


COMPARISON UNFOUNDED

The comparison which PDP President Mehbooba Mufti has made between the situation in Sri Lanka and India is 'absurd' and baseless as under no circumstances there are any similarities between the sequence of events that took place in Sri Lanka and the political scenario in the country. It is pertinent to mention that the PDP Chief has said that the situation in Sri Lanka should serve as a wake-up call for India as the country was treading the same path as the neighbouring country. This is nothing but exaggeration for the sake of taking political mileage as India cannot be compared with a country like Sri Lanka as the economy, politics and defence capabilities here are exemplary with people leading a cozy and comfortable life and the government enjoying support of the majority of people. Contrary to this, Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned as Sri Lanka's prime minister amid unprecedented economic turmoil in the country leading to unrest. It is pertinent to mention that the PDP chief has tweeted that what happened in Sri Lanka should serve as a wake-up call. "Since 2014, India is being whipped into a communal frenzy & imagined fears. It is treading the same path of hyper nationalism & religious majoritarianism. All at the cost of disrupting social cohesion & economic security", the Tweet added. It seems that Mehbooba Mufti, who has lost political relevance in the UT of J&K as the BJP government has exposed her party and its ilk to tell the people that such parties misused situation to hood-wink people, wants to take edge of the situation in Sri Lanka by misleading people at the cost of maligning the image of the country. India is a strong nation with a robust economy and there is no similarity between the situation in Sri Lanka and India, which the former chief minister of J&K wanted to project by baseless evaluations. It is good that there are no takers for her stance because the people are smart enough to gauge the political standings of leaders in the Valley.

SWM FACILITY IN JAMMU

To fulfil the dream of the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi regarding a Swachh Bharat, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, from the very beginning, has always stressed for spreading cleanliness besides making the surroundings free from the dirt and other type of waste products to ensure a healthy and hygienic atmosphere across the country. For realizing this vision, the Prime Minister also launched the Swachh Bharat Mission a few years back which gained immense popularity across the length and breadth of the country and brought a visible change as people have started changing their lifestyles with cleanliness and hygiene on priority. Further, all the states and UTs also contributed greatly towards the noble mission for making the country neat and clean as per the dream of the Father of the Nation. It is only due to the dedicated efforts of the Government that at present Swachh Bharat mission has become a mass movement with every citizen of the country actively participating in it and inspiring several others to join the same. Like other parts of the country, in Jammu and Kashmir also action of people was accorded full support by the administration as it also undertook numerous out of the box initiatives for making the Union territory clean green. The UT administration not only laid a focus on proper waste disposal but also created necessary infrastructure for the same, which was earlier ignored by previous Governments. Looking at the need for a scientific facility to ensure proper solid waste management in Jammu city, the administration has approved the proposal for establishing an integrated Solid Waste Management Facility in the winter capital. The 125 TDP Integrated Solid Waste Management (ISWM) facility would be established in the Bandhlu-Rakh area at an estimated cost of Rs 250.46 crore. To be set-up under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for a period of 20 years, it will be a joint venture wherein the land required for establishing the unit will be provided by the Government while a private player will facilitate its working right from the collection of waste from individual households, transportation to facility and scientific disposal of the same. On completion, the facility will help a lot in proper disposal of the solid waste that too through latest scientific measures without causing any effect on the environment and surroundings.



OFF 'D' CUFF

The Spiritual Message of Labor Day

Labor Day is celebrated on 1 May every year. It honors the hard work done by people as contributing members of their community. While honoring the labor people do in their outer lives, there is a spiritual message offered by Labor Day.

Human beings have three aspects: physical, mental, and spiritual. While Labor Day honors the work we do in the world at the physical and mental level, we also have spiritual work to do. No matter what religion, faith, or culture to which we belong, all speak of our spiritual work as reconnecting with the creative power that brought all life into being. Saints and Masters from all traditions say God, or the power that brought about all creation, is within us. We can connect with that power by going within through silent prayer or meditation. By inverting our attention, we can find the source of all love, light, and joy within us. The labor we can do to find that source is meditation.

Masters describe it as a labor that requires no effort. Meditation is called an "effortless effort." What does this mean? Our effort is to sit in a comfortable position, this is our effort. The rest is effortless, because by sitting in a watchful state, we allow the power within us to reveal whatever is best for us. This is the effortless part. Our effort is to sit in meditation, but the results are effortless.

By silent meditation, we are able to focus our attention

Victimology in India: Need for formulating victim-oriented laws

■ VINAYAK SONKAR

The creation of laws and regulations in a society is critical for promoting peace and harmony and protecting individuals from becoming victims of crime. The word "victim" is broad enough to include the immediate kin or dependents of the direct victims of the crime, as well as others who have been harmed or injured while supporting victims in distress or preventing victimization. Human rights are prevalent in all societies and have been recognized on a global scale. Individuals in India have fundamental rights guaranteed by the country's constitution, which has its roots in human rights. Law and order are established in a country to promote peace and harmony, to punish offenders, and to protect innocent people from becoming prey to criminals. However, there is no society in which crime does not occur, as a result of which the law must be continually updated and enhanced to meet the nation's new eventualities. The goal of any procedural legislation and the criminal justice system is to promote the goals of justice and guarantee that the accused receives a complete and fair trial in accordance with natural justice.

For many decades, the criminal justice systems have ignored and failed to recognize the significance of victims in an offense. Prior to the introduction of the world's official criminal justice system, victims of crime received more desirable justice since criminals were always required to recompense or make payments in accordance to the amount of harm or injury caused to the victims. It was a "Golden Age" for the victims, with harsh penalties and substantial compensation enforced even on chopping down particular plants and animals, which was deemed a dreadful offense. However, with the advancement of the state and the responsibility to maintain peace, harmony, and stability, as well as to protect citizens from the onslaught of crime, a major paradigm shift emerged in which victims began to be the

forgotten person and justice was gradually meant to exhibit the guilt of the accused and punish the offender if the guilt was proven, because the accused is presumed to be innocent until proven guilty. The subject of victimology was founded by Benjamin Mendelsohn and Hans Von Hentig, who emigrated to America from Germany in 1940. Victimology is a science that focuses on the "victim of an offense" and tries to get a thorough knowledge of the victim-offender connection, victim's role in crime causation, and so on, in other words, it is the study of crime from the victim's perspective. Various monuments and acts were created throughout India at the same time to meet the needs of the victims.

The Victim-centered rights and safeguards can be found in a wide range of criminal justice systems. In the United States, the Crime Victims' Rights Act grants victims certain rights and safeguards. These include the right to be protected from the accused, the right to participate in the escape or release of the accused, the right to be treated fairly and with respect, and so on. The Victims Bill of Protections Act, 2015, establishes legislative rights for victims in Canada. Various legal decisions in India have prepared the ground for the emergence of this idea. Victimology was inspired by the liberal interpretation of the Indian constitution's fundamental rights. Human rights have an impact on these essential rights. In the case of Rattan Singh v. State of Punjab, Krishna Iyer J. noted, "In truth, victim restitution is still the vanishing point of our criminal law." This is the system's shortcoming, which the lawmakers must address." In Sakshi v. Union of India, the Supreme Court ruled that proceedings be held in private, particularly where the victim is a minor or a rape victim, to safeguard their honor and dignity. In another case, Nirmal Singh Kahlon v. State of Punjab, the Supreme Court held that the right to a fair investigation and trial extends to both the accused

and the victim, and that such a right to a victim is guaranteed by Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. It established that victims have an equal right to a fair investigation. In the case of a sexual offense, the court with power to give compensation may also award interim compensation. Hussainara Khatoon & Ors v. Home Secretary, Official of Bihar acknowledged victimization as a result of state power abuse. The case felt the need to address and correct such significant violations of basic human rights, which directly breached the fundamental right to live with dignity guaranteed by Article 21 of the Constitution.

It is abundantly obvious that legislations, court rulings, and revisions to the Cr.PC have altered the scope of India's criminal justice system. Despite the fact that the system, along with the judges, has played a critical part in the growth of victim's rights in our nation, victims are not given the weightage and importance they need. Several rulings of both High Courts and the Supreme Court over the last two decades have saved victims of not only classic crimes, but also of victimization implanted by the state's own instruments.

In the recent infamous case of Nirbhaya gang rape, the prisoners were condemned to death, and the execution occurred after a 7-year wait. For the last seven years, the victims' parents have been fighting for justice. Despite the fact that the verdict was in favor of the victim and her family, the burning concerns are if justice was served?, what about legal help to the family?, what about the numerous court appearances, insults, and character assassination by the defense counsel and society?, and so on. The current state of the Indian legal system is aptly summarized by Gladstone's adage, "justice delayed is justice denied." The number of ongoing cases and crime rates are continually increasing, resulting in an increase in the plights of victims. A victim is defined as not just the individual who has experienced a

loss or damage, but also their dependents. Our legal system is heavily biased in favor of the accused, which means that victims are frequently overlooked. Even before the execution of the death sentence, the accused has the opportunity to file a compassion plea and a curative appeal. The Delhi Gang Rape Case is a prime illustration of this. The courts must have been 'constrained' by existing rules, but punishment for the perpetrators should not be postponed when the country's highest court has affirmed the accused's hanging. Legal aid and other victim-assistance programs are almost nonexistent. Though there are some provisions in the Indian Constitution and portions in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 that try to safeguard victims' rights and provide compensation and restitution, criminal courts at the lowest level in India have long ignored those laws. The victims are the most important and integral aspect of the crime. As a result, the phenomena of crime cannot be examined thoroughly unless the victim of a crime is included. Victim's rights may thus only be successful as human rights if they meet the two conditions of conferring entitlement and imposing responsibility on the people.

The notion of 'victimology' is gaining traction, and India must give it fair consideration by catering to the plights of victims and assisting the study of victimology to develop and operate smoothly. Despite the fact that numerous laws and rules are currently in place in our criminal justice system, further reforms are needed. It is critical to aid victims of crime since victims have endured irreversible losses and harm as a result of a crime. Changes such as appropriate application of numerous established laws, active engagement of victims in various stages of case proceedings, and a distinct umbrella legislation solely focused on victims are required for victims to get prompt justice.

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JUBILANT J&K Agri, Horticulture sectors witnessing rapid transformation in UT

The economy of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir is largely agriculture dependent and approximately 70 percent of the population is directly or indirectly engaged in agricultural and allied. Out of a multitude of crops grown in J&K, rice is a staple crop, both in Kashmir and Jammu divisions, sown in summer (May) and harvested in late September. In addition to rice, corn, millets, pulses, vegetables like peas, beans, lentils etc. are also grown during the summer season. Wheat is another staple crop and along with barley is planted in winter and harvested in spring season.

Among all States /UTs, Jammu and Kashmir has been ranked 3rd in monthly income to Agriculture households and 5th best performing State /UT in Agriculture & Allied sector. More than a million beneficiaries from J&K received direct financial support of Rs. 1983.29 crore during last three years under PM-Kisan scheme. 12 lakh farmers have been issued Kisan Credit Cards (KCC). Out of this 9.46 lakh KCC are live/operative in UT of J&K.

Mohammad Ashraf, a farmer from Pulwama is elated to share his success story of High Density Apple Plantation. "My family has been involved in the business of apple cultivation for past more than 50 years and the income realization from per Kanal of land was dwindling for past one decade primarily due to lowering productivity of aged apple trees", he said. He adds that while my family was upset over the declining yield and falling incomes, we came to know about the High Density Apple Plantation Scheme by the J&K government. "About 3 years back, I experimented with around 7 Kanals of land under the new High-density Apple plantation with support from Horticulture department and it produced more than 15Kg of fruit per plant, which was a substantial rise as compared to the earlier scenario", he says.

Ashraf has now planted 1000 more high-density plants in another 7 Kanals about a year ago and encourages others too to take benefit of the scheme. "Apart from higher income per Kanal of land, I am able to provide gainful employment to 5-7 families as well", he said. Under National Saffron

Mission, irrigation infrastructure with sprinkler system connected to 126 deep Bore wells has been created. An area of 2598.75 Ha of land stands rejuvenated as on date. The implementation of National Mission on Saffron has ensured substantial increase in the crop yields from 1.88 kg per hectare to 4.50 kg per hectare which has ultimately doubled the income of Saffron Growers.

The J&K Government has successfully got the G.I tagging for effective domestic and international marketing. The registration for G.I tagging for Guehli (Morehella), Solai Honey, Rajnash (Red Beans) and Muskhbudji is also in the pipeline. It will promote the economic prosperity of the farmers by enhancing their demand in National and International Markets.

J&K government has also established two J&K Seed and Organic Certification agencies, one each in Jammu and Kashmir Division. More so, the government also facilitated the opening of Offices of APEDA and LULU Groups in Kashmir Division and APEDA in Jammu Division. In J&K, Oil seeds have been sown over 1.10 lakh Ha of land. Kashmiri Lal Mireh is being harvested on 1182 Ha, Sweet Corn harvested on 165 Ha, while as other exotic vegetables have been harvested over 150 Ha and farmers are getting massive returns out of them.

Similarly, sericulture (cultivation of silk) is widespread across the region. As per the Sericulture Policy 2020 of J&K, the mulberry silk production in the UT accounts only for 0.66 per cent of the total mulberry silk production of India. Silk is an elite product in itself and the government is rapidly addressing the issues of the people involved in sericulture sector. Mechanization of farming is an essential step to transform the agriculture sector which will help farmers to produce more. As a part of agricultural mechanization support to the farmers for broader economic transformation, the Lieutenant Governor handed over sanction letters for 100 tractors to the farmers and 1035 threshers for local Panchayats. The government is also setting up Custom Hiring centres and Farm Machinery Banks in different parts of the union territory. As many as 207 Custom

Hiring Centres (CHCs) and 163 Farm Machinery Banks (FMBs) have been started so far. To raise awareness among the farmers about the use of technological equipment in agriculture, one paddy thresher is being given to all 4290 Panchayats free of cost in UT of J&K. Out of 4290 Panchayats, 3362 threshers have been distributed to the Panchayats till date.

Achieving an incredible milestone, for the first time, more than 2000 trucks of vegetables have been exported from Jammu and Kashmir to different parts of the country. With a yield of 70 quintals for hectares of paddy, J&K has accomplished top position in the entire country. Baldev Raj, an aspirational farmer from Vijaypur of Samba district has experienced steep rise in income by cultivating exotic dragon-fruit in 24 kanals of land. "With an initial establishment cost of around 0.80 lac per Kanal (16 Laes/Hectare), I am now earning around 1.0 lac/kanal (20 laes/Hectare) annually", he said. Baldev is all praise for the UT administration and Horticulture department in particular for the technical assistance he received from the department.

Another aspirational farmer Mohammad Akbar Dar, who is also the President of Budgam based Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) shares the success story of his FPO. Thanking UT administration and NAFED for all the technical support, he explains how his FPO is providing marketing support to the members which has helped them gain 3 times the price realization than earlier. "Now, we have gained access to markets throughout the country and abroad as well which has resulted in better price for our produce", he said. He adds that their FPO is now starting a new Walnut processing unit which shall help in substantial employment generation along-with value-addition to the walnut produce. J&K, is thus witnessing a rapid transformation in the agriculture and horticulture sectors with increasing prosperity for the farmers as their incomes are rising and they are experiencing prosperity along-with becoming job providers rather than job seekers.

Vast career opportunities in apparel sector

■ DR ROOPAK VASISHTHA

What after class 12th? Which courses to pursue after 12th to become employable? What are the career options for me after 12th? Can I pursue my career without higher education? These are a few common questions every student has in his mind after passing out from school. The confusion regarding career; job opportunities, and different courses prevail among the students. To be honest, these queries are universal and you are not alone having such doubts. Before moving ahead, let's understand what took us to write this article? Well, it has been noticed that medical and engineering: the most common sought-after courses after 12th aren't a piece of cake and there are many students who want to pursue short term skill-oriented courses so that they can start their career as soon as possible. Now the question arises that which are some other options that can make you employable? Therefore, we have listed below best Apparel related courses, which you might consider after completing your 12th.

Pattern Maker: Apparel pattern maker plays an important role in the clothing industry. Individuals in this position are responsible for taking fashion designers ideas and creating a workable pattern that will ultimately become an article of clothing. Pattern makers often are required to define initial fashion designs and work closely with designers to achieve the desired look more accurately. Patternmakers use their knowledge of fabrics, sewing skills and ability to alter garments to draft a pattern that replicates a design concept. Apparel Made-Ups and Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council (AMHSSC), which is an apex body for skill development and certification in the apparel domain, under the aegis of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneur, has developed 'Qualification Packs' (QPs) aligning to International standards for pattern making job role. The council has aligned its skilling competencies with the industry requirements and is making an all-out effort in meeting the industry requirements for skilled and certified pattern makers with relevant technical capabilities, thus giving the necessary boost to the growth of the sector along with creating employment opportunities for the youth of the nation.

Career and Economic Outcome: A good way to begin your pattern-making career is to acquire a position that is just below that of a pattern maker. For instance, include a grader or fabric cutter. These positions will provide work experience and knowledge that is applicable for the pattern maker position. In addition, you will be in a position to move directly into an available pattern maker opening, once you are ready. At this stage, a skilled person can earn around Rs 15,000 monthly. With the experience and expertise, one's income can potentially increase.

Assistant Fashion Designer: One of the most creative course options, Fashion Design is a prosperous vocational education stream not only in India but also abroad. The Fashion industry has grown leaps and bounds and that too within a span of a decade. If you are looking for a career in this field after class 12th, selecting the right Fashion Designing course is bound to open up a plethora of opportunities for you. Aspirants who have cleared their Class 12th from any stream (Science/Commerce/Arts) can pursue Assistant Fashion Designer course from any recognised training partner of AMHSSC.

Career and Economic Outcome: Skilled

Assistant Fashion Designer youths have a plethora of opportunities before them. After completing their course aspirants can work with fashion designers as well as corporates. They can work in Production, Fashion Marketing, Design Production Management, Fashion Media, Quality Control, Fashion Accessories Design and Brand Promotion. Apart from this, one can also make a great career as a Costume Designer, Fashion Consultant, Graphic Designer, Production Pattern Maker, Fashion Coordinator, etc. As a trainee, they can get a salary 10-12 thousand, however, with the experience they can earn more than 30-35 thousand.

Processing Supervisor (Dyeing & Printing): The Processing Supervisor is a job role in wet processing. He is an overall in-charge of processes related to dyeing and printing of textile products, monitoring production, quality, and timely delivery of products suitable for next operations. Processing Supervisor (Dyeing & Printing) is responsible for monitoring production, quality and smooth operation of processes beginning with development of the recipe to execution of processes with junior management cadres working as a team. He also ensures discharge of effluents as per defined statutory norms. He/she should have good interpersonal skills, vigilant and good eyesight to detect defects or abnormality in the process. He/she should be keen on learning with aptitude in chemistry. He/she should possess good oral communication skills in vernacular and simple English. This course is very good for those people who want to join this industry after 12th.

Career and Economic Outcome: There are good employment opportunities in the fashion house after doing the course. You can start working as a dyeing and printing expert. Apart from this, if you possess good understanding of colour composition, then you can make a great career as a fashion accessories design, costume designer, fashion consultant, fashion coordinator etc. As a trainee, the salary ranges from 10-12 thousand. With experience, anyone starts making up to 30-35 thousand. Apart from this, you can also set up your own business.

Hand Embroiderer: The tasks an Embroider is expected to perform include making decorative design on fabrics and other materials by hand and by using needle & thread. In the last few years, the fashion of handcrafts has started to reappear. Embroidery on clothes today is done by machines as well as by hand. In embroidery, fine work is done with coloured cotton or silk threads by fitting cotton, georgette, silk and chiffon cloth on a wooden round frame. Many big designers like Manish Malhotra, Anamika Khanna, Tarun Tahiliani have also presented the collection of traditional sarees with a modern twist of hand embroidery. To explore the career opportunities in this field, there are four courses Hand Embroidery, Embroidery Machine Operator, Framar Computerized Embroidery Machine and Hand Embroider Addawala run by AMHSSC for skilling the youth.

Career and Economic Outcome: There are good employment opportunities in the fashion house after doing the course. Apart from this, you can get a job in embroidery under any fashion designer. As a trainee, the salary ranges from 10-14 thousand. With the experience one's starts making up to 25-35 thousand. You can also start your own work.

(The author is CEO, Apparel Made-Ups & Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council).