

Swarna Bharat Party

स्वर्ण भारत पार्टी

G-249 Palam Vihar, Gurgaon 122017

info@swarnabharat.in, <http://swarnabharat.in/>

Registered with Election Commission of India: 56/102/2013/PPS-1

National President: Sanjay Sonawani Secretary: Bhoopendra Singh Kanaujia



OPEN LETTER TO MR. NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

Friday 26 August 2016

Dear Prime Minister

Subject: MINIMUM GOVERNMENT MAXIMUM GOVERNANCE

Swarna Bharat Party, the only liberal party of India seeks the liberty and prosperity of all Indians. We believe that a government must focus on security, law and order and justice. It is not the job of a government to run hotels and public enterprises.

Our ancestors firmly believed in this basic rule: जहाँ का राजा हो व्यापारी वहाँ की प्रजा हो भिखारी.

You have often used the words "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance", which presumably mean the same thing, but the country has not seen any evidence of implementation.

The country is crying out for basic services like security and justice – which the people cannot provide for themselves; but your government is busy running hotels and airlines – which the people can manage themselves. Does running businesses constitute "Minimum Government". Does making the Chief Justice of India cry and beg for recruiting more judges form part of "Maximum Governance"?

Please see the data attached, which clearly reveal that a vast amount of public resources are being squandered on running government businesses. At the same time, the government refuses to fund police and justice. It is not an acceptable excuse to suggest that some of these issues are State subjects. Central government resources must be provided to the States for basic governance.

I appeal to you to implement four simple things:

1. Your government must immediately get out of running businesses. This will save the country well over Rs. 40,000 crore in losses from loss-making PSEs and banks. Even profitable PSEs should be divested since it is not the job of government to do what the people can do for themselves. All nationalised banks should be immediately divested. Present jobs should not be lost in this process, and the government should continue to regulate all businesses, as appropriate.
2. Your government should deploy the funds so saved/raised to immediately increase the funding for core government functions, as specified below:
 - Increase nation-wide **police** funding **by at least two times** from Rs.74,258 crore to Rs.1,50,000 crore per year, i.e. from around 0.6 per cent of GDP presently to around 1.2 per cent of GDP. Increase the number of policemen from 147 per lakh persons to 222 per lakh persons.
 - Increase funding for the **judiciary** **by at least ten times** from around 0.02 per cent of GDP presently to around 0.2 per cent of GDP. Increase the number of judges from 1.3 per lakh persons to at least 5 per lakh persons.
3. As a condition for increased funding, you must make State governments divest their businesses. In funding any branch of government, you must ensure accountability measures (including for all

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municipalities). The people of India want results. They want to pay policemen, judges, bureaucrats, teachers, only for results.

4. Your government must immediately start implementing **all** reforms listed in our party's manifesto (<http://swarnabharat.in/manifesto>), including critically needed reforms of the electoral system and significant strengthening of the defence forces. It should be clear to anyone who reads our manifesto: that only these reforms can take India from its miserable Third World performance to the top of the world.

In a country where rule of law is supreme, the numerous communal riots and state-supported pogroms would never have happened. In a country where the police and judiciary are functional, people would never be targeted and killed for belonging to a particular religion, neither would caste massacres occur. Even the sensitive areas of the country, the Northeast, Jammu & Kashmir, and the Red Corridor would never be ravaged by insurgencies, as people would be free and secure, and would have no reason to revolt and pick up arms.

I therefore request you to agree to **all** our demands by Monday 26 September 2016. If you do so, my party commits to working with you to make India a Sone ki Chidiya — which is the logo of our party.

Should you choose not to implement these demands, we will infer that you have no intention to implement governance reforms and that you do not care about India's development.

This open letter is also available in HTML, PDF and Word document format at:
<http://swarnabharat.in/openletter-26August2016>.



Yours sincerely

(Sanjay Sonawani)

President

Swarna Bharat Party

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Copy to: Ministers, Chief Ministers, media and many others.

Attached: Relevant data.

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Attachment

Relevant data

This letter has been compiled on readily available information. In some cases, surmises and estimates have been made. The big picture is clear: the gross under-funding of core government functions.

RULE OF LAW

India ranks 59 out of 102 nations on rule of law (World Justice Project:

http://worldjusticeproject.org/sites/default/files/roli_2015_0.pdf).

Whom do we blame for this sorry performance? The British left India 70 years ago.

POLICE

Expenditure

Total expenditure of all state governments on the Police, as on 1 Jan 2015	Rs. 74,258 crore [BPRD15]
National GDP	Rs.125,41,208 crore [http://statisticstimes.com/economy/gdp-of-india.php]
Ratio of expenditure on Police to national GDP	= 0.6 per cent of GDP

Staffing position

Total sanctioned strength of state police force	22,63,222 [BPRD15]
Number of policemen per lakh persons (sanctioned strength)	182.68 [BPRD15]
Percentage of vacancies to total posts	23.99%
Actual number of policemen per lakh persons	147
UN recommended number of policemen per lakh persons	222 (The comparable figure for the United States is 315, the United Kingdom 200, and Australia 290).

Equipment

“Apocryphal accounts circulate of lack of petrol to transport prisoners to court or even shortage of stationery to register complaints. Station house officers receive small budgets and “raise” resources to run their offices. The state police forces do not have the resources to conduct investigations. Poorly equipped and trained policemen face highly committed terrorists wielding AK-47s, which can fire thirty bullets in a single automatic burst”. [Source: Stephen P. Cohen and Sunil Dasgupta (2010), [Arming without Aiming: India's Military Modernization](#), Brookings Institution Press)

Number of transport vehicles per 100 policemen	7.24
Number of Police Stations not having	
(i) Vehicles	(i) 400
(ii) Telephones	(ii) 352
(iii) Wireless sets	(iii) 127
(iv) Neither telephones nor wireless sets	(iv) 54
Number of speedometers with Police	991
Number of breathalysers	6559
Number of forensic vans	439

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Living conditions

Level of Satisfaction for Police housing by subordinates	27%
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JUDICIARY

Given paucity of reliable data, some of the information below is deduced from multiple sources.

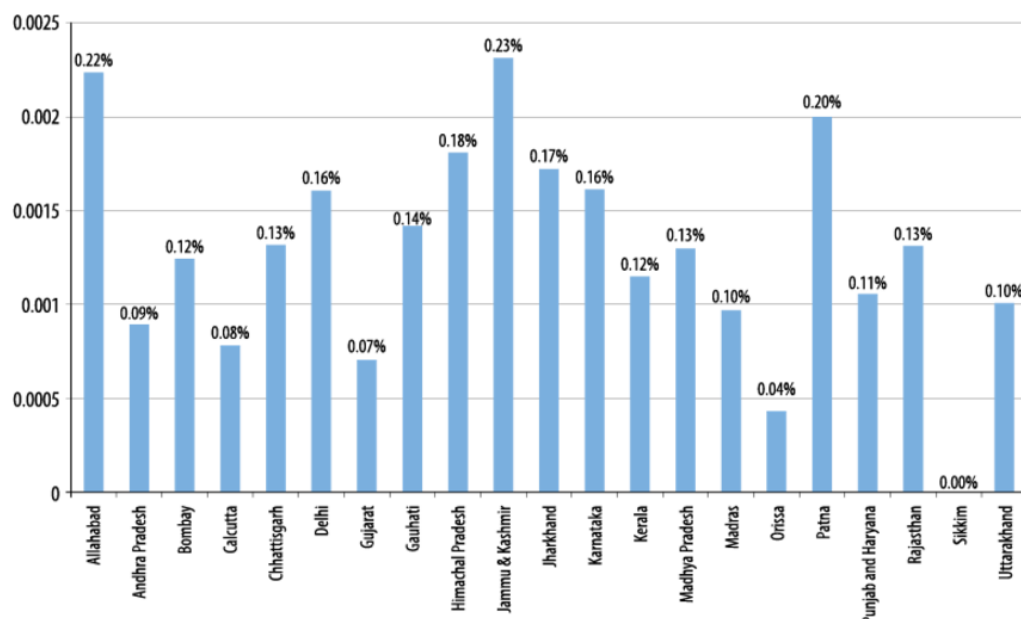
Expenditure

SBP understands that Korea spends more than 0.2%, Singapore 1.2%, and the U.S. 1.4% of its GDP on justice. India spends around 0.02 per cent at most (i.e. 60 times less than Singapore, 70 times less than USA, and 10 times less than Korea). Bibek Debroy estimated in 2008 that a minimum additional annual expenditure of Rs.50,000 crore is needed for the Indian judiciary. [[Justice Delivery in India – A Snapshot of Problems and Reforms](#), Bibek Debroy (2008)]

Total expenditure by central government	Rs.2,047 crore (0.4% of total budget) This is 0.016 per cent of India's GDP
Total expenditure by all states	It appears that states spend around 0.015 per cent of their GDP towards the judiciary. [See chart below]
Total expenditure by all India governments on justice.	It appears that India spends around 0.02 per cent of GDP across the whole country

"Figure 3 [below] shows the average budgetary allocation of states towards the judiciary during 2013 and 2014 as a percentage of net state domestic product (NSDP) at current prices. Most states allocate between 0.10 per cent and 0.20 per cent."

FIGURE 3. Expenditure on Judiciary as a Percentage of NSDP



Source: http://dakshindia.org/state-of-the-indian-judiciary/18_chapter_07.html#_idTextAnchor155

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Pending cases - Higher judiciary

Total High Court cases pending	43 lakhs
Total High Court plus Supreme Court cases pending	Nearly 1 crore [Source] <i>Note: this seems to be a little on the high side; the actual position may well be around 6 million.</i>

Verification: The total pendency in the court system, excluding other quasi-judicial forums, now amounts to 29.1 million - 46,926 in the Supreme Court, 3.7 million in High Courts and 25.4 million in Lower Courts. [\[Justice Delivery in India – A Snapshot of Problems and Reforms, Bibek Debroy \(2008\)\]](#)

Pending cases - Lower judiciary

Cases are pending in the lower judiciary	Nearly 25 million [Source]
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The oldest pending case in subordinate courts was lodged on 9 September 1948 and the oldest pending case in the High Court was lodged on 1 January 1958. 31 per cent of individuals accused of bailable offences continue to be in jail. Less than 3 per cent of litigants use legal aid, despite legal aid being a right of all Indian citizens.

Staffing

Number of judges per million people	13
US number of judges per million people	107
Canada number of judges per million people	75.2
UK number of judges per million people	50.9
Recommended level for developing countries	35-40 per million
Sanctioned strength of Subordinate courts	20214
Number of vacancies in Subordinate courts	4600
Sanctioned strength of High Court	1046
Number of vacancies in High Court	446
Sanctioned strength of Supreme Court	31
Number of Supreme Court vacancies	6

MODI GOVERNMENT AS A BUSINESS OPERATOR

SBP believes that the existence of all public sector enterprises must be evaluated from first principles. In almost all cases, there is no reason for government to be involved in running a business. A government has, for instance, absolutely no reason to directly operate banks or insurance companies.

Data below from [Public Enterprises Survey 2014-2015](#) Note that “the survey, does not cover departmentally run public enterprises, banking institutions, and insurance companies”. It also does not cover State government PSEs. There is, for instance, no reason why the government should produce electricity.

- Total paid up capital in 298 CPSEs as on 31 March 2015 stood at Rs.2,13,020 crore
- Total investment (equity plus long term loans) in all CPSEs stood at Rs.10,96,057 crore as on 31.3.2015
- Profit of profit making CPSEs stood at Rs.1, 30,363 crore during 2014-15

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- Loss of unprofitable CPSEs stood at Rs. 27, 360 crore in 2014-15

A relevant article: [Cumulative loss of 20 public sector banks stands at Rs 14,283 crore in Q4, 2015](#)

SBP asks that all governments (central and State) immediately divest all government enterprises, thus making huge savings in resources – that can then be deployed on core functions.

Regulatory approaches can be used for divested PSEs that the government believes need to be more closely monitored. Alternatively, the government can hire a managing firm that ensures all requirements for any essential PSEs.

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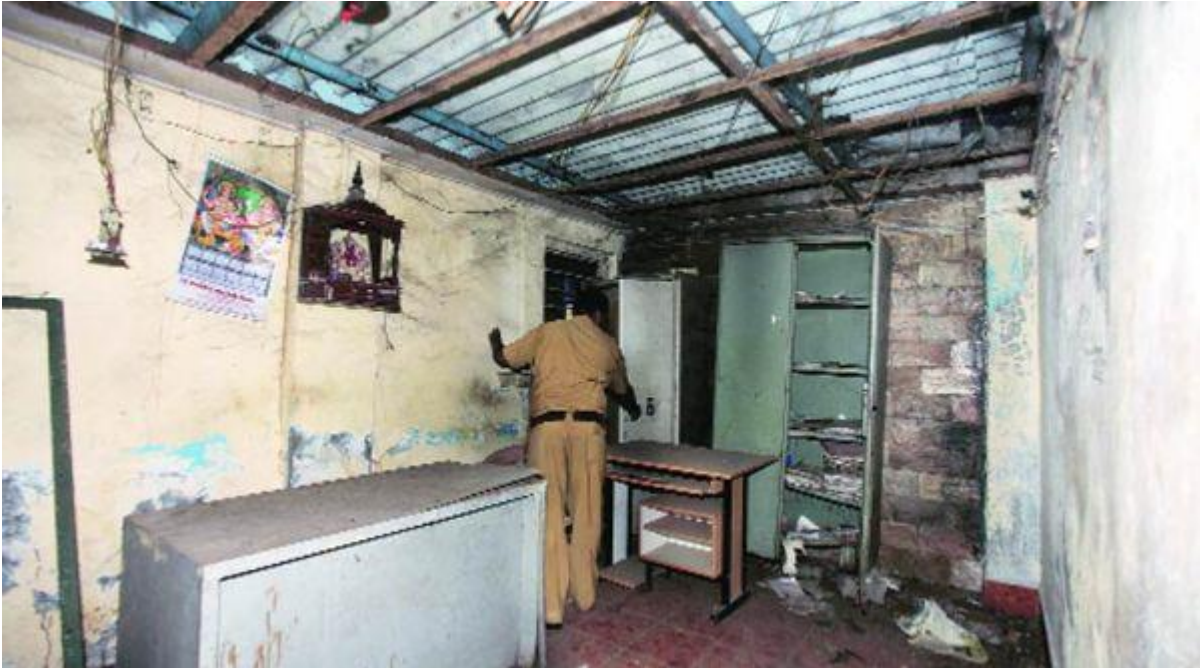


The deplorable condition of the Police and judiciary: some photographs

Police

[Wadala police station: A structure that shakes every time a truck passes nearby](#)

Toilets you can't step into, walls with deep cracks, rooms that flood in monsoon.



“the more pressing problem for the 100 policemen and women posted here is the toilet block at the far right end of the police station, which is used by staffers and visitors. To reach the urinals and the sink that doesn't have a tap, people have to step carefully on tiles placed on a swampy patch that has a green slick

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on top formed by years of absent drainage. A swarm of mosquitoes flies around the muck.

“There is just one toilet at the end of a corridor meant for women, though not used exclusively so. The stench from the toilet is unbearable.”

All talk, no action: [Construct toilets for women cops in police stations: Centre to states](#)

[What Modi's Smart Police Stations Will Look Like](#) – why only model stations? ALL police stations need to be urgently upgraded.



Source: [Tension grips Faridabad village after two communities clash over land](#)
[Prabhu Razdan, Hindustan Times, Faridabad May 26, 2015](#)

ASHOKA HOTEL (Mr Modi prefers to run this?)



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Source: [Trafficking cells in thanas, December 2 2013](#)



Unverified photo: Police on election duty

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Source: [Quarters for SRPF constables: Houses built in 2013 already uninhabitable, probe ordered](#)

Judiciary



The wall of a dilapidated court room in UP

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Stinking shared toilet in the courts
of Saharanpur district, UP



Toilet at Saharanpur courts
with no water supply ever.

Living conditions of judges



Wall crumbling down in the bathroom of a senior
judge



Ramshackle varandah in the residence of a senior
subordinate judge

Request: Please send photographs of the working and living conditions of India's courts, judges and Police.