dr. Ambedkar championed. Nehru even proposed to drop the whole Bill even the Marriage and Divorce portion.

Dr Ambedkar recalled that he accepted the Law Ministry only because he could not refuse the call to help build the nation. Nehru promised him the Planning Department due to his vast administrative experience in Labour and C.P.W.D. portfolio as a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council. But Nehru delayed the creation of the Planning department and left Dr Ambedkar out of it when it was finally constituted.

The Constitution did not embody any safeguards for the Backward Classes, as they were left to be done by the Executive Government on the basis of the recommendations of a Commission to be appointed by the President. Dr Ambedkar protested that more than a year had elapsed since we passed the Constitution, but the Congress government did not even think of appointing the Commission.

- **Dr Ambedkar and Women Rights:** Dr. Ambedkar believed that the progress of a community could be measured by the progress of women, and that women were fundamental to the nation and society. However, the Nehru led Congress failed to pass the Hindu Code Bill which would have empowered women. Successive Congress governments refused to give women representation in the parliament and state legislatures. PM Modi led BJP government in 2023 passed the Nārī Śakti Vandan Adhiniyam.
- **Ignoring Dalit Refugees Post-Partition:** After Partition, Dalit refugees from Pakistan faced immense hardship. Congress governments failed to grant them Indian citizenship or address their rehabilitation adequately, particularly Dalit communities like the Namosudras and Matua sect from East Pakistan despite appeals from Dr Ambedkar. It was in 2019 that Prime Minister Shri Narendra

Modi led BJP government passed Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 benefiting mainly Dalit refugees from East Pakistan.

Disrespecting Dr Ambedkar on his Mahaparinirvan

After the Mahaparinirvan of Dr Ambedkar on 6 December 1956, the Nehru government did not allow his cremation in Delhi and forced the family to go to Mumbai instead. No state plane was provided to transport his body, and the flight bill was also sent to Dr Ambedkar's grieving wife. Congress was afraid of the immense popularity of the Dr Ambedkar among the masses and did not want a memorial in Delhi to become an annual pilgrimage point for millions of his followers like Chaitya Bhoomi in Mumbai is today.

Attempt to Erase Dr Ambedkar: Posthumous Neglect by Congress

• **Neglect of Memorials:** Congress systematically ignored Dr. Ambedkar's legacy by refusing to honour him with appropriate memorials while building memorials to members of the Nehru dynasty in 50 acres for each. After his death in 1956, Dr. Ambedkar's residence at 26 Alipur Road, Delhi, was proposed to be converted into a national memorial. However, Nehru rejected this proposal. It was only under the Modi government in 2016 that the foundation for the memorial was laid, and it was inaugurated in 2018.

• **Denial of Bharat Ratna:** Despite Dr Ambedkar's unparalleled contributions to India's Constitution and social justice reforms, Congress ignored his rightful recognition:

- During the tenures of Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, Dr Ambedkar was not awarded the Bharat Ratna.
- In 1970, Congress awarded the Padma Bhushan to N.S. Kajrolkar, the candidate who had defeated Dr. Ambedkar in the 1952 elections.
- It was only in 1990, under a non-Congress government of Shri V.P Singh supported by the BJP, that Dr Ambedkar was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna. It was during this period that a portrait of Dr Ambedkar was installed in the parliament due to the efforts of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

• **Attempt to Brand him Anti-National:** He was called a British Stooge and traitor by the Congress for his participation at the Round Table Conferences at London, which Congress boycotted

• **Mockery Through Educational Content:** In 2012, under the Congress-led UPA-2 government, an NCERT textbook for Class 11 included a derogatory cartoon depicting Dr. Ambedkar being whipped by Nehru.

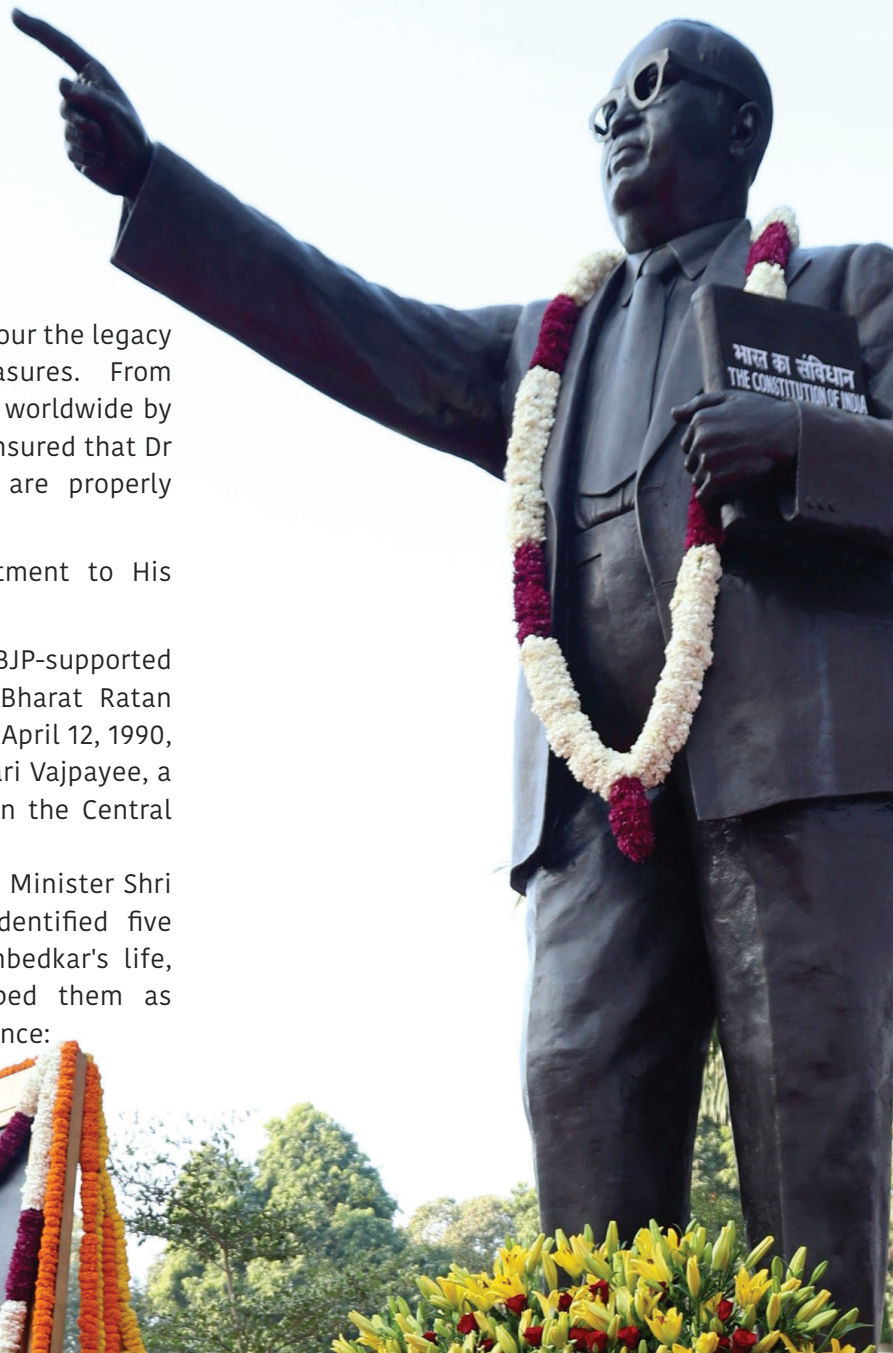


From Panchteerth to Equality: How BJP Honoured Dr Ambedkar

The BJP has consistently made efforts to honour the legacy of Dr Ambedkar through various measures. From developing Panchteerth to taking his legacy worldwide by naming the UPI app after him, the BJP has ensured that Dr Ambedkar's contributions to the country are properly recognised and reach future generations.

Dr. Ambedkar Memorialized: BJP's Commitment to His Legacy

- **Bharat Ratan for Dr Ambedkar:** The BJP-supported third front government conferred the Bharat Ratan upon Dr Ambedkar on March 31, 1990. On April 12, 1990, with the efforts of the late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a portrait of Dr Ambedkar was installed in the Central Hall of Parliament.
- **Development of Panchteerth:** The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led BJP government identified five important sites associated with Dr. Ambedkar's life, termed as "Panchteerth," and developed them as places of historical and cultural significance:



- **Janmabhoomi (Mhow, Madhya Pradesh):** The birthplace of Dr. Ambedkar, developed as a memorial.
- **Shiksha Bhoomi (London):** The place where he pursued higher education.
- **Deeksha Bhoomi (Nagpur):** The place where he embraced Buddhism.
- **Mahaparinirvan Bhoomi (Delhi):** The site of his cremation.
- **Chaitya Bhoomi (Mumbai):** His final resting place, established as a sacred monument.
- **Celebration of Dr. Ambedkar's 125th Birth Anniversary:** The Modi government celebrated the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar by organizing commemorative events in 120 countries, highlighting Babasaheb's contributions to social justice and equality.
- **BHIM App Named after Dr Ambedkar:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the BHIM App which is named after Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. It is based on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) to facilitate e-payments directly through banks and encourage cashless transactions to empower small and medium-sized merchants, farmers, and the economically weaker sections of society.
- **Postage Stamp on Dr Ambedkar:** On September 30, 2015, the Minister of Telecommunications and Information Technology, in the presence of the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, released a commemorative postage stamp in memory of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.
- **Republic Day Parade Tableau on Dr Ambedkar:** The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment showcased a tableau on Dr. B.R. Ambedkar during the Republic Day Parade on Rajpath on January 26, 2016.
- **Installing the Statue of Dr Ambedkar:** The Modi government installed the Statue of Dr B.R. Ambedkar in the Supreme Court and Ministry of Law to honour his contributions and remind the public of his role in shaping India's legal framework.
- **"Statue of Equality" in Mumbai:** A grand statue of Dr. Ambedkar, named the "Statue of Equality," is being constructed in Mumbai to honour his legacy and teachings. As of December 2024, 47% of the statue has been completed.
- **Declaring Ambedkar Jayanti National Holiday:** Dr Ambedkar Jayanti was declared a public holiday by the central government for the first time in 2025.
- **Preservation of Dr. Ambedkar's London Home:** The BJP government purchased the house in London where Dr. Ambedkar lived during his time at the London School of Economics. The property has been developed as a memorial and cultural centre to inspire people worldwide.
- **Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, Delhi:** It was first proposed when Shri Chandra Shekhar was the prime minister. But no progress was made under the succeeding Congress government. For 40 years, this idea remained confined to paper and saw no progress.
- It was revived under the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. On April 20, 2015, during the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Dr. Ambedkar, PM Modi laid the foundation stone for the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre at 15, Janpath, New Delhi.
- The Dr. Ambedkar International Centre was inaugurated on 7th December, 2017 by the Prime Minister Modi who envisaged the centre as 'Centre of Excellence' for study, research, analysis and policy making in the field of Socio-Economic Transformation.
- **Digitization and Publication of the Works of Dr Ambedkar :** The government has started digitizing and publishing Dr. Ambedkar's writings and speeches to make them more accessible to a wider audience.
- **Special Session of the Parliament:** During the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Dr. Ambedkar, a special joint session of Parliament was held on 26 and 27 November 2015 in memory of Ambedkar.

EMERGENCY DECLARED JP, Morarji, Advani, Asoka Mehta & Vajpayee arrested

NEW DELHI June 26: The President has declared a state of emergency threatening the security of India "due to internal disturbances".

The emergency declared in 1971 and still in force relates to threat to the security of India from external aggression.

The President signed the order declaring the emergency at about seven this morning.

Earlier the Cabinet met at six a.m. and considered the situation and approved the recommendation to the President for the declaration of emergency.

NEW DELHI: Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan was taken into police custody early

The morning flight.

According to the Superintendent of the central district police Mr R. K. Ohri Mr Narayan was detained under the

Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) warrants for his arrest were issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi Mr Susil Kumar. It is learnt

that warrants for arrest against many leaders of non-CPI opposition parties have also been issued.

NEW DELHI June 26: Mr. Morarji Desai was allowed to have his bath and perform

Raj Narain, Mody &

"puja" before police officers took him into custody shortly after 2 a.m. His clothes were packed in advance and kept in a waiting taxi.

When the police party reached his house and informed him that he was being taken into custody under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act

Mr Desai said he would like to go to toilet and have his bath. The police party agreed and later Mr Desai performed

his prayers before boarding the waiting taxi.

Mr Asoka Mehta, President of Congress (O) has also been arrested. He was picked up from his house at 6-45 a.m.

a meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee.

According to reports from various Haryana districts the State police swung into action in the small hours of this morning and arrested a number of Opposition leaders including two Jana Sangh MLAs.

CHANDIGARH: Over 35 top Opposition leaders most of them belonging to the Jana Sangh and the Socialist Party were arrested early today by the Punjab police from throughout the State under the MISA according to an official source here.

The Haryana Government this morning arrested Daily



From Emergency to Reservations: How Congress Undermined the Constitution

The Constitution has been amended 106 times, out of which a maximum number of amendments were made under the Congress rule. Congress amended the Constitution 75 times, often for narrow political gains, including during the Emergency period when fundamental rights were curtailed. The Janata government made 9 amendments.

14 amendments were made during the BJP-led government under Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Only 8 amendments have been made under the BJP-led government by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. All amendments under the BJP focused on strengthening social justice, economic growth, and inclusivity, with consensus from Opposition parties.

Article 368 of the Constitution of India gives Parliament the power to amend the Constitution. This provision was envisioned by the constitution makers to enable the parliament to update and adapt the constitution to changing scenarios.

However, the Congress party has consistently undermined the Constitution of India through actions that prioritise political expediency over constitutional integrity.

First Constitutional Amendment, 1951

The very first amendment to the Constitution, enacted by Jawaharlal Nehru on May 10, 1951, curtailed the freedom of speech by amending Article 19 under an interim government that had not won any elections and lacked a popular mandate to change the Constitution.

This amendment was primarily aimed at overturning a Supreme Court verdict that had ruled in favour of two weeklies, Crossroads and Organiser, which had been banned by the government for their critical stance against the Nehru administration. The editors of both publications had successfully challenged the government's decision in the Supreme Court, prompting this restrictive amendment.

24th & 25th Constitutional Amendment, 1971

Golaknath v. State of Punjab was a landmark 1967 Indian Supreme Court case that established that Parliament cannot limit the fundamental rights in the Constitution. The Congress government, led by Indira Gandhi, brought the 24th constitutional amendment, which enabled Parliament to dilute Fundamental Rights through amendments to the Constitution. It was made compulsory for the President to give consent to the Constitution Amendment Bill.

The 25th Amendment restricted property rights and the right to challenge inadequate compensation in case the state takes over private property. It stipulated that any law enacted to implement the Directive Principle contained in Article 39 (b) or (c) cannot be challenged on the grounds of infringement of rights.

These amendments were challenged before thirteen judges of the Supreme Court in Kesavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala of 1973. The Supreme Court overruled Golaknath v. State of Punjab, holding that the term 'law' does not refer to constitutional amendments; hence, Parliament can amend any part of the Constitution. More importantly, seven of the judges held that the amendment power does not include the power to alter the basic structure or framework of the constitution to change its identity, creating what has come to be known as the 'basic structure doctrine'.

A day after the judgment was announced, the furious Indira Gandhi appointed a new Chief Justice upon the retirement of Chief Justice Sikri. Instead of appointing the most senior judge, as was the custom, she appointed Justice Ray.

Imposition of Emergency (1975-77)

In June 1975, a High Court invalidated Gandhi's 1971 election due to electoral fraud, barring her from elections for six years. Gandhi's reacted by proclaiming a state of emergency, after which Parliament used its amending power to enact two amendments: according to the 38th Amendment, the President's decision to issue a Proclamation of Emergency and any laws adopted during the emergency were immune from judicial review;

and the 39th Amendment altered, retroactively, the laws under which Gandhi was convicted and prohibited any court from adjudicating any issue on the election of the President, Vice-President, Parliament Speaker and Prime Minister, even if such a matter was already pending before a court. 39th amendment was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Friday on August 7 and passed on the same day without any debate. It was presented and passed in the Rajya Sabha the very next day, on August 8. On August 9, despite being a Saturday, a non-working day for legislative bodies, special sessions of state assemblies in Congress-ruled states were convened to secure the necessary approval from 50% of the states, a constitutional requirement for such an amendment. Following this, on August 10, a Sunday, Rashtrapati Bhavan kept its doors open to ensure the amendment was finalised. This extraordinary urgency was orchestrated to ensure that Indira Gandhi's case could be dismissed on August 11, the following day. Later, it was struck down by the Supreme Court for violating the basic structure of the Constitution.

42nd Constitutional Amendment

The 42nd Amendment, often referred to as the "mini-Constitution," was enacted during the Emergency and stood as a stark example of authoritarian overreach aimed at centralising power in the executive. This amendment curtailed judicial independence by restricting judicial review and undermined the separation of powers, a cornerstone of the Indian Constitution.

This amendment, comprised of 59 sections, declared, among other things, in section 55 that: 'No amendment of this Constitution ... shall be called in question in any court on any ground', and 'for the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that there shall be no limitation whatever on the constituent power of Parliament to amend by way of addition, variation or repeal the provisions of this Constitution...'

The Preamble of the Constitution was altered to include the words 'Secular' and 'Socialist.' Interestingly, during the original Constitutional debates, a senior parliamentarian proposed a

similar amendment to add these words. However, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar firmly rejected the proposal, arguing that citizens should not be coerced into adopting specific ideologies. Instead, he emphasised that individuals must have the freedom to choose their beliefs and ideologies, preserving their independence of thought.

A new Article 31D was introduced, granting the government sweeping powers to label any individual or organisation as 'anti-national' (Deshadrohi). This article included provisions to brand protests against the government or activities by Dharmic organisations, such as ISKCON, as anti-national. The amendment was aimed at discrediting anti-government leaders and protestors like Jayaprakash Narayan, Morarji Desai, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, George Fernandes, and others, who had garnered massive support nationwide. Additionally, it targeted Dharmic organisations whose work indirectly contradicted Congress's minority appeasement strategy, branding their initiatives as a threat to the government's agenda.

Crushing Democratic Rights During Emergency

Fundamental rights were diluted, with the directive principles being elevated above them, disrupting the delicate balance of constitutional

governance. In a move to perpetuate Gandhi family power, the amendment also extended the term of Parliament from five to six years, reflecting Congress's disregard for democratic norms. It remains a cautionary tale of how the Congress party is anti-constitutional and seeks to change the constitution.

The imposition of the Emergency by Indira Gandhi's Congress government marked one of the darkest chapters in India's democratic history. Fundamental rights, including freedom of speech, movement, and assembly, were suspended, and the country was thrust into an authoritarian regime. Over 100,000 political opponents, activists, and dissenters were jailed without trial under draconian laws such as the Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA).

During this period, the press was heavily censored, and judicial independence was undermined, eroding the very pillars of democracy. Policies like forced sterilisations and large-scale slum demolitions caused widespread suffering, demonstrating the regime's blatant disregard for human rights and the dignity of its citizens.

The Emergency serves as a stark reminder of how the anarchist politics of the Congress party aims





to dismantle democratic values, emphasising the need for constant vigilance to safeguard India's constitutional freedoms.

During the Emergency, the Congress government imposed draconian press censorship, silencing dissent and monopolizing the narrative to consolidate its authoritarian rule. Journalists were harassed, publications were forced to shut down, and blank editorials emerged as haunting symbols of resistance against state oppression.

The press, widely regarded as the fourth pillar of democracy, was stripped of its role as a watchdog. By controlling media outlets and suppressing independent reporting, Congress stifled public discourse, ensuring that citizens were exposed only to pro-government propaganda. This blatant assault on press freedom not only eroded democratic values but also undermined the trust between the people and their institutions.

During the Emergency, the Congress government weaponised state machinery for widespread surveillance, turning India into a police state. Opposition leaders, activists, and journalists were closely monitored, intercepting their communications to crush dissent and consolidate power. This gross violation of privacy rights revealed Congress's readiness to misuse government resources to maintain political control at all costs.

The pervasive surveillance created an atmosphere of fear and distrust, silencing voices of opposition and stifling public participation in governance.

Citizens were left wary of expressing their opinions as the government sought to eliminate any form of resistance.

Misuse of Article 356

Article 356, also known as the President's Rule, is designed to be invoked when a state cannot function constitutionally. It grants the Union Cabinet power to dismiss democratically elected state governments and dissolve legislative assemblies. The Constituent Assembly expected that it would be used only in exceptional cases. BR Ambedkar explained, "I do not altogether deny that there is a possibility of these articles being abused or employed for political purposes... and I share the sentiments that such articles will never be called into operation and that they would remain a dead letter."

However, successive governments used it with impunity to dismiss the non-governments in the states. Congress has imposed the President's Rule 88 times. Since 1950, across the tenures of all six Congress Prime Ministers, the President's Rule has been imposed 88 times for a cumulative duration of 22,037 days. Congress governments imposed the President's Rule at a rate of just over three times every two years, with an average duration of 250 days for each instance.

This repeated invocation of Article 356, often on flimsy or fabricated pretexts, was aimed at destabilising opposition-led states and consolidating central authority for a single-family dictatorship.

Attempts to Sabotage the Constitutional Mandate on Social Justice

The Congress party has consistently undermined the Constitution of India through actions that prioritise political expediency over constitutional integrity. From rejecting the Kaka Kalelkar Report on backward class reservations to delaying the implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendations, the party has demonstrated an unwillingness to address social inequalities.

Rejection of the Kaka Kalelkar Report (1956)

The Nehru government dismissed the recommendations of the Kaka Kalelkar Commission, which had proposed reservations for backward classes. This rejection exposed Congress's unwillingness to address social inequalities, undermining the aspirations of marginalised communities.

Nehru's Letter on Reservations (1961)

In 1961, Nehru wrote to state Chief Ministers, expressing his opposition to reservations, claiming they would lead to inefficiency and lower standards. Such remarks reflected a disregard for affirmative action as a tool for social justice and disdain for the deprived sections of society.

Indira Gandhi Blocking OBC Reservations

Indira Gandhi delayed the implementation of the Mandal Commission report, causing a delay in OBC reservations.

Rajiv Gandhi's Contempt for SC Reservations (1985)

Former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's statement on March 3, 1985, dismissing SC reservations by saying, "We should not encourage fools through reservations," revealed Congress's insensitivity towards the struggles of Dalits, Tribals and backward classes and their constitutional rights.

Opposition to the Mandal Commission Report (1990)

Rajiv Gandhi vehemently opposed the Mandal Commission's recommendations for OBC reservations in the 1990 Lok Sabha session. It was the longest speech of his career, spanning more than two and a half hours, in which he vehemently opposed reservations for the SC/ST and OBCs. In fact, it also stands as the longest speech delivered by any member of the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty. Under Rajiv Gandhi, the Congress would publish open advertisements against reservations seeking votes in the name of ending reservations for Dalits and tribals.

Undermining Reservations for Scheduled Castes

Congress has been repeatedly trying to include Muslims and Christians in the reservations meant for scheduled castes. It goes against the Constitution. This would violate the Constitution Order issued by the Law Ministry under Dr. B.R. Ambedkar in 1950.



Pushing for Reservations Based on Religion

The Congress party has consistently attempted to grant religion-based reservations to Muslims in states under its governance, even though such proposals fail to withstand legal scrutiny and contradict the letter and spirit of the Constitution. The Constitution makes no provision for reservations based on religion.

The majority of the Muslim population already falls under the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category and is eligible for reservation benefits. Additionally, economically weaker sections (EWS) among all communities, including Muslims, are eligible for the EWS quota. Hence, advocating for religion-based reservations specifically for Muslims is redundant and lacks constitutional validity.

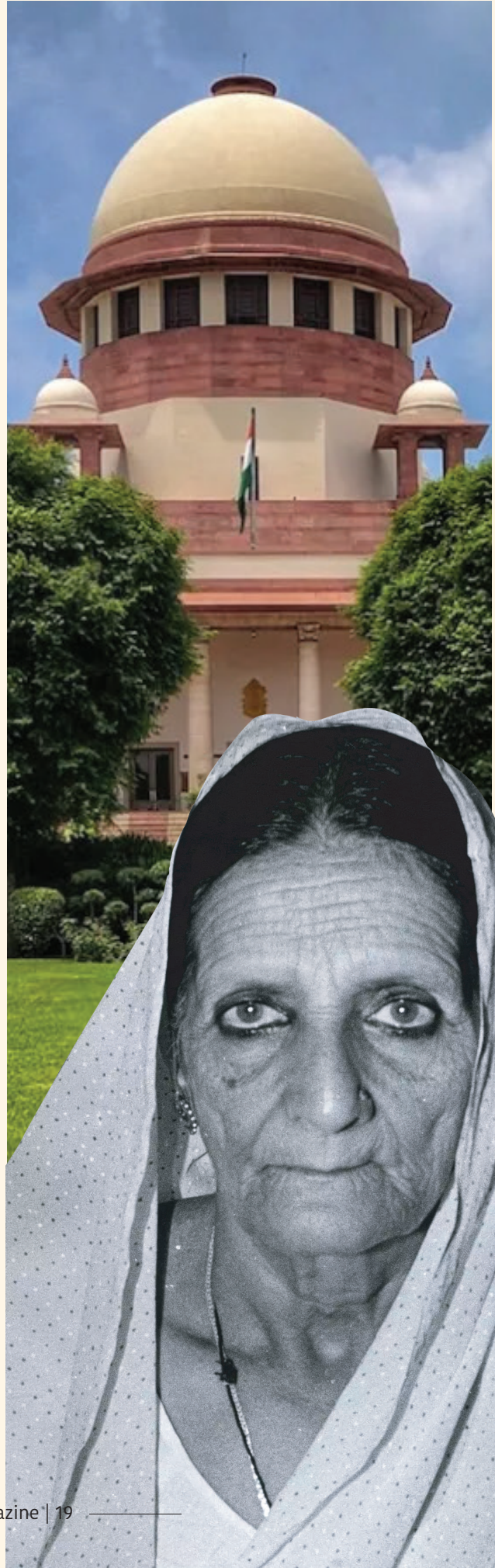
Congress's persistence in pushing for such divisive policies is not only impractical but also dangerous. It undermines social harmony and echoes the very identity politics that contributed to the partition of India.

Minority Institutions

Educational institutions like Jamia Millia (2011) and AMU (1981), which receive government aid, were classified as minority institutions by the Congress government, thereby denying reservations to SCs, STs, and OBCs. Congress continues to oppose any attempt to provide reservations to the deprived sections in the AMU or Jamia Millia Islamia. It brought the 93rd constitutional amendment (2005) to nullify the Supreme Court judgment in the Inamdar case (2005) but exempted minority educational institutions from providing reservations to SCs, STs, and OBCs.

Shah Bano Case (1985)

The Congress government's decision to overturn the Supreme Court's landmark judgment in the Shah Bano case was a glaring example of prioritizing vote-bank politics over constitutional values. By enacting the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986, Congress sought to appease orthodox sections within its vote bank, undermining judicial



authority and the principle of secular law.

This regressive move denied Muslim women their rightful maintenance under a secular legal framework, blatantly contradicting the Constitution's commitment to gender equality and justice. Instead of upholding women's rights, Congress chose to reinforce patriarchal practices, deepening religious divisions and exposing its inability to stand for progressive reforms.

Blocking Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

The Congress party has consistently opposed the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC), despite its explicit mention in the Directive Principles of State Policy as a constitutional goal. This opposition was rooted in Congress's strategy of minority appeasement for electoral gains, prioritising vote-bank politics over the larger interest of national integration and social justice. By resisting the UCC, Congress perpetuated inequality in personal laws, denying many citizens the constitutional promise of equality before the law. This reluctance not only upheld discriminatory practices but also hindered essential social reforms necessary for building a truly secular and inclusive society.



Weakening Institutions

The Congress party systematically weakened India's democratic institutions by politicising key constitutional bodies such as the Election Commission, the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). Congress compromised their independence by appointing party loyalists to these critical positions and eroded their credibility.

Until 1989, the ECI was a single-member body. This changed during Rajiv Gandhi's tenure as Prime Minister, amid friction with the then Chief Election Commissioner, R.V.S. Peri Sastri. Ahead of the 9th Lok Sabha elections, the Congress government made the Election Commission a multi-member body to dilute the Chief Election Commissioner's (CEC) authority.

In 1993, T.N. Seshan moved the Supreme Court against the Congress government, accusing it of attempts to undermine the autonomy of the ECI. Under Congress, appointments to the ECI were made solely on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, leading to favouritism and political interference.

The Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners (Appointment,





Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, marked a significant departure from Congress-era practices. This Act establishes a selection committee to recommend appointments to the ECI. The committee includes the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, and a Union Cabinet Minister, ensuring greater transparency and inclusivity.

Supersession of Judiciary

The Congress Party has always tried to undermine the independence of the judiciary. Nehru had also spoken of two ways to deal with times when the Judiciary came in the way of the Legislature implementing social reforms—one, to amend the Constitution; the other, the executive appointing judges. He deemed the latter as “not a very good method” as it could mean appointing “judges of its own liking for getting decisions in its own favour.”

When Chief Justice of India (CJI) Harilal J. Kania died in 1951, Nehru wanted to appoint Justice S.R. Das over three senior judges, but an ‘unwritten law’ of seniority prevailed, and Justice Patanjali Sastri became CJI—India’s only acting CJI for a brief time.

After CJI Patanjali Sastri's retirement in 1954, Nehru wanted to appoint M.C. Chagla from the Bombay High Court directly as CJI, bypassing Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan due to their differences over Kashmir. Supreme Court judges strongly opposed the move, warning the government it might as well appoint an entirely new Supreme Court if it ignored seniority.

In 1973, Justice A.N. Ray was appointed Chief Justice of India, superseding three senior judges who had ruled against the government in landmark cases like the Kesavananda Bharati judgment, which upheld the basic structure doctrine of the Constitution.

This unprecedented move undermined the judiciary's credibility and sent a clear signal that judicial appointments and promotions could be influenced by political loyalty rather than merit. Such blatant interference weakened the judiciary's role as an impartial arbiter and a check on executive overreach, threatening the delicate balance of power envisioned in the Constitution.

Undermining the Finance Commission

The Finance Commission, established under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution, is a constitutional body responsible for recommending the distribution of financial resources between the Union and the states.

The Planning Commission was an extra-constitutional body established in 1950 through an executive resolution, lacked constitutional or statutory backing. It quickly expanded its mandate to include decisions on resource allocation to states. This overlap with the Finance Commission's jurisdiction created a parallel structure that diluted the Finance Commission's authority.

The Planning Commission's resource allocation often reflected political considerations rather than objective criteria, undermining the

equitable distribution of resources. Its functioning was undemocratic, bypassing parliamentary oversight and public accountability. Its members were appointed by the Prime Minister, concentrating power within the executive.

This violated the spirit of the Constitution, which envisages checks and balances through institutions like the Finance Commission, whose recommendations are submitted to and debated in Parliament. The Modi government abolished the Planning Commission in 2015.

Creating Unconstitutional National Advisory Council (NAC)

The National Advisory Council (NAC) was an advisory body set up in 2004 to advise the Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh. Sonia Gandhi served as its chairperson for much of the UPA's tenure. . It tried to undermine even the parliament by appropriating the power to draft legislation and vesting it in unelected 'activists' of questionable motives and allegiance. It reduced the position of the Prime Minister to that of the rubber stamp of the Nehru dynasty.

Delayed Panchayati Raj Empowerment

Congress consistently delayed the decentralisation of governance by neglecting Panchayati Raj institutions for decades despite the Constitution's emphasis on local self-governance.

Only under external and political pressures was the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, which formalised the Panchayati Raj system, enacted in 1992—nearly four decades after independence.



This prolonged neglect deprived rural communities of adequate resources, decision-making authority, and meaningful representation, leaving grassroots governance stagnant.

The Congress party's reluctance to strengthen Panchayati Raj institutions reflected its unwillingness to empower rural India, highlighting its preference for centralised control over genuine democratic decentralisation.

Opposition to Abrogation of Article 370

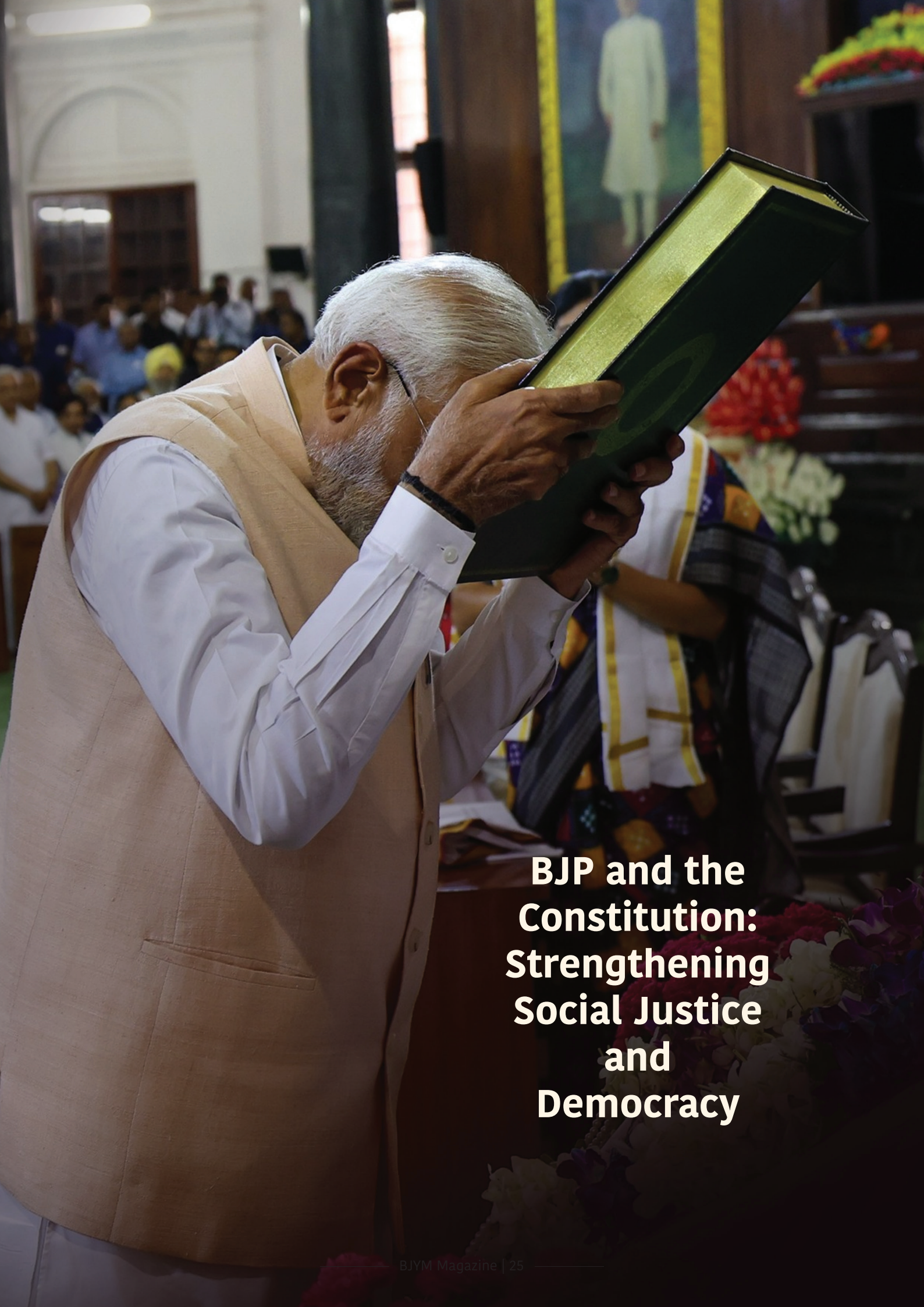
Congress vehemently opposed the abrogation of Article 370, a historic decision allowing full constitutional integration of Jammu and Kashmir and the Republic of India. Congress continues to demand the restoration of Article 370, thus threatening to end reservations for SC, ST, and OBC in Jammu and Kashmir and diluting equal property rights of women.



Constitutional Amendments under Congress

Amendment	Prime Minister	Articles Amended / Introduced	Impact	Attack on
1 st Amendment	Jawaharlal Nehru	19	➤ Curtailed Freedom of Speech & Expression so as to counter the Critical Media.	Fundamental Rights
24 th Amendment	Indira Gandhi	13	➤ Dilution of Fundamental Rights of Citizens.	Fundamental Rights
		368	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Granting unlimited Powers to Amend the Constitution. ➤ Curtailing the powers of the President to reject, hold or delay the process of Amendment. 	Judiciary / Executive / Presidential Powers
25 th Amendment	Indira Gandhi	31 & 31 C	➤ A citizen's right to challenge the state's decision over the amount decided to be given to the land owner for its acquisition was made unquestionable at the court of law.	Fundamental Rights
38 th Amendment	Indira Gandhi	352, 356, 359, 360	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Declaration of National Emergency by the President/ Enforcement of Presidential rule over a state/ any orders issued with respect to any Economic Emergency was made unquestionable at the court of law. ➤ Fundamental rights of the citizens could be suspended after the proclamation of emergency. 	Executive/ Judiciary/ Fundamental Rights
		123, 213, 239B	➤ Ordinances/ Orders issued by the President/ Governors of States/ Administrative officers of Union Territories were made unquestionable at the Court of Law.	Executive/ Judiciary
39 th Amendment	Indira Gandhi	71, 329, 329A	➤ Restrictions on Judicial scrutiny of the post of Prime Minister. Irrespective of electoral malpractice, no case can be filed against the president, vice president, speaker of Lok sabha and prime minister. It was also made retrospectively effective.	Judiciary
42 nd Amendment	Indira Gandhi	Preamble	➤ The words Socialist and Secular were added.	Fundamentals of Constitution
		368	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Any Amendments made to the constitution were made unquestionable at the court of law. ➤ Unlimited Powers were given to the Parliament to 	Executive/ Judiciary/

			change/ Amend the Constitution.	Presidential Powers
		31C, 31D, 32A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fundamental rights could be compromised over Directive principles of State policies. ➤ A new law to curb Anti-National activities. It was very feeble, primarily targeted towards Anti-Government or Anti-Indira Protesters. It was designed in such a way that Any Individual or organisation who stood against the government could be booked under this law. 	Fundamental Rights
		74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ President has to execute his duties only in accordance to the Cabinet suggestions. 	Presidential Powers
		77, 166	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Executive orders by the President and the Governors were made unquestionable in the Court of law. 	Judiciary
		81,82,83,100, 102,103,170, 172,189,191, 192	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Upper limit and Lower limit of the total voters of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies which were earlier freezed were now furthered by stalling the process of delimitation of Constituencies. ➤ The period of any Vidhansabha and Lokasabha were extended to Six years from Five years ➤ Quorum for conducting the business of the house were taken away. ➤ Criteria for Disqualification of a member for holding the office of profit was conveniently changed. 	Legislature
		145,217,225, 226,227, 228, 131A, 139A, 144A, 226A, 228A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The powers of the Supreme court and Chief justice of India were intruded. ➤ The strength of the Constitutional bench was changed. 	Judiciary
		352, 353, 356, 357, 358, 359	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Introduced proclamation of Regional Emergencies. ➤ The period of Presidential rule was extended to One year from Six months. ➤ Suspension of Fundamental rights during emergencies couldn't was made unquestionable in the court of law. ➤ Suspension of Fundamental rights can be applied through out the country provided that there is an ongoing emergency in any part or region of India. 	Judiciary, Fundamental Rights, Executive, Legislature



**BJP and the
Constitution:
Strengthening
Social Justice
and
Democracy**

Celebration of the Constitution Day

Ten years ago, November 26 was primarily observed by individuals and organisations who deeply revered Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. In 2015, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, took the historic step of designating this day as Constitution Day to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution by the Constituent Assembly of India. Earlier in 2010, to commemorate 60 years of the Indian Constitution, the then Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Narendra Modi, organised a unique and symbolic "Constitution Pride Yatra." As part of this celebration, a copy of the Indian Constitution was ceremonially placed on the head of an elephant and paraded through the city, showcasing reverence for this foundational document. Prior to 2015, November 26 was marked as Law Day, primarily recognised within the judicial and academic spheres. Today, the entire country proudly celebrates our Constitution, honouring Dr Ambedkar's enduring legacy as the architect of this monumental document.

Anniversaries of the adoption of the Constitution:

- **25th Anniversary:** A dark period in history under the Emergency, when constitutional rights were suspended, press freedom stifled, and democracy strangled—a stain on the Congress party's record.
- **50th Anniversary:** Celebrated under Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee on 26th November 2000, with a message of unity, public participation, and partnership, reflecting the true spirit of the Constitution.
- **60th Anniversary:** Marked in Gujarat with unprecedented fervour under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The Constitution was honoured through a ceremonial procession, the 'Samvidhan Gaurav Yatra,' symbolizing reverence and public awareness of its significance.
- **75th Anniversary:** Under the leadership of PM Modi a historic year-long celebration to commemorate the 75 years of the adoption of the Constitution of India, is being observed. These celebrations are being conducted under the campaign tagline "Hamara Samvidhan, Hamara Swabhimaan" and aim to honour the contributions of the Constitution's makers while reiterating the core values enshrined in it.



Amendments to the Constitution

Under the BJP rule, the constitution has been amended 22 times, unlike the 75 times under Congress rule. 14 amendments were introduced under Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, and only 8 amendments were made under Shri Narendra Modi. Excluding procedural and technical amendments, nine directly advanced social justice, while the rest focused on regional justice, strengthening the judiciary, and enhancing democratic ethos. Unlike Congress, these amendments respected the basic structure of the Constitution.

Constitutional Amendments under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Amendment	Articles Amended/ Introduced	Impact	Strengthening
99 th Amendment	Insertion of new articles 124A, 124B and 124C. Amendments to Articles 127, 128, 217, 222, 224A, 231.	The formation of the National Judicial Appointments Commission was a standing demand, and all parties supported it.	Judicial System
100 th Amendment	Schedule 1	Exchange of certain enclave territories with Bangladesh and conferment of citizenship rights to residents of enclaves consequent to the signing of Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) Treaty between India and Bangladesh.	Diplomatic Treaty Obligations and National Unity
101 st Amendment	Addition of articles 246A, 269A, 279A. Deletion of Article 268A. Amendment of articles 248, 249, 250, 268, 269, 270, 271, 286, 366, 368, Sixth Schedule, Seventh Schedule	Introduction of GST	Economic Unity and Regional Justice
102 nd Amendment	Addition of articles 338B, 342A, and Added Clause 26C. Modification of articles 338, 366	Constitutional Status to the OBC Commission	Social Justice

103 rd Amendment	Amendment to Article 15, added Clause [6], Amendment to Article 16, added Clause [6].	10% Reservation for EWS	Social Justice
104 th Amendment	334	To extend the reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and states assemblies for another 10 years. Removed the reserved seats for the Anglo-Indian community in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies by not extending it further.	Social Justice
105 th Amendment	338B, 342A, 366	To restore the power of the state governments to identify Other Backward Classes (OBCs) that are socially and educationally backward.	Social Justice
106 th Amendment	Amended article 239AA. Insertion of articles 330A, 332A, 334A.	33% reservation for women in the parliament and state legislatures.	Gender Justice

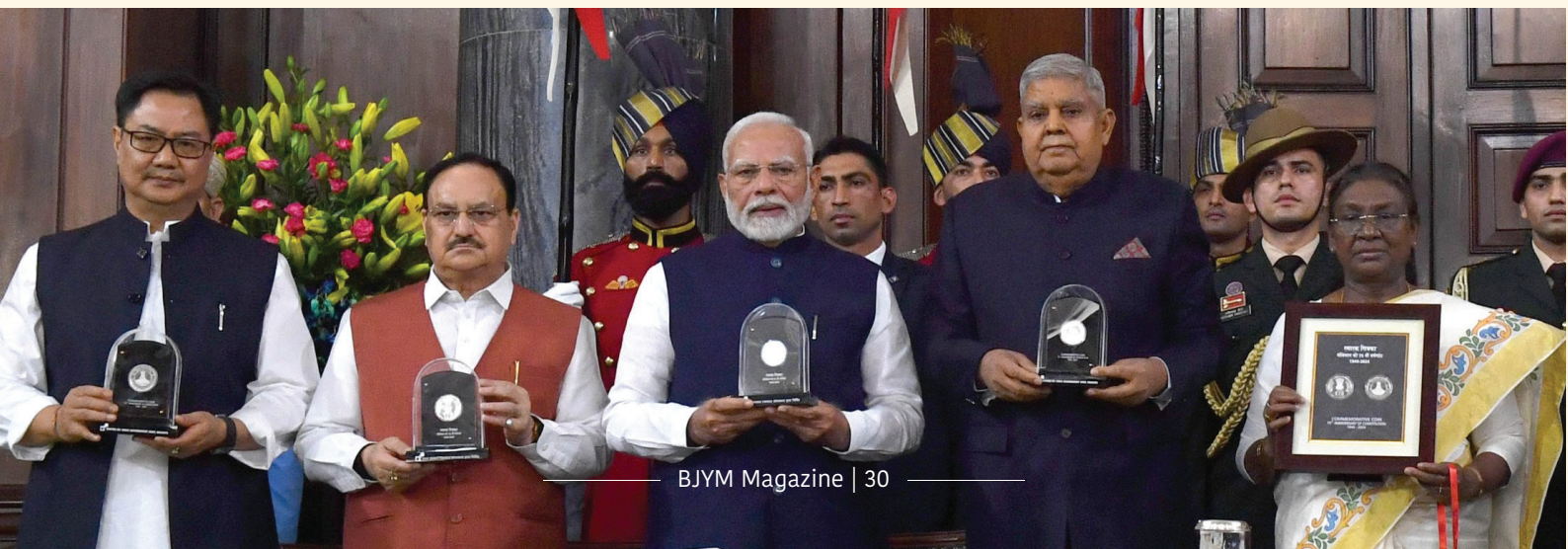
Constitutional Amendments under Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

Amendment	Articles Amended/ Introduced	Impact	Strengthening
79 th Amendment	334	Extend reservation for SCs and STs and nomination of Anglo-Indian members in Parliament and State Assemblies for another ten years, i.e. up to 2010.	Social Justice
80 th Amendment	Amend articles 269 and 270. Remove article 272.	Implement the Tenth Finance Commission recommendation to simplify the tax structures by pooling and sharing all taxes between states and the centre.	Procedural Amendment
81 st Amendment	16	Protect SCs and STs reservation in filling backlog of vacancies.	Social Justice
82 nd Amendment	335	Permit relaxation of qualifying marks and other criteria in	Social Justice

		reservation in promotion for SCs and STs candidates.	
83d Amendment	243M	Exempt Arunachal Pradesh from reservation for Scheduled Castes in Panchayati Raj institutions.	Procedural Amendment
84 th Amendment	51,81,82, 170,330, 332	Extend the usage of the 1971 national census population figures for the state-wise distribution of parliamentary seats.	Technical Amendment
85 th Amendment	16	A technical amendment to protect Consequential seniority in case of promotions of SCs and STs Employees.	Social Justice
86 th Amendment	Amend 45, 51 A. Insert article 21A.	Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan - Provides Right to Education until the age of fourteen.	Fundamental Rights
87 th Amendment	81, 82, 170, 330	Extend the usage of 2001 national census population figures for statewide distribution of parliamentary seats.	Procedural Amendment
88 th Amendment	270, 268A	To extend statutory cover for levy and utilisation of Service Tax.	Procedural Amendment
89 th Amendment	Amend article 338. Insert article 338A	The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was bifurcated into the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.	Social Justice
90 th Amendment	332	Reservation in Assam Assembly relating to Bodoland Territory Area.	Regional Justice
91 st Amendment	Amend articles 75 and 164. Insert article 361B. Amend schedule 10.	Restrict the size of council of ministers to 15% of total members & to strengthen Anti Defection laws.	Strengthening Democracy
92 nd Amendment	Schedule 8	Include Bodo , Dogri , Santali and Mathili as official languages.	Regional Justice

Key Amendments by Jan Sangh/BJP-supported Governments

Amendment	Articles Amended/ Introduced	Impact	Strengthening
43 rd Amendment	Amend articles 145, 226, 228 and 366. Remove articles 31D, 32A, 131A, 144A, 226A and 228A.	Amendment passed after revocation of internal emergency in the Country. Repeals 'Anti-Freedom' amendments enacted through Amendment Bill 42.	Restoring the Constitution
44 th Amendment	Amend articles 19, 22, 30, 31A, 31C, 38, 71, 74, 77, 83, 103, 105, 123, 132, 133, 134, 139A, 150, 166, 172, 192, 194, 213, 217, 225, 226, 227, 239B, 329, 352, 356, 358, 359, 360 and 371F. Insert articles 134A and 361A. Remove articles 31, 257A and 329A. Amend part 12. Amend schedule 9	Amendment passed after revocation of internal emergency in the Country. Provides for human rights safeguards and mechanisms to prevent abuse of executive and legislative authority. Annuls some Amendments enacted in Amendment Bill 42.	Restoring the Constitution
62 nd Amendment	334	Extend reservation for SCs and STs and nomination of Anglo-Indian members in Parliament and State Assemblies for another ten years, i.e. up to 2000.	Social Justice
65 th Amendment	338	Formation of National Commission for Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe	Social Justice





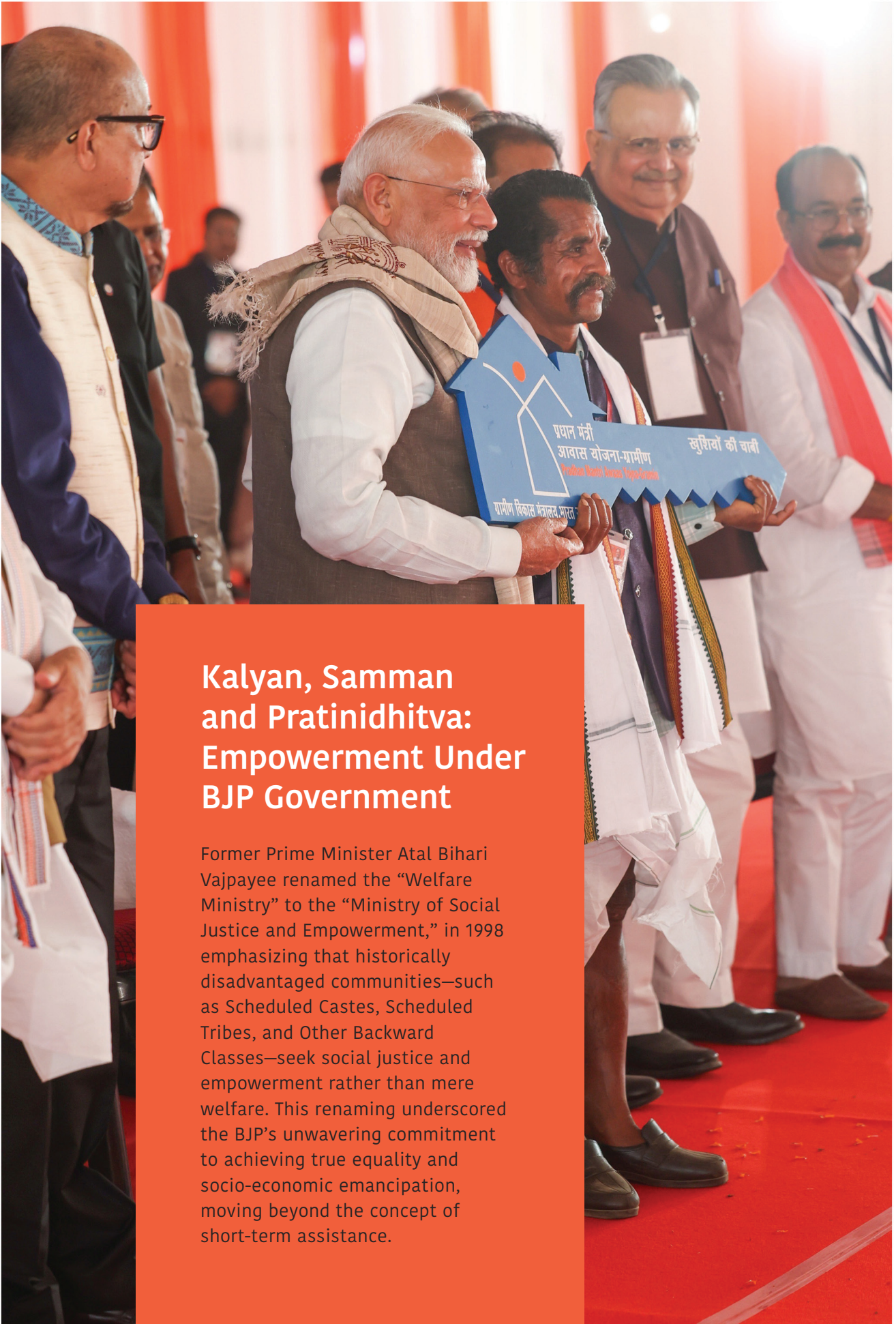
The Jan Sangh supported the Janta government and amended the constitution to undo the damage done by Indira Gandhi's Congress government during the emergency. The amendments were aimed at restoring fundamental rights, democratic values, and justice. They show the commitment to federalism, separation of power, and respect for the architects of the Constitution. Other key amendments were aimed at strengthening social justice in India.

During the tenure of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, five constitutional amendments were enacted specifically for the benefit of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These amendments addressed backlog vacancies in government jobs and ensured consequential seniority during promotions for employees from these communities.

The National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, established under the V.P Singh government with the BJP's support, was further bifurcated during the tenure of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to ensure focused attention and uphold social justice.

Dr Ambedkar envisioned free education for every child under 14 by 1960 under Article 45. Successive Congress governments failed to deliver on this promise, but under Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the Constitution was amended to implement the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, ensuring free education for children. Stringent anti-defection laws were introduced, and the size of the Cabinet was limited to a maximum of 15% of the total legislative strength, strengthening political accountability and governance.

Of the eight amendments made during the tenure of Shri Narendra Modi, five directly advanced social and gender justice. Notable amendments include granting constitutional status to the OBC Commission, implementing 10% reservation for economically weaker sections, and passing 33% reservation for women in legislatures, fulfilling long-standing commitments. Others were aimed at strengthening the judicial system by ensuring transparency and democratic accountability, economic integration of the country by creating one nation, one market and fulfilling international treaty obligations.



Kalyan, Samman and Pratinidhitva: Empowerment Under BJP Government

Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee renamed the “Welfare Ministry” to the “Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment,” in 1998 emphasizing that historically disadvantaged communities—such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward Classes—seek social justice and empowerment rather than mere welfare. This renaming underscored the BJP’s unwavering commitment to achieving true equality and socio-economic emancipation, moving beyond the concept of short-term assistance.

Promoting and preserving the legacy of Dalit saints and leaders

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while attending the 647th birth anniversary of Sant Ravidas, inaugurated the newly installed 25-foot bronze statue of Sant Ravidas at Ravidas Park in his birthplace Kashi. The PM also inaugurated various development projects worth around Rs 32 crore around Sant Ravidas Janmasthan and laid the foundation stone for the Sant Ravidas Museum as well as beautification of a park worth around Rs 62 crore.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of a memorial and temple of Sant Shiromani Ravidas in Sagar, Madhya Pradesh. The temple will be built on 11 acres of land and cost about 100 crore.

The Ayodhya airport was named Maharishi Valmiki Airport after Maharishi Valmiki, who introduced the world to Shri Rama.

The Modi government awarded the Bharat Ratna to Jananayak Karpoori Thakur, an outspoken and strong voice for the backwards.

For the first time in the nation's history, a tribal woman—Smt. Droupadi Murmu—was elevated to the presidency under the auspices of the current administration. Likewise, when Shri Ram Nath Kovind assumed the presidency, it marked only the second occasion in which an individual from the Scheduled Caste community attained that high office.

Under Modi government, 12 Union Ministers are

from the Scheduled Castes category for the first time after independence, including the first law minister after Dr Ambedkar.

Economic Empowerment:

Job Reservations and Recruitment Drives – The government has reinforced affirmative action in jobs. A special recruitment drive was undertaken to fill longstanding backlog vacancies in reserved posts for SC, ST, and OBC candidates. As a result, over 4 lakh backlog reserved vacancies in central government jobs were filled from 2016 onwards— a significant step in employing Dalits and other marginalised groups. Each ministry was instructed to identify and eliminate the causes of unfilled reserved posts and fast-track hiring, which led to this large number of appointments.

Scheme for creation of venture capital fund for SC entrepreneurs: The scheme aims to promote entrepreneurship among SCs and provide concessional finance to them. The scheme is being implemented by the Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) Limited, which has been released up to ₹200 crore. In 2020, building on VCF-SC, the government launched the Ambedkar Social Innovation and Incubation Mission (ASIIM) to identify 1,000 innovative start-up ideas among SC youth (including students in IITs/IIMs and incubators) and provide up to ₹30 lakh equity funding to each over 3 years.

Credit Enhancement Guarantee Scheme for Scheduled Castes: The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the Credit Enhancement Guarantee Scheme for Scheduled





Castes in 2015. The scheme's objective is to promote entrepreneurship among the Scheduled Castes and provide them with concessional finance. An amount of ₹200 crore has been released to IFCI Limited for its implementation.

Under Start-Up India, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries have received loans of over ₹7,351 crore. More than 25,000 SC / ST entrepreneurs benefited under Start-up India. Under the Vishwakarma scheme, Scheduled Castes are easily getting loans at cheap interest. Through the Young Entrepreneur Scheme (YES), 25,000 SC entrepreneurs were supported up to 50 percent of the project cost (maximum 60,000). Till September 2023, 416 crores was provided to 115 companies from the SC / ST Venture Capital Fund. The Ministry of Finance has mandated each branch of public sector banks to support at least one SC / ST youth as an entrepreneur to create more jobs among them.

Out of the Mudra Yojana beneficiaries, 51 percent belong to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and OBC categories. Through the Young Entrepreneur Scheme (YES), 25,000 SC entrepreneurs were supported up to 50 percent of the project cost (a maximum of 60,000). Over 6 crore unorganised sector workers are registered under the Atal Pension Yojana. More than 29 crore unorganised workers have been issued e-Shram cards.

Through the PM SVANidhi Yojana, the government of the poor people of the country is giving loans up to Rs 10,000 to 53 lakh street vendors. More than 51 + crore people have been directly linked to banks through Jan Dhan accounts.

National SC/ST Hub (2016) – To further support Dalit businesses, PM Modi launched the National SC/ST Hub in October 2016 with an initial outlay of 490 crore. By March 2023, the SC/ST Hub's programs had benefitted thousands of micro and small units across India (through vendor development, training, and credit facilitation). Over 15,800 SC/ST entrepreneurs received assistance or subsidies for technology upgrades and business development under this scheme.

In March 2024, PM Modi launched the PM-SURAJ (Samajik Utthan evam Rozgar Adharit Jankalyan) portal, a one-stop platform to provide credit support to entrepreneurs from disadvantaged sections including Scheduled Castes. At launch, 1 lakh such entrepreneurs were sanctioned loans via a nationwide outreach. The portal integrates various schemes (like Stand-Up India, Mudra, VCF-SC, etc.) for easier access.

In addition, the government has worked with Dalit industry bodies (like DICCI) and conducted awareness drives so that more SC youth avail schemes such as Udyam Sakhi/Udyamimitra portals, startup contests, etc. The overall impact has been a notable rise in the number of SC

entrepreneurs and self-employed individuals since 2014.

Swamitva Yojana: Introduced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 24 April 2020 (National Panchayati Raj Day) to provide rural inhabitants with a “Record of Rights” (property cards) by mapping inhabited villages through drone surveys and modern technology. Over 1.5 crore people have been issued SVAMITVA cards in the past 5 years. Many Dalit households in rural India have long lacked formal documentation proving their residential land rights, leaving them vulnerable to land-grabbing, caste-based disputes, or eviction threats. By issuing legally recognized property cards, Swamitva helps Dalits secure ownership and drastically reduces the risk of encroachment or harassment from more powerful groups. Swamitva data (digital maps, property records) is integrated with the national eGramSwaraj portal. This helps local governments better plan development works—e.g., deciding where to build roads, water supply lines, or other infrastructure in Dalit-majority hamlets.

Educational Empowerment:

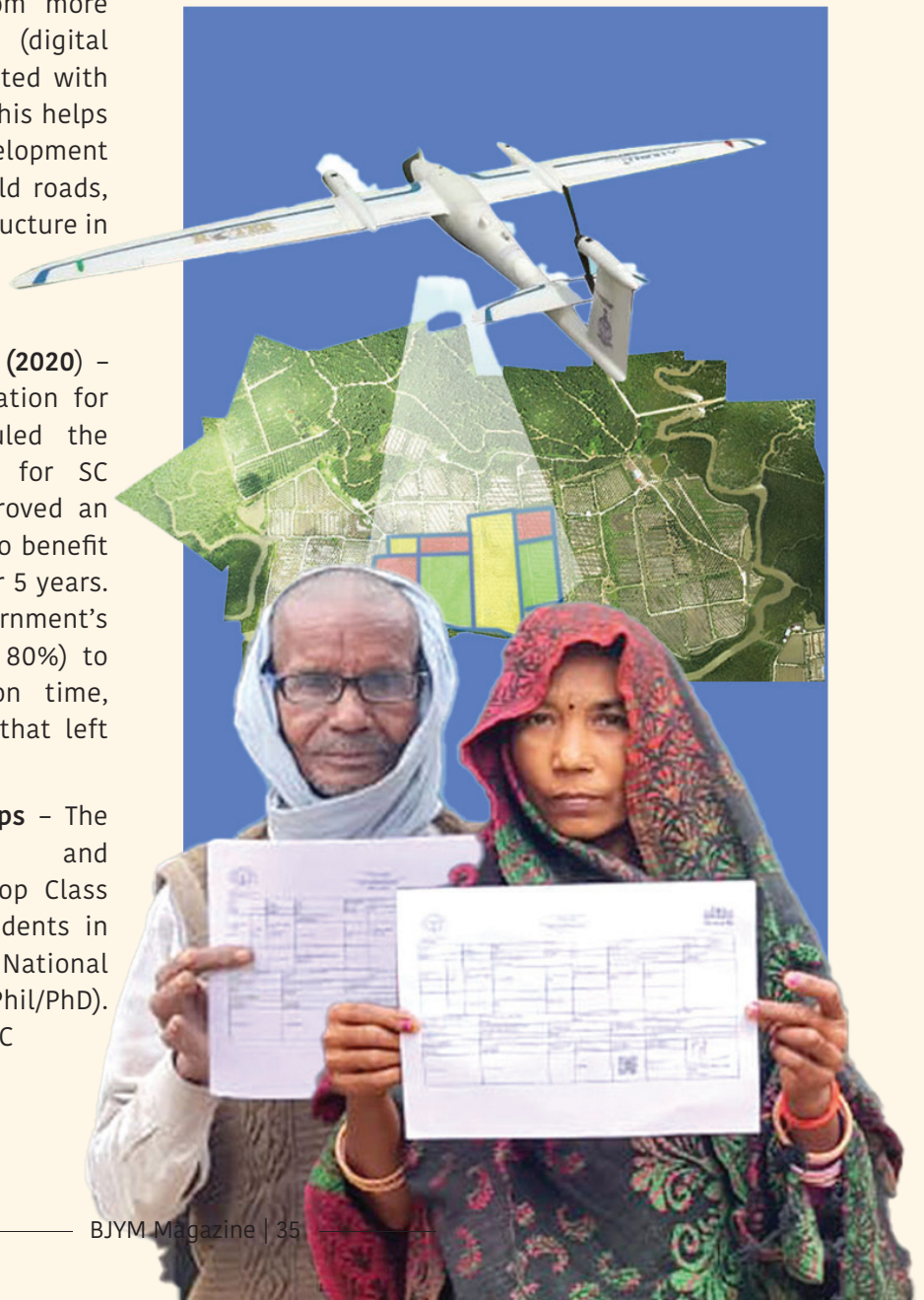
Post-Matric Scholarship Reforms (2020) – In a major boost to higher education for Dalits, the government overhauled the Post-Matric Scholarship scheme for SC students. The Union Cabinet approved an investment of over ₹59,000 crore to benefit more than 4 crore SC students over 5 years. This revamp raised the central government’s funding share (to 60%, rising to 80%) to ensure scholarships are paid on time, compared to the earlier formula that left many students unsupported.

Top Class Education & Fellowships – The BJP government continued and strengthened schemes like the Top Class Education Scholarship (for SC students in elite institutions) and the National Fellowship for SC students (for M.Phil/PhD). For example, the annual slots for SC

research fellowships were expanded, enabling more Dalit scholars to pursue higher studies.

From FY 2021-22, Scholarship Scheme for Higher Education (SHREYAS) has been launched, under which: Under Free Coaching Scheme 2014-15 till date, about 19,995 crore has been released to SC students.

Under the Top Class Scholarship Scheme, from 2014-15 till date, about 21,988 SC students were released 399.15 crore. The scheme is covering Scheduled Caste students for studies beyond Class 12. An amount of ₹249 crore has been allocated for the construction of hostels for SC students. Post-matric scholarships for SC students have cost about ₹69,000 crore to 4 crore beneficiaries, 10 times more than the UPA regime.



Under the National Overseas Scholarship, since 2014, an expenditure of 175 crores has benefited 450 students. The Modi government launched a National Scholarships Portal for students belonging to the Scheduled Castes category to apply for scholarships. The Ministry has increased the number of Overseas Scholarships from 60 to 100 for boys and girls belonging to SC / ST community for pursuing higher education abroad. The Government of India filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court to provide reservation to students, staff, and faculty in Aligarh Muslim University as per the Constitution. The reservation of SC / ST / OBC in Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and Jamia Millia Islamia University was abolished by the Congress. The Modi government filed an affidavit stating its intention to the Supreme Court that we want to implement SC / ST / OBC reservation in these higher educational institutions.

The present Government of India gave representation to the deprived society in the Chancellor and Visitor nominees in the universities. The present central government gave representation to the deprived section in the appointment of vice-chancellors and vice-chancellors in many universities.

Expanding the Scope of Social Justice after 2014

- **OBC Reservation in NEET All India Medical Quota:** The government has implemented reservations for Other Backward Classes (OBC) in the NEET All India Medical Quota, ensuring better representation and opportunities for OBC students in medical education.
- **Granting Constitutional Status to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC):** Elevating the NCBC to a constitutional body has strengthened its authority to address issues related to backward classes more effectively.
- **OBC Reservation in Navodaya Vidyalayas:** Introducing reservations for OBC students in Navodaya Vidyalayas has enhanced access to quality education for students from backward communities.
- **Inclusion of 27 OBC Ministers in the Central Council of Ministers:** It reflects the government's commitment to ensuring diverse representation and addressing the aspirations of backward communities.
- **Implementation of the Economically Weaker**





- **Sections (EWS) Quota:** 10% reservation in education and government jobs ensures that financial constraints do not hinder access to opportunities. It fosters inclusive development while maintaining India's constitutional framework of equality and social justice.
- **Appointment of Three Dalit Judges in the Supreme Court for the First Time:** This historic appointment promotes inclusivity and representation of marginalised communities in the highest judicial body.
- **Central Research Fellowship (RGNF) for OBCs:** Providing research fellowships to OBC candidates encourages higher education and research among backward classes.
- **Nomination of a Dalit to the Rajya Sabha under the Nominated Category:** For the first time, a Dalit artist, Maestro Ilayaraja, was nominated to the Rajya Sabha, acknowledging his immense contributions to music and representing the artistic achievements of marginalised communities.

Reservations in Legislatures – Politically, the Modi government ensured the continued representation of Dalits. In December 2019, Parliament passed the 104th Constitutional Amendment to extend the reservation of seats for SCs (and STs) in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies for another 10 years (up to 2030).

Abrogation of Article 370

The abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 was a landmark step towards the full constitutional integration of Jammu and Kashmir with the Republic of India. Before this historic decision, several provisions of the Indian Constitution did not apply to Jammu and Kashmir, resulting in significant inequalities and injustices.

Under Article 370, thousands of Hindu and Sikh refugees from the Partition era were denied voting rights and residency status. The state also lacked minority rights and did not implement social justice policies like reservations. Dalits were particularly marginalised, as they were denied permanent residency certificates and restricted to government jobs as sweepers, regardless of their qualifications.

The transformative changes since 2019 have ensured equal property rights for women in Jammu and Kashmir and extended the benefits of reservation and social welfare provisions to tribal communities. This integration has brought long-overdue equality and justice to the people of the region, aligning it with the principles enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Bill 2019

The ordinance restored the 200-point roster system, ensuring fair implementation of reservations in the recruitment process for universities and colleges. The passing of this bill

marked a historic step, bringing an end to decades of systemic neglect and manipulation within the university system.

For years, Left-dominated academia under successive Congress governments exploited technicalities to undermine the implementation of reservation policies. A significant instance occurred in 1997 when, in violation of the spirit of the 1995 Sabharwal Judgment, thousands of unfilled reserved seats were converted into unreserved seats overnight. While the judgment mandated a shift from vacancy-based reservations to post-based reservations, it also stipulated that the previous process should continue until all reserved seats were filled.

This directive was ignored, leading to widespread denial of rightful opportunities to marginalised communities.

The Modi government decisively countered this long-standing manipulative practice in 2019, ensuring that the 200-point roster system was reinstated. Since then, thousands of faculty members from Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC), and Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) have been appointed in universities and colleges across the country, bringing long-overdue justice to underrepresented groups in academia.

Citizenship Amendment Act 2019

The Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) of 2019 was enacted to provide Indian citizenship to non-Muslim individuals—Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists,

Jains, Parsis, and Christians—fleeing religious persecution in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan. Among those who have been granted citizenship under this act, the majority are Dalits and tribal communities, making them the largest beneficiaries.

In Bengal, the renowned Dalit leader Jogendra Nath Mandal supported Pakistan under the "Bhim-Mim" political alignment, favouring the idea of Dalit-Muslim unity. As a result, a large number of Dalits, especially Namoshudras and Matua Dalits, stayed in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).

Mandal served as Pakistan's first Minister of Law and Labor. However, the atrocities against Hindus and Sikhs in Pakistan escalated, and Dalits from East Pakistan faced severe persecution. Eventually, Mandal fled to India, and this marked the beginning of the mass migration of Hindus, particularly Namoshudra and Matua Dalits, from East Pakistan.

Despite ruling for nearly 70 years, successive Congress governments did not take substantial measures to grant citizenship to these persecuted migrants.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (Amended in 2016)

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, was initially enacted by the Congress government. However, it lacked provisions for many serious crimes against



Dalits and tribals. After becoming the Prime Minister in 2014, Narendra Modi Ji took significant steps to uplift Dalits and liberate them from atrocities. In 2015, the government introduced substantial amendments to the Act, which came into effect on January 1, 2016, adding several crucial provisions that the earlier law had ignored.

SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Rules 1995 (Amended 2016)

The BJP government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi introduced significant reforms to protect Dalits and Tribals from atrocities while also providing provisions for financial assistance to victims. These amendments, effective from June 14, 2016, significantly enhanced victim support mechanisms and strengthened legal provisions. Financial assistance to SC/ST victims was increased by 4-5 times compared to the assistance provided under the Congress government. Victim families in cases of murder, mass murder, rape, gang rape, and permanent disability were eligible for pension benefits, ensuring long-term financial stability.

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

The BJP government under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has undertaken a historic reform of India's legal framework by replacing the colonial-era Indian Penal Code with the Indian Justice Code. The recent enactment of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), along with the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA), marks a significant step toward decolonising the Indian legal system by abolishing 160-year-old colonial laws.

The colonial legal system perpetuated systemic oppression, particularly through draconian laws like the Criminal Tribes Act of 1871, which targeted Dalit, tribal, and OBC communities. Even after independence, these communities continued to face discrimination and exploitation. The new laws address these historical injustices by embedding fairness, equity, and inclusivity into India's legal framework.

Digitisation of Justice Delivery

The government has launched transformative initiatives such as e-Courts, online grievance redressal systems, and legal aid portals to make justice more accessible and inclusive. These digital platforms aim to reduce delays and costs, enhancing the efficiency and citizen-centric nature of the judiciary.

Empowerment of Local Governance

The Modi government has taken significant strides to strengthen local governance in alignment with the constitutional mandate, which emphasises decentralised governance through Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and adequate representation of scheduled castes as per the constitutional provisions. Following the 14th and 15th Finance Commission recommendations, local bodies have received substantial financial grants, amounting to "4.36 lakh crore for the current cycle, nearly doubling the previous allocation. This financial autonomy ensures that panchayats can plan and execute projects tailored to their specific needs, fostering inclusive development in rural India.

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation

The Dr. Ambedkar International Centre at 15 Janpath, New Delhi was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 7 December 2017. The Dr. Ambedkar International Centre will act as a research and extension centre in the areas of study related to Ambedkar and Buddhism. The Centre will be a central platform for economic and social issues for "inclusive growth."



The Dr. Ambedkar Foundation sponsored 100 students for study tours to the University of Columbia and the London School of Economics (UK) where Dr. Ambedkar studied.

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has translated and published articles and speeches of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil, Odia, Telugu, Gujarati, Bengali, Punjabi and Urdu.

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has established 11 new Chairs to study the works of Dr. Ambedkar in addition to the 10 Chairs already existing in various Universities in the country.

Dr. Ambedkar Foundation has finalised a plan to develop prominent sites associated with Ambedkar's life. An amount of Rs.1, 36, 000, 00 / - has been sanctioned for developing a memorial at Mahad to mark the Mahad Satyagraha of 20 March 1927. An amount of Rs. 4,7069,638 has been released to DM Nagpur for the museum building at Chincholi, Maharashtra.

To include more beneficiaries belonging to SC / ST communities, Dr. The income limit for availing medical assistance under the scheme of Ambedkar Foundation was increased from Rs. 1. 00 lakh to Rs. 3. 00 lakh.

Social Empowerment:

In March 2018, the Supreme Court diluted the Scheduled Castes and Tribes Prevention of Atrocities Act 1989 (SC / ST Atrocity Prevention Act-1989). However, in the April 2018

parliamentary session, the SC / ST Prevention of Atrocities Act 1989 was amended to re- establish appropriate safeguards.

Under the Dr. Ambedkar National Relief Scheme, victims of atrocities and other victims belonging to the Scheduled Castes are provided with an ex-gratia of Rs. 5 lakh and Rs. 2 lakh on death. There is the National Helpline against Atrocities on Scheduled Castes (NHAA), which is available as a web-based portal and toll-free number 14566.

Under the Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers Scheme, the government provides one-time assistance of Rs.40,000/ to manual scavengers and also provides skill training and low-rate loans to employ them in alternative employment. In the last three years, 11,598 persons were provided one-time assistance of ₹40,000 and 13, 827 persons were provided skill development training. In Banaras, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji washed the feet of sanitation workers sending a strong message of inclusion and respect for all.

Increase in SC sub-plan budget: The budget provision in the year 2023-24 has been increased to 56618.50 crore compared to 41561.13 crore in the year 2013-14. The budget under the scheme increased by 36.22 per cent. In the last 4 years, the number of Ministries / Departments under the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) has increased from 26 to 29 and the number of schemes has been increased from 243 to 304.



Health:

Dr. Ambedkar Health Assistance Scheme: This scheme provides free treatment for serious diseases like kidney, liver, and cancer to people belonging to Scheduled Castes.

Ayushman Bharat: The current central government launched a scheme to provide free treatment up to Rs 5 lakh to 500 million people. Ayushman Bharat Yojana is proving to be a boon for the poor and deprived. So far, more than 18 crore beneficiaries have been provided with Ayushman cards. According to a study, 46.7% of the beneficiaries of this scheme are women or people belonging to the Dalit community in large numbers. Around 27,300 private and government hospitals are associated with the scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Kendra Jan Aushadhi Stores are providing affordable medicines to the poor along with free check-ups. As on 02.12.2022, 8,918 Jan Aushadhi Kendras have been opened across the country.

Swachh Bharat Mission: Has provided dignity and health to millions of urban poor by building 6.52 lakh community and public toilets. About 12 crore toilets have been built in the last nine years through the Swachh Bharat Mission, freeing the country from the scourge of open defecation. The number of open defecation-free villages has increased to 63 lakh, and the number of districts

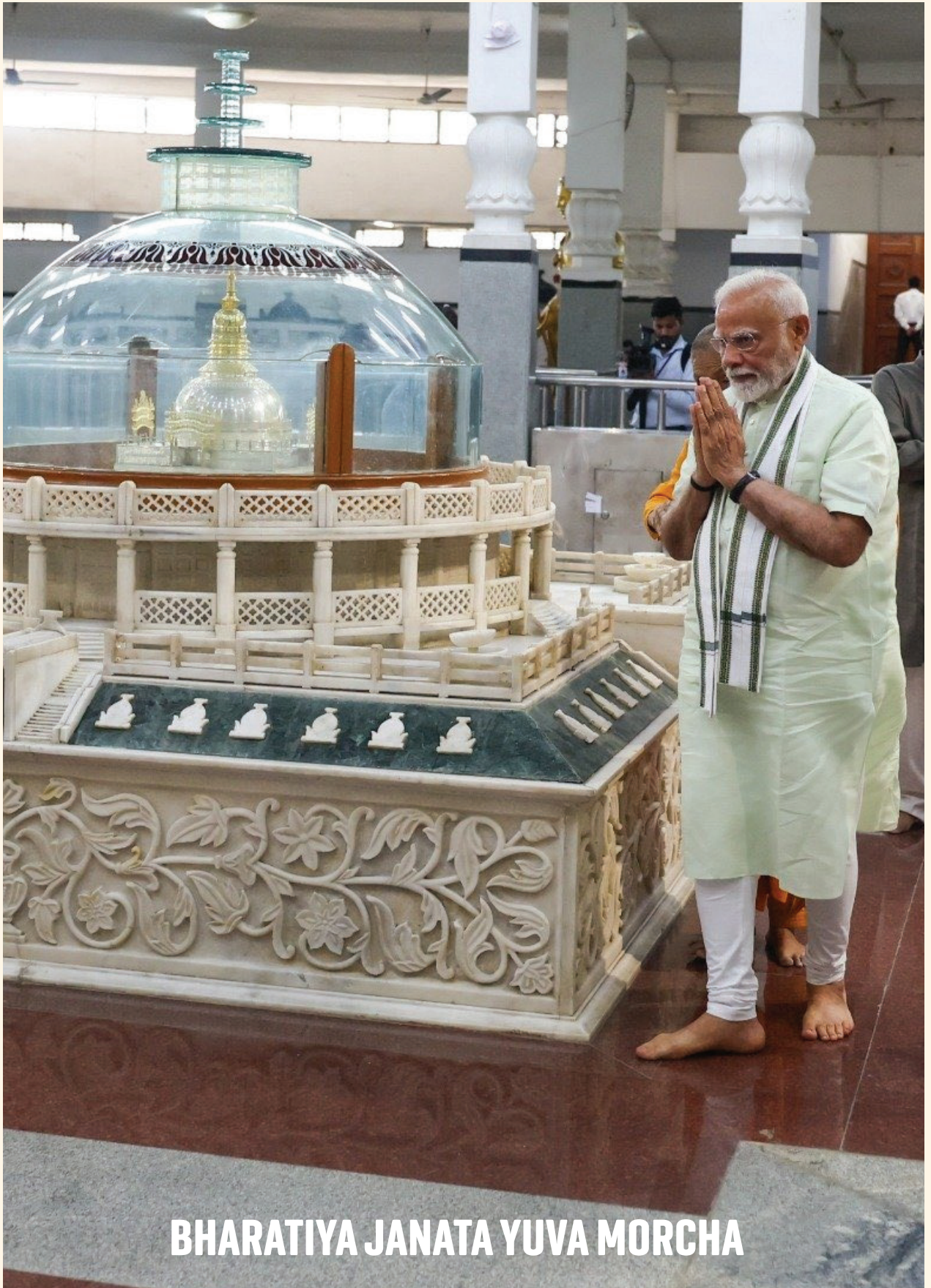
has increased to 706. The number of open defecation-free states and union territories is 35. Jal Jeevan Mission: The target is to provide tap water to every household in every village of the country by 2024. So far, connections have been provided to 12 crore households. At the time of the announcement of the mission, only 3.23 crore households in the country had tap water connection.

Under the PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, free rations are being provided to more than 80 crore people. Saubhagya Yojana: Saubhagya Yojana has illuminated the homes of 28.2 million poor people. It is one of the world's largest electrification schemes. As of March 2019, 26.33 crore eligible households in rural and urban areas of the country were provided electricity connections in a record time of 18 months.

Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana: Under this scheme, 96.6 crore poor families have been given free LPG connections. This scheme saved 1.50 lakh lives from pollution-related deaths in 2019.

Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana: Under the PM Awas Yojana (Gramin), about 3 crore pucca houses were completed for the poor last year. 92 lakh pucca houses have been constructed under the PM Awas Yojana (Urban). The scheme also provides toilet, electricity, and water facilities along with cooking gas to each beneficiary.





BHARATIYA JANATA YUVA MORCHA