

Salient points of BJP National President Shri Amit Shah's press conference at Palampur in Himachal Pradesh

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#I have come to Himachal as part of our programme to expand BJP's base in the country

#I will be touring the country for the next 95 days and I will visit each state for 2-3 days. During my stay in each state, I will review the party's organizational capabilities and look at ways to strengthen it. We have also organized a press conference in each state

#The Narendra Modi led BJP government will complete 3 years in office by end of this month

#In these 3 years, the BJP government has made every effort to take the nation ahead in all spheres

#When the BJP government took charge in 2014, it replaced a government that was neck deep in corruption with scams totaling 12 lakh crore rupees across various ministries and departments

#I am happy to inform you that on the other hand, there is not even one allegation of corruption against the Narendra Modi government in the last 3 years

#When we came to power in 2014, the GDP growth had slowed down considerably, all growth indicators were going down and the government was suffering from policy paralysis

#However, under the Modi government, India has emerged as the world's fastest growing economy. There is renewed vigour in several areas of the economy where growth had previously stalled

#There is people centric approach in the government now that leads to formulation of policies and their implementation is carried out with complete commitment and firm resolve. As a result, the popularity of the Modi government is several notches higher now when compared at the time of 2014 elections

#After long time, there is a government at the centre that has continued to win mandate of the people in different elections after the Lok Sabha polls. In most elections, BJP has not only won but also registered an increase in vote share

#In the recently concluded assembly elections, we formed governments in 4 of the 5 states. In UP and Uttarakhand, we formed governments with 3/4th majority and that shows our popularity among the people

#Since 2014 when the Modi government took charge, it has launched as many as 105 new schemes for the benefit of the masses

#Under our government, we could successfully carry out the bold step of demonetization. This move has been appreciated by nation's citizens and has resulted in positive outcomes

#Various initiatives like Ujjwala Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana and Mudra Bank Yojana have immensely contributed in improving the living standard of the poor of the country

#Schemes like Start Up India, Stand Up India and Skill India have given an opportunity to the youth of the country improve their skills and compete with people on global platform

#Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, soil health card, neem coated urea and e-mandis have given impetus to agriculture growth in the country

#In the last 3 years, we have given the country a development model that is inclusive in nature and ensures growth for all

#PM Modi has a close and long association with Himachal and our government has taken several initiatives for the state

#In 13th Finance Commission under UPA government, Himachal's share in central taxes was 11,131 crore rupees. In the 14th Finance Commission under BJP government, Himachal's share will roughly rise three fold to 28,225 crore rupees

#Earlier, the limit under disaster response for Himachal was 650 crore rupees. The same has been raised to 1174 crore rupees

#The grant for local bodies has been raised to 2017 crore rupees from 642 crore rupees

#If Congress government in Himachal had utilized these allocations from the centre in a proper manner, there would have been no pending issues in the state

#Under PM Jan Dhan Yojana, banks accounts were opened for more than 9 lakh people in the state. These accounts today have savings of 325 crore rupees

#Under Mudra Bank Yojana, 1.71 lakh youth from the state got loans totaling 2,224 crore rupees to help them gain employment and start their own ventures

#Under UDAN Yojana, Shimla has now been put on the nation's air connectivity map on a regular basis. Going forward, several smaller airports in the state will be connected to promote tourism

#The railways has allocated 3,300 crore rupees for expansion in Himachal. This includes Bilaspur-Mandi-Ladakh rail link, which is of strategic importance. The survey for building this route has already started. This route will not only help citizens of Himachal but it is also important from the country's security perspective

#The BJP government has also successfully implemented One Rank, One Pension for armed forces. If one sees the number of servicemen as percentage of population, Himachal has benefitted the maximum from implementation of OROP followed by Uttarakhand

#It is shocking that Congress CM in the state wears corruption cases against him as a badge of honour. The state government in Himachal is surrounded by mafia and corrupt

#The BJP is fully prepared to fight elections in the state. I am confident that BJP will form the next government in the state with 3/4th majority. It is important that BJP wins in Himachal so that the state joins PM Modi's Vikas Yatra