

1. Name of Paper : The Assam Tribune
2. Language : English
3. Periodicity : Daily
4. Place of Publication : Guwahati
5. Date of Publication : 3d 5/ 2018

Irani presents report card of four years of NDA rule

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, May 29: With the 2019 Lok Sabha elections closing in, the BJP-led NDA Government today presented a report card of the Government's achievements and underlined drive against black money having a direct impact on reducing militancy, Naxal-dominated areas and stone pelting incidents in the country.

Government spokesperson and Union Textile Minister Smriti Irani said here today that the clamp down on black money is "visible both domestically and internationally."

Irani said the Government by cutting the "underbelly of black cash" has been able to



reduce militancy, Naxalism and separatism in the country.

"The PM has taken tough decisions and cut the underbelly of black cash, which funded these illegal activities," Irani said when prodded about black money.

Irani also highlighted the NDA Government's overall

achievements, while avoiding answering on ticklish issues like rising unemployment rate, hike in fuel price and Citizen (Amendment) Bill.

Speaking about North East, she said the PM wants the region to develop at par with other parts of the country and therefore put special focus on it. Schemes under the National Bamboo Mission are targeted for NE and recently the Government allotted Rs 1,290 crore for the Mission.

The Union Minister said her presentation is about "48 years of apathy of one family (Gandhi) compared to 48 months of NDA Government."

In this period, she said, NDA Government has saved leak-

ages to the tune of Rs 80,000 crore through the Direct Transfer Benefit under 431 Government schemes.

On Swachh Bharat campaign, Irani said 3.60 lakh villages in the country spread across 17 States have now been declared as "open defecation free and 7.25 crore toilets have been built in the past four years."

Touching on the farming sector, she said, under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, the farmers' risk was mitigated at an affordable cost. "Today we can say that apart from the insurance coverage, the total farm credit has been raised to Rs 11 lakh crore in 2018-2019," Irani highlighted.

Name of Newspaper: The Sangai Express

Date...30.05.2018.....

Place of Publication: Imphal

Sun for devt of New India will rise in NE : Irani

SHILLONG, May 29

Union Minister Smriti Irani today said the Government would prioritise the development of the North Eastern region in its efforts to build a "New India".

"The sun for the development of a New India will rise in the North East," the Union textile minister, who was here to attend the convocation ceremony of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), said at a press meet. Prime Minister



Narendra Modi, in his speeches at home and abroad, had said a "New India", free from corruption and terrorism, would emerge by 2022, when the country would celebrate

75 years of independence from British rule.

A forum was set up under the NITI Aayog to work out strategies for the growth of the North East, she said, adding

that it would focus on developing infrastructure in the region.

Irani alleged that the previous Congress-led UPA Government had neglected the weavers, "most of whom hail from the North Eastern region".

"The current Government pays 75 per cent of the education fees for the weavers' children. Every State now has textile manufacturing units, which were set up in two years," (Contd P 11)

Sun for devt for New India will rise in NE : Irani

Contd from page 1

she said. Stating that six lakh people had received skill-based training in the last four years, Irani said the textile sector was now the second-largest job provider in the country.

The Centre had doled out Rs 4 lakh crore under the Mudra Yojana, a scheme to provide loans to micro enterprises and entrepreneurs, benefitting 70 per cent women workers, the Minister said.

"Schemes of the Union Government such as the Jan Dhan Yojana, the Jan Suraksha Bima Yojana, the Swachh Bharat Mission have contributed greatly towards the development of a New India," she added.

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
GUWAHTI

1. Name of Paper : The Assam Tribune
2. Language : English
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4. Place of Publication : Guwahati
5. Date of Publication : 30/5/2018

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STAFF CORRESPONDENT

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Government spokesperson and Union Textile Minister Smriti Irani said here today that the clamp down on black money is "visible both domestically and internationally."

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reduce militancy, Naxalism and separatism in the country.

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On Swachh Bharat campaign, Irani said 3.60 lakh villages in the country spread across 17 States have now been declared as "open defecation free and 7.25 crore toilets have been built in the past four years."

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
GUWAHTI

1. Name of Paper : Dainik Pratah Khabar
2. Language : Hindi
3. Periodicity : Daily
4. Place of Publication : Guwahati
5. Date of Publication : 30/5/2018

न्यू इंडिया के विकास का सूरज पूर्वोत्तर में होगा उदय : स्मृति

शिलांग, 29 मई (भा)। केंद्रीय मंत्री स्मृति ईरानी ने आज कहा कि न्यू इंडिया के विकास के सूरज का पूर्वोत्तर में उदय होगा और सरकार इस क्षेत्र के विकास को प्राथमिकता देगी। केंद्रीय वस्त्र मंत्री ने यहां संवाददाताओं से कहा कि न्यू इंडिया के विकास के सूरज का पूर्वोत्तर में उदय होगा। उन्होंने यहां नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ फैशन

टेक्नोलॉजी (निफ्ट) के दीक्षांत समारोह से इतर संवाददाताओं से बात करते हुए यह कहा। मंत्री ने कहा कि पूर्वोत्तर के विकास के लिए रणनीतियां तैयार करने को लेकर नीति आयोग के तहत एक मंच का गठन किया गया है। यह क्षेत्र में बुनियादी ढांचे के विकास पर जोर देगा। उन्होंने आरोप लगाया कि कांग्रेस नीत पिछली संग्रम सरकार ने

बुनकरों की अनदेखी की, जिनमें से ज्यादातर लोग पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र से हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि मौजूदा सरकार ने बुनकरों के बच्चों का 75 प्रतिशत शिक्षा शुल्क दिया है। हर राज्य में अब वस्त्र विनिर्माण इकाइयां हैं, जो दो साल में स्थापित किये गये हैं। मंत्री ने कहा कि पिछले चार साल में छह लाख लोगों ने कौशल आधारित प्रशिक्षण पाया है।

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2. Language : Hindi
3. Periodicity : Daily
4. Place of Publication : Guwahati
5. Date of Publication : 30/5/2018

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1. Name of the newspaper : U Nongsaini Hima
2. Date : 30.5.2018
3. Language : Khasi
4. Periodicity : Daily
5. Place of Publication : Shillong
6. Title of the items/report :

Sun for development of New India will rise in north-east: Irani

Ym jubab shai ka Myntri halor ka 'Black Money'

**Ka sngi ki kam pynroi ban thaw thymmai
ia ka India kan mih na NE: Irani**

Shillong Jymang 29:

Ka Myntri ka Sorkar Pdeng, ka Smriti Zubin Irani ka la wan pynphrang khubor mynta ka sngi shaphang ki kam babha ba ka Sorkar NDA ka la dep ban pyni ha kine ki saw snem, bad ka la ong ba ka sngi jong ki kam pynroi ban thaw thymmai ia ka India kan



Smriti Zubin Irani

sa mih na ka Thain Shatei Lam Mihngi (North East).

Haba kren sha ki lad pathai khubor ha kane ka nongbah, ka Irani ka la ong ba ka Sorkar NDA ha kine ki saw snem ka lah ban leh bun kiei kiei naduh ka jingthaw ia ka NITI Aayog Forum, Pule Sla 9

Ka sngi ki kam pynroi ban thaw

ka jingpyntrikam ia ki skhim ban pynmyntoi ia ki paidbah kum ka Mudra Yojana, bad Jandhan Yojana.

Halor ka jingkmnoh ka Congress ba ka Sorkar NDA ka dei ka Sorkar kaba shu ot ribbon ia ki projek ba la dep leh da ka Sorkar UPA, ka Irani ka la ong ba ka la ong ba ka UPA kumba ka long mynta ka kut tang ha ka jingkmn pynheh nia.

"Ngam khmih lynti hi ba ka Liang Pynshah kan lehsun, hynrei kaei kaba nga Khmih lynti ka long ba ka Liang Pynshah ka dei ban peit ia ki jingshisha kiba la paw hakmat jong ki. Ai ba ka UPA bad ki mongialam ka Congress kin pynshai ia ngi ba kumno ka Sorkar NDA tang hapoh 2 snem, ngi la lah ban buh ia ki jaka kiba dei ban shna ia ki tiar kiba iadei bad ka thain jingthain ha man la ki Jylla," la ong ka Irani.

Haba kren shaphang ki skhim kiba wan lyngba ka tnat Textile jong ka Sorkar Pdeng, ka la ong ba na ki 42 tylli ki skhim, 22 tylli ki skhim man u snem (ha ki san snem) la shu iehnoh kumto ha ka por jong ka Sorkar UPA, bad bun ki Myntri kiba bat ia kane ka tnat ki dei na ka seng Congress.

Ka Irani ka la ong ruh ba haba iadei bad ka ki tiar kiba pynmih da kaba shu thain ha ka North East, ka la ong ba ha u snem 2009, ka Congress ka la tip bha ba na kiba bun ki longiing kiba im da kaba thain jingthain, tang 1 na ka 100 ki dei kiba lah ban kyrshan ban phah ia ki khun ban leit bteng ia ki jingpule ba kham shalor.

Hynrei mynta hapoh ka jingpeit ka Sorkar NDA, la iarap ban pynstew 75 na ka 100 ia ka bai pule lyngba ki jaka ai jinghikai kum ka NIOS bad IGNOU," ka la ong.

Haba phai sha ka NITI Aayog ka Irani ka la ong ba kane ka shnat ka la lah ban leh bun bah ki kam na la bynta kawei pa kawei ka Jylla kynthup ha North East, naduh ka jingbei pisa ban kyntiew ia ka North East lyngba ka jingshna ia ki surok kiba pyniasoh na kawei sha kawci pat ka Jylla ha kaba ka Sorkar NDA ka la mang pisa ruh lyngba ka tnat DoNER.

"Kane ka la long kum 48 snem ka jingshah ie...jein da kawei ka longiing (Congress) pynshah ia ki 48 bnai jong ka jingtrei bha da ka Sorkar NDA hapoh ka jingialam u Narendra Modi," la kynthoh ka Irani.

Shuh shuh ka Irani ka la kynnoh ia ka Congress ha kaba ka la ong ba ka Sorkar UPA, ka la ieh ia ki diengpynkiang, bad ka Sorkar NDA mynta ka la lah ban weng bad pynbeit ia ki jingeh.

Hynrei haba kylli shaphang ka jingkmynshew pisa bym hok (black money) ki hehspah na India ha ki bank ba don shabar ri ha kaba ka Sorkar NDA kam pat lah ban leh ei ei haduh mynta kumba la kular ha u snem 2014, ka Irani kam shym la jubab shai, hynrei ka la ong ba ki mat treikam ka Sorkar NDA ki la iarap ban kyndang ia kum kine ki kam beain bad ki la sdang ban paw ym tang hapoh ka ri, hynrei ha kiwei ki ri ka pyrthei de.

Ka la ong ba bun ki ri ka pyrthei ki la nang ai ka jingia-treilang ha kaba la ia ai jingtip markylliang haba iadei bad ka tynrai jong kito kiba buhrieh bad kynshew pisa shabar ri khnang ban pyntikna ba ka jingbud ryntih ia ki kyndon ha ka liang ka pisa tyngka da ki nongshong shnong kan nym treikam tang hapoh ka ri, hynrei ha kiwei ki ri ruh kamjuh.

Ka la kren ruh shaphang ka jingpynduh ia ki lut T. 500 bad T. 1000 bad ong ba ka jingleh ka Sorkar ka la iarap ban pynduh lad ia ki kynhun pyntriem bapher bapher ban lum pisa beain bad ka la long kum ka jingpyndkut ia ki lynti iaid jong ki kam beain.

Haba kylli shaphang ka jingkieu dor ki mar ki mata kynthup ka umphniang petrol bad diesel, ka Irani ka la kyntait ban jubab.

Halor ka jingong ka Congress ba kan sa wanphai biang ha ka bor synshar ha u snem 2019, ka Irani ka la ong ba maka hi dalade ka dei kaba don bynta ha ka saifi hima hapoh ka jaka jong u president ka Congress u Rahul Gandhi ha Amethi.

"Ha Amethi, u (Rahul) hi u la shah pynrem lut ha ki konstitwensi ha ka ilekshon MLA, bad ha kiwei kiwei ki ilekshon ha kine ki 4 snem ba la dep," la bynrap ka Irani.

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHILLONG.

1. Name of the newspaper : *Peitngor*
2. Date : *30.5.2018*
3. Language : *Khasi*
4. Periodicity : *Daily*
5. Place of Publication : *Shillong*
6. Title of the items/report :

Smriti Irani speaks of the achievements of Modi & NDA government

Pynpaw ka Smriti ia ki kam u Modi bad jong ka sorkar NDA



Ka Smriti Zubin Irani

Shillong, Jymmang 29: Ka myntri sorkar pdeng ba dei peit ia ka tnad Textiles ka Smriti Irani ka la ong ba ka Mudra Yojana ka la ai ka lad ia kj kynthei bad longkmie ban pynlong ialade kiba don ia ka kam ka jam.

"Ngi la iohi ba jan kot 4 lak klur tyngka la pyniaid lyngba ka skhim Mudra Yojana. Kum ka longkmie, nga sngew sarong ba 70% kiba ioh jingmyntoi ki dei ki longkmie bad ki kynthei. Kane ka skhim ka la ailad ba ki longkmie kin lah ban ieng ha la ki kjat ", la ong ka Irani haba kren ha ki lad pathai khubor ban pynshai ia ki katto katne ki kam kiba la pyndep bad pyn-treikam da ka sorkar NDA ba lam khmat da ka BJP.

Pule Sla-7

Pynpaw ka Smriti ia ki kam

Ka la kdew ruh ba u myntri rangbahduh ka Ri India u la kren halor ka thong jong u ban pynlong ka India kaba thymmai ha kaba ka jingphai khmat kam long tang ban kyntiew iaki kynthei hynrei ban ailad ia ki kynthei ban lam khmat ha ki kam ki jam.

Ka myntri sorkar pdeng ka la ong ba ha ka skhim 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao', ka sex ratio ha ka por kha ia ki khyllung ka la kiew ha ki 104 tylli ki District.

"Ha ka sien ba nyngkong ha ka khana ka Ri India, u myntri rangbahduh u la wanrah ka ain kaba tyngeh ia kiba thombor ia ki kynthei bad ki khyannah rit. Ngi la wanrah ka ain shipor ban pyniap beit ia kiba donkti ban batbor ia ki khyannah kiba hapoh ka 12 snem ka rta ", la ong ka Irani.

Hapoh ka Jandhan Yojana, ka Irani ka la iathuh ba jan kot 31.53 klur ngut ki nongshong shnong ka India ki la ioh ban plie ia ki Bank Account. Haba kren halor ka Suraksha Bima Yojana, ka myntri ka la ong ba ka premium kaba long tang shi tyngka shi bnai ha kaba palat 13,25,00000 lak ngut ki brieve ki la don bynta bad kumba 5,52,00000 tylli ki longing ki ioh jingiarap kaba long 330 tyngka shu snem na ka Jivan Jyoti Yojana.

Na ka bynta ki nongtrei kiba ym pat dei kiba trei kam sorkar, ka la ong ba sorkar NDA ka la sdang ia ka Atal Pension Yojana bad mynta ki don haduh 1 klur ngut kiba ia shim synniang. Ki nongshong shnong kiba la heh rta kin ioh 8% ka sit na ka bynta 10 snem bad ka Investment Level la khein ar shah sha ka 15 lak tyngka

Halor ka Direct Benefit Transfer, ka la ong ba la jan kot 431 tylli ki skhim na ka sorkar India la phah beit sha ki Bank account jong ki nongshong shnong. Na ka Total Sanitation Campaign, ka la ong ba 17 tylli ki jylla bad ki Union Territories, haduh 3,60,000 tylli ki shnong la dep ai ia ka khusnam Open Defecation Free bad kumba 7.25 klur tylli ki painkhana la shna ha kylleng ka Ri India.

Halor ka jingkyntiew ia ka roi ka par ha ka thain Shatei Lam Mihngi, ka la ong ba ka sorkar haka jinglam khmat ka BJP ka phai khmat khamtam ia kane ka thain. "Ka NITI Aayog Forum na ka bynta ka thain shatei lam mihngi la thaw khnang ban kyntiew ia ka roi ka par lyngba bun ki lad ki lynti ", la ong ka Irani.

1. Name of the newspaper : *Rupang*
2. Date : *30.5.2018*
3. Language : *Khasi*
4. Periodicity : *Daily*
5. Place of Publication : *Shillong*
6. Title of the items/report : *violence is decreasing right from demonetization: Irani.*

Sdang rngad ki kam thombor naduh ba pynduh pisa, ong ka Irani

Shillong, 29 Jymmang:

Ka myntri ka sorkar pdeng ba peit ia ka tnad thain jain bad shna kti ne textiles bad Handicrafts, ka Zubin Irani ka la kam ba ki kam lehnoh, ki kam bamsap, ki kam thombor ki la sdang rngad naduh ba la pynduh pisa da ka sorkar NDA ba ialam da u Myntri Rangbahduh ka ri u Narendra Modi.

[bteng sla 7]



Ka Smriti Irani, myntri ka sorkar India, haba kren sha ki kotkhubor, ha ka Sngi Hat Majai:PIB

Sdang rngad ki kam thombor naduh ba pynduh pisa, ong ka

Haba kren sha ki nongthoh khubor mynta ka sngi ha ka jingwan jongka sha Shillong, ka Irani ka la ong, "kaei kaba jia ha kine ki 48 bnai ha Meghalaya, kane ka dei ka jingkylli ba nga phah ia phi, ka Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA) (kaba la weng namar ka jinghiar ki kam pyntriem), ki kam ki lehnoh Naxal ki la ring sdot, ki kam lehnoh ki la kynjah, kane baroh ka dei namar ba ka jingpynduh pisa".

Ka la ong ba u Myntri Rangbahduh ka ri, u Narendra Modi u dei u briew uba ngeit skhem ha ki paidbah, bad u shim ruh ia ka rai kaba satar bha.

Katkum ka jingong ka myntri, ki kam rahbor ia ki kynthei na ki jaka riwulum ki la duna naduh ba la pynduh pisa. "Ki don ki jingthoh ha kaba ki khynnah kynthei riwulum ki la shah rahbor bad die sha ki jaka khaii met ne la shah pyntrei mraw, hynrei naduh ba la pynduh pisa, kine ki kam beaii ki la kynjah", ka la ong.

Ka la ong ruh ba hapoh ka jingbthah ka Supreme Court, ha ka sien ba nyngkong ba kane ka sorkar ka la shim ia ka bynta ban pynsted ia ki kam kiba ju sahteng slem bah ban pynioh ia ka jingbishar hok.

"Ka jingseisoh ka jingpynduh pisa, ka la sakhi ia ka jingjop ha ka pyrthei baroh kawei", ka la ong.

"Bun ki ri kiba la nang ai shuh shuh ia ki jingtip sha ka sorkar India ia ki kyrteng jong kito ki briew kiba pyllang pisa beain shabar ri bad kine ki ri, ki la ai ruh ia ka jingiatreilang bad ka sorkar India bad kane ka dei namar ka jingshim khia u Myntri Rangbahduh ka ri", ka la ong.

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHILLONG

1. Name of the Newspaper : *Mausphor*
2. Date : *30.5.2018*
3. Language : *Khasi*
4. Periodicity : *Daily*
5. Place of Publication : *Shillong*
6. Title of the item/report :

The steps of NDA Government against 'Black Money' is praised worldwide

Kam ka Myntri ba la paw pyrthei ka jingia khun pyrshah 'Black Money' ka Sorkar NDA



Shillong, Jymmang 29: Ka Nongialam ka BJP bad Myntri ka Ministry of Textiles ka Smriti Zubin Irani, kala kam ba ka jingia khun pyrshah jong ka Sorkar National Democratic Alliance (NDA) ia ka 'Black Money' (pisa ba khlem oh khajna) kala sdang paw pyrthei mynta ym tang

ha India hynrei ha kylleng ki Ri ka pyrthei.

"Ki Ri ka Pyrthei kila nang bun nang bun ban fasam ia ki jingkheini (data) halor ka jingdon ki biew kiba buhrieh ia ki pisa ba khlem siew khajna (Black Money) shabar ka Ri India" ong ka Irani haba pynsgew ia ka jinglah

treikam jong ka Sorkar NDA ba ialam da u Narendra Modi mynta la saw snem.

Kat kum ka jingong jong ka, "Ki Ri kila nang bun ba iatcilang bad ka India ban lah tehlakam ia ka pisa ba khlem siew khajna. Ka por kala kut ia ki biew kiba kwah buhrieh ia ka spah shabar ka Ri da kaba pyrkhah ha ka jingdon spah jong ki kan nym paw pyr thei satia ne ioh jingtip da ka Sorkar".

Shuwa ka elekshon Lok-Sabha-2014, ka Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) kala kular ban wanrah pat ia ka Black Money na shabar ka Ri hapoh ka 100 sngi ba ka wan ha ka bor.

Haba kylli halor ka Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, ka Myntri kala ong "Hato phi iohi ba ka don ka jingkylla eiei, phi iohi ba don ki jingduna ha ki kam

pyntriem jong ki Naxal ha ki District ba ki khlaini, hato phi iohi ba ka jingdon ki kynhun kaikhlaw kila nang duna, hato phi iohi ba ka jingtakawang maw kila duna-Baroh kine ki kam bymman ki! wan jia namar ka pisa tyngka".

Haba pynpaw ba ka long kaba suk ban shu shim rai ban pynpaw nam bad baroh ki riew saifi pyrthei ki kwah ban pawnsam, ia Myntri ka ong, tang u Narendra Modi Myntri Rangbah Duh ka Ri uba shaniah bha ia ki paidbah kane ka Ri bad pynthikna ba u shim ia ki rai kiba tyngeh shisha.

"Namar kata, haba phi iakren ia ka jinghiar ki kam bymman kumba jia ha ki District ba khlaini ki Naxal bad kiwei, kane hi ka pyni ba ka jingtreikam jong ka Black Money kala sangeh" ong ka Myntri.

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHILLONG

1. Name of the Newspaper : *The Sentinel*
2. Date : *30.5.2018*
3. Language : *English*
4. Periodicity : *Daily*
5. Place of Publication : *Shillong*
6. Title of the item/report :

Centre visualizes rise of new India from NE: Smriti



**STAFF
CORRESPONDENT**
SHILLONG, May 29: The BJP-led NDA Government visualizes development for a new India from the Northeast, said Union minister of Textiles Smriti Zubeen Irani.

Speaking to newsmen prior to the formal convocation of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) in Shillong on Tuesday, the Union Minister highlighted the NDA Government's achieve-

ments over the past four years while stating that emphasis is given to the North-eastern region by the Centre. Referring to NITI Ayog forum for the North-east and the MUDRA scheme, Irani said, "Our government sees the sun of the development for a new India rising from the North-east, and that is why Prime Minister Modi has laid emphasis on the creation of the NITI Ayog forum to chalk out strategies for the development of NE."

Taking a potshot at the Congress government for its lackadaisical attitude towards the development of the NE region, Irani said, "We've been left with the legacy of apathy of the UPA regime but the NDA government is making efforts to rectify it." "What the Congress could not do during its regimes, we have brought about a massive transformation in 48 months," claimed the Union Minister.

She also elucidated on

the multiple Central schemes for the benefit of the common people.

Taking a jibe at the Congress party for its consistent attack on the Union Government, she said: "The UPA is resorting to rhetoric. I never expect the opposition to be kind but they should also look at the facts and figures of the past 48 months."

She sarcastically stated that the UPA regime was a matter of declaration and allocation of funds, but now its implementation of those funds. En route to the NIFT convocation, the Union Textile Minister referred to the multiple schemes of the Naredra Modi-led Government that has showed positive results.

On the pretext of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) Rahul Gandhi, the Union Minister said, "What do you expect from a man who is not sure to return as an elected representative of the people."

She added, "He (Rahul) has lost every seat and every local elections in the past four years; how do you expect that he will come back."

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHILLONG

1. Name of the Newspaper : *The Shillong Times*
2. Date : *30/5/18*
3. Language : *English*
4. Periodicity : *Daily*
5. Place of Publication : *Shillong*
6. Title of the item/report :

Irani sings paeans of PM's initiatives

By Our Reporter

SHILLONG: Union Minister Smriti Irani lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his initiatives towards an inclusive growth and talked about various schemes, including financial and social, during her meeting with media persons on Tuesday.

Irani - who met radio jockeys of local FM stations, journalist and editors of local media houses in the city on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the NDA government at the Centre - said the Prime Minister has given special focus for the development of the North East.

"The Prime Minister heads the NITI Aayog and a NITI Forum for the North East has been specially been set up so that overall developmental activities of the region can be dis-

cussed, strategies are formed and implemented," she added.

She also said development of infrastructure has been given top priority in the North East and the Dhola-Sadia Bridge is one such example. This thrust of the NE is reflective of the PM's belief that "the sun of development of new India will rise from the North East".

On inclusive banking, Irani said 31.52 crore citizens have opened bank accounts under the Jan Dhan Yojana in "the last 48 months.

"India now accounts for 55 per cent of newly opened bank accounts globally between 2014-17... It is the duty of the government to ensure that it serves the banking needs of the unbanked," the minister of textiles said.

Focusing on the social

security schemes, Irani said the Suraksha Bima Yojana, Jivan Jyoti Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana "have immensely benefitted the people of the country".

"For the first time in history of the country at just Re.1 premium a month, 13.25 crore people are now ensured under the Suraksha Bima Yojana. As many as 5.52 lakh families now have the assistance of Jivan Jyoti Yojana at the premium of Rs 330 per year. For the unorganised sector workers, Prime Minister started the Atal Pension Yojana and today there is 1 crore subscribers," she added.

She pointed out that by introducing direct benefit transfer, the Centre could manage to save Rs 80,000-crore leakages in close to 431 schemes.

On sanitation, which has been one of the priority areas of the Modi govern-

ment, Irani said thanks to the efforts of the Prime Minister 3.6 lakh villages in 17 states and Union Territories are Open Defecation Free and 7.25 crore toilets have been built.

On food security and security for farmers, Irani said it has always been the priority of the government and that it has been able to ensure food security to 80 crore citizens across the country.

The minister said the aim of the Prime Minister is to double the income of the farmers.

"We ensure that under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, we mitigate the risk that the farmers take at an affordable cost. Today we can say that apart from the insurance coverage, the total farm credit per farmers has been raised to Rs 11 lakh crore," she added.