

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Unemployment is a serious issue. There are many factors which are responsible for this. Some of these include lack of proper education, lack of good skills and talents, inability to perform, lack of good job opportunities and rapidly growing population. Ahead is a look at the unemployment stability in the country, the consequences of unemployment and the measures taken by the government to control it. The Ministry of Labour and Employment in India maintains the records of unemployment in the country. Unemployment figures are calculated on the basis of the number of people who had no work for a substantial period of time during the 365 days preceding the date of reconciliation of figures and are still seeking employment. Unemployment causes serious socio-economic issues. This affects not only an individual but the whole society. Some of the major consequences of unemployment are explained below: Along with reducing the problem of unemployment, the Government of India has started many programs to help the unemployed in the country. Some of these include Integrated Rural Development Program (IRDP), Jawahar Rojgar Yojana, Drought Prone Area Program (DPAP), Training for Self-Employment, Nehru Rojgar Yojana (NRY), Employment Assurance Scheme, Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Alleviation Program (PMIUPEP), employment exchanges, employment in foreign countries, development of small and cottage industries, employment guarantee scheme and Jawahar Gram Samridhdi Yojana etc. Apart from providing employment opportunities through these programmes, the government is also sensitizing the importance of education and providing skill training to the unemployed. Unemployment is the root cause of various problems in the society.

Embarking on Path to Defeat Plastic: A Remarkable Journey

World Environment Day is a momentous occasion that unites people worldwide, raising awareness about environmental issues and encouraging positive action. In 2023, the focus is on "Beating The Plastic," highlighting the urgent need to combat the pervasive problem of plastic pollution. As we delve into personal experiences and perspectives, we discover the remarkable environmental love and practices cultivated by residents in the captivating city of Bhopal, India. Nestled in the heart of India, Bhopal is a haven of natural beauty and cultural heritage. Its breathtaking lakes, verdant landscapes, and diverse wildlife have long served as a wellspring of inspiration. Yet, as urbanization and modernization progressed, the environment faced significant challenges. Witnessing this transformation, Bhopal's residents developed a deep love and profound sense of responsibility towards their surroundings. Living in Bhopal, the importance of adopting sustainable practices became evident. One of the initial steps taken by individuals was to reduce their reliance on single-use plastics, the notorious contributors to pollution and environmental degradation. Plastic bags, straws, bottles, and packaging materials were replaced with reusable alternatives like cloth bags, stainless steel straws, and refillable water bottles, thus minimizing their contribution to the plastic waste crisis. Beyond personal actions, active engagement in local initiatives played a pivotal role in the environmental journey of Bhopal's residents. They enthusiastically participated in clean-up drives and awareness campaigns, effectively raising consciousness about the detrimental effects of plastic pollution. These community-driven endeavors not only restored cleanliness to public spaces but also served as inspiration for others to make sustainable choices. Collaborations with like-minded individuals and organizations forged a strong sense of collective responsibility, fostering a culture of sustainability within Bhopal. Recognizing the imperative to educate the younger generation, residents of Bhopal dedicated themselves to organizing educational programs in schools and colleges. These engaging workshops and sessions were designed to instill an awareness of environmental conservation and inspire young minds to embrace sustainable habits. By nurturing an environmental consciousness from an early age, students were empowered to become change agents in their communities, cultivating a greener future. Supporting local businesses that prioritize sustainability emerged as a crucial aspect of environmental love and practices. Bhopal's residents conscientiously chose to patronize eco-friendly establishments, thereby contributing to the local economy while encouraging the adoption of environmentally responsible practices. From businesses offering eco-friendly packaging to those providing organic products, these establishments demonstrated the power of conscious consumerism and its positive impact on the environment. The environmental journey in Bhopal is not confined to its boundaries; it transcends geographical limits. As residents moved to different places, they encountered diverse challenges and opportunities to make a difference. Understanding that environmental stewardship is a global responsibility, they continued to adopt sustainable practices and inspire others along the way. As we celebrate World Environment Day 2023, themed "Beating The Plastic," it is vital to reflect on our personal experiences and perspectives regarding environmental love and practices. By reducing plastic consumption, promoting sustainable alternatives, engaging in collective action, and supporting local businesses, we can effectively combat the plastic menace and create a healthier, cleaner, and more sustainable future. Let us join hands and pledge to beat the plastic, ensuring the protection of our planet for generations to come. Happy World Environment Day 2023!

(The author is a rehabilitation professional and a freelance writer).

G20 gave a strong message to world

■ OMKAR DATTATRAY

G20 held recently in Jammu and Kashmir has been successful in giving a firm and strong message to the world. It gave the apt and relevant message that Jammu and Kashmir read Kashmir has already limped back to normal and there is a discernable change in the narrative and vision that new Kashmir has taken birth and is progressing under the dynamic leadership of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and taking great strides in development and giving a firm message that now everything is well in Jammu and Kashmir.G20 also gave a message that in future Jammu and Kashmir will be in a position to lead the globe and this is the proper modification and reformation in Kashmir thanks to the leadership provided to the union territory by the BJP government of Modi. The message is loud and clear that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are for peace, tranquility, progress and development and they by and large abjure and dislike violence and are for peace and development. The G20 has given this understanding to the world that the clouds of militancy have faded and peace, progress and overall development has ushered in the UT which in the past has been suffering from militancy. Now love and goodwill has taken the place of hatred and venom and the world should have the correct understanding and appreciation of the totally changed atmosphere in Kashmir which in fact is a matter of pride and satisfaction. G20 shows the whole world that the winds of change are brewing in Jammu and Kashmir which is a positive development and this message is loudly given to the world and the international players appreciate and acknowledge the

changing narrative of Jammu and Kashmir. Besides this change the G20 also showcases the unity in diversity of Kashmir as it shows the world the composite culture, mutual brotherhood, communal harmony and above all Kashmiriyet for which Kashmir is famous in the globe.

Thus G20 meeting just concluded showcased the total change and changing narrative of Kashmir and its favorable impact on the peace, tranquility and economic, social ,cultural and technological development of Jammu and Kashmir.G20 and its solid, strong and firm message to the world will obliterate and remove the misinformation and wrong notion formed over the years and thus the right ,true and unbiased information about Jammu and Kashmir is given by G20 and it is no ordinary development as this correct information has a great bearing upon the international understanding about Jammu and Kashmir.

Thus impartial and unbiased information about Jammu and Kashmir will remove all doubts and misinformation about Jammu and Kashmir and it gives true and correct information about Kashmir. The fact that there is great influx of tourist footfall in 2022 as well as in first quarter of the 2023 is a slap on the forces of doom and on our neighbor Pakistan.

While change of the atmosphere is going to affect and impact the tourist arrival and this is in the interest of the economy of Kashmir. The G20 meeting in Srinagar is an opportunity to showcase changes in Jammu and Kashmir which was earlier under the shadow of Pakistan sponsored terrorism. It has been said by no less a person but by the

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh recently and his comment has some truth and right meaning.

The G20 meeting in Kashmir has given an opportunity to the international delegates to see for themselves the transformation that has taken place in Jammu and Kashmir and try to correlate with the projections in international media by self styled commentators.

Singh further said that the G20 delegates are the true messengers of not only Kashmir ,but also of the India.

The successful conclusion of G20 is an indication of the fact that now Jammu and Kashmir as a whole and the Kashmir valley ,which a few years ago was believed to be a kind of nerve centre of terrorism and Pak sponsored militancy is now in the same streamline of activity as any other city of India.

G20 in fact is the opportunity for India to showcase the changed scenario of Jammu and Kashmir under Modi to the world. The change has also happened at the level of common man and this is the big thing indeed and the government of India and the LG administration of Jammu and Kashmir should build on this change and make the change a basis for social and economic development.

Kashmiri youth does not want to fritter the opportunity provided by the change but they want to benefit from the change and long for peace and development.

The youth themselves want to be the agents of change and they abjure violence in any form as they have seen the destruction caused by terrorism and hence are in favor of peace, security and development.

Jitendra Singh further said that Kashmiri youth does not want to miss

the bus and wants to be part of the changes taking place in the region. It follows that G20 is the golden opportunity for the people of Jammu and Kashmir to showcase the changed social and economic scenario and it has in fact done this work with precision. With G20 meeting, the world has come to know about the ground reality and truth about Kashmir which the biased media had projected negatively to the disadvantage of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Now the G20 meeting has given to the world the true and impartial and unbiased picture about Kashmir and it is so good.

It will open up and the coffers of the world investors to Jammu and Kashmir as they will feel delighted to invest in the industry and economy of Jammu and Kashmir. Modi's doctrine of ease of doing business is going to have added attraction to the foreign investors and they will invest in Jammu and Kashmir and this will really give a boost to the economy and development of Jammu and Kashmir.

The G20 will also give rise to the tremendous tourist footfall in the coming days and this will help in the tourist industry of Jammu and Kashmir. To conclude it can be said that G20 meeting has given the message of the change to the world and has obliterated the wrong notion about Jammu and Kashmir. It is really a positive development for Jammu and Kashmir and the youth of the UT and the world at large should seize the opportunity provided by the changed scenario of Kashmir. Let this change be a harbinger of economic and social development.

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

Need for census of hungry stomachs not of castes

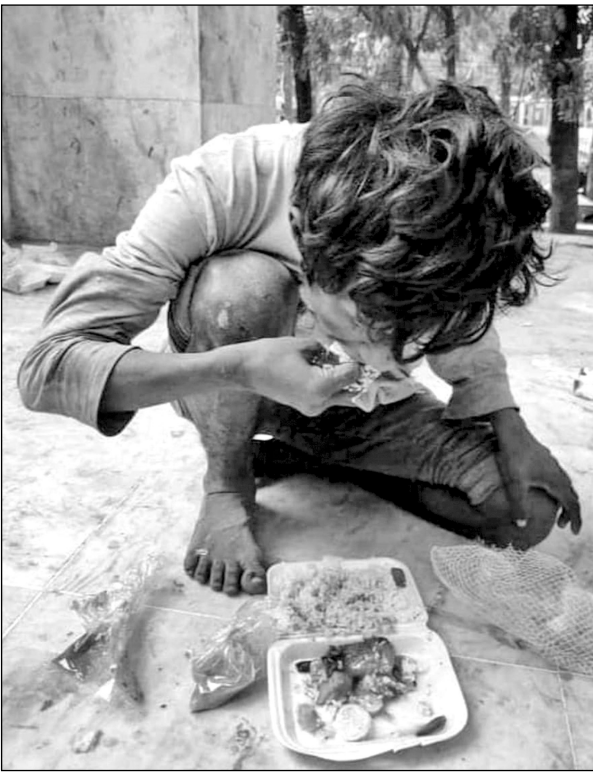
■ SHIV KUMAR PADHA

The level of the Indian politics has never been so low as it is now even after 75 years of independence. The nation is keenly observing how fast the standard of the Indian politics is falling particularly since 2014 PM Modi lead NDA government came in power in the country. Under Modi's premiership the country has scaled the heights from where it has developed courage and confidence to retaliate the hostile countries by the surgical and air strikes. The NDA government under PM Modi has carved out a prestigious position in the field of foreign policy, defense, science and technology, economy, which has helped the nation become leading nation on the international forum.

It is the magic band of Modi's personality which has compelled the world leadership to see a guide, philanthropist, a true frie and a succor for the suffering world population during the natural disasters and the COVID 19 pandemic world over. It is said that the popularity and success of one becomes eyesore for the others. The unprecedented progress and development in the country on all fronts and zero tolerance for corruption has shaken the souls of the disgruntled politicians who find themselves helpless and dwarf before the stature and size of Prime minister Modi and his council of ministers.

While the governments of non democratic countries of the world are toppled as a result of coup by the military junta through the bullets, the elected democratic governments, the one in India, are changed through ballot peacefully. But, alas the consortium of some private political parties and families who has ruled their states as their jagirs have pledged to remove Modi even if the need the help of the hostile neighbouring countries. The dynasts from Abdullahs from Kashmir to the stallions of Madras have the same agenda remove Modi while the agenda of Modi is make new India with a three trillion economy. The advancing steps of the PM Modi and his increasing stature in the world has made their nights sleepless. In order to make their plans success full they are propagating anti India narrative from the lands outside India against the democratic set up of the country. They know ,in case the Modi government comes in power again there will not be any chance of repeating fodder or other scams.

In order to pave the ground for the 2024 elections every right step of the Modi Govt. is being rebutted by the disgruntled politicians whose sole aim is to remove Modi lock, stock and barrel. Some overambitious polit-



ical parties have started playing a gimmick in the name of caste based census in the country unmindful of its consequences on the solidarity and integrity of the country.

A census is a survey of the entire set of observation objects in a given population universe. The census is significant because it provides an integrated picture of society at a given time within numerous, multiple and continuous changes, that cannot be defined by other data collection methods. The census provides a suitable database for comparisons and projections of demographic data as well as social and economic characteristics of society.

Caste census increase caste feelings which are often used/exploited by the political parties for gaining the political mileage during the electioneering. A caste census may increase caste feelings in some people and that may lead to inter caste clashes, ill will, and hatred among them. Caste census is cumbersome process.

Some castes may have different names in different places and some castes are pronounced differently which may cause confusion. This will give data to the political parties on whom they can impress upon in order to win. This way the vote bank politics may increase to a large extent.

In legislature the opposition parties has major role, which is constructive criticism of government, putting restrictions on arbitrariness of ruling party safeguarding liberty and right of the people. The success of the democracy depends upon the constructive role of the opposition parties. To check the government from becoming authoritarian and to restrict its powers the opposition parties keep a watch over them. Our political parties often forget about the people who spend their days and night empty stomachs or those who feed on the food pallets collected from the garbage. There is a need of conducting census to count and identify the souls with the empty stomachs irrespective of the caste or religion.

The data of 2004-05 National Family and health Survey NFHS shows 23% of married men, 52% of married women, 72% of infants were anemic a sure sign of families going down the world spiral of starvation. Recent GHI global hunger index released by IFPRI shows that India is among the worst performers on the front of hunger and malnutrition India ranks only above Pakistan among the countries of South Asian region. According to the 2022 GHI ranking India ranks 107th out of 121 countries with a score of 29% Indians have level of hunger that is serious India has slipped.

According to the latest data India has the highest child wasting rate of all countries under GHI. In India largest number of insecure people in respect of hunger are in W.B, Jharkhand, parts of Maharashtra, MP, Bihar SE and Eastern parts of UP.

The main thrust of the every elected popular government should be to identify the hungry stomachs and those who feed on the food pallets collected from the heaps of garbage. The zero hunger programme is a global initiative to eliminate, achieve food security improve nutrition and promote agriculture. To perform the census on the caste bases will only help the political parties to make their vote banks by alluring them with the freebies. Playing with the hungry stomachs and using them as prop for their political games is not only a sin but a crime against humanity under international law of Human Rights.

(The author is a social activist from Basohli).

Sympathy: Ways of Expressing and Caring

■ DR. RAJKUMAR SINGH

Sympathy is a term used to describe the feeling of compassion, understanding, and care for someone who is experiencing pain, suffering, or hardship. It involves recognising and acknowledging the emotions and struggles of others, and expressing support and concern for their well-being. When we feel sympathy towards someone, we are able to empathise with their situation and imagine what it must be like to be in their shoes. It can be expressed through various means, including offering kind words, providing a listening ear, helping, or providing practical help. It is often shown in times of grief, loss, illness, or other challenging circumstances.It is important to note that sympathy is different from empathy, although the two terms are closely related. While sympathy involves understanding and caring for someone's situation, empathy goes a step further by actually sharing and experiencing the emotions of the other person.Expressing sympathy can be a way to provide solace, support, and reassurance to those in need, and it can foster a sense of connection and understanding between individuals. The beginning of sympathy often arises from witnessing or learning about someone's hardship, pain, or distress. It is a response to recognising and acknowledging the emotional state of another person. The initial trigger can vary, such as hearing about a loss, illness, or difficult life circumstances through personal interaction, news, or other sources of information.

Upon becoming aware of someone's situation, individuals may experience an emotional reaction that leads to sympathy. This emotional response can be influenced by personal experiences, values, and beliefs, as well as cultural and social factors.The starting point of sympathy involves the recognition of another person's suffering or challenge, which then prompts a compassionate and caring response. This response can manifest as a desire to offer support, understanding, and comfort to the person in need.

Circumstances of sympathy

Sympathy can arise in various situations where individuals experience pain, suffering, or hardship and it may be expressed in: a. Bereavement: When someone loses a loved one, sympathy is often extended to them to offer comfort and support during their grieving process. b. Illness or injury: Sympathy is frequently shown to individuals facing health challenges, such as a serious illness, chronic condition, or significant injury. It can involve providing emotional support, helping with practical needs, or offering assistance in navigating medical treatments. c. Personal setbacks: Sympathy can be expressed when someone experiences personal setbacks, such as the loss of a job, financial difficulties, or relationship problems. It entails understanding and acknowledging their distress and offering empathy and support. d. Natural disasters or tragedies: In the aftermath of natural disasters, accidents, or other tragic events, sympathy

is often extended to affected individuals or communities. It includes providing assistance, donating resources, or offering emotional support to help them recover and rebuild.e. Emotional distress: Sympathy can be shown to individuals experiencing emotional distress, such as depression, anxiety, or trauma. It involves listening, validating their feelings, and offering understanding and encouragement. f. Social injustice: Sympathy is often expressed in response to instances of social injustice, discrimination, or systemic oppression. It can involve standing in solidarity, advocating for change, or supporting marginalized communities. g. Personal challenges: Sympathy may be shown when individuals face personal challenges, such as financial struggles, addiction, or loss of a home.

Kinds of sympathy

There are different kinds of sympathy that can be experienced and expressed based on the nature of the situation and the depth of emotional connection. It can largely include: a. Emotional sympathy: This is the most common form of sympathy, where individuals feel and express emotional support for someone in distress. It involves understanding and sharing the emotions of the person, offering comfort, and showing empathy. b. Practical sympathy: Practical sympathy focuses on providing tangible assistance or practical help to alleviate the difficulties faced by someone. It can involve offering resources, taking care of daily tasks, or providing physical support to make their situation more

manageable. c. Social sympathy: Social sympathy refers to expressing support and solidarity through social means. This can include raising awareness about an issue, participating in advocacy or fundraising efforts, or engaging in collective actions to address the underlying causes of someone's hardship. d. Relational sympathy: Relational sympathy is specific to interpersonal relationships. It involves offering comfort, understanding, and support to someone within the context of a personal connection, such as a family member, friend, or colleague. e. Global sympathy: Global sympathy extends beyond personal connections and encompasses empathy and concern for people on a broader scale. It involves caring about and expressing support for individuals and communities worldwide who are experiencing adversity or suffering. f. Conditional sympathy: Conditional sympathy refers to sympathy that is dependent on certain circumstances or criteria. It might be based on shared values, beliefs, or personal experiences that influence the level of empathy and support extended to someone.These different types of sympathy are not mutually exclusive and can often overlap or coexist depending on the situation and individuals involved.

Research findings on sympathy

Research on sympathy has explored various aspects of this complex emotion, shedding light on its psychological, social, and physiological dimensions. The key research findings are: a. Empathy and perspective-taking: Sympathy is closely linked to empathy and perspective-taking abilities. Research has shown that individ-

uals who are more skilled at empathising with others and imagining their perspectives are more likely to experience and express sympathy.b. Developmental patterns: Research suggests that sympathy develops and strengthens over the course of childhood and adolescence. Young children may show rudimentary forms of sympathy, but as they grow older, their ability to understand and respond to others' emotions deepens.c. Individual differences: Studies have explored individual differences in sympathy, highlighting that factors such as personality traits, cultural influences, and personal experiences can shape the extent and expression of sympathy.d. Emotional contagion: Sympathy can be influenced by emotional contagion, wherein individuals unconsciously mimic and internalise the emotional states of others. This phenomenon plays a role in the transmission and amplification of sympathetic responses.e. Social relationships and support: Sympathy is closely tied to social relationships and support networks. Research indicates that receiving sympathy from others can have positive effects on well-being and resilience, particularly during times of adversity.f. Prosocial behaviour: Sympathy is associated with increased prosocial behaviour, such as helping, comforting, and providing support to others. Studies have shown that individuals high in sympathy are more likely to engage in acts of kindness and altruism.

Author:

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