

MaharashtraAhead

VOL.4 ISSUE 1 ■ JANUARY 2015 ■ ₹50 ■ PAGES 52



**MAKE IN
MAHARASHTRA**

Opportunities Unlimited



WORLD-CLASS CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI MAHARAJ MEMORIAL TO COME UP IN THE ARABIAN SEA



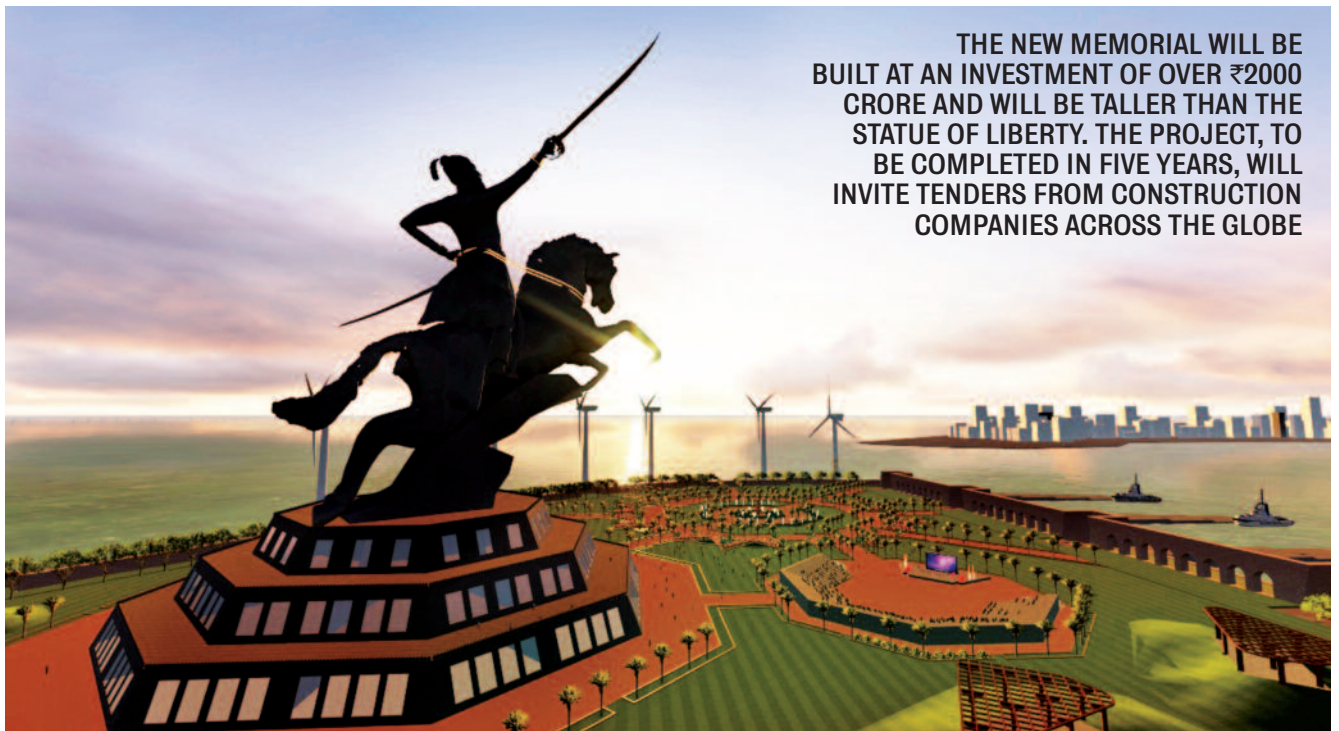
A representation of the upcoming memorial. Located into Arabian Sea, the structure will be connected with jetties

Environment approval to erect a grand memorial of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in the Arabian Sea has been given by the Ministry of Environment, informed Union Environment Minister, Prakash Javadekar recently. The memorial, a huge statue, of great Maratha fighter Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj will be built at about 1 to 3 km from Marine Lines in the Arabian Sea. A one-of-its-kind, world-class monument of India, the memorial will be another tourist attraction in South Mumbai. It will have a museum, gallery, amphitheatre, marine aquarium and lots more.

The new memorial will be built at an investment of over ₹2000 crore, taller than the Statue of Liberty, and completed within five years. The Government will invite tenders from companies across the globe for building the structure.

The upcoming memorial will house about 3000 people at a given time. The sea will get the project a beautiful landscape. The special Shivaji Museum at the memorial will showcase artifacts and items used by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj during wars. One will also see originally written inspirational quotes by the Maratha warrior. A gallery inside or near Museum will showcase the brave life of Shivaji Maharaj through his stories. Surrounding the memorial will be activities of water sports and adventure, and sound and light show for onlookers.

As an eco-friendly structure, the memorial will be an energy saver with efficient electricity fittings, which will also use solar energy and utilise storm and rainwater effectively. Water recycle, water reuse and water treatment are also part of the plans.



THE NEW MEMORIAL WILL BE BUILT AT AN INVESTMENT OF OVER ₹2000 CRORE AND WILL BE TALLER THAN THE STATUE OF LIBERTY. THE PROJECT, TO BE COMPLETED IN FIVE YEARS, WILL INVITE TENDERS FROM CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES ACROSS THE GLOBE

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Manisha Patankar-Mhaiskar

MANAGING EDITOR

Chandrashekhar Oak

ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

Suresh Wandile

EDITOR

Kirti Pande

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Kriti Lalla

ADMINISTRATION

Digamber Palve

(Sr. Assistant Director)

SALES AND CIRCULATION

Vilas Bodke

(Assistant Director)

MEDIA TRANSASIA

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Jyoti Verma

ASSISTANT EDITOR

Nikunj Sharma

DEPUTY ART DIRECTOR

Sachin Jain

CHAIRMAN

J.S. Uberoi

PRESIDENT

Xavier Collaco

Maharashtra Ahead is printed on behalf of the Directorate General of Information and Public Relations, Government of Maharashtra, at LAST MILE (Sonigraphics Group Company), 417, Bussa Udyog Bhavan, T.J. Road, Sewri West, Mumbai 400015

Letters should be addressed to
Directorate General of Information and Public Relations,

New Administrative Building,
17th Floor, Opposite Mantralaya,
Mumbai-400032.

Email:
maharashtraahead.dgipr@gmail.com
Please visit the website
<http://dgipr.maharashtra.gov.in>

Directorate General of Information
and Public Relations
A Government of Maharashtra Production



Directorate General of Information
and Public Relations,
Government of Maharashtra

THE MOST APT PLACE TO MANUFACTURE

It gives us immense pleasure to relaunch our niche publication, *Maharashtra Ahead*, a monthly magazine devoted to Maharashtra's development and people. From its very first issue in March 2009, the magazine has received enthusiastic response from esteemed readers. Our stories present a unique mix of detailed reporting, in-depth interviews, and vibrant features on art, culture, tourism and heritage. In its new avatar, the 52-page magazine with its lively style and straightforward approach highlights the new projects implemented by the State Government and monitors Central Government schemes for the State.

Maharashtra has remained the first choice of investors and multinational companies for years. The State has been the most favoured destination for both domestic and foreign direct investments, and has been a reflection of India's growth. Its geography, resources, culture, connectivity and international status of cities like Mumbai and Pune have helped the State register steady industrial growth. The State has the second highest number of factories in the country, with manufacturing contributing a significant 18.51 per cent to its gross state domestic product.

The latest chapter in State's industrial growth is Make In Maharashtra, a programme that encourages national and international companies to set up shop in Maharashtra. Under new Industrial Policy 2013, mega and ultra mega projects can qualify for fiscal incentives up to 100 per cent of the fixed capital investment. Moreover, a 10 per cent additional incentive on top of the above incentives is provided by the State if the project creates double the employment required for the eligibility.

The said move and other details given in the current issue of *Maharashtra Ahead* make the magazine a handy booklet for businesses keen to 'Make In Maharashtra.' The State, under the able leadership of Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, is welcoming industries with new incentives and promise of single-window clearance and transparency.

The issue also highlights the resolutions of State Ministers for an all-inclusive development in Maharashtra, and contains features on drought relief package, new projects of MMRDA, warp and weft of Paithani, and a visit to Tadoba tiger reserve, among others. I am sure our endeavours will be responded by your suggestions.

Happy New Year!

Manisha Patankar-Mhaiskar

Editor-in-Chief, *Maharashtra Ahead*, DGIPR



05

RESOLUTIONS

“GOOD GOVERNANCE IS OUR FOUNDATION”

It's New Year, time to ring in the new. It is also the occasion to make resolutions. Maharashtra Ministers are getting into the act, insisting on transparency, quality, speed, innovation and better use of resources. **Maharashtra Ahead** brings you an exclusive on some of their resolutions



16

COVER STORY MAKE IN MAHARASHTRA

The new programme by the State Government offers incentives, single-window clearance and transparency to encourage manufacturing in Maharashtra.



32

IN PERSON NITIN GADKARI

Union Minister, Road Transport, Highways and Shipping, Nitin Gadkari shares with *Maharashtra Ahead* his plans for Maharashtra and Centre's role in State's development



34

INFRASTRUCTURE MUMBAI ON FAST TRACK

MMRDA clears DCBM and WGK Metro projects and flyovers to decongest BKC-Kalanagar junction. Latest on the new projects and those in the pipeline



36

FACE-TO-FACE EKNATHRAO KHADSE

The Cabinet Minister is in charge of diverse portfolios, ranging from Revenue to Agriculture. In an interview with the magazine, he talks about Government's plans and challenges



42

CULTURE CURRY A TIMELESS BEAUTY

The silken gold-embroidered Paithani saree is one of the most precious and celebrated items of India and Maharashtra. A feature on the heritage craft from its native place



44

WANDERLUST LET'S GO WILD

Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra's largest national park, has one of the highest tiger densities in the country. The team takes a safari to the jungle



46

NUMBER ONE STRAWBERRY COUNTY

Mahabaleshwar is known for its iconic brand of strawberry. The city and its nearby areas grow 80 per cent of total strawberry produced in India



48

INFORMATION THE WAY WE COMMUNICATE

DGIPR is the nodal agency for disseminating information on Government policies. Today, its various channels are successful platforms recognised by all

DISCLAIMER: VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE MAGAZINE ARE THOSE OF WRITERS

NEW MINISTERS NEW RESOLVES

It's a new year, time to ring in the new. It is also the time to make resolutions. Maharashtra cabinet ministers are getting into the act, insisting on transparency, quality, speed, innovation and better use of resources. Here is an exclusive look at some of their resolutions

“Good governance is our foundation”

DEVENDRA FADNAVIS

Chief Minister

General Administration, Urban Development Home, Law & Judiciary, Ports, Tourism, Information & Public Relations, Ex-Servicemen's Welfare, Protocol, Employment & Self-Employment and Departments or parts thereof not specifically allocated to any other Minister

At the outset, I would like to extend my best wishes and a Happy New Year to the readers of *Maharashtra Ahead*. With this I would like to guarantee you a gift from the Government in terms of positive administrative changes and new decisions in various fields. I would like to firmly state that there would be no difficulty for us in bestowing you with a Government which you need.

The Government will positively perform its duties such as supporting farmers, enhancing irrigation, encouraging industries, improving education and health sectors, empowering women, planning cities and others. However, I would like to convey that “good governance” will be our foundation while performing these duties.

In view of this, our first step ahead will be in the direction of reducing the void between Government, administration and people. We have decided to decentralise administrative powers and shifting powers to regional level.

Another equally important step ahead will be to restrict corruption, which has proliferated in many areas of the State, be it inadequacy of irrigation and education, decaying roads or exploitation of labour. Corruption has engulfed every area. Wiping out corruption and creating a strong system is our goal.

Increasing administrative accountability will be the





third step. It is essential to accelerate decision-making process and create an emotional bonding with the people of the State to make it 'Our Government'. We plan to celebrate the birthday of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee as 'Good Governance Day,' and the mission of good governance will not be limited to that day alone. We have actually started good

governance with the implementation of an Act for 'guaranteed service' to the people.

By declaring 2015 as "digital year", we have initiated the fourth step connected to technology, so as to provide time-bound services to citizens. E-governance has been started at Mantralaya and Regional Offices, and we shall strive to make our

work paperless. The online portal of the State Government will be utilised effectively.

For years together, we have been talking about developing backward areas of the State. Now all the decisions required to achieve the same will be immediately arrived at and implemented in a time-bound manner. We have resolved that regions such as Vidarbha and Marathwada, where development has not reached so far, will be our focus.

—As told to Aniruddha Ashtaputre

“Drought-proof Maharashtra is our aim”

EKNATHRAO KHADSE

Minister, Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation, Earthquake Rehabilitation, Minorities Development and Walf, Agriculture & Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries, State Excise

Agriculture, which is considered as the backbone of Indian economy, is going through a tough time at the moment. Natural calamities, inadequate facilities for irrigation and electricity are challenges before us. Born in an agricultural family and after striving in the fields, I can fully understand the condition of farmers in the State. As Vidarbha, Marathwada and other parts of the State are reeling under drought, the decisions providing some respite to the people will be given priority. The Government will provide all support to farmers affected due to constant crop failure, loan burdens and natural calamities. Our objective is to make Maharashtra a drought-free State.

In order to accelerate, bring in transparency and modernise revenue administration, emphasis will be laid on computerisation. The citizens will be provided all facilities under a single roof. Efforts will be concentrated on

making revenue administration transparent and speedy. The Government stands committed and will remain committed to prompt and rightful support to every part connected with the administration.

The Government will work as a catalyst between horticulture farmers and modern technology. The Government is making all efforts to provide expert advice for maintaining the farms, reduction of losses during natural calamity, making available markets based on production expenses and other difficulties.

There are huge agriculture losses during hailstorms and storms. A new insurance scheme providing compensation proportional to losses and expenses will be brought. Initiatives will also be taken for modernisation of dry land farming. Our other focus is education of minority communities for which various schemes will be implemented.

—As told to Ganesh Funde





“The change must begin from school education”

VINOD TAWDE

Minister, School Education, Sports & Youth Welfare, Higher & Technical Education, Medical Education, Marathi Bhasha and Cultural Affairs

As a Minister, I have been handed over important portfolios such as School Education, Sports, Cultural Affairs and Marathi language, which merit societal change. In the coming year, I have decided to bring certain important changes in these departments. I would like to see the change begin from the base of the society ladder, school education department.

Out of the total expenses on education in the State, 60 per cent goes to faculty development. Often, this is considered unproductive. However, in my opinion, this is an investment. The return on this investment is in the form of quality education and creation of skilled manpower. This is why I emphasise that in return of the salary, the teachers must have a definite responsibility towards society.

My department will try to see that the syllabus emphasises more on practical knowledge and is

more employment oriented. My efforts will also be towards bringing transparency in college and professional courses, so that meritorious students get the opportunities they deserve.

I would like to reconstitute the Marathi Language Department and increase active participation of authors to bring prosperity to the language. The 60-odd dialects need to be preserved and a reference volume needs to be created for them, besides providing a script for some of these dialects.

Until now, the film and theatre awards were bestowed by dignitaries from other fields or a minister. Doing away with this practice, the awards will now be given by renowned people from the same field. We have already brought this change from the Lata Mangeshkar Award ceremony.

—As told to Yuvraj Patil

“Empowering State economy is our focus”

SUDHIR MUNGANTIWAR

Minister, Finance and Planning, Forests

It is just not well when it comes to the economy of the State, and efforts will have to be made on priority in the New Year. As empowering the economy will mainly be the responsibility of the Finance Ministry, I have resolved to plan the journey of the State Treasury from bankruptcy to brimming on the eve of the New Year. The priorities are employment generation and enhancement in the GDP. The Government desires to develop the State by creation of a positive environment for farmers, businessmen and entrepreneurs. Emphasis will be laid on implementing Central Government schemes to a maximum extent, so as not to burden the State exchequer. Maharashtra is reeling under severe drought and some areas have suffered huge losses due to untimely rains. We aim to help the farmers even by seeking a loan and building the confidence of farmers.

The Government is committed to the comprehensive development of the State and the role of Finance Ministry would be pivotal. The schemes will be drafted considering the interests of common people, and the department will plan them during the coming years. Encouraging environment will be created at this department, which fills the treasury of the State. With computerisation wherever necessary, emphasis will be on effective implementation of Centrally sponsored schemes.

To achieve the tasks, we will have to seek loans. Loans are not bad provided used in a proper way. My department will always observe this. My priority during 2015 will be to complete development schemes and works in coordination with various departments.

—As told to Ravi Gite





“Five years, 11 lakh tenements”

PRAKASH MEHTA

Minister, Housing, Mining and Labour

Maharashtra Housing and Development Authority (MHADA) was created for affordable homes. The Government is making efforts to make a policy so that MHADA homes are affordable for common people and middle class. During the coming five years, 11 lakh tenements will be constructed. The project duration will be fixed accordingly. If the projects are completed within scheduled period, the prices of homes will also be under control. I have resolved to make a plan for the same. The policy will be to have MHADA colonies in each district.

Bringing more transparency to Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) and infusing confidence in slum dwellers are the challenges of my department. We also aim to stop all the illegal activities in the SRA scheme and create a more accelerated, transparent, frictionless programme to achieve a slum-free city. Another important point is that the people for whom SRA scheme has been drafted are not aware of the same. I would like to undertake innovative publicity schemes for this.

A new and independent policy will be drafted for welfare of the unorganised sector workers such as sugarcane cutters, people employed in coal industry and brick kilns, sanitation workers, and others.

With a view to accelerate Make in Maharashtra programme just the way Make in India programme by the Central Government, needed improvements will be brought in the labour laws and labour inspection methods. In addition, a new scheme, Rozgar Call Centre will be started at the Employment Exchanges. The scheme will use modern technology tools such as SMS, e-mail and website.

—As told to Akash Jagdhane

“Toll-free Maharashtra is the mission for 2015”

CHANDRAKANT (DADA) PATIL

Minister, Cooperation, Marketing & Textiles, Public Works (excluding Public Undertakings)

Our priority will be to see that Maharashtra attains freedom from potholes under any circumstances. To bring Maharashtra together through improved transport facilities, development of Mumbai-Pune-Nashik, Pune-Aurangabad, Jalgaon-Amravati, Aurangabad-Nagpur and other routes will be undertaken. Remedial measures to improve the

Efforts will be made towards providing better rates to sugarcane farmers. Co-generation of electricity will be accelerated. A welfare board for sugarcane cutter workers will be established. Through the board, various insurance schemes for workers and their families/wards, scholarships, and accident insurance schemes will be implemented.

As the first phase of a programme for providing huge market for agricultural produce and bestowing a better rate for agro-products, a qualitative terminal market will be established at Nagpur. Similar terminal markets will be established in other cities to provide the same facilities for other produce such as vegetables, fruits and flowers.

To enhance quality textile production, improvements will be made in the textile policy. The Government also plans for better location of cotton processing industries in Vidarbha, Marathwada and Khandesh by building huge textile parks at Nagpur and Amravati.

—As told to Irshad Bagwan

To enhance quality textile production, changes will be made in the textile policy, which will then be put in action effectively

lifespan of roads through modern technology and concretisation of roads are also thought of.

In the interest of farmers and workers, it is essential to reconstruct cooperatives. Bringing comprehensive reforms in matters such as elections of cooperative societies, their working style and prevention of corruption is essential and the same will be prioritised.





“Water-empowerment is my mission”

PANKAJA MUNDE

Minister, Rural Development & Water Conservation, Employment Guarantee Scheme, Women & Child Development

My dream is to equip every Gram Panchayat of the State with computer facilities such as Internet, create a drought-free Maharashtra through small/medium water conservation projects in villages, effectively implement the employment guarantee scheme, ensuring safety of every woman in the State and create a malnutrition-free Maharashtra. Various schemes will be implemented by the State Government in this regard and comprehensive development of rural areas will be achieved.

Under the able leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana is being implemented in the country. Each Member of Parliament has adopted a village with an aim to develop it comprehensively. Similarly, I am planning of initiating MLA Gram Yojana in the State. I expect that every member of the Legislative Assembly will

adopt a few villages and bring a radical change to them. With a view to connect all villages by roads, on the lines of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), the State will implement a Chief Minister Gram Sadak Yojana.

I would like to bring a water revolution in every village by water conservation experiments on small and large scale, especially in drought-prone areas. The Vaidyanath Patterm that I have implemented at Parli and Ambajogai talukas of Beed will now be implemented all over the State. We have carried out many works such as deepening of wells and lakes, construction of small and large dams through people participation, excavation of *nallahs*, water reconstruction, improving the ground water level, etc., to create 10 totally water-empowered villages. I have a dream to implement this pattern across the State.

—As told to Irshad Bagwan



“Bringing tribals to mainstream”

VISHNU SAVRA

Minister, Tribal Development

Tribal community is extremely simple and hardworking. Due to economical, social and educational backwardness, many tribal people are away from the mainstream. It is essential to bring stability to their life and to improve their standard of living. I have thus resolved to bring them to mainstream, while providing them comprehensive prosperity.

A blueprint for tribal villages is ready in my mind. While providing them constitutional security, I shall work for providing them self-administration facilities. First of all, I shall streamline the schemes from various departments for tribal welfare, and start schemes to empower my tribal brothers. Special efforts will be made for stopping migration of tribal people for employment. The local

youth will be provided with useful and employment-oriented vocational training for their livelihood. Emphasis will be on innovative ideas for creation of employment in tribal areas alone. The Jeevandayee scheme from the earlier coalition government will be relaunched in order to wipe out malnutrition from tribal areas.

There is a huge problem of electricity in tribal *wadas* and *padas*. Therefore, a crash programme for electricity will be started to bring light to tribal homes. A special water conservation programme will be undertaken under MGNREGA in Melghat area. By creation of a group of tribal villages and by providing technical information, essential works such as village lake repairs and agricultural lakes, etc., will be done.

—As told to Santosh Todkar





“I’m for a transparent distribution system”

GIRISH BAPAT

Minister, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Protection, Food & Drugs Administration, Parliamentary Affairs

After the formation of a new ministry in the State, I was saddled with important ministries and departments that are closely related to common people. I am keen to see how justice can be bestowed on common people through these departments.

Through the medium of Food & Civil Supplies department, I have an important responsibility to provide food to poorest of the poor under various schemes being implemented in the State. Food is being distributed all over the State in a big way. We have issued a variety of ration cards to the beneficiaries. Every beneficiary should receive adequate food grain as needed.

We shall create a system where no one will dare to venture into black marketing of food grains or medicines

There is always a discussion on black market in distribution of food grains. There are also complaints about distribution of food grains. With a view that distribution should be transparent, we have started efforts to create an environment, which will be without middlemen and take food directly to the beneficiaries. We shall create a system where no one will dare to venture into black marketing of food grains or medicines.

The Government will ensure good quality and affordable foodgrains and medicines for people.

—As told to Mangesh Warkad

“Delayed water projects will be completed”

GIRISH MAHAJAN

Minister, Water Resources

To provide benefits to irrigation and agriculture, our topmost priority will be to complete delayed water projects. For saving water, I will emphasise on enlarging the area under micro irrigation. Emphasis will also be on better administration, for which I will encourage efficient officers become people oriented.

Many dam projects in the State have remained incomplete due to non-availability of funds. I will give priority to completion of dams that are 75 per cent or more complete. Incomplete projects will also be completed. A huge project such as Gosi Khurd has been completed. However, the work on canals and distributaries is still incomplete. The land, as per plans, has not come under irrigation. These works will be completed during the next five years. The matters will be followed up and efforts will be made to receive more funds for such projects.

As a matter of fact, the farmers whose lands are acquired for dams fail to receive compensation even

after many years, often forcing them to undertake futile journeys. From now on, the Rehabilitation Officers will meet farmers on a weekly basis to solve their issues. The policy will be that the dam is constructed only after rehabilitation of people is achieved. Considering recurring droughts and receding water levels in dams, saving water has become the need of the hour. We will, therefore, make efforts to enhance the area under sprinkle and drip irrigation. This will also improve crop quality and productivity. Emphasis will be laid on construction of small, as well as large dams.

We have an eminent high-technology institute such as Maharashtra Engineering Research Institute (MERI) whose research has been very useful. Efforts will be made to enhance the quality of such institutes and to encourage more and more efficient young officers to work at such institutes.

—As told to Harshwardhan Pawar





“Transport must be fast and smooth”

DIWAKAR RAOTE

Minister, Transport

With a view to make the work at transport department transparent, CCTV cameras will be placed at all transport offices. This will also help the department work fast and smooth.

All the transport offices in the State have been computerised and driving licenses are now sent to the concerned persons at their home addresses. A scheme has been started for informing vehicle owners about the status of their license through SMS. Action will be taken on guilty officers found cooperating with unauthorised middlemen.

As the number of vehicles in the State is rising at breakneck speed, the responsibilities of the transport department have increased. The department carries out work under Motor Vehicles Act 1988. Government of India has already started reforms in the said Act, and the State transport department too expects changes.

As the number of railway tracks in the State are less than other States, the Government has decided to financially participate in the new Railway projects. We are looking at and following up with the Centre (Ministry of Railways) to implement these projects at Government of India costs. This will reduce the financial burden of the State by an estimated ₹5000 crore.

To accelerate the work of the department, efforts will be made to fill up the vacant posts as soon as possible. We also plan to increase the charge to get a driving license. The current charge of ₹15 was set around 15 years ago and has become negligible today. We believe, the charge must increase, but remain affordable. The move will add to Government's revenues. Another way to increase the revenue is by issuing independent permits to shared taxi and shared rickshaw in urban areas. We plan to provide such independent permits in coming years.

—As told to Vilas Bodke

“Maharashtra will always lead in industries”

SUBHASH DESAI

Minister, Industries

It is an uncontested fact that the largest part of the FDI arrives at Maharashtra. The proportion of starting actual projects after an MoU is highest in Maharashtra at 62 per cent in comparison to other States. The State has 417 mega projects. Professional project groups such as IT, chemicals, floriculture, wine park, food park, textile park, silver zone are being developed in the State. Marathwada will be reaping the benefits of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor through project at Shendra.

A target of minimum 13 per cent has been set for carrying the State to industrial prosperity. The target for State contributing 28 per cent of the GDP and through the same creating 20 lakh employment opportunities and investment target of ₹5 lakh crore has been set. With this, Maharashtra will be a leader in the country again. If 'Make in Maharashtra' is successful, we are confident that 'Make in India' will also be successful.

Many incentives such as group development scheme and seed capital have been announced for

small industries. We have a goal to implement Prime Minister Rozgar Vriddhi Yojana effectively. In order to encourage industries, concessions in areas such as interest, stamp duty, VAT, electricity tax, water supply are there. For huge projects, we have announced special attractive schemes, including 100 per cent concession in stamp duty and electricity tax. The concession in VAT and CST is being provided between 60 and 100 per cent.

A target of total development of 38 large and 36 small scale industrial areas from Vidarbha has been set and special efforts are on so that Butibori and Amravati-Nandgaon Peth centres should be at full capacity. Two IT parks, an apparel park and a food park have been developed at Nagpur. To strengthen industrial density in Vidarbha, efforts are being made to start important projects such as petroleum refinery, ordinance factory, auto component hub, steel plant, fertiliser plant, textile industries and mineral-based industries in Vidarbha.

—As told to Nandu Pujari



“Development must balance nature”

RAMDAS KADAM

Minister, Environment

Konkan has a sea shore of 720 kilometers. The entire stretch brings huge opportunities of tourism and employment to Konkani people. Going ahead, we will try to permit tourism projects at Konkan in a way that nature is not disturbed and biodiversity of the region is maintained. In short, I shall strive for balancing environment and development.

There have been complaints of pollution at Parshuram Lote, MIDC. This is a serious matter and polluting companies have already been issued notices. Other industries in the State are also found to be polluting the atmosphere. We will try to stop this. I plan to tour the entire State with officers in order to track the industrial establishments responsible and prevent pollution.

Solid waste management is another major issue. In this connection, a solid waste policy will be decided. The problem of dumping grounds for Mumbai will be solved by discussions between Mumbai Municipal Corporation and MMRDA, holders of the dumping grounds.

There is a large employment avenue in sand, stones and boulders. Closing these industries will not only take away livelihoods of many families, but also result in difficulties in getting the construction material. We are going to deal this with care so that pollution is prevented and employment is not lost. I shall strive to work out a scheme so that the pollution of the rivers and water reservoirs is reduced, and clean and clear water flows in the rivers. My resolve is to give a great gift to Mumbai by removing pollution in the Mithi River.

Conservation of mangroves at Konkan seashore in MMRDA region and their scientific management is on our agenda to accelerate and encourage tourism in the State.

—As told to Akash Jagdhane



“Quality infrastructure in set time is my objective”

EKNATH SHINDE

Minister, Public Works (Public Undertakings)

My efforts will be towards acceleration of development in the State through improvements in the available infrastructure, as well as taking up some innovative projects so that excellent infrastructure

initiating an action plan to accomplish the programme within scheduled time limit is a priority for us. We are also contemplating construction of international quality flyovers similar to those in Mumbai and Thane. My efforts will be to take the present Sea Link from Worli to Bandra up to Versova. I am seriously looking at developing water transport on the eastern shore of Mumbai. In the second stage, efforts will be to have water transport between Nariman Point and Borivali.

Certain new projects will be undertaken to develop roads joining pilgrimage and tourist locations. This will help pilgrimage and tourism at these locations. Modernisation of check-posts joining Maharashtra with other States, construction of flyovers and bypass, and road widening will be undertaken in other developing cities of the State.

—As told to Vishnu Kakade

My efforts will be to take the Sea Link from Worli to Bandra up to Versova. I am seriously looking at developing water transport on Mumbai shores

facilities are available to both citizens and industrialists. We have planned to undertake construction work of roads, flyovers, underground and elevated roads and water transport projects. Planning a 20-year-long development programme and

“My focus is on renewable energy sources”

CHANDRASHEKHAR BAWANKULE

Minister, Energy, New and Renewable Energy

In Maharashtra, lines used for electrical transmission are 30-40 years old and are responsible for energy losses. Our objective is to prevent these losses by repairing old lines and creating new lines. In order to reduce the number of long-distance

We have resolved to create five to seven sub-stations in each taluka. Implementation of this will help curb energy losses during transmission

lines, we have resolved to create five to seven sub-stations in each taluka during the coming year. Implementation of this will help curb energy losses during transmission. In remote places, we intend to use underground lines instead of overhead. If we are able to reduce the losses, the benefit can

be passed onto the customers.

Mahavitaran (MSEDCL) has already initiated two ambitious infrastructure projects in the State. The first phase of these projects has already begun. Currently, transmission losses in Maharashtra have been reduced to 14.5 per cent, which is lowest nationally. Phase II of the development plan has already started under which additional sub-stations and HT and LT lines will be laid out. This will further help reduce transmission losses. Considering the environment in Vidarbha is conducive to non-conventional energy and solar power can be harnessed on large scale, we plan to develop Nagpur as a 'solar city.' Today, each person uses 1.25 units of electricity. Hence, it is essential to monitor energy consumption for better utility. If a mobile application or internet can show the use of electricity in terms of units and the amount one needs to pay, one can help control its usage.

—As told to Anil Thakare



“I’ll ensure pure and clean water to all”

BABANRAO LONIKAR

Minister, Water Supply and Sanitation

Everyone has a right to pure and clean water. My department will strive to get every citizen pure water. We have resolved to provide joint supply along the lines of Gujarat. Through this scheme, pure and clean water will be supplied to each home. Currently, water supply is being organised through Gram Panchayat, Municipal Councils and Municipal Corporations. Co-ordination will be brought within these bodies.

Some water-related schemes in the State are closed for last 5-15 years and some have been transferred to Gram Panchayats. Then, some projects are closed due to absence of repairs. These repairs will be given priority. An action plan under National Rural

Drinking Water Project for 2014-15 has been prepared for 13,267 villages/wadis and a target for 4200 has been set at an expenditure of ₹66 crore. Through this scheme, it is envisaged to provide pure, safe and adequate water at a reasonable distance from homes, so as to keep people free from diseases.

Common citizen is conscious about personal hygiene, but he is equally indifferent about social sanitation. If we try to keep our areas clean, it will not take long before we find every place clean and tidy. By generating social sanitation awareness among people, we are striving to attain the goals of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

—As told to Mukund Chilwant

“My mission is to take healthcare to the last mile”

DR DEEPAK SAWANT

Minister, Public Health and Family Welfare

My priority will be to take care of the health of people and implementing schemes and remedial measures needed for the same. I would like to review health services in the State and improve them.

Currently, Maharashtra is in the grip of contagious diseases. I am going to emphasise on treatment and remedial measures for these diseases and undertake extensive public awareness campaigns. There is always a complaint that rural areas and remote locations are not provided quick and adequate medical services.

We plan to take a review of the health services provided at the primary health centres, sub-centres, cottage hospitals and Government district hospitals in these areas. Priority will be to remove inadequacies of these hospitals. A special campaign will be organised against malnutrition.

I will concentrate on giving momentum to these schemes, initiating a dialogue with other departments through the medium of National Health Mission (NHM).

Blindness due to diabetes and diseases of the retina are other areas of concern. I would like to equip Government hospitals with modern machines to treat these ailments. Reforms are also necessary at the mental hospitals in the State. I would like to bring aspects like autism, learning disabilities under the realm of NHM and to encourage children affected with these diseases. For patients living in remote locations, medical consultations from experts will be made available through telemedicine. This will ensure accurate diagnosis and treatment as per the advice of experts. I shall honestly try to take the services of expert medical specialists to the last mile.

—As told to Prakash Malewadkar



“Justice to the deprived”

RAJKUMAR BADOLE

Minister, Social Justice and Special Assistance

The resolve of my department is, social justice to the deprived constituents, as penned by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar in the Constitution. The word ‘social justice’ should be imbibed realistically.

There are many schemes for bringing the deprived and weaker sections of society into the mainstream. To ensure that benefits of these schemes go to the beneficiaries, the schemes must be made visible to weaker sections. For this, required steps such as proper training of officers and staff must be taken.

Dadasaheb Gaikwad Swabhiman and Sashaktikaran Yojana is being implemented for landless people below poverty line. However, for a few years now, the lands are not being made available under this scheme. The scheme will be suitably amended.

For students from SC community staying in hostels for their education, hostels will be created on the district and taluka level. Dalit Vasti Sudhar Yojana will be relaunched. A social audit will be undertaken for the work done in this scheme and the scheme will be improved.

The addiction among youth has been increasing in rural as well as urban areas. Various public awareness programmes will be organised through youth organisations and institutes. There are educated unemployed youth of Scheduled Castes, Nav-Budhhas, Other Backward Classes, Vimukta Jatis, Nomadic Tribes and Special Backward Classes. My attempt is to make them industry oriented. For this, ineffective schemes will be re-evaluated and efforts will be made to start new employment-driven schemes. It is also necessary to establish competitive examination guidance centres at taluka and district level, so that students can prepare better for these examinations.

—As told to Vivek Khadase

FOR A STRONGER, BETTER MAHARASHTRA

The Ministers of State are committed to “development for all” in Maharashtra. They join their Cabinet colleagues in the ultimate resolve of building the State. Warm wishes for the New Year from them and all esteemed members of the Legislative Assembly



DILIP KAMBLE

Social Justice & Special Assistance



VIDYA THAKUR

Women & Child Development, Food & Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection, Food & Drugs Administration



RAM SHINDE

Home (Rural), Marketing, Public Health and Tourism



VIJAY DESHMUKH

Public Works (Public Undertakings), Transport, Labour and Textiles



SANJAY RATHOD

Revenue



DADAJI BHUSE

Cooperation



VIJAY SHIVTARE

Water Resources, Water Conservation



DEEPAK KESARKAR

Finance, Rural Development



RAJE AMBRISHRAO ATRAM

Tribal Development



RAVINDRA WAYKAR

Housing, Higher & Technical Education



DR RANJIT PATIL

Home (Urban), Urban Development, General Administration, Law & Judiciary, Parliamentary Affairs



PRAVIN POTE-PATIL

Industries & Mining, Environment, Public Works (excluding Public Undertakings)



Opportunities Unlimited

Manufacturing is considered to be the backbone of a GDP-based State economic model. Growth of manufacturing in a city, state or country is directly proportional to region's growth in terms of economy, infrastructure, industry and employment. Make In Maharashtra, an initiative by the new Government in the State, aims to bring growth through production of multiple goods. It also aims to strengthen the concept of Magnetic Maharashtra

M

aharashtra has remained the top destination and first choice of investors and multinational companies since India's independence. The State has been the most favoured destination for both domestic and Foreign Direct Investment and a reflection of India's growth for decades. The geography of the State, agriculture pattern, coastal line (720 km) and Mumbai's international status have further boosted the numbers of industries located in the State.

No doubt, it shows on country's gross domestic product (GDP), to which Maharashtra contributes the maximum. The State, at 15.6 per cent share, is followed by Andhra Pradesh (8 per cent), Gujarat (7.4 per cent), Tamil Nadu (8.4 per cent) and Karnataka (5.5 per cent).

Industrial growth in Maharashtra has been speedy and remarkable. However, the new Government in the State now aims to take it ahead, to achieve industrial growth rate of 13.2 per cent by 2018. The share of production sector in this will be 28 per cent and the goal is to attract about ₹20 lakh crore of investment. In near future, some reputed companies are expected to bring their mega projects to the State. These projects will fetch investment of about ₹14 thousand crore creating 12,000 employment opportunities.

The past decade has seen steady increase in the establishment of mega projects with the year 2011-12 registering the highest number with 82 projects. Around 400 of the projects have been granted mega project status as on September 2014. Maximum number of mega projects (125) is in Pune. As of now, average timeline for setting up of industry in Maharashtra is around six to 24 months. Micro industries take six to eight months, whereas small and medium enterprises may take anywhere between 15 and 18 months. Large or mega industries take more than 24 months.

The Government led by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis is determined to bring more projects to the State. The Chief Minister and his team is also working on problems of land acquisition, power supply, water, environment, taxes, and other hurdles responsible for the delays in industrial expansion in the State. The Government has proposed a review of the State Industrial Policy, which aims to rectify existing flaws and make the entire process hassle free and time saving. Departments such as finance, energy, environment, industry, labour, revenue, urban development, public works, food supply and consumer protection, among others are expected to undergo changes to make their operations smooth and far reaching. New policies and schemes are lined up and will be announced by March 2015. The major ones include Agro and Food Processing Policy, State Procurement Policy, State Manufacturing Policy, State Policy for SEZs and Export Oriented Units, new IT and ITeS Policy, State Electronics Policy, State Retail Trade Policy and discontinuation of the existing Location Policy for Mumbai Metropolitan Region.

LEADERS SPEAK...



The Government would emphasise on bringing more transparency and accountability in the functioning of the administration. Mechanism would be put in place to make administrative procedure simpler and industry and people friendly. The Government

would appoint one officer who would be entrusted with the task of coordination to ensure important decisions do not remain in pipeline and delay the process of project clearances.

—Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister, Maharashtra

Maharashtra is a large State with enormous potential for industrial development. Mumbai, the financial capital of India, has the potential to be ranked among the best cities in the world to live and do business in. With the same formation in power both at the Centre and in Maharashtra, infrastructure will get a huge boost. The power sector in Maharashtra needs to be reformed. Maharashtra has a very low plant-load factor, lower than the national average, and a high per unit cost of generation. The new dynamic Chief Minister has indicated his priority to increase the ease of doing business in Maharashtra and improve the power scenario. The future of Maharashtra is very bright indeed.

—Adi Godrej, Chairman, Godrej Group



Kokuyo Camlin Ltd started operations in Maharashtra in 1931. It has grown tremendously in the last 85 years and has become a household name in India. The success that we enjoy is due to our strong industrial base in a front-ranking State like Maharashtra. At present, we have

two manufacturing centres in Tarapur and Taloja. A new centre is being set up in Patalganga.

—Dilip Dandekar, Chairman, Kokuyo Camlin Ltd

I would like to see more investments between Maharashtra and South Carolina, and improve job prospects. The States of South Carolina and Maharashtra could successfully engage in the sectors of pharmaceuticals, IT, energy, manufacturing, waste management and services. We would also focus on cooperation in the education sector and build collaborations between universities and training centres for skill development."

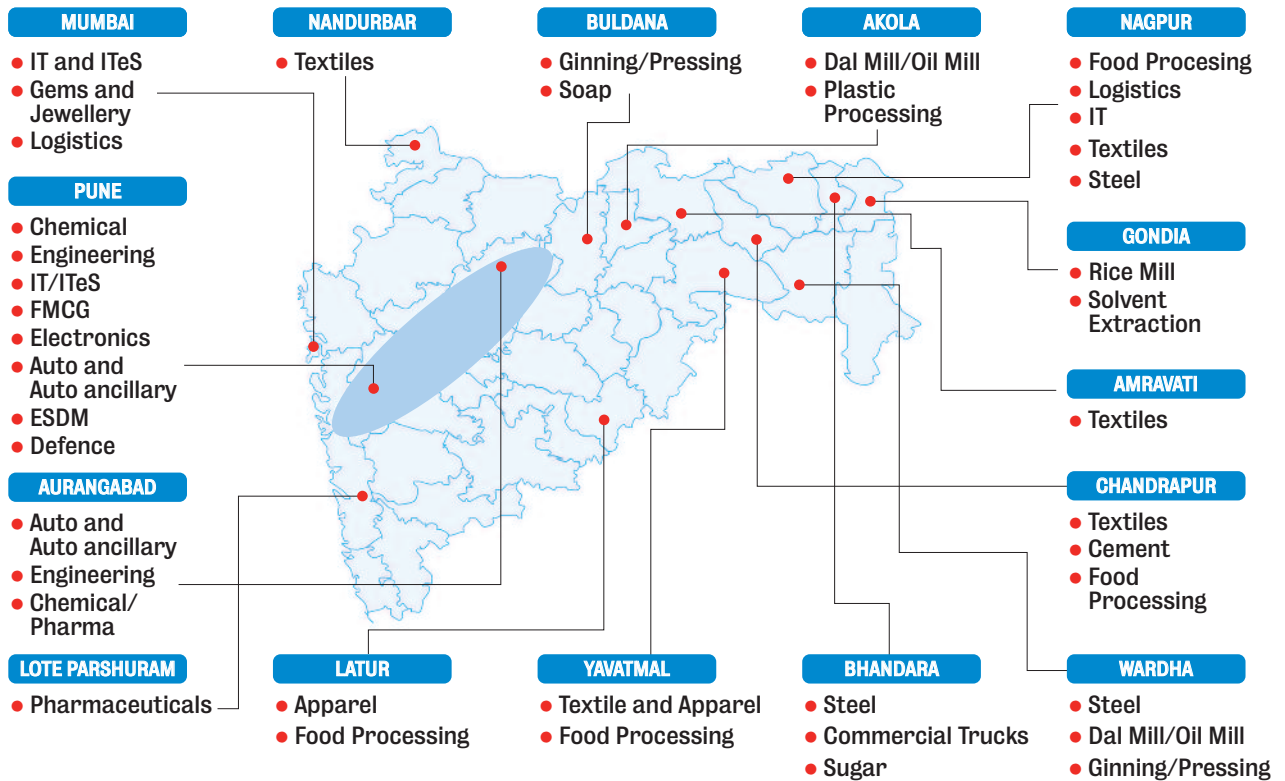
—Nikki Haley, Governor of South Carolina, USA





General Motors plant, Talegaon, Maharashtra

AN INDUSTRIAL LEADER WITH DIVERSE AND ESTABLISHED MANUFACTURING SEGMENTS....

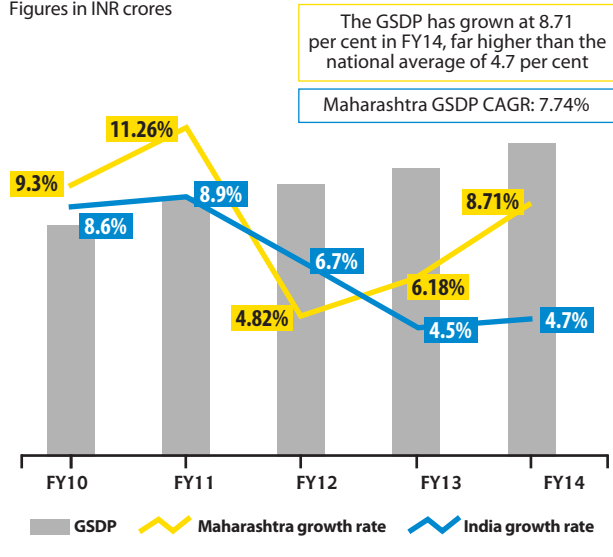


NOTE: ABOVE LIST IS A REPRESENTATIVE LIST AND INDICATIVE IN NATURE
SOURCE: MIDC AND EY ANALYSIS

Early DMIC influence zone

GSDP VIS-A-VIS GDP GROWTH RATES

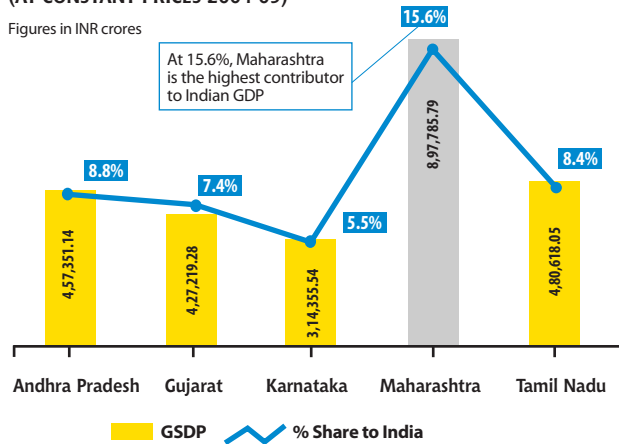
Figures in INR crores



COMPARISON OF GSDP 2013-14

(AT CONSTANT PRICES 2004-05)

Figures in INR crores



SOURCE: STATES OF INDIA, CMIE ACCESSED ON 28 OCTOBER 2014

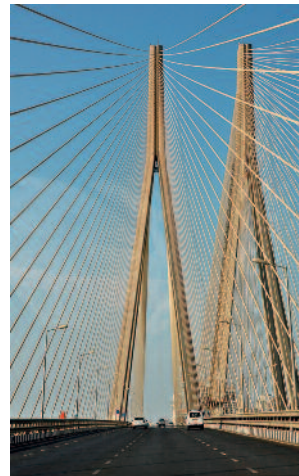
MAKE IN MAHARASHTRA

Maharashtra is a State with diverse and established manufacturing segments, ranging from IT/ITeS to gems and jewellery, logistics, chemical, engineering, auto and auto ancillary, and food processing. The State is an industrial leader with diverse and established manufacturing segments spread across its region. Industrial activity has been dominant in select locations in Maharashtra. Emerging developments adding to the diversity are industries such as ESDM, RE, food processing, textile and defence that have the potential of building this balance further, all of which are receiving strong push from the Centre.

The Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation

(MIDC) was established to provide the infrastructural facilities for promotion of industries in the State. MIDC has succeeded largely in creating the useful platform for industrial growth. The body is also working on the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). MIDC and DMIC Trust has formed a joint venture to execute the project, in which MIDC will hold 51 per cent stake, while the remaining will be held by DMIC.

The vision of the new Government, enthusiasm of people, possibilities of growth in the State, and support of Central programmes such as 'Make In India' have helped 'Make In Maharashtra' a smart move for any company aspiring to grow.



The State aims to simplify the procedure for establishment of a new project. Decision has been taken to reduce the number of no-objection certificates (NOCs) required for commencement of a unit. The Government has decided to reduce the number of approvals and licences from the current 70 to 25, along with the development of sector-specific zones and clusters, release of new IT and ITeS policy by next financial year, and achieve 13 per cent industrial growth.

Transparency in land allotment system and fixed time limit for land allotment procedure are other areas where the Government is aggressively working. A high-level committee will be constituted before March 2015 to expedite inter-departmental consultations and approvals. For permissions and other facilities, Maharashtra Industries Trade and Investment Facilitation Cell (MAITRI) will

The vision of the new Government and Central programmes such as 'Make In India' have helped 'Make In Maharashtra' a smart move for any company aspiring to grow

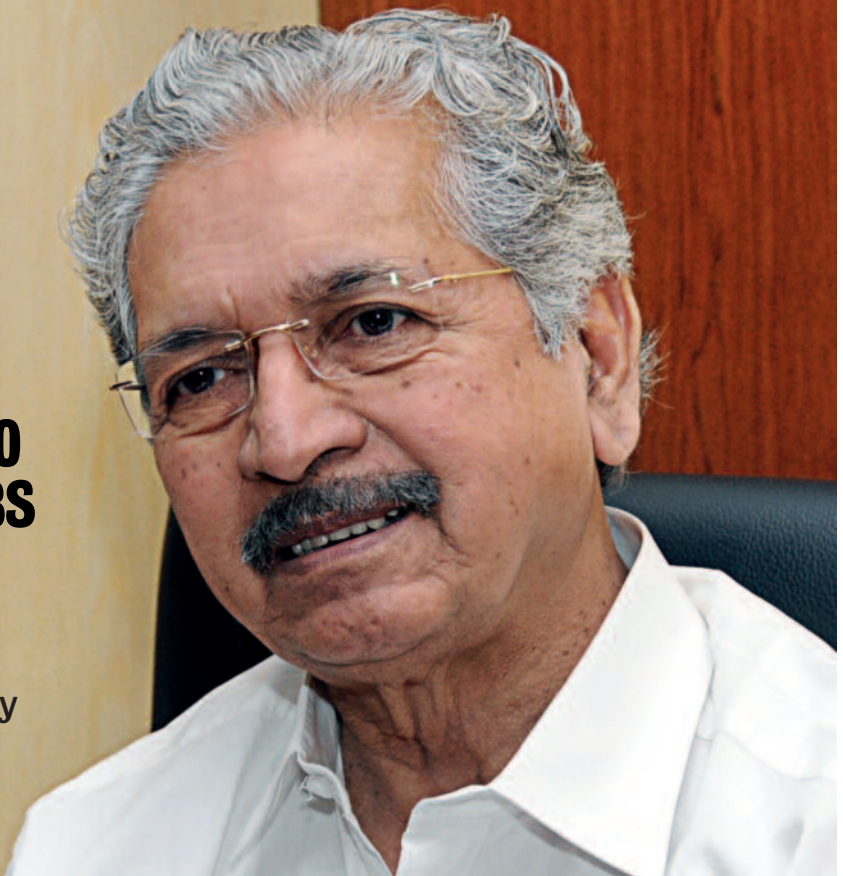
be formed. Companies investing more than ₹100 crore will have the facility of single-window clearance under the MAITRI. Priority is on online processing of approvals and clearances by all the concerned departments. A high-powered committee can be constituted for streamlining and reduction of processes in investment approvals. There will be some changes and modification in river regulatory zone. Procedures in MIDC will be simplified and will be made industry friendly. The basic focus of 'Make In Maharashtra' is to have maximum industries and projects in the State and provide them with facilities for growth. After all 'Make In India' can succeed only when 'Make In Maharashtra' succeeds. **M**

—Archana Shambharkar

MINISTER, INDUSTRIES
SUBHASH DESAI

“OUR TARGET IS TO ATTRACT INVESTMENT OF ₹5 LAKH CRORE TO CREATE 20 LAKH JOBS IN MAHARASHTRA”

In an exclusive interview with **Sanjay Jog**, the Minister speaks about State’s strategy on becoming a preferred destination to manufacture



Q: What is Government’s strategy for further growth of industries in Maharashtra?

A: The State Government proposes to attract investment to the tune of ₹5 lakh crore and creation of 20 lakh jobs in near future in the State. Our objective is to roll out a red carpet and remove red-tapism, make procedures simple. Our target is to achieve 13 per cent industrial growth and increase share of industries to 28 per cent in the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP). Additional push will be given to promote manufacturing.

The Government has no plans to bring new industrial policy but make improvements in the existing one to make it further investor friendly. Our focus will be to promote sector-wise specialisation zones and clusters. This means food-related industries will come up in one specialised zone and so will textile parks, wine parks, chemicals and petrochemicals industries, information technology and others.

The Government is making all efforts to expedite the development of Dighi Port in Raigad district and Shendre-Bidkin Industrial Park near Aurangabad in Marathwada. These projects are

being developed under the much ambitious Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). A much needed impetus will be given to the development of these areas and they are expected to spur industrial growth in the State.

The Government plans to revive the closed and sick textile mills in the State. However, we will not follow the model implemented for the sugar sector, wherein closed and sick mills were acquired largely by the private sector. The issue of revival of textile mills has been discussed with the Chief Minister and it was decided that department of textiles and industries will work in close coordination for the same. The textile department will soon conduct survey of closed and sick units and suggest their revival. These mills are situated in cotton-growing areas, including Khandesh, Vidarbha. Experts are of the view that focus should be on the revival of spinning mills first and then for textile processing ones.

Q: Are all these initiatives proposed to retain Maharashtra’s number one position?

A: Maharashtra is number one. The State is the

“

I want to make it clear that no cultivable or fertile land will be acquired, and priority will be given to barren and waste land. MIDC is providing quite higher compensation to land owners and farmers

”

most favoured destination for domestic and foreign direct investments and also in industrial development. Our objective is to retain Maharashtra's pre-eminence in future too. The Government will not only enter into a memorandum of understanding (MoU), but make all efforts for its conversion into project development. There are several States where a large number of MoUs are signed but the implementation rate is quite low. We will see that every MoU is implemented in the shortest possible time. The Government will focus on the dispersal and decentralisation of industrial development across the State and not just restrict it to Mumbai, Pune, Nashik and Aurangabad.

Q: Maharashtra has been a leader in information technology. Do you propose to come out with a new policy?

A: The Government has already given an extension up to March 2015 to the policy for IT and information technology-enabled services (ITeS) sector. However, the Government has already begun work to roll out a new policy to retain State's pre-eminence, especially in the software, hardware, consultancy and BPO sectors. Further, the Government intends to promote animation, visual effects and gaming (AVGC) to provide considerable value addition.

The draft policy, which will be part of Government's Digital Maharashtra initiatives, will also address areas such as IT hardware and telecom manufacturing in order to strengthen synergies in the ICT sector. The new IT and ITeS policy envisages drastic reduction in various clearances and approvals from the Government and its undertakings and also providing a slew of incentives to the investors. The incentives will be in addition to existing sops such as exemption in stamp duty, additional floor space index (FSI) for IT parks and VAT on sale of IT products charged at the minimum floor rate.

Q: Still investors complain about the time and cost overruns due to delays in getting various approvals and clearances. Is Government addressing this issue?

A: The Government plans to reduce the number of approvals and clearances to 25 from the present 75. You will experience the positive results in next six months. I want to give one recent example here. Leading tyre manufacturer CEAT gave its proposal to set up project in the Butibori industrial estate, Nagpur. On the same day, the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) gave

letter of intent to CEAT. Just a couple of days ago, the company laid the foundation stone.

Q: Investors also complain about corruption. How will this be tackled?

A: All officers have been sent loud and clear message that corruption and such malpractices will not be tolerated. There is a change in the rule in Maharashtra. Stern action will be taken against those who indulge in such activities.

Q: Besides, high-power tariff is a major concern expressed by the investors. What is your comment?

A: I agree tariff charged to industrial consumers (in the State) is high compared to other States. It will be my sincere efforts to reduce it. The issue has already been discussed with the Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis who is also quite positive in this regard.

But let me tell you, I keep on getting feedback from industries that although power tariff is high in the State, the power supplied to them is quite reliable and quality power compared to other States where power tariff is low.

Q: Environment clearance is yet another hurdle. What will be your move?

A: I have already discussed this issue with the Chief Minister requesting his intervention. After the winter session, he has agreed to sit with me and discuss various steps needed to make the entire process of getting environment clearances easy and less time consuming. I am sure that new industries will not face difficulties in future.

Q: Land acquisition is another major issue. How the Government plans to tackle it?

A: I want to make it clear that no cultivable or fertile land will be acquired, and priority will be given to barren and waste land. MIDC is providing quite higher compensation to land owners and farmers. We don't want to deprive the people from due compensation. The Government will request the Centre to exempt MIDC from the provision of seeking 70 to 80 per cent consent of the land owners for acquisition.

Q: What is your message for investors?

A: The Government is quite committed to make the investment process hassle free and thereby retain Maharashtra's pre-eminent position. I will invite investors to be part of Make In Maharashtra. I assure you, the Government will continue to be the facilitator and partner. **M**



“
Our target is to achieve 13 per cent industrial growth and increase share of industries to 28 per cent in the GSDP. Additional push will be given to promote manufacturing

There are several States where a large number of MoUs are signed but the implementation rate is quite low. We will make sure that every MoU is implemented in the shortest possible time



An Economic Powerhouse

Maharashtra is a bonafide candidate to become a powerful economy. Blessed with features such as resources, capacity to expand, global connectivity and several educational hubs to supply human resource, the State has enormous potential to grow. **Nikunj Sharma** captures some of the key industrial sectors that help the State become a power



The State of Maharashtra owns a varied profile of manufacturing industries, ranging from traditional automobile and textile sector to new-age ITeS and biotech. The State has established strengths in every sector; from engineering to automobiles and auto components, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, textiles, information technology, biotechnology and many others. Since 2007-08, the State's share has remained at 27 per cent in the total exports from India, mainly from sectors of gems and jewellery, software, textiles and

readymade garments, metal and metal products, engineering goods, plastics and pharmaceuticals.

The State boasts of one of the best financial infrastructures in the country and is commonly called an economic powerhouse. Important financial institutions such as the Bombay Stock Exchange, the National Stock Exchange and Reserve Bank of India are located in the State. Maharashtra has consistently been ranked the best among major Indian States in World Bank's Investment Climate Assessment surveys, especially in terms of better infrastructure, less corruption



Workers in an automobile factory in Maharashtra

and a relatively deregulated business environment.

AUTOMOBILE

Maharashtra has registered a CAGR of 26.94 per cent for industrial output of auto sector in the State from 2008-09 to 2011-12. Automobile production in India has doubled from 2007-08 to 2012-13, exhibiting a CAGR of 17.75 per cent for gross turnover of the automobile industry in India. By 2020, India's share in global passenger vehicle market is expected to double to 8 per cent from 4 per cent in 2010-11. Automobile demand in India is set to expand rapidly on the back of rising

Total size of the auto component industry is close to \$14 billion, out of which \$9.4 billion is the domestic OEM market, \$2.6 billion is the domestic aftermarket and \$2 billion are the direct exports

income, growing middle class, and a young population. Currently, the auto component industry manufactures a wide range of products in India for both domestic consumption and exports. The total size of the auto component industry is close to \$14 billion, out of which \$9.4 billion is the domestic OEM market, \$2.6 billion is the domestic aftermarket and \$2 billion are the direct exports of components. Maharashtra's auto sector has witnessed stupendous growth in recent years and its industrial output has more than doubled over the period 2008-09 to 2011-12. The State has also witnessed immense growth in

foreign direct investments in the auto sector.

Easy availability of raw materials, a large supplier vendor base and a strategic location that provides access to European and Middle-East markets attract auto majors to the State. Maharashtra's world-class multi-cultural social infrastructure supports expatriates from other countries to easily settle down in the State. Under its Industrial Policy 2013, mega and ultra mega projects can qualify for fiscal incentives up to 100 per cent of the fixed capital investment. Moreover, a 10 per cent additional incentive on top of the above incentives is provided by the State if the project creates double the employment required for the eligibility. Apart from fiscal incentives, the State supports the auto sector through non-fiscal incentives such as industrial infrastructure development, skill development initiatives, single-window clearance and investor facilitation, among others.

BIOTECHNOLOGY

An increase in basic production of chemicals and R&D expertise has led biotechnology sector in India grow by leaps and bounds. One of the fastest growing sectors in the country, biotech was estimated to be worth \$4 billion in 2012. Maharashtra's industrial output of pharmaceuticals, medicinal, chemical and botanical products has grown by more than 100 per cent over 2008-09 to 2011-12. The Indian biotechnology sector exports have crossed the domestic sales in eight out of the last ten years. Maharashtra's two major ports—Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) and Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT)—account for 22.45 per cent of the total traffic at all major ports in India. The modern infrastructure in these

FACT FILE AUTOMOBILE

■ Maharashtra's auto sector has one of the highest industrial outputs in the nation. The State's auto sector has witnessed stupendous growth in the recent years and its industrial output has more than doubled over the period 2008-09 to 2011-12.

■ In 2009, Volkswagen's Chakan facility became the only plant operated by a German automaker in India that covered the entire production process.

■ The State also has dedicated institutions to promote the auto sector. These include India's premiere automotive R&D, testing and certification organisation Automotive Research Association of India and India's first Auto Cluster Development & Research Institute.



FACT FILE BIOTECHNOLOGY

■ **Serum Institute of India is the world's largest producer of measles and DTP group of vaccines, and the first biotech company in India to cross the ₹2,000 crore mark in annual revenues**

■ **Haffkine Bio-Pharmaceutical is the 17th largest biotech company in India. The Mumbai-based company is a Government of Maharashtra undertaking. A major contributor to the Pulse Polio Immunization Programme, Haffkine bagged a number of contracts from the Indian Government as well as UN agencies**

ports makes it easier and faster for biotech companies to export goods. The increased support from the Government to the sector has facilitated rapid development in the recent past.

Looking at the growth, the State has created industrial hubs for the biotech sector. International Biotech Park (IBP) is one such hub. Currently, 75 per cent area of the Pune-based Park has been developed, and is occupied by leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies for R&D and manufacturing. IBP is the first public-private biotechnology park in Maharashtra. A joint venture between MIDC and Chatterjee Group, it has a bioresource centre and incubation centre with shared analytical and instrumentation facilities. MITCON Biotech Park in Pune is another hub, which is equipped with a full-fledged laboratory, library and training facilities.

Maharashtra also has an agri-biotech park in Jalna. The park has facilities for gene discovery, bioremediation, fermentation technology, post harvest technology, bioinformatics and diagnostics. Another agri-biotech cluster was announced for Pune in the 2014-2015 budget speech by Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley. The new cluster would facilitate increased investments from companies engaged in food processing, bio polymer,

bio fuel, bio protein, functional food and genetically modified seed. The cluster approach will help ensure that academia, researchers and companies engage closely to create strong synergies for growth.

IT AND ITeS

Maharashtra IT industry has been the leader in receiving foreign direct investment (762 projects) and highest investment of ₹12,765 crore (from August 1991 to March 2012). The IT sector is one of the top-notch sectors in the State with maximum thrust, development and investment. The sector has increased its contribution to India's GDP from 1.2 per cent in 1997-98 to 7.5 per cent in 2011-12. During 2011-12, Maharashtra accounted for around 23.2 per cent of the country's software exports (made by registered units through STPI). Software exports were estimated to be at around \$7.6 billion during 2011-12.

To bolster the sector, Maharashtra Government is focusing on providing infrastructure, fiscal incentives and an institutional framework to the sector. The State has 37 public IT parks established by MIDC and CIDCO. A total of 479 private IT parks have been approved, of which 122 are functional with an investment of \$499.3 million, thereby creating employment of about 3.2 lakh (0.32 million). The remaining 357 IT parks, with a proposed investment of ₹13.2 lakh crore (\$2,208 million), have been given letters of intent, and are expected to generate 1.6 crore (1.6 million) employment opportunities. Greater Mumbai, Pune, Thane and Nashik are prime IT/ITeS clusters.

Under the IT/ITeS Policy 2009, additional floor



space index for IT parks and recreational, residential and other support facilities are promised. Eligible IT/ITeS units covered under the Package Scheme of Incentives (PSI) are exempted from the payment of electricity duty. In addition, IT units are supplied with power at industrial rates with levy on property tax on IT/ITeS units at par with residential rates. Besides, VAT on the sale of IT products is generally charged at a minimum floor rate.

ESDM

With a share of almost 20 per cent in India's total, Maharashtra has the highest industrial output in the computer, electronic and optical products. Electrical equipment manufacturing sector of the

Seven electronics manufacturing clusters have been notified by the Government of India in Maharashtra. All units within these clusters will be eligible for benefits under the M-SIPS

State has grown at a healthy CAGR of 19.04 per cent over 2007-08 to 2011-12. Electronic System Design and Manufacturing Sector (ESDM) industry in India is estimated to have clocked revenues of ₹4 lakh crore (\$68.3 billion) in 2012. The ESDM industry in the country is expected to grow at a CAGR of 9.9 per cent from 2010 to 2015, to reach \$94.2 billion. This is more than twice the growth rate of the global ESDM market.

The prime ESDM centre in Maharashtra is

Pune. The city is one of the best industrially developed districts in India. Supported by strong educational infrastructure and abundant availability of skilled labour, it has attracted many electronic manufacturing companies. Pune's connectivity to JNPT and MbPT has facilitated it to become an export hub for these companies. Talegaon and Khed are the two ESDM hubs in Pune.

In February 2014, the Government of India approved setting up of two semiconductor units by two consortia—one led by Jaiprakash Associates and the other by Hindustan Semiconductor—entailing investments of ₹51,550 crore. The Cabinet also approved that incentives that will be made available to the above consortia will also be extended to other players who show interest in setting up of similar semiconductor plants.

Seven electronics manufacturing clusters have been notified by the Government of India in Maharashtra. All units within these clusters will be eligible for benefits under the Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS). The scheme aims to promote large-scale manufacturing and provides incentives such as capex subsidy of 25 per cent in non-SEZ and 20 per cent within SEZ, reimbursement of CVD/excise for capital equipment for non-SEZ units, reimbursement of Central taxes and duties for 10 years in select high-tech units like fabs (semiconductor manufacturing plants). The above incentives are available to units all across the value chain.

GEMS AND JEWELLERY

Maharashtra is one of the key states with gemstone

FACT FILE

IT and ITeS

■ Maharashtra has 37 public IT parks established by MIDC and CIDCO. A total of 479 private IT parks have been approved in the State, of which 122 are functional with an investment of \$499.3 million, thereby creating employment of about 0.32 million people.

FACT FILE

ESDM

■ India currently imports more than half of its requirement for electronic equipment. Maharashtra's developed industrial infrastructure, a large supplier/vendor base and an excellent inter-state connectivity has attracted investments from many companies that aim to tap the nation's growing demand for electronic equipment.

IT hub at Hinjewadi, Pune



FACT FILE GEMS AND JEWELLERY

- Maharashtra is one of the key states with gemstone reserves and mining potential. The SEEPZ is an SEZ in Mumbai that has the sector as primary industry. Gitanjali Gems Ltd has valid in-principal approval for Gems and Jewellery SEZs in Nanded and Aurangabad.
- Gemmological Institute of India and Indian Institute of Gems & Jewellery, both based in Mumbai, have been set up to encourage the gems and jewellery industry.

FACT FILE DEFENCE

- DRDO's research lab in Pune has provided self sufficiency in indigenous development of Combat Engineering Equipment. Over the years, this establishment has acquired expertise in ground system engineering for all the major weapon programmes.
- Maharashtra has the presence of defence public sector undertakings, ordinance factories and private companies. The major public sector manufacturing units are BDL missile unit in Nandgaon Peth, Amravati, Bharat Earth Movers Ltd, Pune and Mazgaon Dock, Mumbai.

reserves and mining potential. Mumbai is one of the most important diamond cutting and polishing centres in India. The Santacruz Electronics Export Processing Zone (SEEPZ) is a special economic zone in Mumbai that has gems and jewellery as primary industry. Gitanjali Gems Ltd has valid in-principal approval for gems and jewellery SEZs in Nanded and Aurangabad.

Besides SEEPZ, Hupri is another industrial hub coming up in the State. A specialised silver zone in Kolhapur, Hupri will be spread across 200 acre and will have a centralised facility for recycling and purifying the effluent.

Apart from the existing incentives, the State Government offers a 10 per cent additional incentive if the project creates double the employment required for the eligibility. The sector also enjoys 100 per cent foreign direct investment, exemption from obtaining an industrial license to manufacture, exemption from service tax on export-related services, and duty drawback to neutralise duty incidence on gold jewellery export.

DEFENCE

About 2.5 per cent of India's GDP goes to the defence sector. With 12 per cent of world's total imports over 2008-12, the country is the largest importer of defence equipment in the world. Maharashtra's share in India's total industrial output of manufacture of defence machinery and equipment is 27.56 per cent. The State has 16 per

With FDI ceiling in the defence sector being relaxed to 49 per cent from the earlier 26 per cent, the country is set to witness a huge growth in the number of greenfield defence equipment manufacturing

cent share in India's total industrial output of manufacture of basic metals and fabricated metal products. The defence sector in India has seen unprecedented growth and with the FDI ceiling in the defence sector being relaxed to 49 per cent from the earlier 26 per cent, the country is set to witness a huge growth in the number of greenfield defence equipment manufacturing facilities.

Maharashtra's existing industrial base, abundant availability of raw materials, and availability of low-cost skilled labour, make it the perfect destination for defence equipment manufacturing industries. The gross industrial output of Maharashtra's basic metals and fabricated metal products sector has grown by





almost 100 per cent from 2007-08 to 2011-12.

Prime defence hubs in Maharashtra are at Aurangabad and Pune. In an effort to streamline the industrial licensing process for defence equipment, the Government recently notified the list of defence items requiring industrial licences. A licence is important for an item to be manufactured in India.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Sugarcane, cotton, onion, soya bean, banana, *jowar* (sorghum) and rice are some of the key crops of Maharashtra. The State's gross cropped area (GCA) under irrigation is 18.9 per cent. During 2012-13, the total production of pulses and oilseeds in the State was 2.4 million tonnes and 5 million tonnes, respectively. Its total food grain production was about 10.7 million tonnes during 2012-13, while fruit production was around 9.8 million tonnes, respectively, during 2012-13.

Nationally, performance of food processing industry (FPI) improved substantially in 2011-12 registering a record growth of 21.6 per cent. Contribution of food processing sector to GDP has been growing faster than that of the agriculture sector indicating increased agricultural products being converted (in value terms) to food products irrespective of agricultural production rate.

An opportunity for the State, Maharashtra has responded to it by setting up eight specialised food parks with facilities such as cold storage, warehousing, advanced packaging, tetra packaging and food testing laboratory at locations like Butibori in Nagpur, Shendra in Aurangabad, Nevasa and Shirrampur in Ahmednagar, and

FACT FILE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

■ Though sugarcane, cotton, onion, soya bean, banana, *jowar* (sorghum) and rice are some of the key agricultural products of Maharashtra, the State is respected for its Alphonso mangoes, grapes and strawberry.

■ World's leading supplier of high-quality chocolate and coco, Barry Callebaut chose Maharashtra to establish its new manufacturing unit. This will be the first of its kind factory in India, and will supply chocolates to giants like Cadbury India, Nestle India, Ferrero and others locally.



Banana plantation, Maharashtra

FACT FILE PHARMACEUTICAL

■ Maharashtra accounts for approximately 18.4 per cent of the country's pharmaceutical output by value.

■ Major opportunities have emerged in the pharmaceutical sector, primarily, in the areas of contract research, contract manufacturing and clinical trials.

■ Maharashtra has 3,139 pharmaceutical manufacturing units.

■ The State has 445 Government, Government aided and unaided pharma institutes with a intake capacity of 25,318 students.

Latur, Osmanabad, Nanded and Chiplun in Ratnagiri. MIDC has also set up three wine parks at Vinchur and Addn Vinchur near Nashik, and Palus near Sangli.

The State also has three floriculture parks developed as world-class facilities for production of flowers of different types and varieties. MIDC provides nursery, post-harvest infrastructure and logistics facilities to these parks located in Talegaon in Pune, Mudkhed in Nanded and Osmanabad.

Centrally sponsored scheme, National Mission on Food Processing aims to create additional food grain storage capacity in the country. Subsidies are provided for effective administration of the proposed Food Security Legislation. Hundred per cent FDI under automatic route (except for alcohol, beer and sectors reserved for small scale industries) and repatriation of capital and profits are permitted. Units completely focused on exports are allowed to sell up to 50 per cent of their produce in the domestic market and their export earnings are exempted from corporate taxes. For these units, import duty is scrapped on capital goods and raw materials. Complete tax exemption for five years followed by 25 per cent tax exemption for the next five years for new agro-processing industries and full excise duty exemption for goods that are used in installation of cold storage facilities are also in place.

PHARMACEUTICAL

The Indian pharmaceuticals market grew at a CAGR of 17 per cent in 2012 from only \$6 billion in



2005 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 12.1 per cent to reach \$45 billion in 2020. By 2020, India is expected to be within the top 3 pharmaceutical markets by incremental growth and sixth largest market globally in absolute size.

Maharashtra accounts for approximately 18.4 per cent of country's pharmaceutical output by value. Major pharmaceutical units such as Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, GlaxoSmithKline, Abbott and Sun Pharmaceutical have presence in the State. The sector also offers significant





opportunities, primarily, in the areas of contract research, contract manufacturing and clinical trials. To tap this potential, the State has a well-developed laboratory, research and development infrastructure, and a strong resource pool.

Maharashtra has a strong R&D base with major centre such as Bioresearch Centre, Bioinformatics Centre and Serum Institute. The State also houses 3,139 pharmaceutical manufacturing units supported by 445 Government, Government-aided and unaided pharmaceutical institutes with a total intake capacity of 25,318 students.

As per the existing State pharmaceutical policy, greenfield investments will be permitted up to 100 per cent FDI, while brownfield projects will require FIPB approval to avail 100 per cent FDI

As per the existing State pharmaceutical policy, greenfield investments in the sector will be permitted up to 100 per cent FDI under automatic route, while brownfield projects will be allowed up to 100 per cent FDI with FIPB approval. Budget 2010–2011 reduced the customs duty from 10 per cent to 5 per cent on imports of select life-saving drugs, conjugate vaccine and Micafungin sodium for injection. Patent and proprietary medicines included under chapter 30 of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 which are imported for retail sale are

exempted from special additional duty.

TEXTILES

Maharashtra has one of the highest industrial outputs in the textile sector and contributes a significant 13 per cent to India's total output. The State has the largest area under cotton cultivation (34.01 per cent) and is one of the largest cotton producers in the country. In 2012-13, a total 79 lakh bales of cotton was produced in Maharashtra that amounted to 21.64 per cent of India's total cotton production. The domestic textile and apparel industry in India is estimated to reach ₹846 thousand crore (\$141 billion) by 2021 from ₹348 thousand crore (\$58 billion) in 2011. Textile and apparel exports from India are expected to increase to \$82 billion by 2021 from \$31 billion in 2011.

To boost production, MIDC has developed seven exclusive textile parks with facilities such as R&D labs/institute, trade centre, management and training centre, and product/process development laboratory. The State offers a capital subsidy of 10 per cent to new units coming up in Vidarbha, Marathwada and North Maharashtra, as well as for modernisation of powerloom units of SC/ST and minority communities. In addition to this, interest subsidy of up to seven per cent are given to spinning mill, garmenting, ginning, pressing and processing units, six per cent to technical textile and composite textile, and five per cent to other support units. **M**

—Source: Mahaconnect, MIDC newsletter and Economic Survey, DES Maharashtra

**FACT FILE
TEXTILES**

■ Maharashtra is India's leading cotton producer. The State contributes 21.6 per cent of the country's total cotton production.

■ In 1990, Bombay Rayon set up the first fabric manufacturing facility in Maharashtra. In 2007, the company commenced the mega \$250 million textile and garment project under a special MoU signed with the State Government. In 2010, the company achieved world's largest fabric processing capacity of 5 lakh meters/day at Tarapur.

TEXTILE POLICY ENVISAGES

- Investment of ₹40,000 crore (\$6.66 billion)
- Adding processing capacities to 4.5 million surplus cotton bales produced
- To create new jobs for 1.1 million persons



CSR SUPPORT TO EDUCATION

Cyrus Mistry, Chairman, Tata Group recently met with Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and discussed company's proposal to sponsor the education of one crore children in the State. The Tata Group is soon launching its ambitious education plan aimed at providing scholar-

ships and job-oriented learning to Maharashtra's children.

The Chief Minister and Chairman, Tata Group discussed the scope of corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives. Mistry briefed the Chief Minister about company's plans and asked the Government to provide support for the same. On his part, the Chief Minister assured him State Government's co-operation for the project. This project

is envisioned to include children studying in the primary grades. The aim is to impart skills training, so that children are better equipped for the job market.

Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister, Praveen Pardeshi, Principal Secretary, Industries, Apurva Chandra, Secretaries to the Chief Minister's Office, Milind Mhaikar and Pravin Darade, and Madhu Kanan from Tata Group were also present.

NEW CEAT TYRES PLANT IN BUTIBORI



The Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis recently laid the cornerstone for ₹400 crore CEAT Tyre plant in Butibori, Nagpur. The plant will give impetus to industrial development of Nagpur. With the implementation of the project, more than 2,500 youth from the area will get employment. Maharashtra will be developed, as country's most progressive State, with no hindrances in terms of rules and regulations. "A single-

window system will give impetus to make all facilities easily available to industrialists," said the Chief Minister.

Minister for Industries, Subhash Desai; Minister of State, Industries, Praveen Pote; Executive Director, CEAT Tyres, Anant Goenka; MLAs Sameer Meghe, Sameer Kunawar and Ashish Deshmukh; Chief Executive Officer, MIDC, Bhushan Gagrani; Principal Secretary, Industries,

Apurva Chandra, and others were present on the occasion.

Giving the letter of intent to a corporate project within a day is a first in the history of India, said the Chief Minister. The land for the project was given within a month and after giving all clearances, the cornerstone was laid.

The state-of-the-art tyre plant in Butibori will be set up in three phases. In the first phase (2014-2016), ₹400 crore will be invested. Post the completion of first phase, the first tyre will roll out by April 2016.

Spread across 60 acres of land, the plant is expected to manufacture 1.2 million tyres. The plant will have the best in its class technology and will manufacture two and three-wheeler tyres. The production process will have the certification of ISO 14001 for environment management system and OHSAS 18001 for safety, health and environment. The new plant, with highly automated manufacturing machinery, expects to bank on growing two-wheeler sales, Anant Goenka of CEAT Tyres said.

SPEEDY DECISIONS AND AN INDUSTRY-FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has said the state has immense scope for investment and his Government will expedite issuing of licenses to set up industries and extend all needed cooperation and industry-friendly atmosphere to the investors. A delegation from the US consulate, comprising 22 major industries, headed by Consular General Thomas Wajda met the Chief Minister at Ramgiri, Nagpur.

The Chief Minister welcomed the investors to set up business in Maharashtra, be it MIHAN or



MORE FSI FOR INDUSTRY, TOURISM, EDUCATION

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has announced new policy decisions to approve construction plans within seven days by the local civic body or planning authority. He also announced an increase of floor space index (FSI) for educational institutions, roadside amenities such as petrol pumps, trauma care centres, police housing

anywhere else. He assured all infrastructure facilities to them.

Minister, Industries, Subhash Desai; Chief Secretary, Swadhin Kshatriya; Additional Chief Secretary, Dr. P. S. Meena; Additional Chief Secretary (Protocol), Sumit Malik; Additional Chief Secretary (Finance), Sudhir Shrivastava; Principal Secretary, Industries, Apurva Chandra; CEO, MIDC, Bhushan Gagrani; Managing Director, Maharashtra Airport Development Corporation, Tanaji Satre and other senior officers were present on the occasion.

The delegates expressed their satisfaction about investment in Maharashtra. They also expressed their satisfaction on the programme, Make In Maharashtra to create an industry-friendly atmosphere and

expressed their willingness to set up or extend their industries.

Sukanti Gosh, Ashish Dube (APCO), Mohit Bansal (Amazon), Varun Khanna (Becton), Pratiyush Kumar (Boeing), Prasad Shivalkar (Hindustan Coca-Cola), Niket Ghate (Colgate), Rustom Desai (Coming), Rajiv Singh (Datacard), Vishal Verma (Edgewood), P Balendran (General Motors), Varun Jain (Honeywell), Anup Kumar Mehrotra, Sunil Naik, VV Naik (Jabil Circuit), Javed Ahmed (Caterpillar), Mahesh Krishnamurthy (RGP), Giridhan Iyyer (Varian Medical), Krish Iyyer, Rajneesh Kumar (Wal-Mart), Ajay Singha, Surabhi Wahel (AMCHAM) and other business leaders were present on the occasion.



GOVERNMENT IS KEEN TO EXTEND SUPPORT TO FACILITATE INVESTMENT: CHIEF MINISTER



Make In Maharashtra is our goal and the Government is keen to extend all necessary support to facilitate investment and act as partner to enthuse entrepreneurs' confidence in the ambitious project," said Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, while inaugurating a multipurpose port terminal and logistic infrastructure project at Karanja in Raigad, at Sahyadri Guest House, recently.

Principal Secretary, Transport and Ports, SK Sharma; Principal Secretary, Industries, Apurva Chandra; CEO, Maharashtra Maritime Board Parag Jain; Chairman, Karanja Terminal and Logistics, Nikhil Gandhi and others were present. MLA Prashant Thakur was also present on the occasion.

The Chief Minister said that projects like these could step up industry boom in Maharashtra which is important in generating opportunities for direct and indirect employment. Maharashtra has been blessed with 720 km long coast and is looking out for investors to beef up port facilities. The investment worth around ₹1000 crore is committed to the project, and the terminal project will be completed in the next two years, transforming the area in and around Karanja, he said.

Government has decided to reduce the number of licenses required for establishing new businesses, and is preparing an e-platform to accomplish this objective. Government has taken a decision to mandate committee of secretaries to expedite quick permissions in business and infrastructure projects. "For that, we will bring all the permissions needed for industries and investment on fast track, and the Government will play the role of partner in these projects," said the Chief Minister.

While welcoming investors to the State, the Chief Minister added that priority would be given to entrepreneurs who invest in environment-friendly business projects. Nikhil Gandhi expressed gratitude for Government's cooperation in obtaining speedy clearances for the project. "We remain committed to the development of Karanja area. Our determination is to see the project implemented in two years," he said. The Managing Director of the company, Pawan Bakshi gave a vote of thanks.

schemes and industries located in agricultural zones.

Industries can further expand their installations as they will now be able to use an extra FSI, ranging from 0.1 to 0.9. If the developer applies as per any of the standard designs prepared by local authorities, one will get permission in seven working days, said the Chief Minister.

Educational institutions will now get an additional FSI of 1. Starred hotels and hospitals along highways too will be able to extract additional FSI of 1. Hous-



ing schemes for police and sanitary workers employed with local bodies will get an FSI of 4. The FSI for an industry located in agricultural zone or no development zone now stands at 1.

For expansion of factories, the applications for zone change or additional FSI move from district authorities to Director, Town Planning to Secretary, Urban Development and to the Chief Minister. Now these powers have been delegated to collectors. The initiative is part of Make In Maharashtra programme.

Q. With BJP now in-charge in both Maharashtra and Delhi, what are the plans on development in the State?

A. Devendra Fadnavis' Government in the State will get all the strength and cooperation from the Centre. People's expectations are very high about the new Government in Maharashtra. I am very confident that the picture in the State will definitely change. As a Union Minister, I have planned road projects worth at least ₹1 lakh crore in the next five years for the State. I have a big project in mind for Mumbai. We are also looking at doubling the capacity of ports in the State. Sea planes are already taking off from Mumbai and from other inland waterways. I am trying to start hovercraft and ferry services in the metropolitan parts of Mumbai. Through my ministry, I have decided to develop one dry port each in Sindi in Wardha and Aurangabad.

Q. How will you use the ministries at your disposal for fast tracking the development?

A. Maharashtra is endowed with a coastline from Mumbai to Goa and Mumbai to Gujarat. Through Ministry of Shipping, in the border areas of this coastline, we will launch ship building, ship breaking, inland waterways, sea planes, hovercrafts and water terminal activities. We plan to add two to three new ports and expand the capacities of the existing ports in the State. We have undertaken the projects to link the ports by railway, and have started work on an eight-lane road in Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT). We are trying to establish world-class facilities at JNPT and other ports with the cooperation of the Netherlands government. We are in dialogue with a Belgian port company to facilitate container and other freight transport through inland waterways.

Through Ministry of National Highways, we are undertaking construction of a four-lane concrete road between Mumbai and Goa. We have set in motion the construction of 14 flyovers over Mumbai-Goa road. Members of Parliament from Mumbai have requested for a ring road around Mumbai. Study is being conducted for an undersea road. This project will cost around ₹40-50,000 crore. We will construct a concrete road from Amravati to Surat which will cost ₹8000 crore. We have decided to build a four-lane concrete road from Borkhedi to Ratnagiri, which will cover Vidarbha, Marathwada, Western Maharashtra and Konkan.

Q. What initiatives are planned for Vidarbha?

A. The most important project in Vidarbha is

“I have planned road projects worth ₹1 lakh crore for the State”

Union Minister, Road Transport, Highways and Shipping, **Nitin Gadkari** is Maharashtra's representative in Delhi. His ministry can do wonders for any state, especially Maharashtra, which is attaching its industrial success to infrastructure development. The Minister tells **Sunil Chawake** his plans for the State. Excerpts from the interview:

MIHAN. It will take off very soon. We have decided to build Nagpur-Gadchiroli and Deori-Gadchiroli roads, a railway line from Nagbhid in Gadchiroli district, part of a national highway from Bhishi to Chimur and Varora. We expect cooperation for promoting tourism in Vidarbha. Government of India has announced AIIMS project worth ₹2500 crore in Nagpur. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has announced to establish IIT in Nagpur. There is a ₹9000 crore Metro rail project sanctioned for Nagpur. All of these projects will set Vidarbha on the path of development.

Q. Farmer suicides and projects affected by Zudpi jungle are big concerns for Vidarbha.

A. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced Pradhan Mantri Gram Sinchai Yojana. Many irrigation projects in Vidarbha like Bembala in Yavatmal or Gosikhurd have been completed. But the canal works remain unfinished. Prime Minister has put across a proposal that Centre will provide the funds for canal work if the States complete the construction of dams. We will try to finish the canals with the help of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sinchai Yojana. Gosikhurd is a prestigious project and I am personally following it up.



“
We are trying to establish world-class facilities at JNPT and other ports in the State with the cooperation of the Netherlands government
”

Q. There are doubts about Maharashtra's overall ranking. Now the onus is on your Governments (at Centre and in the State) to regain the no. 1 status of Maharashtra.

A. I think statistics mirrors the truth. Agriculture sector in Madhya Pradesh is growing at 24 per cent, while Maharashtra is at 4 per cent. Mumbai was country's commercial capital. But everything is coming to a standstill in Mumbai. Industries are getting closed; farmers are resorting to suicides. Changing the situation and putting Maharashtra back on top is the responsibility of State's leadership and leaders of the State. We have undertaken Metro projects in Mumbai and Pune. In Delhi, Ministry, Environment and Forests has taken many important decisions regarding Maharashtra. For the all-round development of Maharashtra, our endeavour will be to have the assistance and initiatives from the Centre and quick decision making from the Maharashtra Government. Politics of development will be the highlight of our Governments.

Q. You have adopted Pachgaon village. How will you develop this village?

A. I will be looking after the issues of drinking water, roads, sanitation and good schools, but physical development is not the sole objective. The village should be free from all sorts of addiction. There should be a community hall, gymnasium, yoga centre, cultural programmes, guidance for women's self help groups and organic farming. I am looking at an innovative way to create gas from garbage and provide it through pipeline to each house in the village. Optic fibre has reached Pachgaon. So, there should be computer in every home and the village should witness e-governance.

Q. Being an important Minister in the Centre, Maharashtra's expectations are very high from you.

A. I consider myself as an ambassador of the State. I will try to coordinate all the Central ministers and the State Ministers to put Maharashtra on the fast track of progress. People in the State should be assured that wherever and whenever Maharashtra faces difficulties in Delhi, I will be there to help overcome the problems. ■

MUMBAI ON A FAST TRACK

In another push to the infrastructure in Mumbai and around, the state-run Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority has cleared Dahisar-Bandra-Mankhurd and Wadala-Ghatkopar-Charkop Metro projects and flyovers to decongest BKC-Kalanagar junction



After accomplishing the splendid projects such as Worli-Bandra Sea Link, Andheri-Ghatkopar metro line and Wadala-Chembur monorail in the city, Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has geared up to take on the traffic woes of the crowded metropolitan city. During its 136th quarterly meeting, chaired by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, MMRDA approved two crucial metro corridors—Dahisar-Charkop-Bandra-Mankhurd (DCBM) and Wadala-Ghatkopar-Thane-Kasarvadavali (WGTK).

The 40-km-long DCBM Metro Corridor (36 stations, all underground) will be built at an estimated cost of ₹25,605 crore, while the 32-km-long WGTK Metro Corridor (24 underground and six elevated stations) will require ₹19,097 crore. Both the corridors will be implemented by Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC), a State Government undertaking, by 2020-21. While half of the cost involved will come via loans from international finance agencies, the Centre will provide 20 per cent. The State Government and MMRDA will get the other 30 per cent through equity and debt.

MMRDA intends to develop a Metro rail network of 172 km in



Mumbai and its metropolitan region. The first project of the city became operational early this year. The 11.4 km long Versova-Andheri-Ghatkopar corridor (Metro-1) with 12 elevated stations proved to be a boon for Mumbaikars. The corridor provides the vital east-west connectivity to the commuters, and has reduced the 90-minute distance between Versova and Ghatkopar to 20 minutes.

OTHER METRO PROJECTS

Colaba-Bandra-Andheri (SEEPZ) corridor is another Metro project coming to the city. The CBS (Metro-3) is 32.5 km long, fully underground metro line with 27 stations, including Nariman Point, Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC), domestic airport and industrial areas of MIDC and SEEPZ. The line connects various areas in island city that are not served by Suburban Railways, i.e. Kalbadevi, Worli,

Prabhadevi, airport area and Andheri (East). The project is funded by Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA), which will provide loan assistance to the tune of ₹13,235 crore. The rest of the funds will be made available by Centre, State Government/MMRDA in the form of equity and subordinate debt and funds from Mumbai International Airport Limited



Once completed, the Metro lines will make a significant impact on the traffic condition of Mumbai and its connectivity with the suburbs

(MIAL). The project, estimated at ₹23,136 crore, is expected to be completed by 2019-20.

MMRDA has also proposed to implement the Wadala-Ghatkopar-Thane-Kasarvada Metro corridor (Metro-5). The corridor will help Thane city (along Ghodbunder Road) grow, deliver to the demands of elected representatives, bring convenience to commuters and help connect the city with Mumbai. The 32-km Metro corridor (30 stations) has base project cost of approximately ₹19,000 crore.

Both the new Metro corridors will be implemented by MMRC by 2020-21. While half of the cost involved will come via loans from global finance agencies, the Centre will provide 20 per cent and State the rest 30 per cent

FLYOVERS

Meanwhile, MMRDA has also approved four flyovers and a road to clear the daily peak-hour traffic chaos in BKC. At Kalanagar, flyovers will be built to connect BKC to Sea Link and BKC to Kherwadi, besides a ramp linking Sion-Dharavi road to Kherwadi. At an estimated cost of ₹227 crore, a maze of flyovers and a road will be built at Kalanagar Junction in

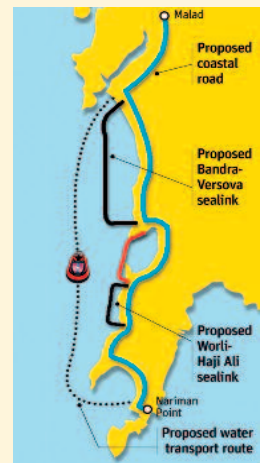
Bandra (East). There will be a flyover each to reach the Bandra-Worli Sea Link from BKC and the other way around. The total length of these two two-lane flyovers will be 1,888 m. The flyover connecting Dharavi to Western Express Highway (WEH) will join the flyover from BKC at the second level and there will be a three-lane, 2,920 m long flyover connecting the one reaching WEH. **M**

—Kirti Pande

IN THE PIPELINE

EASTERN COASTAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

Water transport project throughout Mumbai coast is an ambitious project of Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation. The project includes Passenger Ro-Ro service for commuters from Ferry Wharf to Nerul-Mandva, besides transport facilities at Nariman Point, Bandra, Juhu, Marve and Versova. The water transportation project of Mumbai costs ₹568 crore.



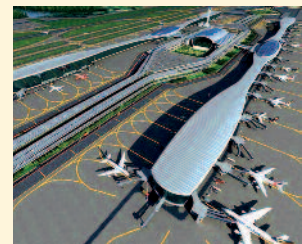
WESTERN COASTAL ROAD

The road from Nariman Point-Malad-Kandivali Link Road will cost ₹12,000 crore. The 34.55 km long project includes tunnels (10.40 km), bridges (1.93 km), roads on stilt (2.45 km), roads on reclamation (9.48 km) and elevated road (1.27 km), and roads (9 km)

going through mangroves. Maharashtra Coastal Zone Management Authority has already given the approval. The project will shortly be cleared by the forest and environment department.

NAVI MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Navi Mumbai International Airport is a greenfield international airport that will have world-class facilities for passengers, cargo and airlines. The project will see the investment of ₹14,573 crore. The proposed second airport for Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) is planned in Navi Mumbai for several reasons. Prominent among them is the fact that Navi Mumbai is expected to cater to the future growth in population, business and commercial activities of MMR. The availability of excellent physical and social infrastructure coupled with an environment-friendly site is another advantage.



MUMBAI TRANS HARBOUR LINK



The proposed Mumbai Trans Harbour Link will facilitate decongestion in Mumbai by improving connectivity between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. The proposal for the development of

Navi Mumbai Region was mooted about 30 years ago. The ambitious 22-km-long cable stay bridge between Sewari in Mumbai and Nhava-Sheva is a ₹11,000 crore project.

“The State will have an inclusive policy for agricultural insurance”

Eknathrao Ganpatrao Khadse, Cabinet Minister, Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation, Earthquake Rehabilitation, Minorities Development and Wakf, Agriculture & Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries, and State Excise is the next man in hierarchy after Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis. With diverse portfolios to manage, the senior minister has his hands full. In an interview with **Aniket Joshi**, he talks about his Government’s plans and challenges

Bungalow B-4 just opposite Mantralaya has been traditionally allotted as residential accommodation to the Leader of Opposition in the State Legislative Assembly. For the last five years, **Eknathrao Khadse** has been residing in the bungalow as Leader of Opposition in the assembly. In October, his status of Leader of Opposition changed, as his party made Government in the State and he was sworn in as a Cabinet Minister. Currently, Eknath Ganpatrao Khadse holds the portfolios of Revenue, Relief and Rehabilitation, Earthquake Rehabilitation, Minorities Development and Wakf, Agriculture and Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries, and State Excise. The Minister, in an interview, talks about his plans. Excerpts:

Q. Tell us about the unique scheme for Revenue Department that you have conceived.

Revenue department is considered as the backbone of a Government. Every person, whether from an urban city or a rural pocket, comes under this department in one way or the other. In the



area of land for farmers, the Government has undertaken an ambitious project for land measurement through a remote sensing satellite. Under the scheme, we will get the entire land in the State measured with the help of Hyderabad-based National Remote Sensing Centre.

With this, both the horticultural and arable lands could be measured, and the 7/12 extracts (also called Records of Rights) prepared in this manner can then be given to farmers. The project is a joint initiative of both State and Central Governments, and we are expecting funds from the Centre to achieve the objective. Then, there are other issues, such as gift deeds and Land Ceiling Act, which have to be resolved.

Q. You had an emergency meeting with Union Minister for Agriculture. Would you like to enlighten us on the discussion you had?

We discussed the crop insurance scheme, which has been made applicable for banana crop. Weather affects this crop very often. However, losses are not reimbursed to the farmers through crop insurance. In Jalgaon district, seven to eight thousand farmers suffered huge losses due to bad weather; 1,200 farmers from some circles did not receive any crop insurance money. The reason suggested was that the weather monitoring stations in these circles were not in working condition. The insurance amount due to these 1,200 farmers was ₹69 crore. Immediately after swearing-in, I discussed the matter with Union Minister for Agriculture, Radha Mohan Singh. The Minister visited Mumbai and brought along Agriculture Secretary D. K. Jain and other senior officials from Delhi. We discussed the matter with the responsible insurance company and got the matter resolved.

Q. Are you bringing in a new policy for agricultural insurance?

Crop insurance is of three to four kinds. These include losses due to climate change, losses due to natural calamity and compensation for losses due to any other reason. The insurance also changes with the type of crop. When it comes to compensation, it has been observed that insurance companies often do not come forward with enthusiasm. For the past five to six years the scheme seems to have been implemented only on an experimental basis.

We plan to make an inclusive policy on this. The structure will aim at benefitting the farmers. If the State Government initiates payment of insurance



I was at the forefront in resolving the issues of minorities, and was keen to work with them. I am confident of a good performance.



If crop damage compensation doesn't burden the State exchequer and protect the insurers' interests, such a scheme could be thought of



There are innumerable issues related to land that need to be resolved. These include matters related to gift deeds and Land Ceiling Act



premium, we will have to see what difference it would make on the funds needed to be released from State exchequer in times of a calamity. This is a thought worth pondering. If the farmers can be provided with adequate compensation during calamity without burdening the State exchequer and protecting the insurers' interests, a scheme of this type could be thought of.

Q. What are the issues crucial to minorities' development?

Just as Muslims are part of minorities, Christians, Jains, Parsees and others are. There are certain issues of Nav Bouddha and they can be related to this department. Then there are security-related issues of Christians and Sikhs. We will have to generate confidence in them regarding security. There are issues of conversions of original Dalits and Other Backward Classes, and of space for cemeteries and Christian churches. Christians have land plots, but most of these have been encroached. There is also an issue of Bouddha cemetery.

The land plots of Muslim community are with the Wakf Board and saddled with issues of encroachments. Thousands of land parcels from Marathwada handed over to the Wakf Board during Nizam regime are riddled with encroachments. We are going to discuss these issues with experts and come up with solutions.

Q. Out of the many departments you are given, departments such as Wakf and Minorities Welfare stand out. Did you ask for these?

I was keenly interested in working with these departments. In any case, we do not have a minister from the minorities at present and someone had to take up the responsibility. I have a huge PR in minority communities. Secondly, in our earlier 1995 coalition government, I was at the forefront in resolving the issues of minorities.

For example, there is the story of Haj House. When we took over in our earlier term, the building was ready and lying idle. This was because there was some construction at the entrance and there was an issue of removing the obstacle. When the people came to me, I tried to understand the issue and then took it to our Deputy Chief Minister and Home Minister Gopinathrao Munde. He immediately issued orders and we removed all obstacles, clearing the way for building's usage. I have very cordial relations with the leaders of minority communities. I am confident of a good performance in this department. **M**



MAHA RESPITE FOR FARMERS

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis pledges to make Maharashtra drought free by 2019, while declaring ₹7,000 crore immediate relief and ₹34,500 crore long-term relief to tackle the crisis

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has announced to make the State free from the clutches of money lenders and drought free, while declaring ₹7,000 crore relief package. He also announced waiving off last three months' electricity bills to tackle the agrarian crisis in Vidarbha and Marathwada. He also announced to help the kins of farmers, who committed suicide, with current year loan, and to make 5000 villages of the State drought free within a year.

The Chief Minister said, electricity bills for



(Clockwise from top) Minister for Agriculture Eknath Khadse hands over relief amount to farmers; Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis with Minister for Rural Development Pankaja Munde and senior social worker Anna Hazare; and Pankaja Munde with a farmer family

last three months, i.e. from September will be fully waived off for drought-affected farmers. The State will be made money lender free. The Government will also repay farmers' debt taken from registered money lenders. Kins of farmers who have committed suicide will be extended help for repaying balanced bank loan or current bank loan or debt from money lenders.

The Chief Minister said that this year the present *paisewari* of 19,059 villages has been announced less than 50 paise. There was only 25 per cent rainfall in June and sowing was delayed. Even though there was good rainfall later and sowing was 102 per cent, in September and October, returning rains adversely affected the crops. To make Maharashtra drought free by 2019, following measures have been taken up by the Government.

PERMANENT MEASURES

- Integrated Water Management Programme for water conservation schemes for over 50 lakh hectares of land with investment of ₹6,437 crore. Government aims to make 5000 villages drought free by next year.
- 2.50 lakh farm ponds and 50,000 cement *nulla bunds* will be constructed in next five years to bring 10 lakh hectares land under irrigation by decentralised storage.
- Five lakh farmers will be provided solar pumps.
- Outstanding financial assistance for last three years for micro irrigation will be made available; financial provision of ₹332 crore made for 2012-13, ₹450 crore loan from NABARD under RIDF, for year 2013-14 all pending outstanding assistance is made available, ₹3000 crore will be made available for micro irrigation for the current year, in the next five years, 10 lakh hectares of



The State spent ₹8,377 crore on relief measures for the agriculture sector in the last three years, but during the period, it spent only ₹2,692 crore for creating infrastructure, which will sustain farming in situations like drought.

— Chief Minister, Devendra Fadnavis



FOR SUSTAINABLE FARMING

- Jalyukta Shiwar Yojana (Irrigated Farm Scheme) for drought-free Maharashtra.
- **Collective implementation of water conservation schemes.**
- **Water auditing of every village**
- **Secured irrigation for sustainable agriculture**
- **Industrial sector should invest corporate social responsibility funds in this scheme**
- **Water storage capacity to be increased**
- **De-siltation of present water bodies to increase water level**

land to be brought under micro irrigation.

- A programme to construct 20,000 community farm ponds will be taken up; work of 10,000 farm ponds is complete and remaining is to be completed within two to three years. For water conservation, de-siltation work is to be taken up on a large scale, with additional provision of ₹50 crore.
- For making 500 villages drought free, ₹300 crore has been made available. In the current financial year, ₹150 crore have been provided under the mission. To extend the scheme to 1000 villages, ₹500 crore will be made available.
- It has been experienced that broad based furrow is best for in-situ water conservation. In the current year, Government aims to make at least 10,000 broad based furrows available. Each village will have at least one broad based furrow on rent.

IMMEDIATE MEASURES

- Assistance of ₹3925 crore for 92 lakh hectares affected farm land and ₹884 crore to save orchards over 2.44 lakh hectares. Assistance of ₹35,000 per hectare proposed to save horticulture crops.
- Under the National Horticulture Mission, initiatives will be taken for protection and rejuvenation of orchards, ₹20,000 for per hectare for rejuvenation of orchards and ₹1200 per hectare for Organic Integrated Pest Management, and ₹16,000 per hectare for plastic mulching.
- For Fodder Development Programme, ₹37.50 crore is available. Cultivation of fodder crops will be taken over 3 lakh hectares to make available 100 metric tonnes green fodder. Financial assistance of ₹1500 per hectare will be given to the farmers for cultivation of fodder crop.
- To supply power to agriculture pumps in drought-hit areas, electricity bills of ₹215 crore is expected every trimester. Power will be supplied to pumps free of cost in the September trimester.
- Pending interest of ₹480 crore of District Central Co-operative Banks and Nationalised banks will be paid by the Government. Banks will reschedule loans in drought-hit areas.
- To overcome drinking water scarcity, ₹400 crore plan outlay is prepared for the next six months. About 3000 tankers will be pressed into supplying water till the onset of monsoon.
- 47 lakh farmers have been covered under insurance scheme for 2014-15 kharif season; 13 lakh farmers participated in Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme, for which ₹45 crore was made available for insurance premium. About ₹230 crore compensation will be given to 11 lakh farmers. **M**

—Team Maharashtra Ahead



PLANNING IT RIGHT

At the State Chief Ministers' meet in Delhi, Maharashtra Chief Minister suggests Planning Commission to be replaced by National Development and Reforms Commission, and States to have more say in the new body



(Clockwise from top): Prime Minister Narendra Modi chairs the conclave chaired, Maharashtra Chief Minister speaks at Agenda Aaj Tak 2014, and State Chief Ministers pose with Prime Minister and Union Ministers in New Delhi

It was a pleasant morning on Sunday, December 7, 2014 and all the roads leading to 7, RCR were busy, as a very unique conclave was to be held there throughout the day. The event, a first of its kind, was State Chief Ministers' one-on-one meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The agenda was to replace the existing 65-year-old Planning Commission with a new reforms' structure, and all the Chief Ministers were called to express their opinions on the new effective Planning Commission and on deliberating what should be the profile of the new body.

On August 13, 2014, a Cabinet meeting was called to nullify the Cabinet Resolution of March 15, 1950, regarding the formation of Planning Commission, and a decision was taken to grant powers to the Prime Minister to dismantle this institution. Since, discussions in a wider spectrum have been carried out throughout the country.

Following his Independence Day announcement from Red Fort on August 15, 2014, that the Planning Commission would 'soon' be replaced by a 'new institution', the Prime Minister called for this unique

conclave. The meeting saw a consensus for giving more powers to the States and equal participation of both Centre and States for nation's development. Expert advices from 4,000 eminent dignitaries were sought before dismantling the Planning Commission and form a new institution.

UNIQUE CONCLAVE OF CHIEF MINISTERS

Forming a new structured institution by replacing the existing Planning Commission, the main aim is to bring about effective coordination between States and Centre. At the conclave called by the Prime Minister, many States opined that more power and planning should be devolved to them. Expressing the need for long-term planning, while addressing the National Consultation Meeting on Replacement of the Planning Commission, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis made some useful and critical observations. He suggested the need to replace the body by National Development and Reforms Commission with increased participation of States. Mentioning that the utility of the Planning Commission is more than over, he expressed the need for a far more extended National Development and Reform Commission. Given the global and internal circumstances, there is a dire need to replace the Planning Commission, he reiterated.

Maharashtra Chief Minister added that five regional councils for north, south, west, east and north-east regions should be formed under the new commission and Prime Minister should head this commission with Ministers from States as members. Quarterly meetings of each of these regional councils should be held with annual meeting of the National Commission, he added. He also suggested the need for formation of National Innovation and Knowledge Hub for creation of necessary laws and financial resources for schemes such as Smart Cities, Make In India, and others.

NEED FOR LONG-TERM PLANNING

Speaking about country's planning, Chief Minister Fadnavis opined, desirable planning should be a long-term planning and not restricted to only five years. He expressed the need for making laws related to legal and financial matters, as lack of flexibility in several of the Central rules makes it difficult for the States to implement and develop plans. Closure of the Centrally financed schemes was also a concern. Devendra Fadnavis asked for direct funds to the States for the implementation of schemes such as EGS, Food Security Schemes, etc., and sought for greater autonomy to the States towards planning and implementation of these schemes. He opined



Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis greets Prime Minister during the meeting

that the States should be given an opportunity to develop with standards of development properly worked out for them. Instead of distributing the Central assistance to the States at the end of the financial year, it should be distributed regularly.

Further emphasising on the need for the new structure of the Planning Commission, the Chief Minister suggested that major concerns like employment opportunities, economic development and overall development can be attained through the concept of 'think-tanks'. These 'think-tanks' should be created under the able leadership of the Prime Minister with State Chief Ministers as its members. Overall development can be achieved through innovative concepts initiated under the 'think tanks' coupled with micro-planning. The Chief Minister drew attention towards the development of Mumbai. He urged for constitution of a committee under Prime Minister's leadership for expediting pending proposals for city's development. **M**

—Compiled by **Amarjyot Kaur Arora**,
IO, MIC, New Delhi

“
The Chief Minister added that five regional councils for north, south, west, east and north-east regions should be formed under the new commission and Prime Minister should head this commission with Chief Ministers from States as members
 ”

GIVE MORE SAY TO STATES: CHIEF MINISTER

In Delhi to attend the conclave, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis also participated in Agenda Aaj Tak 2014 organised at Hotel Taj Mansingh, New Delhi, on the issue. Speaking at the event, Chief Minister said that Planning Commission should be replaced with another set up that gives more say to Indian States. He also emphasised on cooperation between the States. The Chief Minister said that Planning Commission did good work before the liberalisation of 1991. But after the change in Indian economy post liberalisation, the funding process for various development programmes must change too. He insisted that the country will progress only if its States progress. Hence, a State's share in the development of the country should increase.



Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitely with Maharashtra Finance Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar in New Delhi

IN OTHER NEWS

MEETING ON GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

➡ Maharashtra's Finance Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar was recently in the Capital to attend the State Finance Ministers' meeting on Goods and Services Tax (GST). Abdul Rahim Rather, Finance Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, heads the empowered committee on GST. Mungantiwar urged the committee that the Central Government should compensate for the losses, which one may incur once the GST is implemented, within ten years. He apprised the committee of the entry tax, which provides revenue of ₹12,000 crore to the State exchequer annually and helps in running local body institutions. Once GST is introduced, the entry tax would be abolished and the State would incur losses. In order to bridge this deficit, the State Finance Minister urged for Government of India's intervention to compensate for the losses of the States. Mungantiwar called upon the Union Finance Minister, Arun Jaitely and discussed the issue with him. The Union Minister assured Mungantiwar of looking at the issue positively.



A TIMELESS BEAUTY

The silken gold embroidered Paithani is one of the most precious and celebrated textiles of India. The drape is crafted and maintained like a jewel, as it is expected to be in a Maratha family for generations

Three hundred and seventy-five km from Mumbai, and 56 km from Aurangabad, Paithan is a small town busy doing something outstanding—weaving the beautiful Paithani. Called *maha-vastra* or grand attire, the magnificent silk saree is considered to be an heirloom in the Maharashtrian community. No doubt, some Maharashtrian families have 100-year-old Paithanis preserved over generations only to be worn on special occasions.

A craft that goes back 2,000 years, a rustling silk Paithani is more than a drape; it is a culture, a journey and a blessing. The gossamer folds of Paithani capture elements of nature, the sun, sea, sky and fire. Its most impressive feature is the ornamented zari *pallav*, which uses traditional vines and flowers, fruits and stylised forms of birds as motifs. The border is set in gold or silver threads,

making every saree a masterpiece. Our purpose to visit Paithan is to capture Paithani's journey, status as an industry, challenges it faces and initiatives taken by the State Government to preserve and encourage the craft. Over the years, the skill has spread to other parts of Aurangabad and Nashik, with weavers today producing brocades, dress materials and home textiles. Besides Paithan, another town known for Paithani is Yeola, in Nashik.

Traversing through the lanes of Paithan, one can see women engrossed in counting the threads of the warp for each part of the design. Tiny cloth pins or *tillies* are used to interlock the silk or gold yarn on the weft. Depending on the nature of the design on the border, a weaver uses 15 to 20 separate *tillies*. When the *pallav* has to be embroidered, there could be over 400 *tillies*, to be used in turn. The technique is a complicated one. Like, on a zari warp thread,



KNOW PAITHAN

Once known as Pratishtan, Paithan was the capital of Satvahan dynasty and a major hub of commerce. It is also the birthplace of Sant Eknath, one of the greatest saints of Maharashtra. The ancient city and pilgrimage centre, situated on the banks of the Godavari, is known for Paithani silk sarees and the gardens around the Jayakwadi Dam where one can watch resident and migratory birds



the weft is never thrown across, but is interlocked with different colours, somewhat similar in technique to tapestry weave, which also creates the same effect on both sides. When it comes to creating the motifs, the law of inverse applies—the smaller the design, the longer it will take to weave.

As one realises, weaving a Paithani saree is a long process. Nearly a month goes in completing a simple saree. The time can stretch to five to nine months if the saree is more elaborate. The labour-intensive process, fine fabric (pure silk), its weight and the purity of zari influence Paithani's price. "It takes about a year to complete the *mor-bangdi* (four peacocks in one bangle) sari worth ₹2 lakh. I am making one such saree, for which the order was placed last year," says Anwar M Baig, a weaver.

CRAFTED BY HISTORY

Traditionally, Paithanis used to have a plain body with a heavy golden border and a large *pallav*. With the passage of time, various motifs began to be used in the saree. Long-necked swans (of the Shalivahan era of second century BC), golden lotus (of the time of Yadavs), and flowers, plants, trees and birds (of the Mughal period) are motifs that symbolise the art of bygone eras. Today, young weavers are trying newer

In Paithan, we saw weavers engrossed in counting the threads of the warp for each part of the design. Tiny cloth pins or tillies are used to interlock the silk or gold yarn on the weft



and innovative motifs, but don't overlook the traditional motifs that define the craft and its heritage. Paithani reached its zenith in the time of the Peshwas—in the 18th and 19th centuries—when members of the nobility wore the fabric. The Nizam of Hyderabad had visited Paithan several times as he was much attracted to the richness of Paithani.

The craft was fading away when in 1995 Government of Maharashtra set up 28 looms on its premises in Paithan and built an educational centre to revive the market for Paithani. In 2010, Paithani was protected under the Geographical Indication Act, 1999, facilitated by the Textiles Committee, a statutory body under the Ministry of Textiles. The GI registration is aimed at safeguarding the interest of the artisans of Paithani against infringement and, hence, protect the livelihood of over 30,000 weavers associated with the handloom product.

In August 2014, Maharashtra Government inaugurated a tourism centre at Angangaon in Yeola to showcase the traditional Paithani art and craft. The centre, an initiative of the State Tourism Department, also explains to visitors the modalities of hand weaving, design patterns and demonstrates how the fabric must be marketed. **M**

—Jyoti Verma

LET'S GO WILD

Spotting a big cat in India's jungles has always been difficult because of their dwindling numbers. A special case, though, is of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra's largest national park, which has one of the highest tiger densities in the country, says **Jyoti Verma**



(From left) A majestic tiger, entry gate of the Reserve, a sambar and a bird in Tadoba National Park

Every October, most of national parks and forest reserves in India open to tourists. The month, thanks to the pleasant weather across the country, is also when our family goes for its annual vacation. The trip this time is a finger-crossed affair, as we hope to spot the tiger in its natural habitat after the failed attempts at Jim Corbett and Ranthambore. Though the parks, in Uttarakhand and Rajasthan respectively, brought us brilliant jungle thrill, wildlife knowledge and zillions of pictures, the escapades fell short of the target—an encounter with the king of the jungle.

The safari to Tadoba will be different, says our optimistic and confident guide, Shankar Godam, whose father and grandfather were also employed in the forest located in the north-eastern part of Maharashtra. With a smile, he points at the board put up at the entry of the Tadoba National Park that said, 'Welcome to The Real Land of the Tiger.' "This is the home of the tiger," says the sexagenarian guide, leaving us hopeful and ready with the camera.

The 625 sq. km. of the Tadoba National Park and the adjacent Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary make the original Dandakaranya forest, an important place mentioned in ancient Hindu texts. Tadoba National Park and Andhari Wildlife Sanctuary together form the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR). According to the 2010 tiger census, there were around 45 tigers in the TATR, but guides and tour operators put the current number to be 60, as more males have entered the reserve in recent years. The area is equally known for the leopard, which is more difficult to spot, due to the brilliant camouflage the landscape offers the big cat.

Tadoba, in the reserve's north, covers the Chimur Hills. At its middle is Tadoba Lake, an



important water source for the region. Its three entry gates are at Kolara and Navegaon, with good access from Nagpur, and Khutwanda, nearest to Warora and Moharli.

Tadoba National Park is thick with vegetation, and there are exciting sights waiting to be captured. Our most amazing finding was that of a female Giant Wood Spider. A female spider of this species can grow up to 20 cm in length and can spin spectacular webs. Large webs are quite common here. From the main road, our jeep turns to one of the many connected narrow paths. Godam asks us to talk softly once inside the jungle, as any human noise scares away the animals. We cross the second gate and a tarred road to reach a mud track. A troop of langurs was leaping through the branches of a tree with a small herd of spotted deer beneath. One can also hear the birds perched on the high branches of trees. Godam points at a silk cotton tree that has yellow-footed green pigeons.

Tadoba is known for its vast bird population, which includes peafowl, green bee-eater, Indian Roller, spotted dove, Green Imperial Pigeon and goldenbacks. Its wide variety of flora includes teak, bamboo, *mohdi* (used for making wedding mandaps), *mahua*, padas climber (which entwined around a trunk, acts like a lightning conductor), *karai* (used to cure illnesses in animals), *kini* (helpful for eye ailments) and *tendu* (used for making bidis).

Often called the Jewel of Vidharba, Tadoba derives its name from Taru, the local deity, whereas the Andhari River that meanders through the forest gives the sanctuary its name, says Godam. It is believed that Taru was the village chief who was killed in a fierce encounter with a tiger, and a shrine was made here in his remembrance. Over the years, Taru came to be



HOW TO REACH

By Air: Nagpur, 208 km away from the national park, is the nearest airport. The airport has flights from different parts of the country.

By Rail: The closest railhead is located at Chandrapur (45 km) and there are quite a few trains that arrive at this station. The Nizamuddin Express passes through the station.

By Road: Tadoba is well-connected by road. Mumbai is 701 km away.

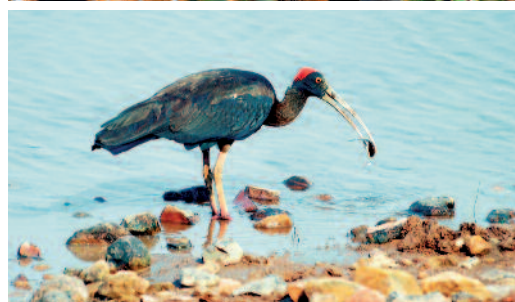
Booking: The reserve is open daily except Tuesdays for safaris.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Flora: Teak, ain, bija, dhaoda, bamboo, haldu, arjun, tendu, salai, mahua

Fauna: Tiger, leopard, sloth bear, wild dog, jackal, sambar, Indian bison, barking deer, blue bull, spotted deer, chausingha, ratel, flying squirrel, wild boar and langur.

Booking: Entry to Tadoba-Andhari and Pench tiger reserves can be done online on www.mahaeco.tourism.gov.in. Like Indian Railways, the bookings will be available 60 days in advance.



called Tadoba, and by the Tadoba Lake is his shrine. Tadoba became a national park in 1955 and is the oldest national park in Maharashtra. Over the years, its biodiversity has thrived.

The bumpy jeep ride made it challenging for us to hold on and keep clicking pictures. Suddenly, our driver made a gesture to the rest of the safari drivers and guides. Another gesture was for us to hold tight and be attentive. He whispered to tell us about the presence of a tigress a few steps ahead, near the stream. He pointed again, to his left. We could not see anything majestic, but tried anyway. It needed more concentration than required, as we had to decode the camouflage. The best we could see was a tail, pointing north. We held our breaths, waiting to see more. And there walked the majestic cat, crossing the path in front of us. Tail raised, she ambled off the road, down a short slope. From the people on the jeeps, there were no words and voices, just a few hushed sighs, followed by sounds of zooms of camera lenses and multiple clicks. For a few, long seconds, only her raised tail could be seen. But it was not over still, as the elegant tigress stepped back on the path, walked towards our jeep and passed by just metres away, giving us a breathtaking view. Our heads and eyes turned, as we saw her climbing a low hillock and disappearing into the jungle. For several minutes, we looked in the same direction, hoping her to come back. But, as Godam says, it makes sense to not wait for her and give chances to other equally impressive animals of Tadoba. "May be a leopard lazing around on a tree, but you must look keenly," he advises.

We follow his advice and move ahead, now sure of what Tadoba can provide its visitors. If we get to see the leopard, great, if not, our 'mission (tiger)' still is well accomplished. **M**

Tadoba became a national park in 1955—the oldest in the State. Over the years, its biodiversity has thrived. It is known for its bird population, flora and growing number of big cats



STRAWBERRY COUNTY

Mahabaleshwar is known for its iconic brand of strawberry. The city and its nearby areas account for 80 per cent of India's total strawberry produce. **Sameer K** brings us the details

If you happen to visit the twin hill stations of Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani this time of the year, you will see streets dotted with carts laden with a red luscious fruit. Mahabaleshwar, India's strawberry capital, is busy with the fruit and the opportunities it brings. The strawberry grown here is not just sold across the country and outside, it also helps the city get more tourists.

"If one goes by the consumption pattern, Indians have developed a fondness for strawberry in the last two years," says Balasaheb Bhilare, President, All India Strawberry Growers Association. For the last two to three years, this association of 6,000 odd farmers involved in strawberry farming has been organising a strawberry festival to showcase the fruit, encourage its farming and offering the residents a platform to woo tourists. Farmers manage to sell around 40 odd tones of strawberry during the festival. Last year, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation backed the festival sensing an opportunity to host more tourists.

What makes Mahabaleshwar-Panchgani ideal for the production of strawberries is their moderate climate. The fruit is being cultivated here right from the time of British rule. It was during the Raj when Panchgani was founded as a retreat for people to take a break from their hectic schedules. Since then the city has turned into a prominent tourist and holiday destination. One can reach Panchgani in a short span of five to six

(Clockwise from above) Fresh strawberries picked from farms, visitors at the festival, a glimpse of the festival, and a prospective buyer inspects the quality of the fruit

“**Indians have developed a fondness for strawberry in the last two years. Last year, around four consignments were sent to Malaysia on a trial basis. This year, there has been a demand from the country again**

—**Balasaheb Bhilare,** President, All India Strawberry Growers Association

”

hours from Mumbai and in three hours from Pune.

While a handful of farmers cultivated strawberry from the remains of the plants left behind by the British, cultivation for commercial production began in 1989 when Ambarish Karvat of Mumbai set up a pilot project with strawberry plants imported from California. Today, strawberries from the stations are traded to many Indian cities and markets abroad. "Last year, around four consignments were sent to Malaysia on a trial basis. This year, there has been a demand from the country again," Bhilare said.

The festival is held once a year at the end of the season, that is during April and May. If you have never visited a strawberry farm before, the festival is the best time to do so. The visit includes a tour to the farms and a chance to pluck the fruit straight off the trees. "Pick out the smaller ones, they are the sweetest," the guide says. I did just that and was pleased with my pick.

Strawberry fans must also try lip-smacking dishes such as strawberry chocolate pizza made from rich dark chocolate sauce and strawberry toppings and Chocoberrywitch made from whole wheat bread coated with chocolate sauce and freshly picked strawberries.

Satara district accounts for 80 per cent of strawberry production in India, with the fruit grown mainly in Mahabaleshwar, Wai and Panchgani. The total value of strawberry production in the state is currently valued at more than ₹100 crore. The average earning per acre of



strawberries is about ₹80,000 to ₹1 lakh.

Strawberry farmers are also benefiting from the upswing in demand from the food processing industry. An estimated 15 per cent of their produce is bought by the likes of Kwality Wall's, the flagship ice cream brand of Hindustan Lever, and local brands such as Mapro, Manama and Mala, which manufacture a range of fruit-based jams, jellies and squashes. Restaurants and ice-cream parlours have joined the fray by adding fresh strawberry in fruit salads, ice-creams, crushes, juices and milkshakes.

In 2010, Mahabaleshwar's strawberry joined the illustrious league of Geographical Indication (GI). With this, Mahabaleshwar strawberry became a brand. It means that no one other than the farmers from Mahabaleshwar and Panchgani can use the name.

A GI is a sign that assures consumers that produce comes from or has been processed in a particular region known for the quality of such produce. Similar examples are Champagne, Scotch whisky and Parma ham.

According to farmers, strawberries produced in Mahabaleshwar are unique in terms of their nutritional value, water, glucose and seed content. The need to get a GI status arose as many farmers realised that strawberries grown elsewhere in the State were being sold as Mahabaleshwar strawberries. A status such as the GI helps the fruit get a strong position in the market and farmers a better deal. **M**

THE WAY WE COMMUNICATE

Directorate General of Information and Public Relations is the nodal agency for disseminating information on Government policies and initiatives. Today, its channels are successful platforms recognised both by people and public departments

The Directorate General of Information and Public Relations (DGIPR) is the nodal agency of the State Government to disseminate information on various Government's policies, programme initiatives and achievements through print and broadcasting media. The

broadcasting media includes Akashwani and Doordarshan, while the print media includes multi-language magazines, including *Lokrajya* (Marathi), *Lokrajya* (Urdu) and *Maharashtra Ahead* (English), which reach the nook and corner of the State. These magazines are the mouthpiece of the State Government.

For past eight years, Akashwani broadcasts *Dilkhulas*, an interactive programme in Marathi. On the other hand, Doordarshan telecasts *Jai Maharashtra*. The Directorate has been playing an effective role of communication bridge between the Government and public.

MAHANEWS

First e-Paper of a State Government

The DGIPR on September 19, 2008, took a dynamic step ahead in the e-world by launching *Mahanews*, the official website of the department with an aim to provide information to State's youth. *Mahanews* gained immense popularity because of the information it has been providing to visitors. The website has



become a link between the Government and the media. Over the years, it has attracted readers from the State, nation and world at large. The number of netizens today stands at over one crore. Other strong points

of *Mahanews* include the reception it has got from leading newspapers of the State and faith of people in the portal. Around 6,000-7,000 netizens log on daily to *Mahanews*. Of them, 28-30 per cent live abroad. Information on over 25 lakh job opportunities has been provided in the 'Search Jobs' column, which has become its most popular section everyday. Since the portal uses Unicode, netizens across the world can view the contents.

MAHANEWS PHOTO GALLERY

Hundreds of newspapers and web portals in Maharashtra are always in need of a new photograph. This need is now being served by Mahanews Photo Gallery. The new photo gallery is a major platform providing photographs of important news items from the State and the country to newspapers. *Mahanews* is now getting popular even for photographs along with the news.

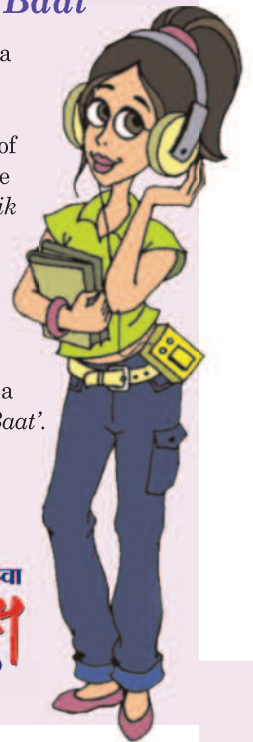


DILKHULAS

Maharashtra ke 'Mann ki Baat'

In order to establish a direct dialogue and a direct communication with the people of Maharashtra, a need of programme like *Dilkhulas* was felt. Recognising the reach of Akashwani, specially in the morning prime time slot after the regional news (*Pradeshik Batmya*), which is still heard in most households, *Dilkhulas* was launched by the Department on Akashwani on November 16, 2006. The programme included interviews of ministers, officials and experts from various departments. In a way it is a precursor of Modiji's 'Mann ki Baat'.

The communication, which began twice/thrice a week, is now being held six days (Monday-Saturday) a week, in response to the overwhelming response from speakers and listeners. The team



UNIQUE RECOGNITION

Dilkhulas is a unique programme on Akashwani that has been running for quite a long period and has maintained its popularity throughout. The advertising service of Akashwani, Mumbai has acknowledged that *Dilkhulas* has a lion's share in earning RK Talib Award (2012-13). The appreciation from an entity that reaches 98 per cent of Indian population with its heritage broadcasting network and eminent participation in development process with information and enlightenment, has been immensely valuable and satisfying.



LOKRAJYA

The Maha magazine

Lokrajya Marathi, a monthly, is mouthpiece of the Government of Maharashtra with a luminous tradition of 65 years. The magazine has won accolades for being the largest circulated magazine in the country, reaching every household in the State. Initiated in 1947, the magazine has kept its mandate of public conversation with continued vitality to date. It has kept up with changing times, accepting latest technologies and strengthening public dialogue to become a true people news agenda.

The journey started with dissemination of information on Government schemes, decisions and programmes and reached the venues of educating people and creating awareness among them. *Lokrajya* also has a revered tradition of Special Issues, ranging from national leaders to saints, litterateurs and specific development subjects. The issues have been preserved by discerning readers and researchers as reference works. Today, *Lokrajya* has farmers, workers, women, students preparing for competitive examinations and researchers as its readers. With authentic references, statistics, useful and compelling matter, and attractive presentation, it has become the first choice of readers from Maharashtra. The magazine, with a circulation of 4 lakh, is number one in Maharashtra and second in India. It has always played an eminent role in strengthening dialogue between the Government and the people.

makes sincere efforts towards selecting relevant subjects and questions. Till date, eminent personalities in the social, literature and research fields have participated in the show.

Dilkhulas is the only programme running for a long time and retaining its popularity. It has also been lauded by Prasar Bharati. There is no such programme in any other State. All the episodes of the programme are available on State Government's website <https://dgipr.maharashtra.gov.in>. The programme has proved to be an effective medium to enlighten people. The platform has been important for public education. The programme recently completed 2100 episodes.

JAI MAHARASHTRA

A conversation with leaders

Jai Maharashtra is an interview-based programme telecast through Doordarshan's Sahyadri channel. The programme was launched on August 16, 2007, when the late Chief Minister Vilasrao Deshmukh established communication with the State's people. The



interviews telecast on Tuesdays and Fridays between 8 pm and 9 pm. Conceived by the then Director General (Information and Public Relations), Manisha Patankar-Mhaikar, *Jai Maharashtra* has successfully telecast more than 700 interviews.

Prominent people from different sectors reach people through this medium and put development schemes across. It is probably the only programme that covers a topic—a Government scheme or an important project—in detail.



On behalf of *Jai Maharashtra*, a memento was presented to Eknathrao Khadse as token of gratitude. He appreciated the memento very much and said that he will keep it on his working table, which also encouraged the entire team



It was evident that not only common people, but also current and former ministers make it a point to listen this programme. The first phone call received by Sudhir Mungantiwar immediately after the programme was that of former Union Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde

URDU LOKRAJYA

An effective medium

The Maharashtra Government launched *Urdu Lokrajya* in October 2007. Earlier, the Government was publishing Urdu *Lokrajya* magazine as *Quami Raj* since 1974. The Government, for the past many years, has been publishing information in Urdu to ensure that minorities are not deprived of the



benefits of various welfare schemes. Most Indian schools and colleges with Urdu as a language are located in

Maharashtra. Urdu is the second most spoken and read language after Marathi in the State. *Urdu Lokrajya* has established a good rapport with the Urdu-speaking populace in the State. The magazine is an effective medium for bringing Urdu-speaking minority into the mainstream.

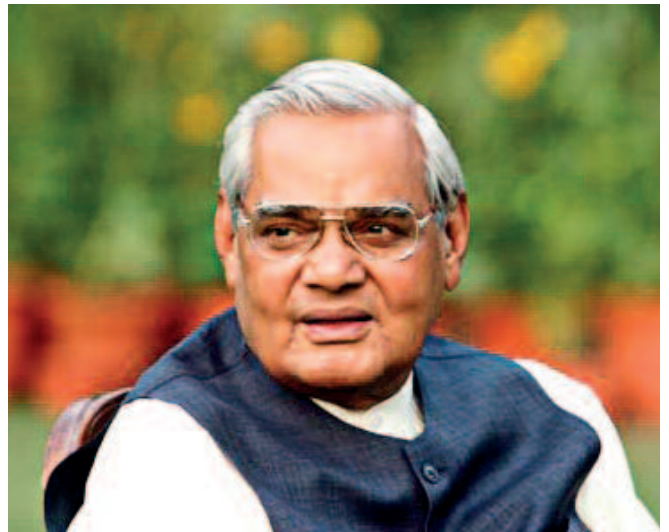
—Team Maharashtra Ahead

PRIDE OF INDIA

The Union Government has announced the prestigious Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour, to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and freedom fighter Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya



Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya



Atal Bihari Vajpayee

On the eve of Christmas, President Pranab Mukherjee announced the highest civilian award to India's tallest statesman, former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and freedom fighter Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (posthumously). Both the leaders were born on December 25, and the announcement made their birth anniversaries special in 2014.

One of India's most charismatic leaders, Atal Bihari Vajpayee is lauded as a leader respected by everyone, even those in the Opposition. His warmth established Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) to centre stage of politics in the late 1990s. An orator par excellence and a political leader known for his bold initiatives, his most notable being the attempt to bridge Indo-Pak differences, Vajpayee is India's longest serving Prime Minister outside Congress party.

Born in 1924 in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh to Krishna Bihari Vajpayee and Krishna Devi, Vajpayee, a high-caste Brahmin has seen a long parliamentary tenure spanning over five decades. He became a Member of Parliament for the first

time in 1957. Vajpayee became a close follower and aide to Shyama Prasad Mookerjee, founder of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS), BJP's predecessor. The leader is also a respectable writer and poet.

A multifaceted personality, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya founded the Banaras Hindu University and was one of the torchbearers of the freedom struggle. In the freedom struggle, Malaviya was midway between the liberals and the nationalists, the moderates and the extremists, as the followers of Gokhale and Tilak were respectively called. Malaviya was known for his support to Hindu nationalism, and was one of the initial leaders of the Hindu Mahasabha. A teacher, lawyer, social reformer and Congress leader, he catapulted into the political arena after his inspiring speech at the second Congress session in Calcutta in 1886. Born in an educated orthodox Hindu family in Prayag (Allahabad) in 1861, Malaviya started his career as a teacher but later studied LLB. He practiced as a lawyer till his 50th birthday, after which he decided to retire to serve the country. **M**

—Team Maharashtra Ahead

Founders of Modern India, both Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Madan Mohan Malaviya were leaders respected by everyone, even those against their ideologies



सत्यमेव जयते
Government of
Maharashtra

सर्वत्र : सर्वोत्तम

लोकराज्य

4 lakh Circulation
44 Lakh Readership

لوڪ راجيہ

Monthly Magazine in Urdu



**The Most Trusted
Channels of
Communication**

एकायलाच हवा
दिलखुलास
संवाद...



@2154



लाखो दर्शकांची थेट-भेट घडवून देणारे...

A Phone-in-Programme
on Doordarshan

बालनी स्वात्रीनी
गाहिती प्रजालीची
चेष्ट अखिल्याचा
महा न्यूज

@ 1 Crore 55 Lakh

MAHARASHTRA
Ahead



माहिती व जनसंपर्क महासंचालनालय

<https://dgipr.maharashtra.gov.in>



Directorate General of Information and Public Relations

Forming a Bridge of Information

Maharashtra Ahead

THE MAGAZINE THAT BRINGS YOU LATEST ON MAHARASHTRA,
ITS PEOPLE, CULTURE AND GOVERNMENT

- Industry • Agriculture
- Information Technology • Rural Development
- Infrastructure • Innovation
- Communication • Landmarks • Heritage
- Art • Culture • Tourism



Grab a copy to know about India's leading State and the opportunities it offers

O.I.G.S. Presented by
The Government of India

MAHARASHTRA AHEAD

Digamber W. Palve
Senior Assistant Director

Directorate General of Information and Public Relations
Maharashtra Government
Barrack No. 19, Free Press Journal Marg
Mumbai 400 021.