

REPORT STARTLING

It is matter of great concern that number of youth joining terrorist ranks in Valley in the last over two years has seen exponential growth. There is dire need that various security forces active in the Union Territory should work with complete synergy as the scourge of terrorism cannot be tackled by working singlehandedly especially when it has become clear that lot many locals are joining terrorism in Valley. As per the figures shared by CRPF sources, out of the around 160 active terrorists in the Union Territory at present, 85 are stated to be foreigners, largely Pakistanis. What is disturbing is the fact that local terrorists are quite high in numbers as compared to foreign mercenaries. The CRPF sources have evaluated that under present circumstances the local terrorists in Valley comprised of 60 percent of the total count of terror mongers which is reverse of the earlier situation in Kashmir when there used to be 60 to 70 percent of foreign terrorists active in the region. As the reasons for the high number of local youth joining terror ranks can be attributed to radicalisation, including through online means, by operatives from within the country and across the border, the need of the time is to counter this through a comprehensive strategy including stringent punishment to those who are deliberately treading the path of violence. The data which has come to fore speaks of a critical situation as locals in large number are picking up arms which is not a good sign and should be stopped as soon as possible. South Kashmir continues to remain hot bed of terrorism with most of the youths of this region joining terror ranks in the last over two years. Though government is open to take steps to bring back youths who have joined terror ranks but one thing is sure that stringent possible action against the terror mongers is the only viable solution to deter people from joining terrorism as the people sitting across the border are hell-bent to make every young man in Kashmir a terrorist just to satiate their vested interests and create unrest in the country.

TARIFF HIKE ON CARDS

In order to improve the present condition of the power sector in the Union territory of Jammu & Kashmir, which at present is going through a tough phase, as there is huge power deficit in UT forcing the administration to impose unscheduled power cuts, a number of reformative measures are already in place. On one side, these measures are providing expected results, on the other hand, various new initiatives are being taken to improve the sector to a great extent for making J&K self-reliant in power sector; like setting-up new hydro-electric projects at various places for exploring the potential of natural resources to great extent. At present, the power sector across Jammu and Kashmir is facing huge revenue losses due to numerous reasons like transmission losses, power thefts, unregistered connections etc and various steps are being taken for fulfilling this loss. Where special drives are being conducted to check power thefts on the other hand, necessary action is being taken against the defaulters. In another major step to give bit respite to the sector, both the power distribution corporations in the Union territory, namely Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL) and Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) have proposed enhancement in the existing power tariff across J&K. In petitions submitted to the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission, both the corporations have sought enhancement in the existing power tariff. Where on one hand JPDCL has proposed a hike of 17.74 per cent on existing tariff, on the other hand KPDCL has suggested a hike of 12.46 per cent. Major point to ponder here is that despite the huge cumulative revenue gap in both the regions, with less revenue coming for the Valley, the hike proposed by KPDCL is quite less than that proposed by JPDCL. At present both the petitions are under observation and it is expected the commission would soon take a decision over the matter after taking into consideration all points, but one thing is clear that people of J&K should get ready for paying some extra bucks as electricity charges in coming days, as very soon the enhance tariff would be announced.



Time for the Youth to come forward

God has given each human being the power to imagine. The power of imagination is actually the key attribute that gives rise to all creativity, innovation and artistry. So, if you are a creative person say thanks to God for that and use the power of creativity to come up with novel solutions to various problems. And when it comes to encouraging creativity and innovation, Intellectual Property (IP) serves the right purpose.

Celebrating World Intellectual Property Day

Globally, World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated to make people understand how IP rights encourage creativity and knowledge. This year's World IP Day is even more important as here the emphasis is on innovation and supporting the efforts to create a greener future for all.

And when it comes to care for our Mother Earth, creativity has a big role to play.

All inventors and innovators should take the opportunity to talk and connect with each other for using the power of imagination for improving the lives of people through beautiful creations for a green future.

Green inventions must be encouraged

Further, it is wonderful to see how Indian innovators are coming up with unique eco-friendly inventions that may actually play a big role in making the planet healthier and greener.

Many innovations like the Solar Power Tree (developed by an Indian Research Institute); Edible Cutlery (an innovation by a Telangana-

Dr Archika Didi

Whatever we put our attention on will grow stronger in our life.

-Maharishi Mahesh Yogi

EDITORIAL

Reform Indian judicial proceedings

■ P K MAM

The fundamental principle in democracy is to keep executive away from judiciary. (The deeper the inherited malady, the longer it takes to put things on right course). Democracy means protection of civil and fundamental rights of a citizen. SC has the overall authority to oversee that citizens' fundamental rights are not infringed in any manner by executive as well as parliament. In India, with 130 crore citizens and with democratic pattern allegations/ counter allegations will always be raised. Further, the number of pending cases in various courts as on 31/3/22 as per Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju are 4.70 crore. Instances to are when judicial decisions are affected by various internal and external factors, including legal, personal, ideological, and political influences. Thus, the sanctity of law is disregarded or overstepped for petty political gains by the law implementers resulting in both piling up of the cases and denying the justice in time, all against judicial ethics.

The citizens should have judiciary that can yield justice in time without delays, work independently without external interference and more importantly to deliver justice in time to poor and needy without delay. Need justice system to prove itself responsive and timely to societal needs so as to save and protect the spirit of law abiding citizens instead watching situation with frustration and helplessly. Reportedly, the present collegium system of appointment of judges doesn't seem to be correct, not transparent; and not accountable. Hence, NJAC Act, 2014 was enacted by the Narendra Modi government to regulate the procedure to be followed for recommending names for appointment as Chief Justice of India and other judges of Supreme Court and Chief Justices and judges of High Courts and for their transfers. But it was struck down by Supreme Court in Oct 2015. However, the only thing required now is to speed up the reintroduction of the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Bill in parliament with modification as may satisfy the constitutional framework that exists. As Parliament is representation of Indian Citizenship, any disagreements between Judiciary & Executive could be referred to parliament and voting sought for Yes, the selection team should be sensible, honest and above all affiliations.

The crux is that team under (NJAC) should work with integrity, zeal, honestly, timely and save Govt from brain scratching as well. This seems, to begin with, the way out to deal with the mounting pending court cases (More than 5 crore), besides other things stated below (illustrative but not exhaustive)

a) Judicial cases at state level should be disposed off at High court level. Only cases of national importance which require the attention of highest court should be referred to Supreme Court.

b) More powers to Lok Adalats.

c) Domestic cases to be settled at Block level, appeal with Tehsil level

d) Land property revenue cases at Tehsil level, appeal with District level

e) All terror linked cases to Special courts and appeal with Special judges at High Court level.

f) All constitutional cases to lower courts at Supreme Court and appeal with higher judiciary at Supreme Court.

g) Burden on Supreme Court to be reduced for giving time to priority cases

h) All appeals other than constitutional cases to be disposed off at High Court level.

i) Minor cases to be tried in block, tehsil, district courts

j) IIT, FA, tax violation, frauds to be heard under Special category reserved courts.

Well for over 75 yrs we are seeing very little has been achieved in this regard. The judicial system is facing difficult challenges like deficient infrastructure, shortage of administrative staff and huge vacancies of judges. All of this is known both to Court and Govt. Still why isn't anything changed? Corruption, inefficiency and incompetence need to be tackled. The modest and moderate methods like petitioning, protesting, begging is not going to change anything. Police - judicial system need overhaul. We need a revolution. That's when change will come. A matter of utmost concern and demands prioritization & resolve.

Recently, Law Minister said that AI can help in reducing the back log of pending cases and sustainable justice delivery. Researchers at IIT Kharagpur released an AI-based method to automate the reading of legal case judgements. They developed two deep neural models to understand the rhetorical roles of sentences in a legal case judgment.

Government has already launched e-courts, and their reach has to increase more to solve the backlog of cases we deal with. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Supreme Court and High Courts have been able to function online. Electronic courts bring a justice serving platform that is more time saving and performs efficiently with better case and court management facilities. As information will be available digitally, chances of misplacement of crucial statements, frequent adjournment of dates, flaws for submission of data or evidence will be greatly reduced. Evidence of eyewitnesses who cannot be present in person can be recorded through online mechanisms. In sum, a big push is to needed to switch over to AI system instead of bogged down with outdated system and procedures to deal with alarming pending case problems. A new concept will require technological back up for big transformation in which various aspects of our judiciary its figuration, digitization, pending cases problems, selection procedures, judicial proceedings and all allied aspects be linked to AI technocrats. Further, the reform process could also facilitate use of local language of every state while hearing cases on day to day basis to receive justice by common man, as recently suggested by our Prime Minister. Need of hour, the Govt should display will to undertake the judicial reforms, the Opposition the sense to support it and Judiciary the desire to allow it to be implemented so as to remove many other flaws too in existing federal system in country. Our Prime Minister has a bent of mind and desire to selflessly serve country. Let us wish he can fulfill his desire to provide unbiased justice to the public in all spheres of life and thereby fulfill his aspiration for equitable justice in the country. True leader, keeps his eyes focused on goal and uses anger and a tough exterior only to achieve his goals so that objectivity is not lost.

consider friendship as foreign and kinship as their own. It is true to some extent that relationships are based on blood but in today's materialistic age the color of friendship is darker than the color of blood. Of course, some of the relationships we inherit have to be maintained and should be maintained. In these relationships we also have to deal with the good and the bad. Often the habits and ideas are not found. However, true relationships are where your mutual thoughts come together. This is called friendship. Even though some relationships are very close, distances remain. If you have one good friend, you are lucky. There are some relationships in life that we can't even name but they have affection, sympathy, happiness, feelings of sadness, sharing of sorrows, mutual secrets of each other, trustworthy, some of them. There is no greed of any kind, no selfishness. Those souls who have friends full of such qualities are fortunate. Due to the love, respect and pride of such good, virtuous friends, man considers himself two feet high in this society. Today's generation is the master of new thinking. Let's preserve our heritage so that we can maintain the dignity and love we had before.

Vijay Garg,

JUBILANT J&K

Govt according prime focus on ensuring adequate, affordable medicare

UT has one of the highest budget allocations in country

Jammu and Kashmir government is working tirelessly to augment and expand healthcare network in the Union Territory so that the ailing populace is facilitated with best medicare at their doorsteps. Abrogation of Article 370 from the erstwhile state further accelerated the growth and development scenario in J&K with complete implementation of several revolutionary policies and interventions in the Union Territory.

The J&K administration is focusing special attention on three areas 'Prevention, Better Treatment and Care' besides ensuring several incentives for poor patients of the UT. In his regard, seven new medical colleges, two AIIMS, nearly 1000 healthcare and wellness centres, five new nursing colleges have been established in J&K besides introducing BSc paramedical courses and increasing medical seats by almost more than 100 percent. The focus of the government is not only on creation of best of the best private hospitals in Jammu and Srinagar but also on strengthening hospitals in districts and other remote areas.

The UT administration launched J&K Health Care Investment Policy (HICIP) to encourage private players to set up healthcare infrastructure in the Union Territory. This Healthcare Investment Policy aims to materialize the UT government's commitment of providing quality healthcare to its citizens at their door steps. Besides, the document ensures availability of complete gamut of healthcare services in primary, second-

ary and tertiary care centers to people of the UT.

Meanwhile, the new Unani Medical College and Hospital has been set up with a cost of Rs 32.50 crore at Ganderbal with financial assistance of Rs 17 crore from the Ministry of AYUSH under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Rs 18.25 crore from the J&K government and Rs 38.82 lakh under National AYUSH Mission to make the college operational. The college has an intake capacity of 60 students in BUMS course besides having hospital of 60 bedded facilities.

Notably, AYUSH ministry has sanctioned several other projects in J&K under National AYUSH Mission and erstwhile centrally sponsored schemes including a Government Ayurvedic Medical College at Akhnoor, five 50 bedded integrated Ayush Hospitals in the districts of Kupwara, Kulgam, Kishtwar, Kathua and Samba besides upgrading existing infrastructure of 35 standalone Ayush dispensaries and promoting 571 Ayush dispensaries as health and wellness centres in a phased manner under the flagship programme of Ayushman Bharat by 2023-24.

Speaking on transformation taking place in health sector of J&K, Lieutenant Governor said that the government is introducing new reforms for developing a balanced healthcare ecosystem that promotes social equality besides ensuring easily accessible quality health facilities for all. "This important stride in the healthcare sector truly symbolizes Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of self-

reliance, achieving excellence in modern health facilities for remote locations and reducing the urban-rural divide to deliver services at people's doorsteps", added LG.

LG maintained that 'Our efforts of reforming the healthcare sector have been impressive. We have addressed the health infrastructure issues with a comprehensive and long term national vision under the guidance of Prime Minister and even the far-flung areas now have adequate, affordable and reliable healthcare facilities'.

Jammu and Kashmir has one of the highest budget allocations in the country. Some of the worth mentioning health infrastructure projects included two new AIIMS with a project cost of Rs 4000 crore one each at Jammu and Kashmir division. Besides, seven new Government Medical Colleges are being established with a total cost of Rs 1595 crore, ten new Nursing Colleges with an approximate cost of Rs. 60 crore and 5 nursing colleges have been upgraded. Similarly, two State Cancer institutes worth Rs 240 crore are coming up one each at Jammu and Kashmir division and 274 projects under CAPEX are being carried out to create unparalleled healthcare infrastructure. Under AB PMJAY SEHAT scheme in convergence with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), nearly 55.56 lakh beneficiaries have already been registered. Besides, 1,592 medical packages, as approved under AB-PMJAY, are accessible to the beneficiaries of Jammu and Kashmir SEHAT scheme.

India & prejudiced perceptions

■ M R LALU

My journey to the Himalayas a few years ago as a young traveler and a yoga practitioner had been so resounding and significant at a personal level. As a yoga practitioner, my stay in one of the hermitages on the banks of the Ganges is still an enriching experience and what are vividly imprinted in my memory are the interactions that I was capable of with the foreign students among whom I met an old lady of 74 years from California. My conversations with most of the forty of them from 20 countries have given me insights on what India is and a chance that I cherished to look at India through a western prism with clarity. I wondered at the level of commitment and love that those people had about the idea of India, especially the old lady from America who preferred to smear a pinch of soil on her forehead every morning calling India the holiest land and her second home. The entire duration of my stay with those India lovers made me really delve into the depth of what, as a country, India reflected to the foreign minds. The respect India at present is gaining is due to both the spiritual and political patronage that it was capable of for years. Spiritual it is, because we, as a country could deliver spiritual solace to a large number of global seekers with our inclusive ideals. Politically we are equally influential across the globe as a peace-loving nation that advocates for universal peaceful coexistence and brotherhood. Indeed, the aspects of influence that India is known for today, give it a special stature of recognition among countries of diverse interests and geopolitical aspirations. My experience was personal and many, for that matter, must have experienced the same with little or more lucidity and serenity in the slopes of grandeur in the Himalayas.

This happens in real terms because the basic tenets of India's spiritual well-being are based on diverse and pluralistic social engineering that it, from the ages of the sages, propagated with clarity and humility. Despite the belittling of the idea that India represents from different global platforms and some deliberate attempts from India too; there seems to be a spiritual essence emanating from the core of Indian-ness that keeps strengthening the country inexorably. Agencies headquartered in America and elsewhere have been vigilant to mischaracterize the diversity that we have been successfully nourishing for long. Choosing to criticize a country based on intentionally selected issues that randomly lead to local skirmishes with a minority community at the receiving end; their intention surfaces with their studied silence on India when the majority community is persecuted by certain radicalized doctrines. We need to know the level of hypocrisy that India is rated with. Now, one example is enough to topple the argument that the USCIRF is making. The population registry of India reveals the fact that the country has been consistently

witnessing an increase in the population of minorities since independence. Muslims alone, who comprised 9.8 per cent of the country's population in 1950, is estimated to have grown to almost 14 per cent or more today. This itself is evident from the fact that the main minority community has been flourishing in India while the country is blamed and debated worldwide by agencies and pseudo intellectuals painting its majority as an acrimonious sum.

Pakistan and Bangladesh give us a gruesome picture of the minorities in those countries. They are being targeted, persecuted and forcefully converted and killed with their religious places desecrated and destroyed and their population dwindling rapidly every passing day. The tendency that we are comfortable with, is to call the hostility in our neighborhood as a usual affair to the radicalized Islamic states. India is the country where the planet's largest human gathering takes place in the name of religion which indeed is the largest peaceful human gathering. The Kumbh Mela is a perfect example of India's cultural heritage being displayed in its spiritual splendor seeking peace and prosperity for the entire humanity. Politically, India's independent stand on the Russia-Ukraine war was not disputed by the world. We could successfully convince the world the stand that we thought was right, without being judgmental and duplicitous on the pressure that the west and America put on us. This is emblematic to the sphere into which India has globally positioned itself as a responsible country. The binary that India is, in a largely polarized world is both, its spiritual and political might that it could successfully showcase in the last few decades gaining reverence. We are not to forget, the petty squabbles that we have been witnessing today and the international community took notice of, are the results of the suspicion that has gone deeper into the social psyche due to the centuries of conquests and political subjugations and misrepresentation of history. Today, what we need to have is a larger canvas of acceptance, suitable to sprinkle a variety of colors to form a beautiful pictorial symphony of cohesion. The old lady from California with her soil smeared forehead is a symbol of reverence that India deserves and represents and we need to maintain it.

YOUR COLUMN
Decreasing sweetness in relationships

Dear Editor;

In today's materialistic age that sweetness in relationships is like losing that familiarity. People used to understand the meaning of love and relationship and today property and money are predominant in relationships. Today, for the sake of money and property, brothers, brothers, sons, fathers, even mothers kill their children. Every second or third day, after reading such disgusting and criminal news, the heart goes out. A couple of years ago, a retired Air Force flying officer, his wife and sister were stabbed to death by his own engineer son in a mansion in Chandigarh's Sector-34. Not one such news is being read on the pages of newspapers on a daily basis and by reading such news, the mind becomes distracted from blood relations. The race for money has left relationships and love far behind. The only relationship I have found that is true is one in which there is no greed or selfishness. There is only love and compassion that is friendship, true friendship. In a relationship, God does

not discriminate between money, high and low. In friendship we do not have to show-off while blood relationships are entangled in pretenses and formalities. Money is everywhere. Love cannot be seen from afar. Money is the only thing left. People are breaking up with their parents, siblings for money. Only a few lucky people will understand the importance of blood relationships. The number of such families is like salt in flour. People are forgetting identity of blood relationships. Today, relationships have become meaningless. The love and respect that our elders had for us is gone. Today's relationships are based on more hunger and greed. In this fast-paced world, the only love I have found is friendship and today our children have no time for parents. Nor do brothers and sisters have time to spend two moments of love and empathy. There is a friendship that gives strength and courage to face every difficulty. In every relationship whether it is mother-daughter; father-son, husband-wife relationship or any other relationship it is very important to have friendship because where there is friendship there is love. The only relationship is the meaning. Even in this fast-paced life of friendship with the little ones, love is experienced, the name of which is disappearing from the world. Our relatives