Looking Back, Looking Ahead

WORK AT A GLANCE 2021-22

A report by Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe

President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Govt. of India

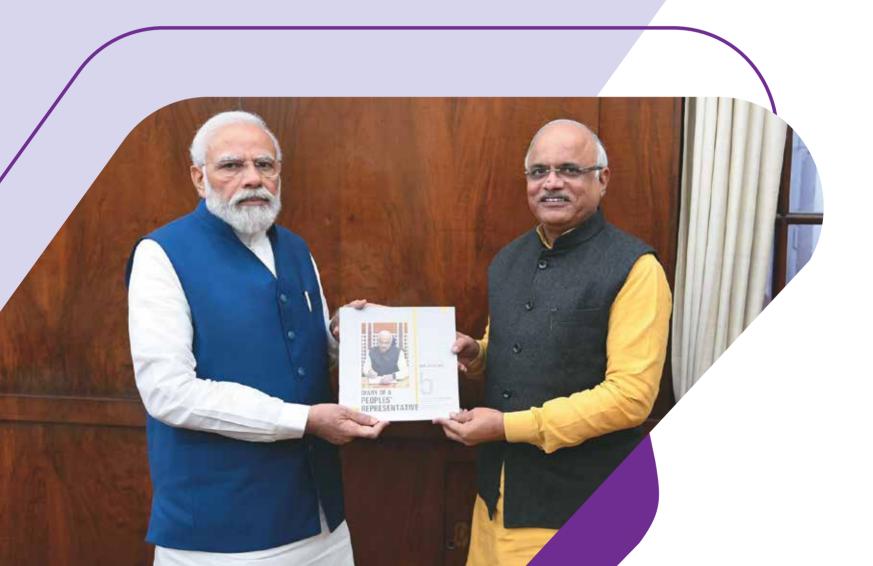
Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education; Women and Children; Youth and Sports Affairs

Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

Vice Chairman, Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini



Gratitude



In Maharashtra, Rambhau Mhalgi; one of the ideal and illustrious Members of State Legislature and later a Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) had initiated the practice of preparing an Annual Report to the Electorate. Emulating this Best Practise, it was in 2016-17 that I prepared my first such Work at a Glance Report. This is the sixth edition, outlining highlights of my discharge of duties while shouldering multiple responsibilities during 2021-22. While humbly presenting this report I am trying to pursue the democratic principle of Accountability of Elected Representative.

As a Karyakarta or a volunteer, my feeling is like 'little done and vast yet to be done'. The occasion of the release of reports of this kind provides us an opportunity to review what has happened, what has been accomplished and what were the lacunae and to look forward with a definitive plan and a sense of purpose. Without the inspiring guidance of leaders like Hon PM Narendra Modi ji, BJP President J P Nadda Ji, Home Minister Amit Shah Ji, Party Organising Secretary B L Santhosh Ji, External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar Ji and Shri Devendra Fadanvis Ji, (Chairman of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini), it would not have been possible to strive hard for the cause of Nation First. I express my sincere gratitude towards all of them.

Am sure, readers would also send their feedback and feel free to connect with me should they need any additional information.

Vinay Sahasrabuddhe



Chairman

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women & Children, Youth & Sports 100.000

Parliamentary Standing Committee interactions on Education, Women & Children and Sports related issues



Interaction at the Swami Shraddhanand Hindu Mahila Ashram in Mumbai I May 2022

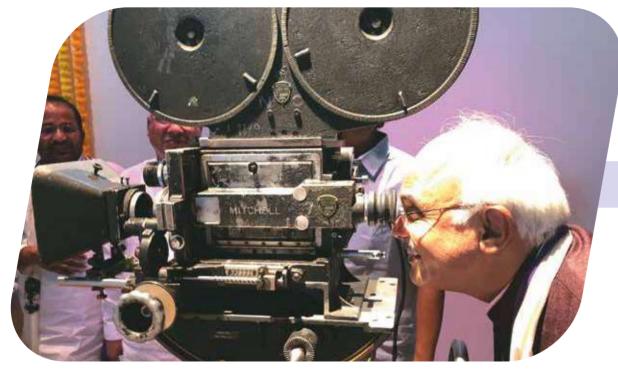


Interaction with researchers and academics at Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru I May 2022



Lively interaction with local businesswomen in Imphal's Ima Market, Asia's largest market run by women I April 2022

Parliamentary Standing Committee Interactions on Arts and Culture Education



Visited the Film and Telivision Institute of India in Pune I Sep 2021



At National Gallery of Modern Art, Delhi | Oct 2021



At National School of Drama, Delhi I Oct 2021

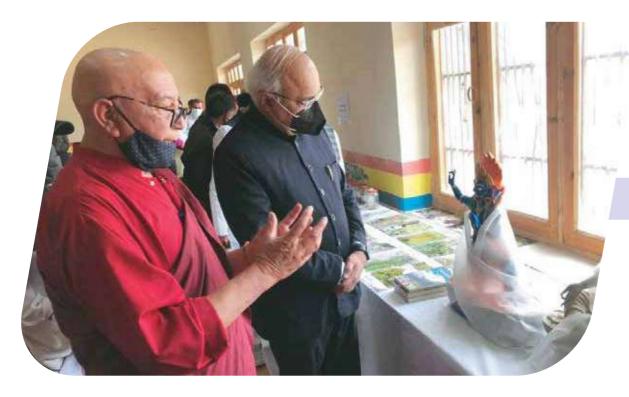


At Vrindavan Gurukul, Mumbai with Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Sep 2021



At Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute in Pune I Sep 2021

Parliamentary Standing Committee Interactions with Educationists in Ladakh



At the Ladakh Buddhist Association in Leh I Jul 2021



At Druk Padma Kai Shey near Leh. S Bhoti (local langu along with life ar team work, p leadership and through innovative

And, some other noteworthy engagements



Address at the 14th foundation day function of Central University of Rajasthan in presence of VC Dr. Anand Bhalerao, Water Conservation activist Rajendra Singh, MPs Mrs. Diya Kumari and Shri Bhagirath Chaudhary I Mar 2022



For the first time a school going student d Parliamentary Standing Committee | Nov 2021

Key recommendations given while chairing the Parliamentary Standing Committee on EWCYS u6nsmdts/f, si6nf-lo /2221 1. For the first For the first time after 1991, the committee reviewed the state of fine arts and performing arts

- 2. By visiting the Shraddhananda Mahilashram,
- Mumbai, the committee fter several years, studied the issues of grass indows, orphans etc
- 3. For the first time, the committee invited a 14 years old student of class 8th to fr recommendations about the design an of the History books
- The committee visited 'Ima Market Imphat' (Asia's largest market run by women to seek the opinions of women about the mining in age of the marriage for women
 - Besides visiting the institutes in the remote parts like UT of Ladakh, Imphal, Guwahati etc, the committee also paid visit to 3 II is (Powai, Guwahati, & Delhi) and ISC Banglore to frame holistic recommendations about higher education in the country
 - While scrutinising the Anti-Doping Bill, correction amendme opinions of actual athletes having dop charges, coaches and ederations and at o ha on the spot visit to National Dobe te aboratory, New Delhi

ISRABUDDI - ICCR

ERAC

Swami Vivek Embassy

President

Indian Council for Cultural Relations

Key New Initiatives by ICCR in 2021-22

Foreign Students in PM Modi's Pariksha Pe Charcha

For the first time in its history, foreign students studying on ICCR Scholarship in India participated in the Pariksha Pe Charcha Session addressed by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The programme organized by ICCR on April 1, 2022 saw participation of more than 200 students in the session which helped the students to get motivation for examinations, and to learn new techniques for innovative learning solutions.

Bangabandhu Chair at University of Delhi

To mark the centenary year of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the 50th Anniversary of the Bangladesh Liberation War & establishment of the India-Bangladesh diplomatic relations, ICCR established Bangabandhu Chair at University of Delhi in July 2021 in honor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rehman.

Celebrating 75 years of India's Independence and Democratic Traditions

ICCR organized an International Webinar on the topic "Independent India@75: Democratic Traditions" on the occasion of International Day of Democracy on September 15, 2021 under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations. The conference witnessed participation of eminent national and international panelists who shared their diverse views.

Indian Music in Indian skies

In December 2021, ICCR, along with a group of music maestros submitted a memorandum to Minister of Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia for playing of Indian music in flights and airports operated by Indian air companies. Subsequently, the Ministry has accepted the ICCR's request and directed the airlines to follow the same.

India Alumni, a single platform for foreign students

On the occasion of ICCR's 72nd Foundation Day on April 09 2022, the India Alumni portal was launched by ICCR. It is a single window platform to connect with foreign students around the world who have studied in India. This network will engage foreign students and keep them connected and updated on India as they continue to act as living bridges between India and their respective countries.

Showcasing the true spirit of Indian democracy

As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, ICCR launched one of its flagship programmes last year, the "Gen-Next Democracy Network" programme. Under this new initiative, ICCR has been hosting young, emerging social and political leaders of 75 democracies across the globe. Under the programme, a total of 131 young leaders from 36 democratic countries have visited India. The first group from eight countries had visited India from November 25 to December 02, 2021, and the latest (sixth group) from 5 countries from October 10 to October 19, 2022.

Promoting sustainable and eco-friendly craft culture of India

ICCR, for the first time, organized a craft demonstration and exhibition of renowned Indian craftsmen on the theme "Coalescence: Craft-Culture-Community-Climate". It was exclusively showcased for the diplomatic community, and was organized under the Ministry of External Affairs' week-long Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations (21-27 February 2022). Under this programme, a 3-day long Craft Mela (Craft Fair) was held at Chandni Bagh, Bikaner House, New Delhi from February 23-25, 2022.

Encouraging the foreign students of classical Indian music and dance

In order to celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, and to promote India's rich cultural legacy around the world, ICCR in recognition of the deep association of various foreign citizens towards India and its culture, has launched Pratibha Sangam Competition on 16 April 2022. This is the first ever global competition for performers from around the world in the categories of classical Indian Music and Dances.

Indian cinema and Soft Power

A two-day national seminar on "Indian Cinema and Soft Power" was organized by ICCR in collaboration with FLAME University of Pune on May 3 and 4, 2022 at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai. The Seminar discussed various dimensions of Indian cinema as India's soft power.

Promoting the Idea of India through short filmmaking

As a part of several activities being organized under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, ICCR has launched an International Film Making Competition on May 09, 2022 for Indian Diaspora community and foreign students in India/ Alumni to share their experience about India in various ways and through multiple media.

Restructuring of Domestic ICCR Network

Considering the better utilization of resources and management of work, ICCR has restructured its 18 Regional Offices present in the different regions of the country into five zonal offices, four sub-zonal offices and two regional passport offices. Efficient utilization of human and material resources has been a top priority for the current executive.

Enhancing the understanding of Yoga

Celebrating the 8th edition of the International Day of Yoga 2022, ICCR in collaboration with Wonkwang Digital University, South Korea has organized an international conference on the theme "Yoga & Natural Healthcare for Covid Pandemic (From Prevention to Long-term Rehabilitation)" on June 25, 2022. The academic partner for the conference was SVYASA University, Bengaluru, Karnataka.

Visit to Nepal • Jun 2022



Meeting with Smt. Bidya Devi Bhandari, President of Nepal and Shri Sher Bahadur Deuba, Prime Minister of Nepal at Kathmandu



Launching of 'India Alumni' a platform of all Nepalese students who have studied in India in the presence of Shri Devendra Paudel, Education Minister of Nepal



Inauguration of a curtain raiser event ahead of International Yoga Day 2022 at Kathmandu, in the premises of Pashupatinath Temple. Planted rudraksha sapling in the courtyard of the temple prior to the Darshan of Pashupatinath Maharaj.

Visit to United Kingdom and United States of America - Jun 2022



In London, interacted with Overseas Maharashtrian Professionals and Entrepreneurs Group and discussed key good governance practices and initiatives of the Narendra Modi government and role of Non Resident Indians in India's soft power, in the presence of Economist Dhananjay Mungle.



At Birmingham Repertory Theatre, explored possibilities of agreement with ICCR for Exchange Programmes of Theatre Groups and Performers in discussions with Executive Director Ms Rachel Thomas and others.



At the Nehru Centre of ICCR, with Sanjeev Sanyal, Prof. Yogesh Singh, Director Amish Tripathi and Manoj Ladwa at the India Global Forum Panel Discussion on Cultural Economy and Creative Industries.



Launched Annual India Day celebrations at Milton Keynes near London. where music and dance performers representing different States enthusiastically presented their art, in presence of The Mayor of the City, local MP and Her Majesty's Representatives



Met with Swami Yuktatmananda of Ramakrishna-Vivekananda Centre in New York, discussed the subject of spiritual traditions as soft power.



Interacted with Cultural Groups run by Indian Diaspora and others in Washington DC and New York. They contribute significantly to increasing understanding of Indian culture.



Conferring the Distinguished Indologist Award of ICCR to Rajiv Malhotra and Vishwa Adluri in New York.



At The Library of Congress, Washington DC. It has a rich collection of works on Asia as well as India, including ones in Indian languages.



At the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum on Asian Art in Washington DC, held discussions on possible avenues for collaboration, including factually correct representation of India.

Visit to Switzerland • Nov 2021



Inauguration of "Incredible India Showcase" along with Hon'ble Mayor of Berne, Mr. Alec Von Graffenried at the Berne Fernweh Festival.

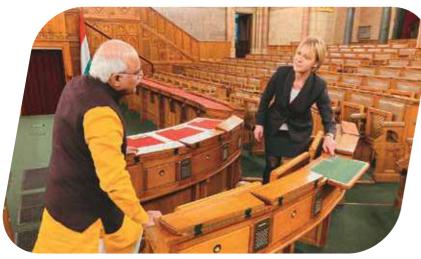
Visit to Dubai, Hungary and Slovenia - Oct 2021



At #DubaiExpo. Joined evening cultural programme to mark the inauguration of magnificent #IndiaPavilion! Also visited the pavilions of Indonesia, Israel, UK and Japan.



An interactive session with a group of Roma Community leaders coming from Hungary, Netherlands and Turkey in Budapest. For most of them, India is their revered land with many cultural commonalities.



Visit to the iconic Hungarian Parliament, which is the most important symbol of Hungarian democracy.



Meeting to discuss a wide range of issues with Deputy Secretary of State for Cultural Diplomacy, Hungary Mr. Márton Schoberl, such as matters of cultural cooperation between India and Hungary and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative.



At Maribor, Slovenia visited the #AlmaMaterEuropea University that runs courses in Ayurveda and Integrated Medicine. Delivered a lecture on 'Strength of India's Traditional Knowledge Systems'! ICCR would be supporting the University to set up a library of books in Ayurveda.



At the Nova University, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Delivered a lecture on 'Vibrant Democratic Traditions of India: Prospect and Retrospect' as ICCR and Nova University entered into an agreement to establish an India Studies Centre.

Engagements in Slovenia also included interactions with Slovenian Indologists, India lovers and Indian students/community members in Ljubljana.

Visit to Armenia • Aug 2021



While in Armenia, **visited the Yezidi community's magnificent temple at Aknalich!** There are many similarities in Indian and Yezidi traditions. They enter the temple without shoes, chant mantras and worship the peacock, their most revered deity.



Meeting with acting FM of Armenia, H. E. Mr Armen Grigoryan. Discussed the bilateral and regional issues. Also discussed ways to further strengthen cooperation in Parliamentary and Cultural fields between India and Armenia.



At the Russian Armenian University in Yerevan, **inaugurated 'Veda Centre for Indology'**, supported by the Government of India. Armenians are keen on studying Sanskrit and Indology. A Hindi language course is already running there.



In Yerevan, Armenia unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi, donated by ICCR and installed by the local Municipal Corporation at the Buenos Aires Park in the heart of the capital. Armenia's Deputy Minister for Culture also joined along with Armenian and Indian Teachers and Students.



At the Indian Cultural Centre run by India-Armenia Friendship NGO at Yerevan, Armenia. A team led by Ranvijay Anand has been running this Centre where dance, yoga, Mehendi and Hindi classes are held. This Centre is the first of its kind Public Private Partnership initiative.



In Yerevan, Armenia while visiting National Gallery of Armenia, saw fresco versions of select Ajanta Cave paintings by Sarkis Katchadourian 1886-1947), an Armenian artist who painstakingly created these art works.

And, some other engagements



July 24, 2021 Met on Buddhist Studies scholar and predecessor at ICCR, Prof. Lokesh Chandra ji and discussed about International Conference on Buddhist Studies.



August 7, 2021 Felicitated Marathi Litterateur Dr. Sharankumar Limbale who has been bestowed with the Saraswati Samman, 2020.



Meeting with Maestros

Sep 24, 2021 Discussed a number of issues in the field of performing arts with two music maestros Shri Vasifuddin Dagar and Smt Malini Awasthi.



Addressing young foreign diplomats

Oct 22, 2021 Addressed a group of young diplomats from different countries on 'Indian Politics Post 2014' under the Sushma Swaraj Lectures organised by India Foundation.

October 26, 2021 After a long break due to Covid-19 Pandemic, Pune Unit of ICCR organised a meeting of artists, singers, artisans and theatre performers in Pune which was convened by Shri Rajesh Pande and his Samarth Yuva Foundation.

November 9, 2021 Welcomed and felicitated two friends from Maharashtra, social worker and writer Shri Girish Prabhune and renowned rural development expert and ex-Sarpanch of Hiware Bazar Shri Popatrao Pawar, both Padma Shri awardees at our residence in Delhi.

November 12, 2021 At ICCR, felicitated Shri Parshuram Vishram Gangavane, a recipient of Padma Shri for his conversation. preservation efforts and exposition of the art of Kalasutri Bahulya (a form of string puppetry).

November 22, 2021 Visited a grand exhibition of portraits of freedom fighters by Pawan Verma 'Shaheen', organised by Kamal Art Gallery of Delhi BJP's Kamal Chib at Lalit Kala Academy.

November 29, 2021 Witnessed the signing and exchange of MoUs between National Gallery of Modern Art, Delhi and Indian Council for Cultural Relations for closer cooperation in taking Indian Art across the globe.

December 4, 2021 In Belagavi, Karnataka delivered a keynote at the Prabuddha Bharat Conclave of academics, professional and young thinkers.

December 24, 2021 Visited ICCR's Lucknow office and interacted with foreign students, scholarship recipients from Tajikistan, Indonesia, Yemen and Kenya. Lucknow University's Department of English has been a favourite destination of foreign students from many countries.

January 1, 2022 Visited University of Delhi and met Vice Chancellor Prof. Yogesh Singh with Yadavendra Singh, grand nephew of Shaheed Bhagat Singh with a demand that a statue of Shaheed Bhagat Singh be installed near the room on campus where he was imprisoned.

January 15, 2022 Yama Zat (Ramakatha) is the script of stage performance of hundred and forty years old performing #Ramayana tradition from Pyapon, Ayryarwadi region, Myanmar. Dr. Asawari Bapat, Director ICCR's Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Yangon called on and presented a copy.

January 23, 2022 Launched 'The Bose Legacy', theatre-film based on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's letters at a function organised by ICCR's Kolkata Unit to mark the 125th Birth Anniversary of Netaji.

January 29, 2022 Met Parveen Mulla and her brother Altaf Mulla, one of the few remaining manufacturers of Tanpura, Sitar and Rudra Veena from Miraj, Maharashtra.

January 31, 2022 Formally inaugurated 'Purnahuti', grand finale of the year long celebrations of the Janmashatabdi of Pandit Bhimsen Joshi in Pune.

February 23, 2022 in Mumbai, joined Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations as ICCR organised an Evening of Music and Dance. Justice Sadhana Jadhav and Justice Revati Mohite-Dere, Hon'ble Judges of the Bombay High Court and Shri Shaktikanta Das, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India also joined in.

March 5, 2022 Presided over a meeting of Resident Commissioners of 17 States at the ICCR Headquarters.

March 27, 2022 In Kolkata, presented the Bada Bazaar Kumar Sabha Pustakalaya's Dr. Hedgewar Prajnya Pravah Puraskar to renowned author-writer Smt. Neerja Madhav.



Indian Music in Indian Skies

December 24, 2021 'Minister for Civil Aviation, Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia visited ICCR and met with Dr. Sahasrabuddhe. Suggestions were made for playing Indian music in flights. Many acclaimed artists from the field of performing arts including Anu Malik, Manjusha Patil, Vasifuddin Dagar, Malini Awasthi, Sanjiv Abhyankar, Shaunak Abhisheki, Kaushal Inamdar and Rita Ganguli joined.



Craft and Culture

February 23, 2022 Inaugurated 'Coalescence', a Craft Mela organised by ICCR as part of Ministry of External Affairs Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations, along with Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi ji and Smt Jaya Jaitley ji. Moving beyond music and dance, ICCR showcased India's rich craft traditions.



Tributes to Lata Mangeshkar

March 5, 2022 At a Musical Evening at ICCR to commemorate Lata Mangeshkar, a month after her unfortunate demise. Journalist and chronicler Ambarish Mishra ji presented the show Lata Mangeshkar - The Song Eternal with Shri Vinod Pawar. Ambassadors and other dignitaries were also in attendance.



Understanding the issues faced by musical instrument makers

March 11, 2022 In Thanjavur visited the workshop of Ms. Subasini, where beautiful Veenai is manufactured using jackfruit treewood.



March 21, 2022 Shiv Jayanti celebrations at Shivneri Fort.



March 27, 2022 Visited the Nalanda University near Patna.

April 1, 2022 Foreign students of ICCR attended the 5th edition of #ParikshaPeCharcha at ICCR with President ICCR Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe DG, ICCR Kumar Tuhin etc. Hon'ble PM interacted with students about ways to cope with exam pressure and reduce stress levels.

April 9, 2022 At ICCR, a new forum namely India Alumni backed by a portal was launched, marking the 72nd Foundation Day of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations in presence of Minister Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi. This is a portal connecting all modern day Fa Xians, Xuan Zangs and Al Berunis, and strengthening their emotional bonds with India.

April 20, 2022 Addressed the Diplomats' Conclave at Global AYUSH Investment and Innovation Summit in Gandhinagar.



March 27, 2022 Delivered a lecture on "India's Soft Power" at the Dr. Shailendra Shrivastava Jayanti Programme in Patna. It was graced by Minister Ashwini Chaubey, Avdhesh Narayan Singh and Former Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad.



May 4, 2022 Indian Cinema and Soft Power Seminar at Raj Bhavan Mumbai. The Seminar saw productive deliberations on how Cinema can act as an effective vehicle of India's Soft Power. Hon'ble Governor Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari was the Chief Guest.



April 30, 2022 Participated in the Saghachchadhwam Programme of Mokshayatan Yog Sansthan Saharanpur. In the presence of RSS Sarsanghachalak Param Pujya Mohan Bhagwat ji and Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh Smt. Anandiben Patel, received the Sanskrutidoot Award at the hands of Swami Bharat Bhushan.

May 22, 2022 On the occasion of #WorldCultureDay, chaired ICCR's Fifth Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay Memorial Oration delivered by Smt. Jaya Jaitley ji. Witnessed a great musical performance by Folks Wagon led by Madhur Padwal using multiple regional instruments.

June 7, 2022 "India and the UK have cultures rooted in civilisational history and both have knowledge societies. Vibrant Democracy is the third pillar.Our relationship is Ever aging, Never old." Spoke today at British Council Delhi at the launch of India/UK Together, Season of Culture.

ICCR starts celebrating Coronation Day of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj



June 6, 2022 Garlanded a portrait #ChhatrapatiShivajiMaharaj on the 348th Anniversary of his coronation today at the Mumbai office of ICCR. This magnificent portrait by ace artiste Pavan Varma was presented by his mentor Kamal Chib.

Some Important Convocations Addressed and Visits to Universities



December 26, 2021 At Anand, Gujarat delivered the Convocation Address at the Sardar Patel University in presence of Hon'ble Governor of Gujarat and Chancellor Acharya Devavrat ji.



January 8, 2022 Delivered the Convocation Address at the Mahatma Gandhi AntarRashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya in Wardha, Maharashtra. Also unveiled a bust of Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya in the campus.

Gen Next Democracy Network



Joined Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla ji, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh ji and Law Minister Kiren Rijiju ji at launch of ICCR's initiative #GenNextDemocracyNetwork in the Central Hall of Parliament. 19 delegates including 5 young Members of Parliaments from 8 countries participated.



Held a round of personal interactions followed by Dialogue with all visiting young leaders of the #GenNextDemocracyNetwork prior to the Briefings. When asked about impressions, a delegate commented 'Indian democracy's success in maintaining separation of powers is just unparalleled'.



Batch 2 of Gen Next Democracy Network visited Parliament House. Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla was present.



While addressing Visiting Young Leaders in inaugural session, explained the Idea of India and appealed to them to understand India through experiential learning.

डा. विनय पी. सहखबुद्धे, बीजेपी, महारा पीठासीन : उपसभापति

तरकारी सदस्यों क

18

Member of Parliament

Rajya Sabha

In the Parliament



Highlights of Participation in Discussions

COVID-19 Pandemic

Participated in the Discussion on the management of COVID-19 pandemic, implementation of vaccination policy and challenges of the likely third wave

Appropriations Bill

Participated in the discussion on The Appropriation (No. 5) Bill, 2021

Tax Collection from Tobacco and De-addiction centres

Participated in the discussion regarding need to use tax collected from goods like alcohol and tobacco for rehabilitation and de-addiction centres

Motion of Thanks on the President's Address

Spoke on the governance innovations and development progress under PM Narendra Modi led government in the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address

Working of the Ministry of Railways

Participated in the discussion on the working of the Ministry of Railways under the short duration discussions

Zero Hour Mentions

Lokshahir Annabhau Sathe Jayanti 2021

Spoke on the floor of the house to mark the Jayanti of Lokshahir Annabhau Sathe and his contributions to social movements and literature.

Manufacturers of Indian Musical Instruments

Raised the matter of the plight of the makers of traditional instruments from places like Miraj, Varanasi, Thanjavur etc. under the title 'Regarding need to preserve and promote manufacturers of Indian musical instruments'

District level research foundations

Raised the matter under the head 'Resolution Re. Establishing Research Foundations At State And District Level On Lines Of National Research Foundation For Reviving Indian Knowledge Traditions'

eSports ecosystem in India

Raised the issue of developing a prudent eSports ecosystem in India and coming up with regulatory framework for the same in Parliament



Six Years Snapshot

Raising public concerns and demands with Ministers



Pay Parity for Ex-Union Bank employees Called on Minister for Finance Smt Nirmala Sitharaman with a delegation of ex-Union Bank (now IDBI Bank) employees regarding the issue of pay parity

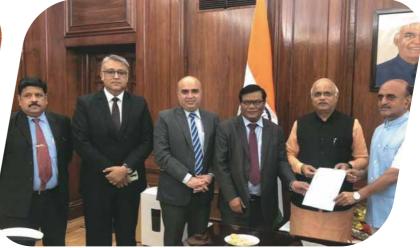


Bulk distribution of medicines in flood affected areas of Maharashtra

Called on Minister for Health and Family Welfare Shri Mansukh Mandaviya to seek basic medicines in bulk for free distribution in flood affected areas of Maharashtra



Mumbai Suburban Railway Passengers' issues Called on Minister for Railways Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and Ministers of State Shri Raosaheb Danve and Smt Darshana Jardosh and discussed the issues of Mumbai Suburban Railway and Konkan Railway



Loan Restructuring for SC & ST Enterpreneurs due to Covid-19

Facilitated DICCI deligation led by Shri Milind Kamble with MoS Finance Shri Bhagwat Karad regarding the issue of restructuring of loans

Saving forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj from illegal encroachments



Called on Minister of State for Culture Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal with a delegation consisting of Shri Sunil Deodhar and Shri Vaibhav Dange and others to raise the issue of illegal construction and defacing on forts of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in Maharashtra

Need for early decision on locatin of Pune International Airport



Led a delegation of BJP Pune to meet Minister for Civil Aviation Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia to raise the civic demand of an international airport at Pune. Also raised the issue of unnecessary delays and hindrances caused by the MVA Government in Maharashtra in this regard.

Sansad Adarsh Gram – Dhakane, District Thane



With receding Covid-19, the developmental activities resumed in Dhakane village, Shahapur Taluka, Thane - my village under Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana. Had interactive meetings with Gram Panchayat members and officers, also with youth groups. Reviewed pandemic situation and vaccination drive



With experiments of reopening of schools on the anvil, distributed school bags to students of Zilla Parishad School of village Dhakane



Visited schools which have started reopening, anganwadis that needed urgent repair and listened to PM Narendra Modi ji's Mann Ki Baat address with ASHA workers of my Sansad Adarsh Gram Dhakane in Thane District.

Some other engagements



August 9, 2021 Shri Chandrakant Dada Patil (Maharashtra BJP President then) and other key functionaries Ram Shinde, Chandrashekhar Bawankule (Current Maharashtra BJP President), Jaykumar Rawal and others visited our residence in Delhi where key issues related to State BJP were discussed

August 29, 2021 In Hyderabad, joined an interactive session with Vice Chancellors and Educationists in Telangana on Gramodaya and Higher Education, organized by Gramodaya Chamber of Commerce and Technology. Mankena Srinivas Reddy is painstakingly working on various village development projects



October 19, 2021 Heading a sub-committee of the High Level Experts Committee on Reforms in National Cadet Corps, visited Officers Training Academy at Nagpur today with other members. Interacted with CTOs, Army Officers In-Charge of various Departments and others.

October 21, 2021 At the National Academy for Audit and Accounting, Shimla delivered a Keynote Address in a Seminar on Accountability in Education. 'Remarkably, #NEP2020 provides effective mechanisms for auditing both, Sadhan or processes and Saadhya or outcomes as both are important in education'.



October 21, 2021 While in Shimla, called on Hon'ble Governor of Himachal Pradesh Shri Rajan Arlekar

October 25, 2021 Delivered Keynote Address at the Symposium on #NationalEducationPolicy at the Savitribai Phule Pune University. 'National Education Policy is the first such comprehensive attempt to free Indian Education from the shadow of Lord Macaulay. NEP reminds us that like our Mother we also have to take care of Mother tongue'.

December 27, 2021 Visited Institute of Rural Management, Anand. Tried to understand as to what value addition the alumni of this prestigious institution have done to rural rejuvenation in the last four decades.

December 30, 2021 Participated in Thane District 'Disha' Committee Meeting, chaired by Minister of State Shri Kapil Patil. Many Depts of District Administration need to be more accountable and transparent for result oriented implementation of various welfare schemes of all governments, especially Central Government.

Divyang Friendly Park in Thane from my MPLADS Funds





February 19, 2022 First of its kind in the region – Divyang friendly park built out of my Local Area Development Fund was inaugurated by Hon'ble Leader of Opposition (then) Shri Devendra Fadnavis. MoS Shri Kapil Patil. Shri Ashish Shelar (MLA) also joined in. Having been closely associated with this cause, the park was a project which focused on inclusivity and accommodation based on the principle of Antyodaya.



March 26, 2022 Received the Sansad Ratna Award at the hands of Chief Election Commissioner Shri Sushil Chandra and Minister Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal as the Chairman of Standing Committee on Education, Women and Children, Youth and Sports.

March 8, 2022 As part of observance of #JanAushadhiDiwas2022 and #WomensDay, visited a Janaushadhi Kendra at the Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi today. Talked to medicine buyers; was happy to see their smiles of satisfaction, due to fairly priced medicines. This scheme has been given further impetus by Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji.



March 9, 2022 While in Chennai, visited IIT Madras's Research Park in Taramani. Very educational to see work of startups into Drone Tech, AI, VR and ML. Saw an equipment to help put an end to manual scavenging, EVs for Divyang persons and also a 3D printed rocket. Rich tech prowesses.



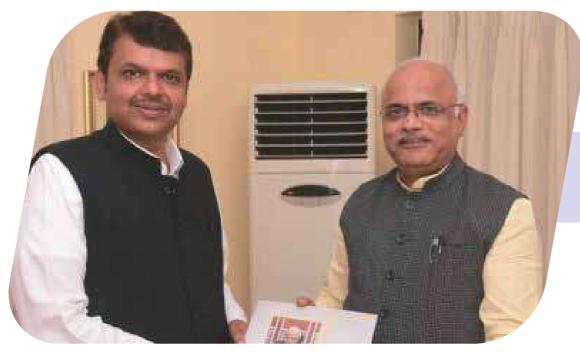
August 20, 2021 Joined Hon'ble Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh ji in flagging of five trauma care ambulances donated to the Armed Forces at the Borders by Borderless World Foundation, Pune led by Shri Adhik Kadam.



May 11, 2022 Joined Hon'ble Vice President Shri M Venkaiah Naidu ji and Deputy Chairman Shri Harivansh in the Rajya Sabha Day 2022 programme.

May 6, 2022 Participated in the function of Dr. Shanta Vaidya Memorial Foundation in Pune. It is working towards empowerment of those with dyslexic individuals. Was educational to know about new issues being faced by this community

June 4, 2022 Met Yusuf Mulla and Parveen Mulla, Tanpura and Sitar manufacturers from Miraj Maharashtra. Raised their concerns of instruments being measured by volume instead of weight with the Department of Posts. Was pleased to see quick resolution of their grievances and reversal of decision back to measuring instruments by weight.



March 2, 2022 Being a Rajya Sabha MP, the electorate is the State Legislature. As such, we are accountable to them. Presented copies of my Annual Report 2020-21 to LOP (then) Shri Devendra Fadnavis.

Karyakarta

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Bharatiya Janata Party

Carrying Out Party Responsibilities

1. #SewaAurSamarpanAbhiyan | Hon'ble PM Modi ji's birthday



Participated in Annadan at Thane to mark the Sewa Samarpan Abhiyan. Also joined in as a Housing Society in Thane celebrated by planting trees in its campus.



Visited the inspiring exhibition put up at the BJP Headquarters on good governance initiations of Hon'ble PM Modi commencing from his time as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Also visited vaccination centres, rations shops etc. and interacted with beneficiaries.

2. Booth Sashaktikaran Abhiyan



Took periodic stock of the Thane Lok Sabha constituency which included state leaders from Maharashtra BJP and leaders from the Mira-Bhayander, Majiwada, Kopri-Pachpakhadi, Airoli, Belapur and other Assembly constituencies.

3. BJYM National Training Programme

4. Garib Kalyan Sammelan and Shapath



Addressed the National Training Programme for the office bearers of the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha in Dharamshala followed by an interactive session on the ideological foundations of the Bharatiya Janata Party.



At the Garib Kalyan Sammelan organised by the Thane Unit, administered the Garib Kalyan Shapath to party workers – our party will always consider the most backward as the most deserving of the fruits of development.

5. Uttar Pradesh Election Campaign



At the campaign of Shri Pankaj Singh in Noida. Also interacted with media representatives and key functionaries in Lucknow, during the Assembly Elections Campaign.

Interacted with Diamond Bourse of Mumbai

Addressed the diamond traders of the Bharat Diamond Bourse to take the achievements of eight years of the Modi Government to the people, in BKC.

6. Save Forts Committee



At the Shivneri Fort. Also inspected Mahim Fort to take stock of the situation and raise it with Archaeological Survey of India and National Monuments Authority.

Other engagements

July 4, 2021 Visited BJP Ladakh State Office in Leh and interacted with party functionaries. Meeting was chaired by Jamyang Tsering Namgyal and saw participation of Shri Kailash Baytu.

July 18, 2021 In Thane, interacted with blood donors of the Blood Donation Drive organised by BJP Thane and inaugurated some colony facilities.



November 7, 2021 Joined the then Maharashtra BJP President Chandrakant Dada Patil to participate in the National Executive Council Meeting of the Bharatiya Janata Party from Mumbai



December 9, 2021 At our residence in Delhi, interacted with Sarpanchs from multiple districts of Maharashtra to discuss schemes of the Central Government, their implementation and problems faced at the village level.



April 8, 2022 Felicitated new elected Rajya Sabha Members from Assam, Nagaland, Tripura and Himachal Pradesh (Dr. Manik Saha, Pabitra Margherita, Rangers Narzary, Phangnon Konyak and Sikander Kumar) at our residence in Delhi with Hon'ble MoS for External Affairs V Muraleedharan Ji.



April 18, 2022 Visited the Smarak Sthal of Shrimant Bajirao Peshwa in Raverkhedi, Madhya Pradesh along with members of the Smarak Samiti from Pune and Indore to pay my respects to this great son of soil. The MP government, actively supported by Shri Amit Shah ji, is building a befitting memorial at this place commemorating the great warrior-ruler.



April 15, 2022 Soldiers Independent Responsibility Foundation run by Smt Sumedha and Shri Yogesh Chithade collected over Rs. 5 crores and donated two Oxygen Generation Plants to Army for use in forward areas. Was privileged to inaugurate one such plant at the Kupwara Military Hospital.

May 28, 2022 With Karyakartas of BJP Dadar, paid tribute to Swatantryaveer Savarkar at his Memorial on his birth anniversary,



December 18, 2021 In Roha, Maharashtra interacted with beneficiaries of different Central Government schemes including the very successful Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana.



March 2, 2022 At Raj Bhavan, Mumbai award winning participants of #GenNextThane PPT Competition on Garbage Free,Traffic Jam Free Thane etc for School Children and their teachers were given awards at the hands of Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari ji.



March 22, 2022 Participated in the felicitation of Freedom Fighters Vasantrao Prasade, Arvind Manolkar and Babasaheb Jambulkar, all in their nineties, who took part in the freedom struggle after being inspired by the RSS.



May 5, 2022 Met with a delegation of medical students from India studying in Ukraine and their parents to hear their concerns on resumption of education and travel.

Vice Chairman

Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini

National Conference – Delivering Democracy: Reviewing The Two Decades Of Narendra Modi As Head Of Government | Oct 2021

On October 7, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi completed twenty straight years heading India's state and national governments as Chief Minister and Prime Minister. The completion of two decades of Modi's headship has presented an opportunity to decode the nuances of his administration and the essence of his leadership. In the said context, Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, a leadership development academy, organized a comprehensive National Conference on October 27, 28, and 29 at the India International Centre, New Delhi.

Said National Conference reviewed two decades of Narendra Modi as Head of Government intending to share the importance of governance in delivering and strengthening democracy in India. This conference was a unique academic event, covering a wide variety of issues about PM Modi's governance record of the past two decades, and featuring a whole galaxy of entrepreneurs, scholars, policymakers, and intellectuals who have worked with the PM, written about his contributions in different issue areas, and studied his policy approaches and implemented many of his landmark initiatives.

The main themes of this national conference included PM Modi's 'Art of Implementation,' Reforms in education and skill development, landmark economic policies and outlooks ('Modinomics'), his approach to poverty reduction and social welfare, his lead role in promoting science and technology, his transformative interventions in the agricultural sector, his foreign policy achievements to make India a 'leading power' in the world, his management of the Covid-19 pandemic and improvements in healthcare, his uplifting agenda for social justice of weaker sections and gender equity and other allied thematic areas.

Shri Amit Shah Ji, Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation, inaugurated the conference on 27th October 2021. The inaugural session was presided over by Devendra Fadanvis, Leader of the Opposition, Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, and Chairman, Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini. Shri Rajnath Singh Ji, Union Minister of Defence, was the chief guest for the conference's concluding session on 29th October 2021.

Parliamentarians Baijayant Panda, Sushil Modi, prominent journalist R. Jagannathan, Economists Rajiv Kumar, Sanjeev Sanyal, and Krishnamurthy Subramanian, diplomats Lakshmi Puri and Sujan Chinoy, Policy Analysts Mukul Asher and Shamika Ravi, Civil servants Anil Mukim, Hasmukh Adhia and Ashok Dalwai, businessmen Manish Sabharwal, Milind Kamble, Ravi Pandit, Sumant Sinha, and Rajeev Mantri, and a host of other experts and commentators who has closely studied PM Modi's record over the past 20 years shared their insights and observations about Narendra Modi's critical contributions to governance at the state, national and international levels.

There were 170 participants from 19 states of the country, including academicians, research scholars, and representatives from various organizations, participated in this conference. It included 37 female and 133 male participants.









National Seminar On Threat Of Dynastic Political Parties To Democratic Governance

Indian democracy is facing huge threats over the protracted and consolidated presence of dynastic political parties. Driven by political parties, the electoral politics in the country hovers around the strongest political linkages with family party politics. While around 2800 political parties registered with the Election Commission of India, nearly 54 political parties are called recognised parties and only a meagre 8 political parties are formed on the basis of principles and ideology. Very few political parties have internal democracy and govern by the party constitution. Such states of affairs are a threat to democratic governance of the country. This premise needs to be debated and public opinion needs to be generated. Rambhau Mhalagi Prabodhini (RMP), which was constituted in 1982, has attempted to generate huge debates in its long 40 years of academic journey around cleaning and bringing transparency in Indian democratic Governance'' on 19th May 2022 provided significant debate on the pernicious effects of Dynastic Politics in India and how it create democratic deficits in the country and what are regulatory framework that need to be look into to prevent this dynasty-ism in Indian electoral landscape.

The Seminar broadly had two Sessions: (1) Democratic Deficit due to Dynastic Politics and (2) Regulatory Framework to govern parties for prevention of Dynasty-ism. The Seminar was conducted under the leadership of RMP such as Chairman of RMP of Shri. Devendra Fadnavis ji (Former Chief Minister of Maharashtra and the incumbent Leader of Opposition of Maharashtra Legislative Assembly), Vice-Chairman of RMP Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe ji (Member of Rajya Sabha), and Convenor and Director General, Shri Rabindra Sathe ji. The National Seminar was privileged to host very notable speakers and distinguished citizens representing the voices of people in national and state level politics. Such personalities and speakers are Shri. JP Nadda ji, (Honourable National President of Bharatiya Janata Party-BJP) as Chief Guest along with notable speakers and distinguished personalities like Shri RCP Singh (Union Minister of Steel of Union Cabinet representing Janata Dal United), Dr. M. Thambidurai (Member of Parliament representing AIADMK), Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya (Member of Parliament from Asom Gana Parishad), Shri. Mahesh Jethmalani (Member of Parliament, Senior Advocate, New Delhi), Dr. Anand Ranganathan (Professor and Author), Shri J Sai Deepak (Advocate, Supreme Court and Author), Shri Desh Deepak Verma (Former Secretary General of Rajya Sabha) and Dr. Santishree D. Pandit (Vice-Chancellor, JNU).









In Media



House under siege

The Opposition is preventing Parliament from performing its duties

VINAY SAHASRABUDDHE

WHILE ENTERING the 75th year of indeendence, aquestion worth pondering over is whether our judiciary, executive and Parliament havereally discharged their con-stitutional duries well Palliament is the most crucial restrument of representative democracy and hence, both the role as well as the contribution of Parliament need a closer fook. Going by all that is happening – or rather not happening – in both Houses cur-rently, one caninfer that Parliament is being dificised to the hilt, preventing it from pe forming its duties. Even in the second week of the ongoing

Even in the second week of the engoing MonsoonGession, Parliament continues to be traffed. Despite the fact that the Opposition bad demanded aspecial session to discuss the Covid-19 situation and the government showe the wellingness to discussial issues-from Pegarus to the pandemic – as desired by the Opposition, ruckus continues to rule therorot, Sadh most opposition parties seem to have even the Pandemic rule and the second to have converted Parliament into a plug-and-

play instrument to achieve their partisariends. Undoubtodly, even a single day lost in the dincests the nation heavily. But more important than the financial losses is the democratic polity's less of popular aspirations. Democracy is also about redressing griev-ances, outivating policies and floating new ideas. All this happensionly when Parliament

functions. In the orgoing lockdown of Parlament, dozens of MPs from both Houses wanting to raise issues during the Zero-Hour lost their charce to speak, and give voce to the agonies and aspirations of the people they represent. For no fault of theirs, many they represent. For no fault of theras, many MPs had to keeps their channe of making observations, and giving suggestions while disassing at RB. This was forwarding net junt for the Parliament members but more im-portantly, for the voters who elected them. Deeneory vial about deliveration, deixate and discussion and the momers all they are pushed to the periphery, the damage to democrate hearing.

public to she periphery, the carrage to democracy becomes irregarable. But the most question is: Can we find a solution to this? The sense of helplenness pripping the minds of all rule-abiding MPs bods ill for the health of democracy.

First, it is only theoretically correct to say that the Treasury alone is responsible for the smooth functioning of the Nease. In a situation where a group of just 10-20 members caneasily held the functioning of the House to ransom, it becomes the collective respon-sibility of all groups. Again, when it correcto the allotment of time to various groups participating in a debate can't we make a clear distinction between those creating ruckus and those tolerating the same helpleisky? Utiless our parliamentary procedures have

some deterrents as well as incentives embothe other rems as were as incentives em-bedded in them, nuclean-enorgering can be prevented effectively. Rule of law abo means musing the complete argetiction of the 'do a wrong and get away with it' phenomenon, Again, when groups and parties indulge in the politics of pandemonium, the taneesty of the politics of pandemonium, the timesty of jointice becomes more promounced as it is not the trouble maders but those respecting rules and regulations who are punished, and that too for their civility? Some out-off-the-box solutions could perhaps show theway, Whithe government rightly averse to the idea of passing bills in the data to a this phone neuron more.

the din, two things become easy prey - Zero Hour and Question Hour. On average, this two-hour window provides an opportunity for at least 35-40 MPs to make a point, raise an insue or seek more information every day. an issue or icell: more information every day. When both these hours are washed out, as many MPs are deprived of their rightful op-portunity, an injunktion is door to their elec-tors. All this can be – at least partly – pre-vented if the presiding officers go for an out-of-the-box-station by conducing both Zero Hours and Question Moor in-camera, within their charabees with relevant MPs related to the subschedule.

and ministers mandatority present. In addition to this, the ending of parlia-mentary dis-functionality also calls for fur-ther incentivising the smooth functioning of The Indian EXPRESS Fr1, 38 July 2021 https://wpaper.indianespress.com/c/62138990

both Houses. Unless this is done, the feats voiced in a research report by Vidhi Centre voiced in a research report by 'diffi Centre for Legal Policy a lew years ago may corne true. Thereport had talked of a 'transformed Parliament' as in 'hardre has changed from being the apex legalative body in influto to forurs for grandstanding omnutters of pol-lic importance. Disrugtions are an effective method for such grandstanding...' Any discussion about pashiamentary ideadlock: features an element of

deadlock features an element of whataboutery. Digging into the past and claiming that practices of the bygone era are relevant even today is relaxing to accept the demands of changing times. Backins, pande-monum and unending deadlock cause de-lays in law-making and attimes, deprive the process of an element of essential quality control. This adds to the damage already done to democracy as a whole. A restive young population wanting to make a differ-ence and the dynamics of a changing world demand early and effective delivery from democratic governance. As if unmindful of this, hose stalling Parliament are prevent-ing democracy from delivering and civility is being crucified, something which just can't be defended.

The writer is MP: Rayu Sabha and fors national vice-president of the BD



EDITORIAL

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Marathi and Hindi dailies





End of illiberal liberalism

The old order is giving way, a new common sense is taking shape

AY SAHASRABUDDH

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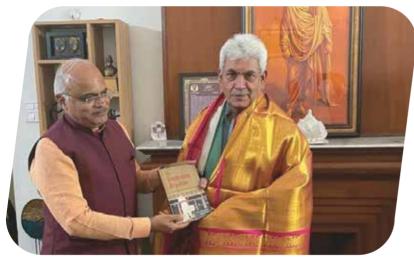
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Interactions



Sayyed Bhai and Devendra Fadnavis



Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir



Pratibha Ranade, noted Marathi Author



Shivshahir Babasaheb Purandare



Radhakrishna Mathur, Hon'ble Lt. Governor of UT of Ladakh



Popatrao Pawar, Sarpach of Hiwre Bazar

