

My Govt aims to transform lives to poor : NaMo

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LUCKNOW: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said his government's aim was not just to make India the fastest growing economy but also transform the lives of the poor and it had been working towards this goal since the day it had come to power.

Modi, while distributing e-rickshaws to 2,100 beneficiaries at the Colvin Taluqdars' College ground, talked about the schemes launched by his government like Jan Dhan Yojana, Mudra Yojana and Atal Pension Yojana to help the poor. "From the day this government came to power, it has been working relentlessly to change the lives of the poor," he said.

Talking about the Jan Dhan scheme, Modi said, "Even after 40 years of nationalisation of banks, the poor did not have bank accounts. This government changed everything and so far over two crore bank accounts have been opened and ₹30,000 crore has been deposited in them."

He said his government's effort has been to ensure that the youth do not have to wander in search of jobs but have their own venture and create employment. "Today, the entire world is facing economic recession but India is the only country whose economy is growing fast. Even global bodies like World Bank, IMF and rating agencies have acknowledged India's progress," he said during his address.

"It gives us satisfaction when we hear

MODI PAYS ₹14 FOR E-RICKSHAW RIDE

■ Prime Minister Narendra Modi rode up to the dais at Colvin Taluqdars' College ground in an e-rickshaw that was driven by Vijay Pandey, MD, Bhartiya Micro Credit.

■ Modi also paid Rs 14 for the ride using a special app called 'Ongo', which will soon be launched for e-rickshaw drivers of Lucknow. At present, Ongo app is running on a trial basis in Mumbai.

■ On the occasion, the PM was presented with a memento in the form of an e-rickshaw model and a shawl.

this, but our target is not only to make India the fastest growing economy but to transform lives of the poor," said Modi.

The PM also personally handed over the keys of e-rickshaws, RuPay cards and automotive skills development council certificates to nine beneficiaries and interacted with their family members.

"When a foreigner lands in this country, the first person he comes across is a driver. If this driver behaves cordially with the foreigner, then it leaves a long lasting impression on the tourist's mind and he returns with a positive image of India. This driver can do what no government can do even by spending crores on advertisement," Modi said.

He said e-rickshaws not just ensured



■ The PM distributed e-rickshaws to 2,100 beneficiaries at the event.

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pollution-free travel but were also vehicles of change for the poor:

Home minister and MP from Lucknow Rajnath Singh lauded the PM for efforts taken by him in empowering the poor:

Governor Ram Naik, mayor Dinesh Sharma, MD of Bhartiya Micro Credit Vijay Pandey who is rolling out e-rickshaw scheme in Lucknow, and SIDBI and UCO bank officials also attended the event.