

Manmohan targets govt on economic slowdown

Jaipur: Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh continued his attack on Modi government over the slowdown in the economy. Expressing his concern over the declining GDP, he said that the country needs to introduce reforms based on liberalization policies, while delivering his keynote address at a private university in Jaipur on Saturday.

"Our economy is hit by the slowdown, the unemployment rate has increased and investment is going down, it's a matter of serious concern," said Singh, who was recently elected Rajya Sabha MP from Rajasthan. He was speaking at JK Lakshmipat University.

During his speech, he also listed out suggestions for the Modi government to overcome the slowdown and said, "The economic reforms shouldn't stop and the government should think of reviewing their position on the tax regime while implementing a balanced policy in the financial system." He underlined the impact of economic reforms in 1991 in which he played a vital role. Singh said that those reforms have strengthened the economy, contributed to accelerating the economy to a new high. Underlining the importance of democracy, Singh said that all political parties should strive hard to protect democratic values in every sphere of our society. Attacking the present dispensation over shrinking space for dissent, he said democracy cannot prevail until government creates a holistic environment for virtues like justice, liberty and free speech to prevail. TNN