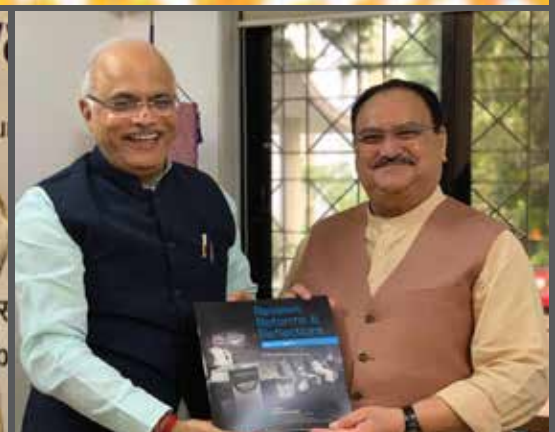


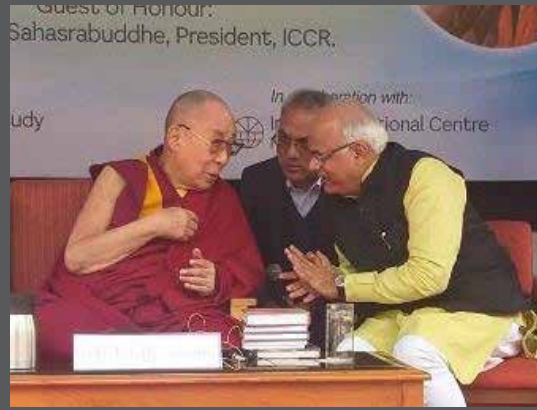
WORK AT A GLANCE
2019-2020

IDEAS
INITIATIVES
INTERACTIONS



A Report by **Dr. Vinay Sahasrabudde**
President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

National Vice President, Bharatiya Janata Party
Vice-Chairman, Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini



With great spiritual leaders, Hon'ble Dalai Lama ji and Hon'ble Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudeo Ji

Front Cover (clockwise)

With Hon.ble President of India Ramnath Kovind ji, presenting the first copy of ICCR Logo, created by Dilshad Khan, an award winning sculptor from UP.
With Hon.ble VP Venkaiyah Naidu ji at an ISRN function. Sharing stage with Hon.PM Narendra Modi ji at an election campaign rally in Madhya Pradesh.
Presenting a copy of Work-at-a Glance Report of 2018-19 to Hon.ble Party President J P Nadda Ji. Receiving Hon.ble Home Minister Amit Shah ji at an ICCR Function.

Why this report ?

It's a matter of great pleasure to present this Work-at-A- Glance report for 2019-20. As mentioned previously in similar reports, this report is in keeping with one of the healthiest conventions in representative democracy, established by and adhered to by many, mainly in the BJP. This report symbolises the concept of Accountability of People's Representative, one of the cardinal principles of democracy.

This report provides an insight into my activities while discharging various responsibilities. While rising to the expectations of the people is fast becoming more and more difficult, it is equally true that for all constructive projects, popular response is always very encouraging. Innovative approaches work wonders as people are fed up of routine stereotype politics. Gen-Next of the knowledge era also expects Politics-Next. In that context, ideas like Development Politics mooted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji are extremely relevant.

I am grateful to my all my colleagues in various offices and also to Shri Vivek Srivastava ji and his team for their cooperation.

I hope, this report too would be received well like all my previous reports.

Vinay Sahasrabuddhe
August 15, 2020





**President
Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)**



IDEAS

Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and the role of NRIs

“More importantly; for Indian Thought acquiring a place of prominence globally, it is required that the Indians themselves internalise these civilisational values and ensure that our day-to-day conduct manifests these thought-traditions. Failure to reflect these fundamental philosophical approaches in our behaviour has already cost us —as people and as nation— very heavily. For this, concerted efforts from all sections of the society in every walk of life are supremely required. From cultural diversity to caste and community issues and economy to environment, the theoretical approaches of NRIs and more importantly their conduct on foreign soil plays a key role in cultivating perceptions about India. No matter what citizenship you take; your civilisational identity continues to be essentially Indian and hence all NRIs would do a great service to India if they keep this in mind.”

Excerpted from the speech in the ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Conference’ of Vivekananda International Foundation, in Delhi on March 3, 2020

Consensus too, and not just differences of opinion; is important in Democracy!

“Differences of opinion are important but a weird mindset seems dominating which attaches a badge of prestige to differences, at times even contrived or manufactured. This tendency has paved way for a perverted view of knowledge democracy adding to crass confusion and at times even confrontation. The roots of this perversion are in the misinterpretation of democracy. True, democracy has and must have a space for dissent and differences of opinion. Democracy must celebrate this diversity of approaches, undoubtedly. But, this certainly doesn’t mean that if there is no dissent and difference of opinion, democracy deserves to be doubted. Consensus and commonality of approaches also have an equally honourable place in any democracy. An absolute skewed view that since dissent and democracy can go together, consensual democracy always has to be a sham democracy itself goes against the very grain of democracy.”

Excerpted from the Speech at the International Seminar on “Indigenous Knowledge and Prevalent Practice” at Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar, Madhya Pradesh on February 27, 2020

Behind our Diversity, there is underlying Unity!

“In so far as the talk of monotheism or Uni-culturalism versus multi-culturalism is concerned, Indian approach of Spiritual Democracy provides a shining example of successfully practising Ekam Sat Vipra BahudaVadanti! We have always rejected not just theocracy but also hegemonic or monopolistic approaches towards achieving salvation. We also have a firm faith in Unity in diversity, but in real terms, it is Diversity in Unity. This means that the diversity in our languages, festivities, our costumes and cuisines is nothing but a diverse manifestation of the innate Unity of our country, which is at the core of the idea of India. Behind our Diversity there is underlying Unity!”

Excerpted from the speech at the Inaugural Session of an International Conference on “Globalising Indian Thought” at IIM Kozhikode on January 16, 2020

Our idea of Spiritual Democracy merits conversion into body of knowledge!

“Making India a Vishwa Guru, which is in other terms, a global hub of education; we need to evolve an Agenda for Knowledge Leadership! For that we need to build upon all that we have! Let’s think as to how can our short term courses in what could be named as Traditional Indian Knowledge Systems (TIKS) that may include Veda, Upnishads, Bharat Natyam or similar classical dances and classical music, Ayurveda and Yog as also Indian culinary and cuisine be made more structured, more academically standardised and with greater ease of access? Can we have a mechanism by way of which any of TIKS Short Term courses could be made available as an elective in the form of an incentive to those who are interested? Can we share our deep insights in to Democratic Governance and Cultural Harmony/ Coherence as Knowledge Products and establish them through an institutional device in the form of International Institute of Democratic Governance and Indian Institute of Cultural Harmony where courses specially designed for foreign students could be conducted? It is needed that our success in cultural harmony through our age old approach of spiritual democracy is converted in a body of knowledge!”



With Minister Ramesh Pokhariyal Nishank at Destination India Conf. at Pune

Excerpted from the Remarks of the Chair at the Inaugural Function of Destination India Conference on “Making India a Global Hub of Education” at Pune on January 28, 2020

Philosophy of Confluence of Civilisations needs to be taught!

Democracy that brings development to the deprived is singularly important for a world order that will ensure peaceful coexistence of all. In this context what is further required is evolving a new branch of knowledge or discipline of study, where Confluence of Civilisations will be studied in depth and thereby global society will be sensitized about the need for further strengthening the forces of harmony, dialogue, quest for commonalities and pursuit of common good. Herein lies the concept of mutuality and samanvya, which is reflected very prominently in Hindu-Buddhist traditions.

Excerpted from the speech at the Global Hindu-Buddhist Initiative on “Conflict Avoidance and Environment Consciousness” at Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on September 8, 2019

INITIATIVES

In the year 2018, ICCR instituted Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Memorial Annual International Oration! Every year this oration is held on 21st May, to mark the World Culture Day. So far, Smt Sushma Swaraj (2018) and Justice R C Lahoti (2019) had delivered lectures on various aspects of India's Soft Power. This year noted Italian expert Dr. Antonio Morandi delivered his lecture on "Ayurveda and Its Relevance Today". He spoke on Ayurveda's holistic approach and the value that Ayurveda adds to healthcare. (May 21, 2020)

Mooted the idea of Destination India Conference, held in Pune and Chaired its Inaugural Session. The Conference was organized by ICCR, jointly with Savitribai Phule Pune University and Symbiosis International University, Pune; in order to evolve a common agenda in pursuance of Government's policy to make India a Global Hub of Education by attracting many more foreign students in India. Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, Union HRD Minister, was the Chief Guest at the function. (January 28, 2020)

Delivered a lecture on Various Dimensions of India's Soft Power Potential at Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Over 400 officers, scientists and others attended the lecture held at the DRDO's premises in Metcalfe House, New Delhi. (January 8, 2020)



Unveiling of Vajpayee portrait at ICCR, Kolkata by VP M Venkaiah Naidu

Joined Hon'ble Vice President of India Shri M Venkaiah Naidu ji at the unveiling of the life size portrait of Late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the first ex-ICCR President who rose to become the Prime Minister; at the Ravindranath Tagore Centre of ICCR at Kolkata; on Atalji's first death anniversary. (August 16, 2019)



With Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri in the premises of Har Mandir Sahab, Amritsar at the ICCR conducted visit of Ambassadors and High Commissioners to mark the 550th Birth Anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

Presented the first edition of Memento of ICCR to Hon'ble President of India Shri Ramnath Kovind ji, prepared by an award winning traditional brass metal craft artist Shilp-Guru Dishad Hussain, of Moradabad. (August 8, 2019)

Conceived the idea of an International Youth Seminar on Guru Nanak Dev and the relevance of his teachings, while ensuring the participation of young Sikh leaders from across the globe. In all 46 youths from 9 countries participated in this event under which a Takhat Darshan Yatra of all the delegates, coveting Amritsar, Patna and Nanded too was organised.

Visits Abroad



Release of Spain's First Postal Stamp featuring Mahatma Gandhi, Madrid

Madrid and Valladolid, Spain

Visited Madrid to participate in multiple events to mark the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Released a commemorative postal stamp of Mahatma Gandhi—the first to be released by Philatelic Commission of Spain, and later delivered a lecture at the University of Valladolid on “Mahatma Gandhi: Context and Legacy”. (October 2 & 3, 2019)

Had a meeting with Ms. Irene Lozano, President of the Consejo Superior de Deportes and Secretary of State for Sports of Spain, and discussed further strengthening of India-Spain Cultural ties. (October 2, 2019)

Atlanta, USA

On invite of the Consulate General of India, Embassy of India at Atlanta, visited Atlanta on August 8 and 9, 2020. Visited The King Centre, Memorial of Martin Luther King Jr and Gandhi Room in Atlanta, and also paid floral tributes to both Martin Luther King Jr and Mahatma Gandhi. Also, had an interaction with citizens—both Indians and Americans at Atlanta. Later, also unveiled the bust of Mahatma Gandhi, presented by ICCR at the premise of the Consulate General of India, Atlanta on August 9, 2019.

Called on Mr. John Robert Lewis who is a civil rights leader & U.S. Congressman, and a close confidant of Martin Luther King Jr. and believer in Gandhian values. (August 9, 2019)



Unveiling Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Atlanta, USA



With Mongolian Buddhist spiritual leader Khamba Lama and Swami Avadheshananda, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

On the invite of Vivekanand International Foundation (VIF) for SAMVAAD-III – “Global Hindu-Buddhist Initiative on Conflict Avoidance and Environment Consciousness”, visited Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on September 6 and 7, 2019. Delivered a lecture on “Buddha’s Message of Compassion and its centrality to the success of Development Democracy”. Later, also visited Pethub Monastery, where Ven Kushak Bakula Rinpoche had stayed! (September 8, 2019)

Canberra and Sydney, Australia

Visited Sydney and Canberra in Australia majorly to oversee the functioning of ICCR’s Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre at Sydney. During the four day visit, participated in the Republic Day Function at Indian High Commission, Canberra; had meetings with Dr. Geoffrey Lee, Minister of Skill Development and David Elliott, Minister of Police and Emergency Services, NSW, Australia, in Sydney, and also was Chief Guest at the India-Australia Association of Canberra (IAAC). (January 23-26, 2020)



Interaction with Fiji Times, Sydney, Australia

Washington DC, USA

PM Modi has established that Democracy can deliver effectively

“While deciphering the resounding success of PM Narendra Modi in recently held general elections, one must take into account the changes taking place on ground and in mind spaces of the people in India. Over the years, Development Narrative has been able to successfully push the false or artificial narrative of Threats to Identity in several parts in India.

In order to understand these transformations, one must take out blinkers, shed prejudices and come out of preconceived notions. PM Modi has established that Democracy can deliver effectively. Transformation alone can beat Terrorism. PM Modi has also established that to beat terrorism, transformation in the social-economic conditions as well as constructively influencing popular discourse is essential!”

Excerpted from an address delivered on “Emerging New India: Inspire, Innovate, Integrate” at Hudson Institute, Washington DC, USA. (August 12, 2019)

INTERACTIONS

Conducted a first-of-its-kind virtual meeting with Directors of various Indian Cultural Centres (ICCs) run by the ICCR abroad to get to know about their efforts to keep the regular functioning going on even in Covid-19 situation. It was remarkable that while classroom teaching of Yoga, Indian Classical Dances or Sanskrit/Hindi etc. is halted due to Corona, many have switched to Virtual Classes in right earnestness. (March 24, 2020)

At Nasik, participated in 'Ranga Sammelan of Chaturang'; a cultural organization; where Sayyad Bhai, noted social worker and a leading light of reformist movement for the rights of Muslim women, was presented with Jeevan Gaurav Puraskar for 2019. It was a great pleasure interacting with many eminent Marathi artistes and theatre persons. (December 22, 2019)



1. Ramayana Artistes from Malaysia at Ramayana Fest, Pune
3. With provincial Ministers in Australia, Sydney

2. With visiting Azerbaijani MP HE Ngif Hamzayev, Delhi



1. Visiting The University of Valladolid, Spain
3. With Rep. John Lewis, towering figure of Civil Rights movement in US, Atlanta

2. With Dr Lokesh Chandra and Dr Karan Singh, Delhi
4. With former Maldivian President Mohammad Nasheed, Delhi





National Vice President Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)



IDEAS/ ARTICLES

On MGNREGA, it is BJP versus Congress!

The Congress president must be told, “Sorry ma’am, but it is certainly about BJP versus Congress”.Unable to digest defeats, the Congress president’s personal politics had earlier reached a new low when her party vehemently opposed some nationally important reforms in key projects initiated when the Congress held power — like GST and Aadhaar.

Remember, Mahatma Gandhi had said: “India’s dignity cannot be saved if misgovernment and corruption flourish. I mention corruption because misgovernment and corruption always go together.” The Congress president will have to answer as to why seven key reforms in the MGNREGA, which were implemented during the Modi regime, were not introduced earlier?

Being possessive about MGNREGA is not enough. One has to take ownership of it and ensure that it succeeds. We have done that, ma’am.

Excerpted from the Article ‘On MGNREGA, it is Congress versus BJP’ (The Indian Express, June 15, 2020)

Maharashtra @60! Political intolerance virus weakening fight against Covid-19

The whole country is witnessing as to how incumbent Govt in Maharashtra is failing in containing the impact of COVID-19 and few are writing about this as well. However, what is not being talked about is the other more perilous virus, the virus of political intolerance!

Persons in their sixties are supposed to be elderly and hence more mature too. Let’s hope, Maharashtra at 60 tries to put an end to ideological apartheid and revisits the fundamentals of democracy. It is high time, politicians who talk progressivism, also walk on the same path!

Excerpted from the Article ‘Maharashtra @60! Political intolerance virus weakening fight against Covid-19’ [The Times of India (Digital), April 29, 2020]

Stand up against anarchy masquerading as activism

The very presupposition being used to legitimise opposition to the CAA in itself is born out of prejudice. This prejudice is the product of a systematically cultivated suspicion, which goes against the grain of democracy.

This unenlightened opposition coupled with exaggerated statements about hypothetical scenarios has provided fertile ground for miscreants to sow the seeds of paranoia. A strong case in point is that of the initiators and organisers of the Shaheen Bagh protest.One can understand the despondency of a section of our political class. But the moot question is: How can we as a society afford to allow frustrated politicians to encourage anarchy masquerading as activism?

Excerpted from the Article ‘Stand-Up Against Anarchy, masquerading as Activism’ (Hindustan Times, March 9, 2020)

Frustrated by their electoral reverses, the Left has turned to manufacturing unrest

Post 2014, this situation has been changing. The left-of-centre ideological block is facing stiff opposition in every walk of public life. Accustomed to calling the shots without any accountability, this group is now bewildered at an establishment that is demanding answers. Increasingly, they are now finding it tough to protect their privileges.

Frustration in this block reached its zenith after the resounding victory of the BJP-NDA in the 2019 general election. Finding themselves in a helpless situation, they are now spreading unfounded fears, sowing seeds of suspicion and rejecting the fears about the impact of unchecked infiltration of Bangladeshis, expressed even by the apex court.

Frustrated by electoral reverses, the ideological untouchability practised by the leftists leading to intellectual arrogance is now acquiring new, dangerous dimensions. Their hegemony is now being challenged and that is the real reason for their stomachache. This frustration takes a perverted turn when enmity to and a pathological hatred of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is added to it.

Excerpted from the Article 'Frustrated by electoral reverses, Left have turned to manufacturing unrest' (The Indian Express, January 11, 2020)

We refuse to look at minorities as Vote Banks!

“Minorities, especially Muslims cannot be hoodwinked any further with the same old tactics. They know as to how successive governments played into the hands of regressive elements harping only on emotive issues. It was during the NDA-1 that Computers made their first entry in to most of the madrasas. Similarly, it was the resoluteness of Modi Govt. that saw the practise of triple talaq being put to end through a law. Efforts to promote entrepreneurship-culture amongst the minorities and especially Muslims got remarkable fillip during the NDA-2. The key to this transformation was the changed outlook, refusing to consider minorities as just guaranteed vote banks.”

Excerpted from the Article “Opposition has found a way to get back to vote bank politics on the CAA issue. Here’s why they are wrong” (The Times of India, January 4, 2020)



Bereft of ideology, dynastic parties can't have distinct policies!

The institutional decay of most dynasty driven parties is matter of grave concern in the context of overall quality of democracy and democratic governance as well. When dynasty drives a party, there is a certain cascading effect, which cannot be undermined. Bereft of clear ideological perspective, such parties cannot have a distinctive policy view. In the absence of any policy perspective emerging out of ideological commitment, political will to implement any programme also evaporate.

Dynasty driven parties and the delusion they create can't be wished away. Politics of such parties will end when ideology driven parties gain more strength and occupy greater political space. Enduring mainstreaming of ideology driven parties alone will make dynastic parties irrelevant. For ideology to be relevant, dynasties will have to be demonstrably irrelevant. One hopes, Indian polity is taking that very course.

Excerpted from the Article "Dynasty driven parties run on coterie rather than on any principle, that's why many are fleeing them" (The Times of India, August 10, 2019)

INITIATIVES

Visited Dapoli for spot assessment of damage caused by cyclone Nisarga, and discussed with Officials of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and the Department of Fisheries, Govt. of India in this regard. (June 25, 2020)

Addressed the preparatory meeting of BJP-Madhya Pradesh Legislature Party ahead of Rajya Sabha elections, at Bhopal. (June 19, 2020)

As part of BJP's #GandhiSankalpYatra, conducted a Safai Campaign at Kopri, Thane, and interacted with Municipal Safai Karmacharis, and also distributed Hand Gloves. (November 12, 2019)

Conducted a Gandhi Sankalp Yatra at Village Dhakane, Dist. Thane, - village selected by me under the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana — as a part of BJP's Campaign for Swachh Bharat. Over 200 school kids and villagers joined this Yatra. (November 10, 2019)



Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN), New Delhi: Joined Hon'ble Vice President Shri M. Venakiah Naidu ji at the historic launch of four volumes of documentation of various developmental experiments based on philosophy of Antyodaya, propounded by Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay. These volumes are prepared by ISRN as a part of a project of Ministry of Culture's Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Birth Centenary Celebrations. (February 12, 2020)

Public Policy Research Centre (PPRC), New Delhi: Initiated the idea and help organising a first of its type 5-day online course on 'Understanding Good Governance' jointly with Public Policy Research Centre (PPRC) and Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP). (May 30-June 3, 2020)

Following reports/ monograph of PPRC have been released during the year under report at various media briefings at Delhi:

- "Delhi: A city on ventilator- A fact finding report on Delhi's Health" (January 8, 2020)
- "Politics of Performance Vs Politics of Propaganda: Comparative analysis of education in Delhi Government schools vis a vis MCD schools and Kendriya Vidhyalaya". (December 27, 2019)
- "Empty Vessels Make More Noise: A report on Delhi's AAP Government". (November 29, 2019)
- "A report on steps taken to curb pollution by Delhi Government: A factual analysis". (November 19, 2019)
- Monograph- "100-Milestones in 100-Days"-covering major landmark decisions of BJP led NDA Govt. during the first 100 days. (September 9, 2019)

INTERACTIONS

Addressed well attended meeting, organised by Dr. Patwardhan Memorial Hospital, Panvel, Maharashtra on Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) 2019 at Panvel, (February 29, 2020)

Discharged duty as Presiding Officer for the election of new State President of BJP, Punjab at Jalandhar. Shri Ashwani Sharma Ji was unanimously declared elected for the next three years. Many senior leaders of BJP, Punjab joined the meeting. (January 17, 2020)



With Divyang welfare activist Naseema Hurjuk, Kolhapur

Visited Bhubaneswar (December 31, 2019) and Dehradun (December 20, 2019) to assess the opinion of leaders regarding the next leadership of the State Unit.

Addressed symposium on Citizen Amendment Act (CAA) along with Gen. Dattatrey Shekatkar and Adv. Pravartak, Deshpande, organised by Srijan Sampada and Pt. Deendayal Prerana Kender at Thane (December 23, 2019)

Led an Enquiry Panel constituted by the BJP to probe into the brutal killing of Late Jagmail Singh, SC community labourer at Village-Changaliwal, District-Sangrur, Punjab and filed a report. Visited Sangrur along with two other panel members, both MPs, Satyapal Singh and V D Ram. Met with the family members, members of the Civil Society Organisations, police officials and

others. Later, also addressed media in Chandigarh. (November 23, 2019)

Visited Kuwait to address the Onam-Diwali Gathering, organised by Bharatiya Pravasi Parishad. Interacted with hundreds of Indians on how Every Indian staying abroad can help to shape a proper perception about India through his/her responsible behaviour.” (November 8, 2019)

Conducted a day-long tour of Solapur, Tuljapur and Latur for BJP’s campaign for Maharashtra Assembly Elections. At Solapur, interacted with local Editors, delegations of textile and garment industry leaders so as to understand their concerns and suggestions. At Tuljapur, visited Tulja Bhavani Temple for Darshan and at Latur, and interacted with the eminent persons from all walks of life at a dinner meeting. (October 6, 2019)

During the Maharashtra Assembly Election campaign, visited major Media Centres like Pune (September 21, 2019), Nasik (September 28, 2019), Nagpur (September 19, 2019), Amravati (September 20, 2019), Aurangabad (September 23, 2019), Akola (October 10, 2019), Kolhapur, Ratnagiri besides Solapur (October 6, 2019) and interacted with Editors of local news papers, TV Channels and independent political analysts and observers.

Joined BJP President Shri J. P. Nadda ji and General Secretary Shri Bhupender Yadav ji at the Public meeting on ‘Abrogation of Article-370’ in Thane organised by City Unit of the BJP. (September 15, 2019)

Interacted with a delegation of Anna Bhau Sathe Janm Shatabdi Samiti appointed by the Govt of Maharashtra, under the leadership of Shri Madhukar Kamble. (August 19, 2019)

Attended the launch of two monographs of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (Exponents of Cultural Nationalism) and BJP Good Governance Department (Good Governance and Development at the Constituency Level) at BJP Sansad Karyashala, at the hands of Hon’ble Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh (August 4, 2019)



With Muslim social reformer Padmashree Sayyad Bhai, Pune



With RSS Sar-Karyavah Man. Bhaiyaji Joshi and ISRN CEO Santosh Gupta, Mumbai

At the Sansad Karyashala (Workshop of Members of Parliament) organised by the BJP, conducted an interactive session on 'Self Preparation for Self Development' on August 4, 2019. Besides several key Party functionaries and Ministers, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji also participated in the session. (August 4, 2019)

Public Policy Research Centre (PPRC), New Delhi: Participated in an informal discussion on "Union Budget 2019-20" with noted economists Shri Surjit Bhalla and Dr. Arvind Virmani. (July 6, 2019)

Indian Social Responsibility Network (ISRN) Called upon Hon'ble Shri Bhaiyyaji Joshi, Sah-Sarkaryavah of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) to present him a set of success stories of voluntary service projects, on the basis of philosophy of Antyodaya; carried out by various organisations all over the country. (February 14, 2020)



Conducting a session at the Training Programme for BJP Parliamentarians, Delhi



Pakistani Hindu migrants' thanks-giving meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah



Dialogue with farmers at village Dhakane, my Saansad Adarsh Gram, Dist Thane



Inaugurating a building at Hari Singh Gaur University, Saugar, MP



Traffic Congestion Free Thane, signature campaign of BJP, Thane



Plastic Free Villages campaign at Village Dhakane, Dist. Thane



Speaking at DRI, Delhi. Also seen are Arif Mohammad Khan, Guv of Kerala, Man. Madan Das ji and Dr Maheshchandra Sharma



With Pt Hariprasad Chaurasia, Delhi



With a traditional artisan at Varanasi

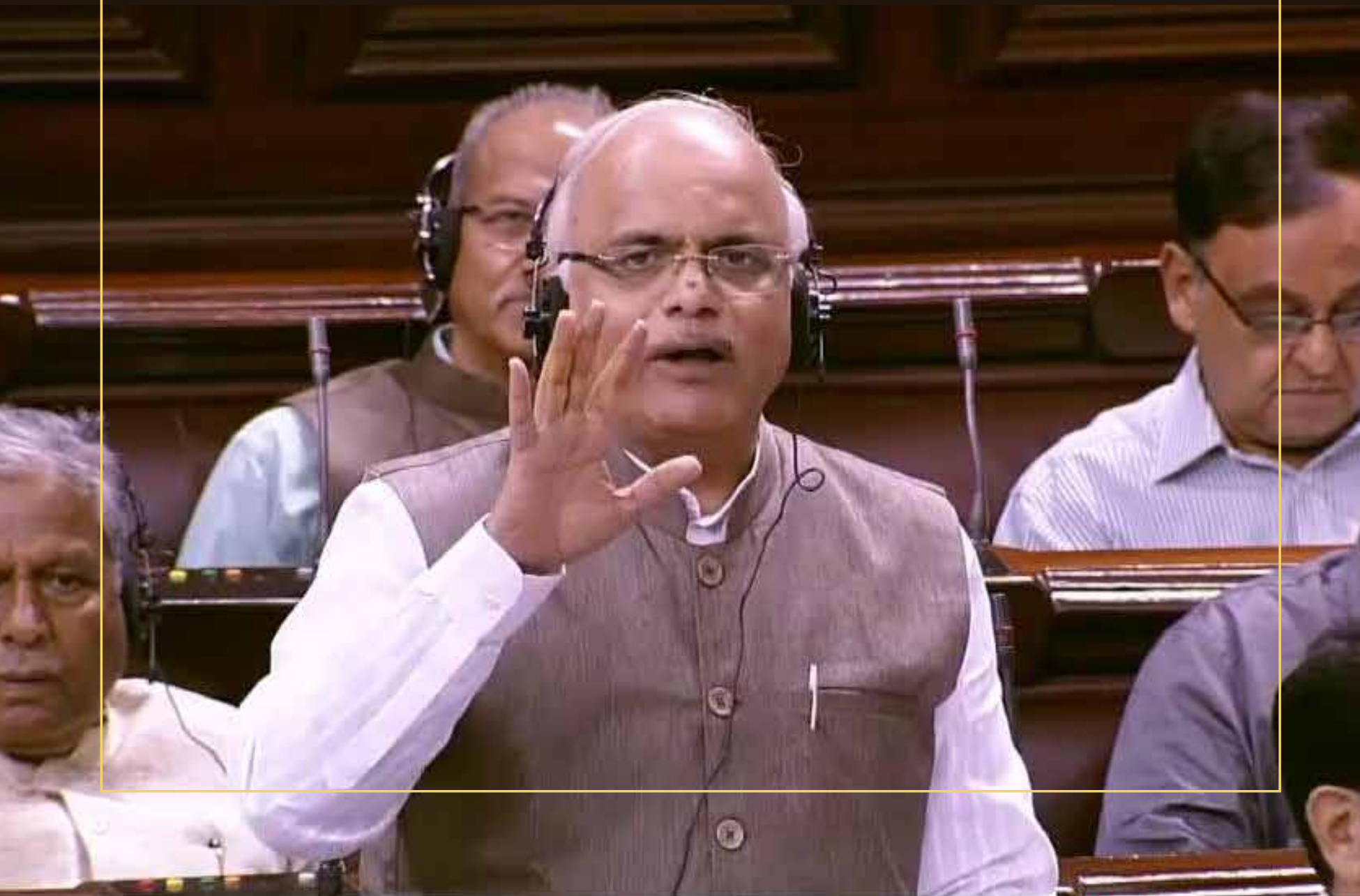


With leaders, MP CM Shivraj Singh Chauhan, Ex Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadanvis, CM Yogi Adityanath, Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar
Karnataka CM B. S. Yediyurappa and Assam CM Sarbananda Sonowal





Member of Parliament Rajya Sabha



IDEAS

Ayurveda is an important aspect of India's Soft Power!

"I just cannot understand as to why we should value judgmental in referring allopathic medicine as Modern Medicine, as if Ayurveda is non-modern? It is for us to respect our traditional knowledge like Ayurveda! Ayurveda is an important part of India's 'soft-power'. Today, it has become a fashion to mock and look down upon some traditional practices, including use of 'Gaumutra' or cow urine and cow dung! There are many researches on this subject and one should be mindful of them. Let us strive hard to make research in Ayurveda more evidence based and in tune with internationally accepted methodologies.

Excerpted from the speech at Rajya Sabha on March 17, 2020 on "the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Bill, 2019"

CAA is in fact, our tryst with Humanity!

"No patriotic Muslim would oppose CAA. They have no reason to be apprehensive about the BJP. CAA is a humanitarian act. It aims only at giving justice to the persecuted who were forced to take shelter in India. During the midnight of the Independence Day, Pt. Nehru, in his historic speech at central hall, Parliament said this is the "tryst with destiny". But when we pass this law today by the Parliament, PM Modi is going to do "tryst with humanity". Hence, we should vote in favour of this act."

Excerpted from the speech at Rajya Sabha on December 11, 2019 on the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2019

Can we not create a distinct brand of Central Universities?

"It is required that we strive to create a distinct Brand of all Central Universities. Central Universities should be subjected to an annual institutional audit. That would help evolve a more healthy institutional life in them. We don't have any mechanism to assess our University or college text-books periodically. Institutional audit may help improvise on this front as well. Today, in many states there are institutes or Universities that deal with issues pertaining to tribal communities. Let the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University emerge as an academic leader on these issues. That may help other similar institutions get some institutional mentorship as well. Many management institutes today are affiliated with the Universities in this country. But many times, it is seen that the management of these affiliating Universities itself is in shambles. In many Universities and Institutions, we come across a crisis of leadership. A structured training of the Vice Chancellors may help improve the conditions on this count."

Excerpted from the speech at Rajya Sabha on July 16, 2019 on The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2019

Re-instate element of ideology in politics!

"Democracy is about element of choice, if you have different colors before you there is a white color there is yellow color there is a blue color there is a green color and then there is a choice. But when the political parties start behaving alike start working alike electorally, electors, don't get any choice! In a situation like this how can they select between parties behaving in similar manner? This is happening mainly because of the de-ideologization of political parties. There are very few political parties who run on the basis of ideology. Most of the political parties; ---let me very humbly put it over here without casting any aspersions ---are run on the basis of dynasties and hence they are dynasty driven political parties. The members of those parties will also have to introspect: was this the reason that you are there in that political party? Are you here simply to

carry the flag of the particular dynasty? What was that point, which drew you in to political functioning? I am sure, it was some ideology! But, over the passage of time unfortunately the element of ideology evaporated. I would appeal to those parties to reinstate the element of ideology and free themselves from the dynasties that are currently governing your political parties.”

Excerpted from the speech in Rajya Sabha on July 3, 2019 participated in a short duration discussion on electoral reforms.



Scan the QR code to watch and download the above speeches

INITIATIVES

Raised the issue of patients, especially kids suffering from Thalassemia and measures required to prevent its incidence! Also demanded study of legislative measures in Cyprus making pre-marriage Thalassemia test mandatory. (March 19, 2020)

Organized a first-of-its-kind brain storming meeting on #DecongestingThane, involving representatives of all relevant Ministries and Departments, like Shipping, Road Transport, Maritime Board of Maharashtra, Railways, Thane Traffic Police and District Administration, etc, in the presence of Shri Mansukhbhai Mandaviya, Minister of State for Shipping. Elected representatives of Thane, Biwandi, Navi Mumbai etc. also participated. (March 14, 2020)

Launched a massive Signature Campaign along with local MLAs Shri Sanjay Kelkar and Shri Niranjn Davkhare so as to



Leading Delegations: The Asiatic Society, Mumbai with Culture Minister Prahlad Singh Patel and MSME Industries from Mumbai with FM Nirmala Sitharaman

demand Traffic-Tension Free Thane through banning heavy vehicles entry in City limits till Metro/Kopri bridge work is on. (March 7, 2020)

Reviewed progress of the Village Dhakane, Thane adopted under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana. (January 15, 2020)

Inaugurated a new school building of Regal Education Society's in Chiplun, Ratnagiri. (December 17, 2019)

Initiated an idea to organize the book display in Parliament Library on the Birth Anniversaries of National Heroes. (December 16, 2019)

Led a delegation of 215 year old The Asiatic Society of Mumbai (ASM) to meet with Union Minister of Culture and Tourism Shri Prahlad Patel, to seek his help in strengthening the institutional character of ASM, and also to seek more grants from the Ministry of Culture. (September 30, 2019)



Decongesting Thane Convention, Thane

In Thane, a Public Garden namely 'Samvedana Udyan' or Divyang Accessibility Park will be created through my MPLAD Funds. This park will be Divyang friendly, and for others it will help to get educated about the difficulties faced by Divyang persons. Performed Bhoomi Pujan of this Accessibility Park to come up right in the heart of the city of Thane. (August 29, 2019)

Introduced a Private Member's Bill namely Companies Act (Amendment) Bill 2019 in Rajya Sabha. The bill provides for at least 25% of the CSR Fund of companies to be spent on maintenance of monuments and archeological sites and remains of National Importance. (July 13, 2019)

INTERACTIONS

Interacted with BJP Municipal Concillors from Thane and also office bearers of BJP, Thane to seek their views on proposed public awakening campaign on Thane City Traffic Related issues. (March 1, 2020)

Visited Shashwat Concept School in Amravati, Maharashtra which is being run on several innovative ideas. Also, interacted with students, teachers and school trustees. (September 20, 2019)



Interaction with Muslim intellectuals, Pune



Meeting of the Saansada Adarsh Gram Yojana, Thane



Vice-Chairman Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP)



IDEAS/ ARTICLES

Jan Bhagidari needed for Malnutrition-free India

To address the challenge of malnutrition, we need a basic understanding of the social, behavioural and cultural practices that promote healthy dietary behaviour, both at the individual and community level. Food and nutritional practices passed on through the generations have shaped social identities. Annadana was recognized as the most effective way of a civilized living, this noblest of all acts is considered to be the foundation of civilized living. Malnutrition is a complex, multi-dimensional issue, impacted by a number of socioeconomic factors. It needs a multi-sectoral and multi-pronged solution. One sector, one organization, or one scheme alone cannot tackle this problem. While several ideas are converging to tackle India's burden of malnutrition, the Prime Minister's inspired vision of a Jan Andolan, a janbhagidaari or people's movement, will lead the way to a malnutrition free India.

Excerpted from the Article "Jan Andolan for a malnutrition-free India" (Seminar, June 2020)

Justice for all, loss for none

Looking back, I believe that the very nature of the judgment on the Ayodhya dispute delivered by the Supreme Court on Saturday, the response of most political parties to the same and the adroit handling of the situation, post-verdict, by local administrations almost all over the country, together serve as a testimony to the extraordinary sense of responsibility shown by all.

Most remarkably, the basis of the verdict delivered is not faith or belief system but, purely and clearly, the law of the land.



With Salman Khurshid and Yogendra Yadav, at Nani Palkhiwala Birth Centenary Celebrations, Delhi

The curse of 'vote bank' politics - like the Berlin Wall - has always caused artificial divisions in India. Article 370 and Triple Talaq were some of the large vestiges of that alluring, but toxic, divisive wall harming the innate unity of the people of India.

As described by Prime Minister Narendra Modi very beautifully, this judgment provides a strong ground to both, those engaged in Ram Bhakti as well as Rahim Bhakti - to join hands and unitedly move towards Rashtra Bhakti!

Excerpted from the Article 'Ayodhya verdict: Justice for all, loss to none" (Daily Q, November 10, 2019)

A different kind of Nationalism

What Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made a fervent appeal for, through his Independence Day address last August 15, is precisely in keeping with the traditions established by the likes of Gandhi. But unlike Gandhi, both Shastri and PM Modi made their appeals while in office. Naturally then, their appeals also reflected an attempt to link governance issues to the personal conduct of the countrymen.

The message is loud and clear. Nationalism can certainly not be a bad word as some would want us to believe. However, it is also not about mere emotions and slogans. It has an actionable aspect to it, and the prime minister has been consistently emphasizing the same, while denying any room for mere lip service.

Excerpted from the Article 'A different kind of Nationalism' (The Indian Express, August 24, 2019)

INITIATIVES

Joined Maharashtra Governor Shri Bhagat Singh Koshiyari Ji at the inaugural function of National Convention on "Elimination of Single Use Plastic", organized at the Bhayandar Campus of RMP. (January 19, 2020)

Shared my thoughts on 'how traditional arts, crafts and culture of ST Communities could be professionally developed in the quest of livelihood opportunities' at the Conference of BJP MPs, organised by RMP and others on "Preventing Migration from Tribal Areas" (January 15, 2020)



Releasing book by iconologist G B Deglurkar at Pune

INTERACTIONS

Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini (RMP)

Conducted a session on **"Evolution of Political Party System in India"** with the participants of RMP's Foundation Course in Party Politics in India. (June 8, 2020)

Organised interactions of horticulturalists from Maharashtra who are into growing bananas, grapes, mangoes and other fruits; with Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Agriculture Minister, in order to seek some financial assistance to them in the absence of any access to markets. Farmer's leader Shri Pasha Patel and Maharashtra BJP President Shri Chandrakant Patil also joined. (April 9, 2020)

Engaged with young entrepreneurs who have initiated 15 Start-ups, being cultivated by Atal Incubation Centre of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, via video conferencing. Tried to understand as to how have they planned to cope up with Covid-19 situation. (March 30, 2020)

Interacted with participants of the first batch of #NetritvaSadhana programme of RMP via Video-Conferencing. Discussed and guided them as to how we all can join #CombatCorona movement! #TogetherWeFightCorona (March 29, 2020)

Conducted an interactive session on "Democracy and Leadership" at the RMP's Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership (IIDL). (September 24, 2019)

Led a delegation of Hindu refugees (who were forced to flee from Pakistan) to meet with Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah Ji, regarding extension of medical VISA. (July 19, 2019)



With Maharashtra Governor B S Koshiyari



2

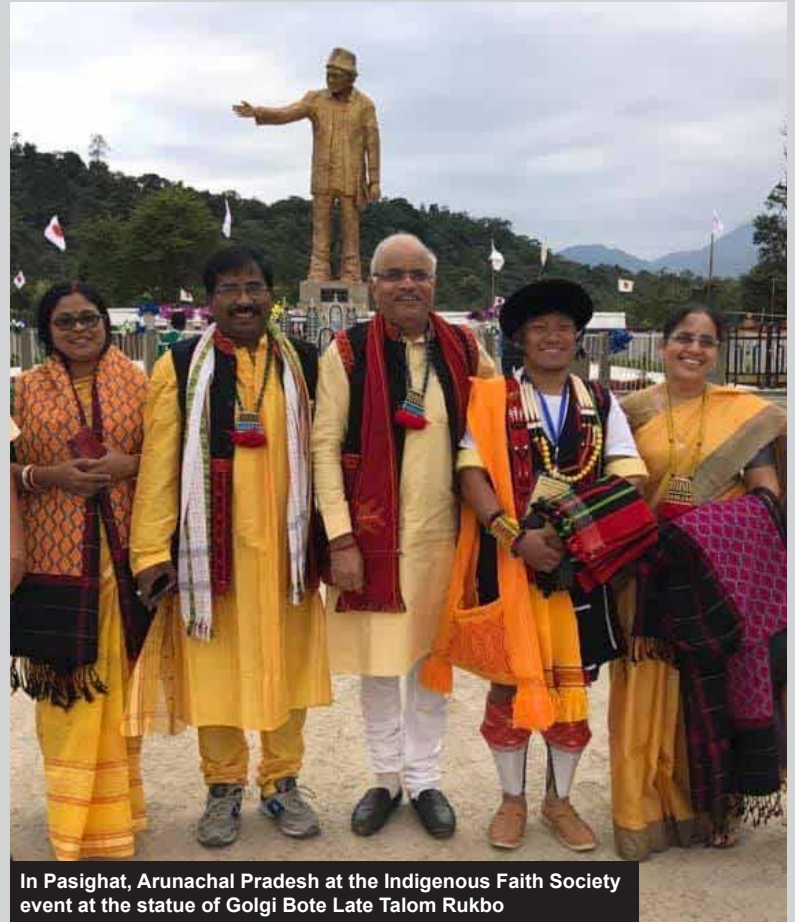
With Ravindra Sathe, DG, RMP



With BJP General Secretary Ram Madhav, Arunachal CM Pema Khandu and Arunachal MP Tapir Gao at RMP



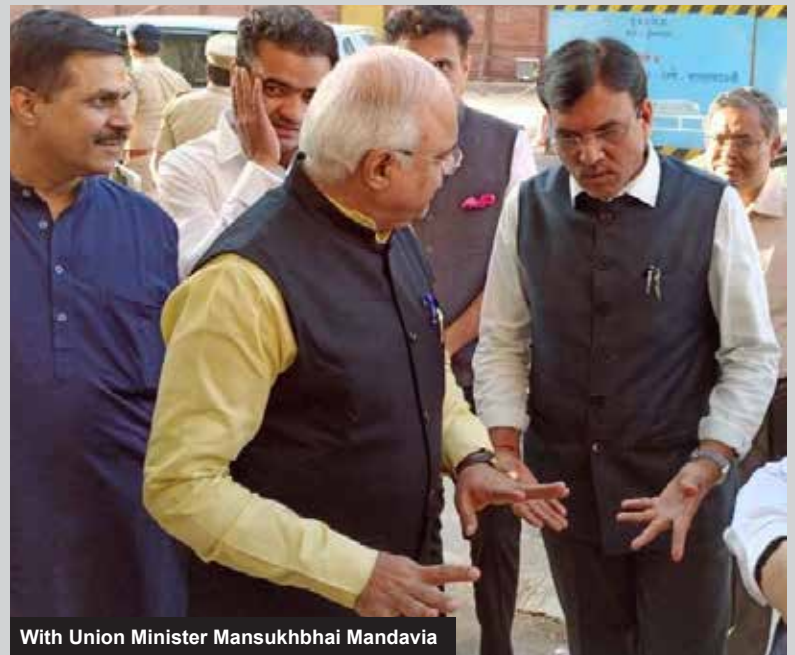
With Road Transport & Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari



In Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh at the Indigenous Faith Society event at the statue of Golgi Bote Late Talom Rukbo



With Maharashtra BJP President Chandrakant Patil



With Union Minister Mansukhbhai Mandavia

Striving to bring Ease of Life during Covid-19



Executed the “Seva Rasoi” for 50 days during the lockdown under the #FeedTheNeedy campaign of BJP. The idea behind this initiative was to reach out needy people and not to let them be hungry. #TogetherWeFightCorona

Interaction via Video Conferencing with Heads of associations in Travel and Tourism sector to understand their difficulties, suggestions and demands. (April 26, 2020)

Wrote to Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, about hundreds of trucks carrying grapes, other fruits in Bangladesh, stranded at Mahadipur border in West Bengal due to Corona restrictions. Due to the Govt.’s intervention, the issue was resolved. (April 25, 2020)

Facilitated a Virtual Interactive Meeting of MSME representatives of Thane, Aurangabad, Nasik, Nagpur, Pune and Kalyan with Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, with a view to address their concerns and also to consider their suggestions. (April 13, 2020)

Initiated a platform “I-Can-India Cowin Action Network” during the lockdown so as to build a connect between help seekers and givers. (April 8, 2020)



At Dapoli, Maharashtra; distributing aid for cyclone affected villagers of Konkan to local BJP leaders

Had an interaction via Video-Conferencing with experts in the field of Training and Capacity Building about how post-Corona distance learning methodologies may acquire centre stage, and why trainers will have to employ more effective skills! #LearningsOfLockdown (April 7, 2020)

To address the problems like short-term loans, cold chain facilities and market access, facilitated a meeting between Shri Giriraj Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries and the office bearers of the National Fish Workers Forum, Maharashtra, via Video Conferencing. (April 4, 2020)

Raised the issue of regular blood transfusion assistance to Thalassemia affected kids in Bihar, with the Health Ministry of State and Centre, which have been ensured immediately. (March 4, 2020)

ISRN along with Divya Prem Sewa Mission distributed essential food items among labourers near Anand Vihar Station. (April 4, 2020)

Had a Video-Conferencing Meeting with heads of 20 NGOs from UP, associated with ISRN to discuss their relief work during lockdown. (April 2, 2020)





Participating in BJP Virtual Rally with Minister N S Tomar, Delhi



Presenting Memorandum to Thane Collector



Inaugurating a Bridge at Village Asood, Near Dapoli from MPLAD Funds

Few clippings of articles and columns in National and Regional News Papers

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Expressions with Manish Tewari and Vinay Sahasrabudhhe | 'Centre took everyone on board over Covid'



5 QUESTIONS

INDIA HAS NOT WON A RUBBLE PRIZE FOR LITERATURE SINCE PARAMBHARATHI TAGORE. ALPAMEMBER VINAY SAHASRABUDHHE, WHO WROTE THE COLUMN IN HINDI SAHAKSHI, SPEAKS TO KIRAN KUMAR.

What was the issue you raised in the Raga Sabha?

I raised the issue of an Indian literary work having been found for a Nobel prize for an century after Mahaswathi Fagen's. This is because of multiple reasons, but primarily because we don't have good translators and commentators to have high-quality literary works in Indian languages translated into world languages. Therefore, I raised an issue to get a committee to set up some kind of a council for the translation of acclaimed Indian literary works. To produce high-quality work to be translated, but not enough, it has to be showcased to the international community.

Why has the government not taken any steps to improve the Indian literary scene?

The government has not taken any steps to improve the Indian literary scene. It has not taken any steps to improve the Indian literary scene. It has not taken any steps to improve the Indian literary scene.

Justice for all, loss to none!

by Vinay Sahasrabudhhe

SOCIALISM and justice for all, loss to none! This is the motto of the Indian National Congress. It is the motto of the Indian National Congress. It is the motto of the Indian National Congress.

Balanced verdict

The verdict of the Supreme Court is a balanced one. It is a balanced one. It is a balanced one. It is a balanced one.

Breaking 'walls'

The breaking of walls is a necessary step. It is a necessary step. It is a necessary step. It is a necessary step.

Forward looking

The forward-looking approach is essential. It is essential. It is essential. It is essential.

A new India, a new world

A more confident India is partnering with world community in a global struggle

by Vinay Sahasrabudhhe

WHAT IS the most striking feature of the global world in the 21st century? It is the rise of India. It is the rise of India. It is the rise of India.

India's rise

India's rise is a global phenomenon. It is a global phenomenon. It is a global phenomenon. It is a global phenomenon.

Global cooperation

Global cooperation is essential for a better world. It is essential for a better world. It is essential for a better world. It is essential for a better world.

Opposition has found a way to get back to vote bank politics on the CAA issue. Here's why they are wrong

by Vinay Sahasrabudhhe

WHAT IS the opposition's strategy to get back to vote bank politics on the CAA issue? It is a strategy to get back to vote bank politics on the CAA issue. It is a strategy to get back to vote bank politics on the CAA issue.

CAA is not a religious issue

CAA is not a religious issue. It is not a religious issue. It is not a religious issue. It is not a religious issue.

CAA is a secular issue

CAA is a secular issue. It is a secular issue. It is a secular issue. It is a secular issue.

'माध्यम-न्याय' मिडिल का हो बाजारी?

by Vinay Sahasrabudhhe

WHAT IS the meaning of 'माध्यम-न्याय' (Middle Justice)? It is a meaning of 'माध्यम-न्याय' (Middle Justice). It is a meaning of 'माध्यम-न्याय' (Middle Justice).

Justice is a process

Justice is a process. It is a process. It is a process. It is a process.

Justice is a result

Justice is a result. It is a result. It is a result. It is a result.

Hypocrisy in the name of liberalism

Frustrated by their electoral reverses, the Left has turned to manufacturing unrest

by Vinay Sahasrabudhhe

WHAT IS the hypocrisy in the name of liberalism? It is a hypocrisy in the name of liberalism. It is a hypocrisy in the name of liberalism.

Liberalism is a tool

Liberalism is a tool. It is a tool. It is a tool. It is a tool.

Liberalism is a lie

Liberalism is a lie. It is a lie. It is a lie. It is a lie.

महाराष्ट्र टाइम्स

राष्ट्रीय एकजुटता पर आघात

कोरोना जैतने के बाद भी एकजुटता पर आघात

कोरोना जैतने के बाद भी एकजुटता पर आघात. कोरोना जैतने के बाद भी एकजुटता पर आघात. कोरोना जैतने के बाद भी एकजुटता पर आघात.

राष्ट्रीय स्वावलंबनाची हाक!

राष्ट्रीय स्वावलंबनाची हाक! राष्ट्रीय स्वावलंबनाची हाक! राष्ट्रीय स्वावलंबनाची हाक!

सोनिया गांधी यांचे आक्षेप अनाटायी!

सोनिया गांधी यांचे आक्षेप अनाटायी! सोनिया गांधी यांचे आक्षेप अनाटायी!

देश : काल, स्थिती

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