

FRONTLINE WARRIORS

Doctors play an indispensable role in our lives, often acting as the frontline warriors in the battle against illness and suffering. Their dedication, expertise, and compassion make them deserving of utmost respect and admiration from society.

"Triumphant Phenomenally Team India Does It With Pride"

India does it with pride. Well friends, the fact of the matter is that every Indian feels on top of the world with this phenomenal victory over South Africa in the T20 World Cup at Trinidad, West Indies

Remember 1983, when team India under the leadership of legendary Kapil Dev won the ODI World Cup defeating West Indies in the final held at Lords cricket ground, England.

While the match was on, it seemed that India stands no chance of any win at all, but as we all know cricket is a game of uncertainties. Sometimes it catches you unawares and then all of a sudden, you see a post mortem of what happened.

Indian cricket has gone through a lot of ups and downs. It has made country proud and at times it has missed the bus too. But, what Indian cricket has achieved during the last decade is phenomenal.

World cricket body the ICC also has to put things in place only after a due consultation with the world's richest cricket board BCCI. In other words it can be said that BCCI has a commanding position in world cricket.

What is more important is that the board of cricket in India gives the same weightage to women's cricket as well. Though India is doing well internationally in women's cricket but there is still a lot which when taken care of can put the Indian women's cricket in the lead globally.

Thanks to some very progressive and constructive measures taken by the Indian cricket board for the state of art development of the game and also the players' welfare is concerned. Memories are still alive when Indian cricketers used to have numberless complaints regarding the upliftment issues and the callous approach of the management towards the players who put the prime of their life into the well being of the game and still were looked down due to various constraints of the board.

But, Indian cricket is going to new heights and the world has acknowledged the supremacy India enjoys. This is the reason that India as a team has learnt to finish the game in their favour despite being at the verge of defeat.

Future of Indian cricket is very bright and it has entered an era where it can broaden the ambit of the game with its authoritative position recognised the world over.

It is not the tournaments you win that speak of the hold you have on the game. It is the leadership that you can provide to the entire world to create an acceptance for the game of cricket.

BCCI undoubtedly is in a strong position to have an impact on world cricket and can change the image of the game to the extent that the non playing countries also get reasonably attracted towards the gentleman's game.

This World Cup can be a key factor in propagating the degree of Karisma and the glamour this wonderful game carries with it. World bodies associated with the game shall definitely look into the avenues which can help a great deal in establishing the magical influence of the game.

Senior players of Indian cricket have set an example for the entire world when Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Ravinder Jadeja decided to hang up their boots for T20 cricket. This was a fantastic gesture on part of these giants of the game and they have set an example for all those who think they are indispensable.

It is time to celebrate and at the same time look into avenues to make Indian cricket more impressive and inspiring.

Venkaiah Garu- life in service of Bharat

NARENDRA MODI

Today, India's former Vice President and respected statesman Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu Garu turns 75. I wish him a long and healthy life and also extend my greetings to all his well-wishers and supporters.

Venkaiah Garu and I have been associated with each other for decades. We have worked together and I have also learnt a lot from him. If there is one thing that has remained common in his life, it is the love for people.

When the Emergency was imposed almost 50 years ago, young Venkaiah Garu immersed himself in the anti-Emergency movement. He was imprisoned and that too for inviting Loknayak JP to Andhra Pradesh.

Venkaiah Garu has always been comfortable swimming even against the most formidable tides. In 1978, Andhra Pradesh voted for the Congress but he beat the trend and was elected as a young MLA.

All those who have heard Venkaiah Garu speak will vouch for his oratory skills. He is



certainly a wordsmith but he is as much a worksmith. Since his days as a young MLA, he began to be respected for the rigour he put in to legislative affairs and speaking for people of his constituency.

It was in the 1990s that the BJP central leadership took note of Venkaiah Garu's efforts and thus in 1993 began his stint in national politics when he was appointed the Party's All India General Secretary.

In 2000, when Atal Ji was keen to induct Venkaiah Garu in the government as a Minister, Venkaiah Garu instantly conveyed his preference for the Rural Development

Ministry. This left everyone including Atal Ji puzzled. After all, here was a leader who was being asked which portfolio he wants and his first choice was Rural Development.

When I came to Delhi in 2014, I was an outsider to the national capital, having worked in Gujarat for the previous decade and a half. In such times, Venkaiah Garu's insights were very handy.

In 2017, our Alliance nominated him as our Vice-Presidential candidate. We faced a dilemma - we thought about how the big shoes

of Venkaiah Garu would be impossible to fill, but at the same time, we also knew there was no better candidate for the Vice Presidency than him. I can never forget one of the speeches he gave when he resigned as Minister and MP.

When the decision to remove Articles 370 and 35(A) were placed on the floor of the Rajya Sabha, it was Venkaiah Garu who was on the Chair.

Apart from work and politics, Venkaiah Garu is a voracious reader and writer too. For the people in Delhi, he is known as the person who brought the glorious Telugu culture to the city.

Even after the Vice Presidency, Venkaiah Garu has led an active public life. On the issues that he is passionate about or on various developments that take place across the nation, he calls me and asks me about it.

(The writer is the Prime Minister of India)

Sacred Shrine of Sarthal Devi

G.L. KHAJURIA

With the dawn of civilization, man's quest has ever long been bewildering and enchanting in seeking solace from the great grace of divine shakties whose manifestations were mostly confined to mountainous region of greater Himalayas.

The Devi Mata is one having a wide varied personification and is all pervading Shakti. She is omnipresent, omniscient and omnipotent. She has been worshipped over the millennia past as per our religious script, The Vedas, Puranas and Upanishadas.

Nestling amidst lush green vibrant and salubrious pines and other broad leaved forests exists the sanctum sanctorum of Sarthal Devi. This barely lies 53 kms ahead of Thatri lying on National highway -1B and some 105kms from Batote.

The sacred temple of Mata Sarthal Devi is having a single piece of idol the Goddess with eighteen arms. It is a mystical piece having power shakti on the beholder where devotees come for holy darshan, pay obeisance and obtain blessing.

Some five and half century back, when Sultan Skinder and most prominently renowned as Sikander ruled Kashmir (1389-1412AD).

According to a popular belief, Sharika Bhawani (Sarthal Devi) who had her abode on Hari parbat in Kashmir, once miraculously changed herself in the form of a small Kanyna (Girl) and asked a shepherd grazing goats nearby to take her on his back.

could not make any way out except to carry out the order of the small girl and taking her on his shoulders; he was wafted through air and finally landed on the mountain by name Ujaal in whose vicinity the temple of Sarthal Devi Mata till date exists.

As per another legend, Raja Agar Dev who ruled Kishtwar those times when once Mata ji appeared in his dream and next day, when the Raja was on hunting Spree in the forest, he saw that all his hunted birds falling on a particular spot and to his surprise he found there an idol.

This temple of Shrine shakti of Sarthal Devi is mostly revered and venerated and whosever comes here is blessed with the divine shakti of Mata ji and washed off his sins. The locals and the devotees who throng over here have heartfelt belief and adoration so much that even the childless couples are blessed with child with by the divine Shakti of Mata.

It would rather be no obvious experience for all those who left their home and hearths to escape from the tyranny by of the rulers of those olden time, Mata Sarthal Devi provided them real and supported them against all oddities and squabbles.

The number of Yatries (devotees) during Navratras on both the occasions around the year are extremely high from in and around the vicinity and also from far flushed areas of Punjab, H.P, Haryana, and U.P.

Apart from the Shrine temple of Sarthal Devi. There are two other prominent of Sheelta Mata (who curse small pox) and then that of Lord Shiva. In reverence of Sheelta Mata and Lord Shiva, a fair is regularly held each year on Bhadarpada Amavasya and Maha Shivratri.

Mata Sarth Devi is an important Shakti Shrine in Kishtwar. The temple and its surrounds are so mesmerizing that all devotees are filled up with joy of spiritual bliss and peace. It has as important tourist potential which warrants boosting on larger scale.

Improving road connectivity. The entire stretch connecting Kishtwar and hence to the scared shrine is in a dilapidating condition which warrants up-grading and improvement to avert the turns and twist and facilitating the tourists and devotees alike.

Restoring back temple complex: Lot of efforts with extra expertise need to be inculcated to make the monumental heritage of sacred shrine a piece of heaven over the spot.

YOUR COLUMN Pages of Knowledge

Dear editor, Often people ask themselves various questions as to why their life is like this or that. Some people wonder who they are, what is their place in this world. Behavioral psychologists say with solid evidence that seventy-two percent of the people in this world think in this way.

also gives strength to courage for struggle. Mahatma Gandhi experienced a unique transformation within himself after reading John Ruskin's 'Unto the Last', which he adapted as 'Sarvodaya' and chose to use as a teaching tool.

gives it the form of a book. many such writers Many types of thoughts are in front of us in the form of a book, after reading which a stream of positive and peaceful thoughts starts flowing in the human mind.

Vijay Garg