

Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman

Samman commends the instrumental role that the media plays in disseminating the outreach of yoga, both within India and abroad: Anurag Thakur

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has today announced the second edition of Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman. Under the Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman 2023, thirty-three Sammans will be given out under three categories viz Print, Television and Radio in twenty-two Indian languages and English as below

11 Sammans in 22 Indian languages and English - to be conferred under the category "Best Media Coverage in Yoga in Newspaper".

11 Sammans in 22 Indian languages and English - to be conferred under the category "Best Media Coverage in Yoga in Electronic Media (TV)".

11 Sammans in 22 Indian languages and English - to be conferred under the category "Best Media Coverage in Yoga in Electronic Media (Radio)".

Announcing the awards for the year 2023 Union Minister Shri Anurag Thakur said that Thanks to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, International Day of Yoga, celebrated on June 21 every year, has kindled a mass movement to promote health and well-being across the globe.

He has further said that Yoga has transcended borders and cultures, captivating the attention of millions worldwide. Its holistic approach to physical, mental, and spiritual well-being has garnered significant interest, making it a global phenomenon. This achievement would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of the media in spreading awareness and showcasing the transformative potential of yoga. In recognition of this, I am happy to announce that Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has decided to conduct the 2nd edition of Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman this year.

Thakur added that the Samman commends the instrumental role that the media plays in disseminating the outreach of yoga, both within India and abroad. As we celebrate the International Day of Yoga, it is crucial to recognize the immense power and responsibility that the media holds in promoting this ancient practice and its numerous benefits.

He also said that media has been a catalyst in fostering understanding, appreciation, and adoption of this profound practice. It has been successful in presenting it as a universal practice accessible to people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

Thanking the media for playing this role as an enabler, Thakur said "I express my heartfelt gratitude to the media for its invaluable contributions in disseminating the outreach of yoga in India and across the globe. Your unwavering dedication to sharing the transformative power of this practice has undoubtedly played a significant role in making yoga a universal language of wellness."

The Samman will be recommended by an independent Jury. The Samman will comprise of a special media/plaque/trophy and a citation.

The guidelines require Media Houses to submit details in a prescribed format along with relevant clippings of article(s) created and published or audio/visual content telecast/broadcast made during the period 10th June 2023 to 25th June 2023. The last date for entries is 1st July 2023.

Detailed guidelines can be found on the websites of Press Information Bureau (<https://pib.gov.in/indexd.aspx>) and Ministry of I&B (<https://mib.gov.in/>).

Acknowledging the positive role & responsibility of media in disseminating the outreach of Yoga in India and abroad, the Ministry of I&B had instituted the first Antarashtriya Yoga Diwas Media Samman (AYDMS) in June, 2019. The first edition of the awards was conferred on 7th January, 2020 and thereafter a hiatus was caused due to COVID-19 pandemic. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has decided to revive the Samman and organize the second edition in 2023.

The International Day of Yoga has been celebrated annually on 21 June since 2015. The idea of International Day of Yoga was first proposed by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, during his address at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), on 27 September 2014.

While proposing the idea the Prime Minister stated: "Yoga is an invaluable gift of India's ancient tradition. It embodies unity of mind and body; thought and action; restraint and fulfillment; harmony between man and nature; a holistic approach to health and well-being. It is not about exercise but to discover the sense of oneness with yourself, the world and the nature. By changing our lifestyle and creating consciousness, it can help in wellbeing. Let us work towards adopting an International Yoga Day."

Following this initial proposal, the UNGA held informal consultations on the draft resolution, entitled "International Day of Yoga", on 14 October 2014. The consultations were convened by the delegation of India. On 11 December 2014, India's Permanent Representative introduced the draft resolution in the United Nations General Assembly. The draft text received broad support from 177 Member States who sponsored the text, which was adopted without a vote. This initiative found support from most global leaders. A total of 177 nations co-sponsored the resolution, which is the highest number of co-sponsors ever for any UNGA resolution of such nature.

India Achieves Remarkable Growth in Food Production

The Third Advance Estimate of production for India's major crops for the year 2022-23 indicates an estimate of 3305.34 lakh tonnes of food grain production which is an increase of over 650 lakh tonnes compared to 2013-14 when it was 2650.47 lakh tonnes.

Over the years, India has experienced a remarkable surge in the production levels of several key crops, such as Rice, Wheat, Maize, Cereals, and Lentils. It may also be noted that the year 2023 has been declared by the United Nations as the 'International Year of Millets'. This remarkable growth in agricultural output plays a crucial role in bolstering food security and fostering the economic security and stability of the farmers.

Furthermore, the increase in the production of coarse grains signifies the importance of promoting nutritious grains in the country. With the government & farmer-friendly policies and the dedication of farmers and scientists, the agriculture sector in India is poised for continued development and further growth in the coming years.

These estimates serve as an important indicator of the progress and potential of India agriculture sector, highlighting the nation's commitment to achieving self-sufficiency in agricultural production as well as doubling farmers' income.

Turipati Balaji Mandir's inauguration deepens the spirit of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat

■ OMKAR DATTATRAY

With much fanfare and enthusiasm Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple of Tirupati Devasthanams was dedicated and opened for the devotees in a high profile inauguration function called Samprokshanam on Thursday at Majeen Jammu outskirts. The Samprokshanam was attended and graced by LG Sinah, union minister for culture and tourism G. Kishan Reddy, Dr Jitender Singh MOS and UT government Chief Secretary and a galaxy of officers and personalities. The temple will reinforce the often repeated belief and practice that from Kashmir to Kanyakumari India is one and will give more strength to this belief. This famous temple will be a centre of spirituality and Sanatan traditions said the union minister Reddy. LG Manoj Sinha commented that the dedication of the Lord Venkateswara temple will strengthen and give impetus to religious tourism circuit in J&K and also give boost to spiritual tourism and the temple will give major fillip to economic development and increase employment opportunities for the local youth. Therefore the dedication of this temple to the public will brighten the religious and spiritual tourism besides boosting cultural and economic development. LG further said that under the able leadership of PM Modi Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing faster economic development and revival of culture in anrit Kaal. The UT is touching new heights of glory, divinity and development in its eternal journey. According to MOS Dr Jitendra Singh this vikas Tirth is the celebration of India's unity in diversity and also signifies the PM's vision of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat. The inauguration of the temple is



the historical moment and milestone in the cultural, religious, spiritual and even economic development of Jammu and Kashmir. This temple will be a big religious pilgrim and it will attract the devotees from all over India and the pilgrims who will come to visit Mata Vashnov Devi will also visit this temple for its glimpse and the devotees will pay obeisance at this historical temple of Triputi Balaji. The temple will be a centre of spirituality and Sanatan tradition and the sanatan Dharma will be invigorated, reinforced, strengthened and its dynamic message will be spread far and wide by the Darshan of this historic temple. This temple will give strength to the doctrine and belief that India is one from Kashmir and Kanyakumari and the people will also appreciate and acknowledge the belief and practice that from Kashmir to Kanyakumari India is one and this will go a long way in strengthening the unity and diversity and will also lead to national unity and

integration and these finer attributes and characteristics of India will be strengthened and get revival. Therefore we can say that the temple of Triputi Balaji is the best and shining example and a tribute to the living example that from Kashmiri to Kanyakumari India is one and this has got extra ordinary importance for the country's unity and integrity and will also lead to cultural revival and thus this temple will be a symbol of Eak Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat and the vision of prime minister will be reinforced and therefore this temple will strengthen and reinforce and give a practical shape to the prime ministers vision and foresight of one India and best India and India will further shine in spirituality, cultural diversity and national unity and all these finer characteristics will get a boost. The dedication of this famous temple to devotees is no ordinary feat but is a big and extra ordinary development for the spiritual and religious people of Jammu and Kashmir who will through this

temple for paying obeisance to Lord Venkateswara and have a glimpse of this deity. The dedication and opening of the temple of Triputi Balaje will further strengthen Sanatan Dharma and this temple is a great milestone in Sanatan spiritual journey and therefore this temple will be frequently visited by the devotees and religious cum spiritual tourism will be greatly developed and it is expected that there will be big rush of the pilgrims and religious tourists.

This important temple besides primarily been a religious and spiritual destination, will in the due course become a economic hub for the people of Jammu and Kashmir as it will develop the tourist economy of the UT and give job to the local youth who are directly and indirectly associated with tourism. Thus this temple will give boost to the tourist economy of the UT besides being a centre of religio-cultural and spiritual ethos. PM Modi wants that the people of India should become modern and have

modern taste but remain rooted to their roots and therefore the Tirputi Balaji temple is a step in the direction of connecting to our roots and thus there will be cultural development and our diverse culture will be spread and get strengthened with the opening of this temple complex. PM Modi has rightly said that the coming up of this temples will celebrate the richness of our heritage and will deepen the spirit of 'Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat' and this is no ordinary development as it will usher in that whole India is one and that India is the best. It is the historic moment in the Sanatan journey of Jammu and Kashmir and the country as well. Tirputi Balaji temple where lord Vishnu is Known to be residing during the Kali Yuga. The Triputi Balaji or Shree Venkateshwara Sami Temple is one of the most pivotal landmarks of the Hindu Mythology, holding a magnificent position in the Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. Now a replica of the original temple of Triputi Balaji has been built in Jammu and it has been dedicated to the public with much fanfare and enthusiasm and a galaxy of big personalities attended the function of the temples dedication and inauguration ceremony. The temple is a best example of unity in diversity and it depicts and furthers this doctrine and principle and therefore unity in diversity will be reinforced and strengthened and this will lead to tolerance and communal harmony in the country. In brief one can say that the Triputi Balaji temple of Jammu is the living example of unity in diversity and also will further cement the vision of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat of PM Narendra Modi.

(The author is a columnist, social and KP activist).

Man should know the sources of success

■ VIJAY GARG

Time is very powerful. People who value time never fail in life. Everything changes with time. Those who go against the times and do not care about it, they themselves are responsible for the results it gives them. There is only one formula of success that those who catch the pulse of time and befriend it never fail. There is never any stagna-

tion in their life. Departure is always in their life remains intact. Cooperation, coordination and timing never let life go astray. In fact, these all become the source of happiness for human life. Randomness is what actually creates the twists and turns in our path of life. Obstacles and difficulties arise and lead life to failure. Indifference, randomness, irregularities, lack of coordina-

tion, lack of cooperation lead life to decline and thus the train of life derails. Show extreme caution towards women's rights need to be the biggest cause of trouble for man today. Desires are so heavy on a person that the comforts, goods and possessions he has, seem small to him. The desire for a little more is depriving him of the joy of the present. Immense desires com-

pletely destroy patience and satisfaction in a person. In fact, unfulfilled desires are the main cause of stress and frustration in today's man. Mahatma Buddha says that the root cause of man's suffering is his desires. These are limitless. When one wish is fulfilled, many others raise their heads. When the desire is not fulfilled, man becomes sad. Compared to wishes, hope motivates a person

and helps him reach his goal easily. A hopeful person is never afraid of failure and never gets discouraged. This happens because an optimistic person has a positive outlook. He keeps thinking that if one door has been closed for him, many more have been opened. This is the gist of the said All of us can achieve success very easily by having a positive outlook and being a peer of time.

The Crisis of Climate Change

■ G.L. KHAJURIA

The Webster encyclopedic dictionary can notates climate as a composite prevailing weather condition of a region pertaining to temperature, air pressure, humidity, precipitation, sunshine and cloudiness throughout the year and the averaged condition over a period of years. There is a wide-arrayed combination of factors responsible for the ever exaggerating climate changes. It is unequivocally the biggest challenge of the current century being faced by all the nations across the globe directly or indirectly with variable frequencies.

The earth's atmosphere changes dramatically owing to the emissions induced through various anthropogenic activities. And these, therefore, in combination result into an increase in the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) and water vapors. The increase in CO₂ concentration is due to fossil fuel use whereas increase in CH₄ and N₂O concentration is as a result of expansion of agriculture activities.

However, the impact of climate change is indicative of various environmental factors evidenced through regional manifestation which, of course, are formed throughout the globe. The mountainous regions all over the world constitute 20% of terrestrial surface area which provide direct life support system for nearing 10% of world population. These also sustain many important activities viz forestry, agriculture and other energy resources. In addition, these are active elements of terrestrial environment which play a pivotal role in various global systems and of which climate change forms predominantly an important component. The contemporary research insights spare no room any more for scepticism so far as general rise in mean surface temperature at global, regional and local level is concerned.

Though strange it may sound, but too true that global warming in its complex form is predominantly responsible for the climate change in long term effects. It has, however, been scientifically proved that human action effects six out of seven climate factors viz. CO₂, methane, N₂O, ozone, CFC's and water vapors. Apart from, halocarbons which are of the human origin occurring from cooling agents and other compound pollutants.

All the halocarbons are more reardous and responsible for atmospheric warming and some species of halocarbons are formed over 10,000 times more powerful in trapping heat compared to Co₂. The enviro-scientists have established that halocarbons are long lived, persisting for hundreds and thousands of years when once released into the atmosphere. And one amongst these halocarbons is virtually immortal persisting over a period of 50,000 years or so.

Whereas carbon dioxide is measured in parts per mil-

lion compared to methane which is measured in parts per billion but astonishing halocarbons are still too far ahead being measured in parts per billion.

According to intergovernmental panel on climate changes (IPCC), temperature recorded at ground base measuring stations revealed a mean warming trend ranging from 0.3 C to 0.6 C since the year 1850 and from 0.2 C to 0.30 C since mid-seventies. And this recorded temperature is not way uniform either in time of distribution. More of the climate change occurs more on land than overseas and water bodies.

The complexity and complications off-shooting from climate change and its potential affect over environmental and social consequences pose a drastic challenge for the environmentalist policy planners and decision making apparatus across the globe. It is, therefore, unrealistic to expect from the public, policy makers to understand the full body of climate change contraption. As a consequence, therefore, the scientific community has long back known that greenhouse effect applies not only to greenhouses but also to the glass itself in its entirety.

Forests are both directly and indirectly impacted by the climate change. The direct impact is, however, owing to warming temperature and correspondingly changes in precipitation pattern or extreme weather events on forests. Even otherwise, notional pattern in temperature can have very significant effects on forest growth and survival, particularly those in the threshold areas. Higher temperature increases evapo-transpiration resultantly off-shooting drier conditions and decreases plants efficiency of water absorption. The rise in temperature dramatically give birth to the implication for timing of flowering and fruits formation which in turn affects growth rates and other physiological factors off-shooting will compelling the species either to migrate or face extinction. There shall, therefore, be an overall impact over the forests threatened by seasonality of precipitation and exaggeration in weather conditions which would in turn tantamount to windstorms, lightning, thunders, floods, landslides and unaccountable episodes of environmental degradation.

In industrialized countries, environmentally sound carbon sequestration activities in the existing forests can be facilitated by encouraging longer relations and inculcating other sensitive forest management practices. Carbon sequestration should under no circumstances include inappropriate inclusion of exotic species which would have a negative impact on the ecosystem integrity and would rather degrade ecosystem goods and services beyond retrieval and biodiversity obliteration.

Much water has flown down the Brahmaputra in the east and the 'Indus' to the west over Indian sub-continental landscape, so is the situation across the globe.

But lamentably, it is ironic to say that this precious plant is still facing serious onslaught emanating from the human activities in pursuit of headlong development at the cost of destruction, irrespective of replenishment or compensation. All such human activities in turn are giving birth to environmental degradation and resultantly off-shooting the biggest challenge of current century ---the crises of climate change.

Over the years, lot of worldwide summits and conferences have been deliberated upon right from Stockholm on human development in 1972 followed by earth summit in Rio De Janerio (Brazil) and the earth summit in Johannesburg but in the ultimate analysis, all have proved to be unyielding. And in the ongoing process of such summits and conferences, year 1995 unfolded another convention held in Berlin (COP1) wherein it was categorically emphasized that Rio was not enough and even its aftermath, the results were quite unyielding. This was sequenced by a protocol on climate change convention adopted in 1997 known as Kyoto Protocol. The targeted motto was emphatically aimed at to bring down global CFG's emission to a level of 5.2% during the period 2008-12 which period of commitment expired year ending 2015.

And now recently, a landmark framework arrangement on climate change was enunciated in Paris in 2015 to keep and ensure global temperature's slow down and this remarkable agreement followed as a sequel to united nations Intergovernmental panel on climate change (IPCC) in association with world health organization (WHO) and united nation environment programme (UNEP), scientific, technical and socio-economic information concerning climate areas changes, its potential affects and opinion for adaption and mitigation.

This framework was laid down on the occasion of World Earth Day (WED) on 22nd April, 2016, where apart from US and China, around 120 countries across the globe participated. And this framework agreement was more important and relevant as a follow up for enforcement of draft treaty adapted and followed earlier by 195 countries across globe present at United Nations conference on climate change. This is expected that this conference shall provide the required push in reducing global emission to the extent of 55% by the most populated 55 countries across the globe.

Therefore the signing of the dynamic agreement on climate change, particularly at the point of time when the most powerful and leading countries viz the USA and China are in the forefront is beyond all ambiguities going to have a far reaching universal impact. This will undoubtedly, change the gloomy picture of the global environmental degradation and much of the current crises on climate change at large.

(The author is former Dy. Conservator of Forest, J&K).