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ON  
**PITMAN SHORTHAND**

# Progressive Shorthand

monthly

with

Eng./GK/Reasoning

READING & DICTATION  
EXERCISES FOR  
SPEED DEVELOPMENT

**Reading and Dictation Passages have been marked for 20 words each, so that the same can be dictated for 80 to 160 wpm speed.**

### Exercise 1

**S**ir, we notice all sorts of methods are being employed to weaken our country to disturb peace in our country. <sup>20</sup> Efforts are being made to create a feeling among the tolerant and peaceful people of this country that may change <sup>40</sup> the life-style here. We do not have to submit to separatist, we have to face them. We will face <sup>60</sup> all of them with all our might who try to weaken our freedom, our security and our future through threats, <sup>80</sup> pressurisation and causing insights. We will not allow them to rise. We will not stop till terrorism completely eliminated <sup>100</sup> or till the terrorists do not return to the country's mainstream giving up their arms. We do not have to <sup>120</sup> give up our courage, we do not have to be fearful. Gandhiji had said, Independence means fearlessness against death. A <sup>140</sup> nation afraid of death cannot become free and if it attains freedom it cannot protect it. The words of Gandhiji <sup>160</sup> should resound in our ears today and we must face this challenge boldly. We must remember that we will not <sup>180</sup> counter them for taking revenge. If we try to take revenge then it will only serve the designs of the <sup>200</sup> terrorists. Revenge would only bring victory to terrorism. If we use restraint, terrorism will weaken and ultimately get defeated. We <sup>220</sup> must not fall in the trap of terrorism. Ghandhiji had said that licence can have an answer to violence. Only <sup>240</sup> non violence can be an answer to violence.

India holds its head high in the world today. The voice of India <sup>260</sup> is heard in the world with respect. Why? How is it that a country which was a slave, poor till <sup>280</sup> fifty years ago, and about which people used to think that it would never stand on its own and could <sup>300</sup> not safeguard its freedom, now speaks out in such a strong voice. It has been possible, because we moved forward <sup>320</sup> taking with us the concepts of Gandhiji, principles of Panditji and the path shown by patriots. We have learnt to <sup>340</sup> speak fearlessly, we have learnt not to submit under pressures, we have learnt to move forward on the path of <sup>360</sup> non-violence with courage and facing the challenges boldly. We launched a movement against the atomic weapons in the world during <sup>380</sup> the last fifty years. Today many powerful countries are attracted towards it which is dangerous for the whole population of the universe. <sup>400</sup>

TOLERANT: enduring; ELIMINATE: to end;  
REVENGE: inflict punishment; LAUNCHED: started.

**Exercise 2**

The feeling that Gandhiji and Panditji had brought to the fore before our Independence, is now spreading throughout the world <sup>20</sup> after forty or fifty years. It is just insanity that we continue to manufacture weapons while the available weapons alone <sup>40</sup> can extinguish the entire world 50 times. It is really madness that 15 to 20 million rupees are spent every <sup>60</sup> minute in the world on arms race. Even a small fraction of it can help a lot in eradicating poverty, <sup>80</sup> diseases and unemployment. Today, India is paying attention to these things. We are paying attention to human rights and human <sup>100</sup> dignity. South Africa, where Gandhiji had started his first satyagraha, is still reeling under slavery. The flag of freedom has <sup>120</sup> not still gone up there. It is shameful that 100 years have passed, hundreds and thousands of freedom fighters <sup>140</sup> have offered sacrifices including their lives and the place from where the flame of freedom rose is still under slavery. <sup>160</sup> We have raised the question of poor people in the world. We have taken up the cause of suppressed sections <sup>180</sup> of the world. We have demonstrated that our voice is that of balance, tolerance, compassion, truth and non-violence. Last month <sup>200</sup> we signed an agreement in Sri Lanka, an agreement that proved the righteousness of our policy, which demonstrated that the <sup>220</sup> impact of our foreign policy is good and that India was moving on the right path. This is an important <sup>240</sup> achievement in these fifty years. The latest agreement that we have reached and signed has brought peace and cooperation in <sup>260</sup> Sri Lanka. This has strengthened the cause of peace and cooperation in the entire region. We have stalled the activities <sup>280</sup> of those people who were endangering the security of the entire region, otherwise the race of power blocs could have <sup>300</sup> reached this region - the neighbourhood of India. This has strengthened the cause of non-alignment. It has been proved that countries <sup>320</sup> can solve their problems through dialogue without allowing the big powers or other sections or parties to come in. We <sup>340</sup> have seen that when difficult. Today on the 50th anniversary of our Independence we have to <sup>360</sup> re-dedicate ourselves to those ideas and concepts.

Our greatest achievement is the system given to us <sup>380</sup> by our forefathers. We have seen that the system is in tune with our ancient traditions and our culture, which <sup>400</sup> is continuing uninterrupted for thousands of years. We used that spirit in our struggle for freedom and should use it <sup>420</sup> in building a new India. Today our greatest attainment is our democracy and we have to safeguard and consolidate it. <sup>440</sup>

INSANITY: madness; EXTINGUISH: to wipe out; DIALOGUE: to talk.

### Exercise 3

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very glad that I have the opportunity to take part in the discussion on the <sup>20</sup> Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Labour. I am very happy, we have got a very good <sup>40</sup> Labour Minister, but I do not know whether he is able to take all the steps necessary to improve the <sup>60</sup> labour situation in this country at this critical moment. The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 clearly mentions that <sup>80</sup> in the process of rapid industrial development, labour assumes a vital role to establish a socialistic pattern of society. <sup>100</sup> The main problems facing the working class are of getting adequate wages, essential commodities at prices they can afford, some <sup>120</sup> sort of shelter and cloth. The Government minimum needs programme has hardly reached the working class. The vast majority of <sup>140</sup> labourers are unable to make both ends meet. The Government has mentioned endlessly on the question of evolving a national <sup>160</sup> wage policy or an integrated wages incomes prices policy.

In the Labour Ministers' Conference, some time back, it was suggested <sup>180</sup> that steps should be taken to enforce the minimum wages in the different industries. It was also suggested that non-implementation <sup>200</sup> of minimum wages should be declared as a cognizable offence and the offenders should be arrested. However, it had been <sup>220</sup> agreed at the Conference that more deterrent punishment should be given to the offenders and that the Act should be <sup>240</sup> amended suitably. Necessary changes should have been made in the Central legislation by this time. The Industrial Disputes Act had <sup>260</sup> become outdated and it should be completely overhauled. It has been claimed that the Emergency has brought discipline among labourers <sup>280</sup> and the production has been increased. Yes, it is a fact but the labourers are forced to work and they <sup>300</sup> are forced not to take part in the trade union activities. The trade union rights have been completely taken away <sup>320</sup> from the labour. But, Sir, I want to impress upon the Minister that motivations for work should not be imposed <sup>340</sup> from outside but it should come from within. A contented labour force is an asset to the development of industries. <sup>360</sup> You have taken away the permitted bonus. Some time back, this Parliament passed an Act to fix the minimum bonus <sup>380</sup> at 8.33 per cent. But, the same Act was adversely amended by the same Parliament sometime ago. <sup>400</sup>

COGNIZABLE: punishable under criminal law; DETERRENT: preventive; AMENDED: altered; ADVERSELY: unfavourably.

## Exercise 4

Bonus was accepted by this Government as a deferred wage, but the same Government, has reversed the <sup>20</sup> conception of bonus and this Government says that bonus is a deferred wage but it is connected with production <sup>40</sup> and productivity. But what about the owners of industries? Do you know, how much have they reduced the dearness <sup>60</sup> allowance of the workers now-a-days? Not only that a number of companies have been held guilty for failure <sup>80</sup> to deposit the provident fund money and also for mishandling the amount due to employees. Every year, nearly two lakh <sup>100</sup> employees come under the purview of the scheme. The total number of employees covered by the scheme in the year <sup>120</sup> 1995-96 was 61 lakh and it was 75 lakhs in the year 1996-97 <sup>140</sup> whereas the average refunds amount to Rs.100-125 crores <sup>160</sup> The gross contribution to the fund was expected to reach Rs.58 crores in 1995-96 <sup>180</sup> from Rs.51 in 1996-97 whereas the refunds to the employers on an average is <sup>200</sup> Rs.10-12 crores. Naturally, such a situation calls for stringent regulation and control over the operation and administration of <sup>220</sup> funds.

If the administration of the Provident Fund Scheme at various levels has to be really advantageous to the <sup>240</sup> employees, there should naturally be regional offices which could directly deal with members of the fund who go in <sup>260</sup> for advances, loans, etc. The present situation has offered an opportunity for the Government to make necessary meaningful changes in <sup>280</sup> a number of legislative measures which seek to protect and regulate the rights and working conditions of industrial workers and <sup>300</sup> other employees. In fact, several clauses of the legislative measures have little relevance to the present day conditions. Regarding the <sup>320</sup> Apprenticeship Act, once our Prime Minister said in the State Labour Ministers Conference that the Apprenticeship Act had not been <sup>340</sup> implemented vigorously. It had not been given a trial. Utilisation of apprenticeship opportunity or filling such vacancies has not been <sup>360</sup> uniform in all the State. Creation of skilled manpower has lagged behind the limits of possibilities. So, the more <sup>380</sup> important point is, what is to be done even more important is that there is a new sense of urgency and a will to get things done. <sup>400</sup> With regard to this the basic problem relates neither to the number of apprentices nor to the value of their stipends. <sup>420</sup> We hope that the Govt. shall do its best to alleviate the feelings of labour and take steps for that. <sup>440</sup>

DEFERRED: postponed; STRINGENT: strict.

### Exercise 5

Sir, very few concerns in the country are selling shares to the ordinary clerks and other employees because they do<sup>20</sup> not want these ordinary people to become shareholders, as they will have their say in the Annual General Meetings. They<sup>40</sup> confine to those own shareholders who will vote for their own persons to become Managing Directors, Directors and Chairman, etc.<sup>60</sup> This is how manipulation takes place. The Government expects to get Rs. 5 crores out of this measure. What are<sup>80</sup> the other measures by which Government could possibly get more money? I<sup>100</sup> would like to know from my Hon'ble friend who is now disturbing the Finance<sup>120</sup> Minister, what is the position in the cashewnut industry? He may be<sup>140</sup> able to tell us. The point is, he does not apply his mind and he goes on disturbing the Finance<sup>160</sup> Minister. That is the whole difficulty. The cashewnut not even paying 12 per cent. They are paying<sup>180</sup> 10 per cent or 6 per cent.

The question is, some of these companies have been converted into junks. This <sup>200</sup> is the case with all the industries whether it is the textile industry or jute industry. When they are converted <sup>220</sup> into junks, they get the Government to take them over. Government goes on <sup>240</sup> taking them over the sick textile mills. What about healthy mills? Why should they not be <sup>260</sup> taken over immediately? In this case, this particular attempt which the Finance Minister is making will be nothing. It will be <sup>280</sup> an eye wash. What are they going to get? They are going to get Rs. 5 crores. If they had <sup>300</sup> demonetised, it would have brought thousands of crores. I expected this time that in the Budget, they will at least <sup>320</sup> say something about declaration that if somebody declares black money could have within three months or six months, they will be taxed <sup>340</sup> as per the Income Tax Act, without any fine and that money could have come into the hands of the Government. <sup>360</sup> It was tried on by my Hon'ble friend, but the result was not much. Still that should have been attempted. <sup>380</sup> In this case, you are taking only Rs. 5 crores from the companies while Rs. 300 crores from salaried employees. <sup>400</sup>

**MANIPULATION:** manouvre to favour one; **DEMONETISED:** reducing the value of money.

~ long

## Exercise 6

**S**ir, unless the key industries are nationalised, our economy is not going to improve. When we requested that Hindustan Motors <sup>20</sup> should be taken over, the then Minister said that it was a junk. They are manufacturing Ambassador cars which are good <sup>40</sup> cars, though people say, everything in that car minus the horn makes noise. When there was a lock out in <sup>60</sup> the Standard Motors in Madras, we could have taken over that company. Automobile industry should be taken over. Unless the <sup>80</sup> key industries are nationalised, our economy is not going to improve. This inflation cannot be checked only by robbing the <sup>100</sup> people on the one hand and limiting the dividend to 12 per cent. So far as take over is concerned, <sup>120</sup> I do not know who is going to take over whom. The highest bidder will take over the country. Therefore, I <sup>140</sup> would request the Hon'ble Finance Minister not to rely solely on this measure, because Rs. 5 crores would be nothing. <sup>160</sup> The monopoly houses should be taken over. Otherwise, they will hold the country to ransom.

During the national misfortunes, like <sup>180</sup> when lakhs of refugees came from other side in starvation conditions there people were minting money. At that time, these sharks <sup>200</sup> went to the borders and sold daily necessities at fabulous prices and minted money at the cost of starvation of <sup>220</sup> these people. They want to mint money and maintain their profits at the cost <sup>240</sup> of anything. I am opposing this Bill only because this will not serve the purpose. Only a very small number <sup>260</sup> of companies will be covered by this. Most of the monopoly companies will function in such a way that they <sup>280</sup> do not declare any dividend at all. What about the control of their expenses? By this measure you are going <sup>300</sup> to get only Rs. 5 crores whereas by freezing the emoluments and dearness allowance you are getting Rs. 300 crores. <sup>320</sup> I want the Finance Minister to let us know what more measures are likely to be taken to control these <sup>340</sup> big business and monopoly houses, to curb them and reduce or minimise their profits and take over them. Because, unless <sup>360</sup> the means of production are taken over by the State, nothing is going to happen in this country. Moreover, Government <sup>380</sup> should have a close check on these monopoly house owners that they do not hide the Government revenue and pay <sup>400</sup> honestly; that they maintain proper books of accounts etc., and declare it to the authorities. With these words, I support <sup>420</sup> the Motion of Disapproval moved by my Hon'ble friend and request the Hon'ble Minister to make a statement on it.

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## Exercise 7

Honourable Members, While Sardar Patel with his extraordinary abilities had accomplished the challenging objective of geographic and political integration<sup>20</sup> of the nation, the task of economic integration remained incomplete. Our traders and entrepreneurs always faced difficulties in sale and purchase<sup>40</sup> of their goods and in complying with different tax regimes prevalent in different States. Now with the implementation of a<sup>60</sup> comprehensive tax reform like the GST, the concept of 'One Nation-One Tax-One Market' has been realised.<sup>80</sup> GST is proving instrumental in establishing an honest and transparent system of trade and commerce which is also<sup>100</sup> benefitting the country's youth. This system, while reducing the difficulties faced by traders, has enhanced their ease of doing business<sup>120</sup> across the country. I congratulate my compatriots for wholeheartedly embracing the new system in a short span of time in the<sup>140</sup> interest of a better future for the country, in spite of the initial bottlenecks. My Government is continuously improving<sup>160</sup> the GST regime keeping in view the suggestions being received from the business community.

The primary focus of<sup>180</sup> my Government has been to enable our youth to earn their livelihood with dignity, while also creating employment opportunities for others.<sup>200</sup> In order to facilitate self-employment, my Government has introduced wide ranging reforms, which are being appreciated globally.<sup>220</sup> As a result of these reforms, India's position has improved by 65 places in the Ease of Doing Business ranking,<sup>240</sup> from 142 in 2014 to 77 now. This is an extraordinary achievement.

Honourable Members,<sup>260</sup> During the last four and a half years, the economy of the country has been growing at a rate of<sup>280</sup> 7.3 percent on an average. India is playing a significant role in international trade. While India's contribution to the<sup>300</sup> world GDP was 2.6 percent in 2014, it has increased to 3.3 percent<sup>320</sup> in 2017 as per the latest reports. India has emerged as the 6th largest economy in the world.<sup>340</sup> This is an opportune moment for the country to play a decisive role in the 4th industrial revolution and<sup>360</sup> my Government is committed to ensure that our citizens take full benefit of this opportunity. As a result of the<sup>380</sup> 'Make in India' initiative effective outcomes in the field of industrial development and employment generation are clearly visible.<sup>400</sup>

**COMPREHENSIVE:** detailed;

**TRANSPARENT:** opennes;

**OPPORTUNE:** happening at right time.

## Exercise 8

Now India is the 2nd largest manufacturer of mobile phones in the world. Recently, the milestone of converting diesel locomotives into<sup>20</sup> 10 thousand horsepower electric engines has also been established by India. As a part of Make in India initiative,<sup>40</sup> Asia's largest MedTech Zone is being established in Andhra Pradesh. Defence Corridors are being established in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu,<sup>60</sup> which will not only strengthen our security through establishment of production facilities for defence equipment, but also provide employment to the<sup>80</sup> youth. Soon, the passengers will also be able to avail the ultra-modern facilities of our fastest train<sup>100</sup> 'Vande Bharat Express'. I also want to congratulate the scientists and engineers of our country who are tirelessly<sup>120</sup> working for recognition of India's prowess in this era of modern technology. The scientists and engineers from ISRO<sup>140</sup> in particular are proving their pre-eminent position in the world by setting new records in launching satellites. I, on behalf<sup>160</sup> of the nation, convey our best wishes to our scientists and engineers for 'Mission Gaganyaan'.

The focus of my Government<sup>180</sup> on timely completion of tasks, with accountability, has resulted in increasing the confidence of the people in Government functioning<sup>200</sup> and has also enhanced the pace of development. My Government has established a reputation for time bound completion of projects.<sup>220</sup> Many projects where delays in completion had become synonymous with injustice to common people of this country such as India's<sup>240</sup> longest Bogibeel railroad bridge in Assam, Western Peripheral Expressway near Delhi, Kollam Bypass in Kerala have been fast tracked and<sup>260</sup> completed. By completing these projects, my Government has done justice to the resources of the nation and aspirations of the people.<sup>280</sup> Developing modern infrastructure for economic development as per the needs of 21st century, is the aspiration<sup>300</sup> of every Indian, especially the middle class. Sensitive to their aspirations, my Government is completing new projects at a fast pace.<sup>320</sup> The airport terminal constructed at Prayagraj in a record period of 11 months is an evident example. Last year,<sup>340</sup> the country's first container vessel sailed along the national waterway from Kolkata and reached Varanasi. Eastern Peripheral Expressway, started in<sup>360</sup> November 2015, has also been dedicated to the nation last year. My Government believes that eastern part of India<sup>380</sup> comprising east Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha and the States of North- East, has the potential to become<sup>400</sup> a new 'Growth Engine'. Therefore, my Government is relentlessly striving to strengthen the infrastructure related to railways, highways, waterways and airways in Eastern India.<sup>420</sup> Under Udan Yojana, 19 new airports are being built in Eastern India and of these 5 are coming up in the North East.<sup>440</sup>

PROWESS: great skill at doing; SYNONYMOUS: similar;  
STRIVING: trying very hard.

## Exercise 9

**M**r. Speaker, if agricultural production has to be maximised, the greatest attention has to be given to four factors. First,<sup>20</sup> seeds should be of the right quality fertilisers and high yielding varieties of seeds. Then improved pesticides and water. As regards<sup>40</sup> these four factors, it is interesting to see that Government or the Ministry does not appear to have paid any<sup>60</sup> attention to certain malpractices that have crept into these matters. Take, for instance, seeds. There is no mention at all<sup>80</sup> of the fact that a large percentages of these so called improved or high yielding varieties of seeds are adulterated. What<sup>100</sup> steps has Government taken in this regard? Is it not of vital importance that seeds should be pure and unadulterated?<sup>120</sup> Their effect on production is very great.

Therefore, from this point alone, all possible steps should be taken to prevent<sup>140</sup> adulteration. The farmer suffers because he spends money on costly seeds in order that he may get the best possible<sup>160</sup> yield, but finds that the seeds are adulterated. Why has not Government taken up this question in its own hands?<sup>180</sup> Every State Government interferes in this matter. In fact, multiplication of seeds is done under the orders of the Agriculture<sup>200</sup> Department in State after State and yet when it comes to their quality control, adequate machinery does not exist. Then<sup>220</sup> you come to the question of fertilisers. Again these are of vital importance. What has happened? At one single stroke,<sup>240</sup> Government has doubled the prices of fertilisers and expects farmers to procure them in the required quantities knowing fully well<sup>260</sup> also that Government fixes the prices of what they produce at a level which makes it impossible for the farmers<sup>280</sup> to pay these high prices for fertilisers.

The previous speaker referred to the Agricultural Prices Commission. The Commission has fixed<sup>300</sup> the price, say, of wheat, at a certain level without taking into account the cost of production of the farmer. Yesterday, a<sup>320</sup> Member of the Advisory Committee to the Agricultural Prices Commission stated that he has sent his resignation because what<sup>340</sup> use it was to remain in the committee if no importance was ever attached to the advice tendered<sup>360</sup> on such a basic matter as cost of production? If cost of production is not taken into account, I would<sup>380</sup> like to state here that it is difficult to see on what basis the Agricultural Prices Commission fixed the prices.<sup>400</sup>

**YIELDING:** earnings; **ADULTERATED:** mixed with foreign matter.

**Exercise 10**

Several agricultural universities have carried out surveys and the results of these surveys are available. Punjab University carried out a <sup>20</sup> survey and other research students have also and have pointed out what the cost of production would be. For instance, <sup>40</sup> in regard to wheat they have arrived at the finding that the cost of production would be in the region <sup>60</sup> of Rs.320. Yet the procurement price is fixed at Rs.305. What is the justification for this, <sup>80</sup> in the face of the fact that the price of fertiliser, an important input, has been doubled? The prices have <sup>100</sup> increased considerably and many types of pesticides that are in the market today are adulterated. What steps have the Government <sup>120</sup> taken to ensure that the pesticides that are in the market for sale to the farmers are of the right <sup>140</sup> quality and are not adulterated ones? Is there any machinery? In regard to drugs at least in name, there is <sup>160</sup> a drug controller in every State to see that the drugs sold are not adulterated. In regard to pesticides, <sup>180</sup> have not you set up any machinery to ensure that the pesticides are not adulterated? Last but not the least important factor for <sup>200</sup> maximisation of agricultural production is water. They say they have programmes for increasing irrigation facilities.

During the Fourth Plan they <sup>220</sup> wanted to bring in a considerable additional area under irrigation so that they could have assured water supply. They have <sup>240</sup> similar programmes in the Fifth Plan. Why is it that a number of these projects are not completed within the <sup>260</sup> time schedule that is laid down? Why is it that a number of most desirable projects are not even taken <sup>280</sup> in hand for years for one reason or another and the majority of them are held up because of Inter-State <sup>300</sup> water disputes? What steps have been taken by the Government to resolve those disputes. They say that they have no <sup>320</sup> powers. What is the good of their saying so when the ruling party is today in a position to pass <sup>340</sup> any legislation that it desires, even to amend the Constitution as often as it likes? And yet it does not <sup>360</sup> take steps to settle these issues, which would result in self sufficiency in food grains and also in respect of <sup>380</sup> many vital cash crops needed for important industries. Why is it that we are unable to take any steps to <sup>400</sup> settle these disputes and allow them to continue with no end in sight? A little while ago, I think a <sup>420</sup> statement was placed on the Table of the House saying that there were 157 projects outstanding in the scheme. <sup>440</sup>

PROCUREMENT: collection; PESTICIDES: pest killer;

## Exercise 11

Honourable Members, Be it the country's fastest train, the highest bridge, the longest sea-link, the longest tunnel, construction of<sup>20</sup> highways at double the speed or gauge conversion of railway tracks, modern facelift of railway stations or metro projects in<sup>40</sup> cities, air connectivity among small towns or construction of new waterways, my Government is rapidly developing modern infrastructure in<sup>60</sup> all these areas. Keeping environment conservation in mind, my Government is moving forward on the electric mobility front. In order to<sup>80</sup> make the latest technology-based systems available in our cities so that they can become growth engines of the<sup>100</sup> economy, modern facilities are being developed in 100 cities under the Smart City Mission. The nation is moving at a<sup>120</sup> fast pace in the civil aviation sector also. This sector has seen a double digit growth during the last four years.<sup>140</sup> More than 12 crore and 30 lakh people travelled by air during 2017-18 and this number<sup>160</sup> is increasing constantly. This transformation, offers a glimpse of an India on the move. Under the 'Udan scheme',<sup>180</sup> 12 lakh seats have been made available to people at lower tariffs. This has provided the common person with<sup>200</sup> an opportunity of air travel.

In addition, in the last four and a half years Government has established more than<sup>220</sup> 300 new Passport Sewa Kendras in the country. Prior to 2014, there were<sup>240</sup> 77 Passport Sewa Kendras, which have now increased to more than 400. People are no longer required to repeatedly visit big<sup>260</sup> cities for getting their passports. In the all-round development of the country, a pivotal role is played by<sup>280</sup> our labourer brothers and sisters, small and medium entrepreneurs, engineers, auditors, doctors, teachers, scientists and every professional. All these<sup>300</sup> responsible citizens have lived up to this saying of Sant Ravidas that work is the best form of worship.<sup>320</sup> That is, those who deem work as God, and worship it day and night, are blessed with all the worldly<sup>340</sup> joys and contentment. Our hardworking professionals whether linked directly or indirectly with the Government, are watchful of<sup>360</sup> the process of nation building. When their hopes and aspirations are combined with the willpower of Government employees, the result is<sup>380</sup> unprecedented, as witnessed by the nation today. My Government is also supporting the employees in their hour of need as such.<sup>400</sup>

### **CONVERSION: to put in different form;**

## **TRANSFORMATION: total change;**

**PIVOTAL:** central point; **UNPRECEDENTED:** unexampled.

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### Exercise 12

My Government has worked continuously to strengthen the spirit of Cooperative Federalism enshrined in the Constitution. It has been the<sup>20</sup> endeavour of the Government to enable the State Governments to undertake development work in their respective States in a more<sup>40</sup> effective manner. In line with this objective, my Government took the decision to provide the States with 10 percent additional<sup>60</sup> share in taxes as per the recommendations of the Finance Commission. At this time, the whole world is talking about<sup>80</sup> Kumbh, underway at Prayagraj. For this colossal event, world-class infrastructure and other facilities on a permanent basis have been<sup>100</sup> developed at a fast pace. The confluence of Ganga-Yamuna-Saraswati is setting an impressive example of cleanliness and modern management.<sup>120</sup> Ganga is not just a river for us but, is like a mother to us, a living symbol of our<sup>140</sup> culture and faith. To keep Ganga clean is our sacred duty. Under the 'Namami Ganga Mission', projects worth Rs 25,000 crore<sup>160</sup> have been approved so far. My Government is engaged with the task of cleaning up of the river Ganga<sup>180</sup> by diverting dozens of major drains, stopping flow of industrial effluents and by setting up several Sewage Treatment Plants<sup>200</sup> in the cities.

Honourable Members, Every citizen and the Government are duty bound to honour the contribution of National heroes.<sup>220</sup> Carrying forward the tradition of honouring the builders of modern India, my Government has dedicated to the nation the 'National Salt Satyagraha Memorial'<sup>240</sup> at Dandi on the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. Kranti Mandir, a museum in Delhi dedicated to<sup>260</sup> Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose has been opened to public this month. The Government has also instituted Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award<sup>280</sup> in his honour. The Government has developed 5 sacred places associated with Baba Saheb Ambedkar as "Panchteerth".<sup>300</sup> The nation has paid tribute to the Iron Man of India Sardar Patel, by building the 'Statue of Unity', which is the<sup>320</sup> tallest statue in the world. My Government is setting up museums in various States in the memory of the<sup>340</sup> country's tribal freedom fighters. My Government has conferred the Bharat Ratna on Mahatma Madan Mohan Malaviya and Atal Bihari Vajpayee<sup>360</sup> in 2015. This year it has been decided to confer Bharat Ratna on Nanaji Deshmukh,<sup>380</sup> Bhupen Hazarika and Pranab Mukherjee. By conferring national awards on the basis of merit and without any discrimination to those<sup>400</sup> citizens, who have worked selflessly for the welfare of the people, my Government has demonstrated country's commitment towards the ideals<sup>420</sup> of sacrifice and service. This month, to commemorate the Prakash Parv of Guru Govind Singhji, the Government has released a special coin.<sup>440</sup>

**ENDEAVOUR:** to try hard,

**COLOSSAL:** huge; **EFFULENTS:** liquid waste;

**COMMEMORATE:** to remember a special event.

## Exercise 13

Export competitiveness, however, is only a function of the competitiveness of the entire economy. The poor state of our infrastructure<sup>20</sup> is reducing our export competitiveness. The Government has given the highest priority to the development of our infrastructure. Our various<sup>40</sup> initiatives in this regard will start bearing fruit very soon. We have taken decisive action to speed up clearances for<sup>60</sup> power projects and to expand and upgrade our airports and ports. The Task Force on Infrastructure has formulated an ambitious<sup>80</sup> National Highway Development Project which I inaugurated in Bangalore earlier this month. Speed of movement of goods within the country,<sup>100</sup> and their shipment outside the country, is critical for the success of our export efforts. The Task Force will soon<sup>120</sup> present to the Government an Integrated National Transport Policy, whose aim will be to create fast communication links for people<sup>140</sup> and goods. Cheaper and reliable telecommunication links with the rest of the world are crucial for increasing the competitiveness of Indian exports.<sup>160</sup> A New Telecom Policy is now on the anvil. One of its major objectives is to rapidly increase tele-density<sup>180</sup> all over the country. It will ensure that the prices of domestic long-distance and international calls follow the global<sup>200</sup> trend of sharp decline and become as cheap in India as in the rest of the developed world in the<sup>220</sup> shortest possible time. The new Telecom Policy will also be a big boon to India's software exporters. You are already<sup>240</sup> aware of the many steps taken by the Government to make India a superpower in Information Technology. We have<sup>260</sup> received an excellent response from the industry in this regard. A recent happy development has been the signing of the<sup>280</sup> Free Trade Agreement between India and Sri Lanka, which will bring closer economic integration in the South-Asian region.<sup>300</sup> I am confident that this Agreement will lead to greater trade between our two countries which share so much in<sup>320</sup> common. It will also lead to similar initiatives with our other neighbours in South Asia so that this region can<sup>340</sup> become a closely-linked economic region with benefits flowing to all the countries. Friends, the global economic slow down in the<sup>360</sup> last two years, coupled with the melt down in financial markets in East Asia and elsewhere, have hurt our exports. In<sup>380</sup> such testing times, it is all the more necessary that you take this adverse development as a challenge for all here.<sup>400</sup>

I am happy to be with you this morning to participate in the India Tourism Day Celebrations. I congratulate all

those <sup>420</sup> who have been named for receiving the award. I call upon others to emulate the examples set by the award-winners, redouble your <sup>440</sup> efforts with a healthy competitive spirit, and work hard to achieve excellence in attracting more tourists - both <sup>460</sup> domestic and foreign. We all know that tourism generates many more jobs for relatively less investment. It is capable of <sup>480</sup> creating large-scale employment opportunities, particularly in rural and backward areas where there are many attractive sites for tourists. It <sup>500</sup> is, potentially, the biggest generator of foreign exchange. It is a non-polluting industry. While foreign tourists generate goodwill for India <sup>520</sup> around the world, domestic tourism is a powerful contributor to the cause of national integration. The Government has, therefore, accorded <sup>540</sup> high priority for the development of this sector through appropriate policies and programmes. Tourism has often been misunderstood as an <sup>560</sup> elitist activity without realizing its economic, social and civilization significance. Travel from one place to another for the purposes of <sup>580</sup> pilgrimage, pleasure, experience, education and business is not the exclusive privilege of any class of society but a universal <sup>600</sup> phenomenon. Tourism brings together people of different cultures and regions and fosters better mutual understanding. For doing this effectively and <sup>620</sup> durably, it demands conditions of peace. It is, therefore, rightly said that tourism is the greatest peace movement in the world. <sup>640</sup> Therefore, I commend all of you working to promote tourism in India for also promoting the larger goal of <sup>660</sup> peace and harmony around the world.

Friends, on a day like this it is natural for us to celebrate what <sup>680</sup> India has achieved in the field of tourism. But it is equally necessary to focus our attention on the gap <sup>700</sup> between our achievement and our own targets, and also the gap between the progress of tourism in India and that <sup>720</sup> in other countries of Asia and the world. If there is any destination in the world which offers the widest <sup>740</sup> choice to tourists, it is India. Nature tourism, culture tourism, exotic tourism, adventure tourism and spiritual tourism - we have <sup>760</sup> everything in India to cater to the diverse preferences of domestic and international tourists. Yet, our target of five million <sup>780</sup> foreign tourists have not been achieved, whereas even smaller countries are getting tens of millions of tourists. Why is this happening? <sup>800</sup> I readily acknowledge that, as in the case of other industries, inadequate infrastructure is a major constraint in the <sup>820</sup> development of tourism. The infrastructure for tourism includes not only hotels, restaurants and other site facilities but also basic amenities. <sup>840</sup>

**TELE-DENSITY:** telephone concentration; **EMULATE:** to copy;  
**ELITIST:** upper sections of society; **FOSTER:** promote growth of;  
**COMMEND:** to recommend favourably; **AMENITIES:** facilities.

### Exercise 14

I have come here to see things for myself, tell you of our aims and ideals and find out your needs<sup>20</sup> and ambitions. I want to dispel any apprehensions you may have. For one thing I want to remove the impression<sup>40</sup> some people have that we harbour any ill-feeling towards Hyderabad on account of the past mistakes of some people here.<sup>60</sup> We harbour no such rancour. Let no one now nurse any ambitions to kill and gain so-called martyrdom.<sup>80</sup> Whatever is legal is fully acceptable, whatever the cost. Now it is up to the Ministers to see what is to be<sup>100</sup> done about past crimes. The people who were responsible for these things in a big way have already run away.<sup>120</sup> But I need your co-operation to ensure that no innocent person suffers in their stead.

Another thing I want to<sup>140</sup> say is that our decades of slavery not just in Hyderabad but all over India have left us inert. Our millions<sup>160</sup> of unemployed must be turned to productive work. In greater production lies India's redemption. Self-rule has raised many hopes and<sup>180</sup> expectations; but these can be met only out of greater production. There are some who think we should immediately apportion out<sup>200</sup> whatever India has right now. But that would be a sharing of poverty. That the way the Communists want it<sup>220</sup> to be done would be madness. Even their mentors, the Chinese, have not done it that way. Assault, murder and<sup>240</sup> pillage among poor villagers is hardly the way to bring about Communism. It is a blot on Communism itself.<sup>260</sup> I have said before, and let me warn again, that I will root out such people. I have not seen such<sup>280</sup> atrocities anywhere. What I particularly deplore is the sources of these people's arms and ammunition. Who are the brains<sup>300</sup> behind this kind of thing? Are they from outside Hyderabad? Or are they in the Nalgonda area? No, out there<sup>320</sup> they would be picked up by the military. They are right here in Hyderabad or Secunderabad, sitting pretty.<sup>340</sup> We have today given the Hyderabad administration an experienced person from our services to work as prime minister here. But we can<sup>360</sup> ill afford to spare such people. We are very short of skilled administrators the kind of people who are serving<sup>380</sup> you at the risk of their lives. There is some talk of natives and outsiders who are doing very well.<sup>400</sup>

About five or six crore rupees are being spent on the police. This is too much. Money would be<sup>420</sup> much better spent

Handwritten cursive notes in English, likely a transcription or shorthand of the text above. The notes are written in a fluid, cursive script across the right side of the page, following the general flow of the text.

on the infra projects of irrigation, which will give us more foodgrains, more cotton.<sup>440</sup> Hyderabad never lack these things if the local politicians and the Hyderabad people had been strong and wise. They have not<sup>460</sup> even been able to handle the job of policing their area, with the result that police had to be<sup>480</sup> brought from outside. Under such conditions, complaints against outsiders have no meaning. Recently there was some rioting and police firing<sup>500</sup> in Raipur. It was noised abroad that it was food riot. For one thing, people with a family of<sup>520</sup> four draw ration for fourteen, and still expect rationing to work. For another thing, there was enough stock of foodgrains<sup>540</sup> in Raipur. But the way to get at it was to approach your own representatives in government, not to loot<sup>560</sup> the store, stone the police and create disorder. This is no way to run Swarjya. such thing bring a bad<sup>580</sup> name to your State. Hyderabad's bad reputation reflects on India's name. You may criticise the Government of India and its<sup>600</sup> administration today. But tomorrow you will have to run your affairs yourselves. Let me warn you, power will come into<sup>620</sup> your own hands very soon. It is your heritage and you will have it. But you must prepare yourselves<sup>640</sup> for the responsibility; you must organize yourselves and have big hearts. The Congress too must do likewise. It should keep<sup>660</sup> the door open for good men. Wise and able men, who want to take part in politics, should also be<sup>680</sup> willing to follow the rules and disciplines involved in it.

I would therefore ask you to approach to Pakistan Prime Minister's<sup>700</sup> assurance on the matter in a spirit of and a desire for, coming closer together than drifting apart.<sup>720</sup> If we drift apart, the task of keeping minorities within the geographical limits of our respective frontiers would become immeasurably difficult,<sup>740</sup> whereas if we make a genuine attempt at closer understanding with trust and confidence in each other, there is some<sup>760</sup> chance of minorities on either side living a life of peace and security to which they are entitled under any<sup>780</sup> civilised government. I regard it profitless at this stage to enter into any disputation of respective responsibility for the tragedies<sup>800</sup> that have occurred on both sides of the border. I can tell my West Bengal friends quite candidly that<sup>820</sup> it is the ugly and deplorable incidents which happened on our side of the border that made us.<sup>840</sup>

**APPREHENSION:** fear:

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**RENCOUR:** ill will:

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**INERT:** not able to move:

~ ~

**ATROCITIES:** cruel treatment of somebody:

~ ~

**CANDIDLY:** say exactly what you think.

### Exercise 15

We know from experience that democratic societies which guarantee individual freedom and tolerance of dissent provide an environment most conducive<sup>20</sup> to creative endeavour, and the establishment of socially just societies. We therefore, have an obligation to help other countries<sup>40</sup> that aspire for the fruits of democracy. Just as developed industrial countries assist those that are less developed to accelerate development,<sup>60</sup> democratic societies with established institutions must help those that want to strengthen democratic values and institutions. In this spirit,<sup>80</sup> your President and I agreed yesterday on a global initiative to help build democratic capacities in all societies that seek<sup>100</sup> such assistance. The capacities we have in mind are those related to the electoral, parliamentary, judicial and human rights processes<sup>120</sup> of emerging democracies. Respect for cultural diversity, minority rights and gender equality is an important goal of this initiative.<sup>140</sup> Democracy is one part of our national endeavour, Development is the other. Openness will not gain popular support if an open society<sup>160</sup> is not a prosperous society. This is especially so in developing countries, where a large number of people have<sup>180</sup> legitimate material expectations which must be met. That is why we must transform India's economy, to raise the standard of living<sup>200</sup> of all our people and in the process eliminate poverty.

India's aspirations in this respect are not different from<sup>220</sup> those of other developing countries. But we are unique in one respect. There is no other country of a billion people,<sup>240</sup> with our tremendous cultural, linguistic and religious diversity, that has tried to modernise its society and transform its economy<sup>260</sup> within the framework of a functioning democracy. To attempt this at our modest levels of per capita income is a<sup>280</sup> major challenge. We are determined to succeed in this effort. To achieve our developmental goals, our policies and strategies must be<sup>300</sup> in step with changed circumstances and especially the opportunities now available in the global economy. Our Prime Minister, standing at this<sup>320</sup> very podium two decades ago, spoke of the challenge of building anew on old foundations. He started a process<sup>340</sup> of reorienting India's economic policies, which has been continued by successive governments. The economic policy changes that have been made<sup>360</sup> in India have far-reaching implications. They have liberated Indian enterprise from government control and made the economy much more<sup>380</sup> open to global flows of trade, capital and technology. Our entrepreneurial talent has been unleashed, and is encouraged to compete with the best.<sup>400</sup>

We will continue this process so that Indian talent and enterprise can realize its full potential,<sup>420</sup> enabling India to participate

in the global economy as an equal partner. We are often criticised for being too slow in making changes in policy, but democracy means having to build a consensus<sup>440</sup> in favour of change. As elected representatives, you are all familiar with this problem. We have to clear the doubts<sup>460</sup> and calm the fears that often arise when people face the impact of change. Many of the fears we have<sup>480</sup> to address are exaggerated, but they must be addressed. This is necessary to ensure sustainability. India's economic reforms must be seen<sup>500</sup> in this light: they may appear slow, but I assure you they are durable and irreversible. I am happy to say that<sup>520</sup> our efforts at transforming India into an economy more integrated with the world have borne fruit. Our rate of growth<sup>540</sup> of GDP has increased steadily, and has averaged around 6.0% per year over the<sup>560</sup> past two decades. Poverty has declined although more slowly than we would like. We are determined to improve on this performance.<sup>580</sup> We hope to raise our growth rate to 8% or so over the next two years, and<sup>600</sup> we will ensure that this growth is "inclusive" so that its benefits are widely spread. For this we must act<sup>620</sup> on several fronts. We must do much more in health and education, which are crucial for human development. We must<sup>640</sup> continue to open up our economy. We must impart a new impetus to agricultural development. We must expand investment in<sup>660</sup> economic infrastructure which is a critical constraint on our growth prospects.

India's growth and prosperity is in American interest.<sup>680</sup> American investments in India, especially in new technology areas, will help American companies to reduce costs and become more competitive globally.<sup>700</sup> Equally, India's earnings from these investments will lead to increased purchases from the United States. The information technology revolution in India<sup>720</sup> is built primarily on US computer related technology and hardware. There are many other examples of such two-way benefits,<sup>740</sup> with both sides gaining from the process. U.S. firms are already leading the foreign investment drive in India.<sup>760</sup> I believe 400 of the Fortune 500 are already in India. They produce for the Indian market and<sup>780</sup> will hopefully also source supplies from India for their global supply chains. We welcome this involvement and look forward<sup>800</sup> to further expansion in the years ahead. India needs massive foreign direct investment, especially in infrastructure. I hope American companies will participate<sup>820</sup> in the opportunities we are creating. The 21st Century will be driven by knowledge-based production in the world.<sup>840</sup>

**ACCELERATE:** to increase gradually;

**TRANSFORM:** complete change;

**PODIUM:** platform for speaker;

**CONSENSUS:** total agreement;

**IMPETUS:** to encourage change.

## Exercise 16

We believe that the private sector, both in agriculture and industry, will provide the needed thrust to economic growth.<sup>20</sup> However, Government will have to continue to play a crucial role in strengthening the social and physical infrastructure. This cannot happen<sup>40</sup> unless the fiscal health of the Government at the Centre and in the States improves considerably and gains strength. The realization of the social and economic objectives of the Ninth Plan depends critically on our being able to finance public investment<sup>80</sup> in crucial areas of social and physical infrastructure. We will fail in our duty if we do not improve<sup>100</sup> the Central and State finances. The Centre has started taking certain firm measures to fulfil our responsibility. I urge the<sup>120</sup> State Governments, too, to put their finances in order.

Dear Chief Ministers, recent trends in this regard are alarming. States<sup>140</sup> own contribution to Plan financing has been almost non-existent. States are increasingly borrowing even to finance their current consumption.<sup>160</sup> Reluctance to mobilize additional resources to meet increasing expenditure is the reason for this. There is a need for austerity all<sup>180</sup> around to contain wasteful public expenditure. Revenue should be increased through a greater attention to efficiency and productivity of the<sup>200</sup> enormous human and financial resources we invest in our various schemes. Can we accomplish this without a political consensus to<sup>220</sup> end competitive populism? We are aware that the Centre has taken certain measures in recent years that have had serious<sup>240</sup> though indirect, repercussions on State finances. As an example, I mention the implementation of the Fifth Pay Commission's recommendations. Adoption<sup>260</sup> of these at the Centre has had a snowballing effect on States. I can assure you that we will be<sup>280</sup> more considerate of States' interests in such matters in future. Charity begins at home. I would say the same about<sup>300</sup> cutting the Central Government's expenditure. I urge all Central Ministries to enforce expenditure management rigorously. Why should we not have<sup>320</sup> more essential expenditure in the social sector. Today, there is both a need and scope to raise resources through levying<sup>340</sup> reasonable electricity tariffs and irrigation charges. Untargeted and unintended subsidies often lead to distortions in resource allocation, besides failing to<sup>360</sup> benefit the really poor. Reforms in the power sector, which we have been overdue must be quickly implemented by States.<sup>380</sup> That will lead to better financial annotations of the power sector which under serves financial freedom for the time being.<sup>400</sup>

We should also address the problem of implicit subsidies. For instance, take the subsidies for higher education. Is it not <sup>420</sup> paradoxical that even rich students pay college fees that, in some States, are less than what they spend on cold drinks? <sup>440</sup> No Government can afford to provide costly services, free of cost, universally. They must levy reasonable user charges <sup>460</sup> wherever possible, particularly for non-merit goods and services. What is required is a change in the mindset, in the fixed <sup>480</sup> inherited nations about subsidized public services. We should not be prisoners of the past. Subsidized services should be restricted to <sup>500</sup> only those who cannot afford to pay. There is tax competition among States to attract private investments. Such policies are harmful <sup>520</sup> as States have lost tax revenue without much influencing investment decisions. This must stop. Better infrastructure, faster decision-making, and <sup>540</sup> investor-friendly environment are more important in the decision making of the investor community. A practice that is pushing States <sup>560</sup> towards fiscal crisis is the ready extension of guarantees to the borrowings of State-level public enterprises. These <sup>580</sup> guarantees may devolve on State Governments, as the financial health of many such enterprises is not sound. This practice will <sup>600</sup> hurt States credibility and adversely influence their credit ratings. Regional disparities are of concern, both across, and within States. Even <sup>620</sup> some of the faster growing States have pockets that have lagged behind. We should exchange notes on lessons of such <sup>640</sup> unbalanced development. Faster and widespread development is the medicine for many of the ills of our economy, polity, and society. <sup>660</sup> Let us strive to live up to the expectations of the people, especially of the poorest, who are also the <sup>680</sup> majority of voters. Modern communications and media have raised people's expectations. We cannot forget that many of the social, <sup>700</sup> political, and communal tensions we see today are due to the non-realization of these expectations. The 73rd and 74th <sup>720</sup> Amendments to our Constitution, five years ago, provide for a third tier of government. Still, several States have not <sup>740</sup> yet imbibed the spirit of these Amendments. There is an urgent need for genuine devolution of political, administrative, and financial powers <sup>760</sup> to the Panchayati Raj institutions. If democracy works at the national and State level, it will surely work at <sup>780</sup> the village level also. Rather, democracy at the national and State levels will only be enriched by extending it to <sup>800</sup> the grassroots. All of us cherish peaceful and orderly progress. Good governance is essential for this. The rule of law <sup>820</sup> is a prerequisite for good governance.

However, it is violated in many parts of the country. That should not be allowed.<sup>840</sup>

**CRUCIAL:** essential; **AUSTERITY:** economy;

**REPURCUSSION:** effect; **DEVOLVE:** spread;

**JMBIBED:** absorb, drink in; **PARADOXICAL:** inconsistency.

### Exercise 17

The Annual Budget is also an opportunity for the Government to outline its priorities for the year to come. The priority<sup>20</sup> of our Government is clearly to provide additional resources for vulnerable sections, rural areas and social and physical infrastructure creation.<sup>40</sup> The Government shall also endeavour to continue with the ongoing reform programme and ensure the passage of the Constitutional amendments<sup>60</sup> to enable the implementation of the Goods and Service Tax, the passage of Insolvency and Bankruptcy law and other important<sup>80</sup> reform measures which are pending before the Parliament. Additionally, as I will detail later, we will undertake significant reforms, such as<sup>100</sup> the enactment of a law to ensure that all Government benefits are conferred upon persons who deserve it, by<sup>120</sup> giving a statutory backing to the AADHAR platform; bringing significant changes in the legislative framework relating to the transport sector<sup>140</sup> so as to free it from constraints and restrictions; incentivising gas discovery and exploration by providing calibrated marketing freedom; enactment<sup>160</sup> of a comprehensive law to deal with resolution of financial firms; providing legal framework for dispute resolution in PPP<sup>180</sup> projects and public utility contracts; undertaking important banking sector reforms and public listing of general insurance companies; and undertaking significant<sup>200</sup> changes in FDI policy. Our agenda for the next year is, therefore, to 'Transform India' in this direction.<sup>220</sup> My Budget proposals are, therefore, built on this transformative agenda with nine distinct pillars.

Let me first take up Agriculture<sup>240</sup> and Farmers' Welfare. We are grateful to our farmers for being the backbone of the country's food security. We need<sup>260</sup> to think beyond 'food security' and give back to our farmers a sense of 'income security'. Government will, therefore,<sup>280</sup> reorient its interventions in the farm and non-farm sectors to double the income of the farmers by 2022.<sup>300</sup> Our total allocation for Agriculture and Farmers' welfare is Rs.36,000 crore. We need to address issues<sup>320</sup> of optimal utilisation of our water resources; create new infrastructure for irrigation; conserve soil fertility with balanced use of fertilizer;<sup>340</sup> and provide value addition and connectivity from farm to markets. Irrigation is a critical input for increasing agriculture production and<sup>360</sup> productivity. Out of 141 million hectares of net cultivated area in the country, only 46% is<sup>380</sup> covered with irrigation. The 'Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana' has been strengthened and will be implemented in mission mode.<sup>400</sup>

Twenty eight lakh hectares will be brought under irrigation under this Scheme. Implementation of 89 irrigation projects under AIBP,<sup>420</sup> which have been languishing, will be fast tracked. This will help to irrigate 80 lakh hectares. These projects require Rs.17, 000 crore<sup>440</sup> next year and Rs.86,000 crore in the next five years. We will ensure that 23 of these projects are completed<sup>460</sup> before this financial years. A dedicated Long Term Irrigation Fund will be created in NABARD with an initial corpus<sup>480</sup> of about Rs.20,000 crore. To achieve all these, a total provision of Rs.12,000 crore has been made<sup>500</sup> through budgetary support and market borrowings. Simultaneously, a major programme for sustainable management of ground water resources has been prepared<sup>520</sup> with an estimated cost of Rs.6,000 crore and proposed for multilateral funding. At least 5 lakh farm ponds<sup>540</sup> and dug wells in rain fed areas and 10 lakh compost pits for production of organic manure will be taken up<sup>560</sup> by making productive use of the allocations under MGNREGA.

The Soil Health Card Scheme is now being implemented with<sup>580</sup> greater vigour. Through this, farmers get information about nutrient level of the soil and can make judicious use of fertilizers.<sup>600</sup> The target is to cover all 14 crore farm holdings by March 2017. Rs.300 crore has been<sup>620</sup> provided for National Project on Soil Health and Fertility. Besides, 2,000 model retail outlets of Fertilizer companies will be<sup>640</sup> provided with soil and seed testing facilities during the next three years. Fertilizer companies will also co-market city<sup>660</sup> compost which increases the efficacy of chemical fertilizer. A policy for conversion of city waste into compost has also been<sup>680</sup> approved by the Government under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. To increase crop yields in rain fed areas, which account for<sup>700</sup> nearly 55% of the country's cultivable land, organic farming is being promoted. Towards this end, the Government has<sup>720</sup> launched two important schemes. First, the 'Parmparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana' which will bring 5 lakh acres under organic/farming<sup>740</sup> over a three year period. Second, the Government has launched a value chain based organic farming scheme called "Organic Value<sup>760</sup> Chain' Development in North East Region". The emphasis is on value addition so that organic produce grown in these parts<sup>780</sup> find domestic and export markets. A total provision of Rs.400 crore has been made for these schemes.<sup>800</sup> Access to markets is critical for the income of farmers. The Government is implementing the<sup>820</sup> Unified Agriculture Marketing Scheme which envisages a common e-market platform that will be deployed in selected 585 regulated wholesale markets.<sup>840</sup>

**VULNERABLE:** to be hurt easily; **INSOLVENCY/BANKRUPTCY:** state when property is less than liability; **PRODUCTIVITY:** output/input ratio; **LANGUISHING:** to lose strength; inert; **JUDICIOUS:** ideal, balanced.

### Exercise 18

Government has approved the path breaking Crop Insurance Scheme, namely, 'Prime Minister Fasal Bima Yojana'. For effective implementation of this<sup>20</sup> Scheme, I have provided a sum of Rs.5,000 crore in the Budget. We have<sup>40</sup> to ensure that the benefit of Minimum Support Price reaches farmers in all parts of the country. Three specific initiatives<sup>60</sup> will be taken up in this year to for this. First, the remaining States will be encouraged to take up decentralized procurement. Second,<sup>80</sup> an online Procurement System will be undertaken through the Food Corporation of India. This will usher in transparency and convenience<sup>100</sup> to the farmers through prior registration and monitoring of actual procurement. Third, effective arrangements have been made for pulses procurement.<sup>120</sup> Farmers also take up other allied activities to supplement their family income. To make dairying more remunerative to the farmers,<sup>140</sup> four new projects will be taken up: first, the 'Pashudhan Sanjivani', an animal wellness programme and provision of Animal Health Cards<sup>160</sup> second, an Advanced breeding technology; third, Creation of 'e-Pashudhan Haat', an e market portal for connecting breeders and farmers;<sup>180</sup> and fourth, a National Breeding Centre for indigenous breeds. These projects will be implemented at a cost of Rs.850 crores<sup>200</sup> over the next few years.

After agriculture, I now turn to the other segments of the rural economy. A sum of Rs.3 lakh crore will<sup>220</sup> be given as Grant in Aid to Gram Panchayats and Municipalities as per the recommendations of the<sup>240</sup> 14th Finance Commission. This is a quantum jump of 228% compared to the previous five year period.<sup>260</sup> The funds now allocated, translate to an average assistance of over Rs.80 lakh per Gram Panchayat and over Rs.21 crore<sup>280</sup> per Urban Local Body. These enhanced allocations are capable of transforming villages and small towns. Ministry of Panchayati Raj<sup>300</sup> will work with the States and evolve guidelines to actualise this. There is an urgent need to focus on areas of<sup>320</sup> drought and rural distress. Every block in these distress areas will be taken up as an intensive Block under the<sup>340</sup> Deen Dayal Antyodaya Mission. Formation of Self Help Groups will be speeded up to promote multiple livelihoods. Cluster Facilitation Teams<sup>360</sup> will be set up under MNREGA to ensure water conservation and natural resource management. These districts would also be taken up<sup>380</sup> on priority under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojna. A sum of Rs.38,500 crore has been allocated for MNREGA.<sup>400</sup>

Three Hundred Urban Clusters will be developed under the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Urban Mission launched by the Honourable Prime Minister<sup>420</sup> recently. These Clusters will enhance

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growth centres in rural areas by providing infrastructure amenities and market access for the farmers.<sup>440</sup> They will also expand employment opportunities for the youth. Swachh Bharat Mission is India's biggest drive to improve sanitation and<sup>460</sup> cleanliness, especially in rural India. This subject was very close to the heart of the Father of the Nation. For the<sup>480</sup> first time since Independence, the Parliament held a comprehensive debate on sanitation. This has become a topic of discussion<sup>500</sup> in almost every home. We have introduced ranking of urban areas in sanitation which has resulted in constructive competition among<sup>520</sup> towns and cities. Rs.9,000 crore has been provided for Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. In order to continue this momentum,<sup>540</sup> priority allocation from Centrally Sponsored Schemes will be made to reward villages that have become free from open defecation. We<sup>560</sup> need to derive greater benefit from our demographic advantage. We need to spread digital literacy in rural India. Of the<sup>580</sup> 16.8 crore rural households as many as 12 crore households do not have computers and are unlikely<sup>600</sup> to have digitally literate persons. We have already approved two Schemes to promote digital literacy: National Digital Literacy Mission; and<sup>620</sup> Digital Saksharta Abhiyan.

We now plan to launch a new Digital Literacy Mission Scheme for rural India to cover around<sup>640</sup> 6 crore additional households within the next 3 years. Details of this scheme will be spelt out separately. Modernisation<sup>660</sup> of land records is critical for dispute free titles. The National Land Record Modernisation Programme has been revamped under the<sup>680</sup> Digital India Initiative and will be implemented as a Central sector scheme with effect from 1st April, 2017.<sup>700</sup> The revamped Programme will build an integrated land information management system. Rs.150 crore has been provided for this<sup>720</sup> purpose. When asked what he intends doing for regeneration of India, Swami Vivekananda had said "no amount of politics would be<sup>740</sup> of any avail until the masses in India are well educated, well fed and well cared for".

I now<sup>760</sup> proceed to present the key elements of my proposals in the Social Sector. In our country, cooking gas cylinders were<sup>780</sup> considered an upper middle class luxury. Gradually it spread to the middle class. But the poor do not have access<sup>800</sup> to cooking gas. Women of India have faced the curse of smoke during the process of cooking. According to experts<sup>820</sup> having an open fire in the kitchen is like burning 400 cigarettes an hour. We have to remedy it.<sup>840</sup>

**USHER:** to begin; **TRANPARENCY:** openness;

**DEFECATION:** cleansing;

**REVAMPED:** re-strengthened;

**TRANSFORMING:** change to another form.

Handwritten notes in Urdu/Arabic script are written vertically along the right margin of the page. The notes appear to be a summary or translation of the text on the left, mentioning 'Swachh Bharat Mission', 'Digital India Initiative', 'National Land Record Modernisation Programme', and 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan'.

### Exercise 19

We have decided to embark upon on a massive mission to provide LPG connection in the name of<sup>20</sup> women members of poor households. I have set aside a sum of Rs.2,000 crore in this year's Budget<sup>40</sup> to meet the initial cost of providing these LPG connections. This will benefit about 1 crore 50 lakh<sup>60</sup> households below the poverty line in 2016-17. The Scheme will be continued for at least two more years<sup>80</sup> to cover a total of 5 crore BPL households. This will ensure universal coverage of cooking gas<sup>100</sup> in the country. This measure will empower women and protect their health. It will reduce drudgery and the time<sup>120</sup> spent on cooking. It will also provide employment for rural youth in the supply chain of cooking gas. I want<sup>140</sup> to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and appreciation for the 75 lakh middle class and lower middle class<sup>160</sup> households who have voluntarily given up their cooking gas subsidy, in response to the call given by the Hon'ble Prime Minister.<sup>180</sup> Their gesture is a matter of pride for the country.

Catastrophic health events are the single most important cause<sup>200</sup> of unforeseen out-of-pocket expenditure which pushes lakhs of households below the poverty line every year. Serious illness of<sup>220</sup> family members cause severe stress on the financial circumstances of poor and economically weak families, shaking the foundation of their<sup>240</sup> economic security. In order to help such families, the Government will launch a new health protection scheme which will provide<sup>260</sup> health cover up to Rs.1 lakh per family. For senior citizens of age 60 years<sup>280</sup> and above belonging to this category, an additional top-up package up to Rs.30,000 will be provided. Making quality medicines<sup>300</sup> available at affordable prices has been a key challenge. We will reinvigorate the supply of generic drugs. 3,000 Stores<sup>320</sup> under Prime Minister's Jan Aushadhi Yojana will be opened.

About 2.2 lakh new patients of End Stage Renal Disease<sup>340</sup> get added in India every year resulting in additional demand for 3.4 crore dialysis sessions. With approximately<sup>360</sup> 5,000 dialysis centres in India, largely in the private sector and concentrated in the major towns, the demand is<sup>380</sup> only half met. Every dialysis session costs about Rs.2,000 – an annual expenditure of more than Rs.3 lakh.<sup>400</sup>

To address this situation, I propose to start a 'National Dialysis Services Programme'. Funds will be made available through<sup>420</sup> PPP mode under the National Health Mission, to provide dialysis services in all district hospitals. To reduce the cost,<sup>440</sup> I propose to exempt certain parts of dialysis equipment

from basic customs duty etc. Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs<sup>460</sup> are beginning to show great promise in starting and running successful business enterprises. The Prime Minister had given a call<sup>480</sup> for promoting entrepreneurship among SC/ST to become job providers rather than job seekers. I am happy to<sup>500</sup> inform you that the Union Cabinet has approved the "Stand Up India Scheme" to promote entrepreneurship among SC/ST<sup>520</sup> and women. Rs.500 crore has been provided for this purpose. The Scheme will facilitate at least two<sup>540</sup> such projects per bank branch, one for each category of entrepreneur. This will benefit at least 2 lakh entrepreneurs.<sup>560</sup> We are celebrating the 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. This must become the Year of Economic Empowerment for<sup>580</sup> SC/ST entrepreneurs. We have extensively interacted with the Dalit India Chamber of Commerce and Industry on building an entrepreneurship eco-system.<sup>600</sup> It is proposed to constitute a National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub in the MSME Ministry in partnership<sup>620</sup> with industry associations. This Hub will provide professional support to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe entrepreneurs to fulfil the<sup>640</sup> obligations under the Central Government procurement policy 2012, adopt global best practices and leverage the 'Stand Up India'<sup>660</sup> initiative.

The schemes for welfare and skill development for Minorities such as Multi-sectoral Development Programme and USTAAD shall be<sup>680</sup> implemented effectively. I would now like to highlight the steps proposed to be taken under education, skill development and job creation<sup>700</sup> which is the fourth pillar of my Budget proposals. After universalisation of primary education throughout the country, we want to take<sup>720</sup> the next big step forward by focusing on the quality of education with 62 new Navodaya Vidyalayas in the current year.<sup>740</sup> To help Students, Higher Education Institutions and Employers to access degree certificates of candidates, it is proposed to establish a Digital<sup>760</sup> Depository for School Leaving Certificates, College Degrees, Academic Awards and Mark sheets, on the pattern of a Securities Depository.<sup>780</sup> This will help validate their authenticity, safe storage and easy retrieval. "Skill India" mission seeks to capitalise our demographic advantage.<sup>800</sup> Since its launch, the National Skill Development Mission has created an elaborate skilling eco-system and imparted training to 76 lakh<sup>820</sup> youth. We want to bring entrepreneurship to the doorsteps of youth through Prime Minister Skill Development Mission this year.<sup>840</sup>

**DRUDGERY:** dull & laborious work; **CATASTROPHIC:** overturning;

**REINVIGORATE:** to revigour, **DIALYSYS:** treatment for kidney patients;

**AUTHENTICITY:** genuine, real.

## Exercise 20

Sir, just to begin with the discussion on the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Commerce. I will congratulate the Minister of Commerce<sup>20</sup> because at least, we have got this year a thicker report pertaining to the performance of the Ministry than the<sup>40</sup> report presented last year. It has, in fact, become a bulky report this year because of certain extra activities,<sup>60</sup> increased activities in certain spheres of the Ministry. The Ministry of Commerce mainly deals with the foreign trade and also<sup>80</sup> certain industries which are export oriented, producing commodities for marketing in the outside countries. We think that the earning<sup>100</sup> is a subsidiary rather than complimentary to the total economy of the nation and it should supplement certain aspects of<sup>120</sup> the economic growth and development of the country. We have certain governmental obligation and responsibilities of maintaining relations with other<sup>140</sup> countries and for that we require foreign exchange. For the development of big industries and overall industrial growth inside our<sup>160</sup> country we require certain machinery and equipment to be imported and for that also, we require foreign exchange. Our country<sup>180</sup> was under colonial rule for about 200 years, certain industries have been developed in our country and the commodities<sup>200</sup> manufactured by these industries have got to be exported. We have certain obligations in this regard.

That is true, but<sup>220</sup> what we see at the present moment is as if the entire economy of our country rests on the possibility<sup>240</sup> of increase in export or the development of export trade in our country. Just now we were discussing the Demands<sup>260</sup> for Grants of the Ministry of Energy. There also we have found that essential commodity like coal<sup>280</sup>

we cannot supply<sup>280</sup> to the rural villages in our country where the fuel scarcity is immense and there are certain other spheres<sup>300</sup> also like agriculture. Also in urban areas, in the industrial field, coal is essential for development of the economy. In<sup>320</sup> the domestic sphere we cannot use coal because we have not got the infrastructure of developing industries in our<sup>340</sup> own country, and also we cannot supply the essential fuel and other necessities to the rural people, millions of our<sup>360</sup> people. We have not got that market possibility. We have not developed such market possibilities in our country. Our economy is<sup>380</sup> such that we have to depend upon foreign aid or some export earnings and by exporting our own essential commodities.<sup>400</sup>

This is the position of the economy of our own country and our export policy has become such that we<sup>420</sup> have to

find out a market every day and also a market for every item of commodity which we are going<sup>440</sup> to produce in our country. Unless we get such market every day and every moment, our economy is going to<sup>460</sup> suffer in many respects. In the Economic Survey of 2012 which has been presented recently, concern<sup>480</sup> has been expressed over the larger deficit in the trade account. It is true that this year the deficit in<sup>500</sup> the trade account has become the largest of all the years since our Independence. It has been shown that because<sup>520</sup> of the imports of certain commodities like food, fertiliser and oil and also because of the inflationary prices prevailing in<sup>540</sup> the world market for these commodities, the import prices have gone up so high that the export earnings have failed<sup>560</sup> to keep pace with the high prices for imports. That is, in a sense, well as those shown in the Economic Survey of India, you will<sup>600</sup> find that in the last year we imported food not in a larger quantity than of the previous year.<sup>620</sup> Crude oil too was also not imported in a larger quantity than that of the previous year. Actually, if we<sup>640</sup> calculate the actual quantum of imports, it has gone down since the previous year, but the prices have gone up.<sup>660</sup> The money value of imports has gone up but the quantum of imports has gone down and in order to<sup>680</sup> keep pace with that, we are going in for export of each and every item. It has already been stated<sup>700</sup> in the Report that the developed countries are going to import less and less from our country. Our exports to<sup>720</sup> North America and in particular to the USA, East European countries, as well as Euro Zone countries are<sup>740</sup> going down and down, and for that reason we are going to explore new markets in African countries. I apprehend, in this<sup>760</sup> way we cannot build a strong market and cannot have a concrete base for our export market, if we,<sup>780</sup> just for this year, take up certain commodities to fit into the demands of the new markets and after two<sup>800</sup> or three years they will stop importing those articles, we shall have to roam about and find out other market.<sup>820</sup> If our policy goes on like this, then we will not be able to have a stable export market.<sup>840</sup>

**SUBSIDIARY:** supporting

**SUPPLEMENTARY:** additional;

**IMMENSE:** huge,

**APPREHEND:** fear

## Exercise 21

Henceforth you are going to have elected municipalities. The elections will be on the basis of adult franchise which is being<sup>20</sup> established everywhere in India now. It is rather difficult for people to make good use of their franchise when<sup>40</sup> most of them are illiterate and inexperienced, but it is the call of the times and we cannot act in any other way.<sup>60</sup> One man's rule is much easier. It works more expeditiously and efficiently, if he is the right man.<sup>80</sup> On the other hand, popular rule is very difficult. It cannot be speedy. Everyone's opinion has to be taken<sup>100</sup> and all sorts of influences, pulls and pressures cause work to be done less efficiently than could otherwise be<sup>120</sup> the case. The services who run the administration have to adjust themselves. Hyderabad's economy today is in a bad way.<sup>140</sup> It has to be improved. The countryside needs hospitals, medicines and equipment. It needs education as much as food.<sup>160</sup> The masses will not know the difference that freedom makes to their lives except through a better and easier fulfilment<sup>180</sup> of these needs.

If we do not spend crores on maintaining the kind of army that will ensure India's integrity,<sup>200</sup> we would be defaulters. One has to keep in view what a neighbour does. Pakistan says it has one enemy<sup>220</sup> in the world India. As this is their openly declared opinion, we have to remain alert. I would rather wish that there were<sup>240</sup> on fighting between India and Pakistan. Those who want war are insane. We have no such desire.<sup>260</sup> We have to create conditions in both countries in which Hindus and Muslims can live happily together. Especially in Hyderabad,<sup>280</sup> I want to say, let us bury the past. The clean thing is to purge our hearts of animosity,<sup>300</sup> now that we have broadly achieved what we wanted. It is cowardice to hit a fallen person. We should rather give<sup>320</sup> him a helping hand and lift him up. The Muslims here are not foreigners. They are from among ourselves. Gandhiji always<sup>340</sup> proclaimed that if we want true Swarjya, we should do away with untouchability; we should unite Hindus and Muslims.<sup>360</sup> If we want to improve our economic condition, we should make our own cloth. Besides, we should have one national language.<sup>380</sup> On these four pillars Gandhiji tried to build Indian Swarajya to the end of his life. I was associated with him.<sup>400</sup>

Minutes later a mad man killed him. But his words live on in my mind. What did he want at that<sup>420</sup> moment? He had wanted to go to Karachi to convince the Muslim majority there that it was in their<sup>440</sup> interest to keep the Hindus well, just as he had tried to convince the Hindus here. He had worked for<sup>460</sup> this

day and night, in the capital and the countryside, because otherwise peace in the country was impossible. To Muslims<sup>480</sup> in India, I appeal for a change of heart in the interests of amity. They should also tell Pakistan that fighting<sup>500</sup> solves no problems. Instead of the fighting that has been going on for two or three years, let them convince the<sup>520</sup> Kashmiri Muslims. If they favour Pakistan, we are not the ones to keep them forcibly. But they want to remain<sup>540</sup> with us. Ours is a secular state. It was not made secular for a few Kashmiri Muslims. There are three crores<sup>560</sup> other Muslims too in India, almost as many as there are in Pakistan. Each one of these should<sup>580</sup> try to convince their relations and friends of the futility of conflict. Let us end the era of conflict.<sup>600</sup> Let them run their own affairs and leave us to run ours, instead of pulling our legs. Only then can cordiality.<sup>620</sup> prevail. Let us settle the points at issue. There is enough water in the Indus and the Punjab rivers<sup>640</sup> for both countries. Let us sit down and talk it over peacefully.

We have recently concluded an agreement after seven days<sup>660</sup> of discussion. But the agreement will be deemed to have succeeded only if Hindu migrants return to Pakistan and<sup>680</sup> Muslim migrants return to India. Otherwise all talk of implementation of agreement will be merely empty words. In our secular state,<sup>700</sup> we have tried to ensure that the Muslims enjoy all their rights as equal citizens. Any violation of this leads<sup>720</sup> to reaction which is undesirable. We have trouble coping with such reaction. Pakistan met the same problem by just eliminating<sup>740</sup> its communal question: they have evicted the minority. That kind of approach makes nonsense of the talk of amity.<sup>760</sup> I am sure they will have to agree ultimately to let the Hindus return to their homes and restore their properties.<sup>780</sup> The same will hold good for Muslims here. The Muslims of Hyderabad should live in full confidence and security.<sup>800</sup> They are citizens of India with the same rights as other citizens. If we cannot guarantee this, we are unfit<sup>820</sup> to rule. We have to banish discrimination of caste and creed from Hyderabad. Hindus and Muslims must unite and improve.<sup>840</sup>

**FRANCHISE:** right to vote;

**EXPEDITIOUSLY:** quickly;

**ELIMINATING:** to delete;

**BANISH:** to ban.

## Exercise 22

Sir, there is also the very big responsibility of the foreign trade to meet the minimum requirements of the country<sup>20</sup> especially requirements of essential goods of mass consumption which may be in short supply from time to time to save<sup>40</sup> our people from the evil effects of profiteering when such a situation arises. In this the strategy you have adopted<sup>60</sup> is, as my distinguished friend has pointed out, merely to rely on one single agency and the single agency seems to<sup>80</sup> be getting bigger and bigger every day, a giant who is becoming more and more inefficient. Now, I would<sup>100</sup> like to say a few words about the direction of our trade. In times to come, in the foreseeable future,<sup>120</sup> about Russia, USA, EEC countries and Japan will continue to be our major partners<sup>140</sup> in foreign trade. There is no doubt in my mind. But surely we should aim at our neighbouring<sup>160</sup> countries. I would in this connection draw the attention of the Commerce Minister to the fact that our trade with<sup>180</sup> every single neighbouring country in South Asia has declined. This is a sad commentary, it is a bad state of<sup>200</sup> affairs. It is not a good augury for the future we envisage for this zone. I would like the Commerce<sup>220</sup> Minister to plan steadily in a manner so that we do not compete against Bangladesh or any of our immediate<sup>240</sup> neighbouring countries such as Sri Lanka. Together we should develop a strategy of going along with them. We should build up<sup>260</sup> such capacities so that there is more exchange of goods between our country and our neighbouring countries.

Export subsidy has<sup>280</sup> been mentioned. I find that in a few years time from a paltry sum of Rs.35 crores the<sup>300</sup> subsidy has come to over 600 crores. How long shall our foreign trade need this crutch? This is<sup>320</sup> a question which has to be put seriously and answered seriously. Any type of trade which cannot stand on its<sup>340</sup> own without subsidy even for five years or ten years should be taken off the list. It should not be<sup>360</sup> in our export list at all. It should be discarded. There are fresh pastures which we can explore. The export<sup>380</sup> quota I hope the Minister knows is transferrable. And it is being transferred from one party to the other.<sup>400</sup>

We have had the exports zones of Kandla and Santa Cruz. After thirty years their total export turnover is of the<sup>420</sup> order of Rs.150 to Rs.200 crores. I think this is a disgrace. I think this whole experiment needs<sup>440</sup> to be reviewed. The Minister announced a special relief for 100 per cent export

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oriented industries as a<sup>460</sup> New Year Gift at the end of this year. I think it was a gift only for the monopolists and for<sup>480</sup> the multinationals. I think its impact on our indigenous trade should be looked into.

Mr. Vice Chairman, Sir, I would<sup>500</sup> like to mention something about our joint ventures. I know that the joint ventures have been part and parcel of<sup>520</sup> our policy of export promotion and also of economic co-operation with the other developing countries. But I find that, after<sup>540</sup> so many years these 115 units that are in operation have made a total investment of just<sup>560</sup> Rs.35 crores only and this is an insignificant sum if you take each individual country and relate it to<sup>580</sup> the total industrial investment in that country. Our resources are limited and I think we should concentrate on areas which<sup>600</sup> are of immediate interest to us and it is in these areas that we should really build up our joint<sup>620</sup> venture capacity. As for the international environment, we know what the Honourable Minister has confessed in the House and<sup>640</sup> I would like to quote his words. He has said that the new international economic order and the North-South<sup>660</sup> dialogue have failed. I think the new international economic order was perhaps a still born child. It was a device by<sup>680</sup> some vested interests who were trying to arrange a certain recycling of resources and once that recycling of petro-dollars<sup>700</sup> was achieved, then there was nothing left to talk about and the people have been taken for a ride. The<sup>720</sup> U.N. has failed to evolve a strategy for development in this decade. The technical co-operation among the developing countries<sup>740</sup> has failed to take off. The UNCTAD and the ESCAP are<sup>760</sup> today the responsibility of the Ministry of Commerce and they have given birth to a plethora of committees and sub-committees<sup>780</sup> and working groups and expert committees and what not. I wonder what contribution that have made to the promotion of<sup>800</sup> our trade. Sir, I feel that the Ministry of Commerce should not waste its time in dealing with these organisations,<sup>820</sup> otherwise, it shall be too late to correct the imbalance in our trade which is becoming bad to worse.<sup>840</sup>

**STEADILY:** resolute, stable; **EXPLORE:** to discover;

**MONOPOLISTS:** sole supplier;

**IMPACT:** effect; **PLETHORA:** over-supply.

### Exercise 23 (Legal)

It is clear from the discussion made hereinabove that the said case was not one relating to compounding of offence.<sup>20</sup> Apart from that the Court found that the dues of the Banks have been satisfied by receiving the money and the<sup>40</sup> suits filed by the Bank in the Civil Court have been compromised. The FIRs were filed in<sup>60</sup> 1987-1988 and the investigation had not been completed till 1991. On those<sup>80</sup> facts the Court, rendering the judgment in July, 1996, felt that having regard to the lapse of time<sup>100</sup> and also having regard to the fact that there is a compromise decree satisfying the Banks' dues, there is no<sup>120</sup> purpose in allowing the criminal prosecution to proceed. On these considerations, this Court, held the provision of Section 482<sup>140</sup> of Criminal Procedure Code. In the facts of that case the learned Judges held that the Bank filed suits<sup>160</sup> for recovery of the dues on account of grant of credit facility and the suits have been compromised on receiving<sup>180</sup> the payments from the company concerned. The learned Court held it an offence of cheating is prima facie constituted, such<sup>200</sup> offence is a compoundable offence and compromise decrees passed in the suits instituted by the Banks, for all intents and<sup>220</sup> purposes amount to compounding of the offence of cheating. In that case the Court came to the conclusion since the<sup>240</sup> claims of the Banks have been satisfied and the suits instituted by the Banks have been compromised on receiving payments,<sup>260</sup> the Court felt that the complaint should not be perused any further and, therefore, the Court, the decision of<sup>280</sup> the High Court in quashing the complaint does not require any interference under Article 136 of the Constitution.<sup>300</sup>

It is, therefore, clear that no legal proposition has been laid down on the compounding of offence in Duncans Agro.<sup>320</sup> This Court proceeded on the peculiar facts of the case discussed above. Therefore, the said decision cannot be<sup>340</sup> an authority to contend that by mere sanctioning of a scheme, the offences committed by the appellant company, prior to the scheme,<sup>360</sup> stand automatically compounded. Reliance was also placed on the decision of this Court in the case of CBI, New Delhi<sup>380</sup> reported in 5 SCC 257. In that case reliance was placed on the decision of this Court in Duncans Agro as such.<sup>400</sup>

The Court found that the aforesaid scheme being a voluntary scheme introduced by the Government of India

has provided that if the<sup>420</sup> dispute and demand is settled by the authority and pending proceedings were withdrawn by an importer the balance demand against<sup>440</sup> the importer shall be dropped and the importer shall be immune from any penal proceedings under any law. The Court<sup>460</sup> also came to the conclusion that under the Customs Act, 1962 the appellant have been discharged and the<sup>480</sup> scheme granted them immunity from prosecution. On those facts the Court held that the immunity which has been granted under the<sup>500</sup> provisions of Customs Act will also extend to such offences that may, *prima facie*, be made out on identical<sup>520</sup> allegation, namely, evasion of customs duty and violation of any notification under the said Act. The Court also found, on<sup>540</sup> a reading of the chargesheet and the FIR that there was no allegation against the appellant of any<sup>560</sup> intentional deception or of fraudulent or dishonest intention. On those facts the Court held that once a civil case has<sup>580</sup> been compromised and the alleged offence has been compounded, the continuance of the criminal proceedings thereafter would be an abuse<sup>600</sup> of the judicial process. Reliance was also placed on the judgment of this Court in the case of CBI and other.<sup>620</sup>

In paragraphs 30 and 31 of the judgment this Court held that dispute between company and the Bank have been<sup>640</sup> set at rest on the basis of compromise arrived at between them. The Court noted that Bank does not have<sup>660</sup> any claim against the company. The Court poses the question whether the power of quashing criminal proceeding was suffering from<sup>680</sup> some disability, a person to represent the aforesaid category of persons is only competent to compound the offence and in such<sup>700</sup> cases the permission of the Court is statutory required. Section 320 (4) (b) also reiterates the same principle<sup>720</sup> by providing that when a person who is otherwise competent to compound an offence is dead, his legal representatives, as<sup>740</sup> defined under the Code of Civil Procedure may, with the consent of the Court, compound such offence. Therefore, representation of<sup>760</sup> the person compounding has been statutorily provided in all situations. Relying on the aforesaid clause in Section 147<sup>780</sup> of the N.I. Act, learned counsel for the appellant argued that a three Judge Bench decision of this Court<sup>800</sup> in Damodar case, held that in view of the clause in Section 147 of N.I. Act, which is<sup>820</sup> a special statute, the requirement of consent of the person compounding in Section 320 of the Code is not required<sup>840</sup> in the case of compounding of an offence under N.I. Act. This Court is unable to accept the aforesaid contention for various reasons.<sup>843</sup>

**PROSECUTION:** suing in a court;    **IMMUNITY:** exemption;  
**REITERATES:** to state again;    **STATUTE:** codified law.

## Exercise 24

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have great pleasure in taking part in the debate relating to the Demands for Grants for<sup>20</sup> this Ministry of Home Affairs. The Minister of Home Affairs occupies an important position in the Central Executive, and the<sup>40</sup> Central Executive under the Constitution is vested with wide powers. It is because of the wide powers and the unique<sup>60</sup> position under the Constitution that it is able to hold the country united in spite of various diversities of language,<sup>80</sup> religion and other things. Therefore, this unique position should not be disturbed even when we think of amendment to the<sup>100</sup> Constitution at any time. The Home Ministry had a difficult time during the year in retrospect. The whole country was<sup>120</sup> in turmoil politically and economically. The articles of consumption were scarce, prices were soaring high and there was large scale<sup>140</sup> black marketing and smuggling and in this turmoil some Opposition parties, I do not say all the Opposition parties, but<sup>160</sup> some of them campaign, civil disobedience in the whole country from the 29th June and paralyse the Government, to subvert<sup>180</sup> democracy and the Constitution. This act of the opposition can not be accepted by the present Govt. Any Government worth its<sup>200</sup> name had to prevent it and to take effective steps to bar such a move and this law which was<sup>220</sup> proclaimed by the President on the advice of the Government, saved the whole country from destruction. It is no<sup>240</sup> good complaining that during the period under review civil liberties are curtailed, democratic rights are abrogated and so on. But who is<sup>260</sup> responsible for this? As my friend who has just spoken, said that they were responsible for creating such a situation. Freedom<sup>280</sup> of speech, freedom of realisation does not imply unrestrained freedom or unrestrained rights. Where there is a right, there is<sup>300</sup> a duty. Every right has to be exercised in such a way that it does not cause any hardship to<sup>320</sup> the other who has the same right. It is no good complaining. But let us see the results that<sup>340</sup> accrued from this period. There is all round discipline. You now find discipline in the House. All the Members<sup>360</sup> are highly disciplined. They are speaking within their limit and the work is going on according to the schedule. There is<sup>380</sup> no backlog. I am very happy to see that emergency has produced the desired effect even on Members of Parliament.<sup>400</sup>

We face a changed situation. I am told, and I hope

this figure is correct, that since 1962<sup>420</sup> there has been only a 5 per cent fluctuation in the voting and yet it has created a tremendously changed<sup>440</sup> picture. We are today not only in the Government, but in some States in the Opposition. We have to create,<sup>460</sup> and we have to show, good standards of democratic functioning. We have to deal and work with the Opposition wherever<sup>480</sup> they work for the good of the country, whenever we feel that they are going in the right direction. We<sup>500</sup> must not oppose them merely for the sake of Opposition, as sometimes we ourselves have been opposed. In our organisation,<sup>520</sup> we must renew our faith in the path of democratic socialist functioning, I do not want to go at this<sup>540</sup> time into matters of policy. We shall have many occasions to discuss these matters. Today I should like to welcome<sup>560</sup> all those who are new Members. We welcome them here and hope that they will make valuable and interesting contributions<sup>580</sup> to Lok Sabha and that they being here will enrich our party. At the same time, I should like to<sup>600</sup> give me good wishes to those who will no longer be with us. They have been valued colleagues. They have<sup>620</sup> played a very significant part in the debates in the House and in the functioning of the party. We shall<sup>640</sup> miss these familiar faces, and we hope that no matter where they are or what work they are doing, their<sup>660</sup> advice will always be available and that they will keep up their interest in the affairs of the party. Much<sup>680</sup> work has to be done not only in the legislature but at all levels. And this, again, is something which<sup>700</sup> we must all work out under the guidance of the Congress, Congress President and other leaders.

When I got up, I had<sup>720</sup> many things to say to you. But I must confess that I am so moved that I have no<sup>740</sup> words really except to thank you once again for the confidence which you have placed in me. I should like<sup>760</sup> to tell you that this burden is a tremendous burden. And it is a burden which cannot be borne by<sup>780</sup> one person alone, not even by one person and a few colleagues in the Cabinet but by the entire party<sup>800</sup> here and the entire party all over the country. We must treat these problems as our problems. As I said,<sup>820</sup> we have made a good beginning. Let us not hesitate to give advice or suggestion, let no one feel isolated.<sup>840</sup>

DISOBEDIENCE: not to follow; SUBVERT: overthrow;

ABROGATION: repeal, cancel; ACCRUE: earned;

ISOLATED: separated from others.

**Exercise 25 (Legal)**

Having considered the reasoning given by the learned arbitrator, we are of the opinion that the interpretation by the learned<sup>20</sup> arbitrator was both possible as well as plausible. Therefore, merely because some other view could have been taken, the High Court<sup>40</sup> is not justified in interfering with the interpretation made by the arbitrator which as observed was possible and plausible.<sup>60</sup> Therefore, in the facts and circumstances of the case, we are of the opinion that the High Court has clearly<sup>80</sup> exceeded in its jurisdiction in interfering with the award passed by the learned arbitrator with respect to claim no.1<sup>100</sup> price adjustment and escalation. At this stage, it is required to be noted that though the High Court has observed<sup>120</sup> that the award passed by the learned arbitrator with respect to claim no.1 was against the public policy,<sup>140</sup> with respect, we do not see any element of public policy.

It was pure and simple case of interpretation of the<sup>160</sup> relevant clauses of the agreement which does not involve any public policy. Therefore, we are of the opinion that the<sup>180</sup> impugned judgment and order passed by the High Court for quashing and setting aside the award passed by the<sup>200</sup> learned arbitrator with respect to claim no.1 price adjustment and escalation cannot be sustained and the same deserves to be<sup>220</sup> quashed and set aside. Now so far as claim no.2 "fixed costs" and an amount of Rs.78 crores<sup>240</sup> awarded by the learned arbitrator with respect to compensation of loss is concerned, having gone through the<sup>260</sup> relevant material on record, we are of the opinion that the High Court has rightly set aside the award passed<sup>280</sup> by the learned arbitrator with respect to claim no.2. Except the CA's certificate, no further evidence had been<sup>300</sup> led with respect to actual loss. Considering the material on record, it is on the contrary found that in the<sup>320</sup> relevant year the quantity of the coal lifted by the respondent was much above the fixed quantity. Thus, the award<sup>340</sup> passed by the learned arbitrator with respect to claim no.2 was contrary to the evidence on record and therefore<sup>360</sup> is rightly set aside by the High Court. Similarly, even with respect to claim no.3 "Escrow Account" is concerned,<sup>380</sup> the High Court has rightly interfered with the award passed by the learned arbitrator with respect to claim no.3.<sup>400</sup>

It is required to be noted that the escrow account was required to be opened as per the guidelines issued<sup>420</sup> by the Ministry of Coal, Government of India for the preparation of mine closure plant. The guidelines required, inter alia,<sup>440</sup> the

mining company to open an escrow account with any schedule bank. Accordingly, the respondent opened an escrow account and<sup>60</sup> executed an escrow agreement. From the correspondence between the parties, it appears that even the appellant consented for opening the<sup>480</sup> escrow account. The appellant also agreed that the amount to be deposited in the escrow account will be recovered by the<sup>500</sup> respondent from immediate next payment of the coal bills of the joint venture company PKCL<sup>520</sup> raised towards dispatches of coal from appellant's coal blocks. Thus, thereafter it was not open for the appellant to<sup>540</sup> claim the amount lying in the escrow account. If the amount lying in the escrow account is returned to the<sup>560</sup> appellant, the purpose and object of opening the escrow account which was as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Coal<sup>580</sup> would be frustrated. The object and purpose of opening the escrow account was to see that the appellant company<sup>600</sup> fulfils the contract as per the agreement and till the closure of the coal blocks.

Therefore, the High Court has<sup>620</sup> rightly interfered with the award passed by the learned arbitrator with respect to claim no.3 escrow account by observing<sup>640</sup> that the reasoning is perverse or so irrational that no reasonable person could have arrived at on the material and evidence<sup>660</sup> on record. We are in complete agreement with the view taken by the learned Division Bench of the High Court.<sup>680</sup> In view of the above and for the reasons stated above, the present appeal succeeds in part. The impugned judgment<sup>700</sup> and order passed by the High Court insofar as quashing and setting aside the award passed by the learned sole<sup>720</sup> arbitrator, confirmed by the learned Commercial Court, insofar as claim no. 1 price adjustment and escalation is hereby quashed and<sup>740</sup> set aside and the award passed by the learned arbitrator with respect to claim no.1 is hereby restored.<sup>760</sup> The impugned judgment and order passed by the High Court insofar as quashing and setting aside the award passed by the<sup>780</sup> learned arbitrator with respect to rest of the claims, namely, claim no.2 fixed costs and claim no.3 escrow account<sup>800</sup> is hereby confirmed. The present appeal is partly allowed to the aforesaid extent only. However, in the facts and circumstances<sup>820</sup> of the case, there shall be no order as to costs. This is the final Judgment of this court now.<sup>840</sup>

**PLAUSIBLE:** reasonable;

**QUASHING:** decision declared not legal;

**INTERALEA:** in relation to;

**PERVERSE:** to get pleasure in an unacceptable way;

**RESETORED:** to put in former positon.

## Exercise 26 (Legal)

The appellant-assessee is engaged in the business of printing lottery tickets. It would undertake the work of printing on the<sup>20</sup> paper that was supplied to it by the parties. The ink and processing material, including the necessary chemicals used<sup>40</sup> in the process of printing, were procured by the appellant itself. The Trade Tax Officer, Ward 5, Ghaziabad vide orders dated<sup>60</sup> 28.10.1999 for AY 1996-1997 and AY<sup>80</sup> 1997-1998 respectively, levied trade tax on the value of ink, processing material and packing material<sup>100</sup> used by the appellant for executing the printing work on the basis of Section 3F of the<sup>120</sup> U. P. Trade Tax Act, 1948. The appellant, being aggrieved by the aforementioned orders of the Assessing Authority,<sup>140</sup> preferred appeals before the Deputy Commissioner, Trade Tax, Ghaziabad. It was argued by the appellant before the Appellate Authority<sup>160</sup> that the ink, chemicals and other processing materials had not been passed on with the lottery tickets and thus the<sup>180</sup> value of such goods could not have been made liable to tax under Section 3F of the Act, 1948.<sup>200</sup> The Appellate Authority vide order accepted the claim of the appellant and accordingly deleted the tax assessed on the<sup>220</sup> value of ink and other processing materials. However, the Appellate Authority upheld the levy of tax on the packing materials.<sup>240</sup> The relevant finding of the Appellate Authority are:

Goods on the sale of which tax has been levied on the<sup>260</sup> trader which includes processing material, chemicals, film etc. and which is not transferred to the principal after getting work<sup>280</sup> contract undertaken done under any circumstances. These material are film, chemical print etc. and these are used for preparing<sup>300</sup> plate for screen printing and after the use, either it becomes a waste or its nature gets changed, but it is not<sup>320</sup> transferred to principal who get work contact done under any of the circumstances. It would be pertinent to mention<sup>340</sup> the referred portion of the judgment given by Hon'ble Bombay High Court, according to which before levying tax on work contract,<sup>360</sup> the necessary test is that transfer of goods either actual or in deemed manner in the contract is essential,<sup>380</sup> while in the above-said case, no transfer of above-said goods viz. ink, film developer, chemicals, etc. has taken place.<sup>400</sup>

In the circumstances referred to above, two sets of appeals were filed before the Trade Tax Tribunal, Bench-I, Ghaziabad against<sup>420</sup> the order passed by the Appellate Authority. One set of appeals by the Commissioner of Trade Tax, Uttar Pradesh, against the<sup>440</sup> deletion of tax on the ink and processing material. Another set of appeals by the assessee assailing the

levy<sup>460</sup> of tax on the packing material. The Tribunal vide an order allowed the appellant's appeals and set aside the levy of tax<sup>480</sup> on the packaging material. Furthermore, the Tribunal dismissed the Revenue's appeals and affirmed the order of the Appellate Authority,<sup>500</sup> which had deleted the tax on the value of ink and other processing materials, including chemicals. The Tribunal based its<sup>520</sup> decision on this Court's decision in Rainbow Colour Lab and the Bombay High Court's decision in Commissioner of Sales Tax, Maharashtra.<sup>540</sup> The Revenue, being aggrieved by the aforementioned order passed by the Tribunal, challenged it before the High Court vide two<sup>560</sup> Revision Applications. The High Court, vide the impugned judgment, allowed both the Revision Applications and thereby quashed and set aside the order<sup>580</sup> of the Tribunal as well as the order passed by the Appellate Authority, so far as they set aside the tax on the<sup>600</sup> value of ink and processing material, i.e., chemical. The relevant findings of the High Court are as.<sup>620</sup>

In my view the order of the Tribunal is not sustainable. Section 3-F of the Act levies tax on the<sup>640</sup> value of goods involved in execution of works contract. The printing work has been held to be works contract by the<sup>660</sup> Apex Court in the case of State of Maharashtra Versus M/s. Sarvodaya Printing Press Fine Art Printer. The question<sup>680</sup> for consideration is whether in the printing of lottery tickets, ink and processing materials, namely, chemicals, etc. are passed on<sup>700</sup> to the customers. Undoubtedly, ink passed on to the customers as it is apparent on the printing paper.<sup>720</sup> The inks are diluted in chemicals and such ink in the diluted forms are being used in the printing, therefore,<sup>740</sup> both ink and chemical are passed on to the customers. It was not the case of the assessee at any stage<sup>760</sup> that the chemical was consumable and evaporates in the process of printing and is not passed on to the customers.<sup>780</sup> Therefore, I am of the view that both the ink and chemical used in the printing are passed on to the<sup>800</sup> customers. It may be mentioned here that the assessee had also purchased and used consumable but the same has not been taxed.<sup>820</sup> The Division Bench of the Bombay High Court has held that the contract of dyeing and printing of cloth is a transfer of property.<sup>843</sup>

**PERTIMENT:** relevant

**ASSAILING:** criticizing severely;

**AGGRAVED:** upset over unfair treatment;

**IMPUGNED:** order not applicable;

**EVAPORATES:** to disappear in air.