

PM lays foundation stones for ₹8,000-cr projects in Gujarat

FE BUREAU

Ahmedabad, October 31

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA Modi laid the foundation stones for projects worth over ₹8,000 crore in Banaskantha district of poll-bound Gujarat on Monday.

In the wake of the suspension bridge collapse tragedy in Morbi, the Prime Minister cancelled his scheduled roadshow in Ahmedabad and cultural programmes and functions in Kevadia as well as Tharad in North Gujarat.

Laying foundation stones for water-related projects, he said that these projects will help in irrigation facilities to more than six districts of Gujarat, including Banaskantha, Patan and Mehsana.



Recalling the tough times that the state has faced in the past, the Prime Minister said that it is the undying spirit of the people of Gujarat that gives them the strength to deal with any adversity with whatever resources they have.

"There were times when people of the North Gujarat region used to face the problem of fluoride contami-

nated water.

"The issues related to water have a major effect on agriculture. The condition was such that no land-owner would find a buyer if they wanted to sell their land," he said, adding that after he became chief minister of Gujarat, his government not only identified the problem but resolved it through measures such as water conservation and construction of check dams and ponds.

Adoption of drip irrigation by farmers of North Gujarat has given a boost to agriculture activities in the region, he said, adding, "on one hand we have the Banas Dairy while on the other hand a 100 MW solar power plant. We have accomplished the goal of getting tap water to every house in the region."