SOLUTION TO WAR IS NOT WAR

rn Indian epics like the Mahabharata and Ramayana, there are instances where protagonists like Yudhisthira and Sri Rama tried to avoid war through peaceful means and negotiations, demonstrating the importance of diplomacy and conflict avoidance. On the other hand, antagonists like Duryodhana and Ravana rejected proposals for peace, leading to destructive wars. This illustrates that the rejection of diplomacy can have dire consequences. It emphasizes the perpetuation of violence through cycles of revenge. When a warrior or a nation is defeated in war, the desire for vengeance may drive them to seek further conflict, making the problem of war more complex. The reference to the two world wars suggests that the first world war served as a precursor to the second due to the unresolved issues and resentments that persisted. The war is closely linked to exploitation and imperialism. Powerful nations often exploit weaker ones, and when the exploited seek justice, they may resort to war. Thus, the eradication of atrocities and injustice is essential to prevent conflicts.

The solution to war is not more war but rather addressing the root causes of conflicts, which includes stopping exploitation and injustice. Only when these underlying issues are resolved can the cycle of violence be broken. The importance of diplomacy, justice, and conflict resolution in preventing wars and highlights the dangers of perpetuating violence through a cycle of revenge. It underscores the need for addressing the underlying causes of conflicts to achieve lasting peace.

ZANSKAR: The Land of inner Himalayas

n the midst of western snowy Himalayas at an elevation arounding 7,150 Mts (22,594 ft) from mean sea level (M.S.L), lying between 77 degree Latitude, 33 degree longitude are situated 'Zanskar Mountains Rang', Intervening - Deosal Mountains to its North-West and "Bara Lacha La" to its South-East encompassing snowy glaciers with enchanting valleys in her lap in and around the the vicinity of Kargil - the most prominent. Chorobat pass, Lamasyutru, Rupshu to the North and Dras, Amarnath ji, sanctum sanctorum. Nun and Umas La to the south.

And so charming and hunting are honey-dewed - Deosal plains, just below Deosal Mountains, where one can most conveniently attribute, a piece of heaven, though of course, mistakenly fallen over here by the almighty Gods and Goddess . And then river Sindh off-shooting from lake 'Mansarovar' serpently crowing up and down is the rarer of the rarest Ral river route's adapality. Is it not astonishing to every human, who so ever glimpses even through google indeed? Yes, one becomes wonderstuck beyond any shadow of doubt and all this finds illustration in the most popular Rajtarangini by Kalhana . Rightly has thus remarked by Dr. EF Neve, Ancient India has nothing more worthy of its remote civilization than the grand remains of Kashmir which though inferior to Palmya or Persepoils in stateliness, are in possession of beauty so immensely superior to either". Arrounding 20 Kms to the south, Rangdum finds its

existence of Pazila, in other words also nomenclaturised as Pazita, top perched upon some 4400 mts form Mean sea level (M.S.L) and while crossing this beauteous watershed , lies the most prominent Zanskar , de facto, the most secluded of almost all the "Trans- Himalayan valleys. The meadowy tableland is the rarer of the rarest picturesque velvety spot with milky clouds wafting the azure sky and as the road winds down the steepy slopes toward the head of 'Stood valley, one becomes wonderstuck viewing the most enchanting and haunting, the main tributary valleys of Zanskar The mighty and the majestic 'Drang-Drung', glacier which looms large into its fullest view.

And so true is with majestic and mighty 'Zanskar' where the narrow snowy uplands extend far and wide for miles and miles in togetherness far away hills which surround the Sindh river, where all the slopes, its steeps and meadow are covered with milk-white snows with a multihued honey dewed herbs and shrubs and further where rushing silvery steams, with nectar clear water outflows. It is here in the interiors of Zanskar which courses through splendid scenery of sylvanite splendor.

Zanskar comprises of a triarmed (three armed valley, a system which is lying between the greater Himalayana Range vis-a- vis Zanskar lofty mountains having similarity of snow-capped high-altitudinal clifts and as on the date occupies its own uniqueness and appropriate placements of prominency, apart from its seculadedness and to the least interfering with Ladhak as a whole in so far as microcosomical phenomenon is concerned. And of course, some of the religious endowments have, de facto, evolved with revolving wheel of time over the remote past. And which way the prominent caves have taken use of transmigration to transcendentalism and meditate though ambiguously is hyphothetical insofaras it goes to the eminency of 'Buddhist's saints and sages

Down the ages, Chinese pilgrims of whom Hiuen Tsang is a living legend in our olden yet golden scripts who transversed Leh, Ladhak, Kargil and Zanskar around seventeenth century and was eminently been captivated by lovely and enchanting beauty of Zanskar amongst other paradisical places. And the "Kailasa' and its surrounds including Zanskar is the best place in the world. And amongst snowy Himalayas, next ro the vale of Kashmir which is nomenclaurised as paradise on mother Earth as thus written and reflected by Kalhana, in his historical treatise "Rajtarangni".

A century and a half ago, French authorities deputed their most prominent Naturalist and bontanist by name "Victor Jacquenment" to go as a travelling naturalist, preferably to the interiors of greater Himalayas and in his monumental collection of data from greater Himalayas was later published after his death in six volumes which added considerably the beauties of the greater Himalayas of Leh, Ladhak, Kargil and Zanskar, preferably the immersive importance of rich, vide, varied manifestation of flora and funa recorded in everyday language much of what he noticed and experienced.

Undeniably, therefore, it is on record that as per the latest survey conducted by wildlife department there are on this date as many as many as 800 black bears out of which 80% exists in Zanskar whereas the rest are spreaded over the other part of great Himalayan region to our part of territory, apart from many more varied flora and launa in the greater part of the Himalayas and its surrounds.

Conclusively, therefore, it is no denying the fact that if our pride the greater Himalaya is the crown of India, Zanskar is doubtlessly a golden feather in it and in the ultimate analysis, add here an important quote of our reversed guruii. Sh R. N. Tagore, "He lies lost who confines himself to his own self, he attains self-expression who realizes himself in all".

(The writer is former Deputy Conservator of Forests, J&K).

West Asia on boil, need for an Indian Brace Up

RAMESHWAR SINGH JAMWAL

he recent massacre of more than a thousand innocents by Hamas in Israel and L the subsequent ongoing offensive by Israel, leading to death of hundreds of other civilians, and the possibility of the conflagration flaring up further with involvement of more Islamic countries and possible involvement of US in the war portends ominous signals not only for the residents of the region but will affect millions all across globe. India, which has high stakes in stability in the region and having good relations with all stake holders has to walk the tight rope with caution, where there will be litmus test for the diplomacy of Indian government. Can India, offer its good offices to prevent further damage to human and other losses and also succeed in convincing the world about the immediate need to tackle terrorism and help in bringing smiles to millions from both sides. and prevent such disasters from occurring in future will further enhance India's reputation as a serious global player. It will also help in tackling the monster of terrorism in the sub continent but will require concerted efforts from the mandarins from different ministries and the direct involvement and super vision of Indian Prime Minister, who while speaking in Parliaments Speakers Summit (P-20) had highlighted the issue of differences in perception of many countries, about terrorism and the need to have a uniform definition and uniform means to tackle it. It may be highlighted that The United Nations Security Council in its resolution 1566(2004), had stated that:

"Criminal acts, including against civilians, committed with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or taking of hostages, with

the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act, which constitute offences within the scope of and as defined in the international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, are under no circumstances justifiable by considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other similar nature, and called upon all states to prevent such acts and if not prevented, to ensure that such acts are punished by penalties consistent with their grave

Similarly Security Council Resolution 1373(2001) had noted a close connection between international Terrorism and Transnational organized crime, trafficking in illicit drugs, money laundering, illegal arms trafficking and illegal movement of nuclear, chemical and biological and other potentially deadly materials. It had also noted that terrorist groups have established operational, logistical and financial links with other criminal groups and support each other.

But we failed to recognize the importance of these resolutions and the immense benefits which would have accrued if the same had been adopted by all member states. I remember that in 2005, when I got the opportunity to speak in Bangkok in the Plenary session of 11th United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime conference, where world leaders from more than 163 countries were listening, I had spoken about the need to tackle the menace at war footing and had brought to the knowledge of world leaders that incidents of terrorism had brought two

the brink of war several times and the same can happen in other countries, but the Western world had not realized the gravity of the issue and then 9/11 occurred and the perceptions and needs changed. But the Islamic world is still living in an illusion that it will not be affected by the scourge which is meant to devour only the others and they seem to be living in a make believe world. For the last few decades, tentatively more than a million Muslims have been killed in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Lebnon and many other Muslim countries, due to acts of terrorism. It has also caused huge financial loss to the economies of those countries due to the problem of terrorism with Svria alone losing more than fifty percent of its GDP and the rest of countries affected by it losing more than 10% of their GDP. This translates into Billions which money could have been used for alleviating poverty in Pakistan or many African countries, where Islam is the main religion. But they have not learnt any lessons from it and many still continue to tread this path of death and destruction.

In these trying situations, we should not be caught napping. Besides acting diplomatically and helping the return of peace, we must also brace up for the possible impacts of the problem on our country. There will be impact on our relations with many countries in the region, and on our economy if, oil prices shoot up. The India-Middle East- Europe Economic (IMEC) corridor will get delayed, all possible outcomes of G-20 meets and UN Sustainable Goals will become difficult to be achieved in the time frames set up for them, compounding the problems of those nations which would have benefitted from these

forces and many unimagined consequences at different levels, which require to be foreseen and strategies need to be devised for such eventuali-

We need not remind the perpetrators and their sponsors that acts of Terrorism cause more loss of life, destruction and damage in the areas, where they operate. The human cost of terrorism is very high and it threatens human security and has a devastating effect on development of the regions where ever its foot prints are strong. The lethality of terrorist acts is on the rise and terrorist threat creates unprecedented dangers. The international community understands the grave dangers of terrorism and has been trying to match the response by different means yet the regimes and the sponsors of such inhuman acts need to understand that the collateral damage of response is much more painful and devastating than the sadistic satisfaction of seeing your perceived enemies in agony after such incidents. If such countries need some technical assistance, face difficulty in devising mechanisms, training officials, funding or other means, there are international bodies to assist but the change of heart, thinking mechanisms and will power to change cannot be brought by outsiders, this has to come from within and for that Indian Philosophy can be the game changer and all that we need to do at the moment is to let the world understand that our slogan of 'Vasudev Kutumbkam' (World is one family) is not an empty rhetoric but our sincere commitment to bring positive change in the destiny of nations and the sufferings of billions.

(The author is practicing Advocate of J&K High Court).

Sex Education in Schools: Concept, Benefits and Prospects

ex education at the school level typically covers a range of topics related to human Sexuality, reproductive health, relationships, and personal development. The content and approach to sex education can vary widely between countries, regions, and even individual schools. The other aspects of sex education include: a. Anatomy and Physiology:Basic understanding of human reproductive anatomy physiology.Menstruation ejaculation. Fertilization and conception. b. Puberty:Physical and emotional changes during puberty. Hormonal changes and their

effects. Hygiene and self-care during puberty. c. Sexual Health:Information about sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Strategies for preventing STIs.Importance of regular checkups and screenings. d. Contraception: Types of contraceptives available. How contraceptives work.Importance of responsible and informed decision-making. e. Emotional and Social Aspects:Building relationships.Communication skills.Consent and boundaries. Recognizing and preventing

unhealthy relationships. f. Respect and Diversity: Understanding and respecting diverse gender orientations and identities.Combating discrimination and bullving. g. Decision-Making and Peer Pressure:Encouraging critical thinking and decision-making skills. Discussing peer pressure and how to resist it. h. Legal and Ethical Aspects: Age of consent. Legal implications of sexual activity. Ethical considerations in relationships.i. Media Literacy: Analyzing and critiquing media messages related to sex and relaand

tionghing Values Beliefs:Recognizing and respecting diverse cultural and religious beliefs regarding sexuality. Encouraging open discussions about personal values, i. Parental Involvement: Promoting communication between parents and children on sexual health topics. Recognizing the role of parents in providing ongoing guidance. It's important for sex education programs to be ageappropriate, culturally sensitive, and inclusive. Providing accurate information in a supportive

and non-judgmental environment is crucial for helping students make informed and responsible decisions regarding their sexual health and relationships.

Public perception

Public perception about sex education varies widely based on cultural, religious, and regional factors: a. Supportive Views:Health Advocates: Many health professionals and educators support comprehensive sex education as a means of promoting sexual health, preventing STIs, and reducing unintended pregnancies. Parents: Some parents believe that sex education is essential for providing accurate information to their children, helping them make informed decisions and navigate relationships responsibly, b. Concerns and Criticisms:Religious and Cultural Beliefs: In some communities, there are concerns about sex education conflicting with religious or cultural values. Some argue that discussions about sexuality should be reserved for families and religious institutions.Age Appropriateness: Some people are concerned about the age at which sex education is introduced, fearing that it might expose children to information they are not ready to handle. c. Abstinence-Only Education:Advocates: There are individuals and groups who support abstinence-only education, promoting the idea that abstaining from sexual activity until marriage is the best approach. Critics: Critics argue that abstinence-only education may be unrealistic and insufficient, and that comprehensive sex education is more effective in preparing young people for the complexities of relationships and health. d. LGBTQ+ Inclusion:Supporters: Many people advocate for the inclusion of LGBTQ+ topics in sex edu cation to promote inclusivity and understanding of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.Opposition: Some individuals, often due to religious or conservative beliefs, may resist the inclusion of LGBTQ+ content in sex education programs. e. Gender Roles and Stereotypes:Supporters: Some appreciate efforts to challenge traditional gender roles and stereotypes in sex education, promoting equality and respect in relationships. Opposition:

Others may resist changes that challenge traditional gender norms, viewing them as contrary to their cultural or personal beliefs. f. Communication with Parents:Support: Many experts recommend involving parents in the sex education process, fostering open communication and collaboration between schools and families.Concerns: Some parents may feel uncomfortable or hesitant about discussing certain topics with their children, preferring that discussions happen within the family. Public perception can evolve over time as societies become more informed and attitudes

Benefits of sex education

Sex education offers numerous benefits to individuals, communities, and societies as a whole. Some key advantages include: a. Reduced Teenage Pregnancy:Comprehensive sex education has been linked to lower rates of teenage pregnancy. By providing information on contraception and responsible sexual behaviour, young people are better equipped to make informed decisions about their reproductive health. b. Prevention of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs):Sex education programs educate individuals about the risks of sexually transmitted infections and how to protect themselves. This knowledge can contribute to lower rates of STIs by promoting safe sexual practices. c. Informed Decision-Making:Sex education empowers individuals to make informed decisions about their sexual health. It provides knowledge about contraception, consent, and the consequences of sexual activity, allowing individuals to make choices aligned with their values and prefer-

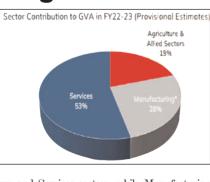
Relationships:Understanding the principles of communication, consent, and respect within the context of sex education fosters the development of healthy relationships. This can contribute to reduced instances of relationship violence and abuse. e. Improved Mental Health:Open discussions about sexuality and relationships can contribute to improved mental health by reducing stigma, shame, and anxiety related to sexual issues. It helps indi-

viduals develop a positive and realistic attitude towards their bodies and relationships, f. Gender Equality and Empowerment:Sex education that challenges traditional gender roles and stereotypes promotes gender equality. It empowers individuals to make choices based on their own desires and preferences rather than conforming to societal expectations. g. Understanding of Consent:Sex education emphasizes the importance of consent in sexual relationships. This knowledge is crucial for preventing sexual assault and ensuring that individuals understand the boundaries and rights of themselves and their partners. h. Respect for Diversity:Inclusive sex education programs acknowledge and respect diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. This contributes to creating a more tolerant and Communication: Sex education encourages open communication between parents and children about sexual health. This helps create a supportive environment where individuals feel comfortable seeking guidance and advice from trusted adults. j. Reduced Stigma and Shame:Education about sexuality can reduce stigma and shame associated with sexual topics. By providing accurate information and fostering open discussions, sex education helps normalize discussions about a natural aspect of human life. k. Social and Economic Benefits:Lower rates of unintended pregnancies and STIs can have broader social and economic benefits. It can lead to improved educational outcomes, greater workforce participation, and reduced strain on healthcare systems. l. Prevention of Bullying and Discrimination: Sex education that add diversity and inclusivity can contribute to the prevention of bullying and discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identitv.In conclusion, sex education plays a crucial role in promoting the overall well-being of individuals and society by providing accurate information, fostering healthy attitudes, and empowering individuals to make responsible choices related to their sexual health.

(The author is a Youth Motivator).

Investing in the Manufacturing Theme: The Engine of Growth

my, the pil growth typically rest on three fundamental sec- \mathbf{t} or \mathbf{s} Manufacturing Services, and Agriculture India, a promisingemerging market, excels in



both the Agriculture and Services sectors, while Manufacturing retains significant untapped potential till now. But the future is more manufacturing-oriented as the stars are now better aligned.

Source: budget documents

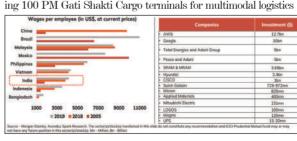
Manufacturing is a cornerstone of economic growth, driving selfsufficiency, exports, and job creation. It reduces reliance on imports, fostering economic stability. The sector also bolsters foreign exchange earnings and nurtures vital symbiotic relationships with services like logistics and finance. Technological innovation and increased productivity stem from manufacturing, spurring overall growth. It serves as a crucible for inventive research and development, propelling transformative technologies. Importantly, it offers substantial employment opportunities, lowering unemployment rates and elevating living standards, underpinning a nation's economic well-being.

Manufacturing: A Key Driver of India's Growth

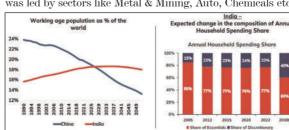
The shift from agriculture, which currently employs over 40% of the Indian workforce, to a manufacturing-based economy can substantially contribute to economic growth and generate more employment opportunities. Towards this, the government has also implemented several positive initiatives for the Manufacturing sector, such as the Production Linked Incentives (PLI) scheme. This initiative aims to enhance domestic manufacturing, reduce import dependency, and generate employment. Additionally, infrastructure development in the form of expressways, railways, airports, ports, and logistics synergies under the PM Gatishakti National Master Plan is set to boost the manufacturing ecosystem.

Some examples of the infrastructure focus are, completing 25,000

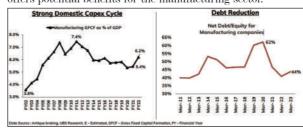
km national highways in 2022-23.Extending coverage under Kavach (the indigenous world class technology), One Station One Product concept to help local businesses & supply chains & develop-



India's competitive labor costs and the need to diversify supply chains also puts India as one of the destinations. Capex by latest MNCs in India shot up by 22% YoY in March-23 which was led by sectors like Metal & Mining, Auto, Chemicals etc.



A youthful population and increasing consumption favor the Manufacturing theme. Moreover, a robust domestic Capex cycle, coupled with debt reduction and high profit margins, offers potential benefits for the manufacturing sector.



Why Choose ICICI Prudential Manufacturing Fund? The ICICI Prudential Manufacturing Fund is aligned with the Manufacturing theme's growth potential. Also, the fund has consistently outperformed its benchmark

Index over 1 & 3-years. Focused on Manufacturing: The fund allocates a minimum of 80% of its assets to companies engaged in the manufacturing sector, providing investors with

exposure to the industry's growth prospects. ▶ Diversified across Sectors: With the flexibility to invest in both cyclical and defensive sectors within the manufacturing domain, this fund offers risk diversification and the opportunity to capture growth in various segments

▶ Blend of Growth & Value: The ICICI Prudential Manufacturing Fund employs a balanced investment style that combines growth and value-oriented strategies, optimising returns while managing risk.

▶ Market Cap Agnostic: The fund is not constrained by market capitalisation, enabling it to invest in companies of all sizes, from large to mid and small-cap firms, providing flexibility and potential for higher

For those interested in harnessing the growth potential of the Manufacturing theme, the ICICI Prudential Manufacturing Fund presents a compelling opportuni-

