



This is how

BJP WALKS THE TALK

**ECONOMIC
PERSPECTIVE**

APRIL 2019

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ECONOMY

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PREFACE

The scale and pace of development that took place in the last five years was unprecedented. The development that took place is not a mere concept, but one that touched countless individuals. Development under Modi government meant own house, a gas cylinder for one that has never used, or power connection to them who never saw an electric bulb, so on. This people-centric development is but realizing the guiding philosophy of this government: Sabka Saath – Sabka Vikas

The bar has been raised and as we are approaching the general elections, it is indeed riding on unparalleled expectations from the public. It is thus of vital import that we take a moment and reflect back on all that has been done and all that was promised.

An assessment of the promises made and delivered by the BJP since 2014 was carried to place a detailed report card of the government in the public domain. As per our findings, the government has fulfilled over 98% of the promises made in the manifesto, setting new standards of accountability and democratic integrity of the nation.

Along with a detailed enumeration of the promises made and delivered, the report assesses the qualitative impact the initiatives have brought about in the lives of the people. Separate monographs have been prepared on promises fulfilled in key sectors including -Social Sector, Economic Revival, Agriculture, Industry & MSME, Cultural Heritage & Tourism and Science & Technology. The monographs provide an insightful understanding of the policy approach of the government towards separate sectors and how targeted reforms have led to a transformative change in the lives of people and the society on the whole.

The following monograph details the initiatives undertaken in the science and technology sector, leveraging technology for good governance and also making strides as a global leader in domain. The analysis and documents are a testimony to the fact that the BJP led NDA government has upheld the sanctity of the vows undertaken in the Manifesto 2014, affirming faith and resilience of our democratic framework and how it went beyond discourse and ‘walks the talk’.

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ECONOMY

BACKGROUND

The last five years of governance have captured the public imagination with a renewed vigour in the world's largest democracy. From the very beginning, the government has been characterized by affirmative steps in national interest, long term policy moves and establishing an indomitable world presence. However, another subtle yet indelible mark that the Modi regime has left is propelling collective citizen efforts towards new forms of social behaviours and bringing about an enduring social transformation. Not just setting the course, missions like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Digital India etc witnessed an unprecedented national energy focused on building a new and vibrant India. The last 5 years have indeed been the phase of breaking out of the inertia and building a tradition of politics of performance. It is imperative that the government's performance be analysed in comparison with the promises made by the BJP in its manifesto.

The most important aspect of this growth story has been the fact that inclusivity and empowerment has been the leading force of this development trajectory. In a democratic nation like ours, the real success of any governmental effort cannot be mapped just in terms of numbers but also the essential element of how those numbers have brought about a qualitative impact in the lives of every section of the society. The BJP government had well enunciated its commitment towards the mission of empowerment over entitlement in its election manifesto of 2014. The mission to *'make people active partners...and empower them to take advantage of the development process'* has been clearly charted out in the manifesto of the party.

In others, the government adopted reformist approach which shifted the way government functions. The planning regime of the previous governments was symbolised by the Planning Commission, which was an extra-constitutional institution but wielded unusually disproportionate power in governance and fund allocation of the country. This was done away with by this government by creating NITI Aayog as the government's policy think-tank and policy formulation body.

With the help of such multi-variegated policy responses, the government initiated a profound change in the nation's institutions and the economy. It passed uniform tax regime in the country making the nation truly one. In addition, many structural reforms such as RERA, Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code, among others have strengthened the foundations of our economy. This document presents a systematic analysis of government's performance on economy front through the lens of the Party's promises made in manifesto 2014.

OBJECTIVES

- To enumerate all the promises made in manifesto 2014, implicit or explicit
- To detail all the efforts made by this government towards fulfilling those promises
- To explore and explain the extent to which this government went to serve the nation above and beyond the commitments made in the manifesto

METHODOLOGY

Manifesto 2014 is diligently screened for all the promises both implicit as well as explicit. The actions taken on the promises were then scooped from the entire official information source bases and compiled as a comprehensive databank. The information and data provided for ongoing/long-term projects and commitments made for such initiatives were normalised to reflect the progress of such promises through suitable scale. The promises were then placed in consonance with the actions taken and cleaned for redundancies and repetitions.

The study involved analysing secondary data for building evidence for delivering the commitments. Several datasets and sources were treated in accordance with requirements. For instance, the over three significant datasets were treated for calculating a good estimate of the number of jobs created in the economy for the past years. In addition, qualitative assessments were carried out in several domains.

Primary impact of an initiative was analysed first, proceeding then to mapping the cascading and domino effects of such an initiative through secondary and tertiary impact analysis in social, economic, and other major pathways. Impact assessment reports of government flagship schemes have also been used to gain further insights

The scope of the study is broadly defined by the contours of Manifesto 2014. However, care was taken to not to omit any significant policy initiative taken by this government in the last 5 years. This document not only lists out the promises and actions taken therefor, but also crafts the impact felt by such initiatives on both the people as well as governance institutions of the country.

PROMISES MADE:

Price Rise

- Our immediate task will be to rein in Inflation
- Put in place strict measures and special Courts to stop hoarding and black marketing.
- Setting up a Price Stabilisation Fund.
- Unbundle FCI operations into procurement, storage and distribution for greater efficiency.
- Leverage on technology to disseminate Real time data, especially to farmers - on production, Prices, imports, stocks and overall availability.
- Evolve a single 'National Agriculture Market'.

Corruption

- Eliminate the scope for corruption.
- Technology enabled e-Governance -minimizing the discretion in the citizen-government interface.
- System-based, policy-driven governance - making it transparent.
- Rationalization and simplification of the tax regime - which is currently repulsive for honest tax payers.
- simplification of the processes and procedures at all levels - bestowing faith in the citizens, Institutions and establishments.

Black money

- We will ensure minimization of the generation of black money.
- Committed to initiate the process of tracking down and bringing back black money stashed in foreign banks and offshore accounts.
- We will also proactively engage with foreign governments to facilitate information sharing on black money."
- We will set up a Task Force for this purpose and to recommend amendments to existing laws or enact new laws.

Decision making & policy paralysis

- The engine of Government will be ignited again with strong willpower and commitment to public interest.
- Encourage the bureaucracy to take right decisions and contribute their might in building a modern India.

Poor delivery

- The engine of Government will be ignited again with strong willpower and commitment to public interest.
- Encourage the bureaucracy to take right decisions and contribute their might in building a modern India.
- Strive for scale and speed with futuristic vision.
- Build institutions for today and tomorrow.

Credibility crisis

- The BJP will work for restoring the trust and credibility of the Government.
- We will also ensure that the chain of responsibility and accountability is built in the system.

Employment and entrepreneurship

- High priority to job creation and Opportunities for entrepreneurship.
- Strategically develop high impact domains like Labour-intensive manufacturing (viz. textile, footwear, electronics assembly, etc.) and Tourism.
- Strengthen the traditional employment bases of agriculture and allied industries, and retail -through modernization as well as stronger credit and market linkages.
- Harness the opportunities provided by the upgradation of infrastructure and housing, for its job generating potential.
- "Encourage and empower our youth for self-employment - incubating entrepreneurship as well as facilitating credit.
- Address the employability issue by initiating a multi-skills development programme in mission mode. Focus will be on job creation and entrepreneurship, in both rural and urban areas."
- Transform our Employment Exchanges into Career Centres - connecting our youth with job opportunities in a transparent and effective manner through the use of technology; as well as providing counselling and training.

Foreign Direct Investment

- The FIPBs (Foreign Investment Promotion Board) functioning shall be made more efficient and investor friendly.

Economic revival

- Find out solutions, which are effective in the short run and lasting in the long run.
- Strictly implement Fiscal discipline, without compromising on funds availability for development work and asset creation
- Allocate resources efficiently and effectively to re-energize the engines of growth.
- Re-visit the policy framework for investments both foreign and domestic to make them more conducive.
- Undertake Banking reforms to enhance ease and access, as well as accountability.
- We will encourage Savings as an important driver of investment and growth.

PROMISES DELIVERED:

Price Rise

- Restricting inflation, the rate of Consumer Price Index for Feb 2019 is 2.57%. The government has been Instrumental in decreasing the Inflation rate from 8.48% in April 2014 to 4.58% in April 2018. "
- Mandatory 100 per cent Neem coating of urea has eliminated its black marketing.
- Group of Officers set up involving various enforcement agencies for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization, etc.
- Government has imposed stock holding limits
- The Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) has been set up.
- A High-Level Committee was appointed and its recommendations are under consultation. The process is underway,
- Latest Technology Applications like Kisan Suvidha, M-Kisan portal, Pusha Krishi have been disseminating real time data. Information like weather, input dealers, market price, plant protection and expert advisories, information on latest technologies has been brought to the farmers to their doorstep.
- e-National Agricultural Market connects the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.

Employment and entrepreneurship

- Robust databases like the EPFO, GPF and the NPS are reliable sources of an employment estimate of nearly 15 million new jobs yearly. Several surveys support this conclusion.
- This doesn't even count initiatives like PM MUDRA Yojana, Stand Up India, Support and Outreach Initiative for MSME Sector, etc. "
- National Electronics Policy 2019 being implemented. Mobile factories in India up from 2 to 260 since 2014
- Under this government making India world's 2nd largest manufacturer.
- Initiatives like Integrated Scheme for Development of Silk Industry, Make in India, Digital India, Skills India, Startup India and Ease of doing business initiatives.
- 14.62 million jobs in tourism sector created in last 4 years"
- Agricultural credit flow has increased by consistently breached the target levels to reach over 11 lakh crores in 2017-18
- Farm equipment sales like tractors are at an all time high reflecting a healthy credit flows into rural economy
- Skill trainings and employment opportunities in the construction sector strengthened
- Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs and NAREDCO strengthen skill trainings and employment opportunities in the construction sector for the urban poor. 2,50,000 urban poor trained over a period of 3 years under Skill India Mission.
- Schemes like Atal Innovation Mission, Start Up India and MUDRA yojana launched.
- 17024 Start Ups recognised as of 19/03/2019
- 17.09 crore MUDRA loans sanctioned as on 19/03/2019
- India and Northeast BPO Promotion Schemes have also spread services market into tier II & III cities and towns."

- National Career Service Project has been implemented for linking employment exchanges and other institutions using technology to provide a variety of employment related services.

Corruption

- Direct Benefit Transfers eliminated the scope of agents and middlemen.
- Millions of indirect tax payers added through GST implementation
- JAM trinity reduced leakages in the system
- Auctions natural resources have been made transparent through e-auction systems
- Common Service Centres streamlined the process in delivering public services in the rural India
- Benami Property Act, New Benami Transaction Informant Reward Scheme, Project Insights for tracking tax evaders launched."
- e-governance initiatives like Digital India, DBT, PAHAL, JAM trinity launched,
- Rs6.46 lakh crores as on 19th March, 2019 have been transferred to the citizens directly through DBT.
- More than 439 central government schemes uses DBT today"
- Government e-Marketplace portal launched; Orders worth Rs. over 22,420 cr placed
- Geo tagging technology is being used to monitor government projects like PM Awas Yojana, MGNREGA, etc.
- DISHA portallunched to monitor progress of projects "
- GST Act passed and implemented in 2017; Collections reached over Rs. 18.14 lakh crores. More than 95 % items are below 18 % tax level.
- 80% increase in Income tax returns (record of 6.84 crore 2017- 2018 from 3.79 crore 2013-2014), 65 % increase in taxpayers filing income tax "
- Self-attestation of documents started
- Digilocker provides instant identity verification - 350 crore documents stored
- Single window online clearnaces for setting up an industry
- Loans available to MSME within 59 minutes
- Interview has also been removed from lower level jobs."

Black Money

- SIT on black money appointed on the first cabinet meeting of this government.
- Black money sources curbed through demonetization
- Rs 69,350 crore recovered under the Income Declaration Scheme and Black Money and Imposition of Tax Act
- Rs 5,000 crore recovered under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY).
- Information sharing agreements signed to bring back black money stashed abroad.
- International fora like the G 20 backed PM Modi's appeals on black money repatriation.
- Automatic Exchange of Information 2017 based on the Common Reporting Standard has enabled India to obtain financial information of Indian residents in other countries.
- Agreement on sharing real-time information with Switzerland and information sharing agreement with USA has also been done."

- Four Acts have been enacted to repeal over 1400 redundant Central Acts to date"

Decision and Policy Paralysis

- The leadership of PM Modi has given strong and very positive results to the Nation on almost all development indicators. From an atmosphere of policy paralysis, the cabinet of the government in the last five years have taken more than 1100 decisions until January 2019.
- "Bureaucrats have been rewarded for their innovative and responsible roles in the respective department.
- The government has been successful in developing a sense of ownership among the bureaucrats.
- Initiatives like PRAGATI have been institutionalized for proper coordination between different government departments.

Economic Revival

- Implemented Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, Worked towards promotion of Start-Ups to move towards a culture of innovation led growth. Improved Ease of Doing Business through multiple reforms and worked towards single window clearances for FDI. Enacted the goods and service tax and implemented RERA to boost consumer confidence in the real estate sector.
- Fiscal deficit as a percentage of GDP has been reduced from 4.9%, in 2012-13, 4.5 % in 2014 to 3.5 % in 2016 and 3.2% for 2017-18. Increased the outlay towards development of infrastructure projects. Revamped MGNREGA and geared it towards asset creation.
- SHAKTI policy has allowed continuation of the existing coal supply to the capacities of about 68,000 MW at the rate of 75% of Annual Contracted Quantity (ACQ). It is a transformational policy with States' cooperation.
- Government revisited and released the consolidated FDI policy in June 2016. Key changes have been incorporated.
- 33.30cr Jan Dhan accounts opened.
- DBT of government subsidies.
- 1,13,000 Access Points for India Post Payments Bank opened.
- Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 passed by the parliament and around 2 lakh crore bank recapitalization plan put in place to resolve the NPA Crisis
- 94617.74 crores rupees deposited in Jan Dhan savings accounts.

Taxation

- Task force set up to draft a new direct tax law to replace the existing Income Tax Act to focus on simplification. Reduced direct tax rates and increase the exemption limit to 5 lakh for personal income tax. Reduced corporate income tax to 25% for MSMEs.
- India is taxing most goods at below 18 percent in a further simplification of the Goods and Services Tax
- National bench of Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal, a quasi-judicial body that will mediate in indirect tax disputes between states and centre. 99 percent of tax cases go without an assessment

- The State of Jammu and Kashmir joined GST on 8th July, 2017 making the GST truly a “ one nation, one tax” regime.
- Exemption from levy of income tax on share premium received by eligible Startups under section 56 of the Act.
- 100% deduction of the profits and gains from income of Startups for three out of seven consecutive assessment years under 80 IAC of the Act. "
- FIPB is abolished and is replaced with upgraded and secure portal called Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal, for e-filings of FDI applications. 90% of FDI coming in through automatic route.

OBSERVATIONS

Credibility Crisis

Due to rampant corruption at every level of government in the previous administration, trust and faith in the government was wiped out clean. None believed that the government at that time had public welfare in mind. This created a deep credibility crisis for the nation. The country wanted a shake up from all the malaise that the system created.

The new administration had its task cut out: earn respect from people only through their actions because the nation lost trust on government's words by then. The Modi government took this challenge in earnest by maintaining highest levels of accountability and ethics in all his government functions. More importantly, the system needed to be cleaned quickly before people lose faith.

Modi government showed people the true meaning of a responsible and accountable governance that works for the people. Corruption in the system was curbed swiftly and the black money that corroded the economy was attacked right from the first cabinet meeting of this government. While the Prime Minister earned respect with these measures, much needed to be done. In demonetization, people saw a bold and dynamic leader leading the country into bright future with cleanest of intentions. Black economy's back was broken as a result.

Once pressing issue of black money was addressed, he launched a slew of measures that eliminated corruption from his administration. Most of the subsidies were reengineered and were directly transferred into the people's bank accounts. For this purpose, the government carried out a scheme with never-seen-before proportions and scale for opening over 35 crore bank accounts. Financial inclusion rushed in swiftly.

To provide smoke-free kitchens to millions of women, Ujjwala yojana was launched under which over 71 million LPG connections were given away for free. Dark households for the past 7 decades were targeted and every village in our country have been electrified. More than 25 million households have been electrified till date. Villages were connected to highways through 2,03,849 kilometres under PM Gram Sadak Yojana. The highways themselves were elevated as priority of this administration and over 40,000 kilometres of national highways have been constructed by this government.

Black money

Indian people were completely tired of the bane of black money by 2014. The NDA government was voted to power with the mandate to eliminate black money from the economy and give equal opportunity to everyone.

A Special Investigation Team (SIT) on black money was constituted in the very first cabinet meeting of this government. The SIT has consistently recommended the government on various measures such as cash holding limits, money laundering curbs, etc.

Legislations like benami properties act, RERA act, etc. have been enacted to ensure the government's vision of zero tolerance towards corruption.

With these initiatives, the government was able to address the black money menace within the country, but more action was needed to repatriate the black money stashed abroad in

vaults. Double taxation avoidance agreement, information sharing agreement have been enacted with many countries around the world to fasten the process of bringing back all the black money which is stashed abroad. PM Modi has appealed the leaders of the world at different platforms like G-20 forum to increase the process of sharing information on corruption.

Automatic Exchange of Information 2017, based on the Common Reporting Standard has enabled India to obtain financial information of Indian residents in other countries. Agreement on sharing real-time information with Switzerland and information sharing agreement with USA has also been done.

India's ranking in the Swiss National Bank official figures has arguably improved compared to previous regime. The baseline or the mean as come down drastically, with just about ₹7000 cr lying with the bank from India. With international community's support, India was able to strike at the illegal wealth that was parked beyond the country's borders.

Today, the situation surrounding the black money completely changed. Whereas it was a major issue in 2014, by 2019 people almost forgot about even existence of the problem, effectively rendering it a non-issue.

Corruption

To curb the corruption within the system, the government initiated many initiatives, most of them technology-enabled, eliminating human interference and discretion in decision-making. It was very important because the previous regime was infamous for its rampant corruption, even union ministers engaging in graft and fraud on the country such as 2G scam, coal scam, CWG scam, Adarsh society scam, etc.

This government rolled out JAM trinity (Jan-Dhan, Aadhar & Mobile) in a full-fledged manner which resulted in reduced leakages in the system. A further utility of the system was to implement Direct Benefit Transfers for as many welfare schemes as possible which eliminated the scope of agents and middlemen.

Importantly, auctions of natural resources have been made transparent through e-auction systems. From coal block allocation to FM radio spectrum distribution, this government has kept India first in all its policy decisions to ensure that no corruption, or graft takes place within government machinery.

Common Service Centres streamlined the process in delivering public services in the rural India by bringing them closer to public, who need not depend on middlemen to obtain these free and public services of the government. Through Goods and Services Tax, millions of indirect tax payers have been added to the existing tax base and most human discretion within this framework is eliminated.

Decision making & policy paralysis

Policy paralysis, stalling of policy decisions in other words, was a severe problem that afflicted the previous government's tenure especially. This resulted in slow or no decisions taken on crucial development, security or economic issues that slowed the economy of the country pushing it back by a few quarters at the very least.

With a weak leadership in the government, power shifted into extra-constitutional agents that resulted in confusion and stasis. Industry and public in general grew restless of the ambiguity pervading everywhere when decisiveness was a rarity.

With a strong government put in place by the people with a decisive leader, the nation was put back on development path once again with quick policy responses to chronic problems in Indian system.

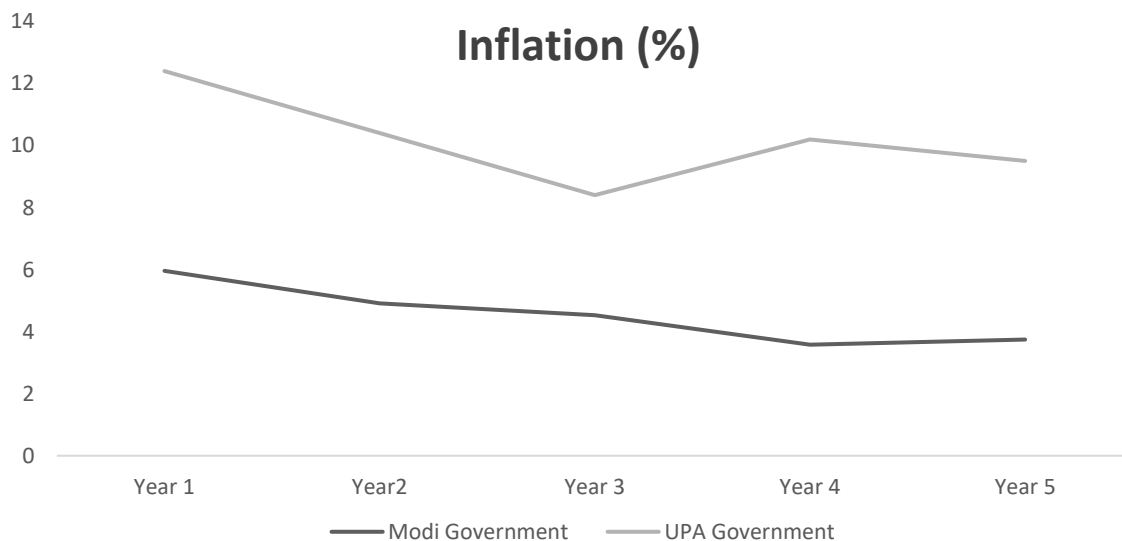
From an atmosphere of policy paralysis, the cabinet of the government in the last five years have taken more than 1100 decisions until January 2019. This shows the integrity and dynamism of this government's leadership.

Initiatives like PRAGATI has been institutionalized which is setting an example of the proper coordination between different government departments. Bureaucratic persons have been rewarded for their innovative and responsible roles in the respective department.

Price Rise

Low inflation and high GDP growth rate has been the order of the day under the NDA government since 2014. This was achieved through some hard decisions early in the administration. Food inflation was a great burden when the NDA government came to power in 2014. Agriculture marketing reforms have helped tackle hoarders and licensed traders.

Introduction of Goods and Services Tax has helped immensely to bring down food transportation costs helped by bumper harvests around the same time, which has tamed the food inflation.



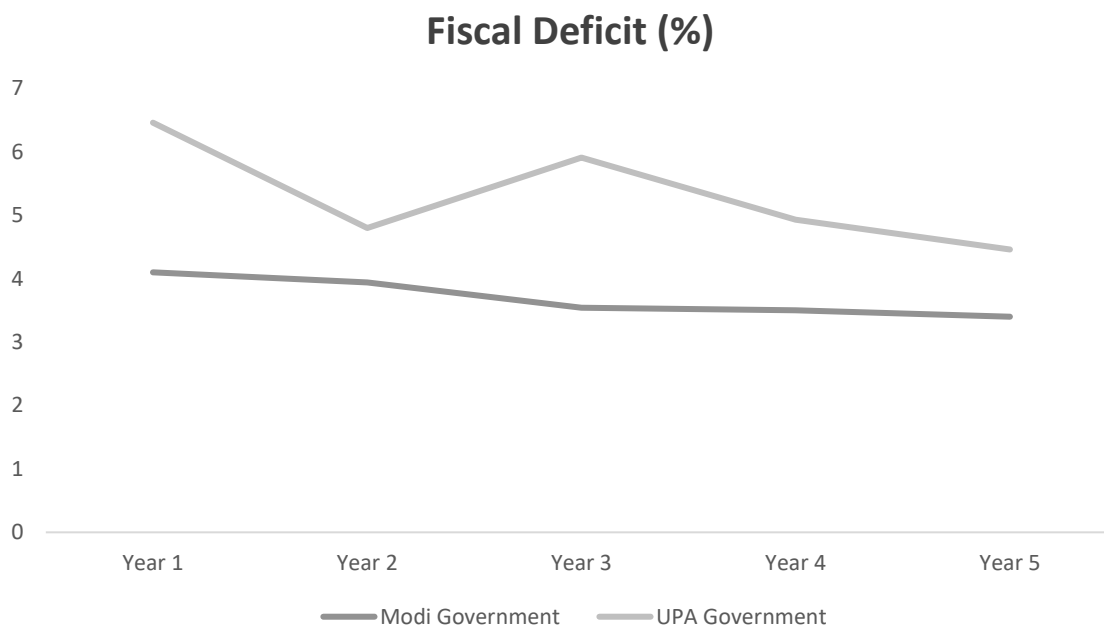
High and unsustainable fiscal deficits also result in painful inflation rates. This is especially relevant in this context because this government undertook poverty alleviation measures that were hitherto unthinkable in size and scale.

For instance, over 7 crore free LPG connections were distributed under Ujjwala yojana and over 12 crore total LPG connections have been released in the last 55 months which is similar to the number of LPG connections distributed since independence till 2014 i.e. 13 crores.

A government with such bold and dynamic objectives tends to end up with a large fiscal deficit in its finances. However due to innovative policies like 100% neem coated urea that eliminated pilferage and saved precious funds, and also due to prudent and targeted allocations, the government still

maintained a healthy fiscal deficit for its entire term. The government largely adhered to the FRBM targets.

Many initiatives have been taken to curb price rises: In addition to imposing stock holding limits, a Group of Officers set up involving various enforcement agencies for regular monitoring and exchange of information on hoarding, cartelization, etc. A Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) has been set up.



To reduce logistical head on price, an e-National Agricultural Market that connects the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities created.

Employment & Entrepreneurship

The NDA government came to power on a mandate to deliver millions of jobs. By cleaning the system from all its lacunae through anti-corruption and anti-black money measures, this government created space for a boost in development. A natural consequence of this is enhanced employment generation helped by StartUp India, PMKVY, PM Mudra Yojana, and other skill building and entrepreneurship initiatives.

However, the data for employment in the economy has been pretty scarce and amorphous that's spread across multiple institutions and datasets. Although to have been rectified by now, previous governments have taken a lackadaisical approach to reform the data collection process of unemployment/employment data.

The current process of collecting employment data depends on a sample survey of almost a million people in a country of over 100 billion people rendering the sample size exceedingly miniscule for its statistical accuracy.

Employment Details of major datasets

From 2014-2017	41,20,000	-	1,16,19,000
Sep-17	8,076	2,75,609	12,15,866
Oct-17	7,804	1,76,541	11,21,377

Nov-17	9,299	4,40,619	11,84,572
Dec-17	11,970	2,15,691	12,44,718
Jan-18	7,677	3,87,217	12,06,419
Feb-18	6,927	3,03,960	11,54,570
Mar-18	12,191	-29,023	11,99,418
Apr-18	7,687	5,28,946	10,75,886
May-18	8,242	4,35,667	13,47,223
Jun-18	8,156	5,69,988	13,74,536
Jul-18	5,298	6,41,676	14,75,293
Aug-18	5,824	4,71,043	14,03,727
Sep-18	4,896	6,01,058	12,18,330
Oct-18	7,893	5,17,054	12,51,351
Nov-18	5,663	5,13,180	10,79,968
Dec-18	4,910	7,03,150	11,57,545
Jan-19	7,726	8,96,516	11,23,017
Feb-19	9,230		
TOTAL	83,79,469	76,48,892	4,64,39,816

This necessitated the government to look for other proxy indicators of employment being generated in the system and compile them at one place. These include large databases like the EPFO, ESIC, and NPS (PFRDA) that record services offered to employees across industries.

In just these three datasets – remember that much of the jobs are left from these official datasets – at least 10 million jobs were created every year since 2014. This figure ignores employment in massive unorganized sector.

Taxation

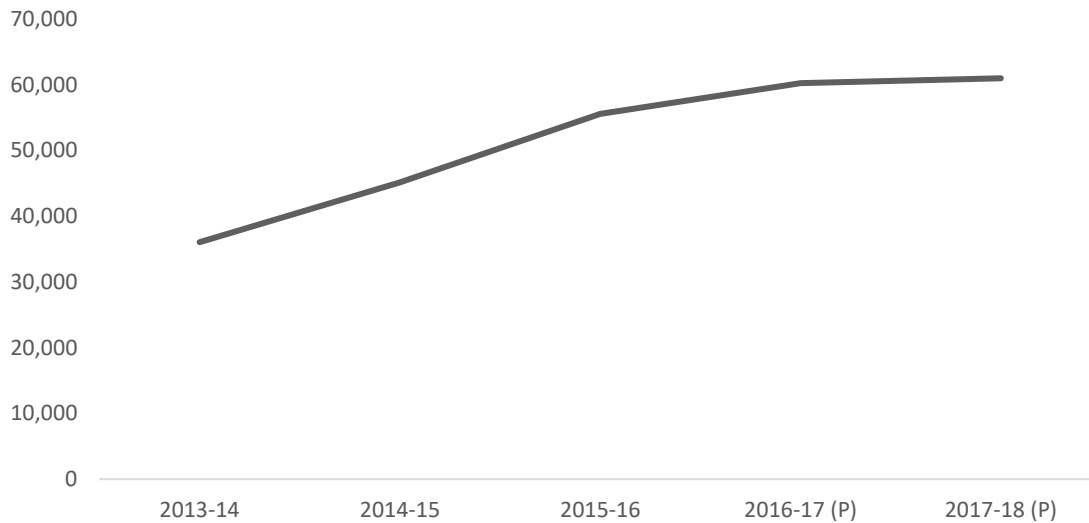
Our country had a very complicated and tiered tax regime. This created many hindrances to business and inequalities between States. This government implemented a game-changing new tax regime that replaced hitherto hundreds of State laws on indirect tax, resulting in a uniform taxation regime across the country which introduced great efficiency into the system. Goods and Services Tax implemented from August 2017. The Collections reached Rs 1.8 lakh crores so far (as on 19/03/2019).

GST Council formed to deliberate and decide on the tax rates on products with representation of both the Union government and the State governments making it a great example of cooperative federalism. It is also a grievance redressal mechanism between State government or Central government or even between the States

Taxation reforms are not just limited to indirect taxes. In fact, a Task force set up to redraft Income Tax law. There were other initiatives like exemption from levy of income tax on share premium received by eligible Start-ups. 100% deduction of the profits and gains from income of Start-ups for three out of seven consecutive assessment years under 80 IAC of the Act.

With the help of laws against black economy, catalysed with conducive tax laws, the tax base widened to the magnitude never seen before. Thanks to innovative public outreach of the

FDI Inflows (in US\$millions)



government, the taxpayer now rightly sees income tax as a contribution to the sacred cause of nation-building. This is a fundamental change in behaviour of citizens could lead to a strong and great nation.

Foreign Direct Investment

The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) was an inter-ministerial body to clear FDI proposals in India. Since it had numerous stakeholders as members, approvals from FIPB took long.

FIPB is abolished and is replaced with upgraded and secure portal called Foreign Investment Facilitation Portal, for e-filings of FDI applications. 90% of FDI coming in through automatic route. In addition, line ministries that were responsible for the investment will themselves need to take a decision, in addition to the DIPP, Commerce Ministry.

These reforms in the structure of FDI approval mechanism resulted in surge of FDI inflows into India. In fact, the inflows have more than doubled from 2103-14 levels. Consolidated FDI policy released in 2016. Measures taken by the Government on FDI policy liberalization along with improvement in ease of doing business climate has resulted in growth of total FDI inflows.

Economic Revival

Due to strong fundamental features of the Indian economy, financial recession did not have a high adverse impact on the economy. However, due to self-inflicted policy paralysis of the previous administration, the economy slowed down, coupled with headwinds from the international markets. The previous government left a very precarious economy in the hands of NDA government when they came to power in 2014.

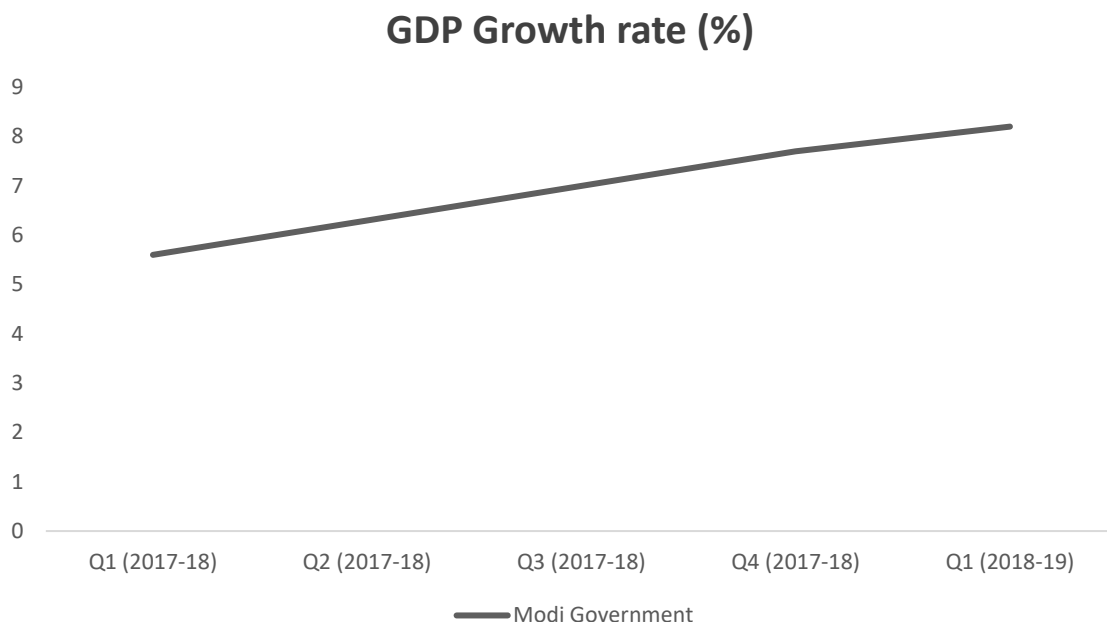
To revive such an economy means taking hard decisions without much regard for political concerns or otherwise. As such this government implemented initiatives like Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, RERA, single window clearances for businesses, goods and service tax to

boost consumer confidence in the economy, all of which resulted in a quantum leap` of 65 positions from 142nd rank in 2015 to 77th in 2019 in just 5 years. The Gross Domestic Product of the country grew by nearly 69 lakh crores or almost \$1 trillion in the past 5 years. In other words, the economy grew by 1/3rd in this period becoming the world’s fastest growing economy.

Mere facilitating business wasn’t enough for this government; So it embarked on an ambitious vision of turning job seekers into job givers. Start-Ups were promoted in a massive shift from previous administrations, moving towards a culture of innovation led growth. India emerged as home to second largest start up ecosystem in the world just behind the USA.

Economy will be revived only when every person in the country is able to access the economy in the first place. For this purpose, financial inclusion was taken up as a priority and a massive national campaign “Jan Dhan Yojana” was launched to bring hundreds of millions into the fold of formal economy for the first time through providing 330 million Jan Dhan bank accounts with no minimum balance provision, in addition to RuPay debit card that empowers the rural families with an overdraft facility to an earning member of the family to the tune of ₹5000/-. To transform the gigantic network of post offices into banking facilities, 1,13,000 Access Points for India Post Payments Bank opened. ₹94617.74 crore deposited in Jan Dhan savings accounts.

Systemic reforms have been undertaken by this in the form of rationalization of public sector entities’ capabilities by carrying out mergers of banks and insurance companies that have synergistic features.



CONCLUSION:

- **Trust in Leadership:** The BJP-led NDA government has cultivated unprecedented public trust in functioning of the government and vision of the leadership for our nation. Most consequential decision-making was only possible in the last 5 years due to unceasing faith in the NDA rule by the people.
- **Freedom from Corruption:** Swift measures were taken to do away with discretion in government's functioning and replaced by policy-led, technology-driven framework. Enhanced accountability and transparency in government ensued. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) portal received orders worth 24,211 crores with nil personal interface, 99.54% of the income-tax returns were processed automatically last year.
- **Clean Economy:** This government addressed the problem of black money in the economy through legislation and other means such as demonetisation, insolvency code, etc to rid our economy off the unaccounted-for money. Today, tax compliance is at its highest ever, economic offenders are being taken to task. The country saw an 80% jump in number of returns filed to 6.85 crore in 2017-18 from 3.31 crore in 2013-14.
- **Reining Inflation:** At the beginning of this government's term, inflation was galloping, close to double-digits. With long-term vision, government initiated several measures that have been successful in taming the price-rise, with inflation lowest in many years.
- **Employment & Entrepreneurship:** Employment is one of the thrust areas of this government. With solid economic growth in place, employment of over 15 million jobs per annum and over 80 million has been achieved in the last 5 years. Our own research in NCR shows each MUDRA loan provides 1.3 jobs. Rather than just providing jobs to job-seekers, this government made them job-creators by supporting entrepreneurship through an enabling environment.
- **Taxation:** Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel politically united the country, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi economically united the country, 70 years after independence in the form of Goods and Service Tax (GST) which replaces all the multiple taxes levied hitherto. With most tax slabs less than previous regime, this comes as a blessing to the poor and middle-class households.
- **Boost to Infrastructure:** Infrastructure is one of the main thrust areas of this government. Almost 200,000 km length of rural roads have been laid in last 5 years and almost 40,000 km of national highways. Under social infrastructure, 9.8 crore toilets, 2.62 crore households have been given electricity connections, etc.

These are just but a few of the achievements of this government, and as such have kindled hopes and aspirations for the nation.

