

‘Poor have first right on nation’s resources’



Nana Pundha (Valsad): Disputing Prime Minister Manmohan Singh’s assertion that minorities had the first right over nation’s resources, Chief Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said if it was question of rights on resources, then only the country’s poor should have that.

The CM was addressing tribals in Nana Pundha village in Kaparada taluka in Valsad district. Accusing Congress of playing vote bank politics, the chief minister said the tribals, Dalits and others from poor economic background have the right over nation’s resources and urged the tribals to vote for a change.

Modi remarked that only Nehru family has been projecting Singh as the prime ministerial candidate and no one else. P Chidmabaram, Pranab Mukherjee, Kamal Nath and no other leader in the Congress ever mentions Manmohan Singh’s name as their prime minister, he said, charging the Congress-led Central Government with blocking Gujarat’s development path.

He said his regime has introduced science education in tribal areas so as to enable them to become engineers, doctors and professionals in other fields. Reservation for the tribals will become meaningful when they are provided proper education.

Modi said Congress-led government at the Centre is incompetent and blamed it for the current price rise in sugar. He said, “Just four months ago, the Congress government talked about excess stock of sugar and sold it at Rs 15 per kg but now the same government is purchasing it at Rs 23 per kg.”