

Peace, Security and Prosperity

Vigilant India

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Securing Our Shores



National Security Ensured by Impenetrable Borders

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From the Editor



Balaji Srivastava
Director General, BPR&D

“

It was a proud moment for every Indian when the Prime Minister highlighted India's vision for bolstering maritime security and the need for fostering international cooperation at a high-level Security Council meeting of the UN two years ago.

”

Our security forces are steadfast in their vigilance of the country's extensive coastlines and land borders, spanning thousands of kilometres. In the last nine years, we have significantly enhanced our coastal security mechanisms and surveillance capabilities.

Recently, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji emphasised that improving the lives of families in coastal areas is a priority of the Union Government, highlighting the fact that coastal security is integral not only to national defence, but also to the well-being of local communities.

It was a proud moment for every Indian when the Prime Minister highlighted India's vision for bolstering maritime security and the need for fostering international cooperation at a high-level United Nations Security Council meeting two years ago. He articulated five key principles: peaceful resolution of maritime disputes, promotion of legitimate maritime trade, collective action against threats, protection of marine environment and resources and encouragement of maritime connectivity.

The Prime Minister highlighted the importance of removing barriers to legitimate maritime trade and insisted on resolving all maritime disputes based on international law. He called for a united global effort to confront challenges posed by natural disasters and terrorism at sea. He also underscored the importance of protecting marine environments and resources, while promoting maritime connectivity. These principles were received with earnest attention by the global community and they expressed their commitment to implement the same.

While the Indian Navy bears the primary responsibility for the nation's overall maritime security, including coastal and other associated areas, the Ministry of Home Affairs is also playing a pivotal role. It is executing coastal security plans to intensify surveillance and sea patrolling in the nine coastal States and four UTs, enhancing the security infrastructure on our shores.

The Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, consistently places great emphasis on coastal security and actively oversees related developments. In August this year, he personally visited the sensitive areas of Sir Creek and Harami Nala in Gujarat's Kutch. During his visit, he laid the foundation for a 'mooring place,' a project worth ₹257 crore, designed to bolster the welfare of local communities and integrate them into the coastal security framework. This initiative aims to make them active stakeholders in the nation's security. Earlier, on May 20, 2023, he laid the foundation stone of the permanent campus of the National Academy of Coastal Policing in Gujarat's Dwarka.

In addition to coastal security, the Union Government is consistently vigilant about overall security of the borders. The Border Security Force and the Sashastra Seema Bal along with other Central Armed Police Forces are committed to their duty of guarding the borders.

This joint edition of Vigilant India caters to coastal and border security of the country. Please feel free to share your thoughts and insights at sajag-bharat@bprd.nic.in

Jai Hind!



भारत की महिलाओं में हर क्षेत्र में लीड करने की स्वाभाविक क्षमता है। आज एक लाख से ज्यादा माताओं और बहनों को जो सीड कैपिटल दी गई है, उससे उनके उद्यम को काफी बढ़ावा मिलेगा।



श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री



भारी बर्फबारी के कारण जिन सीमा चौकी पोस्ट पर पहले जरूरत की चीजें पहुंचाना मुश्किल था, वहां अब मोदी सरकार ड्रोन के माध्यम से दवाइयां, सब्जियां व जीवन रक्षक चीजें पहुंचाएगी।



**श्री अमित शाह
केंद्रीय गृह एवं सहकारिता मंत्री**



जिनको किसी ने नहीं पूछा, उनको मोदी पूजता है... माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री @narendramodi जी ने दुर्गम क्षेत्रों में रहने वाली करीब 75 जनजातियों के सामाजिक कल्याण के लिए ₹24,000 करोड़ के बजट के साथ पीएम जनजाति आदिवासी न्याय महाअभियान का शुभारंभ किया।



**श्री नित्यानंद राय
केंद्रीय गृह राज्य मंत्री**



Many congratulations to @BSF_India's mountaineering expedition contingent for the successful accomplishment of scaling Mt. Manaslu, eighth highest peak in the world. It's a matter of pride that two women personnel were also part of the team. My best wishes for future expeditions.



**Shri Nisith Pramanik
MoS, Ministry of Home Affairs**



अधिक से अधिक भारतीय उत्पाद खरीदें और #VocalForLocal अभियान से जुड़ें। #NaMoApp पर अपने द्वारा खरीदे गए स्वदेशी उत्पादों या उन्हें बनाने वाले शिल्पकारों के साथ सेल्फी पोस्ट करें। अपने प्रियजनों को भी इस सेल्फी थ्रेड से जुड़ने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करें।



**श्री अजय मिश्रा
केंद्रीय गृह राज्य मंत्री**



भारत की 140 करोड़ जनता वीर जवानों के त्याग, बलिदान, साहस और शौर्य का पूरे दिल से सम्मान करती है। ITBP के हिमवीरों ने शौर्य, दृढ़ता और कर्मनिष्ठा के ध्येय वाक्य के साथ भारत की दुर्गम सीमाओं को सुरक्षित रखने का काम किया है।



**गृह मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार**



Securing Our Shores

Modi Government's vision and strong willpower are making India's coastlines impregnable

Bureau

The Ministry of Home Affairs is making relentless efforts to secure India's coastlines. It periodically implements new operational plans to make coastal security more stringent and foolproof. Over the past few years, in alignment with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision, the Union Home Ministry has been enhancing coastal security, and reinforcing it with inputs from all stakeholders.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, personally visits coastal areas to boost the morale of the security forces stationed there and modernise the facilities and security systems.

The Home Ministry is also continuously assessing the challenges in coastal security. Since it involves the role of multiple Ministries and agencies, mutual

The Union Government is meticulously evaluating the challenges in coastal security to effectively counter maritime threats. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, concerted efforts are being made to fortify our coastal security.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

coordination is being ensured to strengthen the entire fabric of border security. The efforts include ways to provide appropriate training to security personnel



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated the building of the National Defence University in Ahmedabad, Gujarat to the nation on March 12, 2022 and attended its first convocation. Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, Gujarat Governor Shri Acharya Devvrat and Gujarat Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel were also present on the occasion.

Our coastlines hold tremendous strategic and commercial significance. While the Indian Navy has been diligently safeguarding our maritime borders, the Central Armed Police Forces and the Coastal Security Police Force, operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Home Affairs, are entrusted with the task of securing these coastal areas.

and fishermen. Using technology to prevent collisions between ships and fishing boats is also a part of the security agenda. It has been underlined in almost all meetings that since coastal areas of the country have nuclear stations, missile launch centres and defence and oil establishments, necessitating strong security measures along the coastline is imperative. It is noteworthy to mention that the total number of coastal police personnel across the country is about 12,000, but it is always augmented by the deployment of Central Armed Police Forces in different regions.

The 7,516 km-long Indian coastline covers

approximately 5,422 km of the peninsula, touching the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal, along with the Union Territories of Daman and Diu and Puducherry. The remaining 2,094 km encompasses the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep which are situated in the deep sea.

Coordination is the Key

In recent years, several cases of smuggling of goods, gold, narcotics, explosives, weapons and ammunitions, as well as the infiltration of terrorists through these



On May 20, 2023 the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, laid the foundation stone of the National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) campus in Dwarka, Gujarat.

coasts, have been reported. The government has made various efforts to prevent the repetition of incidents. The country has suffered several adverse consequences due to lapses in coastal security. No citizen can forget the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, which resulted in the loss of 166 innocent lives due to a minor lapse. Now, if an enemy still tries to replicate another such attempt after the Government's coastal security overhaul, it would receive a resounding response.

According to the Union Home Minister Shri Shah, the coastal security policy includes coordination and intelligence, setting up patrol protocols by joint coastal patrols, ensuring the safety of fishermen, issuing more than 10 lakh Aadhaar cards with QR codes to fishermen and ensuring security at 1,537 fish landing points.

Coast to Coast

The country has a 15,000 km-long land border and a 7,516 km-long maritime border. Overall, there are 1,382 island groups, 3,337 coastal villages, 11

major ports, 241 minor ports and 135 establishments related to space, defence, atomic energy, petroleum and shipping along India's maritime border. Following the 26/11 terror attacks in Mumbai in 2008, the Union Government announced several security measures to strengthen coastal and maritime security along the entire coast.

Due to the coordinated efforts of the concerned parties, these measures have now been implemented and the overall maritime security is much stronger than before.

Joint Operations

The Indian Navy has been the leading agency in maritime security, with support provided by the Indian Coast Guard, marine police and other Central and State agencies. The Joint Operations Centres (JOCs) established as command and control centres for coastal security in Mumbai, Visakhapatnam, Kochi and Port Blair are fully operational.



Involvement of Fishing Community

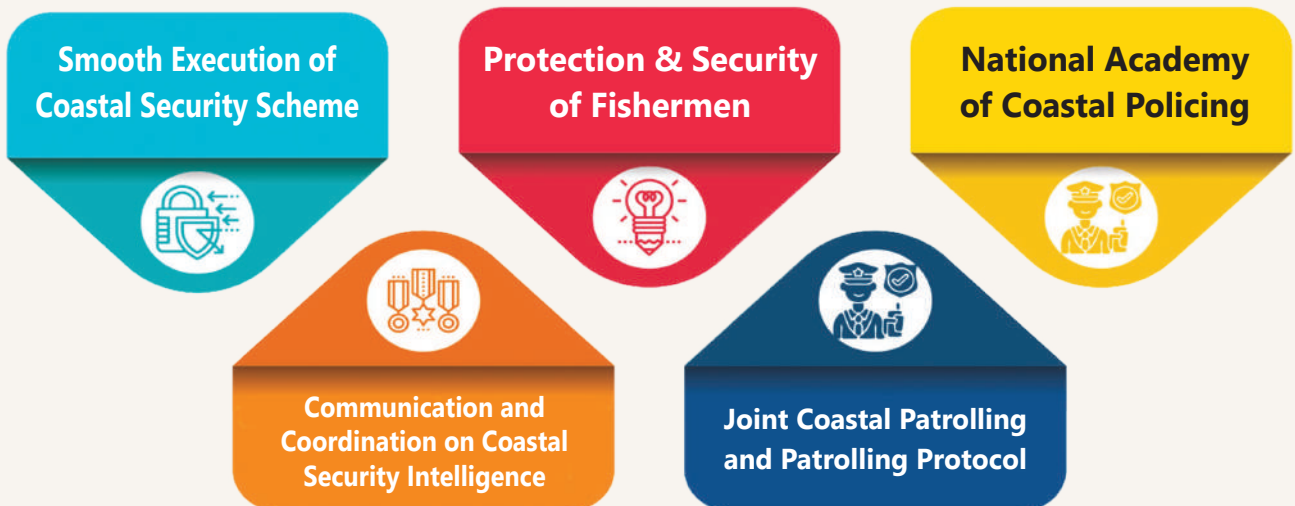
Issuing ID cards to fishermen with a centralised database, registering over two lakh fishing boats operating from the coasts and equipping fishing boats with appropriate equipment are some of the steps taken for ship identification and tracking. The fishing community consists of skilled sailors whose cooperation is indispensable for enhanced maritime security.

The fishing community has become the ‘eyes and

ears’ of our security apparatus. This has been achieved by spreading awareness among them through coastal security awareness campaigns conducted by the Navy and Coast Guard in coastal districts.

In the Western Naval Command alone, about 70 such special drives were conducted in 2014. During these campaigns, fishermen were strongly advised and warned not to cross the international maritime boundary as it is in their security interest. Today, fishermen have GPS receivers, so they are fully aware of their position at sea. The Navy and Coast Guard

Safeguarding Coastlines





have also provided training to maritime police of the coastal states from time to time. In the Western Naval Command alone, more than 250 police personnel were trained in 2014. Maritime police training institutes in Tamil Nadu and Gujarat have recently also been approved by the Union Government. These facilities are providing better infrastructure for professional training of the maritime police.

Vigilance Against Smugglers

During the 10 years of the previous Government (2004 to 2014), drugs worth ₹680 crore were seized, while security agencies have managed to seize drugs worth ₹12,000 crore in a single haul, clearly indicating that our agencies have become more vigilant.

'Operation Sajag'

In the third week of September 2023, the Indian Coast Guard conducted 'Operation Sajag' along the country's western maritime coast to involve all stakeholders, enhancing coastal security. This special exercise involved 118 ships, including the Customs, Maritime Police, Ports, and Indian Navy.

According to the Coast Guard's statement, this maritime exercise facilitates the reassessment of the coastal security mechanism and raises awareness among fishermen at sea. During the exercise, a comprehensive inspection and verification of essential documents and passes issued to the crew of all fishing boats, ships, and small vessels at sea were carried out.

Coastal Security Scheme

- ◆ The Coastal States were provided with 120 Coastal Police Stations, six Marine Police Operation Centres.

Communication and Coordination

- ◆ First National Seminar related to coordination and communication on coastal security information by Coast Guards organised.
- ◆ The Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guards, State Governments and Union Territories coordinated with Indian missions based in countries that share maritime boundaries with India.

Patrolling protocol decided upon

- ◆ Began in an effective manner from August 2020.
- ◆ New coastal patrolling/SOP/pattern/protocol introduced to effectively protect coastal waters and coastline. Till 30 June 2023, 1,712 sorties and 1,111 class room instructions were conducted in which 4,115 Coastal Police personnel participated.

Security of Fishermen

- ◆ Identification of fishermen was made secured through QR code enabled PVC Aadhaar cards.
- ◆ Almost 12 lakh Aadhaar cards with QR codes distributed.
- ◆ Three lakh boats have been registered. By September 2020, the colour coding process of fishing boats was completed.
- ◆ 1,537 fish landing points were identified and surveyed.
- ◆ Toll free number for fishermen -1554 established.

The exercise included measures to strengthen coastal security arrangements, such as issuing biometric cards to fishermen, colour coding of fishing boats according to each state, managing fish landing centres, and complete control at entry and exit checkpoints and coastal mapping. Biometric card readers were also issued to security agencies.

The one-day exercise is conducted every month to improve coastal security, with subsequent actions based on the results obtained. ■

Sudarshan Chakra of Security to Fortify India's Coastlines



The establishment of the National Academy of Coastal Policing in Gujarat's Dwarka promises significant security boost. The academy's goal is to provide comprehensive and in-depth training facilities to over 3,000 security personnel on a yearly basis.

Bureau

Guarding the coasts and securing the shores from infiltration and illegal activities are gigantic tasks for a peninsular country such as India that is blessed with sea waters on three sides. While it requires strict vigilance and uncompromising approach towards inimical forces, it also demands meticulous planning, training and execution to fetch desired results.

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah said that the Union Government led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has created a "Sudarshan Chakra" of security. This Sudarshan Chakra involves the Indian Navy, Indian

Coast Guard, marine police, customs and fishermen.

For a long time, there was no policy for preparing personnel for specific duty to secure the coasts. Therefore the National Academy of Coastal Policing was envisaged for specific training of all those who are involved in coastal security, cutting across States and various wings of the Central Armed Police forces.

The National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) is committed to delivering comprehensive training to maritime police personnel. It addresses the training requirements of nine coastal states, five Union Territories and central police forces. The academy assumes a crucial role in augmenting the capability and expertise of maritime police, equipping them



To strengthen border security, it is essential to improve the living and working conditions of our border guards, take care of their families' health, and provide them with modern essential equipment for security. The Government has left no stones unturned in providing all facilities in these three areas.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

to adeptly tackle security challenges prevalent in coastal regions.

The academy showcases Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision and strong determination for coastal security.

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, laid the foundation stone of the NACP's permanent campus on 450 acres of land in Dwarka, Gujarat, on May 20. He said that under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi, the security of the nation has strengthened and people living at the borders feel more secure.

According to Shri Shah, through the integrated strategy of 'Sudarshan Chakra' the Government has secured the country's coasts. In the open sea, security is provided by ships and aircraft of the Indian Navy.

In the intermediate sea, the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard provide security, and in the territorial waters, the Water Wing of the BSF executes it, while patriotic fishermen in the villages ensure the country's security by constant vigil.

Shri Shah said that in 2018, Prime Minister Shri Modi approved the setting up of the NACP and it was decided to establish it in the city associated with Shri Krishna. He said that Dwarka means the 'Gateway of the Country' because in the 'Dwapar' period, Shri Krishna came here all the way from Mathura and built a big trade centre. "Today, due to the vision of Prime Minister Shri Modi Ji, training for coastal security is being provided in Okha in Dwarka district of Gujarat, the land of Bhagwan Shri Krishna", he said.

Union Home Minister Shri Shah shared plans

for the academy, stating that it will be capable of training 3,000 personnel annually, ensuring 100% training coverage for all personnel involved in India's coastal security within four years. Currently, there are approximately 12,000 coastal police personnel across the country. Several dignitaries, including the Union Home Secretary, Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla, and the Director General of the BSF, Shri Nitin Agarwal, were present during the foundation stone-laying ceremony of the campus.

Shri Shah said that policies for coastal security have been prepared by keeping several factors in mind. These policies encompass coordination and communication in coastal security and intelligence matters, establishing protocols for joint coastal patrols, ensuring patrolling at specified time intervals, securing fishermen, providing more than 12 lakh Aadhaar cards with QR codes to fishermen, ensuring security at 1,537 fishing points and ensuring security at all fishing harbours established for the 'blue economy'.

By combining all these efforts, the Union Government has worked to create an impregnable fortress for coastal security, the Union Home Minister said, adding that Prime Minister Shri Modi has done a lot to make the country's coastlines secure. ■

Enhancing Skills & Capabilities

- The academy was established in 2018 to provide intensive training to the maritime police of nine coastal States, five Union Territories as well as central police forces.
- The Union Home Minister laid the foundation stone in 2023 for the permanent campus of the National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) at Okha in Dwarka district of Gujarat.
- The primary objective of the academy is to enhance the skills and capabilities of coastal police personnel and prepare excellent personnel for coastal security.
- The Government of India has sanctioned ₹470 crore for the development of the academy with modern infrastructure, advanced technology and state-of-the-art training facilities, which will significantly increase coastal border security.

Fortifying India's



The Indian security agency adapts to the evolving circumstances and requirements. Upon receiving information about smugglers, border raids are promptly initiated. The agencies safeguarding the extensive coastline of the country continue to achieve remarkable milestones.

Bureau

Our coastal security encompasses more than just protection against external threats, it also involves safeguarding people at the beaches. Receiving the encouragement from the Union Home Ministry, States too are taking proactive steps in filling the gaps in security at the beaches. The Coastal Security Group of the Tamil Nadu Police took an innovative step by launching the Marina Beach Lifeguard Unit in Chennai to address frequent drowning

incidents in the iconic beach.

Previously, Tamil Nadu Police was faced with a high number of drowning incidents at the Marina Beach, averaging around 66 in a year. The State Government assigned the Coastal Security Group the task of reducing these incidents that led to the launch of the Marina Beach Lifeguard Unit with trained lifeguards, life-saving equipment and technological solutions such as AI-powered drones.

The strategy involved recruiting lifeguards from among the local fishing community, testing and

Coastlines



utilising non-traditional vehicles for beach mobility and developing a specialised lifeguard drone in collaboration with the Tamil Nadu Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Corporation Limited. This drone, a first in India, can carry payloads and operate in high winds, aiding in quick rescues within a five-kilometre radius.

Since its inception on April 1, 2022, the unit has saved 97 lives as of September 20, 2023. It has also provided local fishermen with regular income and

fostered a stronger relationship with the community, enhancing coastal security. This initiative won the SKOCH Gold Award 2023 in the Police & Safety category and was recognised by the World Book of Records as a successful innovation in India.

In areas that concern policing, mere intelligence inputs are not enough. Inputs become effective only when they are acted upon. On the night of March 3, the Gujarat ATS received an intelligence input

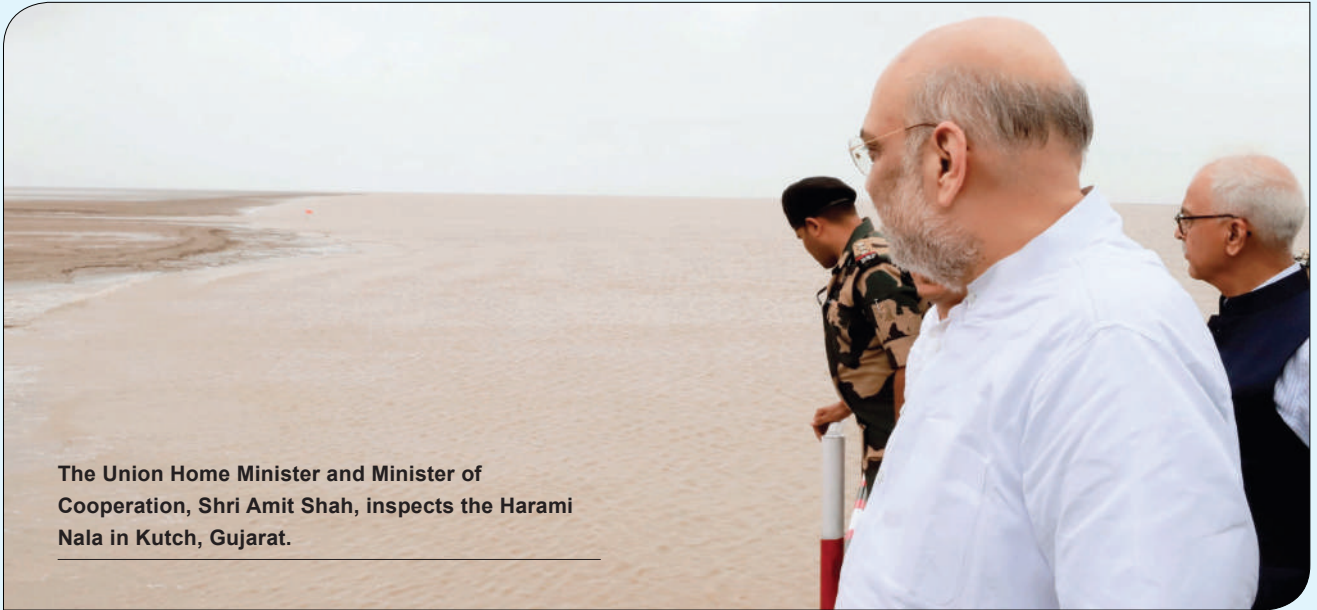
PM Raises Maritime Security Concerns at UN

On August 9, 2021, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired an open discussion of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) via video conference on the need for international cooperation to bolster maritime security across the globe. He expressed serious concerns about the misuse of maritime routes for terrorism and maritime crimes.

The Prime Minister proposed five principles for peaceful maritime trade and resolution of disputes. Based on these principles, a global framework for maritime security cooperation can be developed. He emphasised the need to remove obstacles to legitimate maritime trade, as global prosperity depends on the smooth operation of maritime trade. Any barrier to maritime trade can pose a threat to the global economy. He stated that maritime disputes should be resolved peacefully based on international law.

Prime Minister Shri Modi mentioned that the global community should collectively counter maritime threats caused by natural disasters and terror acts. India has taken several steps to promote regional cooperation in this regard. The conservation of the maritime environment and resources and the promotion of maritime connectivity were the other principles suggested by the Prime Minister.

The discussion focused on effectively combating maritime crimes and threats to security and strengthening coordination in the maritime domain. It is noteworthy to mention that this was for the first time maritime security was comprehensively discussed as a special agenda in a high-level open debate.



The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, inspects the Harami Nala in Kutch, Gujarat.

regarding suspected smuggling of narcotics by an Iranian boat near the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL). After a comprehensive search operation by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), a radar contact was detected crossing the IMBL and heading towards the Indian waters. The ICG vessels immediately pursued the target. As the ICG ship neared, the suspect vessel began evasive manoeuvres, attempting to escape. After a brief chase, the boat was captured. The search team uncovered five suspicious gunny bags containing 61 sealed packets of Methamphetamine worth ₹425 crore in the international market along with a functional Thuraya satellite phone.

On May 17, as part of the routine monthly coastal security exercise 'SAJAG' off the coast of Mumbai, the Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Samudra Prahari conducted a boarding operation on Indian Fishing Boat (IFB) 'Dwarkadheesh'. The entire operation, which was guided by local intelligence, recovered approximately 15 kilolitres of undocumented diesel stored in 11 tanks aboard the vessel.

In a collaborative effort between the Indian Coast Guard Station (ICGS), Mandapam and the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) team, a joint operation was conducted from May 30 to June 1. Under this operation, an Indian Fishing Boat 'Black Pearl' and its three crew members were apprehended off the Tamil Nadu coast. While the crew attempted to evade capture by throwing a consignment of gold, the ICG swiftly responded with a diving operation and

Filling the Gaps

- ♦ Guidelines on the security of non-major ports.
- ♦ Coastal mapping of important properties and points.
- ♦ Ensuring coastal security organisational structure and jurisdiction.
- ♦ Dedicated cadre for coastal security is being constituted.
- ♦ Maritime Boards being set up in coastal States.
- ♦ Formation of an Expert committee for the improvement of the Bureau of Port Security.
- ♦ Provision for reporting of maritime incidents has been incorporated in the Incident Reporting System (IRS).

recovered 32.869 kilograms of the precious metal from the water. The estimated market value of the recovered gold was approximately ₹20.21 crore.

On August 1, the Indian Coast Guard Station (ICGS), Mandapam acted on intelligence regarding a potential contraband transfer. A surveillance team was promptly deployed for the operation and an ICG Mandapam Rigid Inflatable Boat (RIB) was redirected to support the mission near the Uchipuli seashore area in Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu. Upon arrival at the designated location, the team discovered

six gunny sacks filled with sea cucumbers at Uchipuli shore that lies on the north of Mandapam. The ICG team seized the sea cucumbers and subsequently handed them over to the forest department for further action. The estimated market value of these seized marine animals is approximately ₹57.17 lakh.

On August 14, the Coast Guard District Headquarters-8 received intelligence inputs regarding the suspected involvement of a fishing boat in smuggling activities off Brindabanchak in West Bengal. In response, a joint operation was conducted on August 15, by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG), the Central Industrial Security Force (Haldia Dock Complex), the State Intelligence Bureau (SIB) and customs officials. The operation identified the Indian Fishing Boat (IFB) at Sunrise Point Beach near Brindabanchak. Upon arrival at the location, the team found 590 bags of areca nuts on board the vessel. The estimated market value of the seized consignment was approximately ₹309.76 lakh.

The State of Goa, with its 105-kilometre coastline and famous beaches, attracts a large number of domestic and international tourists, bolstering its economy. However, coastal security was historically overlooked. But after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks in 2008, coastal security became a priority. The Goa Coastal Security Police established seven stations equipped with interceptor boats and RIBs from the Ministry of Home Affairs. Additionally, the State Government provided an All-Weather Vessel for year-round sea surveillance. The Coastal Security Police have introduced surveillance measures, including drone usage, to oversee these areas and maintain a database of fishing vessels and crew. The police have fostered relationships with locals, encouraging them to provide information. Regular training of personnel, joint patrols and exercises with the Indian Coast Guard and Navy are also conducted to maintain preparedness.

Following the Mumbai terror attacks of 2008,



the Union Government prioritised coastal security enhancements. The Border Security Force (BSF) was tasked with establishing the National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) at Okha, Gujarat, as per a mandate from the Ministry of Home Affairs on February 27, 2018. A Project Execution Committee led by the Director General of the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D), was formed to oversee the NACP's setup and operations. By April 2018, the BSF acquired 100 hectares of land in Gujarat for the academy.

The National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP) has conducted multiple Marine Police Foundation Courses (MPFC) and specialised training, covering subjects such as seamanship, marine navigation and maritime law, benefiting over 900 personnel. It operates three schools, namely Coastal Foundation School, Coastal Tactical School and Coastal Special School, each offering specialised courses. To augment its experiences, the NACP affiliated itself with the Rashtriya Raksha University in Gandhinagar in August, ensuring certification for its courses. It also plans to foster collaboration with other premier institutions for exchange of ideas and interactions..■

Eyes & Ears of Coastal Security

There can be no success in stopping criminal and illegal activities if there is no support of the local people. They are one of the most valuable resources of information and vigilance at the sea. The Indian Coast Guard's strategy is to develop local people as eyes and ears of the coastal security apparatus. This strategy also involves engaging with and supporting the fishing community. Stressing on this viewpoint, a series of Community Interaction Programmes (CIPs) were undertaken across various coastal States and Union Territories. These programmes were designed to educate fishermen about the critical importance of carrying lifesaving gear during their sea voyages.

Security & Development

In the next two years, the entire Pakistan and Bangladesh border will be secured by fencing, says Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah



The Central Government, led by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has a clear and focused border security policy, emphasising robust infrastructure development in border areas.

Bureau

Over the past decade, the Union Government has ensured internal and external security of the country. The Border Security Force (BSF) is deployed along the borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh, while the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) is tasked with securing the Nepal-Bhutan border.

Guided by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and led by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah, the Union Home Ministry gives priority to border security, public safety and the preservation of the country's unity, integrity, and sovereignty.

The Union Government is dedicated to safeguarding

the nation from diverse threats and is propelling it forward on the path of development. Prime Minister Shri Modi has championed the concept of a self-reliant India, undertaking numerous initiatives to strengthen the security forces and equip them with the latest weapons and equipment for addressing various challenges effectively.

Speaking at a recent BSF event, Union Home Minister Shri Shah acknowledged the progress India has made in every domain under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Modi. He emphasised that this progress is a result of the sacrifices and dedication of the brave jawans. He highlighted the fact that the jawans not only secure the borders, but also impart a message of discipline to

Take Centre Stage

the country's youth. Their sacrifice and bravery lay the foundation for the nation's growth and progress.

The BSF was established on December 1, 1965 in the aftermath of the Indo-Pak War. Its primary objective is to fortify the security of the country's borders. While being one of the five Central Armed Police Forces, it comprises 186 battalions and 2.57 lakh personnel. The BSF also holds the distinction of being the world's largest border security force.

The BSF foundation day is commemorated annually on December 1. In 2023, Union Home Minister Shri Shah presided over the foundation day celebrations in Hazaribagh, Jharkhand. During the event, he lauded the contributions of the country's border security personnel and highlighted the pivotal role played by former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The Home Minister recalled Shri Vajpayee's crucial decision of 'one security force for one border', entrusting the BSF with the responsibility of securing the challenging borders of Pakistan and Bangladesh — a responsibility they have executed commendably.

The Union Home Minister emphasised the versatility of the BSF, citing their readiness to combat adversarial activities across diverse terrains, including the snowy landscapes of Jammu and Kashmir, the mountains of the Northeast, the deserts of Gujarat and Rajasthan, and the dense forests of Sundarbans in West Bengal bordering Bangladesh, among others.

It is noteworthy to mention the fact that the BSF's commitment extends beyond the national borders, as



Our soldiers carry forward the enduring legacy of bravery, a fiery spirit in their hearts that consistently sets examples of courage. Stepping into the forefront, they have consistently risked their lives, showcasing their indomitable spirit on the country's borders. Time and again, they demonstrate that they form the most robust defence line for the nation.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister



it has consistently set exemplary standards of service and bravery in peacekeeping missions of the United Nations (UN).

The Union Home Minister underscored the critical link between secure borders and a nation's development and prosperity, stating that a country with unsecured borders cannot progress.

In the past decade, significant efforts have been undertaken to combat infiltration and smuggling by erecting approximately 560 kilometres of fencing along the borders, said the Union Home Minister. He emphasised that within the next two years, the entire border with Pakistan and Bangladesh will be fenced.

Additionally, Shri Shah highlighted the installation of floodlights covering around 1,100 kilometres of border area, the construction of 542 new border outposts and the establishment of 510 observation post towers.

Notably, observation towers have been built in the Harami Nala area for the first time and electricity has been provided at 637 outposts and nearly 500 locations, along with water connections. Solar plants have also come up at 472 locations.

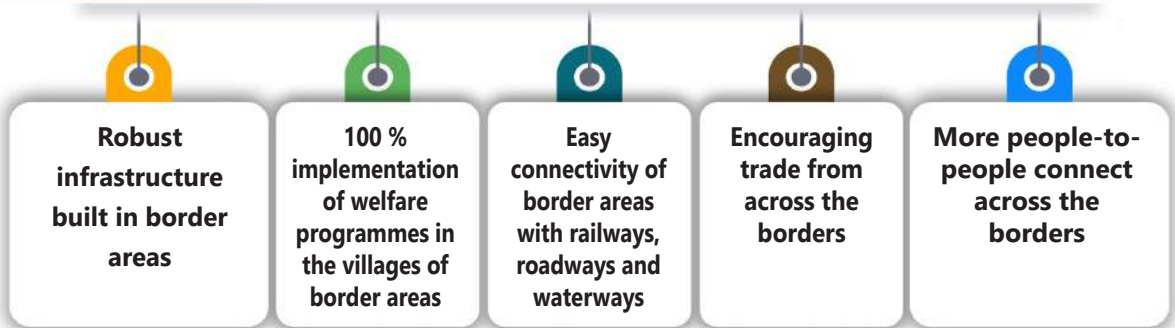
In response to evolving challenges, security forces have been equipped with modern technology, ensuring stringent security of the borders. The BSF



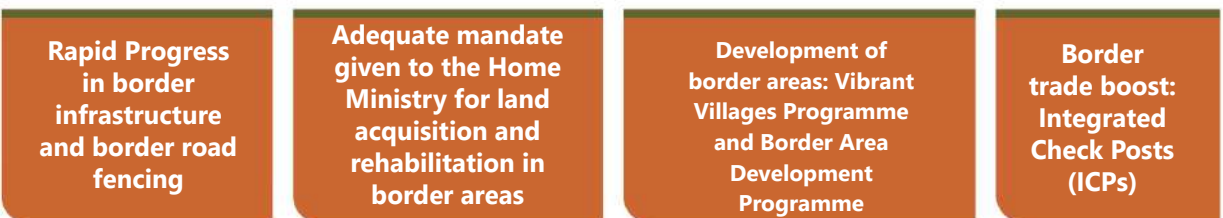
The nation takes immense pride in the courageous personnel of the Border Security Force for their remarkable efforts in safeguarding the country's borders, serving as the primary line of defence and effectively securing the challenging and remote frontiers of the nation.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

Clear Policy-Safe Border



Main Tactical Decisions





has conducted pioneering experiments with cutting-edge technologies such as anti-drone systems. It has demonstrated exceptional capabilities by neutralising more than 90 foreign drones. In the realm of research and development, a drone and cyber forensic laboratory has been established in New Delhi to trace their routes.

To enhance area domination, the Union Government has supplied 100 drones to field formations, effectively utilised by the BSF personnel for strategic purposes. In addition to securing the country's borders, Prime Minister Shri Modi believes that the development of border areas is also imperative and a special thrust has been given to developing infrastructure.

The Union Government has emphasised on integrating border villages through rapid development initiatives, exemplified by the Vibrant Villages programme.

During a workshop on May 23, 2023, in New Delhi, Shri Shah underscored that safeguarding the country's borders is a top priority for the Modi Government, directly tied to national security. He emphasised that ensuring the safety of villages is essential for protecting the borders, highlighting the need to enhance activities in identified villages, curb migration and provide robust civic amenities.

Furthermore, Home Minister Shri Shah stressed on the importance of encouraging citizens, especially the youth, to visit these villages for tourism, thus fostering awareness about the border areas.

The Vibrant Villages programme extends beyond tourism and employment, playing a crucial role in fostering emotional attachment among citizens to the country's borders. This connection is deemed vital for the security and unity of the nation.

As part of a comprehensive vision, Shri Modi initiated the improvement of border infrastructure in



2014 after becoming the Prime Minister and introduced various welfare schemes. The Vibrant Village programme aims at preventing migration from the border areas.

It is noteworthy to mention that on December 20, 2022, Union Home Minister Shri Shah unveiled the updated version of the 'Prahari' mobile app and 13 manuals of the BSF. On this occasion, he emphasised that the app will serve as a commendable instance of proactive governance, offering soldiers access to personal and service-related information, accommodation details, life expectancy in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and leave details on their mobile devices. This app now enables the soldiers to retrieve such information effortlessly, while also establishing a connection with the Union Home Ministry's portal. ■

India Emerges as Global Food Hub



Bureau

The remarkable expansion of India's food processing industry can be attributed to the sustained and dedicated efforts of the Government. Initiatives such as the formulation of the first agri-export policy in India, nationwide development of logistics and infrastructure, establishment of over 100 district-level centres linking districts to global markets, a surge in mega food parks from two to over 20 and an impressive increase in India's food processing capacity from 12 lakh metric tonnes to more than 200 lakh metric tonnes over the last nine years signify a 15-fold growth. Black garlic from Himachal Pradesh, Dragon Fruit from Jammu and Kashmir, Soya Milk powder from Madhya Pradesh, Guchhi Mushroom from Jammu and raw honey from Karnataka are some of the agricultural products that are being exported for the first time.

During the inauguration of the second edition of the mega food event 'World Food India' on November 3 at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi highlighted these achievements. He distributed financial assistance for seeds to over one lakh self-help group (SHG) members to strengthen their initiatives.

There is as much food diversity in India as there is cultural diversity. The world celebrated 2023 as the 'International Year of Millet'. Millet is part of India's 'superfood bucket' and has been identified by the Government as a green grain.

Shri Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

The event portrayed India as the 'Food Hub of the World'. It also served as a testament to the recognition of India's food processing sector as a 'Sunrise Zone'. It witnessed the presence of dignitaries including Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries, Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras, Union Minister of Rural Development, Shri Giriraj Singh, Union Minister of State for Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries, Shri Parshottam Rupala and Union



The 'World Food India 2023' exemplified the acknowledgment of India's food processing sector as a 'Sunrise Zone'. It served as a networking and business platform for Government entities, industry experts, farmers, entrepreneurs and various stakeholders.

Minister of State for Food Processing Industries, Shri Prahlad Singh Patel.

The Prime Minister highlighted the key foundations of India's growth narrative in the food processing sector, emphasising the significance of small farmers, small industries and women. He shared insights into the effective utilisation of Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs) as a platform to enhance the participation and profits of small farmers, revealing the formation of 10,000 new FPOs in India.

Emphasising increased market access and processing facilities for farmers, Prime Minister Shri Modi highlighted the organisation of approximately two lakh micro enterprises in the food processing industry that will boost the involvement of small-scale industries. Schemes such as the 'One District One Product' (ODOP) were also noted for providing a distinct identity to small farmers and industries.

An encouraging outcome of the Government's pro-industry and pro-farmer policies over the past nine years has been the attraction of foreign direct investment that

has exceeded ₹50,000 crore in the sector. Numerous projects are underway with assistance from the Agri-Infra Fund, focusing on post-harvest infrastructure. Simultaneously, substantial investments are being made in processing infrastructure within the fisheries and animal husbandry sector, reflecting the positive momentum generated by these investments.

As per data, the proportion of processed foods in India's agricultural exports has surged from 13% to 23% over the past nine years. India currently holds the second position in agricultural production.

Presently, over nine crore women in India are engaged with self-help groups and the Prime Minister emphasised that the diversity and culinary richness of India are a testament to the skills and knowledge of Indian women. Many women manage the market for products such as pickles, papads, chips, and murabbas from their homes, showcasing their innate ability to lead in the food processing industry. He also highlighted the provision of financial assistance, amounting to crores of rupees, to over one lakh women. ■

Endorsing Local Products

Bureau

Encouraging purchases from local traders within the country ensures that money remains within India, promoting widespread dissemination of the nation's hidden skills. The 'Vocal for Local' movement, which endorses local products, is gaining momentum nationwide, aligning perfectly with the views of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

To support this initiative, Prime Minister Shri Modi on November 6 took to X (formerly Twitter) and urged citizens to buy locally made products during the festive season and share a selfie with the product or its manufacturer on the NaMo app. He encouraged participants to invite friends and family members to join the thread, fostering a positive spirit.

The Prime Minister asked Indians to make good use of the power of digital media to back local talent, promote creativity of fellow countrymen and preserve rich traditions. He provided a link for people to post selfies with the product or its manufacturer on the NaMo app and shared this message on his social media accounts, inviting everyone to celebrate India's entrepreneurial and creative spirit.

Shri Modi highlighted that supporting Ayurveda is a tangible expression of being 'Vocal for Local'. He commended innovators and practitioners who are blending ancient knowledge with modernity, elevating Ayurveda globally. "This presents an opportunity to acknowledge those innovators and practitioners who are seamlessly blending ancient wisdom with modernity, propelling Ayurveda to unprecedented global heights. From pioneering research to the emergence of dynamic startups, Ayurveda is at the forefront of forging new paths toward holistic well-being. By supporting Ayurveda, we embrace 'Vocal for Local' ethos", he said.

The Prime Minister has always championed the 'Vocal for Local' message, advocating for the nation's rapid advancement by endorsing local products and realising the vision of a self-reliant India. This call was made during his seventh Independence Day address from the ramparts of the Red Fort in Delhi on August 15, 2020. The core of 'Vocal for Local' extends beyond merely producing and utilising local goods; it aims to



If you have faith in the country's capabilities, advocate the usage of locally-made products, said Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He encouraged citizens to celebrate the country's entrepreneurial and creative prowess by endorsing local products.

How to join the 'Vocal for Local' movement?

People can join the movement by taking a selfie with the product and share it with the Prime Minister on the NaMo app. Download the app and initiate your 'Vocal for Local' selfie thread by clicking on the star icon. Upon clicking, you will be redirected to a page where you can upload your photo, and feature the local product.

actively promote them. This initiative is geared towards fostering the growth of local markets and generating employment opportunities for a significant number of individuals. ■



PM's Presence Doubles Diwali Joy for Jawans

Bureau

The true spirit and joy of festivals thrive in the company of our own people. While many acknowledge this fact, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi possesses a unique ability to not only comprehend it, but also execute it on a grand scale. A recent illustration of this lies in his Diwali celebrations on November 12 with our valiant security forces in Lepcha, Himachal Pradesh.

Acknowledging the immense sacrifice made by the soldiers who choose to stay away from their families on festive occasions to safeguard the borders, the Prime Minister hailed their dedication to duty. "They play a pivotal role in ensuring the nation's safety", he said.

Expressing gratitude, the Prime Minister noted that every lamp that is lit in our homes symbolises the nation's collective prayer for the well-being of the brave individuals.

Highlighting the significant contributions of our soldiers in nation-building, the

Prime Minister said that their role extends beyond borders, as they have rescued numerous lives during natural disasters and also excelled in international peacekeeping missions. "Undoubtedly, the security forces have elevated India's pride to unprecedented heights", he said. He emphasised that each stride taken by the security forces shapes the course of history. He expressed his confidence in the untiring dedication of our soldiers to continue serving Mother India. He said, "With your collaboration, the nation will consistently achieve new heights of development. Together, we will fulfil every aspiration of the country".

Reflecting on the accomplishments of the last one year, the Prime Minister stressed on the noteworthy achievements of the country, including the Chandrayaan-3 landing, Aditya L1 mission, Gaganyaan tests, the development of the indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant, the establishment of the Tumkur Helicopter Factory, progress in the Vibrant Village campaign and many significant achievements in the field of sports. ■

Making his Presence Felt

- 2014** Siachen, Jammu & Kashmir
- 2015** Amritsar, Punjab
- 2016** Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh
- 2017** Gurez, Jammu & Kashmir
- 2018** Harsil, Uttarakhand
- 2019** Rajouri, Jammu & Kashmir
- 2020** Longewala, Rajasthan
- 2021** Nowshera, Jammu & Kashmir
- 2022** Kargil, Jammu & Kashmir
- 2023** Lepcha, Himachal Pradesh



A Story of Valour & Sacrifice



Over its six decades of service, the ITBP has been honoured with seven Padma Shri awards, two Kirti Chakras, six Shaurya Chakras, 19 President's Police Medals, 14 Tenzing Norgay Medals and many other decorations—testaments to the bravery of the Force.

Bureau

Positive intentions yield constructive outcomes, as demonstrated in Dehradun, Uttarakhand, on November 10. The occasion marked the 62nd Foundation Day celebration of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) whose Jawans are also called Himveers.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, inaugurated self-sustainable energy buildings (SSEBs) for our jawans at the higher reaches near the China border and deployed drones for supplying vegetables, medicines and other essential commodities to Border Observation Posts (BOPs) situated in remote areas.

This initiative is particularly noteworthy because the SSEBs, erected at an altitude of 17,000 feet, are poised to symbolise self-reliant India in the harsh cold weather conditions. With the ability to safeguard soldiers in temperatures as low as minus 40-45 degrees Celsius, the construction of these structures are a significant achievement.

Notably, the construction was completed in remarkable two months, making it a distinctive Diwali gift to the Himveers from Prime Minister Shri Modi and the Union Home Ministry.

On the same day, a significant milestone was achieved as the first drone successfully reached a remote area, transporting 15kg of medicines and vegetables—a noteworthy commencement. Shri Shah remarked that the concept of employing drones for supplying essential commodities to BOPs situated in inaccessible and high-altitude areas was originally proposed by Prime Minister Shri Modi. The drone service in these regions is expected to bring convenience not only to our dedicated Himveers but also to the residents of border villages.

It is crucial to note that ensuring security in remote areas entails addressing challenges and bridging gaps, a fact that is often accompanied by numerous difficulties. Recently, Prime Minister Shri Modi, under the auspices of the Union Home Ministry, authorised the allocation of seven battalions to the ITBP.

Shri Shah said the seven battalions and one sector



headquarters will incur an approximate expenditure of ₹3,000 crore. He also unveiled a flip book commemorating the lives of 147 martyrs. The gathering witnessed the presence of various dignitaries, including the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Shri Pushkar Singh Dhama, and the Director General of ITBP, Shri Anish Dayal Singh.

The ITBP is renowned for its courage, resilience and commitment to duty. With India boasting a coastline spanning 7,516 kilometres and a land border exceeding 15,000 kilometres, the responsibility of safeguarding the borders in the Himalayan region falls upon the ITBP. The courageous Himveers have effectively protected the borders in some of the most challenging terrains.

Over its six decades of service, the ITBP has been honoured with seven Padma Shri awards, two Kirti Chakras, six Shaurya Chakras, 19 President's Police Medals, 14 Tenzing Norgay Adventure Medals and many other decorations—testaments to the bravery and sacrifices of the force. It was emphasised that as long as the ITBP and Army personnel remain stationed on the border, not an inch of India's land can be taken by any adversary. Furthermore, it was noted that women, including those adept in handling snow conditions, are actively joining the ranks for the protection of the country's borders. Over the past 62 years, Himveers have steadfastly worked to safeguard India's inaccessible borders, embodying the principles of bravery, determination and dedication. Their valour is truly praiseworthy. Operating in temperatures as low as minus 45 degrees Celsius, they remain vigilant, defending the country's front lines and are unhesitant in making the ultimate sacrifice when there is call of duty.

Shri Shah highlighted the remarkable evolution of



When the countrymen light lamps in their homes on the occasion of Diwali, they also light a lamp for our brave soldiers deployed at the border. The 140 crore people of the country wholeheartedly respect the courage of our brave soldiers.

Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation

the ITBP, which began with seven divisions six decades ago and has now transformed into a robust force comprising one lakh Himveers, 60 divisions, 17 training centres, 16 sectors, five frontiers and two command headquarters.

Home Minister Shri Shah announced plans to connect 168 unconnected with electricity, telecommunication, roads and health services in the coming year. He emphasised that the nation's safety depends on the development of facilities on the borders, noting a substantial increase in expenditure, from an annual average of ₹4,000 crore before 2014 to ₹12,340 crore per year in the last nine years under Prime Minister Shri Modi's leadership. The Government has tripled spending on constructing roads, BOPs, providing amenities to our soldiers and enhancing village infrastructure, he said.

Home Minister Shri Shah also highlighted the Union Government's accomplishments, including the construction of over 350 bridges and culverts in challenging terrains. ■

Welfare of Deprived is Modi



Bureau

Under the adept and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has been consistently on the path of progress. Mirroring his progressive philosophy, the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' is resonating across the nation. Launched in Khunti on November 15, coinciding with Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, the Yatra is a significant initiative by the Prime Minister.

Addressing a gathering in Khunti, Jharkhand, on this significant day, Prime Minister Modi underscored the

The Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra aims to raise awareness and deliver the benefits of welfare programmes, including sanitation, essential financial services, electricity, LPG access, affordable housing, food security, nutrition, healthcare and clean water directly to the people.

Union Government's dedication to deliver essential services to the underprivileged, ensuring that the benefits of Government programmes reach each and every citizen.

In his address, the Prime Minister began by recalling his visit to the birthplace of Bhagwan Birsa Munda at Ulihatu village, as well as his trip to the Birsa Munda Memorial Park and Freedom Fighters' Museum in Ranchi. He recalled inaugurating the Freedom Fighters' Museum on the very same day in 2021. Shri Modi extended greetings and best wishes to every citizen on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Divas. He also conveyed his good wishes to the people of Jharkhand and highlighted the contribution of former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee in its formation. He congratulated the people of Jharkhand on the current developmental projects in various sectors such as railways, roads, education, coal, petroleum and natural gas. He noted that Jharkhand now has 100% electrified railway lines.

The Prime Minister highlighted Bhagwan Birsa Munda's inspiring struggle for tribal pride and mentioned that the numerous tribal heroes had been connected with the land of Jharkhand. He noted that warriors such as Tilka Manjhi, Sidhu Kanhu, Chand Bhairav, Phulo Jhano, Jatra Tana Bhagat and Albert Ekka have brought glory to this region.

He also pointed out that tribal warriors participated in the freedom struggle in every corner of the country, citing figures such as Govind Guru from Mangarh Dham, Tantya Bhil from Madhya Pradesh, Bhima Nayak, Shaheed Veer Narayan Singh and Veer Gundadhur from Chhattisgarh, Rani Gaidinlyu from Manipur, Veer

Government's Mantra



Ramji Gond from Telangana, Alluri Sitarama Raju from Andhra Pradesh and Rani Durgavati of Gondwana. The Prime Minister lamented the historical oversight of such notable figures and conveyed his satisfaction at honouring these heroes during the Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

Prime Minister Shri Modi emphasised the need to focus on the four 'Amrit Stambhs' (pillars) for a developed India. These pillars include women, farmers, youth and the marginalised. He stated that the level of development of India will depend on the ability to strengthen these pillars.

The Prime Minister expressed satisfaction over the efforts and actions taken in the past 9 years by the current Government to strengthen these four pillars. Highlighting a key initiative for achieving a developed India, he underscored the importance of the PM JANMAN (PM Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan), a campaign he inaugurated with an approximate budget of ₹24,000 crore.

Prime Minister Shri Modi mentioned that it was Vajpayee's Government that created a separate ministry for the tribal community and allocated a separate budget for it. He informed that the budget for tribal welfare has been increased six fold compared to before. He added that through PM JANMAN, the Union Government will reach out to primitive tribes, most of whom still live in forests.

Empowerment Card

Through 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra', Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi endeavours to ensure that the benefits of the Union Government's key schemes reach all targeted beneficiaries in a timely manner. As a significant step towards achieving this goal, he launched the yatra on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas. This journey aims to reach people, create awareness and focus on providing benefits of welfare schemes such as sanitation facilities, essential financial services, electricity connections, access to LPG cylinders, housing, food security, proper nutrition, reliable healthcare and clean drinking water. During this period, potential beneficiaries who are yet to avail such benefits will be identified and enrolled. On the occasion of the launch of the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra in Khunti, the Prime Minister flagged off an IEC (Information, Education, and Communication) van. It will pass through the districts with significant tribal populations.

He said that the Union Government has identified 75 tribal communities who are residing in over 22,000 villages across the country. ■

Institutionalising Cleanliness

The Special Campaign 3.0, led by the Union Home Ministry, aims to address pending government cases. It is noteworthy that the Home Ministry under the leadership of Shri Amit Shah has nearly achieved a 100% success rate in meeting targets under this campaign. Conducted from October 2 to 31, the campaign primarily targeted the resolution of pending cases, efficient space management and the promotion of a sustainable environment.

Bureau

Determination to achieve goals also entails inevitable challenges, but with perseverance, one overcomes the hurdles in reaching the destination. Special Campaign 3.0 mirrors this spirit drawing inspiration from Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision to institutionalise cleanliness and reduce government backlogs.

The Union Home Ministry under the guidance of Shri Amit Shah, conducted the campaign from October 2 to 31 primarily targeting the resolution of pending cases, efficient space management and the promotion of a sustainable environment. Notably, the success of this distinctive initiative can be attributed to meticulous monitoring.

The campaign was monitored at the highest level and its progress was personally seen by the Union Home Minister, Minister of State for Home and Home Secretary. The daily progress was also monitored by a dedicated team and uploaded on the SCDPM portal hosted by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances.

The success of any campaign hinges on real-time monitoring and the Union Home Ministry achieved almost 100% of its targets. Approximately 167,240 square feet of space was reclaimed, over 95,000 files were disposed of and scrap disposal generated an income amounting to ₹5.82 crore. A total of 10,274 activities were conducted across all Home Ministry locations under the campaign.

The active participation of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Central Police Organisations (CPOs) significantly contributed to the success of the campaign. Notably, its launch included an initial phase from September 15 that focused on identifying targets such as spots that need to be cleaned and the



disposal of pending cases. Throughout the campaign, special attention was given to space management and improving the overall workplace experience in offices. ■

Motivating Moves

Bureau

The safety, security and well-being of each individual have consistently been the top priority for the Union Home Ministry under the leadership of Shri Amit Shah. Regularly engaging in public events, the Ministers of State actively communicate with the public on a regular basis, ensuring their interests are rightly secured.

The 24th All India Conference of Directors of Fingerprint Bureaus held at the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) headquarters in New Delhi on November 6 and 7, was inaugurated by Union Minister of State for Home, Shri Ajay Mishra. Directors of the fingerprint bureaus and senior police officers from various States participated in the two-day conference. Shri Mishra commended the NCRB for its strides in developing and implementing diverse IT applications to enhance investigations, emphasising the importance of scientific inquiry.

Many initiatives are undertaken to inspire the youth and evoke a sense of the nation's illustrious history. One such event took place on November 5 in Patna, Bihar, where Union Minister of State for Home, Shri Nityanand Rai, took part in a programme titled 'Mere Desh ki Dharti - Ek Deep Rashtra ke Naam'. The event, organised by Shri Ram Karmabhoomi Nyas and Mission Vande Mataram Foundation, paid tributes to the valiant martyrs of the nation at the Veterinary College grounds. Families of the martyrs were honoured and under the leadership of Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, a world record was set by lighting 11.11 lakh lamps in homage to the martyred heroes.

Union Minister of State for Home, Shri Nisith Pramanik, extended his congratulations to the Border Security Force (BSF) mountaineering expedition team. On November 2, an event hosted by the BSF provided an opportunity for the Union Minister to address the team members who successfully scaled Mount Manaslu, the world's eighth highest peak. During his speech, he expressed pride in the inclusion of two women personnel in the expedition. The 18-member team, comprised 15 seasoned climbers with a track record of successful ascents and newly inducted



members. Deputy Commandant Padma Shri Lavraj Singh Dharmshaktu led the team. Marking a milestone in the BSF's history, it is the first instance when two female personnel planted the national flag on the 8,163 metre-high peak. ■

Integrated Approach to Coastal Policing Fetches Dividends

With over 11,000 kms of coastline, 1,389 off-lying islands, over 20 lakh square kms of Exclusive Economic Zone, over 95% of trade being seaborne, valuing over ₹75 lakh crore, over ₹63,000 crore of fisheries exports, and numerous Vital Areas and Vital Points along the coast, India's economic prosperity is directly linked to maritime security, of which coastal security forms a crucial component.

Coastlines act both as shields against external threats and gateways to the wider world. For India, the 2008 Mumbai attacks — perpetrated by terrorists entering through the coastal route from Pakistan — laid bare existing vulnerabilities and catalysed a strategic overhaul in coastal security. Under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Indian Government initiated a comprehensive revamp of its maritime security. A three-tiered system involving the Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard and State Marine Police, has been further strengthened.

With a clear focus on maritime security, and recognising both the multi-national and multi-agency character of it, two major steps have been initiated by the present Government. First is the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of 'Security and Growth for All in the Region', or SAGAR, under which our maritime security cooperation initiatives are progressing. Second was the appointment of National Maritime Security Coordinator (NMSC) under the National Security Advisor. Simultaneously, the erstwhile Nodal Officers for Coastal Security in each coastal State and UT have been redesignated as State Maritime Security Coordinators (SMSCs). This has resulted in better formal multi-agency coordination with all the stakeholder-ministries at the Centre, as well as all our coastal States and UTs.

Numerous other initiatives have been implemented to further strengthen coastal policing. As against the earlier system of merely one police station on each of our coast for filing maritime crimes, the Government, in June 2016, nominated one each coastal police station per coastal State to process maritime crimes. Further, in December 2019, it legally empowered the Coast Guard under all the Central Acts. Another key



Vice Admiral
G Ashok Kumar (Retd)

development is the establishment of the National Academy of Coastal Policing in Dwarka, Gujarat.

Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) closer to the coast is a crucial requirement for effective maritime law-enforcement. The collated picture, with inputs from Coastal Surveillance Network, the National AIS Chain etc, is shared with 51 Navy and Coast Guard nodes. In order to enhance its

quality and reach, the Government has now approved the National Maritime Domain Awareness project in October 2022. The NMDA project will also comprise a digital coastal security map and provide an app-based geo-fenced picture to all the coastal police stations.

A pivotal element of the revamped strategy of coastal policing has been the active engagement of fishermen and coastal communities in surveillance. While community engagement initiatives have yielded positive results, the ongoing fitment of two-way communication transponders on our sub-20 metre fishing boats will enable fishermen to receive Probable Fishing Zones and weather warnings, while their positional information will help in expeditious maritime Search and Rescue (SAR), and in developing Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA).

With the experience of over a decade of coastal policing, the standard operating procedures for Coastal Police Stations, issued in 2007, has been comprehensively revised by BPR&D, through a collaborative effort with all the coastal States, UTs and NMSC, and will be issued shortly.

These comprehensive measures have led to enhanced overall security of India's coasts by effectively responding to diverse maritime threats either from terrorists, criminals or our adversaries. This holistic strategy ensures operational efficiency and prioritises the welfare and safety of local people, thereby safeguarding the nation's maritime interests. Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah had rightly described our coastal security strategy as a 'Sudarshan Chakra' of security, metaphorically representing India's multi-layered coastal defence. ■

The writer is National Maritime Security Coordinator (NMSC)



A national seminar on Promotion of Organic Products was organised by National Cooperative Organics Limited (NCOL) at ICAR Convention Centre, New Delhi, on November 8. Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, launched the NCOL logo and website. He also distributed membership certificates to members of the cooperative.

The three-day 7th annual coordination meeting between Armed Police Forces of Nepal and Sashastra Seema Bal began on November 6. Both sides unanimously resolved to implement additional measures to strengthen coordination and cooperation between the two border security forces.



On November 8, Shri Balaji Srivastava, the Director General of the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) presented the newly introduced Trophy for Innovation in Policing to Shri Amit Garg, the Director of the National Police Academy (NPA). The trophy will be showcased at the NPA for outstanding squad performance during training.



If you have fallen victim to online fraud, experienced financial losses, do not panic. Instead, call the 1930 helpline for assistance. Provide fraud details at cybercrime.gov.in within 24 hours. The sooner you report the incident, the higher the likelihood of recovering your money. This information was shared on the YouTube channel 'Police aur Seva' run by the BPR&D.



भारत के वीर

Tribute to the bravehearts

<https://bharatkeveer.gov.in>

GUIDELINES

- ◆ You can donate directly to individual braveheart's account (upto max of ₹15 lakh) or may donate to the Bharat Ke Veer corpus.
- ◆ To ensure maximum coverage, a cap of ₹15 lakh is envisaged per braveheart and the donor would be alerted if the amount exceeds ₹15 lakh, so that they can choose to either decrease their contribution or divert part of the contribution to another braveheart's account, or to the Bharat Ke Veer corpus.
- ◆ 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.



“ Improving the life of every family living in coastal areas is the priority of the Union Government. After 2014, fish production has increased by 80% and seafood exports have seen a 110% rise. The Sagarmala scheme is strengthening connectivity in the coastlines. A lot of money is being spent to expand business and industries in the coastal areas.

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister ”



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