

# SC CLEAN CHIT TO PM IN GUJARAT RIOTS CASE 'HISTORIC': AMIT SHAH

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Amit Shah

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday described as historic the Supreme Court's dismissal of a plea challenging a Special Investigation Team (SIT) report giving a clean chit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the Gujarat riots case.

He said it "exposed the conspiracies" by "certain parties, presspersons and NGOs" to malign the Prime Minister.

Mr. Shah was moving the political resolution at the BJP's national executive meeting held in Hyderabad over the weekend. The resolution was seconded by Karnataka and Assam Chief Ministers Basavaraj Bommai and Himanta Biswa Sarma, respectively.

Briefing the media on the resolution, Mr. Sarma said that Mr. Shah spoke about how "Prime Minister Modi had swallowed the poison in the manner of Lord Shiva and came out of the test shining like gold".

Mr. Shah, he said, compared Mr. Modi's "respect for the Constitution in presenting himself before the SIT without a fuss" with the recent protests by the Congress as the Enforcement Directorate questioned Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi.

## 'Era of the BJP'

"He also said that dynastic politics, castesim and politics of appeasement were the greatest sins that were holding back the country and that it was BJP that was doing politics of performance and development, as demonstrated by the voting back of BJP governments at the recently held Assembly polls in Goa, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Manipur," Mr. Sarma said.

In fact, this was the response of Mr. Sarma on every question put to him by the media on the killing of tailor Kanhaiya Lal in Udaipur by two persons allegedly over insult to Islam and also the Supreme Court's *obiter dicta* against former party spokesperson Nupur Sharma. "At a platform like the BJP's national executive, we were discussing macro issues, dynastic politics, casteism and appeasement politics as the greatest sins holding back India," Mr. Sarma said. He quoted Mr. Shah as saying that the country was to be a "vishwa guru" soon and that the BJP was to be around for at least another 30-40 years and it would be the "era of the BJP".

On questions on whether Mr. Modi had made an intervention for an outreach towards the minority community, Mr. Sarma said that the "aim of all the policies and programmes of the Modi government was *Sab ka Saath, Sab ka Vikas*".

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