

# MODI

# EMPOWERS DEVELOPMENT

M.K. AGARWAL



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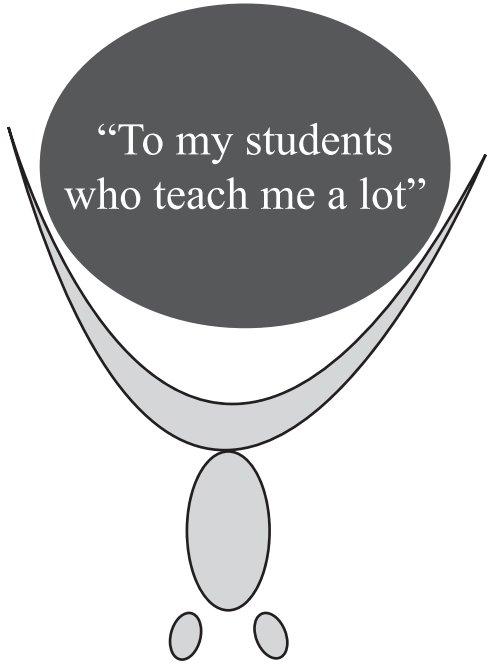


Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana



SULTAN CHAND & SONS





# **MODI** **EMPOWERS** **DEVELOPMENT**

**M.K. Agarwal**



**SULTAN CHAND & SONS<sup>®</sup>**

*Educational Publishers*

New Delhi



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**Yogi Adityanath**



**CHIEF MINISTER  
UTTAR PRADESH**

**No:**

**Lok Bhawan,  
Lucknow - 226001**

**Date: 22 JUL 2022**

## **Foreword**

Under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, past 8 years dedicated to 'Seva, Sushashan, Garib Kalyan' have ensured universalizing benefits for all. He has fulfilled his commitment of bringing better days of the lives of the people by initiating a number of welfare schemes across the country. He has brought transparency in the system and ended the practice of corruption which is benefitting the people in a long way. His approach of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayaas has mobilized people to come together for nation building where the development is reaching last man in the country. Under his leadership India is becoming self reliant, and on that pillar a New India is being created.

Due to the various economic policies implemented by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, India is among the fastest growing economies of the world. Investment from the private sector is creating numerous job opportunities and also adding impetus to the economy. Even during the pandemic, India was able to attract global investor interest due to its strong economy. Under the visionary leadership of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Uttar Pradesh is moving towards the goal of 'Atma Nirbhar Uttar Pradesh'.

I would like to complement Prof. M.K. Agarwal, University of Lucknow for making a detailed analysis of the achievements of the Hon'ble Prime Minister in this book Modi Empowers Development. I am confident that this publication would be helpful in further understanding of the economic issues for larger benefits of the people and the nation.

**(Yogi Adityanath)**



धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान  
ଧର୍ମେନ୍ଦ୍ର ପ୍ରଧାନ  
Dharmendra Pradhan



मंत्री  
शिक्षा; कौशल विकास  
और उद्यमशीलता  
भारत सरकार

Minister  
Education; Skill Development  
& Entrepreneurship  
Government of India

## Foreword

India has been blessed in having rich cultural and economic heritage. It has inherent vast economic potentials where there have been in-built entrepreneurial skills that were shaped as per the situations. Earlier, India had very high economic status when today's economic powers were non-existent. Still, India has great economic potentials with a customization with its centuries old culture and civilization that was based on sustainable and inclusive development strategy. It was for the foreign invaders who made efforts to plunder its resources and damage its economic potentials and drives so that India might not emerge as the global economic power. However, there have been very high hopes that after 1947, Indian economy would be reaching new heights while eradicating poverty, unemployment, inequalities by the development to the last man as per the vision of the great economic thinker and philosopher Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Ji. Unfortunately, it could not happen due to myopic economic vision of the governments who were exploring the models of development in the western models which remains untested and self-centred. As a result, new type of dichotomy started raising its ugly head. Exclusion was increasing rapidly and unbearably: poverty started increasing further; rural economy landed in distress; India started suffering from grey economy and declining self-support.

All these were to be handled effectively to take the Indian economy at the world map and making the Indian economy self-reliant. It requires a strong and honest leadership having overall commitment for the nation building with vast public support. The era dawned effectively in 2014 when Shri Narendra Damodardas Modi Ji becomes the Prime Minister of India. It has been the vision, mission, commitment, and inclusive approach that has transformed the Indian economy only in few years. Its litmus test can be seen during the global pandemic disaster caused by the Covid-19 for over two years. Hon'ble Prime Minister's approach of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas evam Sabka Prayaas" has mobilized the people to come together for nation building where the development is reaching the last man in the country. Shri Narendra Modi Ji has effectively embarked upon the path of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and making rapid strides for global presence as Vishwa Guru. In his effort people are coming forward to Support his initiatives.

I would like to complement Prof. M.K. Agarwal, University of Lucknow for making such a detailed analysis of the Modi era in this book "Modi Empowers Development". It would be helpful in further understanding of the economic issues for the larger benefits of the people and the nation.

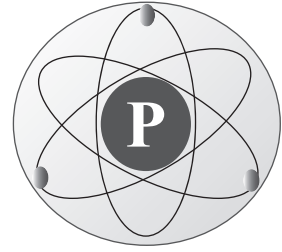
(Dharmendra Pradhan)

सबको शिक्षा, अच्छी शिक्षा



कौशल भारत, कुशल भारत





## Preface

India has not been a poor country nor has it been a constrained country. India or Bharat has been a rich and prosperous country in all respects. This illustrious country has long history of scientific way of life and social system. Economic life has been largely self sustaining and inclusive unlike the modern and western economic system that leads to exclusion and dualism within a sector, country or globally. India has been a country of coexistence and global peace and development. Social capital has been its major hallmark where positive support to the community is always available.

However, after 1947, a new development process was initiated and it was assumed as if India has been devoid of its culture, history and economic philosophy. At that moment, India was projected to lack development altogether. It is to be noted that westerners and invaders plundered us for centuries culturally, socially, and economically. Paradoxically, the then government adopted the model of the western countries irrespective of the suitability in the Indian context. Therefore, the development efforts could not bear the desired fruits. Not only this, with the passage of time, development level went up although not at desired pace and direction. Simultaneously, challenges of poverty, unemployment, inequalities, challenges of basic needs, fast depletion of natural resources and inheritance, etc. aggravated sharply. Such issues started posing new roadblocks to development.

Gradually such challenges got so much auto-strong that these started to become unchallengeable effectively. Policies after policies changed. But the situation continued to become more serious. Sectoral stress became new roadblock as the farm sector became synonymous with the distress and miseries. Natural resources were depleting fast and getting unmanageable. Even after the economic reforms were initiated since 1991, these could not provide any lasting solution. Rather, it led to probably a situation of de-industrialization in the Indian economy and marginalization of the weaker states. In short, we continued with a development model where self-reliance was the least emphasized parameter. We gradually started engaging in ad-hoc solution to the serious chronic issues in a knee-jerk manner. As a result, there started a type of pessimism in the economy with regard to its long term prospects.

In May 2014, Shri Narendra Damodardas Modi became the Prime Minister of India. His Bhartiya Janata Party won the Lok Sabha election with absolute majority. It was after 25 years that any party got absolute majority on its own. It means people saw in him new hopes and aspirations. It was for Shri Narendra Modi to come up to expectations of the billion plus population who had been gradually turning hopeless with the Indian polity

and development to a large extent. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had this issue in his mind even before he assumed the office of the Prime Minister of India as is reflected from his talk to media and public address.

For the first time in the Indian parliamentary history of over seven decades, it appears that Prime Minister Narendra Modi started a series of economic reforms or reforms that facilitate economic reforms. This seems to have been a continuous process. It includes economic reforms, technological reforms, governance reforms, institutional reforms, etc. The sequencing of the reforms indicates that there has been well thought out strategy so that the preceding ones provide support to the successive reforms so that it is efficient, equitable and sustainable. Although the period of initiatives has not been too long to make any time series analysis, still the magnitude and dimension of the reforms and their positive outcomes motivate us to analyze the Modi government's economic strategy. People are also interested to know the things in a consolidated manner about the unique features of the Modi government's sincere initiatives.

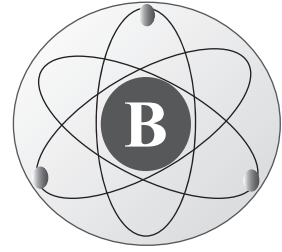
Given this, we got motivated to undertake the analysis of major policy initiatives by the Narendra Modi government since 2014. We have made attempts to incorporate as much policies and their impact analysis as possible. We have no hesitation in admitting that it is beyond the capacity to incorporate all the initiatives in one single volume. Still it gives a broad and convincing picture of the success and true transformations carrying potentials for today and tomorrow. This work is the collective team spirit of myself and my research scholars. The research scholars have been highly excited to work on this special theme for which getting earlier authentic research works was a big challenge. One more advantage of making a team with them has been that they have been more open minded and experiencing the changes themselves and around themselves in an unbiased manner without being prisoner of any ideology. Thus, this work has been undertaken in an unbiased manner without any prejudice and the started towards the latter part of 2020.

This type of work requires a large team and its sustained contribution and support. I am grateful to all my scholars who have helped me in one or the other chapters in the book. Many were occupied with their doctoral work or many were occupied elsewhere in their institutions. Still, they could make it with quality. Instead of thanking them, I wish them a successful journey in their life and may Bhagwan Shri Ram bless them with all the fortunes to work for true cause with dedication and sincerity. Although Dr Shivakar Tewari and Dr Sanjay Kumar Upadhyay have not been my doctoral students, they have not been less than that in true sense. We all have worked for this book since we felt need to bring that real paradigm shift in the Indian economy since July, 2014 without any direct or indirect monetary or otherwise assistance from anywhere.

I am grateful for the assistance rendered by the staff members of the Department of Economics and Institute of Management Sciences of the University of Lucknow for assisting in several related works. I may be unethical if I do not extend gratitude to many more who have motivated or contributed in my efforts towards this mission in anonymous manner. M/s Sultan Chand & Sons, New Delhi needs special thanks for bringing out our efforts in this shape and being cooperative and helpful throughout.

**Lucknow**  
**7<sup>th</sup> May, 2022**

**Prof. Manoj Kumar Agarwal**



## Brief Overview of the Chapters

**M.K. Agarwal** in his opening chapter on *Modi and Empowerment of Development* argues that efficiency and inclusiveness have been the criteria of development where discretion is the least preferred method of governance since the Modi government believes in minimum government and maximum governance. Efforts have been to empower the development in the Indian economy so that the nation can realize its best potentials which could not be done earlier. This might be seen in the domains of social sector development, infrastructure development, economic development, innovations, etc. A very strong enabling environment has been developed in case of social sector. Similarly, the much has been developed in terms of infrastructure. In terms of economic development much fundamental reforms have been initiated in all the sectors including the much neglected farm sector to make it self-reliant and vibrant source of economic development. In nutshell, Narendra Modi has changed the discourse of development in India with emphasis on scale, speed and dimension. All these parameters suggest that Narendra Modi has made the paradigm shift in the development strategy in India by empowering the development itself as all the major parameters have been strengthened to empower the stakeholders in various ways. These, in turn, would release the growth forces and speed up the development.

**M.K. Agarwal and Shivakar Tewari** in their chapter *Constitutional to 'Cooperative – Competitive' Federalism* argue against centralized system of federal structure as it is against inclusive development. Political economy of inclusive development lies in the success story of co-operative and competitive federalism. One of the ills of the centralized planning has been in the form of excessive control of central planning institution. There have been many instances of confrontation between centre and state(s) on breaching the administrative domain of the states. Also, the centralized planning has failed to address the local issues in which states faced severe problems in implementation. Idea of cooperative and competitive federalism as promoted by the Modi government since 2014 has long lasting impact in redefining the idea of development practice in India. Even though there is scope for improvement, the most appreciable is the pace of transformation of this practice which will definitely deepen over the years and it will lead to inclusive and faster economic development of India.

**M.K. Agarwal and Garima Mishra** argue for inclusive development in their chapter on *Inclusive Development Strategies of Modi Government* find the strong initiatives of inclusive development. Modi government is determined to improve the lives of poor people of India and Narendra Modi is working tirelessly making it possible since 2014 when the Modi government came into power. All these initiatives taken by the Modi government for the



betterment of poor people have been successfully achieved and many targets have been realised within the defined time periods. All these have been possible because of strong leadership, committed team, focusing on speed, scale and transparency of several schemes and most importantly desire of the Prime Minister to make poor people's life better and uplift them from poverty and distress. This definitely motivates to contribute further for their own development as well as for the nation's development.

**M.K. Agarwal and Samia Ansari** in their chapter on *Fiscal Prudence and Tax Reforms under Modi Government* find strong evidence of fiscal prudence and people centric fiscal reforms. It is seen that the Modi government has done an impressive job in improving tax to GDP ratio by introducing crucial structural reforms in the domain of taxation laws, and in adhering to fiscal rules at the same time. The implementation of Goods and Service Tax Act (2017) has been one of the major tax reforms which subsumed the multiple number of indirect tax levied by the central and state governments into unified tax rates, thus petered out the cascading effect of the erstwhile indirect taxes. Tax evasion has been reduced and thus revenue collection has been increased significantly. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made incessant efforts for improving the productivity of the Indian taxation system and so reducing the reliance on public borrowing. Modi government has laid thrust on the use of technology in each dimension of reforms for the inclusive growth and development of the nation. It is evident that the Modi government has been successful in resolving the challenges of the taxation system pertained to scale, speed and federal structure by using technology. It is anticipated that the recent reforms in tax administration system would help in revenue-led fiscal consolidation and would provide strength to Modi's vision of *Aatamnirbhar Bharat*.

**M.K. Agarwal, Sanjay Kumar Upadhyay and Sunanda Mishra** in their chapter *Modi's Aspiration for Self Reliant India* argue that Self-Reliant India Mission will play very vital role in encouraging domestic economy, reducing dependency on importable goods, making India self-confident, self-reliant to take on global competition and driving India's socio-economic transformation rapidly. The government has taken various steps like Make in India, Start-up India, Digital India, etc., for rapid recovery and further strengthening of the local economy. For becoming self-reliant, India needs to strengthen its bottom-of-pyramid economy through creating jobs and generating entrepreneurial opportunities. Likewise, for spreading the branches, a tree needs to grow stronger at its roots so that it can hold the weight of those bigger branches. There is also need to focus more for continuous help to agriculture, MSMEs, automobile industry, cottage industries, tourism and hospitality, retails, renewable energy, and housing sectors to revive economic activities and to achieve the goal of Self-reliant India Mission. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says that "I am confident that India will realise this dream and we do not rest until we achieve that goal".

**M.K. Agarwal and Selma Mulunga** in their contribution on *Industrial Development Strategy under Modi Government* plead that the Modi government has performed better than other governments. The engineering, power, automobile, pharma, mining, heavy machinery, retails and others have shown remarkable improvement in terms of production, turnover, consumption and market size, etc. However, the field of information technology & BPM could not make any sea change in the growth. In addition, the overall percentage of employment generation is less keeping the increasing job demands in mind. The Digital India, Start-Up India, etc. have gained popularity amongst Indians. As a result, the e-commerce and e-learning industries have created emerging job opportunities. There is a need to extend

the scope of Skill India initiative with lesser focus to bridge industry-academia gap. The long-awaited reforms in education sector are visible through 'National Educational Policy 2020' integrating quality framework at national level. India's overall ranking in "Ease of Doing Business" is improved to the great extent during Modi government unlike others. Prime Minister Narendra Modi aims to make the Indian economy worth US\$ 5 trillion by 2025. It would make India a 'true superpower of the world'.

**M.K. Agarwal and Ritika** in their chapter on *Expansion of Connectivity during Modi Era* have reached conclusion that under Modi government, Indian connectivity sector is growing with enlarged capacity, high density and transparency. This is providing better quality life to the people especially untapped hilly and plain areas. Automation in the sector is maximising the efficiency of the connectivity infrastructure. Besides, the focus of the Modi government has moved from only cost efficiency to time and competence also in project execution. Many projects were implemented and completed in time and even before time during the Modi era. This has created excellent opportunities for all investments, private and public. India needs adequate and timely investment for smooth and fast development in these sectors. We have found that due to the greater thrust by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for development of the infrastructure facilities to pave the way for faster and inclusive economic growth and development, the roads, railways, airports, ports, etc. are now developing at much faster pace and with greater levels of efficiency. This is a major change from the earlier practice in India for overall economic transformation.

**M.K. Agarwal and Ajay Kumar Verma** in their chapter on *Modi Way of Transforming Rural Development* have highlighted on the need for rural development for inclusive development of Modi government. Success of India's economy is strongly rooted in the rural areas. Prime Minister Narendra Modi rightly said that India doesn't advocate a self-centered system by becoming self-reliant, but in India's self-reliance there is a concern for the whole world's happiness, cooperation and peace. Today, rural India is the growth engine not just for fast moving consumer goods, but also durables, two-wheelers, farm equipments, construction and many other sectors. The government is moving in the right direction to bring reformative changes in the economy to reap rich economic dividends in the days to come. During the last six years in rural areas own bank accounts, owing a pucca house, increase toilet facility, electricity connections in every house, providing free gas connections, making effort to providing insurance protection to the poor, improve rural infrastructure, quality of education, farmers status, agri-services, farm based activity, energy and solar pump irrigation facility, skill development and improved medical facilities in rural areas.

**M.K. Agarwal and Sunanda Mishra's** chapter entitled *Development of Health Sector during Modi Era* notices that Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasizes upon four pillars of health viz. preventive healthcare, affordable healthcare, supply side interventions and mission mode interventions. Narendra Modi has always laid stress on the reforms related to healthcare for healthy India that provides good support to the economy and quality of life to its people. The Universal Healthcare Coverage was made an election theme for the first time in the country's history and somehow the government has been successful in paying rich dividends that has enabled the country to tackle emerging challenges in the healthcare sector. The major impetus of the Modi government has been on making healthcare affordable for all Indians. Some of the noteworthy efforts include schemes like Jan Arogya Yojana, Ayushman Bharat Yojana, emphasis on AYUSH, etc. Further, to avoid unnecessary delay in

supply of healthcare services, the Modi government is also working upon setting up of 16 new AIIMS in the country. Along with this much impetus is being laid upon the overhauling of the existing medical education and training. Given the positive changes being brought about by various policies, the country looks forward to many more health oriented policies and strategies especially targeting the vulnerable section of the population. We are hopeful for a healthcare system which is in a position to offer all Indians a decent package of healthcare services irrespective of the socio-economic background.

**M.K. Agarwal and Sanjay Kumar Upadhyay** in their chapter on *Agriculture Development during Modi Regime* underline the efforts being made by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the farm sector and farmers' development in the country who were getting marginalized over the decades. It is witnessed that the trend of area, production and yield/productivity is positive of about all food grain and non-food grain crops during the Modi regime. The government has taken several effective steps to increase farmer's income and growth. The three new farm related Acts would allow farmers to escape the plight of restrictive trading practices and to ensure freedom of choice for farmers in the agribusiness marketplace. The aim of the Modi government is to enhance profitability in agriculture by ensuring a minimum 50 per cent profit over the cost of production, cheaper agriculture inputs, credits, introducing the latest technologies for farming, providing high-yielding seeds, strengthen infrastructure facilities, innovative marketing system, better soil and water management, institutional development and climatic resilient technology.

**M.K. Agarwal and Shraddha Shukla** have noted in their chapter on *Empowering Development and Inclusiveness with E-Governance* that "E-governance can bring minimum government and maximum governance". Equipping training centres with high speed Wi-Fi and video facilities will enable greater outreach and quicker scalability of the project. Development of mobile applications for training will also be immensely useful. On the top of these successfully running policies and projects, there are many other policies which are creating a noticeable difference towards the path of sustainable development. Several sectors and segments of the society are blooming well with these projects performing parallel to the government services and making the process more affordable and effective. Some of those policies are e-District, e-Panchayat, Bhulekh, Online Public Utility Forum, Saarthi, Rojgar Wahini, e-Scholarship, SETU, e-Mitra, Grievance Redressal, Jan Seva Kendra, e-Gram Vishwa Gram, e-Dhara, etc. While laying his ambitions to make India an intelligence (AI) hub for the world, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also highlighted the dangers of its misuse by non-state actors, terrorists and cyber criminals. While pitching for greater adoption of artificial intelligence, Modi made it clear that he sees human creativity and emotions as "our greatest strength and our unique advantage" over machines. We must use technology as a means to development, not destruction.

**M.K. Agarwal and Vinod Pandey** in their chapter on *Tourism Development and Establishing India as Brand Tourism* growth of tourism sector has been focused; speedy, inclusive, and multifarious in India after Narendra Modi led government has taken over in 2014. India's tourism sector has been taken very passionately by the Prime Minister Modi as he mentioned while addressing the nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort in 2015 that Indians must visit at least 15 tourist destinations across India before 2022. Narendra Modi never misses the opportunity to promote India's tourism sector while addressing people either at international or national platforms. The government has ensured the coordination among the various

tourism stakeholders for effective implementation of the rapidly unfolding policies for rapid transformation and growth of the tourism sector. The government has emphasized on strengthening tourism infrastructure such as better transport facility, extending connectivity of destinations through rail, road and air network, renovation and upgradation of tourist places for improving overall tourism experience. This gives to hope for better prospects of the tourism sector in India.

**M.K. Agarwal and Ritika** in their chapter on *Telecommunication, Power Sector and Space Technology in India* have derived that two critical infrastructure facilities – telecommunication and power – have been growing in importance in the twenty first century but these were not able to match the growing demand in terms of quantity and quality. Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid special attention to these. As a result, the communication sector has grown leap and bounds to meet the growing aspirations of the people in tune with the growing development requirements as these are effective means now for governance, efficient production and communication. Similarly, the power sector has been transformed to the extent that energy crisis has been tackled effectively within few years of the Modi government. Many structural reforms were undertaken and even states were taken on board to make power supply for rapid economic transformation. More than that, now focus is shifted towards clean and green energy that is more cost effective like solar energy, wind energy, etc. Space technology is not only used for scientific research but it is very useful for nation's economic development. These three sectors share top to bottom management. Thus, these three activities – telecommunication, power and space technology – have been transformed to make the life of the masses easier while making governance and development more effective with Narendra Modi's unique way of speed, scale and dimension in realizing the benefits which are inclusive and efficient.

**M.K. Agarwal and Mohd. Yousuf Malik** in their chapter on *Mainstreaming Development in Jammu and Kashmir* have sounded strong hopes of rapid development in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The beauty of Jammu and Kashmir is famous all around the world. There is a need to prepare a focused strategy on improving the tourist inflow to the valley. The strategy for the development process in Jammu and Kashmir needs to be targeted one, where there is high level of externality. There is a need to promote sector-specific strategies to boost industries in Jammu and Kashmir keeping in mind the climate, accessibility, raw material availability, human resources and consumption pattern. J&K economy needs to be integrated more intensively with the national economy and this will be facilitated by the Modi government that has already been doing much in this direction for a rapid, inclusive and sustainable development.

**Abida Rizvi** in her contribution on *Development and Empowerment of Minorities in India since 2014* pleads that even in the wake of corona virus pandemic spread followed by lockdown imposition, the government of India answered the urgent needs and access to livelihood of all communities as also of minorities. Evacuees from non resident Indians group who had been employed in various countries of the world were successfully and swiftly brought back to India under Vande Mataram flagship mission. Foodgrains and necessary supplies were provided to whomsoever and where so ever any citizen of India residing anywhere in India. Even in Jammu and Kashmir, the government ensured distribution of foodgrains and essential items during lockdown. Thereafter health facilities, advisories and measures for containment of the spread of the virus were taken and infected persons were

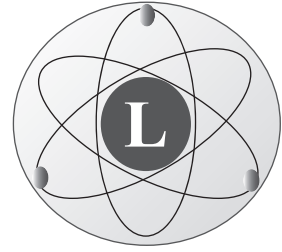


treated. As a result of the measures of the Modi government, despite the huge number of suspected Covid-19 patients, most of the patients got recovered successfully.

**M.K. Agarwal and Arima Awasthi** in their contribution on *Empowering Development of North Eastern States* argue that integrating North East has always been critical to the digitalised and comparatively advanced socio-economic sphere of the country. This is a unique territory in many aspects including geographical terrain, rich and variegated culture of the people and their requirements. Each state has its set of critical requirements demanding special attention. Given the strategic geographic position, the richness of ecological assets and the increasing focus on engaging with the east (Modi government's Act East Policy), the region could very well become the new growth engine for India. It is in this context that the government's resolve should be commended. The opportunities for growth and development for the youth now are ample and at par with the rest of India, for improving their skills and securing jobs. The road, power and banking infrastructures have improved within a span of three four years and the gap in the availability of these essential facilities *vis-a-vis* the availability of the same at the all India level has narrowed down, particularly in the case of percentage of villages electrified. Meticulous and intricate planning coupled with the holistic vision and inclusive policies by the Modi government has brought about a turnaround in the overall socio-economic condition of the north eastern states.

**M.K. Agarwal and Shraddha Shukla** in their chapter on *Changing Paradigm of Women Empowerment* find that Modi government is taking utmost measures and care for the development of the living standard of women and seeking the attainment of empowered women in the country. After Modi took charge in May 2014 with sweeping electoral victory, things have improved drastically, more so for Indian women. The credit for this remarkable change on the ground and in global perception belongs to Modi. They say, "Behind every successful woman is a tribe of other successful women, who have her back". Well, in the case of India, every law-abiding woman, successful or otherwise, knows she has the unflinching support of the Prime Minister Modi to ensure women get their due. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is strikingly sure-footed, confident of who he is, where he came from and what he aspires to be, empowering along with him millions of women so that they "do not forget who they are, in order to get what they deserve". Women across the country have a notion that they have always been treated with dignity and as equals, in Modi's "New India". They have never felt discriminated against, simply for being the fiercely independent women that they are.

**M.K. Agarwal** in his concluding chapter on *Need to Rethink at GDP Estimation in India* argues that the type of economic policies and reforms pursued by the Narendra Modi government needs to be relooked and these should be looked beyond the immediate contexts. The Narendra Modi model is first creating the strong, inclusive and sustainable base for the economy to move forward in the medium and long run. Modi's economic policies are reflected in terms of economic efficiency, inclusive development, environmental conservation and upgradation, etc. In the long run, all these are leading to empowerments in different ways and preparing the base for rapid economic growth. Therefore, we have to be careful in understanding the meanings of GDP numbers in true perspectives. There is also need to find out ways to restructure the GDP estimation methodology particularly in economies like India where large scale reforms are being undertaken with thrust on empowerments, inclusiveness and sustainability.



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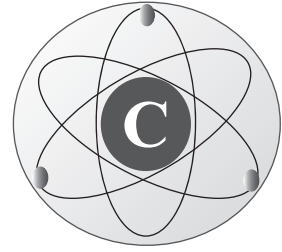
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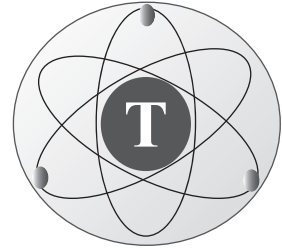
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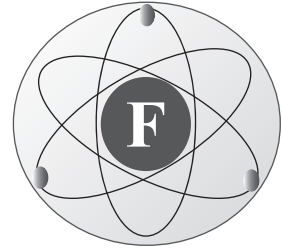




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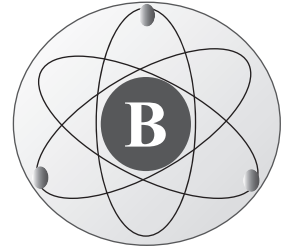
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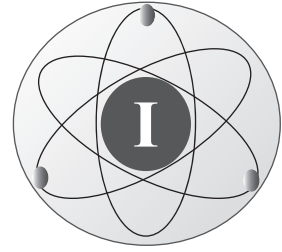
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## Some Major Initiatives of the Modi Government

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Scheme/Initiative</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Objective</i>
1.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)</b>	November, 2008	To supply generic medications at low costs to all sections of the population through Janaushadhi Kendras. As of August 6, 2021, there are 8012 Janaushadhi Kendras operational across the country.
2.	<b>Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)</b>	January, 2013	To change the government delivery system by re-engineering the existing process in welfare programmes for a simpler and quicker flow of information/funds, as well as to assure accurate beneficiaries targeting, de-duplication, and fraud reduction.
3.	<b>Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)</b>	April, 2014	MIDH is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the holistic development of the horticulture sector, which includes fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, fragrant plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa, and bamboo.
4.	<b>MyGov</b>	July 2014	MyGov is a citizen engagement platform that aims to encourage Indian citizens to actively participate in their country's governance and development.
5.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna (PMJDY)</b>	August, 2014	To ensure access to various financial services like availability of basic savings bank account, access to need based credit, remittances facility, insurance and pension to the excluded sections i.e., weaker sections & low-income groups.
6.	<b>Make In India</b>	September, 2014	To attract investments from across and strengthen India's manufacturing sector.
7.	<b>Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushal Yojana (DDUGKY)</b>	September, 2014	To add diversity to the incomes of rural poor families and cater to the career aspirations of rural youth.



<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Scheme/Initiative</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Objective</i>
8.	<b>Mann Ki Baat</b>	October 3, 2014	Mann Ki Baat is an Indian radio show broadcast by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in which he addresses the nation's people to establish a discussion on matters of day-to-day governance.
9.	<b>Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA)</b>	October, 2014	To make India open-defecation free by providing financial assistance to people living below and above poverty line for constructing in-house toilets.
10.	<b>Mission Indradhanush (MI)</b>	December, 2014	To improve and re-energize the vaccination programme and to attain faster vaccination coverage for all children and pregnant women.
11.	<b>Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gram Jyoti Yojna (DDUGJY)</b>	December, 2014	To provide an uninterrupted power supply to the rural parts of India.
12.	<b>National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA)</b>	2014	To promote sustainable agriculture through a series of adaptation measures, namely improved crop seeds, livestock and fish cultures, water use efficiency, pest management, improved farm practises, nutrient management, agricultural insurance, credit support, markets, access to information and livelihood diversification.
13.	<b>Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive (PRASHAD)</b>	2014-15	To rejuvenate pilgrimage and spiritual experiences of tourists by providing well-planned tourism infrastructure that enables tourist convenience, accessibility, security, cleanliness, experience, and preserve the soul of the pilgrimage/heritage city through integrated and sustainable developments that would spur employment opportunities for local communities.
14.	<b>Unnat Jeevan by Affordable LEDs and Appliances for All (UJALA)</b>	January, 2015	To set up a phase-wise distribution of LEDs all over the country, promote awareness among the general public regarding the importance of energy efficiency and to promote the efficient use of energy at a residential level all over India.
15.	<b>e-KRANTI</b>	March, 2015	To expedite e-Governance across India and realise its vision of ensuring government-wide change by offering all government services electronically to citizens through integrated, interoperable systems via different means.
16.	<b>Atal Pension Yojana (APY)</b>	May, 2015	To develop a universal social security system for all Indians, particularly the poor, and employees in the unorganised sector, APY subscribers have received a guaranteed minimum monthly pension of Rs. 1000 to Rs. 5000 at the age of 60.

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Scheme/Initiative</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Objective</i>
17.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)</b>	May, 2015	To provide accident insurance up to Rs.2 lakh for accidental death and full disability and Rs. 1 lakh for partial disability. The premium of Rs. 12 per annum is to be deducted from the PMSBY beneficiary account holder's bank account through 'auto-debit' facility in one installment.
18.	<b>AMRUT</b>	June, 2015	To ensure that every household has access to a tap with an assured supply of water and a sewerage connection, to improve the amenity value of cities by developing greenery and well-maintained open spaces, and to reduce pollution by switching to public transportation or building facilities for non-motorized transportation.
19.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)</b>	June, 2015	To provide houses to all eligible families by providing them financial assistance.
20.	<b>Smart Cities</b>	June, 2015	To promote sustainable and inclusive cities that provide core infrastructure to give a decent quality of life, a clean and sustainable environment through application of some smart solutions such as data-driven traffic management, intelligent lighting systems, etc.
21.	<b>DigiLocker</b>	July 2015	DigiLocker aims at 'Digital Empowerment' of the citizen by providing access to authentic digital documents to the citizen's digital document wallet.
22.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)</b>	July, 2015	To extending irrigation coverage 'Har Khet ko Pani' and improving water use efficiency 'More Crop per Drop' in a focused manner by providing an end-to-end solution for source creation, distribution, management, field application, and extension activities.
23.	<b>Bharatmala Pariyojana</b>	July, 2015	To improve connectivity particularly on economic corridors, border areas and far-flung areas with an aim of quicker movement of cargo and boosting exports.
24.	<b>Digital India</b>	July, 2015	To provide high-speed internet in every part of the country and improvising the online infrastructure.
25.	<b>Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao</b>	October, 2015	To educate citizens against gender bias and improve efficacy of welfare services for girls and to empower girl child.
26.	<b>Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)</b>	2015	To supporting and promoting organic farming, in turn resulting in improvement of soil health. To produce agricultural products free from chemicals and pesticides residues by adopting eco- friendly, low- cost technologies.

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Scheme/Initiative</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Objective</i>
27.	<b>Skill India</b>	2015	To provide adequate training in market-relevant skills to over 40 crore youth. It also aims to create opportunities for the development of talent within the country and improve the overall scope and space for underdeveloped sectors.
28.	<b>Start-Up India</b>	January, 2016	To build a strong eco-system for nurturing innovation and Start-ups in the country that will drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.
29.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (PMFBY)</b>	February, 2016	To provide insurance coverage and financial support to the farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests & diseases.
30.	<b>SetuBhartam</b>	March, 2016	To make all the national highways in India free from railway crossings by the year 2019.
31.	<b>Mahila e-HAAT</b>	March, 2016	Mahila E-Haat is an initiative that aims to address the goals and requirements of female entrepreneurs. It is a women's online marketing platform where members can showcase their items. It is a national initiative for women as part of the 'Digital India' and 'Stand Up India' campaigns.
32.	<b>National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)</b>	April, 2016	To promote uniformity in agriculture marketing by streamlining procedures across integrated markets, eliminating information asymmetry between buyers and sellers, and promoting real-time price discovery based on actual demand and supply.
33.	<b>Demonetization</b>	November, 2016	To combat the shadow economy, boost cashless transactions, and minimise the use of illicit and counterfeit currency, the Government of India demonetised all 500 and 1,000 rupee banknotes.
34.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)</b>	January, 2017	It is a Centrally Sponsored DBT initiative in which a financial incentive of rupees 5000/- (paid in three instalments) is sent directly into the bank/post office accounts of Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers.
35.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Grameen Digital Saksharata Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)</b>	February, 2017	To empower the citizens in rural areas by training them to operate computer or digital access devices (like tablets, smart phones etc.), send and receive e-mails, browse Internet, access Government services, search for information, etc.

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Scheme/Initiative</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Objective</i>
36.	<b>National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis (NSP-TB)</b>	March, 2017	To TB elimination in India, the National Strategic Plan (NSP) (2017-2025) formulated which embraces advanced and effective interventions and technologies for diagnosis, treatment and care of TB.
37.	<b>GST</b>	July, 2017	To simplify the taxation mechanism, to reduce the burden of taxes, and clarify conformity of the tax payment.
38.	<b>Shaubhagya Yojna (SY)</b>	September, 2017	To provide energy access to all by last mile connectivity and electricity connections to all remaining un-electrified households in rural as well as urban areas of the country.
39.	<b>Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG)</b>	November 2017	UMANG is a smartphone app that provides a unified platform for all Indian citizens to access pan-India e-Government services from Central to Local Government bodies. The programme is available for Android, iOS, and Windows and supports 13 Indian languages.
40.	<b>POSHAN Abhiyaan (PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment)</b>	December, 2017	To minimise stunting, under-nutrition, anaemia, and low birth weight newborns through the targets. It will promote synergy, improve monitoring, issue alerts for timely action, and encourage states/UTs to perform, lead, and monitor line Ministries and states/UTs to accomplish the intended targets.
41	<b>Jaivik Kheti Portal</b>	March, 2018	To promote organic farming worldwide, it is a one-stop store for organic farmers to sell their organic produce while also promoting organic farming and its benefits.
42.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (PMJAY)</b>	September, 2018	To reduce out of pocket hospitalisation expenses by providing healthcare to 10 crore families, mostly poor and have lower middle income, through a health insurance scheme covering Rs. 5 lakh per family.
43.	<b>Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-KISAN Scheme)</b>	December, 2018	The PM Kisan Yojana provides an annual income assistance of Rs 6000 to all eligible farmer households across the country in three equal instalments of Rs 2,000 every four months.
44.	<b>Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF)</b>	2018	To provide farmers with extra incentives to encourage micro irrigation. States may also use MIF for novel integrated projects such as high-water duty crops like sugarcane/solar linked systems/ micro irrigation in command areas, etc., including projects in PPP mode, according on the needs of the state.

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Scheme/Initiative</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Objective</i>
45.	<b>PM-KUSUM</b>	March, 2019	To remove farmers' dependence on diesel and kerosene and to link pump sets to solar energy.
46.	<b>Triple Talaq Act</b>	July, 2019	The Indian Parliament enacted the Triple Talaq Act 2019, also known as the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Act 2019, to make immediate Triple Talaq a criminal offence. Triple Talaq is both a cognisable and non-bailable offence under the law.
47.	<b>Nal se Jal</b>	August, 2019	To provide to all households in rural India safe and adequate water through individual household tap connections by 2024.
48.	<b>National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP)</b>	August, 2019	To provide world-class infra-structures across the country in order to improve the overall quality of life of for all citizens.
49.	<b>Aatmnirbhar Bharat</b>	May, 2020	To make the country and its citizens independent and self-reliant in all senses.
50.	<b>Gareeb Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA)</b>	June, 2020	To Provide livelihood opportunities to returning migrants and similarly affected rural citizens. Saturate villages with public infrastructure.
51.	<b>National Education Policy (NEP)</b>	July, 2020	To restructure education system towards meeting the needs of the 21 <sup>st</sup> century by achieving the twin objectives of inclusion and excellence.
52.	<b>Kisan Rail</b>	August, 2020	Kisan Rail train services are provided by Indian Railways to carry perishables and agricultural products such as milk, meat, and fish. The major goal is to boost agricultural income by linking production hubs to markets and consumption areas.

## Salient Features

- This book is about the major features of the Narendra Modi government in terms of efficient economic strategies since 2014
- Focus on cooperative federalism and its impact on faster development
- Modi government's rapid transformational strategy and inclusive development
- Fiscal strategies of the Modi government
- Major economic reforms like the Goods and Services Tax (GST)
- Strategy of self reliance and greater thrust on domestic production
- To understand the significance and transformations in the farm sector
- Scaled up thrust on infrastructure development like roads, railways, airways etc
- Enhanced emphasis on communication, power sector, space technology etc
- Making strategies for industrial development and MSMEs
- Reforming and empowering the health sector for better healthcare
- Focusing upon the development of special areas like Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern states
- Efforts to understand women empowerment and development of minorities
- Analysis of Tourism potential and e-governance
- Implications of all the above on the GDP estimation

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