ROYAL HARBINGER

Reporting Fact of the Matter

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Will Rajasthan ever get a status of a special state?

-Neeti 'Gopendra' Bhatt -

here has been a constant demand for granting special status to Rajasthan for the last seven decades ever since independence of India, but the various central governments have not fulfilled it till date. While every Government of Congress and Bhartiva Janta Party (BJP) that remained in power in the state pressing this demand time and again and citing the geographical conditions of the state and submitted this demand to Prime Minister requested the Central Government to ponder into it seriously. Now it has become customary that every year prior to the Union Budget this demand is raised by the state government, but the net result remains status quo.

Center for long fifty five years while BJP and other parties for more than fifteen years its astonishing that the Governments being the power keep supporting this demand, but once in power declared as a special state go oblivious of it.

The state of Rajasthan has every reason to be declared as a special status in view of the attributes as detailed

Rajasthan May be granted status like Hilly and Border States

Disappointed for not being granted the status as a special state, the ruling Governments changed their stand and raised the demand to grant the status as a special state to be declared as a 'Water Deficit State', but this mate with the same fate as earlier ones. Even ambitious irrigation projects of the state are not being

Recently, in the pre-budget meeting headed by the Union Finance Minister, Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman, Urban Minister for Housing, Shanti Dhariwal represented the state and demanded to declare ambitious thirty five core worth ambitious 'Eastern Raiasthan Canal Project'-Parvan

Irrigation project should declare as National Project.

Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot has also Narendra Modi. This has been one of the favourite projects of Vasundhara Raje, former Chief Minister and she made Prime Minister Narendra Modi to declare it a special state at a rally held in Jaipur, but unfortunately this ambitious Although, Congress ruled in the project is yet to be implemented. It is worth to mention here that the present Central Minister for Jal Shakti hails from

Why Rajasthan needs to be

Geographically Rajasthan is the largest state of India and also a state with the largest borders with Pakistan. One of the largest deserts of the world 'Thar' also exist in Rajasthan.

Geographically, oldest 'Arawali Hill' range divides the state in two parts. Topographical, river waters go waste and end up in the Arabian and Indian Ocean. The topographic conditions of the state are such that the rivers and rain waters flowing here drain down into Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean. There is not a single perennial river in the state except for Chambal. State is often hit by the drought

A large area of Chambal known as

'beehads' are situated in the state. The livelihood of the people here depends on farming only. Because of deceitful monsoon in the state, farmers and other people are forced to immigrate to the neighboring states of the country or abroad for an employment.

Surface and Ground Water in Rajasthan is only 1%

Only one percent water of the country's total water is available here, while in the 15 percent land of the country a population of 7-8 crore's inhibit.

More than 250 blocks under Dark Zone in Raiasthan

Habitation of the state is spread in remote helmets in the desert, tribal and hilly terrains of the state. It is no less than a difficult task to make available roads. water and other basic amenities. More than 250 blocks of the state are under dark zone. In the rest of the areas ground water level has reached to a terribly low. During summers water supply has to be replenished through water-trains and water-tankers. In normal days including state capital, Jaipur is a big challenge. Problem of fluorinated water is intense in the most parts of the state and has its detrimental effect on the human lives. People fall victim to dental decay and disability.Part of Nagaur district is known as a 'Deformity Belt' (Banka Patti)

Financial Status Cost on developmental works is also very high as compared to other states. At the same time financial resources are

limited with the state. Reduction the center sponsored projects and share of the states in the central grants always remain a big problem for the state. Major revenue of the state is spent on salaries of the employees of the state leading to the lack of funds or funds for developmental works in such a situation. Gadia Luhar (nomadic iron smith) residing in the south eastern belt of Rajasthan are still too backward. Population of scheduled tribes is twelve percent and scheduled cast is about seventeen percent in

Rajasthan is a repository of mineral deposits

Raiasthan is a mineral rich state. Besides zinc, copper, rock phosphate, lime stone, lignite, marble, granite stone and other building stones other mineral deposits are abundant in the bed of the Arawali Hills. The state has industries too based on these minerals.

Transporting road, water, electricity and other essential basic amnesties to these dispersed populations is nothing short of an ordeal. Here the service cost for development works is also much higher than other states. The state has limited financial resources. The number of centrally sponsored schemes is getting reduced and in this too, due to the decrease in the central grant ratio of the participation of the states, the state faces huge difficulties and troubles. A large part of the state's revenue is spent on the salaries and allowances etc. of the state employees. In such a situation there is always a lack of funds for developTerritory of immense potential for

The region is replete with sites of immense tourism attraction. Every inch of the land here reflects an open art gallery. It is no exaggeration to call it as the state of 'Open Arts Gallery'.

The huge historic forts and grand palaces and Havelies symbolize rich heritage of the state, enchanting mountainous sand dunes of dessert, world fame tiger reserves and other forest and bird sanctuaries, many religious and archeological assets, tourist sites are world famous. History of Rajasthan is abounding with valor, brave men and women along with sacrifices, devotion and charity.

The rich art, culture, festivals, natural beauty, handicrafts, textiles hospitality, delicious cuisines, captivating songs, dances and music of the state attract everyone to towards it. Indigenous and foreign tourists are fond of Rajasthan. Every third foreign tourist visiting makes it point to visit Rajasthan. Although, state do not have beaches and icy cold valleys, but has the biggest 'Indira Gandhi Canal Project', natural lakes, various islands located within various damn projects, hill station Mt. Abu, sub-zero temperatures during winters in the district Churu etc. never let you feel short of tourism attractions.

Prosperity despite Poverty Despite all these natural prosperity, colorful Rajasthan is lagging behind as compared to other states and poor in terms of overall development.

Rajasthan fall in the category of sick states. Owing to their business proficiency and skilled working styles, Rajasthanis (Marwaris) are spread across the globe and synonymous to the contribution in development of the areas they inhabit.

Sincere efforts have been made for the development of the state after independence of India, but not a single big project like Indira Gandhi Canal Project has been not been initiated in the state It is imperative that the state gets special central aids to make the thirsty land of Rajasthan green, so that the biggest arid state of the country may aptly face the complex problems, like- drought famine, potable water and complexities of geographical anomalies.

Still Rajasthan is not getting its rightful water from the Ravi, Vyas, Sutlej, Yamuna, Narmada etc.rivers from the states of Punjab, Haryana, Utter Pradesh Delhi etc. For decades many internationa issues are lingering. Ambitious projects to link the rivers are also stuck up.

Rajasthan is all eligible to get enlisted in the category of special states like-North Eastern states, Jammu and Kashmir and other hilly states. Centra Government may include Rajasthan bearing in the mind arenaceous, hilly and tribal state with the life full of grave scarcity and complexities or a state with acute shortage of water. Its claim to be developed as a 'Heritage Stare' cannot be ignored. If Rajasthan gets its rightful special aids and support from the center, there is no reason that it becomes a leading state of the country.

The 65th Amazon Filmfare Awards

Ranvir Shorey's body of work is dotted with fashionably unconventional yet culturally resonant choices. An actor par excellence, who inhabits every character without any sign of strain, Ranvir Shorey has recently been nominated for the 'Best Supporting Actor' for his role of Vakil Singh in Abhishek Chaubey's Sonchiriya at the 65th Amazon

of his career, Ranvir Shorey who had prepared extensively for the character's semantics, enthuses, "I am very happy that Sonchiriva has been nominated for the Filmfare Awards in the critic's choice section and I am happy that the film is getting the acknowledgement it deserves, which it probably didn't get as much at the box office. And I'm equally happy

nown for his presence in cutting-edge cinema, actor that I am nominated in the Best Supporting Actor category. It's a happy surprise for me! But most of all, I am rooting for Sonchiriya because it is one film that I am very proud of and always will be."

> This year, and as always, the Filmfare Awards will honour the skillset and talent bundle of Bollywood's finest. With films of the likes of Sonchiriya, Gully Boy, Article 15, Kabir Singh, Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota, and War among others, the prestigious award function is all set to dazzle the audiences and the film fraternity alike!

> When guizzed about awards and accolades, if they matter, the character-driven actor quips, "I guess they matter more to people who get less of them and less to people who get a lot of them, just like everything else in life!" Ranvir Shorey has recently bagged the Best Actor Award (Male) for Halkaa at

the Dadasaheb Phalke Film Foundation Awards and Best Actor Comedy (Male) for Metro Park at Gold Awards, the Best Actor Award (Critic's Choice) for Titli at IFEFA, Australia and the Best Actor Award at Iconic Achievers' Awards among others. "Awards and accolades do have their place in the ecosystem, and for me too, they do hold a special place. It feels nice to be recognized, and particularly so, if it's an audience-polled award or a critic's choice award. But awards are not everything, one works for so many other things as well," he signs off.Besides Ranvir Shorey, Diljit Dosanjh has been nominated for the same category for his film Good Newwz, Gulshan Devaiah for Mard Ko Dard Nahi Hota, Manoj Pahwa for Article 15, Siddhant Chaturvedi and Vijay Verma for Gully Boy at the 65th Amazon Filmfare Awards 2020 which is slated to be held on 15 February, 2020 in Assam.

Pegged to be one of the most memorable performances

Flower show and exhibition at Jijamata Udyaan



Every year, BrihanMumbai Municipal Corporation's (BMC) gardens department arranges a flower show and exhibition at the Byculla Zoo. Jitendra Pardeshi, Superintendent of Garden invited celebs from Film and TV industry and guest to visit this Flower show. Since the year 2016, the civic body has been organizing this flower show around a central

theme. In 2019, the theme was around various classical instruments and aquatic creatures in 2018. Cartoon characters were created using topiary in 2017 and 'Clean Mumbai' was the central theme when themes were introduced first back in 2016. Back then around 50,000 people had visited this 3-day February Annual Flower Show and within 2 years of time, this number increased a big amount to 1.5 lakh people. The annual Flower Show is celebrating its Silver Jubilee celebrations this year. To mark the festivities they have created gorgeous flower installations around the central theme of Mumbai.

Historic monuments, symbols and places to visit in Mumbai is depicted through colourful, fresh floral installations. Mumbai's iconic Dabbawala is depicted using white beautiful flowers and the double-decker bus is also set up with red ones. Apart from these, a flower insallation of the Gateway of India will surely take your breath away. It's majestic and

has a patriotic charm to it thanks to the orange and white flowers at the top and green plants at the bottom. A shoe house, Tram, Butterfly and Penguin are also made with different types of flowers . Raveena Tandon , Shreyas Talpade, Padmini Kolhapure, Varsha Usgaonkar, Shivaji Satam, Ekta Jain, Cast of The Hundred Bucks - Kavita Tripathi, Dushyant Pratap Singh and Santok Singh are few guest who came to attend the Flower show.

International Remittances to India

Udaipur: Western Union, a leader in crossborder, cross-currency money movement and payments, and Airtel Payments Bank, a subsidiary of India's largest integrated telco - Bharti Airtel, today announced acollaborationenabling millions of Airtel Payments Bankcustomers in India to receive international remittances in their bank accounts. Airtel Payments Bank customers can soon direct Western Union money transfers into their bank accounts through the banking section of the Airtel Thanks App in real-time1.

These transfers will be available for withdrawal at any of the over 500,000 banking points of Airtel Payments Bank. Western Union's collaboration with Airtel Payments Bank offers another channel for swift transfer of crossborder remittances into India, the world's largest remittance-receiving country according to the World Bank. With anunmatched distributionreach, millions of Airtel Payments Bank customers across the country will soon be able to seamlessly connect and conveniently withdraw the money, sent to them by their loved ones around the world. The announcement marks further expansion of Western Union's unique ability to partner with a growing base of national tech leaders by leveraging its core assets - including global settlement capabilities, network, compliance and technology systems - to enable international cross-border transfers with customer facing innovation.

Receiver-directed money transfer services are nial uniform for the Mounted Police Unit has on the rise with flexible linkages offered by mobile apps and wallets.

Mumbai Police Calendar 2020, lensed



Mumbai Police Calendar 2020, lensed by ace photographer Pravin Talan, was launched by Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Sh. Uddhav Thackeray along with legendary Bollywood superstar Dharmendra and Commissioner of Police, Mumbai Mr. Sanjay Barve, at the grand event Umang in presence of the top Bollywood stars and families of policemen.

The highly coveted calendar has become a collector's item over the years with its breathtaking visuals and rich emotions. It is widely regarded as a fine blend of art, action and emotions. Commissioner of Police. Mumbai. Mr. Sanjay Barve said, "Mumbai Police loves, understands and cares for Mumbaikars. & draws its strength from the indomitable spirit of this city. Safeguarding & managing this maximum city is a colossal task. This calendar captures the motley moods of Mumbaikars along with the men & women from Mumbai Police that serve & secure them." The 2020 calendar also features the exciting new additions to the city police force such as the highly admired sniffer dogs, Belgian Malinois, to the K9 unit. Mounted Police Unit and use of Drones for aerial surveillance. The ceremobeen designed by celebrated designer Manish Malhotra.

Mumbai Police has inspired many Bollywood films and the cover page of the calendar looks nothing less than a film poster featuring in the lead, the reassuring face of a police woman signifying more women power. The calendar has been shot at varied interesting backdrops ranging from the fishing village to college campus, Worli Sea Link to Mantralya and captures many heartwarming moments. One of the best things about the calendar is that photographer Pravin Talan has retained its freshness and appeal over the last five years choosing something new to showcase every time.

Pravin Talan was also felicitated by Mr. Thackeray at the event on behalf of Mumbai Police for his invaluable contribution in creating unique and inspiring images of defense and police forces across the country. He has the unique distinction of having photographed nearly all the special forces of India, covering many borders and treacherous terrains.

State will have to implement CAA: Speaker Joshi

No leeway According to him, citizenship falls under the Union list on which Centre has right to frame laws and Parliament has passed CAA.Udaipur Even as chief minister Ashok Gehlot has stated that his government will not implement the Citizenship Amendment Act, Rajasthan assembly speaker Dr CP Joshi has said the state government will have to implement the CAA. The parliament has passed the CAA and it is now a law, Joshi said. He said the state does not have the leeway not to implement the act.Dr Joshi was addressing a function at the Meera Girls College in Udaipur on Friday.

Broadening of Vivad se Vishwas Scheme

While appreciating the Government for introducing reforms to reduce litigation in the taxation environment, Dr D K Aggarwal, President, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry said in a press statement issued here today that Vivad se Vishwas Scheme announced in Union Budget 2020-21 on 1st February 2020 will benefit many taxpayers and can generate more than Rs 2 Lakh crore for the Government in the coming times if it is broadened and exclusions are minimum under

In the Vivad se Vishwas Scheme, the Government has announced that the amount of disputed tax or 25% of disputed interest or disputed penalty or disputed fee is payable on or before 31st March 2020. We request the Government to extended the last date to 30th April 2020 from 31st March 2020 without any penalty so that scheme is well spreader across the country and a large number of taxpavers under the litigation cases are able to take advantage of the scheme, said Dr Aggarwal.



Currently, there are 4,83,000 direct tax cases pending in various appellate forums i.e. Commissioner (Appeals), ITAT, High Court and Supreme Court. Dr D K Aggarwal appreciated that in the last budget. Sabka Vishwas Scheme was brought in to reduce litigation in indirect taxes which resulted in settling over 1,89,000 cases.

It is suggested that the Vivad Se Vishwas scheme may allow everyone to come forward and settle their dispute not only existing ones but also dispute (s) which are likely to arise, said Dr Aggarwal.

The Sabka Vishwas Scheme announced last year for Indirect Taxes was broad based, allowing everyone to come forward and settle not only the existing dispute but also where he/she anticipates that dispute may arise, said Dr Aggarwal.

Dr D K Aggarwal suggested that scope of this scheme may be extended to all cases where time limit to file appeal has not expired and appeal is pending to be filed as on 31.01.2020.

It is suggested that such cases where objections have been filed and the same is pending before the Dispute Resolution Panel (DRP) as on 31.01.2020 may also be included and eligible under this scheme, said Dr Agarwal.

An option may be given to settle all disputes where the appeals are pending before assessing officer or inclusion of cases where similar disputes are likely to arise in future, said Dr Aggarwal.

An option may be given to taxpayers to claim benefit under the scheme keeping in view the tax demand after including the income as proposed for enhancement by the Commissioner

of Income Tax (Appeals) -CIT(A). The above inclusions will go a long way in ensuring grand success of the scheme and putting an end to most of the Vivad, said Dr Aggarwal.

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