



FROM THE RAMPARTS OF THE RED FORT · 15 AUGUST 2017

71st Independence Day

“The era of ‘chalta hai’ is gone; now the voice that has risen says it has changed, it is changing, it can change”— Prime Minister, Red Fort, 15 August 2017

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2017

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ACCOUNT FROM THE RED FORT 29 crore Jan Dhan accounts; more than 9 crore Soil Health Cards; more than 2 crore Ujjwala connections; electricity to more than 14,000 villages; in three years, 6 IITs, 7 IIMs and 8 IIITs.

- **New India 2022** — the resolve for a secure, prosperous and powerful ‘New India’ by 75 years of Independence — “We will do this work ourselves”.
TODAY Amrit Kaal in 2021 and the resolve for Viksit Bharat 2047 in 2022 — the same journey moved forward.
- **BHIM App and Digital Transactions** — “Let us move towards digital transactions, let us adopt the BHIM app” — a less-cash economy.
TODAY 24,162 crore transactions worth ₹314 lakh crore on UPI in 2025-26.
- **GST — One Nation, One Tax** — in force from 1 July 2017 — “30% of a truck’s time has been saved”.
TODAY India moved from 54th (2014) to 38th place (2023) in the Logistics Performance Index.
- **Affordable Treatment — Jan Aushadhi, Stents and Knee Replacement** — “Let the cost of treatment be reduced for the poor and the middle class” — price control on knee surgery after stents.
TODAY Price control on stents and knee replacement saves citizens about ₹5,950 crore a year (NPPA: stents ₹4,450 crore + knee implants ₹1,500 crore).
- **A Pucca House, Electricity and Water for the Poor** — the picture of New India — “where the poor have a pucca house, electricity and water”.
TODAY 4.21 crore pucca houses; electricity in every home (Saubhagya); tap water to 15.91 crore rural households (August 2026).
- **Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana** — systems that hold the farmer’s hand from seed to market; investment in food processing.
TODAY Foodgrain production from 2,650 lakh tonnes (2013-14) to 3,765 lakh tonnes (2025-26).