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CONNECTIVITY

New integrated transportation initiative for roads, railways, waterways and civil aviation.

Sagarmala and Bharatmala programmes for the construction of new ports and expressways.

UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik) regional connectivity scheme with fares starting at about Rs2,500.

Increasing number of railway

23km per day of highway construction achieved vis-à-vis a target of 41km.

Air India's finances are still precarious. The national airline is still grappling with legacy issues



TERROR, DEFENCE AND FOREIGN POLICY

Carried out surgical strikes across the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmir, resumed cordonand-search operations in more than 20 villages in Shopian.

Combing operations launched against Maoists in Chhattisgarh.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "neighbourhood diplomacy" falling in place as relations with Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka look up. No strategy to pre-empt rebel attacks on security personnel in districts where Maoists are active.

Ties with Pakistan and China are icy despite Prime Minister Modi making trips to both countries (a December 2015 stopover in the former).

Relations with Russia—India's once time-tested friend—too seem to be in the doldrums.



New crop insurance scheme and higher funding for irrigation to counter weather risks.

Set an ambitious goal to double farm incomes in real terms by 2022, moving away from the historical focus on increasing production.

Initiated a range of marketing reforms to create a "one nation, one market" in agriculture.

Decline in wholesale prices of vegetables and pulses has dented farm incomes.

A loan waiver in Uttar Pradesh led to a moral hazard problem and delay in repayment of loans in other states.

Acute drought in southern states led to a spike in farm suicides.



GREEN ECONOMY AND ENERGY

2014

Push for electric vehicles.

Rs42,000 crore unlocked for afforestation with Parliament passing the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Bill 2016.

Clean and renewable energy generation gets a boost.

Neglect of the forest and wildlife sectors. Decisions pending on a national forest policy, definition of forests, inviolate forest areas and a national wildlife action plan.

Activists allege that the government is favouring industries and indiscriminately giving green clearances, ignoring the toll taken on the environment.

Ganga clean-up is yet to gather

FISCAL SITUATION

Got states on board to introduce the goods and services tax, the biggest tax reform since independence.

Crackdown on black money leads to a surge in 2016-17 tax receipts, number of return filers.

Merger of railway budget with Union budget and shifting budget presentation date to l February from 28 February.

Demonetization drive led to short-term cash crunch, hit small and medium enterprises.

Pending cases of retrospective taxation on past transactions still unresolved.

Inability to bring back black money stashed away abroad by citizens.



MOL

AREPO

The record of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led New years in power has been impressive, judging by Politically too, the BJP has seen unprecedented as in March after a gap of 15 years and expanding part explains why Prime Minister Narendra Modi controversies associated with the actions of feig criticism. The next general election is due in 2019 Modi's management of the optics and his government aspirations of voters. Here is a look at the key

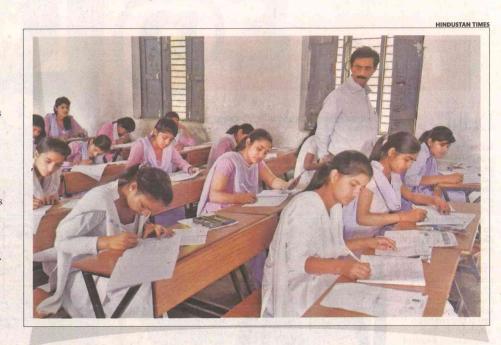
POSITIVE

Compiled by Me GDP growth (At market prices) —— Consumer Price Index-based inflation **IUNE 2015** Launch of the Smart Cities Mission, Housing for All and Atal SEPTEMBER 2014 "Make in India" initiative launched to promote India as an investment destination and a hub for Mission for Rejuvenation manufacturing, design and innovation 5.6 Prime Minister Narendra Modi makes his first visit to the US in nine years. and Urban Transformation **IANUARY 2015 JULY 2015** NITI Aayog is set up, replacing the Planning Commission. Launch of Digital India to promote Launch of the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (literally, save the girl child, educate the girl child) mission, aimed at addressing the declining child sex ratio and promoting women's empowerment. August 2014 products, manufacturing and jobs. Launch of Skill India to train more Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, a financial OCTOBER 2014 DECEMBER 2014 Launch of Swachh Bharat AUGUST 2015 Launch of Give It Up Yojana, a programme to inspire consumers to voluntarily cede their cooking gas subsidy. inclusion initiative aunch of Mission ndradhanush, aimed at ensuring Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) Launch of Namami Gange FEBRUARY 2015 Launch of soil health cards for farmers for optimal use of fertilizer. to promote mmunization with special focus n 184 priority bank account cleanliness and Clean Ganga) eliminate the defecation MAR IUN JAN JUN SEP MAR



▶ EMPOWERMENT— SOCIAL SAFETY, EDUCATION, JOBS, **GENDER**

- Graded autonomy to promote quality in education.
- Slew of social security measures to benefit the working class
- Six months of paid maternity leave for working women
- The Women's Reservation Bill is still pending.
- New Education Policy still to be formulated.
- Job creation yet to pick up pace.





MINDSET CHANGE

Swachh Bharat Mission launched to eliminate open defecation and promote cleanliness.

Soviet-style five-year plans come to an end; 15-year vision, threeyear action plan come into play.

Call drops continue despite mobile phone services providers

transactions with the easing of

a cash crunch that followed the

demonetization of high-value

promising improvement

Drop in digital payment

banknotes in November.

Leakage of Aadhaar data.

Cashless economy.

Hyper-nationalism as seen through the lens of social media trolling and rise of vigilante groups with little regard for human life.

Rise of vigilante groups with political agendas who attack minorities

In spite of stricter laws, greater awareness and even campaigns, violence against women continues unabated.



National Democratic Alliance (NDA) during its three nacroeconomic parameters, especially inflation. cendancy by wresting back power in Uttar Pradesh its electoral footprint to the North-East. This in remains India's most popular political leader. Still, ge saffron groups have left the BJP vulnerable to and, to a large extent, the outcome will depend on nent's ability to generate jobs to meet the growing by themes of the NDA's three years in power.

POLITICS

Getting unanimity on the economic reforms agenda with high parliamentary productivity.

Series of electoral gains puts the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) on the political forefront.

Expanding voter base of the Bharatiya Janata Party to Dalits and other backward classe focus on expansion in the North-East.

Failure to get consensus on reform policies like a proposed

Allegations of toppling elected state governments.

Problems within the NDA: the Peoples Democratic Party (Jammu and Kashmir), Shiv Šena (Maharashtra) and Telugu Desam Party (Andhra Pradesh) are annoyed with the BJP leadership.



DIGITAL AND COMMUNICATIONS

Improving e-infrastructure, e-participation and government e-services for addressing transparency.

Unified Payments Interface—a payment system that allows mobile-enabled money transfers between bank accounts. Promotion of the Bharat Interface for Money for a less-cash economy.

Leveraging Aadhaar for improving service delivery to

OPTICS

2017

Source: Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, ministry of statistics and programme implementation

Doing away with the red beacon—a symbol of socalled VIP culture-from all government vehicles.

Extending support to ending the practice of triple talaq.

Introducing the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (save the girl child, educate the girl child) scheme.

Rise of vigilante groups called Gau Rakshaks, who target people suspected of harming cows or consuming beef.

Launch of the anti-Romeo squads in Uttar Pradesh, ostensibly to protect women from harassment, but seen widely as moral policing.

Ghar Wapsi (homecoming), aimed at promoting the conversion of non-Hindus to Hinduism, and campaign against Love Jihad, allegedly practised by Muslim men to win over Hindu women.

MEGATIVE enal Thakur/Mint March 2017 **NOVERMBER 2016** The BIP comes to power in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Also forms government in Manipur and Goa, while losing hold of Punjab, which it ruled in an alliance with the Shiromani Modi demonetizes Rs500 and Rs1,000 6% of the currency in circulation by value Akali Dal. The goods and services tax bill, regarded as the most important indirect tax legislation in post-Independence India, is passed by in a move aimed a curbing black money, counterfeiting and terror financing. Janata Party (BJP forms its first NOVEMBER 2015 Parliament. The Nationa Democratic Allian suffers a big blow with a loss in the Women employees in organized sectors get entitled to six months of paid maternity leave. by winning April elections to the **APRIL 2016** Bihar assembly Launch of Pradhan Mantri **JANUARY 2016** Stand-Up India, 0 to make it easy DECEMBER 2015 for women and Ujjwala Yojana t an ecosystem for nurturing backward caste provide cookin 2.99 innovations and SEPTEMBER 2016 at low interest below-poverty-line beneficiaries **IULY 2016** stopover in Pakistan, the / first visit to that a says its forces FEBRUARY 2016 Violence in Kashmir spirals ssed the Line of over the next three years. trol to take out orist training camps Launch of the Pradhan Mantri after the killing FEBRUARY 2017 Fasal Beema Yojana, a farm of Hizbul n Pakistan-occupied nches 104 satellite sector insurance Burhan Wani in a single flight schem MAR JUN SEP DEC JAN APR DEC JAN

2016