

Shapathnama

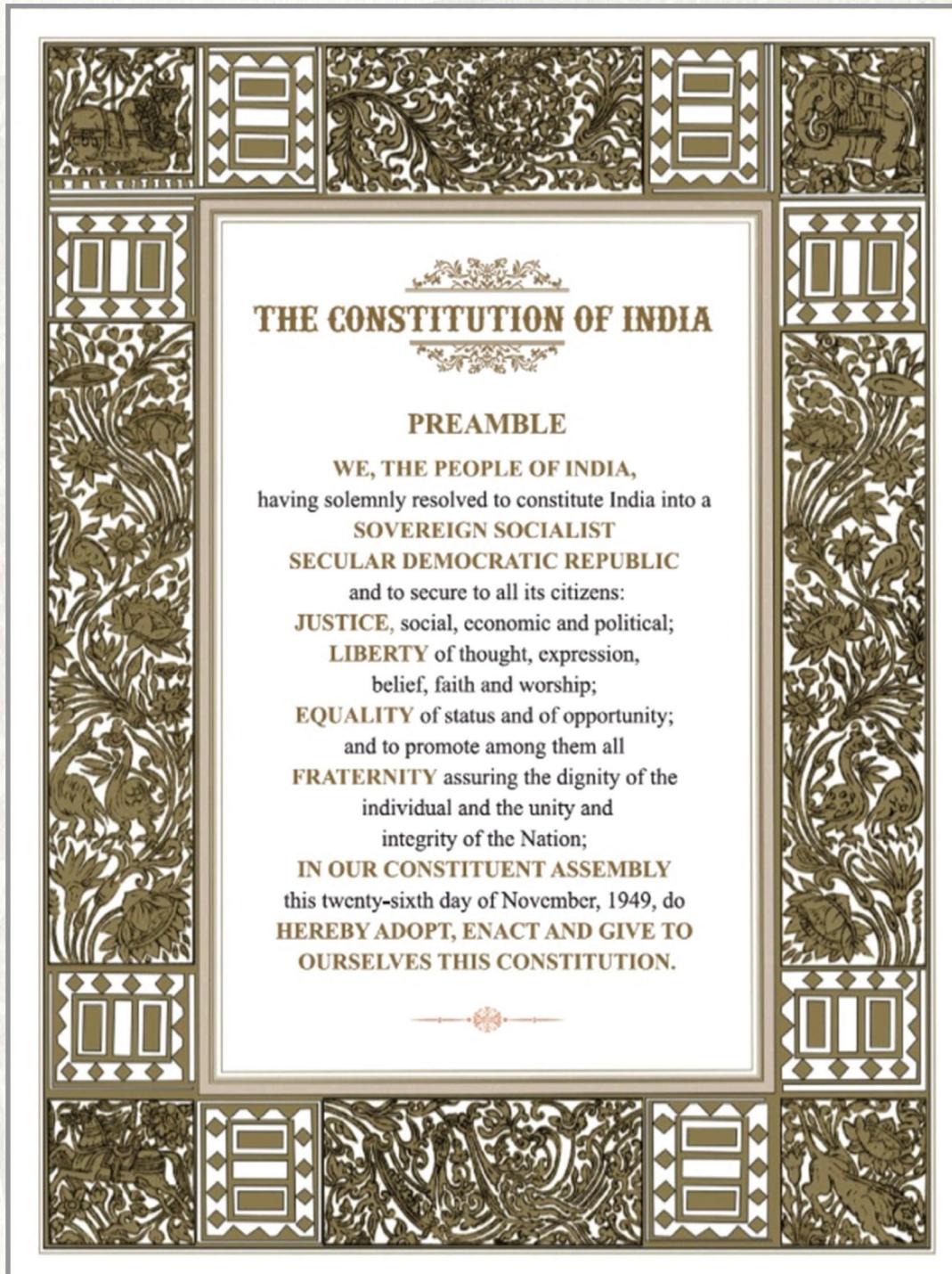
LOKSABHA ELECTIONS 2024



Our Inspiration



Committed to Constitution



PREFACE

Revitalizing the Democracy



NCP - Sharadchandra Pawar is Committed to Democracy, Federalism and Inclusive Governance

In a democracy, decisions are expected to be borne out of discussion and dialogue, but in contrast, the past decade has seen decisions being imposed by the majority's might. This approach has impacted the common citizen, farmers, laborers, middle class, economy and the country as a whole. Minorities in the country are under constant threat and government machinery is being used as a weapon, with persistent efforts to break the democratic systems and suppress political opposition.

Over the last decade, we have witnessed the centralization of the power and the country is being led on the whims and fancies of the Prime Minister. Suppression of dissenting voices, restriction on speech and expression and the use of executive authority to bypass the democratic processes has now become the norm of the day.

The current trend of the government is to rule by sidelining the parliament, not allowing the elected representatives to voice the real concerns of the people. Concerning issues like price rise, unemployment, corruption, farmers' distress, economy etc. therefore do not find a place for discussion in the parliament - the highest temple of democracy.

Farmers are the backbone of the country and their movements are being crushed. Policies are being implemented not for the people but for industrialists.

This manifesto represents not just a political statement, but a pledge to restore the spirit of consensus and inclusive decision-making as envisioned by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian constitution.

Polarization and fanaticism is being instilled among the youth. Development is being pushed at the cost of environment. We are losing the trust of neighboring countries. The list is endless.

Throughout its history, Maharashtra has consistently risen in times of challenge, steering the nation through critical struggles and shaping its intellectual path. Now more than ever, there is a need to continue this tradition. The strategy seems to be to undermine the identity of Maharashtra, cripple its influential leaders, weaken our economy and politically marginalize every party in the State. The instability in Maharashtra due to BJP's gameplans is unprecedented which is causing regression in all fields.

In the interest of every citizen of India, the Nationalist Congress Party – Sharadchandra Pawar is wanting to change this narrative. We are committed to the democratic values, inclusive development and pluralism.

Respecting the emotions of the people, we present this manifesto.

Jai Hind, Jai Maharashtra.



President,
Nationalist Congress Party - Sharadchandra Pawar

Biggest Betrayals Against The People of India In The Last 10 Years



PRICE RISE

ACUTE UNEMPLOYMENT

FARMERS' DISTRESS

MASSIVE CORRUPTION

FAVORING CORPORATES DISPROPORTIONATELY

PRIVATIZATION

DEMONETIZATION

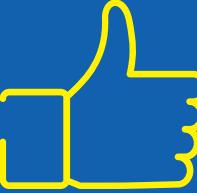
MISUSE OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND MINORITIES

DEVELOPMENT AT THE COST OF ENVIRONMENT



Promises for Inclusive Change



• Fixed Cooking Gas Price:

The price of cooking gas will be capped at Rs. 500, making it affordable for households to manage their kitchen expenses effectively.

• Petrol and Diesel Price Revision:

Petrol and diesel prices will be kept under control, ensuring that transportation remains within the economic reach of every citizen.

• Abrogation of Article 356:

Article 356, often criticized for its potential misuse in state politics, will be repealed to protect state rights and prevent unwarranted central intervention. A dedicated committee will be established to improve the dynamics between state and center.

• Governor Appointments with State Consultation:

The process of appointing Governors will be refined to include consultations with the respective state's Chief Minister, promoting transparency and state autonomy.

• Regular Caste-Based Census:

A census will be conducted every five years to ensure fair and accurate representation of all caste demographics, aiding in targeted policy-making.

• Implementation of Sachar Committee Recommendations:

Commitment to the progress of the Muslim community, India's largest minority group, through the full implementation of the Sachar Committee's recommendations, providing equal opportunities for their advancement.

In the Interest of Maharashtra



- Inclusion of Marathi as a Classical Language: Advocate for the inclusion of Marathi language as classical Language.
- **GST and Urbanization:** **Propose a revision in GST allocations favouring urbanized areas of Maharashtra, viewing urbanization as a pivotal opportunity for economic expansion and development.**
- Support for Disaster-Stricken Farmers: Address the adversities faced by onion, cotton and soybean farmers by implementing comprehensive support and relief programmes during natural disasters.
- **Import-Export Policy for Onions:** **Develop a strategic import-export policy for onions to stabilize market prices and ensure fair returns for farmers.**
- Completion of Mumbai-Goa Highway: Press for the speedy completion of the Mumbai-Goa highway to enhance connectivity and stimulate economic growth along the route.
- **White Paper on Smart Cities Mission:** **Commission a white paper to critically assess the central government's Smart Cities Mission, identifying flaws and proposing tailored solutions to make the initiative more effective in Maharashtra.**
- Migrant Workers Commission: Establish a commission to address the rights and needs of migrant workers, ensuring their welfare and integration into urban development plans.
- **Medical College in Every Municipal Corporation:** **Propose the establishment of a medical college in every city to enhance healthcare education and services across Maharashtra.**
- Mohalla Clinics: Expand access to healthcare by setting up Mohalla Clinics in various neighbourhoods, providing essential health services close to the community.

In the Interest of Nation



- Will demand to fill-in around 30 lakh vacancies in sanctioned posts at various levels in the Central government, Health, Education and Armed Forces.
- **Endeavor to demand 50% reservation for women in Government jobs**
- Legal guarantee to Minimum Support Price as recommended by the Swaminathan Commission
- **We demand that a nation-wide socio-economic and caste census be conducted**
- We will demand that a constitutional amendment be passed to raise the 50% cap on reservation for SC, ST and OBC
- **We respect and uphold the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of India to religious minorities**
- We will demand that the government revisits the National Education Policy (NEP)
- **We commit to review and reassess existing privatization policies to determine their impact on public welfare, transparency and long term economic interests**
- Reformation of the GST by introduction of single GST rate and constitution of an independent GST Council.
- **Address the issue of North-East, especially that of Manipur and other impending ethnic issues**
- We will immediately restore full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.
- **We will safeguard and honor the rights and freedoms of all citizens, democratic institutions and media**
- We reject the idea of 'One Nation, One Election'



Youth



India has more than 50% of its population below the age of 25 and more than 65% below the age of 35. In a rapidly evolving global economy, equipping our youth with market-relevant skills is crucial. We commit to broadening avenues for vocational training and apprenticeships to ensure our youth are not just job-seekers but job-creators.

- Guaranteed Apprenticeship Initiative: Every graduate and diploma holder, below 25 years of age, will have a Right to Apprenticeship, by making it mandatory for companies to accept apprentices for one-year, with a stipend of 1 Lakh, shared by the government and companies.
- Enhanced Skills for Youth: Boost youth employability through skill enhancement, vocational training, digital literacy and providing training for tailor-made jobs as per requirement of industries.
- Nurturing Entrepreneurship: We are committed to fostering entrepreneurship by increasing budgets for startups.
- Job Creation in new emerging areas: Training, capacity building and job creation in green technology, AI, renewable energy, agribusiness, tourism and service sector, sustainable infrastructure and the like.
- Vacancy Fulfillment: Fill around 30 lakh vacancies in sanctioned posts at various levels in the Central Government, Health, Education and Armed Forces
- Competitive Exam Reform: Eliminate fees for examinations to Government jobs, one-time relief for aspirants who lost opportunity during the pandemic period and strict policies to prevent and take action to address exam paper leakages.
- Youth Empowerment: Empowering youth and encouraging civic engagement and participation, involvement in climate change and Sustainable Development Goals initiatives, through mentorship and leadership training programs.
- Deaddiction Initiatives: Offering alternatives such as Sports, Arts to divert youth from addiction.
- Advancing AI for Youth Opportunities: Pledging a future where technology unites humans and machines to propel India's economy and uplift human well-being.
- Establishing 'Adhyayan Bhavan': Creating state-of-the-art study centres in every District.



Women And Girls

Recognizing the pivotal role of women in nation-building, our manifesto lays a roadmap for enhancing their educational, economic and societal status, with a firm commitment to ensuring safety, equality and opportunity.



- Investing in Girls' Education: We pledge to eliminate barriers to schooling, address health and safety and provide support systems like hostels and hygiene facilities for educational and professional advancement of girls.
- Women's Reservation: We aim to fast-track women's reservation in Parliament and State Legislative bodies and demand 50% reservation in Central Government jobs, increased representation in the judiciary and leadership positions across sectors.
- Economic Empowerment: Double the government's contribution to women frontline workers, enforce equal pay for equal work, increase access to credit, support women-owned businesses, special allocation of plots for women-led businesses in Industrial areas
- Data collection and Monitoring: Establish mechanisms to collecting sex-disaggregated data and monitoring progress to achieve gender equality. Further mandate gender budgeting across ministries.
- Enhanced Social Support: We urge immediate action to improve workforce participation by establishing shelters for abuse victims, safe workspaces, childcare facilities and maternity benefits.
- Comprehensive Women Empowerment:
 - Health: We commit to ensure access to quality healthcare services including reproductive and maternal health and awareness, check-up and treatment for Anemia, HIV, Tuberculosis, Breast and Cervical Cancer amongst women.
 - Legal: We further commit to create awareness on the rights of women and access to legal aid services. Stringent steps to ending child marriage
 - Safety and redressal: We also commit to enhancing safety at work place through strict implementation of provisions of the Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace (POSH), public safety and enhancing effectiveness of the enforcement machinery.
- Safe spaces: Create safe environments in schools, communities and online platforms to protect girls from violence, exploitation and abuse. Mandate Safety Audit for schools and colleges.

Farmers



Agriculture is the backbone of our nation. We pledge comprehensive support for our farmers, promising to foster an environment that enriches their livelihoods and sustains agricultural innovation.

- Establishment of Farmers' Commission: The Commission will ensure minimum support price, multiple sales avenues, craft protective import-export policies and consider loan waivers.



- Enhanced Farmer Welfare: Commit to easy credit access, including interest-free loans, comprehensive crop insurance, rural infrastructure development, special aid for families of farmers who have committed suicide and diversification through dairy, poultry, fishing, agri tourism and other forms of agribusinesses.
- Promoting Sustainable Agriculture: Invest in agricultural R&D, climate-resilient techniques, precision farming and sustainable practices through Krishi Vigyan Kendras and develop policies for crop adaptation and drought-tolerant cultivation.
- Advancements in Irrigation and Farming: We will urge investment in modern irrigation, water conservation, rainwater storage and training for farmers in hydroponics, aquaponics and organic farming, along with subsidies for new techniques.
- Focused Rural Development: We pledge to improve farm access roads, strengthen the National Drinking Water Mission and urgently tackle water contamination to safeguard health and the environment.
- Empowering Farmers with Green Credits: Commitment to bolster knowledge and application of sustainable agricultural practices, enabling farmers to participate in India's carbon credit economy.

Workers



Our commitment to the workforce is unwavering. We aim to safeguard the rights of laborers, ensuring fair wages, safe working conditions and the strengthening of their societal and economic status.

- Strengthening Labor Rights: We commit to bolstering labor laws, ensuring fair wages, safe working conditions and equal pay across all demographics, while safeguarding job security and the right to unionize.
- Enhancing Worker Welfare: We pledge to provide comprehensive social security, insurance and healthcare benefits to enforce strict safety regulations and establish workplace necessities like crèches and sanitary facilities.
- Innovative Initiatives: We will champion an Urban Employment Guarantee Program, uphold the 'right to disconnect', introduce optional menstrual and paternal leave and invest in skill development for re-entering the workforce after child raising.
- Protection for All Workers: Our promise is to secure social security for unorganized, agriculture and construction, sewage and sanitation, road transport and gig workers, ensure labor law application.
- Rights for Contract and Construction Workers: We vow to ban contract labor in government sectors, legally protect contract workers' benefits and implement a comprehensive policy for migratory workers addressing their needs and social security.



Marginalized



We believe in the pursuit of equality. This manifesto reflects our dedication to upliftment through affirmative action, ensuring that all communities have the opportunity to prosper.

- Inclusive Census for Affirmative Action: We demand a nation-wide Socio-Economic and Caste Census to inform and fortify our commitment to affirmative action.
- Amendment for Reservation Extension: We seek to introduce a Constitutional Amendment to exceed the 50% quota in reservations for SC, ST, OBC communities and seek policy interventions based on the percentage of the said categories.
- Filling Reserved Vacancies: We insist on filling all reserved vacancies for SC, ST and OBC within one year.
- Enactment for Scheduled Communities: We will advocate for a law mandating specific resource allocation for Scheduled Castes and Tribes in the annual budget and ensure the rigorous execution of the Forest Right Act, 2006.
- Community Welfare Initiatives: Our agenda includes providing institutional credit for SC and ST communities, doubling scholarship funds for higher education, establishing residential schools and district-level study centers, promoting workplace and educational inclusion, eliminating manual scavenging with technology and creating a dedicated helpline for enforcing the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.



Social Justice

In the spirit of progress and inclusivity, we are committed to strengthening the very fabric of our nation across all spectrums of society. From ensuring the dignity and care of our senior citizens to empowering the differently-abled, from fostering the rights and opportunities of minorities to empowering the LGBTQIA+ community with full legal recognition and societal acceptance, we pledge to uphold the values of equity and justice.

1. EQUITY

- Championing Inclusive Development: We will ensure equitable access to high-quality public services, from health to education, alongside robust social security and employment guarantees.
- Deploying Caste Census for Targeted Policies: We demand a nationwide socio-economic and caste census to craft special provisions and targeted interventions for social welfare, educational scholarships and healthcare programs.
- Reservation in Private Education: Enact legislation to extend reservation to SC, ST and OBC in private educational institutions.



- Eradicating Manual Scavenging: Ensure the strict enforcement of the Prohibition of Manual Scavenging Act, with adequate funds for mechanized sewer cleaning.
- Upholding Atrocity Prevention: We are committed to the rigorous implementation of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, including provision of helplines and legal support for victims.
- Ensuring Forest Rights: We will work for the effective execution of the Forest Rights Act with a dedicated budget and strategic roadmap.
- Revising Ration Card Eligibility: We plan to overhaul ration card criteria to extend benefits to a larger number of impoverished people.

2. SENIOR CITIZENS

- Amend Senior Citizens Welfare Act: Fast-track amendments to the 2007 Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act.
- Establish National Commission: Create a National Commission for Senior Citizens.
- Increase Pensions: Increase pension amounts for seniors, widows and persons with disabilities.
- Improve Senior Healthcare: Ensure access to affordable quality healthcare, geriatric services and preventative check-ups for seniors.
- Expand Immunization: Integrate specialized immunization programs for senior citizens into the National Immunization Program.
- Senior Care Facilities: Demand the establishment of more senior citizen homes and daycare centers.
- National Dementia Policy: Formulate a policy including specialized hospital departments, mental health services and dedicated geriatric care.
- Age-Friendly Infrastructure: Make cities and communities more accessible and inclusive for the elderly.
- Social Engagement: Foster increased social participation and engagement for seniors.
- Legal Protection: Safeguard seniors' legal rights, streamline legal aid access and combat abuse, neglect and financial fraud.
- Financial Security: Strengthen pensions, social security and retirement savings while protecting seniors from financial abuse.
- Travel Concessions: Reinstate travel concessions in public transport for the elderly.
- Medical Curriculum Inclusion: Incorporate gerontology in medical education curriculums.

3. DIFFERENTLY ABLED

- Enforce Disability Rights: Enforce the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- Assisted Living Centers: Create Assisted Living and Care Centres and ensure accessibility in public infrastructure and transportation.
- Educational Support: Provide supportive services and assistive technologies in educational institutions for students with disabilities.



- Inclusive Employment: Provide vocational training and incentives to employers to create more job opportunities and promote inclusive workplaces.
- Specialized Healthcare: Ensure access to specialized medical care, rehabilitation services and assistive devices for those with disabilities.
- Social Welfare and Legal Protection: Strengthen programs for empowerment, participation and legal protection of the rights of individuals with disabilities.
- Promote Disability Awareness: Champion awareness campaigns to enhance understanding and acceptance of disability in society.

4. MINORITIES

- Fair Opportunities: Guarantee minorities equal access to education, healthcare, employment and public contracts, along with participation in skill development, sports and cultural activities.
- Constitutional Rights: Respect and enforce the constitutional rights of religious minorities without exception.
- Economic Empowerment: Drive full minority participation in education, livelihoods, sports and cultural domains and assure non-discriminatory financial credit access.
- Scholarship Restoration: Reestablish the Maulana Azad scholarships and support financial and skill development for traditional artisans and craftsmen.

5. LGBTQIA+

- Legal Recognition: Ensure legal rights of LGBTQIA+ individuals, including marriage, adoption and healthcare access.
- Inclusive Education: Provide educator training on LGBTQIA+ issues and foster safe and supportive educational environments for LGBTQIA+ students.
- Healthcare Access: Guarantee inclusive healthcare services, including gender-affirming care, mental health support and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.
- Hate Crime Legislation: Enact laws targeting hate crimes against LGBTQIA+ individuals and train law enforcement agencies to effectively handle such crimes.
- Community Support Services: Invest in youth centers, counseling and support groups to tackle community-specific challenges and enhance well-being.
- Workplace Inclusivity: Implement policies to eliminate discrimination, harassment and bullying based on sexual orientation or gender identity.
- Public Awareness Campaigns: Conduct sensitization initiatives to dismantle stereotypes, diminish stigma and cultivate understanding and acceptance of LGBTQIA+ individuals.

6. PENSIONERS

- Comprehensive Pension Scheme: Introduce a pension plan that provides a dignified standard of living and protection against old-age poverty.



- Innovative Financing: Explore new financing mechanisms for pension contributions that balance affordability with substantial benefits.
- Pension Portability: Guarantee a pension scheme that allows seamless transferability across jobs and locations.
- Stakeholder Engagement: Commit to stakeholder consultations and uphold transparency and accountability in managing pension funds.
- EPS Concerns Resolution: Review EPS to ensure fair pension calculations, transparent fund management, periodic inflation adjustments and stakeholder inclusion in policymaking.

Health



Healthcare is a fundamental human right and we envision a future where every citizen has access to comprehensive and free healthcare services. Our agenda is to transform public health facilities with universal free healthcare, bolster rural medical infrastructure and ensure the establishment of a medical college and hospital in each district. We are determined to expand our healthcare workforce, make medications affordable and advocate for preventive health measures.

- Increased Health Budget: Demand a health budget increase to 4% by 2028-29.
- Universal Free Healthcare: Demand comprehensive and free healthcare services in all public health facilities.
- Rural Healthcare Investment: Development of rural healthcare infrastructure and provide incentives for healthcare workers in underserved areas.
- District Medical Facilities: Medical college and hospital in each district.
- Healthcare Workforce Expansion: Call for the recruitment of sufficient healthcare professionals to ensure quality care.
- Affordable Medication: Promote the use of generic drugs, regulate prices and reduce tariffs on medical essentials.
- Preventive Healthcare: Champion preventive health measures, such as immunizations and disease screening.
- Enhanced Disease Control: Strengthen disease surveillance and response systems and invest in R&D to address rare diseases and for better disease management
- Implementation of Health Schemes: Urge the actual execution of health schemes beyond paper proposals to make them more effective.
- Accessible Health Insurance: Demand affordable health insurance for all, including the vulnerable, through government-funded schemes.
- Nutritional Interventions: Tackle issues of stunting and wasting among children due to nutritional deficiencies.



- Child Health Focus: Double the government's pay for frontline health workers and ensure complete immunization for all children.
- Protection for Healthcare Workers: Enact laws to criminalize violence against doctors and health professionals on duty.

Education



We are committed to extend the Right to Education, ensuring it encompasses early childhood through higher secondary schooling, providing an uninterrupted educational journey. Our focus will be on revising NEP, abolishing unjust fees, filling teaching vacancies and enhancing the quality and inclusivity of education across the board.

- Budget for Education: Demand education budget increase to 6% by 2028-29.
- Reform National Education Policy: Revise the NEP to respect the role of state governments.
- Education Act Expansion: Extend the Right to Education from Class I to XII and ensure universal access to early childhood education, improving infrastructure and qualified personnel.
- Seamless School Integration: Advocate for continuous integration from pre-primary through higher secondary education to eliminate dropouts.
- Eliminate Unjust Fees: End the practice of levying special fees in public schools and regulate fee structures for transparency and affordability.
- Regular Teacher Employment: Address teacher vacancies and ensure teachers focus on teaching, not non-educational duties.
- Learning Outcomes Improvement: Take immediate action to bridge gaps in learning outcomes as identified by annual surveys.
- Expand Central Government Schools: Increase the number of Kendriya and Navodaya Vidyalayas in coordination with State Governments.
- Scholarship Enhancements: Restore and increase scholarships for underprivileged groups and ensure complete funding.
- Inclusive Education: Guarantee inclusive education for children with disabilities.
- Accessible College Education: Assist states in establishing Government Colleges in every Tehsil/Taluka focused on vocational skills, with modern infrastructure and internet-enabled libraries.
- Educational Loan Relief: Propose a one-time write-off of unpaid educational loan interest as of 15 March 2024, with government compensation to banks.
- Revive Education Loans: Reinstate the Education Loan program, offering collateral-free loans to disadvantaged students.



- Staffing in Higher Education: Demand filling of all teaching and non-teaching positions in central universities and institutions.
- Higher Education Quality Norms: Implement stringent quality norms for higher educational institute accreditations.
- Exam Policy Participation: Revisit central qualifying examination policies like NEET and CUET, offering states a say in participation decisions.
- Coaching Class Regulation: Regulate coaching classes to maintain quality education.
- Curriculum Reforms: Ensure curricula promote scientific temper that are aligned with India's constitutional values and ethos.

Sports



With a vision to nurture India's sporting prowess and promote a culture of health and wellness, we advocate for a comprehensive approach to sports development. Our agenda includes the creation of world-class sports infrastructure to facilitate training and competition at the highest level. We are committed to identifying and nurturing talent at the grassroots level, ensuring access to coaching and equipment in schools and communities.

- World-Class Sports Infrastructure: Demand development of stadiums and sports complexes with top-tier facilities for training and competition.
- Grassroots Sports Development: Identify and nurture young talent by providing access to coaching and equipment at school and community levels.
- Talent Scholarships and Grants: Offer scholarships, training grants and specialized coaching to help promising athletes achieve their potential.
- Sports in Education: Integrate sports into the school curriculum, ensuring access to physical education for all students.
- Support for Promising Athletes: Provide promising athletes with funding for training, travel and medical support for national and international competitions.
- Sports Medicine and Science: Invest in institutes dedicated to sports medicine and science for enhanced athlete performance and well-being.
- Promote Recreational Sports: Encourage sports, fitness and yoga for all ages and abilities, promoting a culture of health, wellness and active living.
- Host International Events: Support hosting international sports events to display India's talent, boosting tourism and economic growth.
- Ensure Safety : Strict implementation for the protection of sportswomen from sexual harassment.



Infrastructure



We outline a robust plan for infrastructure development aimed at fostering innovation and sustainable growth. Through strategic partnerships between the public and private sectors, we are committed to achieving world-class infrastructure that supports economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. We aim to support rural livelihoods through enhanced irrigation and road networks and prioritize environmental infrastructure projects for sustainable development and biodiversity conservation.

- Innovative Infrastructure Development: Pursue world-class infrastructure through public-private partnerships.
- Transportation Expansion: Invest in modernizing and expanding public transport network to enhance connectivity and lower carbon footprint.
- Urban Infrastructure Enhancement: Improve urban living through better water supply, waste management and public spaces.
- Renewable Energy Projects: Develop renewable energy sources to reduce fossil fuel reliance and ensure energy security by encouraging household solar generation.
- Digital Infrastructure Strengthening: Bridge the digital divide by expanding broadband connectivity and fostering digital inclusion.
- Healthcare Infrastructure Investment: Build hospitals and clinics to provide quality healthcare and improve public health outcomes.
- Educational Infrastructure Upgrading: Enhance schools and learning centers for better human capital development and learning.
- Rural Infrastructure Support: Strengthen rural livelihoods with better irrigation, agriculture storage facilities and roads.
- Environmental Infrastructure Prioritization: Focus on water conservation, forest restoration and climate-resilient projects for sustainable development.

Industry



Our vision for industrial growth revolves around creating a conducive environment for businesses to thrive. Through streamlined regulations, reduced bureaucratic hurdles and investment incentives, we aim to stimulate industrial growth and enhance competitiveness.

- Streamline Industrial Growth: Simplify regulations, reduce bureaucratic barriers and provide investment incentives to foster an industry-friendly environment.



- Ease of Doing Business: Improve business operations by simplifying processes and lowering compliance costs.
- MSME Support and Incentives: Provide finance, technology and market access to MSMEs for entrepreneurship and economic diversification.
- Attract FDI: Create a favorable climate for FDI with incentives for foreign investors and support international partnerships.
- Infrastructure Investment: Develop essential infrastructure to bolster industrial efficiency and lower production costs.
- R&D and Innovation: Invest in R&D and encourage industry-academia collaborations for innovation in key sectors.
- Manufacturing Revitalization: Promote domestic manufacturing, increase competitiveness and add value in sectors like automotive, electronics, textiles and pharmaceuticals.
- Sustainable Industrial Practices: Advocate for environmentally-friendly industry practices to ensure sustainable development.

Technology



In the digital age, technology is pivotal for India's advancement. We envision a technologically advanced India where innovation thrives, citizens are empowered and opportunities abound.

- Digital Infrastructure for All: Expand high-speed internet access and 6G network nationwide bridging the digital gap and fostering economic growth through strategic investments.
- Skills for the Future: Equip every Indian with digital literacy, revamping education to incorporate cutting-edge technologies and lifelong learning.
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Cultivate innovation by supporting startups, small businesses and research institutions, attracting investment in emerging technologies.
- Data Governance and Privacy: Enact robust data governance laws to protect citizens' privacy, promote transparency and ensure responsible data use.
- Digital Governance and Service Delivery: Modernize administrative processes, enhance citizen engagement and improve public service delivery through technology.
- Environmental Sustainability: Invest in green technologies, promoting sustainable practices for balanced economic development and environmental stewardship.
- Digital Inclusion and Social Equity: Prioritize marginalized communities, ensuring equal access to digital resources and opportunities for socioeconomic progress.
- Global Leadership in Technology: Foster international partnerships and promote India's AI and blockchain expertise globally, shaping the future of technology for humanity's benefit.



Economy And Taxes



Our economic agenda aims to foster growth, innovation and inclusivity. Through strategic policies, we seek to stimulate economic growth, attract investments and generate employment opportunities for all segments of society. We are committed to supporting micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) by providing access to finance, technology and markets, while also investing in agricultural infrastructure and research to enhance productivity and ensure food security.

- Tax System Overhaul: Reform GST to a single rate and ensure a fair, transparent and growth-oriented tax system.
- Zero GST on Essentials: Zero GST on agricultural and educational materials.
- Independent GST Council: Establish a statutory and independent GST Council.
- MSME Tax Relief: Offer tax incentives for MSMEs to facilitate their growth.
- Combat Pink Tax: Reduce the gender-based pricing disparity.
- Tax Policy Transparency: Consult stakeholders for accountable tax policymaking and communicate tax reforms clearly.
- Stimulate Growth and Innovation: Implement policies to boost economic growth, attract investments and create jobs across society.
- Fiscal Responsibility: Practice prudent fiscal management to ensure macroeconomic stability and control public debt.
- Agricultural Advancement: Invest in agricultural infrastructure and R&D to improve productivity and ensure food security.
- Export Facilitation: Improve trade infrastructure and reduce barriers to enhance access to international markets for Indian goods and services.
- Strategic Infrastructure Development: Develop transport, energy and digital infrastructure to support economic activities and boost productivity.
- Privatization Policy Review: Reassess privatization impacts and halt ongoing privatization of public sector enterprises and utilities.
- Public Sector Preservation: Ensure key sectors remain publicly owned and improve the management of public enterprises to enhance efficiency.
- Protect Public Sector Workers: Guarantee job security and rights for employees affected by privatization.
- Job Creation Policies: Advocate for policies that create jobs, encourage self-employment and support startups and innovation.



Urban Development



Our approach to urban development is comprehensive and forward-thinking, aiming to address the challenges of rapid urbanization while promoting sustainability and inclusivity. We prioritize regulating urban expansion to prevent chaos and ensure effective urban governance. Advocating for the creation of a specialized Municipal Cadre underscores our commitment to enhancing city management.

- Urban Expansion Regulation: Control the chaotic expansion of cities and improve urban governance by assessing the carrying capacity of cities.
- Municipal Cadre Creation: Advocate for the establishment of a specialized Municipal Cadre for better city management.
- Urbanization Policy Formulation: Call for comprehensive Policy on Urban Development
- Climate-resilient Cities: Adopt mitigation and adaptation measures to make every city carbon neutral and resilient to climate change.
- Climate-Conscious Development: Every development project to be executed with special attention to sustainability and impact of climate change.
- Sustainable Urban Planning: Promote environmental conservation, efficient land use and equitable access to urban infrastructure and services.
- Modern Urban Infrastructure: Develop multi-modal transportation, equitable water systems and sustainable sewage disposal.
- Housing and Habitat Enhancement: Enhance oxygen zones and ensure affordable housing and slum rehabilitation with secure tenure.
- Urban Green Spaces: Conserve biodiversity and create green spaces for improved public health and well-being.
- Economic Opportunity Creation: Implement policies for job creation and entrepreneurship in urban areas.
- Tech-Driven Urban Services: Leverage technology for improved urban services and resource optimization.
- Governance and Participation: Strengthen urban governance and citizen involvement in decision-making for transparent and accountable urban management.



Environment



India faces a critical environmental challenge, highlighted by the alarming fact that 42 of the world's 50 most polluted cities are within our borders. The palpable effects of climate change are increasingly evident across our country, impacting our physical environment, ecosystems and communities. Recognizing the global urgency for immediate action, our manifesto commits to demanding comprehensive measures to secure the well-being and prosperity of both current and future generations.

- Achieve 'Net Zero' Emission: Evolve a comprehensive approach towards renewable energy, decarbonization of industry, sustainable infrastructure and green travel that integrates government policies, technological advancement, financial incentives and community involvement
- Climate Action: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, transition to renewable energy and enhance energy efficiency and conservation.
- Ecosystem Conservation: Protect biodiversity, restore ecosystems, initiate afforestation and promote sustainable land use.
- Air and Water Quality: Address pollution from industrial sources, promote clean transportation and implement wastewater treatment projects.
- Waste Management: Strengthen waste management, recycling and reduce plastic pollution in aquatic environments.
- Sustainable Development: Balance economic growth with environmental care and social equity.
- Environmental Education: Invest in programs to empower community-led environmental protection efforts.
- Disaster Resilience: Improve natural disaster preparedness through early warning systems and community-driven initiatives.
- International Environmental Efforts: Engage in global environmental initiatives for shared solutions and governance.
- Expert Committee for Eco-sensitive Areas: Establish a committee to assess and prevent construction impacts in Himalayan regions.
- State Collaboration on Environmental Standards: Partner with state governments to jointly address air and water quality, forest cover and other environmental issues.
- Comprehensive Water Management: Devise strategies for sustainable use and conservation of water resources.
- Water Infrastructure Investment: Collaborate with states for clean water supply and sanitation to improve public health.
- Water Conservation Measures: Promote rainwater harvesting, desalination, recycling and groundwater recharge.



- Regulatory Frameworks for Water Quality: Strengthen laws to prevent water pollution and maintain sanitation standards.
- Technology for Water Management: Utilize innovation for efficient water quality monitoring and resource management.
- Stakeholder Collaboration: Encourage partnerships for resource mobilization and expertise in water management initiatives.

Tourism, Art And Culture



We pledge to enhance the tourism sector, showcasing our cultural vibrancy and ensuring sustainable growth in the industry. We promise to foster an environment where creativity thrives and is celebrated and we are committed to revitalizing the handloom sector, ensuring the welfare of weavers and the sustainability of their art.

- Preserve Natural and Historical Sites: Ensure pristine surroundings and maintain historical monuments with adventure-friendly infrastructure and technology.
- Promote Local Culture: Boost local cuisine, art, crafts and performing arts.
- Strategic Branding: Engage in branding and marketing to enhance the global appeal.
- Develop Health and Wellness Tourism: Establish India as a destination for medical, wellness, yoga and spiritual tourism.
- Support Cultural Diversity: Provide financial assistance, scholarships and fellowships to artists and performers.
- Invest in Cultural Infrastructure: Develop theaters, auditoriums, museums and art galleries.
- Revive Traditional Arts: Promote traditional art forms and support the film industry by easing regulations.
- Protect Creative Rights: Strengthen copyright and intellectual property laws.
- Cultural Education Integration: Include cultural studies in school curricula to instill appreciation for the arts.
- International Cultural Showcasing: Promote India's cultural heritage and creative achievements globally.
- Artist Welfare: Ensure pensions and social security for artists.
- Financial and Technical Support: Provide financial aid, access to modern design and marketing support for the handloom sector.
- Formation of Handloom Clusters: Facilitate collaboration in production, branding and marketing.
- Weaver Welfare: Introduce health insurance, pension schemes and social security for weavers.



National Security



We will ensure that our nation remains a safe and secure place for all, bolstering defense measures and prioritizing internal security to protect our citizens from any threat.

- Defense Capabilities: Strengthen the country's defense system through advanced technologies and strategic policy development.
- Counterterrorism: Fortify measures to combat terrorism efficiently.
- Border Security: Enhance border security infrastructure to protect the nation's frontiers.
- Maritime and Cybersecurity: Bolster maritime defenses and cybersecurity protocols.
- Internal Security: Ensure robust internal security operations for a safer nation.
- Disaster Preparedness: Improve disaster response capabilities to ensure national resilience.
- Policy Evolution: Adapt and evolve policies to address contemporary security challenges.
- Review Recruitment Schemes: We will scrap the Agniveer scheme and resume to the normal recruitment processes in the Army, Navy and Air Force to guarantee economic and social security of our soldiers
- Women in Armed Forces: Advocate for expanding roles and opportunities for women within the Armed Forces.

Internal Security



We are committed to deliberate on North-Eastern and ethnic issues, particularly those concerning Manipur in Parliament. Border security measures will be intensified to counter cross-border smuggling and infiltration, while robust efforts will be made to combat communal violence and hate crimes.

- North-East and Ethnic Issues: Deliberate on North-Eastern and ethnic issues, particularly those affecting Manipur, in Parliament.
- Border Security: Enhance patrolling, surveillance and infrastructure to combat cross-border smuggling and infiltration.
- Combatting Communal Violence: Firmly address communal conflicts, hate crimes, mob lynching and crimes against vulnerable communities.
- Law Enforcement Strengthening: Improve police training with modern techniques, better equipment and enhanced intelligence-sharing networks.



- Cybersecurity Capabilities: Bolster capabilities to counteract cyber threats, including cybercrimes and online radicalization.
- Protect Vulnerable Groups: Advocate for the protection of women, children, minorities and marginalized communities from human trafficking, communal violence and hate crimes with specific interventions and support services.

Foreign Policy



As the world becomes increasingly interconnected, our manifesto emphasizes the importance of strategic global diplomacy, fostering partnerships that resonate with India's role on the world stage.

- Peaceful Co-existence: Maintain policies of mutual respect for sovereignty, non-aggression and equality.
- Global Stage Presence: Support efforts that promote India's interests, cooperation and uphold international law.
- National Interests Protection: Prioritize India's sovereignty while building strategic partnerships and advancing economic diplomacy.
- Neighboring Ties: Strengthen relations with neighboring countries to counter terrorism and provide humanitarian aid.
- Cultural Diplomacy: Use cultural diplomacy to share India's rich heritage and values globally.
- International Reputation: Take measures to reinforce India's image as tolerant, respectful of human rights and democratic.
- Address Border Intrusions: Address border security concerns with China diplomatically and ensure national territorial integrity.

Protecting Democracy



In our commitment to protecting democracy, we advocate for empowering state and local governments, reviewing power distribution and enforcing constitutional amendments. Additionally, we prioritize judicial reforms, ensuring access to justice and inclusive representation within the judiciary.

- Uphold Constitutional Principles: Maintain the core values of democracy, rule of law and fundamental rights as governance foundations.
- Guard Against Authoritarianism: Stand firm against any form of authoritarianism and extremism.



- Protect Freedoms: Safeguard the freedom of speech, expression and association and ensure that dissent is respected.
- Strengthen Democratic Institutions: Reinforce the independence of judicial bodies, the Election Commission and other constitutional entities.
- Preserve Media Independence: Ensure media freedom to uphold democratic norms and checks and balances.
- Reject 'One Nation, One Election': Maintain the constitutionally mandated separate election schedule for different governance levels.
- Election Integrity: Demand transparency in the electoral process and address corruption and malpractices decisively.
- Encourage Civic Participation: Recognize and support the role of civil society, NGOs and activists in promoting democracy and social justice.
- Revise Discriminatory Laws: Review and propose changes to the CAA, NRC, UAPA and other laws conflicting with constitutional principles.
- Re-examine Recent Legislations: Demand reassessment of legislation passed without due parliamentary process, focusing on areas affecting farmers, workers, the environment, criminal justice and digital data protection.

PROTECTING THE SPIRIT OF FEDERALISM

- Empower State and Local Governments: Advocate for greater executive, financial and administrative powers for state and local governments.
- Review Power Distribution: Call for a review of the division of powers to ensure it aligns with the constitutional framework.
- Finance Commission Collaboration: Work with the Finance Commission to establish equitable state shares in central tax revenue devolution, including direct transfers to local governments.
- Implement Constitutional Amendments: Enforce the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments, acknowledging local government authority.
- Statehood and Special Status: Discuss restoring statehood and special status where previously committed or under consideration, as appropriate.
- Legislative Amendments for Territories: Propose amendments relevant to the governance of Union Territories to ensure they operate under the aid and advice of their Council of Ministers, respecting local autonomy.

ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

- Investigate Dubious Policies and Deals: Conduct inquiries into demonetization, defense deals, surveillance allegations and financial instruments to determine the beneficiaries and address mismanagement.



- Address Legal Misuse: Scrutinize the weaponization of laws and the exploitation of investigative agencies for non-judicial purposes.
- Pursue Offenders: Question the mechanisms that allowed offenders to flee and ensure their extradition for due legal process.
- Political Immunity Concerns: Investigate instances of dropped or dormant criminal charges post-political affiliation changes.

JUDICIARY

- Judicial Reforms: Implement measures to strengthen the judiciary, streamline legal processes and enhance judicial delivery systems for speedy redressal.
- Access to Justice: Enhance legal aid programs and develop alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to expedite proceedings.
- Inclusive Representation: Greater representation of women, SC, ST and marginalized groups within the judiciary.

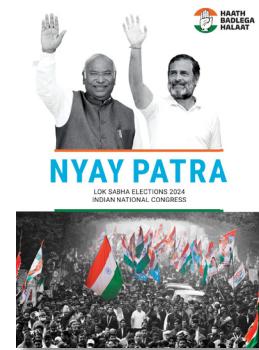
MEDIA

- Promote Free Speech: Enact policies that guarantee and protect the freedom of speech and expression.
- Protect Media Independence: Ensure the independence of the media from undue influence.
- Access to Information: Support measures for public access to accurate and unbiased information.
- Media Regulation Reforms: Reform media regulations to foster a fair and responsible press.
- Support Investigative Journalism: Provide robust support for investigative journalism to preserve the integrity of information and democratic processes.



Highlights of Indian National Congress Manifesto

We endorse the Nyay Patra released by the Indian National Congress as their official manifesto for Loksabha Elections 2024.



Kisan Nyay

- As recommended by the Swaminathan Commission, a legal guarantee will be given to the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) announced by the government every year. MSP payable to the farmer-seller at procurement centres and APMCs will be directly credited digitally to the farmer's bank account.
- A Permanent Commission on Agricultural Finance which will report periodically on the extent of agricultural credit and the need for loan forbearance will be appointed.
- Crop insurance will be made farm and farmer-specific. Premium will be charged from the farmer according to the sum insured and all claims will be settled within 30 days.

family among families at the bottom of the income pyramid as an unconditional cash transfer.

- The Amendment Act which allows for one-third reservation for women will be applied to State Assemblies that will be elected in the next round of assembly elections in 2025 and to the Lok Sabha in 2029.
- 50 per cent of central government jobs will be reserved starting in 2025.

Shramik Nyay

- A national minimum wage of Rs.400 per day will be guaranteed and it extends to the wages of the workers under MGNREGA.
- The number of Anganwadi workers will be doubled, creating an additional 14 lakh jobs.
- PDS coverage will be expanded based on updated population figures (pending the Census). PDS will include pulses and cooking oil.

Hissedari Nyay

- A nationwide Socio-Economic and Caste Census will be conducted to enumerate the castes and sub-castes and their socio-economic conditions.
- A constitutional amendment will be passed to raise the 50 per cent cap on reservations for SC, ST and OBC.
- The reservation of 10 per cent in jobs and educational institutions for Economically Weaker Sections will be implemented for all castes and communities without discrimination.

Yuva Nyay

- A new Right to Apprenticeship Act will offer a one-year apprenticeship with companies for diploma holders or college graduates under 25. Apprentices will also receive Rs.1 lakh annually.
- Nearly 30 lakh vacancies in sanctioned posts at various levels in the central government will be filled.
- As a one-time relief measure, all outstanding amounts including unpaid interest on student educational loans as of March 15, 2024, will be written off, with the government compensating banks.

Nari Nyay

- A Mahalakshmi scheme will be relaunched to provide Rs. 1 lakh per year to a woman from every poor Indian



Manifesto Committee



Adv. Vandana Chavan,
Chairperson,
Manifesto Committee

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rajesh Tope • Sunil Bhusara • Adv. Jaydev Gaikwad • Adv. Nirmala Samant Prabhavalkar • Basavraj Patil Nagralkar • Sudhir Bhongale | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vidya Chavan • Rakhee Jadhav • Clyde Crasto • Vikas Lawande • Neeraj Mahankal • Adv. Sanjay Kalbande • Vivek Kshirsagar | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sunil Jagtap • Makrand Kulkarni • Sakshana Salgar • Javed Habib • Priya Patil • Ravindra Pawar
Co-ordinator |
|--|---|--|

Frontal Heads



Rohini Khadse
Women's Wing



Sakshana Salgar
Yuvati Wing



Mehboob Shaikh
Youth Wing



Raj Rajapurkar
OBC Cell



Hiralal Rathod
VJNT Cell



Pandit Kamble
Social Justice Cell



Javed Habib
Minorities Cell



Sunil Gavane
Student's Wing



राष्ट्रवादी काँग्रेस पक्ष
ठारदचंद्र पवार



Published by : General Secretary, Nationalist Congress Party - Sharadchandra Pawar |

Printed at: Aakruti Print Solutions Pvt. Ltd, Parvati, Pune 411009 | Copies: 500 | Publishing Date : 24 April 2024