

RESTORE BIOMETRIC ATTENDANCE

The status of biometric attendance in the offices of J&K UT is still unsure as the practice was discontinued after the inception of COVID-19 virus in the year 2020. As the reports are citing that the practice has been restored in places like Delhi including the Rajya Sabha Secretariat, the UT administration in J&K should also consider the same as the pandemic has been subsided and there are no more mandatory precautions continuing in the Union Territory. The introduction of Biometric Attendance has hit hard the employees habitual of playing truancy as they were bound to enter in the office premises before the stipulated time and in the same way they were bound to sit in the office and work during the full duty hours. This is known to one and all that there is a big flock of employees who used to make mockery of office hours by coming late and going earlier or in some cases coming to office at their own sweet will. To counter such employees, biometric attendance played a significant role but with the advent of pandemic corona things went out of hand and this system was deferred for an unknown period of time thus giving another chance to people who are habitual of playing truancy. It will be good for one and all in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir that the government should reconsider its decision of stopping the Biometric attendance and reintroduce the same from June as there should be no compromise on UT government employees' presence in the government office during the duty hours. It will be good enough for the government to ensure this system of checking absenteeism be placed yet again so that departments must regain full efficiency in their working and the people will also not face any difficulty while carrying out business with offices having public dealing. Of course the reintroduction of biometric attendance should ensure that employees follow protocols necessary to keep at bay the COVID-19 disease and any other infection which is contagious and can be contracted through touch of fingers with the screen.

ANOTHER OUTREACH PROG SOON

After the unprecedented success of the Public Outreach Programmes, Phase I and II, the Centre Dispensation is all set to launch the phase 3 of the interactive programme very soon for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. Although the exact schedule for the same has not been finalized yet and will be made public very soon, but according to the sources like the previous phase, this time also a number of senior cabinet ministers and other leaders including Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Home Minister Amit Shah, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari and others totaling to approximate 70, will visit various parts of the Union Territory in a phased manner. It has been informed that these ministers will conduct interactions and public Darbars in every district of the Union territory besides reviewing the ongoing projects. As per the details, during this outreach programme starting from May 26, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, Waterways and AYUSH Sarbananda Sonowal will visit Jammu district on May 31 while Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra will visit Anantnag on May 26. Further, the Union Minister of state in PMO, Dr Jitendra Singh will visit Budgam on May 30. This time, the Government has specially formulated the schedule regarding visits of ministers as the ministers will visit places only on Monday to Friday while there will be no visit on Saturday and Sunday, just to ease pressure on UT administration. Besides holding interactions with people to listen to their grievances and taking stock of several ongoing projects and Central Sponsored Schemes (CSSs), this time the minister will also review the progress of works done as per their recommendations and suggestions made during the earlier two phases of the programme and afterwards submit the detailed reports to PMO and MHA. Pertinent to mention here that the first phase of outreach programme was held in 2020 followed by its second edition in 2021, both of which proved out to be a great success. It is expected that like its previous phases, this outreach programme would also emerge as a great success and shall go a long way in mitigating the sufferings of masses to a great extent.



Thrive in Peace & Contentment

have to publicize ourselves to all we meet. Our ego gets inflated. Look at how some people have to deceive, lie, and make false promises to get people to join their bandwagon. Actors and actresses have to bear the scandalous news articles about them to get publicity. The fame they thought they wanted is often laden with a scandalous reputation.

Once we start out on the road of desire, we wonder why we left our safe haven of peace and contentment to have to bear all these trials and tribulations. In the end, we start craving the peace and contentment we had before desire led us astray. The world is like a race. Some call it a rat race. We run around on a treadmill or wheel going nowhere fast.

Few realize that contentment and peace are ours for the asking. They are already inside us. If we can be still and tap within, we will find riches far greater than any available on earth. We do not need to exert to find them. We can go about our daily life, earning our honest livelihood, providing for our families, and making enough to share with others, and still enjoy the peace and contentment within ourselves. We need not sacrifice that inner peace in the pursuit of outer riches which may or may not come, or which may or may not provide the happiness we think it will give us.

Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj

If we track the route of any desire, we can see what kind of troubles to which it often leads. They may be large or small tribulations, but they cause a disturbance in our sea of tranquility. Maybe we desire something that is not an object. We may crave power over others. That too is a treacherous road. We have to step over many people, lie, deceive, and manipulate others to get what we want. Others will grow wise to us, and in response will either avoid us, defuse us, or attack us. There is no end to the troubles such a person faces when he or she tries to gain control over everyone and everything.

If we want fame, we may

Whoever knows that the mind is a fiction and devoid of anything real knows that his own mind neither exists nor doesn't exist.

-Bodhidharma

EDITORIAL

No to communal & caste polarisation

■ OMKAR DATTATRAY

The communal and caste polarisation of the society is very dangerous for the country and it should be allowed to raise its ugly head. It is very das and unfortunate that various anti-social and anti-national forces and some political parties are trying their utmost to foment communal and caste trouble in the vulnerable society but the sagacious members of the civil society should not allow the communal and caste as well as religious division in the country as it is against the interests of the nation. The civil society should raise against the forces and political parties trying to foment communal and caste tensions in the society and this should not be allowed in the country at any cost and we should jointly fight against the elements trying to create religious and caste disruptions in the vulnerable society. Ours is a multi religious, multi lingual, multi culture and multi dimensional society and there is no place for the communal and caste polarisation. We have embraced and adopted secularism as a matter of state policy and secularism and pluralism are the guiding forces of the country. The secularism is the life line of the country and we should not deviate from the secular and plural tenets of the constitution. So no one should be allowed to tinker with the secular doctrine and practice of the country. The country is bound to be ruined if the secular image of the country is tinkered with and therefore we should protect the much needed secularism for the growth of various religious faiths in the country. Thus no one should be allowed to play with the secular principles and practice of the country as secularism is the very strength of the country and so long we remain secular our country is safe and the day secularism is tarnished it will be a doomsday for the multi religious country and so we should protect the secularism and pluralism for the growth and flourishing of the different religions and castes. There is great diversity in our society and unity in diversity is the basic characteristic and guiding force of the country and we should preserve this unique characteristic of our country so that diversity flourishes and shines and the diverse religious

and caste denominations remain united and flourish in the country. It is very unfortunate that of late there are efforts under way to damage the secular tenets of the country and it is doubly unfortunate that some political parties in the country are trying to foster their narrow ideology on the different institutions of the country and is trying to control the institutions and damage secularism which is indeed very unfortunate and disturbing and it should not happen in the plural country. It is the duty of all of us to preserve the secular and plural tenets and doctrines of the country so that secularism, communal harmony and mutual brotherhood is not only maintained but is strengthened day by day for the interest of the country. We should take all the necessary steps to maintain the secular image of our multi religious and multi culture as well as multi-coloured society so that people belonging to different faiths will live, grow and flourish for the strength of the secularism which is the very foundation of our multi religious country. It is so sad that efforts are under foot to polarise the society on communal and caste lines and this is very dangerous for our multi religious country. The way Hindu-Muslim issues and the Mandir-Masjid issues and conflicts are raising the ugly head in different parts of the country is serious matter and it is very dangerous for the unity of the country and for the flourishing of the Hindu-Muslim unity and communal harmony. Day in and day out new and old religious issues and Mandir-Masjid disputes are raised to foment communal tension and trouble is a serious matter and these non issues should not be raised. These non issues of Mandir-Masjid are raised by the political parties to divert and distract the attention of the gullible people from the pressing mundane matters and issues which matter most to the people. The people in India face the problems of the rising prices, unemployment and the absence of the basic needs of pure drinking water, good roads, civic amenities, health services, proper schooling, uninterrupted electricity and other such things. People should agitate for these basic needs which matter most to them but unfortunately the political

parties raise non issues of Mandir-Masjid to polarise the society on communal and caste lines which is very dangerous for the unity of our country. These days the Gyanvapi Mosque issue makes front lines in the TV channels and hogs limelight and this tarnishes the secular image of the country. The managements of the TV channels take pleasure in raising the non issues of the Mandir-Masjid which is a slur on the secular image of the country. The TV debates in the prime time only further the communal and caste agenda which is against the secular and plural ethos of the country. These communal and useless as well as futile religious and communal debates on the TV channels should be banned as they foment communal and caste trouble which is in no way in the interest of the country. It is very serious issue that communal tensions are taking place in different parts of the country and Hindu-Muslim issues eclipse the real issues confronting the gullible masses, which is really very unbecoming and such issues should not take place in our multi religious country. It is very das that under BJP rule the communal and caste polarisation is taking place in the multi religious and multi cultural society and the people allege that it is under the directions of the saffron party that the communal issues are raising head and tarnishing our secular credentials and image which is alien to our tolerant culture. India has been a very tolerant country from ancient past because of the majority community and this tolerance should be strengthened for the good of the country. It is a fact that we have been more plural even without having given a constitutional guarantee to secularism because ours is the tolerant society. But unfortunately these days some political parties raise and rake communal and caste issues to polarise the society and a communal and caste narrative is foisted upon the society and all efforts are made to damage the secular tenets which is a dangerous trend and should not take place in the country. In different parts of the country communal and caste polarisation is done by a particular political party to impose its divisive ideology and thinking upon the gullible

masses which is a dangerous trend and aimed to damage the secular fabric of the country. People should be very careful and should not be trapped by the particular political party to create communal and caste polarisation in the country. The congress leader Rahul Gandhi has rightly alleged that BJP has sprinkled the kerosene oil on the country and a little spark is enough to burn the country and this political party is damaging the country's institutions and furthering its divisive ideology to create communal and caste as well as sectarian tensions and disturbances which is very dangerous and harmful for the country's unity and cohesion. The Hindu-Muslim tensions and issues which are useless and harmful for the country's plural image are unfortunately taking place across the country and spoiling the secular and plural fabric of the country. Such communal and caste issues will disturb the mutual brotherhood and communal harmony which will shake the secular and plural foundations of the country and will create the conditions of civil war which is very dangerous situation and the people should guard against this negative trend of a political party for its vote bank politics. In short the communal, religious and caste polarisation should not be allowed to succeed in the country and the people should fight for maintaining the secular character of the country which is under attack by a particular political party only in order to remain leeches to power by its policy of divide and rule. Such anti national and anti social efforts of creating communal and caste tensions in the society should be foiled by the sagacious people to maintain the secular image of the country and the congress leader Rahul Gandhi has leveled charges of spoiling the secular image of the country by the BJP and this party has accused the congress leader of tarnishing the image of the country in the world. We should stand up and stop the communal and caste polarisation in the country for maintaining the secular fabric of the nation.

(The author is a Columnist and Social Activist).

Contribution of Indian scientists

■ D R BHAGAT

The Indian science history dates back to 3000 years.

Many scientists and creative minds were born here who made great achievements in diverse fields of science like physiology, physics, chemistry, mathematics and astronomy. Some of them were much ahead of their times who made great discoveries which has greatly helped in bringing the science to the present level. Aryabhata, who lived in the 5th century A.D was a great mathematician and an astronomer. He gave the concept of Zero and changed the course of mathematics in the world. He also did a great work in astronomy. He was the first to deduce that the earth is round and that it rotates on its own axis forming day and night. He also declared that moon is dark and it shines only because of the sun light and the eclipses are caused by the shadow cast by the earth on the moon. He was the first to compute the circumference of the earth as 24835 miles which is very close to modern day calculations of 24900 miles. Sage Kanada who lived in the 6th century B.C was the first proponent of the atomic theory.

He stated that the Parmanu (atom) is indivisible and the whole world is made up of atoms. He also explained that the blue colour of the sea is not due to the reflection of the sky but due to the scattering of sun's light by water molecules.

He was the first Asian to get Nobel Prize in physics. Satyender Nath Bose was another Indian scientist who made a mark in the history of science.

He wrote an article "Max Plank's Law and Light Quantum hypothesis" at the age of 19 which was published in an internationally reputed science journal and received the attention of many scientists of the world.

In 1925 he visited Berlin to work with Einstein who was the greatest scientist of the century.

On the basis of his published article and in working with Einstein, he created a new chapter in the newly discovered Quantum Mechanic. This was known as Bose-Einstein Statistics which deals with the study of gas like behavior of certain particles which came to be known as bosons after his name.

They also predicted a new state of matter which could be made by cooling the bosons to very low temperature to cause them to condense resulting into a new form of matter. This was known as Bose-Einstein Condensate and is the 5th state of matter.

This was actually made by two scientists of University of Colorado after more than 50 years. Both of them were awarded with the Nobel Prize. But Bose was never considered for Nobel Prize which he deserved for his great achievement.

Ramanujam was a great and self taught mathematician who was born in 1887 in Tamil Nadu. At the age of 13, he got a book of trigonometry from a college student

al force that helps to keep the planets in their respective orbits much before the rest of the world even thought about it.

His work on calculus predates Newton and Leibniz.

Among the modern Indian scientists, the discovery made by C.V Raman is known as one of the greatest discoveries in science. He discovered a new phenomenon of scattering of light.

When a light ray of certain wavelength is passed through a transparent medium, some of the light is scattered forming some spectral lines of different wavelengths. These lines came to be known as Raman Lines and the phenomenon came to be known as Raman Effect.

This great discovery was made on 28 February 1928 and this day is now celebrated as National Science Day. The significance of this discovery was quickly recognized by the scientists all over the world.

The discovery became useful in the study of molecular and crystal structures. This discovery also proved the particle nature of light.

He also explained that the blue colour of the sea is not due to the reflection of the sky but due to the scattering of sun's light by water molecules.

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which was not even a subject of his class.

He studied this book thoroughly and mastered it within a short time. He even discovered some theorems and formulae of his own. He sent about hundred theorems to prof G.H.Hardy, a renowned mathematician at Cambridge University who came to know about the genius of Ramanujam from his work and invited him to Cambridge to work with him.

The notable works of this collaboration were the Partition Theory that counts the number of ways a natural number can be decomposed into smaller parts. They also worked on Divergent Theory of numbers.

He discovered Bernoulli Numbers independently which are extremely important in number theory and analysis.

Prof Hardy remarked that Ramanujam played with mathematics like a child plays with toys.

He was elected as the member of the London Mathematical society in 1917 and Fellow of Royal Society of London in 1918 and also the fellow of Trinity College. S.Chandrashekhar another Tamil Nadu born scientist is a big name in astronomy.

He worked in the University of Chicago and Yerkes Observatory in America.

His contributions to the science of astronomy are the evolution and structures of stars, the Theory of White Dwarf stars and the mathematical theory of black holes. These theories are widely accepted till date. He got the Nobel prize in Physics in 1983.

NASA in his honor has renamed their X-ray astrophysics facility as the Chandra X-ray Observatory. Jagdish Chander Bose was a great scientist who was both a Physicist and a biologist.

He is the real inventor of Wireless Telegraphy. But before he could register his patent, Marconi an Italian scientist had got this patent secured in his name and came to be known as inventor of wireless telegraphy.

Bose discovered that plants feel pain like animals.

He also found that plants shrink a little during the night.

He further discovered that plants always grow towards light even if they have to bend and that all plants respond to touch of a man. To honor this great scientist, a crater on far side of the moon has been named after him.

There are more Indian scientists like APJ Abdul Kalam, Birbal Sahni, Meghnad Saha, Shanti Sarup Bhatnagar, Homi Bhabha, Vikram Sarabhai and many others who contributed a lot for the development of science and took India to great heights in the field of sciences. Our scientists are the real wealth of India.

JUBILANT J&K Streaming of proposals worth Rs 51,000 cr reflects investment friendly environment in J&K

Jammu and Kashmir government receiving proposals worth over Rs 51,000 cr for investment is a candid reflection of an alluring investment friendly environment in the Union Territory after the launch of New Central Sector scheme for industrial development here. The J&K administration in January last year announced a new industrial developmental scheme with an outlay of Rs 28,400 crore to encourage new investment and take industrial development to the block level. The new policy, which will be applicable till 2037, also paved the way for bigger investors to invest in J&K. "These potential proposals are estimated to generate 2.37 lakh employments," the official said adding that the clearance process of these proposals has already been fast tracked.

The new central sector scheme provides four types of incentives including Capital Investment Incentive, Capital Interest Subvention, Goods & Services Tax Linked Incentive and Working Capital Interest Subvention. Moreover, in order to boost industrial development in UT, the government of J&K has also notified the J&K Industrial Policy, J&K Private Industrial Estate Development Policy and J&K Industrial Land Allotment Policy. Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha has said, "Jammu & Kashmir, nestled in the lap of Himalayas, is on a mission to be country's fastest growing region. Government's prime objective is to extend trust with business conglomerate and strengthen existing regulatory policies to attract investments benefiting Citizens."

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir had signed six agreements that will bring investments in the Union Territory's real estate, infrastructure, tourism, healthcare and manpower employment sectors among others at Dubai Expo 2020. Several UAE based businesses signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with Jammu & Kashmir which included Al Maya Group, MATU Investments LLC, GL Employment Brokerage LLC, Century Financial, and Noon E-commerce. One Letter of Intent (LOI) was signed with Magna Waves Private Limited, Emaar Group and Lulu International.

Speaking at the Investors Summit in Dubai on January 6, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, said that Jammu and Kashmir has transitioned from a dormant commercial destination to a region of opportunity and investment. In 2021, the Union Territory got \$2.5 billion (approximately Rs 18,568 crore) investments demonstrating the region's vast opportunities and business potential. For economic empowerment of Jammu and Kashmir, a 36-member business delegation from UAE visited Kashmir Valley to explore business opportunities. An official said around 70 thousand crore investment is expected to come from foreign investors. The business community of Jammu and Kashmir welcomed the step saying it will be a start of a new era of economic development of Jammu and Kashmir.

Recently, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, during his visit to the UT remarked that Kashmir has become an 'attraction for investors' both in India and internationally after abrogation of Article 370. "After abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019, the way Kashmir has become an attraction for investors both in India and internationally was evident when a high-level delegation from UAE came to Jammu and Kashmir for investments," Goyal stated. "In fact, one of the MoUs was signed during my earlier visit also when I was there with LG Manoj Sinha in Kashmir. It seems that a whole host of investors had the benefit of visiting Jammu and Kashmir experiencing the beauty glory and offerings of the Union Territory," the Union Minister maintained. He asserted that 'rapid and enormous' progress will be there in Jammu and Kashmir in the years to come given huge thrust by the Government of India to promote investments in the Union Territory. It is important to note that Titans of India's Real Estate Sector, including promoters in Residential, Retail and Commercial space, Entertainment Industry, Tourism and Hospitality, Logistics and Warehousing and Financing Institutions came together for growth of J&K at the first-ever 'Real Estate Summit-2021'. In presence of Union Housing and Urban Affairs