

YOUTH -POWER OF TODAY

Youth is the power of today. Youth plays a very important role in building a country. The youth of the country are the voice of today. The youth is moving forward very fast in doing every work. Youth are the strong foundation of the nation, at which point to take the country, it remains in the hands of the youth. India is a democratic country and there are maximum number of young people in this country.

About 60 percent of the maximum population in our country is youth. Being the youngest in the country is a good thing in itself. The youth of the country are very active. Youth can develop the country with their strong mental power. The youth of the country has changed a lot from before, they know the good and the bad better. Youth is so strong that it can turn the course of any country.

The youth of our country is also moving forward very fast in today's time. Today many people of our country are raising the name of India in foreign countries.

DEFEATED NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION

■ K.V. SEETHARAMAIAH

Defeat of the no-confidence motion was not unanticipated. The motion was defeated through voice vote. It ended up as just an event for mutual reprimination. Congress MP Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury stooped to a new low. He compared Narendra Modi to the fugitive business tycoon Nirav Modi and blind king Dhritrashtra in Mahabharatha leading for his suspension. Words can make or mar. Former Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda has lamented for the chaotic conditions in Lok Sabha when the debate was going on. Dignity and decorum of the House was thrown into winds. Prime Minister Narendra Modi tore into opposition in his reply to the opposition charges against the government. Modi reminded the Congress that Jawaharlal Nehru betrayed Asam in 1962. Congress has been displaced in Tripura for the last 35 years, does not have a single MLA in Delhi, lost the ground in Nagaland for 25 years and has no place for 30 years in West Bengal. The event also provided Modi to list the achievements of his government and indict the opposition ruled states. Modi is hopeful that the country will be among top three economies globally by the time on-confidence motion is moved in 2028. He expected the opposition to ask how? Instead, the opposition said that no work needs to be done to be third among top three economies. The opposition parties are disappointed at the LIC progressing well and the banking sector performing well. They are more interested in the Modi government getting bad name than the progress of the nation. The profits in public sector banks have doubled much against the wishes of the opposition parties. Modi pointed out that the exports reaching new heights. In the last 5 years, people have come out of poverty line, according to th NITI Ayog. The opposition parties were longing for and hell-bent on Modi's statement on the floor of the House. Surprisingly, during the Prime Minister's address Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi left the Parliament when the opposition parties staged a walk out. Modi covered Manipur aspects also. But the opposition parties were in no mood to listen. Modi pointed out that the people of Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, UP, Gujarat, Bihar, Tripura and Odisha have expressed lack of confidence in Congress. The no-confidence motion moved by the Congress was like giving rope to the government to have the hands of opposition tied. People were reminded that Congress did not trust the Indian vaccine. It was also recalled by Modi that the opposition parties did not believe the Indian armed forces when they conducted surgical strikes. They were more willing to believe Pakistan than the Indian army. Congress-led UPA was cremated in Bengaluru giving birth to I.N.D.I.A. I.N.D.I.A. minus two T's makes NDA. Ideologically different parties perish as early as they come. Janata Party, Janata Dal, National Front governments did not sustain for long due to internal contradictions. I.N.D.I.A. may meet the same fate by the time 2029 Lok Sabha election comes. The policies and programmes of the Modi government have been hailed by World Health Organisation. World believes Modi but not Congress. If the opposition parties can think that the non-confidence motion compelled Modi to come to House and speak, by the same yardstick it provided an opportunity to Modi to expose I.N.D.I.A. in general and Congress in particular.

India growing to be an attractive investment destination

■ ER. RAJESH PATHAK

Like steel, energy and minerals, now semi-conductor also has gained the status of the primary industry, without which many sectors would not be able to function. After Micron Technology of America, Japan will also invest 5 trillion Yen in the manufacturing units of semi-conductor chips in India. Semiconductor design-their manufacturing- equipment research- talent development- bringing resilience to semiconductor supply chain : on this five level the work-plan will move forward in the process.

Likewise, Germany is also going to join those who are looking India as an attractive investment destination. Ukraine-Russia war taught a lesson particularly to European countries that to be depended upon any one country for the needs of petrol or for anything else is no wise move. Therefore Germany is beginning to think to come closer to India, without decoupling from China of course. And so was expressed by Vice-Chancellor of Germany, Robert Habeck, who came to join the meeting of G-20 with his labour minister, Hubertus Hell. This business-bonhomie would go to yield employment opportunities to India, either. Latest to come in the trail is the Indian nurses is reported to be provided job in Germany soon. One more reason is there that served as a catalyst behind the deal. And that is, the worldwide speculation of India to be 4theonomic power in the future, leaving Germany behind, thus bringing plenty of opportunities in economic field subsequently. Today Germany is facing acute shortage of skilled work-force. So much so that 1.74 million posts are lying vacant there. India enjoys the advantage of having biggest young population in the world, Germany also knows that. However, last month only a defence deal has been signed between Germany-India under which 6 submarines will be built.

This is the story of today. Last year in 2022 India got as high as 49 billion dollars, which is 8th biggest investment in the world. Increasing proficiency in the technical-skill and hike in purchasing power; more than 100 unicorns, with thousands of start-ups; the allocation of 1.97 lakh crores to 14 industrial sectors; abolition of 1500 out-dated rules, and 40,000 so-called regulations so far prevailed to serve more the pockets of bureaucracy; reformation in GST and bankruptcy code; many provisions of laws being kept out of the category of criminal offences- all this business friendly steps taken by the Modi government consists in highly responsive FDI that flowed into our economy.

Purmandal- Chota Kashi of Duggarland

■ G.L. KHAJURIA

Our revered Rig Veda echoes, "Give sight to our eyes, sight to our bodies so that we may see, may we see the world as a whole and may we see it in detail". Our country particularly, the greater snowy Himalaya is prominent for the abodes of Gods and Goddesses as a whole, apart from a land of temples, shrines, sanctum sanctorum and of course, a treasure trove of pilgrimages, varied ramification which occupy their unique and enchanting placement. Having their spiritual and prodigious reverence, people from India and abroad throng in huge number, pay obeisance and obtain blessings from the supreme Gods and deities.

Amongst a few to be named are Bawa Amar Nathi, MataVaishno Devi, Khir Bhawani, Mahalak, Shmi, Durga Mata, Mata Kali (Bahu Fort), Airwan (Kathua), ManiMahesh (HP). Gupt Ganga (Bhaderwah), PinglaMata (Ramnagar), Mansa Devi, Badarkali, Vasuki Nag (Kailash Kund), Sukrala Mata (Billawar), Mata Bala Sundri on the hill top between Billawar and Kathua, Ashta-d-Bhuja, Sickle Mountain (Kishtwar), Jawalaji, Sudhmahadev, Mantalai (Chenani), Om Parvat (Great Himalaya), Kalkaji, Surinsar, Mansar, Mounгри, Utterbehni. Though the list remains unending insofar as such religious spots of all religions are concerned.

It is, unambiguously, no denying the fact that 'Purmandal' occupies its own place, prominence and as far as its provenience is concerned, it equates in status with that of Kashi in Utter Pradesh (U.P.). Purmandal is a small village barely 30 kms from Jammu to its South-East. There are twin routes to the sanctum sanctorum; one from SidhraKunjwani bye-pass road and the other from NH-1 from Kaluchak through Birpur-Utterbehni through various twists and turns en route to the lasttourist temple of purmandal.

The prominence of the temples of Purmandal is a testimony of the Valley of Kashmir which in other words round is the fountainhead of 'Shaivism' of which the first building of the temple was, de fact, ascribed to the ruler of time by name Raja Vent Dutt. In other words round, he has been as well named as 'Vinanayaditya' or 'Avantivarman' who ruled those times some eleven and a quarter hundreds years back i.e. (855 to 883 A.D.)

Situated alongside river 'Devak', it further meanders down and join Utterbehni another tirthsthan and thence downwards flows near



Vijaypur, situated alongside a small town on Jammu Pathankote road and the bridge over the river is probably the longest one in the entire state of Jammu and Kashmir. It is commonly believed that most of Shiv-Lingams have spiritually originated in the close vicinity of Purmandal alongside 'Devak' proximity and is further reported that "Shiva and Mata Paravatiare those of Indreshwar, Bhuteshwar, Gyaneshwar, Kasheshwar and Bikeshwar. The sanctum sanction is of ample importance as a prominent tirthsthan around the years, preferably during 'Shivratri' and Chaitra Chaudish' like that of Airwan in Kathua district. The place is having its prominence that saint Kabir and UstadBismila Khan had been over this pious and seered spots.

The sanction sanctorum of Purmandal bears relevance to "Kashi" Devsthan in U.P. where centuries old temple of Mighty 'Vishwanath' till date exists but historically it is known that 'Raja Vishwa Chand' usurped him and confined him to 'Manika Ghat after having some tribal confrontation and as such King 'Vishwanath' relinquished the kingdom and confined himself to "Manika Ghat" in late stages of his life. Here at 'Purmandal' multi-Shiva Lingams have originated spiritually called in local parlance as 'Aap Shambo' lingam which as per legends describe that a famous Raja by name King Veni Dutt as mentioned earlier ruled in those ancient times in between eight to the close of Ninth Century had also visited Purmandal as it was a part of his Kingdom.

But, whatsoever legends are affiliated to this sacred spot, the fact remains that it was hoary past. The spot is of utmost prominence and Shakti in the Northern part of India where devotees in Lac assemble over here to have holy Darshan, pay obeisance and obtain blessing. Even great Guru Nanak had visited the spot.

The Village Purmandal is populated on either side of "Devika River" which with revolving wheel of time many more temples were constructed during Maharaja's regime. But with the exploding population and heavy biotic pressure, the areas surrounding the spot have turned barren despite the fact that the Govt. Deptt. of all hues have put in all out efforts to rehabilitate and bring back to its pristine grandeur and glory but all in vain. Even the historically old religious structures which form an important part of our national heritage stand neglected and are decertifying impending dooms day. Apart from historic temples, there are old Sarais and Havellis having the same status. During Maharaja's regime (Dogra rulers), it was earmarked to construct a cluster of sequential temples from 'Utterbehni' to Purmandal where the ruminant material (Iron Girders and their allied) stand spanning the two sacred spots, and after Dogra rulers all remained silent. Here the Govt. needs to take up the matter to save and invigorate this sacred spot of our national heritage. Restoration of dilapidated temples, Havellis, Sarais to its pristine grandeur is the call of the hour and glory as devotees/

tourists from far and wide areas come here for holy Darshan, pay obeisance and obtain blessing.

The area is just like that of 'Kashi' (U.P) and as such dead bodies of locality around are cremated and one need not to go "Haridwar" for immersion of ashes and as per local parlance are assured a place in heaven (Gati Locally spoken). Miraculous are the ways of God that the remnances of ashes are nowhere visible and disappear in the sandy 'Devak'.

The holy river needs to be rehabilitated by ensuring ecological balance by way of massive afforestation work on the barren hill-tops, catchments areas and here the Forest, Horticulture, Sericulture and other sister departments have to pick up the thread sincerely for this pious cause and its monitoring be ensured by accountability commission. The works executed over couple of years back are nowhere in sight and lakhs of money went to drain.

Classic clean lines campaign, shall have to be launched by one and all to make 'Devak' neat, clean and green, imposition of fine who litter the sacred spot and its surrounds. It is imperative and this shall have to be ensured by constituting a committee to assist "Dharmarth Trust Deptt", apart from planting multihued flowering plants, climbers and creepers on either side of the river, particularly those best suited to site. Water conservation, construction of ponds, tanks, boalis and other water bodies /Ghats are warranted to be constructed. During my last visit to "Purmandal", I observed that a man from Punjab with this associates had engaged labourers for the construction of a bathing ghats most keenly. Apathetic altitude of our people and Govt deserves to be blamed for the act of negligence. When the outsider from Punjab is devotedly on this pious job what hinders we people and the Govt? It is rather a matter of shame.

Conclusively, therefore, imperfect and unawareness in our grey matter need to be revived to enhance the beauty of our old religious heritage and bring back to its pristine grandeur and glory by one and all so that our coming generations may not abuse us for utter act of negligence which our earlier "Rulers / ancestors have bestowed upon us. And lastly I add here the last line "How senseless seems to me the man who has seen his neighbour ill, old and dead, and yet remains happy and is not shaken by fear"Ash- vaghosha.

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

Class Room Learning: Not Old but Gold Method of Teaching

■ DR. RAJKUMAR SINGH

Classroom instruction is the teaching and learning that takes place in a traditional classroom setting, where a teacher or instructor presents lessons and information to a group of students. This form of instruction has been the primary method of education for centuries and remains widely used in schools and educational institutions worldwide. Key elements of classroom instruction include: a. Teacher-Led Learning: In a typical classroom, the teacher takes on the role of the primary knowledge provider and facilitator. They plan and deliver lessons, engage students in discussions, answer questions, and provide guidance throughout the learning process. b. Student Interaction: Classroom instruction encourages student-to-student interaction and collaboration. Students may participate in group discussions, work on projects together, and engage in peer learning activities. c. Visual Aids and Teaching Resources: Teachers often use visual aids like whiteboards, projectors, slideshows, and other multimedia tools to enhance the learning experience and make complex topics more accessible. d. Classroom Management: The teacher is responsible for maintaining discipline and creating a positive learning environment. Effective classroom management ensures that students can focus on the lesson and interact respectfully with each other. e. Assessment and Feedback: Assessments, such as tests, quizzes, projects, and homework, are used to evaluate student progress and understanding. Teachers provide feedback on students' work to help them improve and grow academically. f. Adaptation to Learning Styles: Skilled teachers adjust their instruction to accommodate different learning styles and academic abilities, aiming to reach and engage all students effectively. g. Questioning and Critical Thinking: Teachers use questioning techniques to stimulate critical thinking and encourage students to analyze, evaluate, and apply what they have learned. i. Classroom Dynamics: The classroom environment plays a significant role in instruction. A positive and supportive atmosphere can foster enthusiasm for learning and encourage active participation. j. Curriculum Implementation: Classroom instruction follows a structured curriculum or syllabus that outlines the content to be covered during the academic year. While traditional classroom instruction is still widely practiced, the advancement of technology has led to the emergence of various blended learning models that combine in-person teaching with online elements.

Origin of class room teaching

The concept of gathering students in a designated space to receive instruction from a teacher or mentor has evolved over thousands of years. A brief overview of the historical origins

of classroom learning includes: a. Ancient Civilizations: The origins of formal education can be found in ancient civilizations such as Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. In these societies, there were institutions or schools where young individuals were taught various subjects, including reading, writing, mathematics, philosophy, and rhetoric. b. Medieval European Universities: In the Middle Ages, European universities emerged as centers of learning. Professors (masters) would deliver lectures to groups of students, and this lecture-based teaching became a foundational aspect of classroom instruction. c. Monastic and Cathedral Schools: Before universities were established, monastic and cathedral schools played a significant role in education. Monks and clerics would educate novices and young scholars within the confines of monasteries and cathedrals. d. Madrasas and Mosques: In the Islamic world, madrasas (educational institutions) were established as early as the 9th century, where scholars taught various subjects related to Islamic theology, law, philosophy, science, and mathematics. e. Ancient Chinese Education: In ancient China, Confucian schools and academies were vital centers of learning. Students would gather to study classical texts, history, philosophy, and the arts. f. Industrial Revolution: The Industrial Revolution brought about changes in education. With the need for an educated workforce, schools became more organized, and classroom learning became a fundamental aspect of mass education. j. Modern Educational Systems: Over time, educational systems around the world evolved to include various grade levels, specialized subjects, and standardized curricula. Classroom learning became the primary mode of instruction in schools, colleges, and universities. It is important to note that while classroom learning has a long history, educational practices and methods have continuously evolved to adapt to changing societies, technologies, and pedagogical approaches.

Benefits of class room learning

Classroom learning offers several benefits that contribute to effective education and the overall development of students whose advantages include: a. Face-to-Face Interaction: Classroom learning facilitates direct, in-person interaction between teachers and students. This personal connection allows students to ask questions, seek clarification, and engage in real-time discussions with their instructors, promoting a deeper understanding of the subject matter. b. Immediate Feedback: In a classroom setting, teachers can provide immediate feedback on students' progress and performance. This instant feedback helps students identify areas of improvement and build upon their strengths, enhancing the learning process. c. Social Interaction and

Collaboration: Classroom learning encourages social interaction among students. Working together on projects, participating in group discussions, and engaging in classroom activities foster teamwork, communication skills, and cooperation. d. Structured Learning Environment: Classrooms offer a structured and organized learning environment. The presence of a teacher helps maintain discipline, focus, and a sense of routine, which can be beneficial for students' academic progress. e. Adaptability and Differentiated Instruction: Skilled teachers can adapt their teaching methods to accommodate different learning styles and individual needs. They can employ various instructional strategies to ensure that all students can grasp the material effectively. f. In-person Support and Guidance: Teachers can observe students' behaviours and responses in the classroom, enabling them to identify struggles or challenges early on. g. Real-Time Clarification of Doubts: In a classroom, students can seek immediate clarification for any doubts they may have. This instant clarification prevents misconceptions from persisting and ensures students are on the right track. h. Peer Learning and Knowledge Sharing: Classroom settings provide opportunities for students to learn from their peers. Students can share ideas, perspectives, and experiences, enriching the learning environment with diverse insights. i. Active Learning Opportunities: Classroom learning often involves various interactive and hands-on activities, which actively engage students in the learning process. Active learning enhances retention and understanding of the material. k. Opportunities for Character Development: Beyond academics, classrooms offer opportunities for character development and the nurturing of important life skills like teamwork, problem-solving, time management, and critical thinking. l. Incorporation of Multimedia and Visual Aids: Teachers can use multimedia resources and visual aids in classrooms to enhance learning experiences, making complex concepts more accessible and engaging. As a result, blended learning approaches, which combine classroom instruction with online learning and other methods, are becoming increasingly popular to cater to a broader range of learners effectively.

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Changing Mass Media - Time To Introspect

■ MOOL RAJ

Mass media whether in print, electronic or digital format plays an important role in our society. It is considered the fourth estate where popular Government functions. Its multidimensional role as a mediator, as a reflector, and as the pressure group plays an important role in the formation of an ideal state. As long as the reports/journalists follow the ethics of their relevance and validity remain intake. Firstly, it is the prime obligation of the reporter to follow the basic ethics of journalism and communicate the news as it happened on the ground without any alteration or external influence. Secondly, a reporter is supposed to present the news before the public to ensure the true spirit of journalism. But unfortunately, it has not been seen on the ground.

Earlier there were very limited media groups both in the print or electronic mode, but with the expansion of modern technology, we see the bulk of newsgroups came into existence. This trend can prove an asset if regulated appropriately but what is happening on the ground in the name of journalism is not a good omen for this

noble profession. The news reporters or program anchors who are supposed to be neutral or unbiased are showing undue favor towards an individual or a group. Some are showcasing unruly behavior while reporting or anchoring any debate on news channels which is not a healthy sign for this noble profession. A few of them underestimated the role of other institutions, they try to behave like a policeman, sometimes a judge, sometimes a wrestler in the ring. Now, the situation became so worse that anyone holding a Smartphone or mike presents himself as a journalist.

Several senior and professional journalists have delivered a series of speeches at various functions organized by civil societies, media groups, and universities. They mention the role of individuals who are doing a commendable job in communicating the true message to the world as the citizen journalist which is the essence of any journalism but at the same time. Recently Supreme Court judge Justice J. B. Pardiwal showed his concern about the irresponsible behaviour of mass Media and said, " Media crossing Laxaman Rekha". He called on parliament to introduce appropriate legisla-

tive and regulatory provisions to regulate digital and social media. It is high time to introspect. Otherwise, the time is not far away when the world of journalism loses its credibility, efficacy, or faith and the general public forgets the culture of watching news channels or listening or reading the newspapers. Communicating fake news, promoting paid news, creating a sensation, and showcasing an unruly attitude while reporting any news is not a healthy sign for this noble profession. Noble souls will think a hundred times before choosing journalism as their career option. According to the holy book of the Quran, we must verify reports and not rush to pass on the news until we are sure that it is true, even if the news is good news. This is because if it becomes apparent that the one who passed it on is mistaken, s/he will lose credibility before the people and anyone who bears a grudge towards him/her will use it against them. After all, the free and vigilant mass media plays a significant role in the formation of decent societies.

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