

GOOD USE OF TIME

To make good use of time, time should be fixed for doing each task. If we do all the work on time, we will find how pleasant, peaceful and organized our life is. We will never have to regret. People who do not understand the importance of time, gossip unnecessarily, wander here and there, do not work in a planned manner, they lag behind in the race of life.

None of his work is completed on time. Time slips away like dry sand and he keeps rubbing his hands. We can't do anything after the time is up. 'Tulsidas has said, 'Ka Varsha Jab Krishi Sukhani' i.e. rain has no importance after the agriculture dries up. Similarly, we cannot do anything after the time expires, hence we should finish all our work on time.

The importance of time is even greater in the lives of students. Students who start studying regularly from the beginning of the session do not waste any time. They do not feel any nervousness at the time of examination.

Prakat Huye Shir Ram, Sakshi Bana Hindustan

■ OMKAR DATTATRAY

The day of 22nd January 2024 will be written with the golden letters in the history of independent India as on this day Shri Ram has appeared in the child form .With the consecration of Ram Lalla ,a new chapter has begin and Prime minister was the main Yazman of the Pran Pratishta of Ram Lalla .The inauguration and consecration of Lord Ram is an event which has cultural and political connotations. The consecration of Ram and inauguration of the grand Ram temple is in fact a success from a commitment(sanklap).The pooja archana has been performed near the sanctum sanctorum of the temple .The whole Hindustan has become the proof of the appearance of Shri Ram .With Vedic hymns Ram Lalla has been propitiated by the learned Pundits and prime minister Narendra Modi .RSS chief Mohan Bagwat,Anandi Ben Patel-governor of UP and chief minister Adityanath and in all five VVIP's were present on this historical event inside the Grab Graha and with the culmination of the consecration of Shri Ram Lalla ,the Lord Ram was installed and with the inauguration of the Ram temple ,the dispute and controversy about the Ram Janambooni has come to an end very judiciously and peacefully .It is not only the installation of an idol but it is the establishment of the national faith and pride and it will pave way for Hindutva. It is good luck of not only of India but of the whole world that honorable Prime minister Narendra Modi has with his own hands performed the consecration of the Ram Lalla.PM has observed the complete fast of eleven days when learned Pundits have suggested to him the fast of three days only .Ram Lalla was in exile for 500 years and was living in a tent and now he has returned to his permanent abode in a grand temple. The people had tolerated the disconnection of more than five hundred years and after great struggle of centuries ,Ram temple is now a reality .The Prime minister has rightly said that it is not only triumph of the Indian but its modesty as well and ,it is firmness of the Indian values .Ram is not fire but energy and Ram is for all and there is place for everyone in the country. With the consecration of Ram Lalla ,the beginning of new time cycle and the present ceremony will be remembered after thousand years .It is the victory of Indian culture ,heritage and traditions .Besides being a place of worship and therefore the ceremony of Pran Pratishta symbolizes national pride and cultural triumph.The consecration of Lord Ram and the inauguration of the grand temple at the birth place of Lord Ram in Ayodhya is the foundation stone for the Ram Rajya and thus the new style of governance is the need of the present time and the world that is steeped into greed and exploitation .It is not for nothing that Gandhi the father of the nation had made advocacy for Ram Rajya which is the ideal rule and represents good governance and transparency .There is no discrimination and difference between the citizens in Ram Rajya as all will be treated equally in such a dispensation .The prime Minister Modi and chief minister Yogi has said in unequivocal terms that the present consecration ceremony of Ram Lalla is the beginning of the Ram Rajya .Thus it seems that Ram Rajya will be installed in the due course of time .The UP chief minister Yogi said that the Ram Rajya has begun.RSS chief Dr Mohan Bagwat said that the ceremony of Pran Pratishta is the return of national pride and self respect .After the five hundred years of exile ,Ram has entered into a grand Ram temple and with this the long weight of the people has come to an end .This is not an ordinary time but it will be seen in the minds of people .Ram is not only a Hindu deity ,but is the eternity ,trust ,thinking and is the essence and soul of India and he is worthy of being propitiated .Ram has ruled for thousands of years and Ram Rajya was thriving in Tritya younga .Ram is our direction and is the symbol of our philosophy and he is above differences and discrimination and it will become our path bearear.Modi said we should work incessantly for the national and cultural awakening and reconstruction .India will again become a Vishwa Guru and world leader and will guide the whole humanity .It is very unfortunate and painful that Ram Lalla was residing in a tent/make shift accommodation for more than 30 years and now with the installation of Ram in the new grand temple ,a new history has taken birth and the construction of Ram temple and the Pran Pratishta is the story of struggle and sacrifices of hundreds of Ram devotees and Karsaveks .The present spectacle in Ayodhya is the in fact the glimpse of not only Ram Lalla only ,but is the glimpse of mini India as people from all parts of the country assembled at Ayodhya and it was a grand show of national and cultural unity and reflects and symbolizes the victory of Indian culture .VVIP's from different fields of life were invited to the holy function as people from Hollywood ,bollywood ,business ,industry ,politics and religion attended the consecration ceremony of Lord Ram and the presence of the people from different fields resulted added more grace to the already graceful and momentous occasion.PM Modi said after the consecration ceremony that our Ram has arrived through the wait ,patience and sacrifice of centuries.He further said ,"Ram Lalla won't have to live in a tent anymore ,he will live in a grand temple .Modi also said "The sunrise of January 22 has brought a wonderful glow .January 22,2024 ,is not a date written on the calendar .It is the origin of a new time cycle." The Pran Pratishta ceremony or the act of giving life to an idol ,transform it into a deity ,giving it the capacity to accept prayers and grant boons .At least 8,000 invitees ,including dignitaries ,celebrities and industrialists ,took part in the event .January 22,2024 is not merely a date but marks the advent of a new era .Even after thousands of years ,people will remember this date and moment. It is Rama's supreme blessings that we are witnessing it ."said Modi.PM Modi also thanked the Supreme Court of India for dispensing justice," and said that temple was built in accordance with the law .In brief it can be said that the country has made a history by building a grand Ram temple and performing the Pran Pratishta of Ram Lalla and inauguration of the Ram temple .May Ram help us to make the country self reliant and in making a developed India .Let us follow the values and teachings of Lord Ram to be successful citizens.

(The author is a columnist,social and KP activist).

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) -Empowering Farmers for a Sustainable Future

■ DR. BANARSI LAL

Agriculture is an engine of growth and development and a significant contributor to the national economy which has been greatly influenced by the process of globalization. There is a matter great concern about imbalance of total production, the urban-rural divide, national food security and economic access to food. The agricultural strategy in the country seeks to bridge the product and production gaps. The policy envisages promotion of sustainable agriculture through a regionally differentiated approach, improvement in the input use efficiency, development and transfer of technology. There is a need to focus on technology generation and its application in agro-ecological or social circumstances. India is one of the biggest food consumers in the world and there is dire need to keep our agricultural sector vibrant and alive for our food security. Agriculture continues to be an occupation and way of life for more than half of the Indian population. Majority of our country population owes its social, economic and even cultural life to this sector. Governments after governments gave the importance to agriculture but when it comes to policy making then it is left to struggle. There is a dearth of basic infrastructure in agriculture for instance irrigation, post-harvest facilities, research centres, loan facilities etc. which have impact on farmer income levels. India was facing the formidable famine in 1960s and then the Prime Minister Sh. Lal Bahadur Shastri successfully led the country to Green Revolution. With green revolution India became self-dependent in food production and leaped miles forward in staple food production. The sole objective of green revolution was to increase the crops productivity and acreage. This led to excessive use of fertilizers, pesticides and other agro-chemicals. Now the states like Punjab, the biggest beneficiary of green revolution has started facing the problem of soil health deterioration, reduction in crop productivity and high cost of cultivation. There is need to create awareness on the soil health management and sustainable agricul-

ture.

Jammu and Kashmir is a mountainous Union Territory in which about 30 per cent of the area is under cultivation. Jammu and Kashmir is located between 32.17 and 37.06 North latitude and 73.2 and 80.36 East longitude in the Himalayan region. The agro-diversity of the UT varies from sub-tropical in Jammu region, temperate in Kashmir region. The average annual rainfall of these two regions is 1069mm and 660mm respectively. The average temperatures of these two regions are 24.5 and 13.3 Centigrade respectively. There is dire need to increase the income and employment in agriculture and allied sectors for the farmers in J&K. This is possible to increase the production and productivity of the crops and to enable the farmers to diversify their crop production. By adopting the modern technologies in agriculture and establishing the infrastructure for the farm production. There is need to promote the diversification in agriculture and move towards high value crops like vegetables, aromatic and medicinal plants, saffron, mushroom, beekeeping, silkworms, pulses etc. This UT is endowed with ample natural resources including soil, water, climatic condition, diversity, topography, rich natural flora etc. which are conducive for the cultivation of a wide range of crops. It is a matter of grave concern that the interest of younger generation in the UT is dwindling towards agriculture. Maize is first rank crop in J&K occupying one-third of the total cropped area, rice at number second in 28.58 per cent area of gross cropped area and wheat at number three which covers around 26 per cent of the total cropped area.

The Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) area considered as one of the best models of extension in India. They are functioning as knowledge and resource centres of agricultural technology supporting initiatives of public, private and voluntary sector for improving the agricultural economy of the district. They are also known as Farm Science Centers are agricultural extension centres created and nurtured by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and its affiliated institu-

tions at the district level throughout the country to provide the agricultural technical guidelines to the farmers. In 1964-66, the Education Commission of Government of India under the chairmanship of Dr.D.S.Kothari gave recommendations for the application of science to productive process including agricultural education. A committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Mohan Singh Mehta was constituted by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) in 1973 which further gave the recommendations for the establishment of KVKs in the country. The first Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) was established in 1974 at Pudducherry under Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore by the ICAR, New Delhi and presently KVK system has grown as the largest network in the country. At present, the ICAR has established 731 KVKs all over the country under different organizations like State Agricultural Universities, the ICAR institutes, Deemed Universities, Central Institutes, State Governments and NGOs. In Jammu and Kashmir ICAR has established KVKs under two agricultural universities SKUAST-Jammu, SKUAST-Kashmir and under Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture (CITH). These KVKs are playing a pivotal role in transformation in rural areas of the UT by updating the rural people about the latest agricultural technologies. The KVKs empower the farmers through need-based farmers awareness/ trainings and help to change the socio-economic status of the different categories of the farmers. Throughout the UT the Krishi Vigyan Kendras play a vital role in conducting on-farm testing to demonstrate location specific technologies, lay out Front Line Demonstrations(FLDs) to prove the production potential of various crops at farmers fields, impart need-based and skill oriented training to the practicing farmers, farm women, rural youths and in-service extensional functionaries.KVK also creates awareness on improved technologies through various extension methods, produce and provide improved quality seeds, organic inputs,

biofertilizers, planting material, livestock, poultry, fisheries etc. to the farmers and work as agricultural knowledge centers for the public, private and voluntary organizations. These Kendras cater the needs of those who wish to be self-employed or those who are already employed. There is no specific syllabus for the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs). The programmes and action plan of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras are designed according to the needs, resources and potential for the agricultural growth in a particular area and is finally decided by involving the Chief Agriculture Officer and allied departments heads, Panches/Sarpanches and also progressive farmers of the district.

Follow-up of extension programmes are conducted after trainings in order to get the impact of the trainings and Front Line Demonstrations (FLDs) and proper documentation of the programmes is also done by the KVKs. The KVKs also take the help of mass media (electronic and print both) for timely dissemination of agricultural information even to the farmers of far-flung areas. Co-ordination of various development departments and private agencies plays a vital role for the success of extension programmes of KVKs. The KVKs also conduct technology weeks to create awareness among the farmers about the latest technologies in agriculture and allied sectors and disseminate the agricultural information to the farmers of respective districts through short message service (SMS) portals. Through impact assessment it has been observed that with the introduction of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in J&K the adoption rate of modern agricultural technologies have been increased and majority of the farmers of the state are using hybrid/improved/high yielding varieties of maize, paddy, wheat, pulses, oilseeds etc. KVKs are diverting the farmers from subsistence farming to commercial farming. Krishi Vigyan Kendras are said to be the agricultural knowledge hubs for the farmers' prosperity in the state.

(The writer is Sr. Scientist & Head, KVK, Reasi).

Ram Mandir: A Paradigm shift in Indian Thought

■ RAMESHWAR SINGH JAMWAL

A significant development, which has not happened ever in India's Judicial System, Bar Council of India has asked CJI Mr. Y.V. Chandrachud to declare holiday on 22nd January for all courts all across the country so that the persons in the Judiciary could perform religious functions from their homes or by going to Ayodhya to participate in the consecration of Bhagwan Ram's idol in the newly constructed Ram Mandir. This move negates the perception of many, especially in the opposition political class, that those interested in the movement are a fringe element or belong to a particular thought process represented by RSS or BJP, as the massive crowds during the processions and small events occurring throughout the country point out. The way the entire world's eyes are focused on this mega event, which has led to euphoria amongst millions of followers of Hindu Dharma and heartburn amongst many in the followers of other religion, who feel wronged by the event, it is imperative to understand the significance of the event and the consequences which will follow after the event. BJP will certainly reap the fruits of this euphoric culmination of the movement it launched several decades back in the coming elections and the opposition parties, especially Congress will be the major loser but for millions, who are feeling elated at this juncture, the gain or loss by political parties pales into insignificance. It is the sense of internal satisfaction and joy that they feel after several

centuries of struggle for getting a wrong undone, not that they feel satisfaction in demolition of another's place of worship of the same power, which they would be worshipping in another way. Lord Ram does not represent the ideology of hurting the feelings of anyone or killing all opposed to him, but represented a regime to provide succor to every individual from tyrannical forces represented by demonic forces. He did not indulge in massacre of the defeated forces represented by Ravana and did no harm to the civilian population of Lanka and it is this thought process which needs to be understood and strengthened with the start of regular pilgrimage after the inauguration ceremony is over on 22nd January. The irreversible has happened and without going into the happenings which led to the events and scars for several centuries, the nation has to move forward. There will be forces and individuals who will not allow the things to settle down so easily but we must not forget that we have bigger challenges to face in the near future and must not lower our guards even in these joyous moments. There are international political events happening all around us, which have security implications for us, the scourge of terrorism, drug crimes, social and economic inequalities and much more is still haunting us and we have to keep the country on the track of growth for making the country developed by 2047, as conceived by the Prime Minister and at the same time not losing our identity as the spiritual torch bearer of the world, by spread-

ing the Indian Philosophical thought process represented by Lord Ram, Lord Krishna and many others, belonging to different religions and sects which exist in India. Lord Rama's teachings and acts, are misinterpreted by many, according to their 'Vritti' or nature and the amount of their intellect and these disinformation campaigns are bound to happen as there are many versions of Ramyana as well, written by sages, separated by centuries, but the main teachings and the way of life represented by Lord Ram and its importance in modern world cannot be lost sight of which is witnessing moral degradation, loss of respect for elders, apathy for the under privileged and many other evils, which prevail or are gaining momentum in today's fast paced world, focused only on money and material joys. Those visiting the temple after inauguration, will certainly get influenced by the ideology Lord Ram represented and in the process will get imbedded in their inner consciousness and which is far more important factor of this Mandir construction. This change in our thinking mechanisms cannot be brought by opening of hospitals or libraries, as being advocate by some. The physical Mandir will lead to a positive change in our thinking mechanisms, about the richness of our past, about the shattering of many falsehoods about existence of Lord Ram, about our scientific contributions in the past, about the ignorance of rest of world regarding our language, our culture and our ways of governance, several thou-

sands of years ago. It can also lead to the reinvigoration of our quest for finding the ultimate truth from a scientific and philosophical angle, the existence of 'Par Brahm' the dissolution of Universes (Maha Pralay), as enunciated by Rishi Vashist while teaching Lord Ram and the entire intellectual class, when Lord Ram became disenchanted in the worldly life during his early years, and which theory is now being pursued but not fully appreciated and understood by many Physicists and Cosmologists, and for efforts to truly depict the character and virtues of leading the life as enunciated in Ramayan and bring the requisite reforms in our religious, cultural and social life by starting a healthy debate, as being advocated, for several years. If we see the present moment of consecration of Idols, the opening of the grand Ram temple and the massive sense of satisfaction from these angles, we can understand that the Millions donated by more than twenty crore families in the construction of the imposing structure will be of much more value than the billions which will come to Uttar Pradesh from the development of this holy site and holy city and no religious minority shall feel pain as another massive mosque is also coming in the same city, adding to our claims of being a real secular country, where all can coexist, worship and prosper together, not being witnessed in any other country of the world.

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

Contribution of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose in Indian Freedom Struggle

■ HARPREET SINGH BRAR

Subhas Chandra Bose was one of India's greatest freedom fighter. As far as the history of India's independence struggle against the British is concerned Subhas Chandra Bose will always remain a key figure. Netaji Subhash Chander Bose decided to chart his own path towards India's independence in spite of knowing how hard it was going to be. He revived the Indian National Army, popularly known as 'Azad Hind Fauj' in 1943 which was initially formed in 1942 by Rash Behari Bose. The assault by the Indian National Army, no matter how short-lived it was, was an important factor that eventually contributed to the British decision to stop their operations and shift back to their own

land. This, in the end, did pave the way for India's independence. Subhas Chandra Bose said to the Army, "We have a grim fight ahead us for the enemy is powerful, unscrupulous and ruthless. In this final march to freedom, you will have to face hunger, privation, forced marches and death. Only when you pass this test will freedom be yours." Indian National Army carried out many fights and struggles to bring about freedom in the Indian domain. All these were only possible because of the highly intelligence of Subhas Chandra Bose.

He espoused concrete economic planning and showed the way himself. It also needs to be remembered that it was he who encouraged Indian women to play an important role in the activities for the freedom of India. A

women's regiment of Azad Hind Fauj was formed, which was under the command of Captain Lakshmi Swaminathan. It was called the Rani Jhansi regiment. The Azad Hind Fauj became the symbol of unity and heroism to the people of India. Bose motivated the troops with his fiery speeches. His famous quote is, "Give me blood, and I shall give you freedom!"

Subhas was a great adventurer as well. His military exploits, unmatched patriotism and exemplary bravery have made him a role model for the young men and women of India. He still lives within our hearts and minds and works as a leading light and source of inspiration. He played a crucial role in freeing the country from the clutches of 200 years of

British rule in his own inimitable way, much like the other leading lights of the day such as Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. He was sent to prison eleven times during 1920-1941. Till the last day of his life as an active freedom fighter; he kept the spirit of fighting the British - even at the time of his death he was planning to migrate to Russia and find a new way to combat the British - and it is this persistence and patriotic fervour that needs to be respected more than anything else. To commemorate his contribution to India's struggle for independence, every year on 23rd January, Subhas Chandra Bose's birthday is celebrated across various parts of the country.

(The writer is Main AFS Road Bathinda Punjab).

YOUR COLUMN

Pack of Surprises and Shocks

Dear Editor,

Pack of surprises and shocks is common in life. A young Muslim girl named Shabnam Shaikh has been walking from Mumbai to Ayodhya starting her journey from 21st December 2023 with her two friends Vineet Pandey and Raman Raj Sharma with saffron flag on hand greeting everyone with "Jai Sri Ram". Her unwavering devotion to Lord Ram has prompted journey of 1425 kilometres. She has referred to herself Bharatiya Sanatani Muslim. Hateful comments in social media against her have not dented her mind in her continued journey on foot. The petitioner in Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid dispute Iqbal Ansari showered rose petals on the cavalcade of Modi in front of his house in the presence of his family members treating Modi as his guest since he had gone to the place of Ansari. The one who was supposed to nurse hatred and jealousy for the construction of Ram Mandir has acted with sportsmanship spirit. It

was a pleasant surprise. An 85-year old woman from Jharkhand vowed to be silent till Ram Lalla was installed in the birth place of Ram. Her endurance and determination to be silent for over 30 long years take anybody by surprise. Some of the Congress leaders have rebelled against Rahul Gandhi for declining the invite. They have left the party in anger. In fact the ire is misdirected against Rahul Gandhi because he is not the President of the party. Mallikarjuna Kharge who happens to be the President of the party should have been the target of attack for refusing to attend. But the leaders who have left have made it abundantly clear that Kharge's writ does not run over Rahul Gandhi's. Kharge is just puppet in the hands of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi. Someone from non-Gandhi family is President to show that Gandhi family is not after power.

More surprising is the Muslim man sending holy water from Pak-occupied Kashmir's Sharda Peeth Kund to Ayodhya via UK for Ram temple consecration ceremony. For the holy water to reach India, circuitous route was taken since the postal services were suspended between India and Pakistan since the Balakote airstrikes after the 2019 Pulwama terrorist attack. The holy water has been reportedly collected by Tanveer Ahmed and his

team. Save Sharda Committee Kashmir (SSCK) founder Ravinder Pandita says that his civil society member across the Line of Control carried it to Islamabad wherefrom it was sent to his daughter Magribi in the UK who in turn handed it over to Sonal Sher, a Kashmiri Pandit activist who came to Ahmedabad in August 2023. From there it reached Pandita. Later SSCK member Manjunath Sharma handed over the holy water to Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) who in turn handed it over to Senior functionary Koteswar Rao in Ayodhya on Saturday. What is shocking, not at all surprising, is that most of the constituents of the I.N.D.I.A. bloc declined the invite to Ayodhya. The surprising part of refusal to attend the consecration ceremony by the I.N.D.I.A. team is that they get alienated from the Hindus which could be nothing but shocking to them if the Hindus turn hostile to them while voting in the Lok Sabha election. Another surprise or shock in store is in the Lok Sabha election to be held shortly.

Congress government in Karnataka blatantly refused to sanction Holiday whereas the Congress government in Himachal Pradesh sanctioned full Holiday on 22nd January 2024.

K.V. Seetharamaiah