

NEVER ALLOW PAK

The demand raised by Pakistan to have a joint probe into accidental fire of a missile should never be allowed as the same will expose Indian defence capabilities besides giving Pakistan a chance to assess the entire defence set-up in the vicinity from where the missile was shot. It is pertinent to mention that an Indian missile landed near Mian Chhnumu city in Pakistan's Punjab province on Wednesday evening without causing damage to civilian property. Taking a hard stance, Pakistan has averred that it was not satisfied with India's explanation on the 'accidental firing' of a missile and has demanded a joint probe to accurately establish the facts surrounding the incident. Of course there has been a big lacuna by the Indian side as this kind of mishandling of sensitive weaponry is unacceptable but the country has already ordered the enquiry and sooner than later things are supposed to become clear that under what circumstances this blunder has happened but what Pakistan is demanding is not advisable rather it is not possible to allow access of Indian defence systems to anyone from Pakistan. Pakistan reportedly has summoned India's Charge d'Affaires and conveyed its strong protest over the unprovoked violation of its airspace by an Indian missile. Pakistan's National Security Advisor Moeed Yusuf had questioned India's ability to handle sensitive technologies and said the Indian government did not bother to inform Pakistan about the accidental missile firing incident. Pakistan has also demanded that India must clearly explain the type and specifications of the missile that fell in Pakistani territory besides seeking the flight path/trajectory of the accidentally launched missile and how it ultimately turned and entered into Pakistan. This incident has put India in a dock as Pakistan has showered a trail of questions containing a wide range of queries which the country should have to answer as the mistake is a real big one. It is vital for India to give a satisfactory response to Pakistan as this matter is of grave concern and rogue Pakistan can also internationalize the same to gain sympathy of nations which otherwise never listened to its unfounded allegations.

NO LENIENCY

The way the security forces have neutralized four terrorists including a Pakistani belonging to Jaish-e-Mohammad terror outfit is the appropriate response to tackle with the terrorism as this scourge cannot be controlled by showing any kind of leniency. The government and the security forces should make up their minds that they will become aggressive instead of being defensive as no other option seems to be working to deal with hardcore terrorism being propelled from across the border. There is no doubt left in the fact that Pakistan is abetting terrorism in India because at number of times, the Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan has admitted rather gave a clarion call to promulgate separatism and insurgency in India for the so-called Kashmir cause. Under such circumstances, it become necessary for India to tighten noose around anyone and everyone who is indulging in anti-national or terrorist activities because the country cannot afford more damage on account of Jihad or in the name of Kashmir. The fact of the matter is that J&K is an integral part of India and therefore Pakistan or for that matter any other entity across the world has no right to interfere or even comment over the issue as Government of India is good enough to tackle its internal problems. It is pertinent to mention that four terrorists, including a Pakistani was killed and one ultra was arrested in three separate encounters with security forces in Jammu and Kashmir. The encounters took place in Pulwama, Ganderbal and Kupwara districts of the Kashmir valley. The government needs to maintain pressure on the terrorists and act tough in all cases related to the insurgency. Leniency of any sort will prove detrimental to the country and therefore it is advisable that government should give clear cut instructions to eliminate all those who have slight soft corner towards separatism because this tendency gives rise to terrorist activities which India has been facing since last over three decades as Kashmir is bleeding endlessly. Taking strict actions is a must for putting an end to the killing spree in Kashmir as already many lives have been lost and the barbarism is continuing since the last few months.

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The Dinosaur of Perfection

ing perfection. Not because perfection is not there, for, as we mentioned, in existence, everything is perfect and as it should be, but we don't perceive it that way. In our minds, we have our own idea of what perfection should look like. We think a perfect weather should be like this, or that the traffic should be such as we drive to work, or our co-workers should behave in such and such a manner etc. Very soon, we find that very little in the outside world matches our mental image of perfection. This leads to anger, frustration, irritation, and eventually to unhappiness and discomfort. Had we not set out with a preset mental image of perfection,, and had decided to take life as it comes, we would have been happy with whatever we encountered. But that rarely happens.

J Krishnamurthi once gave a magic mantra to his disciples when he said " I don't mind anything that happens". A mantra comprising of just these words, but loaded with so much wisdom and maturity. Krishnamurthi was only trying to convey that we should go with the flow, accept life and people and situations as they are, and not really have any strong resistance or negativity to whatever happens. If we are to find peace, joy and happiness, this is the mantra. All other efforts to control things, events and people in the outer world, and bring them to a state of perfection, is a waste of time, and will eventually lead to heart-breaks and sorrow.

P V Vaidyanathan

Transforming J&K Film Policy: Monumental step towards reviving J&K's lost glory

Jammu and Kashmir known for its breathtaking beauty and incredible landscape dotted with meadows, valleys, high altitude passes, dense forests, lakes, apple orchards, snow capped peaks, provide just the picture perfect for shooting a film. Several movies have been shot in this beautiful region blessed with magnificent scenic splendor, with film tourism in Jammu and Kashmir remaining as popular as ever. The Indian film industry is rekindling its romance with Kashmir, a destination once a favorite of filmmakers and the audience alike. Soon, the Valley witnessed the cameras set on its blooming tulips, placid lakes, coniferous trees and the Dal Lake.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has met Bollywood filmmakers including Ekta Kapoor, Dinesh Vijan, Imtiaz Ali, Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari and Nitesh Tiwari among others in Mumbai. He invited them to shoot in the Valley and also discussed how shooting of films can be made business-friendly in the Union Territory. The concept aims to bring back the lost glory of the valley through benefits to the local artists, including dancers, fashion designers, actors, choreographers, cinematographers, sound recordists, set designers and others.

Bollywood's love affair with the picturesque Kashmir dates back to 1960s and 70s. Back then, scores of films were set in the backdrop of the beautiful locales of the Valley. Some of the most romantic and evergreen songs were picturized in the snow-clad hills and lush green locales of Jammu and Kashmir. In

1961, Shammi Kapoor romanced Saira Banu in snow-capped mountains in Srinagar as he sang 'Chahe Koi Mujhe Jungle Kahe'. He immortalized 'Shikara' on Dal Lake in song 'Tarraf Karun Kya Uski' as he wooed a beautiful Sharmila Tagore in Kashmir Ki Kali (1964).

In late 1970s and early 80s, cinephiles witnessed Yash Chopra's love affair with the beguiling beauty of Kashmir in superhits like Kabhi Kabhi (1976), Noorie (1979) and Sisila (1981). Everybody remembers movie Betaab, starring Sunny Deol and Amrita Singh, the movie and its location was such a hit with the audience, that the Valley, which was earlier known as Hagan Valley, was renamed as Betaab Valley. Several scenes from another famous movie in 1973, Bobby, was shot in a hut, with the result it was renamed Bobby Hut.

However, by 1990s, the region witnessed some of the most violent times and Kashmir found a new narrative in cinema. The stories got consumed by the tension in the Valley. Kunal Kohli, whose film 'Fanaa' was based in Kashmir, could not shoot there. Mani Ratnam's Roja (1992) and Dil Se (1998) was set against backdrop of political turmoil in Kashmir. Mission Kashmir (2000) and Yahaan (2005) also showcased the unrest in the region. However, the rising tensions there forced filmmakers to shoot elsewhere even as they ostensibly showed Kashmir, a case in point being Roja. Mani Ratnam had planned to shoot the film in Kashmir but ended-up shifting it to Coonoor, Ooty and Manali.

Eventually, film producers and directors became hesitant to shift base to the Valley as a sense of fear and uncertainty engulfed Bollywood's once favourite backdrop. They preferred to shoot in various other regions of the country and also on the foreign shores. The exquisite locales of Ooty formed the backdrop for many other Bollywood films like Hum Aapke Hain Koun!, Maine Pyar Kiya, Deewana and Dil Se. Also, touristy landmarks of London, Paris, New York and Switzerland replaced Sonamarg, Srinagar, Gulmarg and Pahalgam.

But, now that the film directors and producers plan to return to the bay, we revisit some recent films that were shot in Kashmir: Kabir Khan directorial Bajrangi Bhaijaan starring Salman Khan in the lead role was shot at picturesque locations across the Valley including at the famous resorts of Pahalgam and Gulmarg. The song 'Bhar Do Jholi Meri' was shot at a famous shrine in Ashmuqam area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district. While shooting for the film, Salman had written on 'Twitter, "Kashmir bahut Ameer in natural beauty... Maashallah Maashallah." The climax of Bajrangi Bhaijaan was shot at Sonmarg near Thajiwas glacier. Action-driven films like 'Shershaah' has renewed the interest in border conflicts and it seems like the Indian audiences have an insatiable appetite when it comes to patriotic stories. The 'Shershaah' story is based on Kargil war and was shot in mountains of Kashmir.

Aamir Khan (who's just shot a portion of 'Laal Singh Chadha' in Ladakh) and

Rajkumar Hirani (who shot a segment of '3 Idiots' in the same location), were in the picturesque UT to launch Jammu and Kashmir's Film Policy, along with Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha. Under this new policy, drafted to promote overall growth of film industry in the Union Territory, the Jammu and Kashmir Film Development Council will be set up. J&K government will incentivize owners to reopen closed cinema halls, upgrade the existing ones and encourage setting up of multiplexes, besides offering a slew of subsidies to establish the UT as the first choice for filmmakers as a shooting destination.

The officials aim to facilitate development of shooting locales, focus on destination marketing, organize the J&K film festival and also turn their attention towards restoration and preservation of films from the region. They have promised to provide infrastructure for film screenings by reviving closed cinema halls, upgrading existing cinema halls and encouraging the setting up of multiplexes and cinema halls besides offering a slew of subsidies to establish the UT as the first choice for filmmakers as a shooting destination. It's a monumental effort to bring back film shoots to Kashmir; a sort of throwing-the-kitchen-sink effort at reviving Kashmir's glory days. 'Kashmir will now be on the international tourism map again and film shoots will not only generate employment for the people of the Valley but also invite thousands of tourists from worldwide to bask in the glory of this blessed land.'

Dairy farming-a lucrative, viable economic activity

Sajid Bashir Shah of district Ganderbal was among the educated unemployed youth of J&K, with a MBA degree in hand. He always had an eye for business after finding it futile to run after the government jobs. He once visited the veterinary campus Ganderbal to obtain first hand information about the scopes of dairy farming and other allied schemes with a mind to establish a dairy Unit in the district to earn his livelihood.

The highly enthusiastic Sajid Bashir Shah gathered all the requisite information about the Integrated Dairy Development Scheme (IDDS) and found it very interesting, lucrative and viable economic activity. Without wasting any time, he applied under the flagship IDD scheme for establishment of dairy farm. The scheme introduced by the Government, which not only focuses on providing financial assistance to the beneficiary, but also supporting the dairy producers by providing bulk milk cooling unit at, paneer making machine, Khoya making, dahi making, cream separator, ice cream making machine, butter and ghee making machine, milk van, milk ATM and DG Set at



50 per cent subsidy.

The duly prepared case was swiftly approved by the department, and Shah established the dairy farm with 25 cows within a fortnight of its approval. Initially, he procured one milking machine and DG set under the scheme for scientific milking of

Success Story

cows with uninterrupted power supply. The dairy unit was established at Darekpora Sehpora Ganderbal under IDDS in 2021-22. The farmer currently rears high quality Crossbred Holstein Friesian and Crossbred Jersey animals, besides having a good quality crop of heifers and calves ready. The lactation numbers of animals

at the farm range from one year to 4 year with an average daily milk production of 18-20 litres per cow. The estimated annual milk production of the farm is about 1.67 lakh ltrs with a turnover on account of sale of milk and other farm products is about Rs 60 lakh. After deducting all the expenses incurred on feeding, breeding, labour, culling, medications and vaccination, the estimated yearly profit of the dairy farm is Rs. 12 lakh, besides employment generation for at least 07 persons. These figures in itself speak volumes about the potential impact that these schemes can have in employ-

ment generation, poverty alleviation and food security. According to him dairy is one of the most important sectors and the vast population living in rural areas of the district relies on dairy and livestock for their livelihood and improving the position of the dairy sector in J&K is directly proportional to improving the socio-economic condition of people. This is the reason that more unemployed people, especially youth, have shown their interests in investing in this sector which is authenticated by the fact that more young entrepreneurs have already applied for various components to avail benefits of these

schemes, introduced by the Government under IDDS aimed to provide a sustainable means of income generation and self-employment for themselves besides a source of employment and inspiration for others. The beneficiary is all praise for the schemes, introduced by the Government through the Department of Animal Husbandry and is of the view that such schemes will go a long way in providing a much needed boost to the dairy sector in the valley thereby will increase employment avenues for the people of J&K, especially educated youth and decrease the unemployment ration to a great extent.

'The Kashmir Files'- A glance of genocide, ethnic cleansing of KPs

■ KUNDAN KASHMIRI

Though the movie, 'The Kashmir Files' is just a tip of iceberg of genocide, atrocities, killings, painful exodus and ethnic cleansing of Kashmiri Pandits, faced before and after turmoil in 1990 and simultaneously narrated woes, killings and tortures to world in general and Indian masses in particular from decades together under various platforms, stage, press, electronic media, through dharna, demonstrations, memorandums and petitions to all forms of Government, President of India, National and International organisations, NGOs, United nations and others, but none heard and healed our wounds and KPs continue to be in exile from last 32, rather our voice was muzzled from time to time. But it can't be denied that today after long 32 years of our gruesome turbulence and genocide, someone from filmy world has mustered courage to come forward to make a movie in the name of 'The Kashmir Files' highlighting ethnic cleansing, killings and exodus of peace-loving innocent people and also made lot of efforts to gain the attention of world audience towards this great tragedy met with a small and civilized community of Kashmiri Pandits in Valley from several long years. We would like to congratulate Vivek Agnihotri and his team for remarkable job by showing some real events of Kashmiri Pandit genocide and atrocities which include Nadimarg massacre and chopping of a community's daughter in saw mill, exposing real face of Islamic terrorists and terrorism. Vivek Agnihotri surely deserves Kudos and accolades by producing such a great movie based on facts & could be an eye opener for rest of the world in particular who denied our co-existence and right to live, and also ignored and isolated us. This Film has also tried to highlight that politicians, executive, administration were directly or indirectly either in hand to glove or remained silent or helpless to help and save the nationalists, civilized indigenous people of Kashmir, Kashmiri Pandit community, who was left at mercy of God. Really will whole world, nation, politicians and Government of India listen us and now not play politics on lives of innocent people like Kashmiri Pandits, a great human race in the world, who believe in love and humanity. Will they realise that victim Kashmiri Pandits struggle is for survival of ancient indigenous minority voices of Kashmiri Pandits, who are driven out of homes and hearths from centuries together and 32 years back also from valley when we never wished to rule, damage and destruct any one. Will really other film directors like Vivek Agnihotri, who have human heart and other humanists of world and nation' come forward and make much more movies and stories on gruesome atrocities of Kashmiri Pandits which we have facing from centuries together in Kashmir; for which no body have as yet come forward to highlight our vows, wounds, desecration of our temples and damaging of our ancient civilisation.

Will Government at the Centre and Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir will really forward and expose all those false narratives and bring all truth before the world including the Nexus and non-sense of previous governments, big politicians & parties, administration and police with such evil and dirty forces who were respon-

sible for death and destruction of victim Kashmiri Pandits before and after turmoil in valley and who continue to suffer on cross roads, landless and homeless. Without any human and basic rights which guarantees them by Indian constitution and international law of human rights also. Will really World, nation and Government in helm of affairs come forward and dig out pathetic stories of hundreds of murders and half dozen of massacres of this victim community and question those people claiming themselves human and God believing majority of Kashmir ask them why they hounded these Hindu minorities of Kashmiri, actual resident of valley, out from homes, challenged their co-existence, snatched their land under gimmick, distress sale and by false laws, looted and burnt their properties and ask them (majority of Kashmir) what was fault of Kashmiri Pandit community to suffer at their hands who were always peace loving, never picked up gun and stone in hand, helped there and then everyone to become prosperous. Can anyone reply to victim community of Kashmiri Pandits who targeted and killed KP community daughters like Late Sarla Bhat working as a Nurse at Medical Institute Soura, who was abducted and gang raped for several days before she was killed. Later her body was recovered at a roadside. Late Girija Tickoo of Trehgam, Kupwara, who worked as a Laboratory Assistant in Government Girls High School, Trehgam was abducted, gang raped for many days and then shred into pieces on a bar of a saw-mill on June 4,1990. Late Prerana Ganjoo who was gang-raped for days together later mercilessly killed along with her husband Prof Ganjoo on November 11, 1990. Another community daughter named Girja Dhar belonging to Ali Kadal, Srinagar was gunned down on July 1, 1990. Jawahar Lal Ganjoo and her sister-in-law along with their respective spouses were killed in Bana Mohalla Srinagar on June 17, 1990. Rupawati of Dursu, Pulwama was tortured in her home and after her death the body was flung into a field from third storey of her house. She was killed on June 28, 1990. Usha Kaul and Rajinder Kaul and their husbands were shot-dead in their home at Ali Kadal, Srinagar on October 14, 1990. Pitti Koul, resident of Mandir Bagh, Srinagar; who worked as a teacher, was killed on November 7, 1990. Usha Kumari Koul of Sheyar, Ali Kadal Srinagar was killed on October 14, 1990. Asha Koul of Achhabal was killed in May 1990. Devki of Alachi Bagh, Srinagar became victim of terrorist bullet on March 23, 1990. Late Dolly of Karan Nagar, Srinagar was shot dead on May 7, 1990. Late Sarika, Asha, Jyoti, Neema, Vijay Kumari, Meenakshi and Dulari, Rekha, Pratima Kumari, Girja Kumari, Asha and Geeta Devi, Late Sheela Tickoo of Dalhasanyar, Srinagar were killed on October 31, 1990. Babli, a student and resident of Drusu, Pulwama was gunned down on June 28, 1990. Usha of Srinagar was killed on October 14, 1990. Late Nirmala Raina of Pethibug, Anantnag was killed on March 6, 2000. Late Asha Kaul, a resident of Achabal, Anantnag was abducted from her native village. She was gang raped and tortured in a deserted house and her decomposed body was later recovered at roadside in Karfali Mohalla, Srinagar on August 8, 1991

Can Government come out with names of killers of Late Tika Lal

Taploo, one of the stalwarts of the community in a broad daylight in a street soon after coming from home and going to attend the court? Has Government probed who killed late Moti Lal Bhan, Bangund, Wanpura, Pulwama in a broad daylight in a bus coming from his village to Srinagar city as well as late Tej Krishen Razdan who was brutally killed and dragged on road in Masuma Bazar, Srinagar and none shifted his hospital to save his life. Who were those locales or outsiders who called Dr Raj Nath from his home at mid-night requested him to treat their mother at home and later killed him a Kilometer away from his home in a bad condition. Can anyone reply to victim community of Kashmiri Pandits who targeted first of their saintly person and Swami in Vachar Nang on December 8, 1988, but nobody probed. Who killed Community stalwart Preme Nath Bhat, Poet and scholar Sarwand Premi, Justice Neelkanth Ganjoo, Lassa Koul Director Durdarsha, Late A K Raina, Deputy Director Food & Supplies in his office. There are hundreds of pathetic incidents and events which whole world and our nation are not aware of. Will Government at the centre, judiciary and executive and human rights bodies now listen the victim Kashmiri Pandits voice, mitigate their problems and get their demands accepted as under; including urgent talks with Kashmiri Pandits and representatives and listen them who have been not taken seriously so far; time-bound Commission of enquiry for what happened to Kashmiri Pandits in Valley before and after turmoil by NIA/ CBI under the supervision of Supreme court, punishing all those who killed innocent Kashmiri Pandits after due process through judiciary; recognising genocide and act for reversal of genocide and give justice to them who badly suffered, passage of bill on genocide in Parliament, declaring victim community people as Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and removing tag of migrants from them as earliest as possible, restoring their rights including political, economic, religious and social, declaring and granting indigenous status to this minority community of Kashmiri Pandits, having background of most than five thousand years in Kashmir; has its own unique culture, religion, ethos, faiths, habits and living pattern and so on, carving out a separate land for displaced Kashmiri Pandits in Valley to rehabilitate and resettle them in valley particularly, in areas touching Jammu region with constitutional and institutional guarantee which all infrastructure for educational institutions, hospitals, business and trade centers and all other facilities including jobs, interest-free loans for business and other compensation and financial help, Supreme Court should also take a Suo-motu cognizance of genocide and give justice to victim community, protecting interests of overage KP youths, olds, and financially poor victim families who have been ignored so far; protecting and promoting temples and Shrines in valley; protecting interests and mitigate the problems faced by PM package employees working in valley and provide accommodation to all including displaced KPs who are residing on rent in Jammu, Delhi and other parts of country. We hope someone listen to us.

(The author is President KPC).