

SCUTTLE PAK DESIGNS

The appeal made by the UT unit of Bharatiya Janata Party to migrant Kashmiri Pandit and Dogra employees for not leaving the Valley has a deeper motive to scuttle the nefarious designs of Pakistan, the country that wanted the unrest to continue in the Valley as peace restoration endeavours by the BJP Government in Kashmir is not going down well with the rogue nation. It is pertinent to mention that the fear stricken employees presently posted in different parts of the Valley are protesting for their immediate relocation out of Kashmir following number of targeted killings in the province against many members of the minority communities including the Kashmiri Pandits. The BJP has appealed to the aforesaid employees to stay back and said the government is determined to defeat the Pakistani conspiracy. BJP chief J&K UT Ravinder Raina asserted that people will have to stand together to scuttle the nefarious designs of Pakistan, which has chalked out the conspiracy of targeted killings through its sponsored terrorists to force out minorities and nationalist Muslims from the Valley. Every word said by Raina is true to the hilt as Pakistan has a history of instigating people in Valley to act against the interests of India and after being defeated on many fronts like the stone pelting series, etc, it has now started attacks on soft targets thus creating fear psychosis among the society with no one knowing that who will be the next target of Pakistani stooges involved in heinous crimes of killing unarmed innocents in broad day light just to satiate the ill-conceived cause of Pakistan. There is no doubt that India is fighting a Pakistan-sponsored proxy war for the last over 30 years and its army, police and paramilitary forces have given a befitting reply by eliminating scores of terrorists to frustrate the evil designs of the neighbouring country.

Pakistan after noticing the restoration of peace in the Valley has conspired with the terror groups to bleed Kashmir again and chalked out the strategy of targeted killings to create fear and force fresh migration. It is necessary to withstand enemies pressure by following the plan envisaged by the government to effectively counter the Pak designs and stand like a rock against the terror mongers because BJP government will never allow another 1990 in Kashmir come what may.

FULFILLING ASPIRATIONS OF OBCs

Right from the day one of the formation of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, major changes have been done in the newly created Union Territory by the Government for bringing it at par with other states and UTs thereby ending the decades old discrimination prevalent in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir which was considered as a main blockade in the path of development. Although, with the repeal of the controversial articles 370 and 35A, various new rules and regulations which were earlier not applicable in J&K were implemented successfully across the Union Territory still there were several issues which remain unresolved thereby inviting a widespread resentment among some selected sections of people. One such major issue, being highlighted from past few years was granting of adequate reservation benefits to the people belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) as despite becoming a Union Territory, the OBCs were not getting full reservation benefits at par with their counterparts living in other states and UTs and time and again, various demands were made by several organizations and political parties to fulfil this long pending genuine demand for meeting the aspirations of OBC communities. Now it seems that the days of wait for the members of OBC communities are few as the J&K Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Commission has submitted its interim report to the Government for granting reservations to Other Backward Classes (OBCs). The commission has submitted its supplementary report to J&K Government, which will take the final call in this regard followed by the Union Home Ministry and thereafter the matter will be presented in the Parliament for final decision. As per the sources, the commission has also suggested for granting reservation to Paharis and inclusion of several new areas and castes in the OBC category. Pertinent to mention here that the commission was set up in March 2020 with a two years term under the leadership of Justice (Retired) GD Sharma and Rup Lal Bharti and Munir Khan as Members. At present, OBCs in J&K are getting just four per cent reservation and it is expected that very soon the commission will finalize its report and Paharis will also get their due share in reservation benefits for which they were struggling from a long period.

Leaving Bondage

by making an effort to obtain it, the mind becomes infinite.

Whether a person becomes great or small depends on the person's wish. When the object of human beings is small and they remain fixed to it, they are in bondage. When the object of the mind is infinite, and we get merged into it, we call it liberation.

What is the spiritual practice of human beings? It is forsaking jivatva, 'unit hood', leaving bondage, and attaining Shivatava, 'cosmic hood'. This alone is the goal of human beings. It means oneness of God. Oneness of God is only possible when human beings will perform regular practice of meditation. What is meditation? It is nothing but an attempt to reduce your distance between your self and Parampurush.

Shrii Shrii Anandamurtiji

The mind must always have a vishaya, an object. In scriptures, vishaya is known as 'abhoga'. 'Abhoga' means the object that feeds the mind - that is, mental pabulum. If this pabulum is limited, the mind also becomes limited. If the pabulum is infinite,

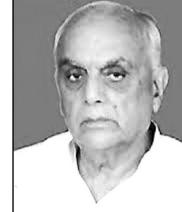
God is all-full. He is self-contained. He is eternal satisfaction.

-Swami Sivananda

EDITORIAL

Silent spectators or silent abettors

■ ER P L KHUSHU



What is happening in Kashmir presently takes us back to the situation of Kashmir which prevailed there in 1990. But it is with an addition now, which is that then the Kashmiri Pandits alone were the targets of the guns and the bullets of the terrorists, when this time apart from Kashmiri Pandits the others who are the targets are non-Kashmiris too who are working in Kashmir in one form or the other. The base set by the Jihadi's this time unfortunately is that the Kashmir is for the Muslims of Kashmir and none else. A common Kashmiri living in Kashmir is helpless to negate such a move, for the fear of the gun of the terrorist which is now nurtured and reared by the sponsors of terror in Kashmir from Pakistan amongst the local youth, which is another disaster for the youth of Kashmir. It is a seed of a poisonous plant if not a tree, which will result in extreme bad blood between communities even at the national level. The unscrupulous politicians around are taking an undue advantage of such a situation to make one section of people quarrelling with the other for their political vote bank politics. These opportunist politicians have already resorted to show their opaque approach towards this grave issue of human killings by linking such a situation with the failure of the present government in achieving peace and harmony in Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370. This suits their clumsy approach by drum beating the same mantra that the present government has failed in maintaining peace and development in Jammu and Kashmir, when such a situation is their initial creation of being soft to the terror and its roots in Kashmir during their dynasty ruler ships of Jammu and Kashmir, by turns for remaining in power through their vote bank politics. These dynasty rulers of having ruled Jammu and Kashmir for decades have never allowed the peace and development to take the lead in Jammu and Kashmir, by indulging in sectarian politics, particularly in Kashmir valley by creating wedges between various sections of the people like 'Sher-Bakra, Shia-Suni', and often denigrate the presence of Kashmiri Pandits in the valley by different modes of showing apathies towards them. Kashmiri Pandits were treated like second class citi-

zens, in all activities of the administrative set ups, in the educational fields both technical and non-technical, proper employments in government jobs, appointments to senior posts of administration, transfers in government services, etc. Then ultimately these very dynasty-based leaders who are beating their breasts today for proper peace in Kashmir are fundamentally responsible for the massacre and the genocide of KP's along with their mass forced exodus from the valley, which is evinced by their conspicuous silence on this issue with a blunt refusal about the KP's settlement in safe clusters in the valley in the past. This has drastically drifted away the KP's from their Muslim brothers of the valley, viz, their one-time neighbors, who are now looking like different species very much inimical to the rehabilitation plans of the displaced KP's back to their homes in Kashmir. Coming back to the recent spree of killings in Kashmir, when brutal killings have been done by the terrorists of KP migrant employees, a Hindu teacher belonging to Jammu, serving under Prime Minister's special employment package programme, a young Hindu bank manager belonging to Rajasthan and a non-Muslim laborer working as a laborer to earn his bread and butter in Kashmir. These so-called political leaders with dynastic bases raised a lot of hue and cry about the law and order situation in Kashmir and around and never had a word of condemnation for such brutal killings by the terrorists who are operating at the asking of their mentors across the border. They all have acted as the silent spectators for all such killings and have been doing so since long for their vote bank politics, acting as the silent sympathizers of these terror operators, by not spelling out a single word of condemnation about these killers. They are thus apparently the silent abettors for all such killings. They are the ones who have been fanning that with removal of Article 370, not a single soul outside Jammu and Kashmir will be allowed to come to Kashmir for permanent living.

The present surge in terror attacks on the various communities particularly the Kashmiri Pandits and outside Hindus, is thus a calculated programme designed and developed across the border and implemented in Kashmir with an unfortunate consent of some of the local majority community members of Kashmir, which is further abetted by the reputed slogan mongering of the earlier dynasty rulers of Kashmir. It is on record to quote when leaders of major political parties

of Kashmir who were in governance from time to time for decades in Jammu and Kashmir, have often attributed the annulling of Article 370 and 35A to fact that Government of India wants to bring Hindus from other states of India to settle and live in Kashmir thus making the present Muslim majority in Kashmir into a minority. Simultaneously, while with their utterance have been repeatedly warned India that such acts will be resisted by equivalent repulsions. So what has happened this time so far as the terror attacks are concerned, it seems that all such leaders are secretly privy to all such programmes of the terrorist's designs drawn and drafted across the border? So a Kashmiri Pandit is now caught between the devil and the deep sea, in going back to Kashmir in the present scenario when apart from the fear of terrorists, some amongst the local majority population of Kashmir are equally not only a silent spectator to these designs of the terrorists, but equally the major silent partner in this whole game, not to speak of the political leaders who are shedding crocodile tears showing sympathies with the Kashmiri Pandits and other non-Muslim affected persons.

The resultant solutions to this problem of terrorist acts in Kashmir, which are not just terror acts but a full-fledged proxy war, waged by Pakistan against India through Kashmir since a long time is to teach Pakistan a lesson by waging a war against it and its designs of mass killings and genocide in Kashmir. Probably India is now left with no solution other than that. One is reminded of 1965 war with Pakistan, when initially Pakistan pumped in terrorists then who were then known as 'Mujahidin', in Kashmir to create internal disturbances in Kashmir. Their main location in Srinagar was located as Batmaloo's locality of Srinagar. G M Sadiq was the chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir at that point of time. He directed the security forces to ask the civilian population of Batmaloo area to move to safer places and move out of Batmaloo. After the civilian population vacated this area entire Batmaloo locality was put on fire, when the Mujahidin got identified and caught and even killed in this fire. Probably the situation demands such a type of actions now particularly in some South Kashmir localities. While it might tantamount to human rights violations, but what is the remedy when locals are giving shelter to the terrorists in their houses. Human right is not one-way traffic. The civil

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Working to achieve model health ecosystem

■ DR MANSUKH MANDAVIYA

The National Health Policy (NHP) 2017 was formulated to reflect on and respond to shifting health priorities of the nation. While the earlier policies of 1983 and 2002 served well in guiding the approach for health sector in planning, NHP 2017 was designed with an aim to inform, clarify, strengthen and prioritise government's role in overall shaping of the health systems, spanning investments, organisation of services and service delivery, cross sectoral actions, technology, human resources, and more.

Implementing the concept of "Healthy India", Government of India under the dynamic and visionary leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has developed a defined mandate to design Indian healthcare system to maintain continuum of care across levels of care.

Enunciating the vision of Prime Minister, over the last eight years, there has been a continuous emphasis by the government to improve the public health facilities in the country, making them more accessible to all citizens.

India has witnessed a transition in public health governance, from being disease-centric to an integrated health and wellness approach.

Over last eight years, important initiatives like Free Drugs and Diagnostics Services, four pillars of Ayushman Bharat (AB) - Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWC), Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), Digital Mission (ABDM), Health Infrastructure Mission (AB-HIM), Fifteenth Finance Commission (FC-XV) tied health grants to local bodies, etc., have provided us with experiences and learning to further strengthen public health governance with citizen centric approach to reduce. Out of Pocket Expenditure (OOPe), provide world class quality of care at public health facilities and ensure adequate health care workforce.

Continuing the efforts in this direction through NHM - a flagship sector reform initiative of Government of India, the government in last eight years has not only provided support to strengthen state and UTs' capacity to provide health care services to all but has also enabled the design and implementation of reforms related to governance, financing, procure-

ment and information technology. Following one of the NHP recommendations of strengthening the delivery of Primary Health Care, GoI took first step in the conversion of policy articulations to a budgetary commitment and in 2018 announced creation of 1.5 lakh AB-HWCs by Dec 2022.

These AB-HWCs would act as a platform to deliver comprehensive primary health care closer to community and would be an affordable and effective path of India towards attainment of Universal Health Coverage.

AB-PMJAY provides health protection cover to poor and vulnerable families.

The scheme complements primary health care to ensure increased access to quality health and medication, timely treatments, improvements in health outcomes, patient satisfaction, improvement in productivity and efficiency and job creation thus leading to improvement in the quality of life for all.

Through 100 per cent population enumeration at the empanelled HWCs and providing financial protection to vulnerable population subgroups, Ayushman Bharat programme aims to leave no one behind when it comes to quality healthcare. Improved access to healthcare services closer to communities with assured availability of drugs and diagnostic services would reduce out of pocket expenditure and catastrophic health expenditure.

The scheme has crossed the three-crore mark for hospital admissions and claim amount of Rs. 36,500 crores have been disbursed with more than 18 crore cards generated, since its implementation in 2018.

India has been moving towards a digital health ecosystem, and with an objective to bridge the existing gap amongst different stakeholders of health care ecosystem through digital interventions, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) was launched in 2020.

With ongoing pandemic presenting the country with a set of complex challenges, the unfolding public health emergency reiterated the need of a concerted and "Whole of Government" and "Whole of Society" approach to build up a comprehensive, robust and prompt response system.

With this concern, the GoI launched country's largest pan India infrastructure scheme PM-

ABHIMin 2021, which focuses to expedite capacities of health institutions across all levels of care, and to provide health infrastructure, surveillance and research.

The scheme will strengthen the districts, and enhance self-reliance through creation of infrastructure to ensure that districts have basic minimum capacities for surveillance and outbreak management, and are able to provide primary as well as critical care with equitable access to citizens, especially to women, children and those belonging to weaker sections.

With Prime Minister's emphasis on adapting a holistic approach in health, Indian health systems are now providing an integrated platform to achieve convergence amongst four pillars of Ayushman Bharat i.e., AB-HWC, AB-PMJAY, AB-DM and PM-ABHIM aligned with NHM.

During Independence Day, PM initiated a new approach with his slogan and said "To achieve our goals, we need 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas', and also Sabka Prayas (everyone's effort). Reiterating PM's vision, Ayushman Bharat complements country's journey towards achieving goals and targets of the National Health Policy 2017 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Continuing efforts to invest and build a roadmap taking India back to high growth trajectory, this government has laid a foundation to now steer the economy over 'Amrit Kaal' of next 25 years while the nation celebrates Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Setting out the vision for India @ 100, PM recited a poem 'Yahi Samay Hai, Sahi Samay Hai Bharat ka Anmol Samay Hai', which is built upon his vision and reflects on his statement that nation cannot wait so long to attain health goals and should continuously make efforts to build on the vision while deliberating to expedite developing capacities of health systems and institutions across levels of care.

While India is already on its path towards establishing the health care ecosystem as a global attraction, GoI under the leadership of PM has launched 'Heal in India' and 'Heal by India' initiatives which would make India a Global Medical Value hub, and contribute towards a healthy global society.

(The author is Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare).

PROGRESSING J&K
Jal Shakti Deptt working tirelessly to ensure piped water in every rural household

Despite adverse weather conditions and challenges of transportation in many areas in difficult terrain, J&K Jal Shakti Department is ensuring piped water to every household in rural areas to accomplish its target of Har Ghar Jal. The department has provided tap water connection to every household of more than 1000 villages in Jammu and Kashmir under governments flagship programme Jal Jeevan Mission. Besides, 100 per cent FHTCs have been provided in Ganderbal and Srinagar in the first phase which included 11 blocks, 383 Panchayats and 925 villages. The department aims to provide tap water connections in the entire UT by the end of 2022, two years before the target.

Under this ambitious project of Jal Jeevan Mission, Palli village of Samba, from where Prime Minister addressed the nation on National Panchayati Raj Day, has been fully saturated with 448 FHTCs at a cost of Rs. 143.40 lakh. Palli village water supply project also included a tube well of 6000 gallons of discharge capacity per hour. Ramlal Sharma, Sarpanch of Palli Panchayat expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for providing piped water connection to every household in his village. "We are very happy that we got running water taps for the first time after independence. Earlier, it was a hard task to get water from hand pumps which were a source of various water-borne diseases," Sharma said.

Similarly, Farooq Sofi, resident of Dooniwari Budgam, is grateful to present government for starting work on OHT under JJM which will provide regular tap water supply in their homes. Assistant Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Department, Tabish Qureshi, says active participation, support of people and PRIs of Fakir Gujri helped in realisation of Har Ghar Jal in this hilly hamlet. Fakir Gujri hamlet is part of Srinagar district which has been fully covered under the Mission. To ensure quality water supply, Jal Shakti Department under the aegis of Jal Jeevan Mission has also setup 97 water testing laboratories across J&K.

Jal Jeevan Mission not only ensures regular tap water supply but also stresses on water quality. Water testing is important for monitoring the operation of water supply, verification of the safety of drinking water, investigation of disease outbreaks, validation process and preventive measures. Under JJM, water quality testing tools would be used for measuring the purity of drinking water; at the source, within piped distribution system or at the end of the supply. Drinking water quality monitoring and water quality surveillance are distinct yet, closely related activities. The drinking water quality will be monitored by the supplier/ agency responsible for water quality whereas the surveillance of water quality at the grassroots will be the responsibility of the GPs/rural community.

Besides, upto 2 per cent of total fund allocation is to be used on water quality monitoring and surveillance activities which primarily comprise water quality monitoring by the department through laboratory testing and water quality surveillance by the community through testing local water sources using Field Test Kits (FTKs). All drinking water sources are to be tested once a year for chemical contamination and twice a year for bacteriological parameters. To empower the local community on water quality surveillance in J&K, Jal Shakti Department has embarked on a mission to identify and train 5 persons especially women in each village from the local community including ASHA workers, health workers, VWSC/Pani Samiti members, teachers and SHG members to conduct water quality tests using FTKs/bacteriological vials at the village level, schools and Anganwadi centres. To install 'sense of Ownership' for the Piped water supply infrastructure in the community, J&K Jal Shakti Department under the banner of Jal Jeevan Mission has embarked on a mission to constitute Pani Samiti in every village. The role of Pani Samitis is to implement the in-village piped water and related infrastructure development. Pertinently, a central fund of Rs 2,747 crore has been allocated to Jammu and Kashmir in 2021-22 for implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, which is nearly four times the allocation made during 2020-21.