

A life dedicated to public service



ith almost forty years of active and dedicated public service to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh and Bharatiya Janata Party, Manohar Lal Khattar has worked tirelessly for both Haryana and the country. Intimately and inseparably involved with his 'Karmabhoomi' Haryana for

years, Manohar Lal's vision for Haryana is founded on his active involvement in the state's politics and people.

Recognised for his political acumen, Manohar Lal has played the role of a master strategist and successfully led many electoral campaigns, the latest being the 2014 Parliamentary elections in Haryana as Chairman of Election Committee. He has been selflessly working behind the scenes in key party positions that have earned him the reputation of a tough task master with a no-nonsense approach and proven organisational skills. He has stayed at the forefront of innumerable social projects and humanitarian efforts. A man who believes in keeping up with the times, he is at ease

with today's ever changing technology – using it to his advantage for effective communication with the outside world.

Choosing to remain a bachelor, Manohar Lal opted to sacrifice his personal life and dedicated himself to public service. His image is pristine, untarnished by scandals and charges. He always put the nation before his personal agenda and gratification.

Close to his roots and a believer in the power of culture and tradition, politics for Manohar Lal is an instrument to bring about change and improve lives of citizens today. A leader, he feels, has to have vision and should be able to motivate people





A bachelor who left home 34 years ago and dedicated his life to serve nation and society

to bring about change at the same time. Holding the sobriquet of a 'Swayam Sevak' close to his heart, Manohar Lal has always willingly accepted any responsibility



entrusted on him by his party.

Manohar Lal's agenda promises not only a better Haryana, but a unique Haryana that leads in various fields - acknowledged not only nationally but internationally and set as an example for others states to follow.

Political Journey

Born in Haryana, Manohar Lal Khattar joined RSS as a full-time Pracharak in 1980. After 14 years of service to the RSS, Manohar Lal was moved to the Bharatiya Janata Party and placed at the helm as Sangathan Mahamantri in Haryana, his home state, in 1994.

In this position, he witnessed many ups



and downs in Haryana's politics. In 1996, BJP allied with Bansi Lal's Haryana Vikas Party to form the government in the state. However when he noticed that the alliance was proving costly for the party and the government had become unpopular, he favoured withdrawal of support from the government. BJP then decided to provide outside support to Om Prakash Chautala. Later, this coalition with INLD won all 10 seats in the Haryana 1999 parliamentary elections, a wholly better outcome than 2 out of 10 seats they had secured in 1998.

His tenure as Haryana's Sangathan Mahamantri established him as a strategist par excellence, an able and firm handed

His sensitivity for marginalised sections emanates from his own humble background



administrator, and a man who had a keen sense of the state's politics. It was in 1996, when Manohar Lal was actively working in Haryana, that he first began working with Narendra Modi, who was then in charge of Haryana. In 2002, Manohar Lal was given the

A tough task master with proven organisational skills and no — nonsense approach



charge of Jammu and Kashmir as the State's Election Incharge.

In the aftermath of the Bhuj earthquake, Manohar Lal was called upon to manage the elections in the Kutch district by Narendra Modi. There was strong resentment amongst people in the area due to inadequate relief post-earthquake, but Manohar Lal's extensive campaign work bore fruit, and BJP secured 3 out of 6 seats - which prompted Narendra Modi to remark that these seats were a "bonus" for the election results.

The first elections held in the then newly created state of Chhattisgarh also saw Manohar Lal's invaluable contribution to the party's performance. He worked in Bastar which was a traditionally Congress bastion and won 10

out of 12 seats - thus playing a decisive role in bringing BJP to power in the state.

Apart from his crucial role in the party's success in states like Punjab, Haryana and Chhattisgarh, Manohar Lal was given prominent roles in various elections in different states where he always delivered results.

In 2004, Manohar Lal found himself in charge of 12 states, including Delhi and Rajasthan. He then worked under the leadership of the nationally renowned RSS ideologue, Bal Apte (Balasaheb Apte), who was then heading the Chunaav Sahayak Yojna.

Immediately thereafter he was entrusted with the responsibility as Regional Sangathan Mahamantri for five states - Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Himachal Pradesh. His tenure saw several successes for the party in these states, underlining Manohar Lal's exceptional decision making skills and inherent political acumen. During this time, BJP won 11 seats for the first time in Jammu and Kashmir.

Once again, for the Lok Sabha elections of 2014, Manohar Lal was appointed the Chairman of Election Campaign Committee (Haryana) contributing to the party's thumping success and playing a role in changing the course of the country's history.

With almost 40 years of dedicated association with RSS and BJP, the senior leader has tirelessly worked for both Haryana and the nation

Seva Pratham

Manohar Lal's sensitivity towards various marginalized sections emanates from his own humble background. He is immensely aware of the many social issues afflicting the country today, and has been actively involved in social work,

volunteering his services both via his party as well as on an individual level.

Manohar Lal has headed the Antyodaya Yojana for BJP nationally, the belief of the party ideology and the effort to elevate those in the lowest rung of society.

He has always been at the forefront of

any social causes that required attention, including rescue and rehabilitation efforts, like one during the flood in Kakrola village, near Delhi's Dwarka area, in 1978.

During his time as Rohtak's Pracharak, the district witnessed a flood that forced people out of their homes and caused extensive damage. The efforts to ensure security and food for people were spearheaded by Manohar Lal.

During the earthquake in Jammu and Kashmir's Uri & Poonch districts, the whole place was devastated, and once again, Manohar Lal was continuously involved in the rescue operations that included evacuating victims, arranging their food, housing and rehabilitation.





His dream is
to create a
unified, strong,
progressive
and prosperous
Haryana

Personal Journey

From humble agricultural roots, Manohar Lal's family history traces itself back to the West Punjab district, now a part of Pakistan. Forced out of their homes during the partition, his family made their way to India in 1947, arriving almost entirely empty handed to Nindana, a village situated in Haryana's Rohtak district. To survive, Manohar Lal's father and grandfather took up odd jobs as labourers, finally saving enough to start a small shop. It was in Nindana that Manohar Lal was born in 1954. Once his family's shop began to do well, Manohar Lal's father decided to move to the neighbouring village of Banyani, where he bought agricultural land and took to farming.

"Politics is an instrument to bring about change in the lives of citizens"

Manohar Lal Khattar

Starting school at the age of six, Manohar Lal displayed his brilliance early. He was at the forefront of all debates, discussions and school activities, and also excelled in academics.

Keen to pursue a medical degree, Manohar Lal looked towards applying for colleges, despite his father's opposition who wanted him to take to farming like the rest of the family. Keeping him in the dark, he borrowed money from his mother and enrolled himself in Rohtak's Neki Ram Sharma Government College. Manohar Lal had become the first member of his family to study beyond Class X. To prepare for entrance tests to medical colleges, Manohar Lal made his way to Delhi, initiating a chain of events that was to transform his life.

Staying with relatives in Delhi who ran a very successful clothing business, he began to question his decision to study for seven to nine years before being able to practice as a doctor. His mind turned to business. Manohar Lal borrowed money from his family to open a shop near Sadar Bazaar. Hard work and determination showed results, and the shop proved to be a successful venture. Manohar Lal was able to return the borrowed money to his parents, get his younger sister married,

and call two siblings to Delhi in order to live with him. He also pursued and completed his graduation from Delhi University while simultaneously managing his business activities. By now, Manohar Lal's life was turning towards yet another path.

The Emergency was imposed in 1975, and lasted for the next two years. At the age of 21, for the first time, Manohar Lal found himself paying attention to the topics like nationality, unity and politics. His mind began to contemplate ideas beyond himself or his immediate surroundings. It was then that he first came into contact with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.

When he personally saw RSS volunteers protest during the Emergency, sit on Satyagrah, court arrest and shout slogans for Bharat Mata, all for freedom, he began



"Life is not only for one's self, but for the society as a whole"

Manohar Lal Khattar

to ponder that people who were ready to put their lives at stake for the nation must be having a good motive at heart. In 1977, with this thought, he decided to join the RSS at the young age of 24 years.

In January 1979, he had an opportunity to attend a large congregation of Vishva Hindu



Parishad at Prayag (Allahabad). Over there, he interacted with numerous learned saints and intellectuals of Hindu society at the Kumbh Mela.

As the light of a new day dawned, Manohar Lal visited the sacred Triveni Sangam, which was a turning point of his life. It was here that he contemplated that life should not be concerned about the self, but for the nation as a whole. He consequently decided that from that point of time he would dedicate his life for the welfare of the country.

As a result, Manohar Lal devoted his life as an RSS full time worker (Pracharak) by 1980. His zeal and dedication slowly and steadily increased his responsibilities within the organization.

This was against everything his family had planned for him, and initially, the resistance from his parents was enormous. They had wanted a traditionally normal life, family and material success for their eldest son, but Manohar Lal wanted to do something else. Instead of living for himself, he wanted to live for his country and his countrymen. This idea had taken hold of him, and there was no turning back.



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