

Peace, Security and Prosperity

Vigilant India

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The Future Belongs to **Indian Languages**



Hindi: A Friend of Local Languages

Boosting Hindi's Reach Without Undermining Other Indian Languages



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From the Editor...

In recognition of the growing significance of Hindi in the official work of the Union Government, concerted efforts are being made to promote its use in Government functions. As the Rajbhasha (Official Language) of Union, Hindi is now increasingly being used not only in Government documentation but also across Union Ministries, Departments and Institutions.

Over the past decade, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the prominence of Hindi has expanded, both domestically and on international platforms. Following the directives of the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah—Hindi Diwas—was celebrated on September 14 with great grandeur.

The use of Hindi is becoming more prevalent in meetings organised by Central Ministries, Press Conferences and Government announcements. This initiative not only facilitates direct communication with the Hindi-speaking population, but also promotes broader understanding and implementation of Government policies and schemes.

Efforts are being made to prepare material in Hindi to publicise various schemes and programmes of the Union Government. When the three New Criminal Laws were implemented nationwide on July 1, 2024, their content was made available and disseminated in both Hindi

and English language. The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has played a key role in achieving this milestone, on the instructions of the Union Home Ministry.

Over the past decade, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the prominence of Hindi has expanded, both domestically and on international platforms. Following the directives of the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah—Hindi Diwas—was celebrated on September 14 with great grandeur.

Many similar measures are in place at many organisations and Government bodies, to promote the official language, resulting in not only increased recognition of the Hindi language but also greater public awareness of Union Government initiatives, across diverse areas such as development, health, science and technology etc. In addition, the Central Hindi Directorate, Rajbhasha Vibhag, MHA along with other educational institutions, is running various programmes aimed at establishing Hindi as a more functionally oriented language of communication by the common man.

The growing utility and popularity of Hindi clearly underscores that it is not only a symbol of Indian culture, but also an effective and essential vehicle for facilitating Government work.

This issue of 'Vigilant India' showcases the progress made in implementation of the Rajbhasha.

Please share your thoughts and feedback at sajag-bharat@bprd.nic.in

Jai Hind!

Rajeev Kumar Sharma
Director General, BPR&D



The name Sri Vijaya Puram honours the rich history and heroic people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It also reflects our commitment to break free from the colonial mindset and celebrate our heritage.



Shri Narendra Modi

Prime Minister



Cybersecurity is no longer confined to the digital world; it has also become a crucial component of national security.



Shri Amit Shah

Union Home Minister and

Minister of Cooperation



The Union Cabinet has given its approval for the expansion of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri-Jan Arogya Yojana. Under the revised plan, senior citizens aged 70 years and above will now be eligible for free treatment coverage of up to ₹5 lakh.



Shri Nityanand Rai

Minister of State for
Home Affairs



Renaming Port Blair to Sri Vijaya Puram is a powerful step in reclaiming our proud heritage. From hosting the Tiranga under Netaji to the sacrifices at Cellular Jail, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands stand tall in India's freedom history. This renaming reflects our nation's strength and vision to honour its true heroes and legacy. Grateful to Hon'ble PM Shri @NarendraModi Ji and Shri @AmitShah Ji for this historic move, redefining our future by remembering our past.



Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar

Minister of State for Home Affairs



Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri @AmitShah inaugurated the two-day National Security Strategies Conference – 2024 in New Delhi.



Ministry of Home Affairs

Government of India





India is a nation renowned for its rich cultural diversity wherein its vast variety of languages plays a major role. Over the past decade, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has demonstrated a deep commitment to promoting all Indian languages and elevating the status of Hindi, the official language, on the global stage. The Union Home Ministry under Shri Amit Shah has also been committed to making Hindi more accessible to the masses. As we move forward, the preservation and promotion of Indian languages will have a major role in shaping India's cultural future.

Bureau

The languages spoken across India are not just markers of our identity; they are vibrant symbols of our rich cultural heritage and diversity. With 75 years of being the official language of India, the journey of Hindi has been remarkable.

From a relatively limited outreach, today it has become a popular and public-friendly language, which is increasingly being integrated with modern technology.

The Union Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has always given utmost importance to local languages. He has often emphasised the importance of the mother tongue,



It was the spirit of the Constituent Assembly that all the citizens of the country should communicate with each other in an Indian language, be it Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam or Gujarati. By strengthening Hindi, all these languages will also become flexible and rich.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

drawing parallels between a mother's nurturing role and the shaping influence of language in our lives.

During his address at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on September 14 on the occasion of 'Hindi Diwas', the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, reflected on Hindi's illustrious past and its promising future. He highlighted that Hindi's 75-year long journey since being declared the official language is nearing the fulfilment of its objectives.

The Union Home Minister said, "Today marks a pivotal moment to establish Hindi not only as a language of communication, but also as a language of technology and an emerging international language". On the occasion, Shri Shah also released the Diamond Jubilee special issue of the 'Rajbhasha Bharati' magazine, dedicated to commemorating this significant milestone.

Shri Shah honoured individuals who have made significant contributions towards promoting Hindi across various fields by presenting the prestigious Rajbhasha Gaurav and Rajbhasha Kirti Awards. As part of the event, he also inaugurated the Indian Languages Section, a major initiative aimed at development and preservation of India's linguistic heritage.

Highlighting the significance of linguistic diversity, Shri Shah emphasised that nurturing and promoting Indian languages is not only crucial for preserving our cultural legacy, but also for strengthening social unity.

The Union Home Minister urged everyone to embrace their mother tongue and actively contribute to its promotion, thereby reinforcing the importance of linguistic pride and identity. The event was attended by several dignitaries, linguists and cultural activists, all of whom have played an important role in advancing the official language.

The Significance of Linguistic Richness

The preservation and development of Indian languages are vital not only from a cultural perspective, but also for fostering social unity, advancing education and driving overall development. The use of local languages allows people to connect deeply with their traditions and heritage. Shri Shah emphasised that Hindi is not a competitor but a companion to all Indian languages, each complementing and enriching the other. Whether it is Gujarati, Marathi, Telugu, Malayalam, Tamil or Bengali, every language strengthens Hindi, and in turn, Hindi strengthens them.

The Union Home Minister highlighted the historical significance of the Hindi movement, noting that many of its champions, including stalwarts such as Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Lala Lajpat Rai, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Acharya Kripalani, hailed from non-Hindi speaking regions. The committee in the Constituent Assembly, that was tasked with making Hindi the official language, also had members from non-Hindi speaking areas, such as Shri N Gopalaswamy Ayyangar and Shri KM Munshi. Their collective efforts resulted in a report that ultimately recognised Hindi as the official language while upholding the strength and diversity of all Indian languages.

The Role of Language in Education

Education in one's mother tongue significantly enhances the comprehension and learning abilities of students. Government initiatives and schemes are actively working to promote education in regional languages, recognising the profound benefits of such an approach. Shri Shah emphasised the importance of upholding the principles of 'Swaraj', 'Swabhasha' and 'Swadharma', as championed by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He highlighted that Prime Minister Shri Modi has prioritised mother tongue-based education in the new National Education Policy, acknowledging that a child's mother tongue is the most effective medium for expression, thinking, understanding, reasoning, analysis and decision-making.

Shri Shah reiterated that strengthening all Indian languages is crucial, and the official language, Hindi, should serve as a unifying force through which national

affairs can be conducted in our diverse linguistic landscape. He pointed out that the inauguration of the Indian Languages Section at Ministry of Home Affairs is a vital step towards nurturing and safeguarding India's linguistic diversity. He expressed confidence that this initiative, like a small seed today, will grow into a robust banyan tree in the years to come, serving as a cornerstone for the preservation of Indian languages. The Indian Languages Section will complement the efforts of the Official Language Department, ensuring that the promotion of Hindi is intertwined with the strengthening of regional languages, fostering dialogue and mutual growth across India's linguistic spectrum.

Digital Age & Linguistic Diversity

The rise of digital media offers a powerful new platform for promoting India's rich linguistic heritage. Indian languages can flourish through online content and mobile applications, encouraging the younger generation to engage and communicate in their native tongues. Shri Shah highlighted the rapid strides made in this direction over the past decade, mentioning the creation of the 'Kanthastha' tool and the submission of four reports by the Parliamentary Official Language Committee, which has played a crucial role in embedding Hindi more prominently in Union Government operations.

Looking ahead, the Department of Official Language is set to launch a portal designed to facilitate translations from Hindi to all languages listed in the Eighth Schedule. This AI-driven tool will enable the quick translation of letters and speeches across



Official Language Diamond Jubilee celebrations at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

चतुर्थ अखिल भारतीय राजभाषा सम्मेलन

राजभाषा हीरा जयंती वर्ष

भारत में दिल्ली
14 व 15 सितंबर 2024



The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, at the Official Language Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and the All India Official Language Conference in New Delhi.

languages, further strengthening the link between Hindi and regional languages. Shri Shah expressed confidence that this initiative will not only bolster Hindi, but also support the growth and preservation of India's diverse linguistic landscape.

Language & Technology

In the near future, advancements in linguistic technology, such as translation apps and voice assistants, will play a key role in elevating Indian languages on the global stage. These innovations will not only bring Indian languages into the technological sphere, but also bridge the gap between different languages. Shri Shah noted that many words which were not originally in Hindi have been adopted from various local and even foreign languages, and in turn, they have incorporated numerous Hindi words. This mutual exchange enriches all languages, reflecting a cultural unity.

The Union Home Minister praised the 'Shabd Sindhu' dictionary, which includes words from every Indian language, underscoring the adaptability and inclusiveness of Hindi. Shri Shah spoke about the importance of making Hindi an accessible, flexible and everyday language for all. He expressed confidence that within the next five years, the 'Shabd Sindhu' dictionary will grow to become the world's largest dictionary, symbolising the strength and vibrancy of India's linguistic diversity.

Appeal to Parents

The Union Home Minister emphasised that the true custodians of our languages are our mothers, who play a vital role in preserving linguistic heritage. He urged parents to speak to their children in their mother tongue, stating that this simple yet powerful act would ensure the survival and vitality of India's languages. He said that if this practice is embraced, no force can diminish the presence of our languages. "They will continue to serve the nation and the world for generations to come", he added. He further said that India will never again be subjected to any form of subjugation, including linguistic dominance.

Culture & Artistry

Indian languages hold immense richness, which is expressed through art, literature and music. In the future, fostering creativity in local languages will add new dimensions to our cultural landscape. Indeed, the coming era marks a pivotal moment for the languages of India. By preserving and developing these languages, we will not only safeguard our identity, but also reinforce the unity and social harmony of the nation. Languages are intrinsic to our existence and it is our responsibility to honour, nurture and advance them for future generations.

Hindi at the UN

Recalling a historic moment, Shri Shah also mentioned former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari

Vajpayee's address in October 1977 at the United Nations General Assembly in Hindi. The Union Home Minister emphasised the significant role that Prime Minister Shri Modi has played in increasing the global acceptance of Hindi by delivering speeches in Hindi at the world's most prestigious platforms. The Union Home Minister said that Hindi is now recognised as a language of the United Nations and is the second language in over 10 countries. Significantly, on June 10, 2022, Hindi was mentioned for the first time in a multilingualism resolution passed by the United Nations General Assembly.

The Union Government has accorded high priority to the promotion of Hindi and has taken measures to increase its recognition and use at the United Nations and other international forums. Hindi is already one of UNESCO's nine working languages, and Indian leaders have delivered speeches in Hindi at the United Nations, including the Prime Minister's addresses in the UN General Assembly sessions in 2014, 2019, 2020, and 2021.

In 2018, the Government of India and the United Nations signed a voluntary financial contribution agreement for two years to promote Hindi at the UN, later extended in 2019 for an additional five years, now valid until March 2025. Under this agreement, the United Nations launched Hindi social media channels on Facebook, X, and Instagram, alongside a dedicated Hindi website for UN News. Additionally, the UN broadcasts programmes in Hindi on its radio website, issues a weekly Hindi news bulletin on SoundCloud, publishes a Hindi UN Blog, and has introduced a UN News Reader app available in Hindi for both Android and iOS.

The growing global prominence of Hindi is a positive development, not just for India but for the entire world, as it highlights the recognition of the language's deep cultural and historical significance. ■



The Union Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah, visits an exhibition to commemorate the Official Language Diamond Jubilee celebrations in New Delhi.

Growing Acceptance of Hindi in Tribal Regions

The increasing popularity of Hindi in non-Hindi speaking regions reflects India's rich linguistic diversity and unity. It serves as a powerful medium for enhancing cohesion in the country. The growing acceptance of Hindi signifies not just the success of the language, but also a meaningful step towards cultural integration. Advocating for better reach of Indian languages, including Hindi in tribal regions, the National Tribal Research Institute and the Centre for Endangered Languages at Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, hosted a national seminar titled 'Preservation of Tribal Languages and Indian Multilingualism using Technology: Policy and Practice' on September 12 and 13. The seminar focused on leveraging technology to preserve and promote Indian tribal languages and multilingualism.

Hindi: A Friend of Local Languages

Boosting Hindi's Reach Without Undermining Other Indian Languages



The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Parliamentary Official Language Committee.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, announced that the Home Ministry intends to integrate all Indian languages as a medium of governance by 2047. He stressed the importance of respecting the country's linguistic diversity and ensuring that all languages are treated equally.

Bureau

Hindi serves as a crucial medium for communication among people from various regions across India. As the most popular language in the country, Hindi bridges the gap between different linguistic communities and strengthens national identity.

Following his unanimous re-election as chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language on September 9 in New Delhi, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, conveyed similar sentiments regarding Hindi language. He had earlier served as the chairperson of the committee from 2019 to 2024. Under his leadership, the

committee implemented several significant measures to enhance linguistic inclusiveness in the country.

"We are moving forward with the goal that by 2047, all Government systems in the country will operate in Indian languages. We have to give a new life to Hindi language and try to complete the task left to us by the freedom fighters," the Union Home Minister said. His approach clearly demonstrates a commitment to promoting Hindi and other Indian languages, aiming to establish a linguistic foundation for future generations.

Shri Shah said that in the last 10 years, ever since Shri Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister, the committee has made significant efforts to make Hindi a friend of all local languages. The Union Home Minister



The Union Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah, at the meeting of the Parliamentary Official Language Committee.

said that for the last 75 years, India has been working to promote the official language, and this effort has gathered more momentum in the last one decade.

Shri Shah said that stalwarts such as KM Munshi and N Gopalaswamy Ayyangar had decided to accept Hindi as the official language and to promote it in Government work. He said that under the Munshi-Ayyangar Committee, it was also decided that a language commission would be formed every five years which would consider linguistic diversity.

The Union Home Minister stated that Hindi is increasingly linked to employment and technology, and the Union Government is making special efforts to incorporate new-age technologies with Hindi. He said that Hindi should not compete with any local language.

Shri Shah said that the Department of Official Language is developing a software that will automatically translate all the languages of the Eighth Schedule. Once this work is completed, Hindi will gain acceptance and evolve at a very fast pace, he added.

Shri Shah stated that when children receive their primary education in their mother tongue, they can easily learn more Indian languages as well. The New Education Policy emphasises the significance of all mother tongues and the Parliamentary Committee on Official Language will play a crucial role in advancing this initiative. Shri Shah said that in the last five years, the Union Government had worked very hard and presented three large volumes of the committee's report to President Smt Droupadi Murmu.



By giving new life to a language that is more than thousand years old and increasing its acceptance, we will fulfil the dream of the visionaries of the freedom movement.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

The Parliamentary Committee on Official Language was established in 1976 under Section 4 of the Official Languages Act, 1963. It consists of 30 Members of Parliament (MPs), including 20 from the Lok Sabha and 10 from the Rajya Sabha. ■

DARPG Receives Rajbhasha Kirti Award



This award is the result of the hard work of all those officers and employees who have made continuous efforts to implement Hindi in government works. This award is a matter of pride not only for the department but for the entire country.

Shri Amit Shah
Union Home Minister and
Minister of Cooperation

Bureau

The Department of Official Language under the Union Home Ministry has awarded the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar 2023-2024 to the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) for its exemplary use of Hindi in official works. The award is given to Ministries and Departments which have less than 300 personnel.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, conferred the Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar to the DARPG Secretary Shri V Srinivas at a ceremony held at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi on September 14, marking the occasion of Hindi Diwas and the All India Official Language Conference.

The Union Home Minister stated that the award reflects the dedication and consistent efforts of officers and employees in promoting the use of Hindi in day to day functioning of the Government. He also praised the DARPG's accomplishments, stating that the recognition is a source of pride not only for the department but for the nation as a whole.

The dedication of DARPG to the effective implementation of the Official Language Policy, is seen in its notable progress in promoting the use of Hindi across its operations. It actively monitors the adherence to the Official Language Policy within its sections, as well as its

attached offices and autonomous bodies. To ensure this, an Official Language Implementation Committee has been established under the chairmanship of the DARPG Secretary. The committee holds quarterly meetings to review progress and ensure continued compliance.

The implementation of the Official Language Policy within the DARPG, as well as its attached offices and autonomous bodies, was thoroughly reviewed during the committee meeting, where various measures to further promote the use of Hindi were discussed. To evaluate the use of Hindi in official work by Government employees, quarterly progress reports are compiled by gathering information from different sections and regularly submitted to the Department of Official Language. In addition, an annual evaluation report on the progressive use of Hindi is also sent to the Department of Official Language.

The Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar has been instituted to encourage the promotion of Hindi and it is awarded to institutions and departments that make significant contributions in this area. Over the past few years, the Department of Official Language has taken several key initiatives to advance the use of Hindi. A joint Hindi Advisory Committee, comprising DARPG, DoPT and DoP & PWD oversees the implementation of the Official Language Policy within the Ministry. Meetings of the committee are held periodically under the chairmanship of the Union Minister of State for Personnel. ■

Shri Shah Unveils Commemorative Stamp for Official Language's Diamond Jubilee

The Diamond Jubilee event, held on Hindi Diwas at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, was graced by the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, who unveiled the stamp. The event highlighted the significance of Hindi in India's cultural and administrative framework.

Bureau

On September 14, India marked a milestone—the 75th anniversary of the designation of Hindi as the official language of the Union. This momentous occasion, commemorated the historic decision made by the Constituent Assembly on September 14, 1949, when Hindi, written in the Devanagari script, was officially recognised as the Official Language of the country.

The Department of Official Language has declared 2024-25 as the Official Language Diamond Jubilee Year. To honour this milestone, the Department of Posts announced the release of a commemorative postage stamp to celebrate Hindi's journey through India's administrative and cultural landscape over the past 75 years. Valued at ₹5, the stamp aims to promote national unity and highlight Hindi's pivotal role in bridging diverse linguistic communities.

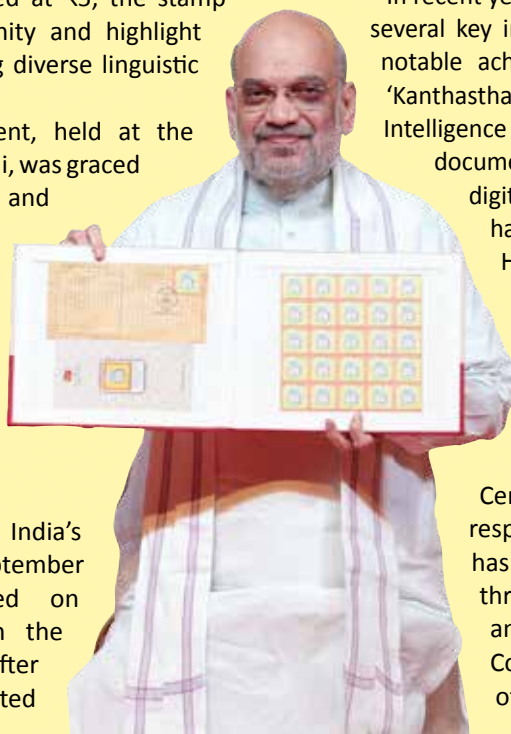
The Diamond Jubilee event, held at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, was graced by the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, who unveiled the stamp. The event highlighted the significance of Hindi in India's cultural and administrative framework, reaffirming its central role in the nation's governance over the past 75 years.

The debate surrounding India's official language began on September 12, 1949, and culminated on September 14, 1949, when the Constituent Assembly, after extensive discussions, selected

Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of the Union. This decision was later reinforced by the Official Languages Act of 1963, which facilitated the progressive use of Hindi in official transactions. Subsequent measures, including the Official Language Resolution of 1968 and the Official Language Rules of 1976, further institutionalised Hindi in Union Government affairs. Since its inception in 1975, the Department of Official Language, which operates under the Union Home Ministry, has played a pivotal role in promoting the use of Hindi across various Union Government platforms. The department's efforts have been centred on ensuring the effective implementation of constitutional provisions related to Hindi and encouraging its use in official matters.

In recent years, the department has introduced several key initiatives to further this goal. One notable achievement is the development of 'Kanthastha', a software that utilises Artificial Intelligence (AI) to assist in translating official documents. Additionally, the creation of the digital dictionary 'Hindi Shabd Shindhu' has expanded the accessibility of Hindi by including terms from various fields such as health, technology, media and law.

Another major project, 'Bharatiya Bhasha Anubhag,' facilitates official correspondence between Central and State governments in their respective languages. The department has also actively promoted Hindi through events such as Hindi Diwas and All India Official Language Conference, bolstering Hindi's role in official and cultural spheres. ■



India Set to Become a Global Hub for



India is swiftly moving towards becoming a global semiconductor hub. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi emphasised that the country's expanding capabilities and investment prospects in the semiconductor industry will be instrumental in positioning India as a major global player. He highlighted that agreements have been signed with nations such as Japan and Singapore, and India is also strengthening its collaboration with the USA in this crucial sector.

Bureau

India's semiconductor industry has emerged as an important sector in the backdrop of the nation's economic strategy, driven by rising global demand and the need for self-sufficiency. With rapid digital transformation and growing reliance on electronics, India is keen to establish itself as a key player in the semiconductor supply chain. While inaugurating SEMICON India-2024 in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh, on September 11, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi pledged to make India a global hub for the semiconductor industry.

Prime Minister Shri Modi highlighted that the Union Government offers 50% financial support for setting up semiconductor manufacturing facilities, with State Governments also playing a key role in this effort.

As a result, India has already attracted investments exceeding ₹1.5 trillion, he said.

Shri Modi underlined the holistic approach of the Semicon India Programme, which offers financial assistance for various components of the industry. The Union Government had launched the Semicon India Programme in December 2021 with an outlay of ₹76,000 crore for the development of semiconductors' manufacturing ecosystem in India.

The Prime Minister said that as the Union Government believes in reforms, it is working to expand the country's manufacturing base and advance its technology market. He added that the country is now one of the largest global consumers of these chips.

Shri Modi said when even the strongest banking systems in the world faltered during the COVID-19

Semiconductors, Says PM Shri Modi

pandemic, banks in India continued to operate uninterrupted. Digital platforms such as UPI, RuPay cards, DigiLocker and DigiYatra have become integral to daily life of a citizen. The demand for data centres in India is consistently rising and the country is set to play a crucial role in leading the global semiconductor industry, he added.

Prime Minister Shri Modi said that India at present contributes up to 20% of the world's talent in the designing sector, and this contribution is continuously expanding. "India is focused on making its students and professionals industry ready. The nation is developing a semiconductor workforce of 85,000 which would include technicians, engineers and research and development experts," the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister underscored the Union Government's commitment to securing essential minerals for the semiconductor industry. He noted that India is rapidly implementing customs duty exemptions and conducting mining auctions for critical minerals.

To achieve self-reliance, Prime Minister Shri Modi stated that India is boosting manufacturing across various sectors, making significant strides in green transitions. He announced plans to establish a Semiconductor Research Centre at the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, in partnership with the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) to develop, both advanced chips for current requirements and next-generation chips.

The Prime Minister also spoke about the recent achievements of the Digital India Mission. He noted that the mission aims to establish transparent and efficient governance. For Digital India's success, Shri Modi said that essential reforms were implemented to make mobile handsets and data more affordable across the country. He pointed out that a decade ago, India was one of the largest importers of mobile phones, but now it stands as the world's second-largest producer and exporter of mobile phones.

Discussing international collaborations, the Prime Minister noted that the world is now transitioning to an era of 'Silicon Diplomacy'. He mentioned that India has been appointed as the Vice Chair of the Indo-Pacific



India's semiconductor sector is on the brink of a revolution, with breakthrough advancements set to transform the industry. Today's India inspires confidence in the world... When the chips are down, you can bet on India.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Economic Framework's Supply Chain Council and is a key partner in the QUAD Semiconductor Supply Chain Initiative. He said that agreements have been signed with countries such as Japan and Singapore and India is also strengthening its collaboration with the United States in the semiconductor sector.

The Prime Minister stated that while industries focus on investment and value creation, the Union Government is responsible for establishing stable policies that facilitate smooth business operations. ■

Strengthening 'Act East' Policy, Bolstering Bilateral Cooperation



PM inaugurates the new Chancery premises of the High Commission of India in Brunei.

Bureau

P rime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's recent visits to Brunei and Singapore marked a significant milestone in India's diplomatic outreach and engagements, reinforcing bilateral and multilateral partnerships in Southeast Asia. The visits underscored India's growing strategic presence in the region, further boosting its 'Act East Policy', contributing to regional stability and economic progress.

In a historic first, Prime Minister Shri Modi visited Brunei on September 3-4, on the invitation of its Head of State, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah. The visit coincided with the 40th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Brunei, and symbolised deepening ties between the two countries.

The Prime Minister was warmly welcomed by Sultan Bolkiah in Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital of Brunei. The leaders held extensive talks, covering key areas such as defence, trade, food security, education

My visit to Singapore has been a very fruitful one. It will certainly add vigour to bilateral ties and benefit the people of both our nations. I thank the Government and people of Singapore for their warmth.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

and energy. They also discussed emerging sectors such as fintech and renewable energy, reaffirming their commitment to further cooperation.

Both leaders emphasised the need to strengthen partnerships within regional frameworks such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), aligning with India's broader foreign policy objectives.

Prime Minister Shri Modi's visit, which focused on the elevation of bilateral ties for an enhanced

partnership, will further bolster India's vision for the Indo-Pacific and strengthen its strategic engagement with Brunei.

During his two-day visit to Singapore on September 4-5, Prime Minister Shri Modi met with the Singaporean Prime Minister Mr Lawrence Wong. Both leaders reviewed the progress of the India-Singapore Strategic Partnership. The meeting led to the elevation of ties to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, a significant advancement aimed at deepening cooperation across various sectors, including defence, digital technologies, green energy and semiconductors.

Given Singapore's leading role as a key investor in India, with \$160 billion in investments, both leaders called for expanding trade and investment opportunities. The focus was also placed on strengthening connectivity and advancing green corridor projects to facilitate economic growth. Prime Minister Shri Modi highlighted India's sustained economic growth and the immense potential it holds for Singaporean investors.

The discussions were built on the outcomes of the 2nd India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable held in August, which set the stage for future collaboration in areas such as advanced manufacturing, sustainability and emerging technologies. The visit witnessed the signing of several memorandums of understanding (MoUs) in key areas such as semiconductors, skill development, healthcare and digital technologies. These agreements are expected to accelerate the development of critical sectors and further enhance cooperation between the two nations.

Prime Minister Shri Modi also announced the opening of the Thiruvalluvar Cultural Centre in Singapore, marking a step forward in strengthening cultural ties. In addition, he engaged with leading Singaporean business leaders across sectors such as infrastructure, manufacturing and sustainability. In recognition of Singapore's vital role in the growth story of India, he announced the establishment of an 'Invest India' office in Singapore, which will further facilitate investment and collaboration between the two nations.

Prime Minister Shri Modi also met with the President of Singapore, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam. The Prime Minister appreciated President Shanmugaratnam's support for the India-Singapore partnership. The two leaders discussed



Shri Narendra Modi meets the Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr Lawrence Wong.

bilateral and global issues of mutual interest.

Prime Minister Shri Modi's visits to Brunei and Singapore have not only bolstered bilateral relations but also contributed to advancing India's strategic goals in the broader regional and global contexts. These engagements reinforce India's commitment to deepening ties with Southeast Asia, ensuring that the India-Singapore and India-Brunei partnerships continue to thrive across economic, cultural and strategic domains. ■



PM Shri Narendra Modi is welcomed by Indian community members in Brunei.

Boosting Rail Connectivity



Bureau

Giving a boost to rail infrastructure and regional connectivity in Eastern India, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of various railway projects worth over ₹660 crore at Tatanagar in Jharkhand on September 15.

The Prime Minister emphasised the importance of modern railway infrastructure for the fast-paced development of the region. The projects include major initiatives such as the Madhupur Bypass line and the Hazaribagh Town Coaching Depot, which are expected to not only strengthen the local economy but also provide substantial benefits to business establishments, professionals, students and the broader population of Jharkhand and its neighbouring States.

Prime Minister Shri Modi also flagged off six Vande Bharat trains from Tatanagar Junction railway station. These new services, part of the growing fleet of Vande Bharat express trains, have been strategically introduced to enhance rail connectivity across key routes in the region, linking important cities and boosting cultural and business ties.

The Prime Minister noted that the public demand for Vande Bharat trains is immense, with every State in the country keen to host these modern, high-speed trains to improve connectivity. He reiterated that expanding rail connectivity in Eastern India will significantly strengthen the economy of the region, fostering greater business opportunities and enhancing prospects for professionals and students.

The expansion of rail connectivity in Eastern India will strengthen the economy of the entire region. The Vande Bharat trains will greatly benefit traders and students and will also accelerate economic and cultural activities.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Prime Minister Shri Modi specifically highlighted the cultural and economic benefits that the Varanasi-Deoghar Vande Bharat train would bring to the region, as it opens new avenues for pilgrims visiting Baba Baidyanath in Deoghar. He said it would further boost tourism and industrial development in Jharkhand and create new employment opportunities for the local population.

Apart from rail infrastructure, the Prime Minister's visit also focused on housing development for which he distributed letters to 32,000 beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G). He also released the first instalment of financial assistance under the scheme, marking a major milestone in the Union Government's ongoing efforts to provide pucca houses to rural families across the country.

Jharkhand Governor Shri Santosh Gangwar and Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, were also present at the event. ■

35-Yr-Old Conflict Comes to an End

A Step Towards a Prosperous Peaceful & Insurgency-Free Northeast

The National Liberation Front of Tripura and the All Tripura Tiger Force have expressed their confidence in the Central Government, committing to end the 35-year-old insurgency in Tripura and to contribute to the development of the state. Both insurgent groups voiced their trust in the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the initiatives led by the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, announcing their decision to join the peace process.



The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, after the signing of the Memorandum of Settlement in New Delhi.

Bureau

In a landmark development, a Memorandum of Settlement was signed between the Union Government and the Government of Tripura with the National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and the All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) in New Delhi on September 4. It was signed in the presence of the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah.

The objective of the agreement is to resolve the issues of insurgency in Tripura and promote lasting peace and development across the State. The Chief Minister of Tripura, Shri Manik Saha, and senior officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs were also present at the signing ceremony.

Citing the Bru-Reang Agreement as an example, Shri Shah noted that after the agreement, thousands of families are living peacefully, their children studying in good schools and welfare schemes of the Union Government are being implemented.

The Home Minister assured that the new agreement will also be fully honoured, with the Ministry of Home

Affairs making every effort to fulfil the expectations of all parties involved. He highlighted that the legacy of the Shri Narendra Modi-led Union Government is to execute every agreement with sincere dedication and complete adherence to its terms.

Shri Shah said that the Union Government has revoked the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) from Tripura in 2015 and it has also been withdrawn from many other areas of the Northeast. He said that instead of continued deployment of armed forces, the Union Government is committed to the development of the entire Northeast by preserving its unique cultures and identities, especially of the tribal groups.

The Union Home Minister said that the Memorandum of Settlement is the 12th agreement for the Northeast and the third specifically for Tripura. He noted that these agreements have led to approximately 10,000 insurgents joining mainstream society by renouncing violence. He highlighted that these 12 agreements have been crucial in preventing the loss of thousands of innocent lives. He also mentioned that the Union Government approved a special package of ₹250 crore for the overall development of the tribal population of Tripura. ■

Fortifying India's Cybersecurity

A National Cyber Forensic Laboratory has been established in Delhi under I4C. To date, over 1,100 officers have received training in cyber forensics. This initiative is highly significant and ambitious, aiming to extend the campaign to districts and tehsils across the country.



The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, at the first foundation day ceremony of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) in New Delhi.

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While digital connectivity is an integral part of daily life, cybercrime is increasingly emerging as a significant threat, affecting individuals and organisations. The rising complexity of cyber threats requires robust and effective countermeasures. Attending the first foundation day of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) as the chief guest at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi on September 10, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, warned about the growing threat of cybercrime and urged for stringent action.

Shri Shah unveiled several initiatives to tackle cybercrimes, including the Cyber Fraud Mitigation Centre (CFMC) and the Samanvay platform (Joint Cyber Crime Investigation Facility System). He also inaugurated the 'Cyber Commandos' programme, the 'Suspect Registry' and unveiled the new logo of the I4C.

The I4C aims to create a safer cyberspace for the citizens of India by establishing an effective framework

No single organisation or institution can secure cyberspace alone, all stakeholders must come together on a unified platform to work collaboratively.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

and ecosystem dedicated to the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of cybercrimes, ensuring a robust and coordinated response to emerging digital threats across the country.

The Union Home Minister praised the I4C for its impressive progress. He emphasised that the major accomplishment of the I4C is the establishment of the national helpline number 1930, and stressed that it is crucial for all State Governments and stakeholders to promote this service. He noted that a widespread campaign to promote the 1930

Shri Amitabh Bachchan Applauds Cybercrime Awareness Campaign



Renowned actor Shri Amitabh Bachchan commended the Union Home Ministry's efforts in combating cyber crime, praising the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Center (I4C) for its effective role in curbing cyber threats across the country. In a video message, Shri Bachchan expressed concern over the rising cyber crime in India and globally, emphasising the crucial work being done by the I4C under the Ministry's guidance. He noted that he joined the initiative at the request of the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, and urged

collective efforts to rid the nation of this growing menace. Shri Amit Shah acknowledged Shri Bachchan's support, stating that his involvement has significantly heightened public awareness on cyber security. Shri Shah thanked the veteran actor for his impactful contribution, which has not only drawn attention to the importance of cyber safety, but also encouraged people to adopt preventive measures to safeguard themselves from cybercrime.



Pursuing the vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, the Ministry of Home Affairs is committed to creating a secure cyber space in the country. I thank Shri Amitabh Bachchan Ji for joining this campaign. His active participation will give further impetus to our mission to create a cyber-secure India.



Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

helpline across all platforms would help victims of fraud and deter scamsters.

Shri Shah said that the CFMC has been inaugurated with the idea of bringing banks, financial institutions, telecom companies, internet service providers and police on a single platform. He hoped that it would become a major platform for prevention of cybercrime in the near future. He also spoke about the Cyber Commando programme, under which a target has been set to prepare about 5,000 cyber commandos in five years.

Shri Shah said that it was the need of the hour to create a Suspect Registry at the national level and connect States with it to create a common platform to fight cybercrime.

The Union Home Minister said that development of any country is impossible without cyber security. He stated that the number of internet users in the country has grown from 25 crore on March 31, 2014, to 95 crore on March 31, 2024 and. He highlighted that while technology use is expanding, it also brings about numerous threats, making cybersecurity not just a digital concern, but a crucial component of national security.

Shri Shah noted that the Digital India initiative has transformed many services online, with India now accounting for 46% of the world's digital transaction volume. He emphasised that as digital accounts and transactions grow, the need for robust protection against cyber frauds has also increased substantially.

Shri Shah said that in three new criminal laws introduced in 2023– Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) – legal provisions have been made to make the country cyber secure. He said that over 1,100 officers have been trained in cyber forensics, highlighting this as a crucial and ambitious programme aimed at extending the campaign to districts and tehsils.

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Union Home Secretary Shri Govind Mohan, Director of the Intelligence Bureau Shri Tapan Kumar Deka, Director Generals of Police of various States/Union Territories and senior officials from various banks/financial intermediaries also attended the event. ■

Unified Approach to Counter National Security Challenges



The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, at the National Security Strategies Conference in New Delhi.

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India's national security environment is complex due to a range of intricate challenges, including cross-border terrorism, cyber attacks and organised crime. Given the significance of these challenges, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, inaugurated the two-day 7th National Security Strategies Conference-2024 on September 13 in New Delhi.

The Union Home Minister proposed a detailed strategy to enhance counter-terrorism efforts, including cooperation with international agencies and enhance capacities to prevent terror financing. He stressed the importance of greater coordination between the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and Anti-Terrorist Squads (ATSS) to strengthen the overall counter-terrorism framework.

Shri Shah urged the Director Generals of Police (DGsP) to work towards realising Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of a prosperous, strong and developed India by 2047. He noted significant advancements in addressing national security issues such as left-wing extremism and militancy in the Northeast. He emphasised the need to identify and address emerging national security threats, including drug trafficking and online fraud.

In the context of implementing the three new

The National Security Strategies Conference aimed to tackle significant national security issues by encouraging a collaborative approach with a diverse group of participants.

criminal laws, the Union Home Minister urged DGsP to uphold the constitutional rights of citizens and to ensure that justice for victims is delivered swiftly and efficiently. He called upon all DGsP to strengthen the internal security architecture by embracing a multi-dimensional approach, data analytics and new techniques. He urged the police officers to ensure utilisation of databases that are maintained by central agencies.

The conference addressed major national security challenges through a collaborative approach involving a diverse group of participants, including the top police leadership of States, Union Territories, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), Central Police Organisations (CPOs) and experts from specialised fields.

Ministers of State for Home Affairs Shri Nityanand Rai and Shri Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Union Home Secretary Shri Govind Mohan, Additional/Deputy National Security Advisors (NSAs) and Heads of various CAPFs and CPOs attended the conference. ■

Leveraging Technology to End the Menace of Drug Smuggling

The Border Security Force (BSF) has been successfully intercepting drones by drug smugglers in the India-Pakistan border through continuous surveillance with advanced technology, round-the-clock patrols and robust inter-agency collaboration.

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The Border Security Force (BSF) plays a crucial role in safeguarding India's borders, ensuring the nation's security and territorial integrity. It operates under challenging conditions, facing a range of threats such as cross-border infiltration and drug trafficking. To address these challenges effectively, the BSF works at a high level of alertness while ensuring a multifaceted approach.

The BSF has been successfully countering the use of drones by drug smuggling syndicates through continuous surveillance with advanced technology, round-the-clock patrols and robust inter-agency collaboration.

The increasing use of drones for smuggling drugs poses a significant challenge for the BSF. As drone technology has become more accessible, traffickers use them to transport drugs, weapons and other illicit materials. This method of smuggling not only complicates traditional border security measures but also introduces new risks to national safety. But due to the efforts of the BSF personnel, such attempts are being thwarted on a regular basis.

In recent days, the BSF has achieved significant success in controlling cross-border drug smuggling. On September 15, during a night patrol in the Tarn Taran district of Punjab, BSF personnel seized two packets containing 1.146kg of heroin near Naushera Dhalla village.

As part of its ongoing efforts to combat drug smuggling through drones, the BSF neutralised a drone attempting to cross the international border at Tarn Taran on September 12. Following this incident, a joint search operation with Punjab Police personnel resulted in the recovery of an assembled quadcopter and 6.230kg of heroin near Gilpan village.



BSF personnel seized a drone along with heroin near Naushera Dhalla in Tarn Taran district of Punjab.

In another incident, the BSF personnel detected a drone moving along the border near Churiwala Chisti village in Fazilka district of Punjab on September 2. The BSF neutralised the drone and recovered a packet of heroin weighing around 500grams.

The BSF personnel have been using advanced surveillance equipment such as Hand-Held Thermal Imagers (HHTI), Night Vision Devices (NVD) and twin telescope Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) for enhanced alertness on border areas. Additionally, Long-Range Reconnaissance and Observation Systems (LORROS) and Battlefield Surveillance Radars (BFSR) are also deployed to strengthen monitoring efforts. Integrated surveillance technology, including CCTV cameras, infrared sensors and alarms, have been deployed at key locations along the International Border with Pakistan to combat drone usage by drug traffickers. ■

SVPNPA Celebrates Legacy of Excellence in Police Training

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The Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA), Hyderabad, celebrated its 76th establishment day on September 15, with the goal of nurturing future leaders of the Indian Police Service (IPS). The event featured the Director's Parade, complemented by a vibrant cultural night that highlighted the remarkable talents of the trainee officers.

The Director of the Academy, Shri Amit Garg, met with all the trainee officers, sharing valuable insights and words of encouragement. His address was inspiring, underscoring the probationers' vital role in upholding justice and integrity. In recognition of their dedication and commitment to the Academy's mission, 35 officers were honoured with the prestigious Director's Commendation Roll and Insignia.

Established on September 15, 1948, as the Central Police Training College in Mount Abu, Rajasthan, the SVPNPA has evolved significantly. Before Independence, probationary training for Indian Police officers took place in various provincial colleges without a standardised system. The first Union Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, advocated the formation of the IPS. He believed that a strong All India Service was essential to maintain national integrity. This vision laid the groundwork for the establishment of a common training framework.

The Academy trains officers of the Indian Police Service. Apart from the Basic Training Course for IPS officers, it also conducts compulsory Mid-Career Training Programme for officers of SP, DIG and IG/Addl DG levels; Training of Trainers' Courses for the trainers of various police training institutions in the country; IPS Induction Training Course for State Police Service Officers; and short specialised thematic courses, Seminars and Workshops on professional subjects for all levels of police officers. Foreign police officers and other officers belonging to Army, Indian Administrative Service, Indian Forest Service, Revenue Service, Judiciary, Public Sector Undertakings, Nationalised Banks, Insurance Companies, etc. also attend various



The Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy (SVPNPA) in Hyderabad.

Over the last seven decades, the SVPNPA in Hyderabad has built a majestic legacy, moulding thousands of young men and women into professional and courageous police officers. Thanks to the dedicated efforts of the academy, the internal security of our nation is in the safe hands of highly efficient police forces.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

specialised courses conducted here from time to time. The Academy is affiliated to Osmania University for conducting courses on police subjects for IPS officers.

In 1967, the Central Police Training College was renamed as the National Police Academy. In 1974, it was dedicated to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, honouring his crucial role in shaping the IPS. A pivotal report by a committee chaired by Dr MS Gore in 1971 recommended relocating the academy to a permanent site. In February 1975, the SVPNPA was established in Hyderabad, marking a significant milestone in its evolution. ■

Building a Better Society



The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai, takes part in Hindi Pakhwada in Patna.

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To strengthen national unity and promote mutual harmony, it is vital to establish a link language for communication across the country and Hindi plays a crucial role in this effort. Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Nityanand Rai, expressed this view while inaugurating the Kavi Sammelan event during the Hindi Pakhwada, organised by the Bihar Hindi Sahitya Sammelan in Patna on September 8. He mentioned that the Union Government has made arrangements to teach Hindi to officials from non-Hindi-speaking States and assured that the Centre will make every possible effort to promote Hindi.

- Earlier, on September 5, Shri Rai attended a ceremony to honour teachers at the Anugrah Narayan College in Patna. He said that expressing respect and gratitude towards teachers is a good tradition in our society, as they guide us on the path of knowledge.
- The Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri

Bandi Sanjay Kumar, on September 4, posted on the social media platform X, where he highlighted the rescue and rehabilitation efforts after floods wreaked havoc in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. He said that he had spoken to the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, to discuss ways to improve the rescue and rehabilitation efforts of flood victims. Both the States had witnessed massive floods due to unprecedented rainfall in the last week of August. Additionally, he drew Shri Shah's attention to the need for utilising and approving National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) funds for Telangana.

Shri Kumar said that as per the Accountant General's report, Telangana has ₹1,345 crore available in its State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). He noted that the Union Government, led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has been consistently releasing its share of the National Disaster Fund. He urged the Telangana Government to effectively utilise the existing SDRF funds. ■

Promotion of Hindi on Both Global & Domestic Platforms

The Union Government, under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has made significant strides in the promotion and development of Hindi, both nationally and internationally. With the aim of enhancing the use of Hindi, which is our 'Rajbhasha' (Official Language), several impactful policies have been implemented, particularly in the field of education, over the last decade.

A notable initiative is the New Education Policy (NEP)-2020, which lays a strong emphasis on incorporating the mother tongue and regional languages into primary education, with Hindi also holding a key position. This approach seeks to empower children by providing them education in their native language, thereby fostering greater comprehension and engagement.

The Union Government has organised international programmes and conferences to elevate the status of Hindi on the global stage. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has played a pivotal role in this effort, delivering speeches in Hindi at various international platforms, which has significantly extended the reach and visibility of the language worldwide. In addition, efforts are being made to promote the use of Hindi in the United Nations and at other prominent international organisations, further enhancing its global presence.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, has also prioritised Hindi and regional languages and called for the enhanced use in Government and administrative works. He has implemented several key initiatives aimed at promoting Hindi, viewing it as a key element for national unity and development. Along with the Prime Minister, the Union Home Minister also regularly delivers speeches in Hindi, thereby offering speakers of the language an opportunity to connect and bolster their identity on the global stage.

The Union Home Ministry has issued directives to promote the use of Hindi in the Ministries and Departments of the Central Government. It has urged officials to incorporate Hindi as much as possible in their daily works and to communicate with the public



Dr Sumeet Jerath

in Hindi. This initiative has placed strong emphasis on ensuring that Government documents, communication materials and websites are available in Hindi, thereby making them more accessible to people.

Under the 'Digital India' campaign, many government websites and portals are now available in Hindi, making it easier for people to access and use

these services. In addition, Government mobile apps, e-governance platforms and other digital services now feature a Hindi option, enabling people to obtain information and services in their native language. To further promote Hindi, the Government annually celebrates 'Hindi Diwas' and 'Hindi Pakhwada', during which Government officials and employees are encouraged to conduct their work in Hindi. These programmes also recognise and honour officials and employees who use Hindi efficiently in their office work, fostering a greater awareness and appreciation for the language.

On the occasion of 'Hindi Diwas', Shri Shah has consistently emphasised the importance of adopting Hindi as a common language for all Indians, as a means to strengthen the solidarity and integrity of the nation. While strongly promoting Hindi, he has also expressed his deep respect for other Indian languages. He believes both Hindi and regional languages can enrich India's cultural diversity. His vision is to make Hindi a common language that connects and brings together different states and language communities across the country.

The Union Government is working to make Hindi a unifying language that helps create harmony and coordination across the country. Alongside this effort, a policy has been adopted to promote cooperation between Hindi and other languages, highlighting the inclusive nature of the Government's linguistic approach. These initiatives underscore the Government's aim to not only use Hindi as a language of official work, but also to popularise it as the language of the common people, promoting its widespread acceptance across the nation. ■

(The writer is Former Secretary, Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India)



'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' tree plantation campaign was held at the 16th Battalion of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) in Choglamsar, Leh-Ladakh on September 6. During the event, the Himveers pledged to protect Ladakh's fragile ecosystem, committing to a greener and more sustainable future.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Heartfulness Institute on September 5, to enhance the mental health and well-being of CRPF personnel. The initiative included a 'Voice that Cares' mental health helpline offering psychological counselling in six regional languages.



The National Security Guard (NSG) organised the Inter-CAPFs Debate Competition 2024 (Delhi Zone) on behalf of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) at Manesar in Haryana, on September 13. Assam Rifles secured the first position in the Hindi debate category, while the NSG bagged the second place. In the English debate category, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) was declared the winner, while Assam Rifles secured the second place.

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- ◆ You can donate directly to individual braveheart's account (upto max of ₹15 lakh) or may donate to the Bharat Ke Veer corpus.
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- ◆ Bharat Ke Veer corpus would be managed by a committee made up of eminent persons and senior government officials, in equal number, who would decide to disburse the fund equitably to the braveheart families on a need basis.

Note: Contents of articles are based on various press releases and material available on Government official websites.

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Hindi has given India a special respect in the whole world. Its attraction lies in its simplicity, spontaneity and sensitivity.

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister



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