Had a plot, lost it to scams

FIVE YEARS OF UPA 2 As the UPA goes to the voter, it has a long list of achievements, from poverty alleviation to the land Bill, yet the only PERFORMANCE REVIEW question from the people is going to be on corruption and the economy. The Cong will struggle for an answer.

do a reality check on the current Central government's five-year tenure is here. Whichever way she looks at it, she'll be confused. A quick sum-up, as The Tribune has done here, would show that barring economy, UPA 2 did reasonably all right, 'fair' you may call it, and yet the lead ruling partner, the Congress, is expected to reap one of its worst harvests. The irony stems from the overwhelming presence of the 'mega scams' that buffeted the

government at regular intervals. Specific sectors had their ironies too. The MGNREGS was attacked for leakages, yet it continued to be an effective tool of wealth distribution. Women faced some of the worst outrages, yet the tenure saw the most momentous changes in law for them. Food output increased steadily, and yet farmers are at a crossroads. Telecom saw the biggest scams, and also the most growth. Pressing the EVM button will require one clear head!

sidised prices of Rs 3, Rs 2 and

More credit: For 2013-14, the target

wheat and coarse grains.

THE GOOD

AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Grain production up. troubles remain

Food security: Eligible households will get 5 kg food grain

The storage capacity of FCI is 76.79 MT. An RTI query

Re 1 per kg, respectively, for rice, destroyed in the past three years.

Sugar decontrol: Sugar prices claims improvement in grain man-

Revolution: Efforts are on to take have not plugged loopholes in the

MSP up: Increase in MSP by over monsoon, and imports to meet the

100 per cent between 2004-05 and demand for pulses and oilseed

Enough grains: The 11th Plan saw drums, agriculture managed a

an increase in grain production of decent growth rate, largely due to

Silos: Creation and modernisation of 11th Plan period, India managed

scientific storage capacity around 3.64 per cent. The UPA

increased. The FCI storage space may consider the Food Security

increased from 238.94 lakh tonnes Act an achievement but it failed to

in 2008 to 384.97 lakh tonnes in 2013. control widespread pilferage of

GM crops: Field trials of GM crops grains in the PDS. The govern-

have begun, much to the disapment admits 25-30 per cent leak-

Green Revolution to the North-east. system. Half of the PDS grain is

Nutri-farms: Stress on new crop siphoned off, say sources.

of agriculture credit flow increased THE BOTTOM LINE



Amending laws to keep women safe

firms with 10 or more workers to disbanded silently.

In the net: Under the new legal MCI is supposed to act.

dren from Sexual Offences Act was amendments to an archaic criminal

Gay rights: The Supreme Court acknowledged. A law to prevent

held accountable for sexual assault THE BOTTOM LINE

Redressal) Act 2012 Bill passed opportunity to pass a separate law

covering even domestic workers. to deal with 'honour' crimes. A

Harassment: The historic

Sexual Harassment of

vention, Prohibition and

Women at Workplace (Pre-

include new crimes.

framework, prominent people were

government was rejected.

Khaps untamed: Khap

panchavats continued

their diktats to regu-

young couples, ordering the

gang-rape of a girl in West

ing a man from another com-

munity. The Centre lost the

term prescribed for sexual crimes.

New crimes like stalking were

uphold Section 377.

Bengal to punish her for lov-

Stains that will be hard to hide

tions were done in 2010 when mobile telephony in India did not require **Commonwealth Games**

mated a loss of Rs 1,76,000 crore.

Licences for the allocation of second looking at revenue earnings. There Hasan Ali Khan, a businessman

lated 10 years ago. The Telecom Reg- a Congress MP from Pune, had little to show. ulatory Authority figures for Sep- made purchases at outlandish tember 2010 say India had 68 crore prices. A sum of Rs 28,000 crore had **Devas-Antrix deal** mobile connections — a huge mar- been budgeted for various works The allocation of precious S-band tions; Prevention of Corruption; ket — when Raja decided to allocate and paid by the government. A toi-spectrum of wireless communicaadditional spectrum. The CAG esti- let paper roll that would cost Rs 20 tion without any bidding to Devas zens for Time Bound Delivery of a piece was purchased at a cost of Multimedia, a private firm, in a deal Goods and Services and Redressal of Rs 3,757. Air-conditioners were between Antrix Corporation and the their Grievances; and the Judicial rented at Rs 4 lakh a piece. The commercial wing of ISRO, led to a Standards and Accountability Bill. Policy was misused under the garb of organising committee tried to furore. The government scrapped doling out licences to extract coal. defend it instead of correcting the the controversial deal to avoid a loss THE BOTTOM LINE The CAG in March 2012 estimated wrong. The CBI has registered 19 of Rs 2 lakh crore to the exchequer. that during 2004-2009, coal blocks FIRs in the case.

were allocated to companies without **Black money**

generation of wireless telephony, '2- was 'windfall gain' to the person charged with money laundering, has Will have power over G spectrum', were made on the first-who got these blocks, estimated at Rs reportedly \$8 billion (Rs 48,000 cr) of CBI prosecution wing. come first-served basis. The alloca- 1,85,591 crore. The CBI probe is on. unaccounted money stashed in foreign bank accounts. His was just an blowers Protection Bill lends a proexample. A foreign bank gave out tective armour to whistleblowers. 'help' and there was need for open There were allegations of wrongdonames of Indians who had been Not white: A high-powered committee bidding. A Raja, Telecom Minister ings and corruption in the holding depositing huge amounts in Euroand UPA partner DMK MP, avoided of the 2010 Commonwealth Games. pean banks. A committee was set up that and hid behind a policy formu- Organisers led by Suresh Kalmadi, to uncover black money. But there is

Bottomed out for now

Lehman crisis: Many devel-

oped and emerging

economies struggled since the

2008 Lehman crisis, India did

Lokpal Bill: PM will be

under its purview. has been set up to track black money.

Bills on hold: Prevention of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials and Officials of Public International Organisa-Public Procurement; Right of Citi-

late as projects have a gestation

Shady deals: Allegations of

scams and crony capitalism

hit decision making. CAG

9% GDP GROWTH

Lokpal was brought in too late. It Ajay Banerjee failed to change public perception.

ronment Protection Act.

has been launched. elephants continue to

Will strong, structure weak

MNREGA 2.0: The 'game years, the ministry became 'the' ministry from being ment impact assessment 'one of the many government issues not addressed. No bal-Industry prevails: Environchanger' employment scheme of the UPA-I got a facelift. Asset creation was departments'. Before Jairam ance between development and Ramesh took over, ministers col- economic issues and green conlaborated among themselves on cerns. Despite Jairam and his suc-

many quarters, including the CAG,

'obstructionist' attitude, industri-**Awareness:** Greenhouse gas emisalists won in most cases. sions and black carbon became the **Not in tune:** The ministry was out of sync with the government's des-**Transparency:** Decisions put on the perate attempts to push up the eco-

lack of sensitivity.

ministry's website, bringing in nomic growth rate. Red tape: Jayanthi was accused of Talks: Consultations on environ- causing 'immense harm' to the ment-related issues recognised economy. Among the worst-hit in forest dwellers' rights. Niyamgiri clearance delays is Coal India is a case in point. In the bauxite Limited, affecting 241 projects of mining project case promoted by the company. When Moily took the Vedanta group in Odisha, the over, clearances for 3,827 projects ministry recorded 'violations too were pending and around 372 egregious to be glossed over'. projects related to coal, mining,

has increased. ing clearance. Going green: The National Green Tribunal was set up.

Green at the cost of growth

Centre stage: In the past five

Western Ghats: The Kasturirangan The working of the ministry committee report was accepted. depends on extraneous factors. The report recommended ecologi- Along with the passion for green cally sensitive area over 37 per issues, the country's growth needs cent of the Ghats under the Envieged attention. The ministry can't take extreme positions. Jairam's **GM crops:** Veerappa Moily took 'environmental activism', demarover the charge and cleared field cation of forests into 'go and no-go' zones for coal plants won him accolades from activists but invited flak

education to seek accreditation ticket legislation proposed by for-

1.76,361 upper primary schools resigned from Cabinet, bunked

sanctioned; 96 per cent opera- office for months and returned,

Higher education: 16 new central Deadly meals: Midday meal pro-

universities, IITs, IIMs, IISERs gramme took a hit as 11 children

ping AIEEE. IITs go in for an add- The focus of higher education was

on JEE Advanced. Only top 1.50 to expand institutions to improve

lakh scorers eligible to take it. access. The RTE Act enabled entry

Evaluation: Class X boards made of students to schools though tar-

optional; CBSE introduces continugets have not been achieved.

ous evaluation instead. Access has improved, but quality

Test for teachers: Teachers must issues remain. The Planning Com-

clear test to be eligible to teach. mission stressed learning out-

RTE loopholes: The government systems. A single test for entry to

drew flak for making a law that all central technical institutions

Visibility: India's global presence and infrastructure building await-

mega projects, reducing the MoEF cessor Jayanthi Natarajan

Cover down: Forest cover down. The National Mission for a Green India Easy prey: Tigers and

UGC notified regulations

institutions imparting higher

within six months.

and NITs set up.

Taking learning to different levels

RTE: The Right of Children to Free took off.

JEE: Single entrance test for Censchool in Bihar.

called JEE Mains started by scrap-

trally funded technical institutions

constructions in these areas. Youth initiative: Himayat was launched in Kashmir in the linked to the job scheme for rural Himayat initiative envisaged poor, bringing sanity to the pro- nearly 15,000 youth trained and gramme. MGNREGA had come placed in different jobs in the pubunder criticism from

for building no assets, creating THE BAD useless work, increasing corrup- Suicides: Corruption in MNREGA tion and negatively affecting agri- could not be curbed. A recent **Land Bill:** The Land Development elements in all states. Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation PMGSY. The ministry had to sur-

and Resettlement Bill, 2013, was render the funds. passed by Parliament, replacing the Non-starter: Himayat got poor archaic 119-year-old legislation. response in the Valley. Officials **Road map:** The second phase of the lament 'poor' private Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak sector response to the programme. Yojana (PMGSY) catered to the Only around 5,000-6,000 persons states' demands for increase in could be trained since the proentitlement.

Naxal areas: Focus increased on from industrialists and his Cabinet colleagues. He had to clear districts. The ministry supported the shift of addisteel, coal and N-power plant projects. To undo tional Rs 1,000 crore Javanthi's efforts, from the second & Moily had to be got in.

Vibha Sharma

leading to poor performance.

Amendment not brought in.

Aakash blues: The low-cost

access device Aakash failed

to take off. Grounded: No big-

mer HRD Minister Kapil Sibal

keeping policy matters pending.

died after consuming food at a

comes and quality and urged the

government to create assessment

brought relief to students but

on test JEE Advanced.

phase of the rural 2

ated by Kashmiri separatists. lic and private sectors in a fiscal.

culture. MGNREGA 2.0 included report indicated that delay in the 30 new works for creation of payment of wages led to suicides in durable assets and improvement Maharashtra. Apart from creating in rural productivity. The food and useless works, MNREGA continrural development ministries col- ues to be charged with creating laborated and the scheme was freeloaders and encouraging ramlinked with construction of food pant corruption, including creation storage godowns in rural areas. of fake pay rolls by unscrupulous Bill was passed. The Right to Fair **Unused funds:** Utilisation of funds Compensation and Transparency in not completed in schemes like

gramme's launch in 2011.

Naxal-hit areas. Roshni, a place- THE BOTTOM LINE ment linked skill development The ministry can be credited with scheme targeting 50,000 rural men good intentions. Efforts were made and women — mostly tribals — to plug rampant corruption in was launched in 24 worst-affected schemes like MNREGA through computerisation, but problems remain. The min-

istry's efforts in Naxalhit areas were encouraging.

road project for road

Could have grown faster, but for delays

bai Industrial Corridor. Nine Tar track: Ten years ago, there was 51,511 km of rural Three more corridors conroads, but now it is 3.89 lakh km; and 3,928 km of national highways. The National Highways sar-Kolkata are in the pipeline. Authority of India built or upgrad ed 17,394 km road. Investment in THE BAD

and Compulsory Education Act Confusion: The tenure of HRD Min-roads saw a 10-fold increase. 2009 implemented from 2010. As ister MM Pallam Raju was eclipsed **Power:** There has been a push for idle due to lack of fuel linkages. many as 2,14,561 primary and by anti-Telangana protests. He infrastructure with addition of **GST Bill:** It remained in a logiam. 29.350 MW of power capacity. **Rail link:** About 3,343 km of new rail been a non-starter. track and 217.5 million tonnes of **Production:** Industrial growth has capacity per annum in ports have hit decadal lows in the last one been added. Railway network now year. The manufacturing sector is carries 8,224 million people and challenged with lack of invest-

Oil blocks: 19 oil and gas blocks have

have been restructured. GOOD IITs got away with an add-

more than one billion tonnes of ment, affecting jobs. Imports from goods every year. Fares rationalised China have hurt small and medifor the first time in a decade. um industries.

been given out for exploration. **Airports:** Seven new airports are The sector could have grown faster under construction. prices in the world.

national investment and Major reform Bills manufacturing zones could not be passed. have been announced \mathcal{E} Aditi Tandon along the Delhi-Mum-

projects have been approved. necting Chennai-Bengaluru, Bengaluru-Mumbai and Amrit-

had it not been for several projects **Tele-density:** In rural areas, tele-that got stuck due to delays in cleardensity went up 25 times. India ances, difficulty in land acquisition has one of the lowest telecom and allegations of crony capitalism Diesel: A gradual correction of telecom with mobile connections diesel prices has been initiated. crossing 90 crore (second biggest **Licences:** New bank licences and user in the world). This was made power distribution companies possible by increasing competition in telecom but allegations surfaced which led to what is called the 2G scam. Coal

was hit by similar alle-

FOREIGN POLICY Getting it wrong, mostly THE GOOD

Grains rot: Storage losses

pointment of activists.

are down by 99 per cent

from 2.5 per cent to

'just 0.006 per cent of

the total production

with major powers like the US, Rus-York only increased tension. Asia and Latin America.

Going sour: Pakistan has made no sin- the US has hardly cere move to bring to justice the permade any headway.

Frade link: Economic and trade rela- Relations with Islamabad

during the past five years'.

revealed 17,500 tonnes of

grain in its godowns were

PDS loopholes: The government

agement but measures taken so far

When the economy was in the dol-

target of 4 per cent growth over the

age and pilferage in the PDS. Stor-

age has increased but there have

states like Punjab, where

due to lack of facilities.

rotted in the past.

tonnes of grains have

tions with Pakistan have improved. plummeted to a new low in 2013 **Border pact:** Border Defence Cooperdue to repeated ceasefire viola-Strategic Partnership Agreement Chinese side. Ties with the US cooled somewhat and Indian diplomat THE BOTTOM LINE India's engagement with Africa, East ebbed away due to strong reservations over India's Civil Nuclear Liability

Law. The N-deal with

petrators of the Mumbai attack. Wary investors: Prospective pitched tents in the Ladakh sector ation Agreement has been signed tions and killing of Indian troops

Elusive seat: A permanent seat Agreement between the two Asian with China; Land Boundary Agree- on the border. There has been an at the UN Security Council giants has not helped matters ment inked with Bangladesh; and increase in transgression from the remains a distant dream. because of deep mutual suspicion.

been a lot of issues in the act. A review petition of the

Vibha Sharma late the behaviour of

over the boundary dissecurity front, considering NATO pute came to a head troops will withdraw from when China's Peo- Afghanistan by the year-end. ple's Liberation Army

investors stayed away from in 2013. The issue was resolved after tense diplomatic negotiations. The Border Defence Cooperation Relations with Bangladesh. Sri Lanka and the Maldives are also Binding ties: Strived to consolidate ties Devyani Khobragade's arrest in New Expectations were high from the strained. The situation in UPA-II on foreign policy. However, Afghanistan and its implications sia and France; initiated 'Look Mid- N-deal: Initial euphoria over civil India's ties are far from satisfacto- for India's security are a cause of dle East' policy; and strengthened unclear deals with major powers ry, not only with Pakistan or China, worry. The new government will be but also with the US, its confronted with multiple chalstrategic partner. Tension lenges on the foreign policy and over the boundary dis-security front, considering NATO

Slow, but on road to self-reliance

THE GOOD Nuclear missile: INS Airhant is set for sea trials. **AGNI-V:** Nuclear-tipped missile AGNI-V has been tested.

The Bill made it mandatory for all group of ministers was set up and set up complaints committees. **Girl child:** About 30 to 70 million **Getting tough:** Criminal law (IPC, girls are 'missing' since 1950. The CrPC and Evidence Act) amended PNDT Act is not working efficientalso been inducted varieties rich in micro-nutrients. **Dependence:** Dependence on to make punishment for sexual ly. So far, only 93 convictions have assault and offences stringent and taken place under the Act which enhance the definition of rape to came into force in 1994. Hardly any **Warships:** An increasing number of built in 15 years. doctor has lost licence though the

has been formed to ward off threat from China. including former Tehekla editor The last five years of UPA rule were Tarun Tejpal, former Supreme marked by brutal crimes against

over 173.38 million tonnes over the hardworking farmers. Against a Court Judge AK Ganguly and 'god-women. The shocking gang-rape of worked with Russia. man' Asaram and his son. a 23-year-old in Delhi led to a **Protecting kids:** Protection of Chil-national outcry that resulted in passed to protect children at law. The definition of rape and sexhomes, in custody and in care. ual assault was widened and life is being undertaken.

upheld Section 377, IPC, which sexual harassment of women at declares homosexuality as a criminal workplace. The law is deficient as it was not gender neutral. A low the purchase of 126 fighter jets from France (Rafale) is a goo_o point was the Supreme Court's decision to sore point. MiG-21 should have been phased out. No jets Aditi Tandon have been bought oth-

HEALTH

THE GOOD

launched.

er than 42 Sukhoi 30-MKI from Russia. Artillery: Not a single gun has

been bought since the 1980s. Artillery guns are so short that **Aircraft carriers:** One aircraft carrier Bofors guns are being cannabalised from Russia and the other is under to meet spares. construction in India, indicating a **Helicopters:** No decision on buying

attack or heavy-lift helicopters. Indigenous: Tejas is ready for induc- Rifles: No decision on the purchase tion into the IAF. Arjun tanks have of new rifles for troops, who contin-**Naval satellite:** Dedicated naval satellite Rukmini has been launched. struction plan. No vessel has been

why Antony accepted

diately.

Strike corps: Mountain Strike Corps defence guns and radars is slow. Fighter aircraft: Fifth-generation AK Antony has been the longest fighter aircraft designs are being serving Defence Minister but his overcautious approach is not help-Coastal radars: A chain of 46 coastal ing. He is accused of stalling pursecurity radars have been installed. chases on anonymous complaints.

Pension sop: The much sought-after His focus on indigenous machinery one-rank one-pension demand for will help India decrease its dependretired personnel has been accepted. ence on imports. Relations between **Airfields:** Modernisation of airfields the top brass of the forces and the Fighter jets: Over five years delay in Navy Chief Admiral DK Joshi's res-

MoD not congenial. While Gen VK Singh dragged the government to the Supreme Court over his age row, ignation stunned everyone. Good Questions are being asked the resignation imme-

Polio-free India shows the way

Indigenous technologies: In 2010, the Rishikesh.

screening of cervix cancer

benefit transfer a big rollout.

THE GOOD

cy and activism on corruption Cabinet Committee on Investments cleared Rs 6.6 lakh crore worth of Ajay Banerjee projects but it was too

better in comparison. reports and activists spooked busi-**Less poor:** About 140 million people ness confidence. pulled out of poverty. **Gas plans:** The LPG subsidy plan **Getting richer:** Per capita income has been put on hold.

period.

has risen almost threefold. The leap: India produced 213 million tonnes. Installed power capacity was 1,12,700 MW, today it is 2,34,600 MW. Coal production is up from 361 million tonnes to 554 million tonnes. Direct transfer: Aadhar-based direct

Growth down: From 8-9 per cent, growth down to around 5 per cent. **GDP low:** The slowdown in GDP began in 2011-12. The growth rate declined from 7.5 per cent in 2011- **CORE SECTOR INDEX** 12 to 4.4 per cent in 2013-14. **Inflation:** Inflation has been high due

to fiscal expansion and rise in prices of food, oil and services or lack of capacity addition in manufacturing. THE BOTTOM LINE **Investment**: Lack of clearances, poli- There was a lull in policy making and cy paralysis, fear factor in bureaucra- disruption in business confidence. delayed projects. Last year,

(Comprising power, coal, steel, crude oil, refinery products etc).

The UPA acted towards the fag end of its tenure but it was too late. Fiscal instability and high deficits deprehe rupee. the policy, saying Sanjeev Sharma lack of accountability ciated the rupee.

restored with the Board of Gover-

nors being disbanded but trans-

parency was lost when Health Min-

Neo-natal deaths: Over three lakh ed, but medical education

The UPA will be best remembered ister Ghulam Nabi Azad

detection of medical MCI chief.

conditions, including

for its ability to free India of transferred Union Health Secretary

polio. Several indigenous K Desiraju from the ministry this

were developed for re-nomination of the tainted former

low-cost technologies February. Desiraju had opposed the

Some efforts lost to disorder THE GOOD Polio out: In 2009, India reported 740 polio cases, half of the global burden. By 2011, polio infections dropped to zero. In 2014, WHO gave display states as preparation for India-wide launch. More AIIMS: New AIIMS-like institutes set up in Bihar, Chlattisgarh, Bhopal, Was promised, but could not be fulfilled. Free medicine: The scheme to issue free medicines to patients in government hospi AIIMS-like institutes were set up THE GOOD

bars detention on grounds of

ernment committee

recommends end of

non-performance. A gov-

Input agencies: The Multi-Agency disrupt the polls. on black monev. **Naxals:** A series of steps have been accused were nabbed.

Centre has been set up to collate Most wanted: Indian National Counterterrorism Mujahideen's Yasin Bhatkal Database: A NATGRID has been nabbed in Nepal. Saudi Arabia formed to assemble information was convinced to hand over Abu Jun- 26/11 mastermind David Coleman been reported from UP, Bihar, Madfrom 21 databases and keep an eye dal, one of the masterminds of 26/11. Headley from the US. Blasts: Samihauta train blasts Talks: Pakistan Interior Minister Communal Violence Bill, which

Agency and Intelligence Bureau forces. have prevented terror attacks. Border trade: More border They will face a challenge in the trade facilities have forthcoming elections especially in been introduced with view of the threat by Pakistan- Pakistan, Nepal and Aditi Tandon based Maullana Masood Azhar's Bangladesh.

outfit Jaish-e-Mohammed to **Counterterrorism:** A pan-India ation of more states. Centre could not be set up. **Probe:** Could not extradite Anti-communal incidents have

taken to tackle Naxals. In the war **Crime:** The Crime and Criminal a disaster. against Naxals, the Home Ministry Tracking Networked System has Marine case: The case of Italian nal riots, was not tabled. The CBIhas an upper hand right now. been put in place. The move has marines was wrongly handled. The IB tussle could have avoided with Terror: The National Investigation been welcomed by state police imposition of the Suppression of deft handling. Former Home Secre-

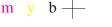
Rehman Malik's visit to India was would have empowered the Centre

create a state reorgan- and a spat ensued. isation commission to

address the demands for the cre-

to send in forces in case of commu-Unlawful Acts against Safety tary RK Singh accused Home Minof Maritime Navigation ister Sushilkumar Shinde of inter-Act, 2002, was incorrect. fering in the working of the Delhi State panel: Failed to Police. Shinde denied the charge











indigenous technologies for detecment of compensation to voluncauses.

tion of thalassaemia, diabetes and teers in case of adverse effects.

New vaccines: Hepatitis-B vaccine NEET: The national entrance-

included in universal immunisa- medical colleges did not

lent vaccine (combination vaccine **Health cover:** Univer-

tion programme in 2012. Pentava- take off.

Ashok Tuteja for DPT, Hep B, Hib) introduced in sal health coverage

and second dose of measles vaccine cum-eligibility test in 350



India a polio-free certificate. Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur and tals failed to take off. and new MBBS and PG seats creat-

first indigenous HINI vaccine Trials: Policy formulated for clinical babies die within 24 hours of being remained mired in corruption. The

called Vaxiflu-S launched. In 2013, trials by pharma firms and pay- born annually from preventable MCI's elected character was

















