## PM TO HEAD COMMITTEE FOR 2550TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF LORD BUDDHA MAHAPARINIRVANA

## New Delhi November 10, 2005

The Government has constituted a National Committee for the celebrations of 2550th anniversary of Mahaparinirvana of Lord Buddha. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh will be the Chairman of the Committee, while Sh. S. Jaipal Reddy, Minister of Information & Broadcasting and Culture, will be the Vice-Chairman. The Committee will chalk out programmes for celebrations of the anniversary at the national level.

The 38-member committee has, among others, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Smt. Sonia Gandhi, Shri Prakash Karat, Shri A. B. Bardhan, Dr. Karan Singh, Dr. Kapila Vatsayayan, Shri S. N. Goenka, Vipasana Institute, Ms. Mayawati, MP, (Rajya Sabha), Rev. Bhikkhu Vimalananda, Vice-President, Arunachal Bhikkhu Sangha and Ven. Lama Zotspa, President, Himalayan Buddhist Association as members

BAE AD:PC:PGP