

# Sunday Hindu Analysis, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017

## Plus

### Weekly Review [24-29 April]



*You cannot believe in  
God until You believe in  
Yourself.*

जब तक आप खुद पर  
विश्वास नहीं करते, तब तक  
आप भगवान पर विश्वास नहीं  
कर सकते

# Don't politicise triple talaq, find a solution, Modi tells Muslims

PM expresses hope that progressive members of the community will act

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that he hoped progressive Muslims would come forward and help "Muslim daughters" in their fight against triple talaq.

Speaking at a function in New Delhi to honour Basaveshwara, a Bhakti saint and founder of the Lingayat sect in Karnataka, Mr. Modi said: "I appeal to people in the Muslim community not to make this [triple talaq] a political issue. Come out and find a solution. That solution will have its own majesty, and generations will remember you."



**Paying respects:** Narendra Modi garlanding the statue of Basaveshwara in New Delhi on Saturday. ■ SANDEEP SAXENA

orthodoxy in the 12th century Karnataka, leading to the founding of the Lingayat sect, now a numerically and

gressive values in society to other campaigns, Mr. Modi said: "I hope progressive Muslims will come forward

While other parties such as the C have maintained reforms in Muslim law have to come within the community BJP has been striving vocating against triple including in the Uttar Pradesh election campaign

**'Not questioning validity'**  
During the party's recent executive meeting in Bhubhaneswar early last month, Prime Minister was quoted as saying there are not questioning the validity of triple talaq. He said it would not create a conflict within the community but want to highlight the need for justice

**Page 10: J&K Governor to meet PM.**

- Issues: Amarnath yatra.
- Centre's decision that it will not hold talks with Separatists.
- Article 370?

❖ **Turkey keen to boost defence ties with India.**

- Turkey will offer its armed unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) during the upcoming visit of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.
- Turkey's support to Pakistan on Kashmir at the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation was likely to continue.
- A defence cooperation agreement has to be signed.
- Areas of cooperation were aviation, space and ammunition etc. as India is strong in aviation and space .

❖ **Universal Periodic Review at the UN Human Rights Council :**

- Such hearings at the UNHRC, held **once in five years** for every country, reports from governmental and non-governmental agencies from other countries in the **47-member council**, including from the U.S. Congress and civil society groups, and international agencies like Human Rights Watch and the Indian National Human Rights Commission.
  
- Attorney General will defend India's case against allegations of violations in Jammu and Kashmir, torture, minority rights and recent strictures against NGOs.

## **Kashmir situation:**

- Making a special mention of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir:
  - the Human Rights Council's own report by its Special Rapporteur has also asked for India to:
  - repeal or at least radically amend the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act and the Jammu and Kashmir Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act
  - And remove all legal barriers for the criminal prosecution of members of the armed forces

- According to the **Human Rights Council submissions** so far, countries including the U.K., Switzerland, Netherlands and Norway have registered questions on the treatment of religious minorities in India, asking specifically about recent incidents of communal violence,
- While Sweden and Spain have questioned India's failure to ratify the **Convention on Torture** yet, despite agreeing to it in **1997 [Important for 2017 and 18]**.
- Sweden and Spain have asked for the government to explain its stand on homosexuality rights and the repeal of Article 377

❖ Japan's top honour for India's former Law Minister.

- The Japanese government has selected former Union Law Minister Ashwani Kumar for the *Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun*, in recognition of his achievements in bolstering India-Japan ties.
- Dr. Kumar served as the Special Envoy of former PM Manmohan Singh to Japan during the visit of the Emperor and Empress of Japan to India in December 2013, “and significantly contributed to the success of the visit.”
- Indians who have in the past received the Decoration — conferred in recognition of distinguished accomplishments— include industrialist Ratan N. Tata.



## 16 NON-FICTION

# The future of radical politics

A sociologist profiles the transformation of Dalit Panthers into a political party and explains why protest politics loses steam

AJAY GUDAVARTHY

Radical politics of all hues is under stress and, by and large, waning. Among a maze of reasons is also the fact that we have realised at the turn of the century that we actually never knew how to bring about radical social change and what we knew was abysmally little. Our ideals never matched our techniques and techniques we knew were swallowed by the imperatives of everyday life. All idealism seems to stop at the doorstep of pragmatism, not because we always collectively will that but nobody seems to have the keys to get past.

Best of intentions and best of political mobilisations repeatedly pale into the horizon, and what remains is a faint memory of the glorious and somewhat heroic days. Memory is mostly the future we wish for rather than history as it happened.

Hugo Gorringer's book gives us a closer look at why political movements that begin in radical registers with a sense of impatience towards questions of routine and insidious modes of injustice are soon consumed by those very processes of routine and normalisation.



■ **Panthers in Parliament: Dalits, Caste and Political Power in South India**  
Hugo Gorringer  
Oxford University Press  
Rs. 995

processes. However, they reverted their decision once they mobilised a sizeable support among the Dalits of Tamil Nadu, in order to realise the dream of gaining political power to affect social change.

In fact, this in many ways was what Ambedkar had also suggested to the Dalits that without seizing political power overcoming caste discrimination would always remain a distant goal.

However, whenever Dalits, including for instance the experiment of the Bahujan Samaj Party, have formed a political party they



**Beyond Left and Right:** 'Whenever Dalits form a political party they seem to moderate their goals and lose their potential to mobilise'. Picture shows VCK leader Thol. Thirumavalavan with others at a protest. ■ PHOTO: R. RAGU

ics, only to be disappointed by the shape it took, especially after it converted into a political party.

Gorringer's book lucidly explains how 'social mobilisation and protest is time-consuming, risky, and costly' and cannot be self-sustaining for too long. Individuals involved tend to lose steam, energy and also their determination. Enthusiasm of the 'take-off' phase of

distance from followers in order to manage the expectations and various conflicting demands.

All of these in turn lead to disappointments, accusations, and defections and failure to encourage and nurture second-rank leaders. There is also the human element of insecurity and temptation to give into 'image traps' that the leaders are first given, then

tempts at institutionalisation and mainstreaming are invariably prone to alienation, bureaucratisation, compromise, de-radicalisation, and co-option. This book makes the best of attempts to provide for a sympathetic reading of the compulsions involved in forging, and nurturing protest politics. Further, when a movement converts into a political party

political mobilisation. In due course, the party lost its ability to look as radical and maintain its mass appeal. Materiality of symbolism of converting a vertical caste order into a horizontal one gives way to 'empty symbolism'. It blurs the difference between the vertical and horizontal caste orders to end up with circular arguments as to how symbolism is itself the new radicalism.

A stress on collective action and resistance can give way to negotiation and interest articulation. One might well argue what is the use of protest politics if it doesn't at some stage serve the interests of the disadvantaged. Protest works around the question of justice that is universal, while interests are particular. Particularity always has the capacity to degenerate into sectarianism, but one might again always meaningfully ask why should the disadvantaged carry the burden of the universal?

Between the universalism of idealism and pragmatism of particularism, protest politics always tends to swing towards the latter as universalism is more cognitive and particularism is more experiential in nature. Protest politics of various kinds, including those of the Left and revolutionary kind.

- Protest politics of various kinds, including those of the Left and revolutionary kind, have struggled to find a way out.
- Rigid idealism, as in the case of the Left, tends to become dogmatic,
- while rugged pragmatism, tends to become corrupt, manipulative and self-serving.

## ❖ Vice President's remarks

- India proposed CCIT- Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at U.N.
- Some countries hide behind technicalities to try to avoid fight against [China- Masood Azhar]

## Ansari chides nations that avoid terror battle

'Some countries are citing legal technicalities to keep away'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

ON BOARD AIR INDIA ONE

Calling terrorism a pandemic, Vice-President Hamid Ansari on Saturday lamented that some countries take the cover of "legal technicalities" to try to avoid the fight against the menace. He said every country faced the problem to a "greater or lesser" degree. "But some countries come up with legal technicalities in defining terrorism as an excuse to try to avoid committing themselves [to fighting terrorism]," he told the media aboard Air India One Special Aircraft on his way back home after visiting Armenia and Poland.

Replying to a question on adopting the India-led Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT), he referred to the time when he was the permanent representative of India to the United Nations when India made a proposal on the CCIT. It was struck down because there were differences on the definition of a terrorist, he said.

Speaking about the two-nation visit Mr. Ansari said



**Polishing ties:** Vice-President Hamid Ansari paying tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at the Indian Embassy in Warsaw. •PTI

tion," he said. Asked whether India was exploring the potential of working with Armenian innovative projects, he said: "We need to see where and what the innovation is and where it will fit into our requirements." Armenia has been making a mark in renewable energy and vaccines and drugs.

### 'India's rising profile'

On Poland, Mr. Ansari said Warsaw had "done its homework" in identifying India's

and Prime Minister, we were able to identify some specific areas where cooperation between the two countries is either starting or can start very soon," he said. The two countries focused on three areas of interest: clean coal mining technology, agricultural products and techniques and defence cooperation, he said.

The Vice-President said he had suggested that Poland join the 'Make in India' programme. Instead of being a seller it could become

## Lack of timely legal help affects judicial credibility: CJI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

The credibility of the legal system and the rule of law have come under "severe strain" in the absence of timely help to poor and illiterate Indians, Chief Justice of India J.S. Khehar said on Saturday.

The CJI's observations came while he was highlighting

ing the importance of Para Legal Volunteers (PLV) who, according to him, enabled ordinary and helpless people to access the benefits of the legal system.

"In the absence of timely help to most Indians, the credibility of the legal system and the rule of law comes under severe strain," Chief Justice Khehar said,

stressing that poor and illiterate Indians were the main clients of the justice system.

"These volunteers trained under the 2009 Para Legal Volunteer scheme act as filters relating to the number and nature of disputes that need to be formally and institutionally dealt with by the legal services. Para legal volunteers save time and

money of the poor, the official administration and the courts," Justice Khehar said.

### Leveraging technology

Law and Justice Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, who also spoke at the National Meet, emphasised the use of technology in providing access and administration of justice.

Noting that good governance can be delivered with the help of technology, the Minister said with the government's scheme of common service centres (CSC), people in villages and in small towns could avail digital services like making of ration cards, PAN cards, Aadhaar cards or booking of railway tickets.

## ❖ 2009 Para Legal Volunteer scheme:

- Volunteers act as filters relating to the number and nature of disputes that need to be formally and institutionally dealt with by the legal services.
- Para legal volunteers save time and money of the poor, the official administration and the courts.

❖ Defiant N. Korea test-fires missile.

**Brief History of Korean war:** On June 25, 1950, the Korean War began when some 75,000 soldiers from the North Korean People's Army poured across the **38th parallel**, the boundary between the Soviet-backed Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the north and the pro-Western Republic of Korea to the south.

- This invasion was the first military action of the Cold War. By July, American troops had entered the war on South Korea's behalf.
- As far as American officials were concerned, it was a war against the forces of international communism itself.
- Finally, in **July 1953**, the Korean War came to an end. In all, some 5 million soldiers and civilians lost their lives during the war. The Korean peninsula is still divided today.

❖ **Why Rupee is Rising-** What led rupee to break 66 level.

1. Brexit triggered uncertainty- people seek refuge.
2. Donald Trump's victory
3. Domestic Political Mandate: in BJP's favour.
4. FPI flows.
5. the recent weakness in the dollar.
6. Rising Exports [Trade deficit]
7. Rising reserves of RBI on the account of rising FDI.

❖ **FDI inflows cross \$56 bn. in 2016-17**

- India working on more FDI reforms.
- Recent FDI reforms.

Limits in Shipping, airport development, Hospitality?

**Questions:**

1. Galapagos islands.
2. Article dealing with Attorney general of India and Advocate General for states.
3. Parkinson's disease.
4. Descriptive: Has technology eased or dis-eased our lives?
5. Success of India's Universal Immunisation Programme.



# WEEKLY REVIEW

24<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Page 10: Cyprus sees role for India in country's efforts to reunify the northern and southern parts of Cyprus.

- **In 1974 Turkey invaded Cyprus**, overran parts of it and has since stationed troops in the north. There is a ceasefire line that cuts across Cyprus, monitored by UN troops.
- The Indian government supports us on the basis of the UN resolution.
- President of South and the President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, have been engaged in a dialogue to find a solution.

## India and Australia

- Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Understanding.
- The draft was submitted 18 months back and a response from India is awaited.
- But India says, let us conclude LEMOA with U.S. first.
- **Observer status** The proposal comes in the backdrop of Australia's recent request for observer status during this year's Malabar trilateral naval exercises scheduled to be held in July

**Business Page: Nodal body for Transport.**

- For all transport-related matters across modes including aviation, railways, surface transport and waterways.
- 'Logistics and Integrated Transport Board' will initially work on improving inter-ministerial co-ordination to facilitate an efficient multi-modal transport system in India.
- '**Minimum government**' The aim, however, is to gradually set up a single unified transport ministry by merging the ministries of Aviation, Railways, Surface Transport and Shipping to ensure greater ease of doing

Page 11: Beijing's Belt-Road plan overshadows BCIM meet.

- The two-day meeting of the Joint Study Group, a sub-regional group of the BCIM
- It is to review economic integration of the region focussing on trade and energy cooperation.
- The idea of the economic corridor, about 3,000 kilometres in length, from Kunming to Kolkata — via Mandalay in Myanmar, Imphal and Silchar in India, Dhaka and Jessore in Bangladesh, — gained momentum in 2013.

## Security concerns might stall the BCIM project

### PROBLEMS & PROSPECTS

➔ Ethnic insurgency, terrorism, smuggling, cross-border human trafficking **main threats**

➔ **Project connects** China, Myanmar, India and Bangladesh

➔ Corridor aims to form a thriving **economic belt** with focus on cross-border transport



# 25 CRPF men killed in Maoist attack

■ Extremists target 74th battalion in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district

■ Jawans were sanitising the area for a road construction project

■ 10-12 Maoists were shot dead in retaliatory firing by securitymen

PAVAN DAHAT  
RAIPUR

In one of the deadliest attacks on security forces, Maoists killed 25 Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel and injured seven in Sukma district of south Chhattisgarh on Monday. In retaliatory fire, 10 to 12 Maoists were shot dead.

The attack took place when a team of around 100 men, belonging to the 74th battalion of the CRPF, based at the Burkapal camp on the Dornapal-jagargunda road in south Sukma, was out to provide protection for road construction work in the area.

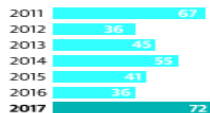
According to the Anti-Naxal Operations unit of the Chhattisgarh police, the Maoists ambushed the CRPF

## Easy targets

Monday's was the deadliest Maoist ambush this year in Chhattisgarh on the CRPF

- CRPF's 74th battalion troops were ambushed near Kalapathar in Sukma while on a sanitising mission
- Chintagufa-Burkapal-Bheji axis is a hub of Maoist activity

## Security personnel killed in Chhattisgarh



SOURCE: SATP



We have taken the Sukma attack as a challenge

RAJNATH SINGH  
Union Minister for Home Affairs



## How it unfolded

**11 AM-** Around 100 CRPF men leave their camp to secure a patch of road being constructed between Burkapal and Chintagufa in Sukma

**11.30 AM** They come under heavy fire. Around 100 armed Maoists, including women, were hiding in the thick forests

**1 PM-** The encounter ends, Maoists loot their weapons and wireless sets. CoBRA commandos rush to the spot

**1-7 PM-** Eleven bodies are retrieved at the scene of encounter while 12 others are found after an intense combing operation. At least seven injured jawans are evacuated to Raipur in a helicopter



Saga of grit: Injured personnel of CRPF being airlifted for treatment ■ AFP

## Page 1. Reinstate Kerala DGP.

- The commitment, devotion and accountability of the police had to be only to the rule of law and not persons.
- Further, the rule of law should not become a casualty to the whims and fancies of the political executive .
- At least three files submitted in the SC by the government in his case were “fudged” and the matter was “grave.” **Honest officers who were wronged rarely had the money for expensive legal counsel.** He was lucky to have socially committed lawyers to help.

**[Parkash Singh Guidelines]**



## **THE SEVEN DIRECTIVES :**

### **1. Directive One**

- Constitute a State Security Commission (SSC) to:
  - (i) Ensure that the state government does not exercise unwarranted influence or pressure on the police
  - (ii) Lay down broad policy guideline and
  - (iii) Evaluate the performance of the state police.

- ### **2. Directive Two**
- Ensure that the DGP is appointed through merit based transparent process and secure a minimum tenure of two years

## Editorial 1: The best laid plans

- Now onwards, 3-7-15-year long-term vision.
- Aayog's Governing Council includes the Prime Minister and all Chief Ministers .
- A draft action agenda for the three years till 2019-20, with 300 specific action points has been formulated.
- This agenda is meant to be the first step towards attaining the envisioned outcomes by 2031-32.
- This 'New India' will ensure housing for all, with toilets, LPG, power and digital connections; access to a personal vehicle, air conditioner and white goods for 'nearly all'; and a fully literate population with universal health care.

❖ **Finance Commission: Article 280.** Functions

1. Distribution of net proceeds of taxes between Center and the States, to be divided as per their respective contributions to the taxes.
2. Determine factors governing **Grants-in Aid** to the states and the magnitude of the same.

❖ **Planning Commission: Article 282-** making plan allocations to States for development spending [CSS].

**Page 10: S.C. for law against Torture**

- it was a matter of both Article 21 (fundamental right to life and dignity) and
- international reputation that the government must consider promulgating a standalone, comprehensive law to define and punish torture as an instrument of “human degradation” by state authorities.
- India, which had **signed** the **UN Convention against torture** way back in 1997, had still not ratified it. The Convention defines torture as a criminal offence.
- No steps had been taken to implement the Prevention of Torture Bill 2010 even six years after it was passed by the Lok Sabha in 2010 and recommended by a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha.

## Editorial 1: Maoist Attack

[26<sup>th</sup> April]

### Causes:

1. The recent attacks indicates a breakdown in intelligence-gathering, possibly on account of a lack of effective coordination between the State police and paramilitary forces.
2. The fact that the post of the Director General of the CRPF continues to be vacant is a lapse amplified by the tragedy. The inadequacies are more grave than this administrative oversight.
3. The State police forces in Maoist-affected areas have more or less abdicated their duties of law and order, leaving the job almost entirely to the paramilitary forces.

## ❖ IMF Quota Reform.

→ Bretton Woods twins: World Bank and IMF

Quotas determine:

1. the size of Contingency Funds at the disposal of the IMF to lend to countries in need of help,
2. the power of individual countries to influence lending decisions and tap into the funds themselves.
3. Though developing countries hold less than half the overall quota at the moment, with their rapidly increasing economic heft they have demanded a greater share — with limited success.

## Q. Why do Companies need Data Exclusivity?

**Answer.** Data exclusivity **prevents** drug regulators[?] from referring to or relying on data submitted by an originator company relating to a drug's safety and efficacy while **approving bioequivalent versions** of the same drug, i.e. therapeutically equivalent generics and bio-similars for a fixed period of time.

→ A drug that comes to the market for the first time undergoes extensive **preclinical and clinical trials** on animals initially and human beings later before it is introduced for public use — a time-consuming and expensive process.

THE

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017



INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

HINDU

# Aadhaar-PAN linkage meant to plug tax leaks, says SC

We as citizens are like that... we don't want to pay taxes, shame on us: Justice Sik

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL  
NEW DELHI

Slamming a tendency in the country to evade taxes, the Supreme Court referred to the mandatory linking of Aadhaar to the Permanent Account Number (PAN) and Income Tax returns as an instance of the government's efforts to bring "new and new laws to stop leakages."

## Voluntary versus mandatory

The question whether the government can insist on citizens having an Aadhaar number has been hanging fire since 2013, with the Supreme Court passing a series of interim orders

**SEPT 23, 2013** SC says, "No person should suffer for not getting Aadhaar card in spite of the fact that some authority issued a circular making it mandatory..."

**MARCH 24, 2014** "No person shall be deprived of any service for want of Aadhaar number in case he/she is otherwise eligible/ entitled"

**AUGUST 11, 2015** SC asks Centre to give wide publicity that it is not mandatory for a citizen to get Aadhaar card, allows its use in PNC

**OCTOBER 15, 2015** SC adds Jan Dhan, MGNREGS, EPF and social assistance pension to schemes for which Aadhaar is permitted

**MARCH 28, 2017** SC Bench says government is free to press for Aadhaar for 'non-welfare' transactions, such as filing tax



**Sensex and NIFTY are rising for now, Concerns:**

1. Corporate earnings, which determine equity returns in the long run, have been lacklustre despite showing early signs of recovery from the demonetisation shock.
2. The implementation of the Goods and Services Tax is expected to dampen earnings in the near term, and
3. The absence of recovery in capital expenditure by India Inc. offers little hope to expect an earnings boost.

## **Comment: Navigating between Iran and U.S.**

### **Pressure on Iran: Firstly from Secretaries**

- U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson wrote to Congress— that Iran continues to comply with the deal, but in the same letter he called Iran “a leading state sponsor of terror”.
- Secretary of Defense, James Mattis, who has long been very hostile to Iran, accused it of attempting to “destabilise yet another country”, meaning Yemen.
- U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Nikki Haley, said in a Security Council briefing on Syria, “Iran is Syria’s [Assad’s] chief accomplice in the regime’s horrific acts.”

## Lead Article: IMF's World Economic Outlook (2017)

- The IMF sees world economic growth accelerating from 3.1% in 2016 to 3.5% in 2017, and 3.6% in 2018.
- Both advanced and emerging economies are poised to do better.
- Growth in advanced economies is projected to rise from 1.7% in 2016 to 2% in 2017 and 2018.
- Emerging markets will grow **at 4.5% in 2017, and 4.8% in 2018**, compared with growth of 4.1% in 2016.
- **China will see growth decelerating from 6.7% in 2016 to 6.6% and 6.2% in 2017 and 2018, respectively** 😞
- India's growth, in contrast, will accelerate from 6.8% in 2016 to 7.2% and 7.7% over the next two years 😊

## Oped 9: National Commission for Backward Classes.

- T.T. Krishnamachari queried in the Constituent Assembly on November 30, 1948, “who are the backward class of citizens?” The Assembly was faced with the task of determining who were the groups deserving special protections and privileges **other than the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs)**. TTK was quick to add, **“It does not apply to a backward caste.”**
- In seven decades, the nation has failed to answer the question & has blurred the **distinction between caste and class [Article 338 and 340]**.
- This failure is at the core of demands by several rich, powerful and dominant castes to be included as backward classes (BCs) to obtain the benefits of reservations.

**Page 11: SC suggests new law for regulating NGOs:**

- Government submitted the guidelines to the court, appointing NITI Aayog as the nodal agency for NGO registration.
- But the court said the guidelines might not prove sufficient for “systematising the entire process of accreditation, fund utilisation and audit of NGOs”.
- CBI records filed in 2016 in the Supreme Court had shown show that only 2,90,787 NGOs file **annual financial statements** of a total of 29,99,623 registered ones under the **Societies Registration Act**.

**Page 11: Three visits and a diplomatic test Balancing Turkey, Cyprus & Armenia.**

- Mr. Ansari's visit to Armenia has similarly thrust India into the dispute between Armenia and Turkey, as Turkey sided with Azerbaijan in the war **in 1993**.
- His visit to the memorial for the Armenian Genocide dedicated to 1.5 million Armenians killed during the rule of Turkey's Ottoman Empire there in **1915**.



❖ Three Year Action Plan: Reorient social sector subsidies: NITI Aayog.

- India's social sector subsidies should be reoriented so that beneficiaries don't become dependent on them.
- In its three-year action plan for the economy the government think-tank mooted a reduction in food subsidies as a proportion of GDP by 2019-20 through better targeting and rationalisation measures.
- Within revenue expenditures, subsidies have tended to crowd out the socially more productive expenditures such as those on education and health.
- The social subsidies should be reoriented so that beneficiaries become economically independent instead of remaining perpetually dependent on them,



THE

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2017



INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

HINDU

## No barrier to naming Lokpal: SC

'Opposition leader's absence no hurdle'

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday found the Lokpal and Lokayukta Act of 2013 an "eminently workable piece of legislation", which provides for the appointment of Lokpal Chairperson and Members even in the absence of a recognised Leader of Opposition (LoP).

The judgment goes against the very logic of the government's argument that appointment of Lokpal Chairperson and Members

is not currently possible, and would have to wait till the 2013 Act is amended to replace the LoP with the single largest opposition party leader.

The fact that the 16th Lok Sabha does not have a recognised LoP – the Congress could not get the required 10% membership in the Lok Sabha in the 2014 parliamentary elections – had stalled the implementation of the Lokpal Act.

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## PM launches low-cost regional flights

Shimla-Delhi, Kadapa-Hyderabad flights flagged off under UDAN programme

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI/SHIMLA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the lives of the middle class were being transformed, while inaugurating the first flight under the UDAN – Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik – scheme for regional connectivity.

The Prime Minister inaugurated the first UDAN flight on the Shimla-Delhi route and simultaneously flagged off flights on the Kadapa-Hyderabad and Nanded-Hyderabad sectors through a video conference from Shimla.



**For the common man:** Narendra Modi flags off the first UDAN flight from Shimla on Thursday. Minister Ashok Gajapathi Raju and Himachal CM Virbhadra Singh are seen. •PTI/PIB

"I had always wanted the man in streets wearing hawai chappals (slippers) to do a hawai yatra (plane journey)," said the PM at Shimla's Jubbarhatti airport.

The Shimla-Delhi flight is operated by Alliance Air

which has deployed its 42-seater ATR plane on this sector. The fare for 24 seats on-teh flight has been fixed at ₹2,036. However, the Shimla-Delhi flight can accommodate a maximum of 15 passengers, while the Delhi-Shimla flight can carry 35 passengers due to height and temperature factors, according to Air India.

Air India will receive a subsidy of ₹3,340 per passenger from the government for capping the fare.

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DEFEAT CORRUPT FORCES:  
PM ► PAGE 6

**Page 7 : Judicial Performance Index proposed by NITI Aayog.**

- The creation of a JPI that could help High Courts and their chief justices keep track of the performance and processes at district courts and subordinate levels for reducing delay, should be 'the first step'.
- The performance index for courts will entail fixing of 'non-mandatory time frames for different types of cases to benchmark when a case has been delayed.'
- The index can also include certain progress on process steps already approved by High Courts and such an annual evaluation should give judges in High Courts 'a sense of where they are failing and what they need to fix.' [High Courts supervise Subordinate Judiciary??]

## Lead Article: Fiscal Responsibility.

### Terms:

1. **Public Debt to GDP ratio:** The debt-to-GDP ratio is the ratio of a country's public debt to its gross domestic product (GDP). It compares what a country owes to what it produces.
2. A **fiscal deficit** occurs when a **government's** total expenditures exceed the revenue that it generates, excluding money from borrowings. **Deficit** differs from debt, which is an accumulation of yearly **deficits**.

- The **primary deficit** is **defined** as the difference between current government spending on goods and services and total current revenue from all types of taxes.
- **Primary Deficit** = Gross Fiscal Deficit - interest payments
- **Description:** A shrinking primary deficit indicates progress towards fiscal health. Prudent fiscal management requires that the government does not borrow to consume in the normal course.

## **Editorial -2: Malaria vaccine**

- Beginning next year, the World Health Organisation will begin pilot tests of the injectable malaria vaccine RTS,S (or Mosquirix) on 750,000 children aged 5-17 months in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi. The vaccine has been successfully put through a Phase III trial.
- Although the number of cases globally and in the African region came down by 21% between 2010 and 2015, in 2015 itself the number of deaths worldwide on account of the disease was as high as 429,000.

**Page 11: Bhutan out of BBIN Pact.**

- India's plan for a sub-regional motor vehicle agreement faced a setback as the Bhutan government said it was not ready, and asked the other members of the 'BBIN' grouping — India, Bangladesh and Nepal — to go ahead.
- MVA agreement was signed on June 15, 2015: Two years ago at the SAARC summit in Kathmandu, our PM had said that regional integration in South Asia would go ahead “through SAARC or outside it, among all of us or some of us” as Pakistan had raised last minute objections.

The BBIN motor vehicles agreement, with the help of technical assistance from the Asian Development Bank.

- ❖ **INTERNATIONAL -2:** Israel strikes Syria arms depot operated by Hezbollah.
- ❖ **Hezbollah - or the Party of God - is a powerful political and military organisation in Lebanon made up mainly of Shia Muslims.**
  - It emerged with financial backing from Iran in the early 1980s and began a struggle to drive Israeli troops from Lebanon.
  - Hostility to Israel has remained the party's defining platform since May 2000, when the last Israeli troops left Lebanon due in large part to the success of Hezbollah's military arm, the Islamic Resistance.





**2. The Centre's revival of four fertilizer plants** at a total cost of ₹50,000 crore has the potential to turn India into a fertilizer exporting country from an importing one.

→ Barauni, Singhri, Gorakhpur, and Talcher → will add about 75 lakh metric tonnes to the output, taking the total capacity to about 320 lakh metric tonnes.

→ The Talcher fertilizer plant in Odisha through a consortium comprising Fertilizer Corporation of India, Gas Authority of India Limited, Rashtriya Chemical and Fertilizer Limited, and Coal India Limited.

## Comment: Generic Medicine in a Digital Age.

- Prime Minister's recent announcement on making it mandatory for doctors to prescribe only the generic name, and not brand name of a drug, has led to a flutter.
- **If enacted**, the move will make it illegal for Indian doctors to write out a prescription for the trademark of the drug, forcing them to mention the chemical name instead.
- If implemented properly, pharmacists -→ cheapest generic drug in the market.

**Page 9: India – Cyprus.** → Four Pacts were signed:

1. Air Services Agtt.
  2. Cooperation in merchant shipping.
  3. The two sides signed an executive programme on culture, education and scientific cooperation for the years 2017 to 2020.
  4. Both sides signed a work plan under a programme of cooperation in agriculture for the period 2017-2018.
- Emphasising the need for creating a comprehensive legal framework to fight terror, Mr. Modi advocated early closure of the **Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism**, proposed by India at the UN.
- The two sides also agreed on the need for early reforms in the UNSC

❖ Money laundering may be made criminal offence.

- Move aimed at facilitating quick action.
- Under the current arrangement in India, the fate of money laundering cases depends on that of the probe and prosecutions in predicate offences pursued by primary agencies.
- **Situation in U.K.** In the United Kingdom, police have to prove **predicate offence** through circumstantial evidence, linking it to the funds generated and laundered.  
Wherever money laundering is treated as a standalone crime, U.K. agencies are not required to wait for the outcome of investigations into the predicate offence.

