

## Modi roars ...

"Bharat ki Vijay. Ache din ane wale high" (India has won. Good days are ahead) These were the utterances of Narendra Modi, the leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) after he won one of the most gigantic seismic election victory, trouncing the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty, which governed for the most of the 67 years since gaining independence from Britain, by a typhoon of orange waves flooding the entire country to become the Prime Minister of India. This may perhaps be considered as an appropriate continuation of the declaration of Pandit Nehru on the eve of India's Independence Day on August 14, 1947 when he said, 'Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny ... A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history,

when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance."



BJP, a constituent of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), became the first single party to win 282 seats of the total seats of 336 NDA won. The Indian National Congress led by Sonia and her son Rahul Gandhi was able to win only 44 seats. This is the first parliamentary majority by a single party in 30 years, giving Modi an absolute majority in Parliament (Lok Sabha).

It was the longest election in the country's history, involving 814.5 million voters, 8,251 candidates and conducted in nine phases from April 7 to May 12 to elect 543 members for the Lok Sabha.

As a business-minded individual, Modi, with an absolute majority in the House, will be able to give effect to his plan of development unhindered to make India's economic growth faster to take the place just behind China, the economic giant of the region and that of the globe. It has to be remembered that the voters en masse put Modi in absolute power because they wanted economic growth and a change to do so, despite Modi's leanings towards Hindu nationality. Immediately after the marathon election win, Modi declared that "the age of divisive politics has ended and from today onwards, the politics of uniting people will begin."

The ex-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh did a great job to bring the economy to such a level to grab the second place in the region behind China. His plans stalled in the late 1900s due to corruption in government circles, policy changes, and finally to divert all his energy and that of the government to fight the election. He has since resigned

Rising prices, shrinking purchasing power, unemployment, and the absence of a strong and consistent plan for economic growth were seen as clear indicators of the massive election victory. Modi has a well-thought out plan of economic development by investment in power, industries and in infrastructure such as roads and railways to absorb the unemployed that swell year after year. A strong economic development and management can check both the evils of rising prices and unemployment in any country.

Congratulatory messages from across the world are pouring in to Modi and a telephone call from President Mahinda Rajapaksa, inviting Modi to visit Sri Lanka is no exception. Modi tweeted, "It was wonderful speaking to you earlier today (17/5/14). I look forward to strong relations between Sri Lanka and India."

We also look forward to seeing this relationship reaches the heights of Himalayas and exists for long as the Great Wall of China.

