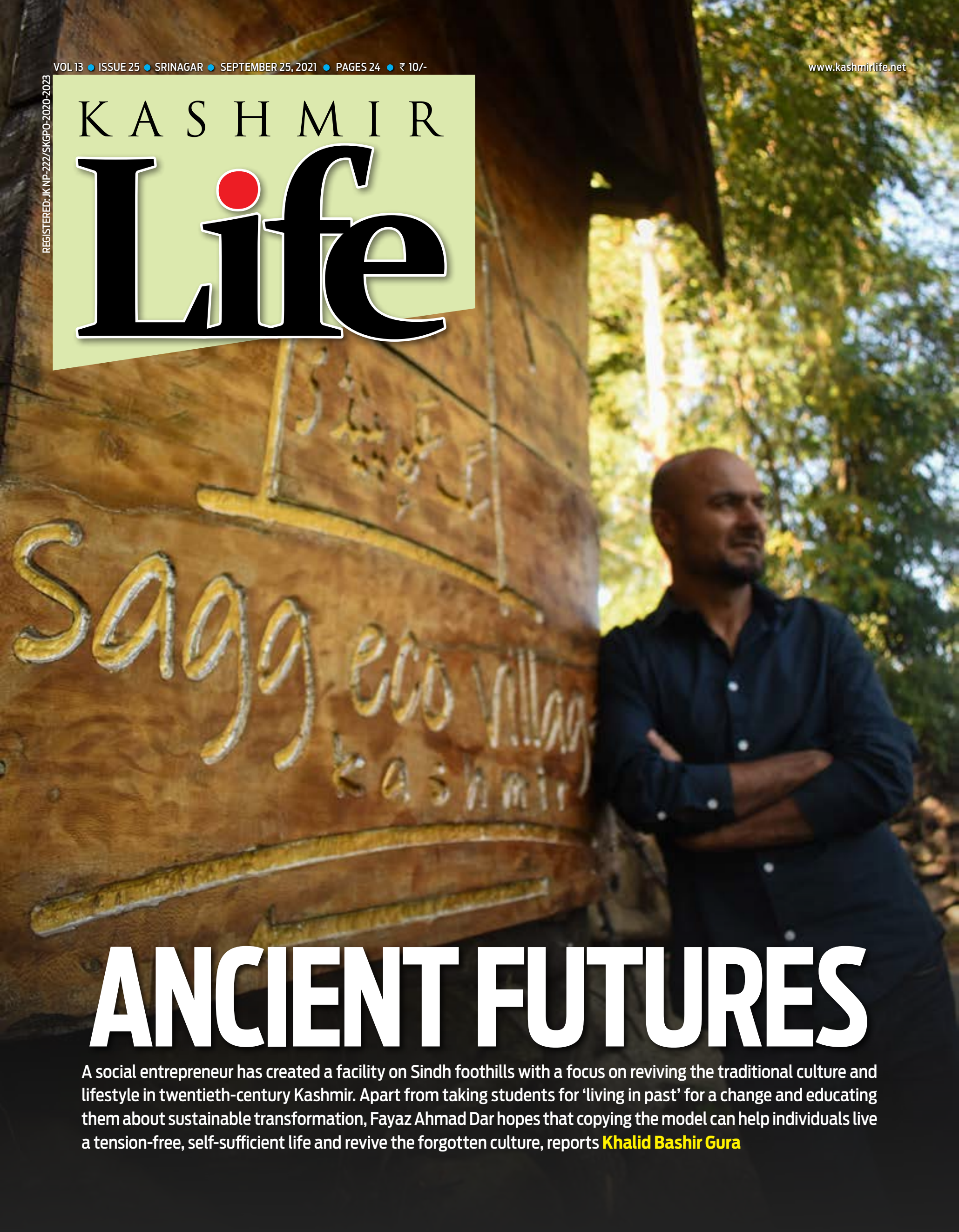


KASHMIR

Life



ANCIENT FUTURES

A social entrepreneur has created a facility on Sindh foothills with a focus on reviving the traditional culture and lifestyle in twentieth-century Kashmir. Apart from taking students for 'living in past' for a change and educating them about sustainable transformation, Fayaz Ahmad Dar hopes that copying the model can help individuals live a tension-free, self-sufficient life and revive the forgotten culture, reports **Khalid Bashir Gura**

OBITUARY



AZIZ HAJNI

(March 7, 1957 – September 11, 2021)

Abdul Aziz Parray aka Hajni was born in Sonawari on March 7, 1957. After completing his higher secondary schooling locally, he attended Government Degree College, Bemina. He did his masters in Kashmiri and got a gold medal, the first-ever gold medal in the Kashmiri stream. He did his PhD from the same university. He became a +2 lecturer and was a research officer in the department of education. As Deputy Director Academics, he got like-minded academics to and compiled Kashmiri textbooks for class first to twelfth. Eventually, in 2015, he was appointed as Secretary of JK Academy of Art Culture and Languages. He was also convenor of Sahitya Akademi for New Delhi's Northern Regional Board. Before that he headed the cultural forum, the *Adbee Markaz Kamraz*. Hajni was a writer, a poet and a broadcaster. He was a well-travelled man as well. Some of his books include *Pantchahan Variyan Hund Kashur Adab*, *Paer Zaan*, *Kaashire Naat*, *Noor-e-Nooran*, *Vitasta Ki Saer*, *Kashur Aqeedati Adab Punjabie Shayiri*, *Ze Gaz Zameen*. His 2015 book *Aaini Khani* – a collection of critical write-ups in Kashmiri, won the Sahitya Academy best book award and has been translated into many languages so far. Earlier, in 2013, his book *Teuth Pazar* also fetched the translation award by the Sahitya Academy. The book is a translation of short stories from various Indian languages.

At the age of 64, he passed away in peace at home with his entire family around.

SRINAGAR

Jammu and Kashmir High Court has ruled that not all Kashmiri Hindus are Kashmiri Pandits. The ruling came while dismissing a petition that sought to include Kashmiri Hindus in a government special recruitment drive, announced for KPs. "Kashmiri Pandits is a separately identifiable community distinct from other Hindus residing in the Valley like Rajputs, Brahmins other than Kashmiri Pandits, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and many others," Justice Sanjeev Kumar observed. The court said it is difficult to accept the contention of the petitioners, who are mostly *Kshatriyas*, *Rajputs*, Scheduled Castes, non-Kashmiri Brahmins, to be treated as KPs and admitted to the benefits of the Prime Minister's revised package for return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri migrants, given effect to by the Rules of 2009 read with SRO 425 of 2017. The significant judgement has long term implications and some people are saying they will challenge it. By 2010, there were 114 Kashmiri Hindu families and about 700 KP families living in Kashmir so when special recruitment for 1997 posts was announced all applied. "They are not Kashmiri Pandits," Satish Mahaldar, chairman, Reconciliation, Return and Rehabilitation of Migrant Kashmiri Pandits (RRRM), was quoted saying. "We have a distinct culture, religious customs and traditions. We do *Bhairav puja* and they pray differently. How can we be part of a huge milieu? We are a smaller community but have a distinct identity." In another petition in which non-migrant Pandits were seeking quota in a professional college, a division bench of the High Court disposed it off with no direction to the government.



Only **3000** of the estimated **25000** migrant Kashmiri Pandits families living in Delhi reported to a special camp to get domicile certificates. Of **3300 West Pakistan refugee families** living outside Jammu and Kashmir, **100** have applied for the document.

KHANYAR

When militants shot at sub-inspector, Meer Arshad in a Khanyar neighbourhood, it was recorded by CCTV camera. It was a point-blank murder that evoked strong criticism from the mainstream parties. Meer was quickly rushed to SKIMS where he died. Police Chief, Dilbagh Singh said that Meer was deputed to the hospital for a check-up of an accused person and when he was coming out, he was shot at. He said the killer has been identified. A resident of Kulmuna Kupwara, when his body reached his home, the entire belt came out to be part of his last rites. In solidarity, all senior cops changed the display picture of their Twitter handle to that of a picture of police officer Arshid Ahmad Meer, after which, #WeAreAllArshid, started trending on social media.



SRINAGAR

Jammu and Kashmir organised a 4-day golf tournament involving a 72-hole stroke play with the cut being applied after two rounds. Almost 125 golfers - 119 professionals and six amateurs, participated in the TATA Steel Professional Golf Tour of India's (PGTI) 13th season of the golf tournament at Srinagar's picturesque Royal Springs Golf Course (RSGC). These included Olympian Udayan Mane, Indian star Jyoti Randhawa and PGTI Order of Merit leader Karandeep Kochhar.



TEL AVIV

Making a global headline, a Kashmiri born British Muslim doctor helped a group of Israeli doctors to successfully operate on a pair of twins conjoined at the head. The 12-hour operation took place in Beersheba, Israel with the support of Soroka Medical Centre and is the first of the five such complex surgeries that Dr Noor Ul Owase Jeelani carried outside the UK. Jeelani, a pediatric neurosurgeon at London's Great Ormond Street Hospital, is considered an authority of such complex surgeries and has set up a charity *Gemini Untwined* in 2018 to fund these procedures. With the help of the charity, he and his colleague, Professor David Dunaway have carried out four separation surgeries on twins who were conjoined at the head with fused skulls, intertwined brains, sharing blood vessels. Every year almost fifty craniopagus conjoined twins are estimated to be born around the world, of which it is thought only 15 survive beyond the first 30 days of life. With current technologies, approximately half of these cases would be candidates for successful surgical separation.



LADAKH

Years before the Red Army started systematic incursions into Ladakh, Leh and Kargil had done almost the same thing to Himachal's huge belt in Lahul Spiti, albeit for economic reasons. The issue involves Sarchu and Shinkula pass on the Manali Leh highway, which emerges as the most sought after camping sites during peak summer. Hospitality professionals from Ladakh are accused of encroaching upon the sites and physically attacking the Lahul professionals. Both the areas are part of the Lahul Spiti district. Though Sarchu, a starting point for challenging Zaskar Trek, almost 222 km from Manali, is officially a part of the Lahaul-Spiti district, the Jammu and Kashmir had earlier set up a post almost 17 km inside Himachal's territory. At one point in time, when the Survey General of India visited the spot in presence of the Deputy Commission's of Kargil and Leh, it was decided that the two governments would deposit some mandatory fees to the Geological Survey of India for final demarcation. However, neither Himachal nor the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir government paid the fees as a result of which the issue is still hanging. Now the traders routinely attack each other.



JAMMU

In his latest Jammu visit, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi accused the RSS-BJP combine of trying to break the composite culture of Jammu and Kashmir. "The feeling of love, brotherhood and composite culture exists among you all. I feel sad that the RSS and BJP are trying to break this culture," Gandhi said in his address to party workers during his 2-day visit, after paying his respects at Vaishno Devi shrine. "They attack love and brotherhood... You got weakened and as result, they took away your statehood." He also mentioned the sufferings of the Kashmiri Pandit families, on a Facebook post: "Goodwill to my Kashmiri Pandit brothers and sisters. The country will never forget the pain of your families' sufferings. Humble tribute!"

BJP reacted quite sharply. "The problems of Jammu and Kashmir are the legacy of the Gandhi family. It was Jawaharlal Nehru who was responsible for the problems of Kashmir," BJP spokesman Sambit Patra said.



WASHINGTON

It is now official that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be flying to the US to attend the Quad summit that President Joe Biden will preside over at the White House on September 24. Prime Ministers of Australia and Japan are also joining. Quad is the 4-country strategic grouping, the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue that came into being in 2007. Apart from the Covid19 pandemic, the four leaders are expected to discuss "contemporary global challenges" with a focus on Afghanistan and China. The Foreign Ministry said the four leaders will "discuss regional issues of shared interest". They met virtually almost six months ago.

In anticipation of the summit, interesting reports are emerging from the US. Republican Senator Marco Rubio, during a Congressional hearing, has said that the role of Pakistan in enabling the Taliban is a victory that is not sending a good message to India.

"India ... I know that there was an announcement today there'll be a meeting of the Quad fairly soon, which is a good development, except that the Indo-Pacific region, if you are India, you're looking at this and saying, 'If the United States allowed Pakistan to unravel their standing,' Rubio was quoted saying. "Because the Pakistani role in all this - and I think multiple administrations are guilty of ignoring it. The Pakistani role in enabling the Taliban is ultimately a victory for those pro-Taliban hardliners in the Pakistani government." He added: "They (Indians) have to be looking at this and saying if the United States could have, you know, a third-rate power like Pakistan unravel its aims, what chance do they have of confronting China? So, I think this leaves us in a terrible situation..They were able to go there to rest, to refit, to train, to recruit. And so, in summary, even before the withdrawal, we had a terrible status quo. The security forces, a small number of US forces, you know, continued to die."

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken told the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations that the US was in touch with India on using it as a staging post for aerial strikes in Afghanistan, while it will reassess its relationship with Pakistan.

"I'm talking northwest India as a potential because Qatar and Doha are just a little bit too far," said Blinken, but refused to elaborate, observing that, "Let me just say generally we're deeply engaged with India across the board with regard to any specifics about over-the-horizon capabilities and the plans that we put in place." The Pentagon's last over-the-horizon strike had killed nine civilians instead of a suicide bomber.

These statements in anticipation indicate that not only the Quad Summit but also Prime Minister's UN speech will be interesting.



KATRA

The day Mumbai Police chose to submit the 1467-page supplementary charge-sheet in sensational pornography racket involving Raj Kundra and three others, his wife, actress Shilpa Shetty footed a 13-km distance to reach the caveshrine of Vaishno Devi. Shilpa was seen in photographs on a horse and after paying her respects, she interacted with some media persons. "It was due to the goddesses' call that I came all the way to pay obeisance to her," Shetty said. It also means that the police case against her husband is fool-proof and now she is praying for a miracle. Mumbai police have so far arrested 11 persons in the case that was busted after a raid at a bungalow in Madh Island in February 2021 where porn films were allegedly being shot. Kundra and Thorpe, who headed his company's IT, on July 19. Shetty has distanced from the case early but is fighting a legal battle to get her husband free.



Weaponizing Social Media

Speaking at the Passing out parade of 669 cadets of Jammu and Kashmir Fire and Emergency Services at Udhampur, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said the examination and selection process for these posts commenced in 2013, but it was held up unnecessarily. The batch started in 2020 and its passing out parade has shown the commitment of the present government towards speedy disposal of recruitment process.

The Police Academy, he said has a long history of producing brave police personnel who are doing a commendable job in ensuring a safe and secure environment for the people.

“New generation warfare i.e. social media is being used as a potent weapon by some elements not only at national but international level to disrupt peace in Jammu and Kashmir,” Sinha said, adding that there is a need to keep a strict vigil on this. “We will fight terrorism with full force and even those who encourage it will also face stern action.”

Forest Rights Act Implementation

Finally, the Jammu and Kashmir government has started providing community rights certificates under the Forest Right Act to Gujjar-Bakerwal, and Gaddi-Sippi communities. Lt Governor termed it as a historic day as Jammu and Kashmir had to wait for more than 14 years. The administration, he said has been vigorously pursuing the ideals of establishing an equitable and just social order and has been working sincerely to empower the tribal community, which remained neglected and discriminated against for decades together.

Besides implementing the constitutional rights of the tribal community, he said the administration is working to connect the tribal population and their new generation with the mainstream of development. He said the tribal community needs to be sensitive towards their responsibility to nurture our forests and other natural resources. Rich biodiversity means a stable ecosystem, which plays a vital role in our cultural diversity and economic growth, he said.

Lt Governor said Rs 10 crore are being immediately released for infrastructure development as the highest ever allocation of Rs 73 crore stands allocated for Cluster Tribal Model Village in the current fiscal. Other projects include developing transit accommodations at eight places at an estimated cost of Rs 28 crore, building Tribal Bhavans in Jammu, Srinagar and Rajouri, Rs 15 crore Tribal Health Plan and creation of health sub-centre for the static population, mobile medical care units for the migratory population and establishing a cluster of 15 tribal SHGs to empower the youth and women of the community. Besides, 16 milk villages would be built at an investment of Rs 16 crore that would give jobs to around 2000 youth.



Fresh Capital Infusion

In a bid to boost its capital adequacy, JK Bank received Rs 500 crore from Jammu and Kashmir government as capital to acquire over 16.76 crore shares. With the infusion of Rs 500 Cr, the government’s equity share in the Bank will rise to over 74 per cent.

Meanwhile, the bank’s Employees Stock Purchase Scheme (ESPS – 2021), to raise capital of Rs 150 crore, received an overwhelming response from the bank staff and got over-subscribed within days after the issue. The Bank got an over-subscription amount of more than Rs 200 crore instead of the board-approved figure and will now allot the number of shares to staff in proportion to its laid-down eligibility criteria.



Young Leadership Awards

Lt Governor, Manoj Sinha felicitated young achievers with the ‘Kashmir Young Leadership Award’ last week. “Young leaders facilitate the creation of a prosperous society that did not exist before. The young leaders, young minds can alone solve the entire world’s great problems and generate more ideas and resources to confront the future challenges”, he noted, insisting youth continue to be the focus of his government.

During the course of his regular interactions with the youth in the last 13 months, he said he noted the youth have five important priorities - jobs according to their qualifications; ample opportunities and handholding to become entrepreneurs; access to modern education in consonance with market requirements and dynamically changing skillsets; implementation of good governance practices and elimination of corruption completely from the system and to have the opportunity to lead a healthy, peaceful, and secure life.

As many as 46 young achievers for various fields including health, education, sports, adventure sports, social work, journalism, environment conservation, Art, Music, Women empowerment, were awarded on the occasion.

1.65 Lakh MT CA Storage Facility

In his interactions in the Lt Governor’s conference on the agricultural sector, Lt Governor Manoj Sinha said for the first time in Jammu and Kashmir more than 2000 truckloads of vegetables were marketed across the country.

Apart from the GI tagging of Saffron, he said the administration made new strides in organic certification of products like Basmati Rice and transportation of perishable products through air cargo to various domestic markets. Enhanced focus is being laid to stabilize the fruit market of Horticulture produce and ensure round the year sale of the fruits like an apple on good prices, besides establishment of storage within Jammu and Kashmir. During the last year, 40,000 MTs of storage has been established thereby making available a total of 1.65 LMT of CA storage facilities. Right now, 35,000 MTs of storage capacity is under construction.

On the occasion, the Lt Governor sought Rs 800 crore support from the Union Government for Modified High-Density Plantation in Jammu and Kashmir. He also highlighted the need for special provisions under existing schemes for the establishment of CA stores, more fruit and vegetable Mandis and electronic platforms for the market of Agriculture and Horticulture produce.

JUSTICE REGISTERING A CASE

In certain cases, it is difficult to register even a case. **Khalid Bashir Gura** meets two families who fought protracted battles in court to get an FIR registered



© KL Image: BILALBAHADUR

In this file pic, police use tear gas shelling to disperse the protesters in Srinagar.

When a court ordered, after almost two years of struggle, the registration of a First Information Report (FIR), it brought respite for Mohammad Rafiq Shagoo. A 42-year-old grocery-store owner, Shagoo has been desperate to get justice for his wife.

Having accepted the loss of their mother in front of their eyes in Bemina (Srinagar), Shagoo's two sons; Aayan, 12, and Mahir, 9, are happy that they have a new caretaker in their step-mother. Shagoo re-married in the first week of September during the restrictions and communication blackout imposed by the authorities. Shagoo's first wife was his cousin.

Shagoos' were a happy lot. They had a handicrafts business in Goa. Married for 12 years, after her death, Shagoo left his profession, stayed at home to take care of his two minor sons. Subsequently, he started a grocery store to make two ends meet.

Shagoo remembers how Fahmeeda,

his first wife, struggled to breathe and collapsed outside the gate, not far away from the that he later carved out of his two-story house. Quickly, she was rushed to the nearby SKIMS hospital, through a maze of checkpoints and barbed wires. But it was too late.

AUGUST 9, 2019

Four days after reading down Article 370 and subsequent curfew and communication blackout, on August 9, 2019 evening, Fehmeeda was working in her kitchen after customary cleaning of the house prior to Eid al-Adha, scheduled three days later.

There were some protests that Friday and to thwart away the stone-pelting mob, the police lobbed tear-smoke shells in the neighbourhood areas.

"In the evening the protests intensified and around 6 pm, police fired dozens of tear-gas and pepper-gas shells outside our home, some of which landed inside our compound," Shagoo said.

Shagoo was having tea. He left it midway when his neighbour informed him that cops were chasing protestors and smashing whatever came their way. He rushed out to park his vehicle at a safer place.

The situation had changed when he returned. "My wife had rushed out of the house due to suffocation by toxic gases. She had collapsed and was gasping for breath just outside the door and my brother was trying to help her," Shagoo said. "She constantly complained of breathlessness."

Soon she started vomiting blood and was rushed to the hospital by Shagoo and his brother on a two-wheeler. They reported in to the hospital by around 7 pm.

"Earlier the day, she was fine and healthy but complained of pain in her right leg. As Eid was commencing, she had been busy cleaning and doing household chores for many days. Few hours before protests broke out; we went to a nearby hospital for a check-

up," Shagoo said, adding that the doctors informed them that she is medically normal and has been tired due to prolonged work. "After few hours, we used the same prescription to reach the hospital as she was gasping for breath."

As we reached the hospital, she was constantly pleading doctor to save her life as she has two small kids recalls Shagoo as tears well up in his eyes. "Kindly save me," she pleaded while gasping for breath, according to her husband.

PUT ON OXYGEN

Doctors gave Fehmeeda oxygen and put her on a ventilator but Fehmeeda didn't survive. "At 7.40 pm, she died," Shagoo said. As her body was brought back home, protests intensified again.

Fehmeeda's medical records, accessed by *Kashmir Life*, suggest that she died of a "sudden cardiac pulmonary arrest" suffering "acute lung injury" due to "toxic gas inhalation."

STRUGGLE FOR AN FIR

Devastated Shagoo's struggle started from the hospital itself when the hospital administration dragged its feet on revealing medical records.

"It took almost a week to get medical reports ascertaining her apparent cause of death. However, the actual cause of death could only be "ascertained after an autopsy," Shagoo said, insisting the post-mortem was not conducted. "I was ready to exhume her body if hospital and police wanted to conduct an autopsy."

No case could be registered in this incident as the FIR was not lodged despite Shagoo approaching the police station repeatedly.

"Initially I was turned away by the officials. They said that the senior officer of the post was not available. The communication was down and they kept postponing it," Shagoo alleged. However, grief-stricken Shagoo was relentless.

Disillusioned with the police's reluctance in lodging FIR, Shagoo said one day he ran out of patience. In an argument with the police officer, Shagoo alleged the officer told him, "Do whatever you want and the 'door of the courts are open.'" And it was at that moment that hopes of getting justice from the judiciary rekindled his faith in justice, he said.

IN THE COURT OF LAW

Almost after a month, in September 2019, Shagoo moved to Jammu and Kashmir High Court asking for an FIR to be registered. Human Rights Law Network (HRLN) helped him in pursuit of justice.

Initially, he pleaded before the High Court but were directed to approach the concerned Chief Judicial Magistrate, his advocate Shah Faisal said.

"Under 156 clauses 3 of CRPC, we filed the complaint. However, police argued that they have already registered an FIR. The police had lodged FIR after the protestors emerging from the boat colony appeared near the National Highway, Bye-Pass, Bemina, near JVC and blocked the road and pelted stones on private and official vehicles lying on the road," Faisal said. "To disperse the mob, tear gas shells were fired in the air and the mob got dispersed. An FIR bearing No 272/2019 in respect of offences U/S 147, 148, 341, 336, 427, RPC was registered and investigation is in the process as no injury has been reported orally or written."

The process dragged on for almost two years.

An order issued by CJM, Srinagar, reads that there was no harm in registering an FIR into the incident of the death of the deceased and investigate the circumstances. "The court said that the investigating officer should not be below the rank of a Deputy Superintendent of Police. It directed the officer to submit a status report on the investigation to the court after every 20 days," the order said. "I do not hope much. How will they implicate their own officers?" Shagoo said.

AUGUST 25, 2010

But Shagoo is not the only person who had to fight a larger battle to get an FIR registered.

On Friday, August 20, 2010, in the



Father and the sister of the Umar Qayoom Bhat staged a peaceful protest at Press Enclave Srinagar.

month of fasting, Umar Qayoom Bhat, 17, had gone to offer prayers. He was fasting. The erstwhile state was witnessing violent protests over Machil fake encounter.

Umar Qayoom Bhat, 17, a class eleventh student at MPML Higher Secondary School, Bagi Dilawar Khan, Srinagar was "ruthlessly tortured by police," according to his family.

On June 11, 2010, Tufail Ashraf Mattoo, a student of Class twelfth at Government Higher Secondary School Hazratbal was killed. His killings triggered massive protests across Kashmir. According to reports, the police had fired tear gas shells at him killing him on the spot. Tufail's skull had cracked open by the impact of a shell that had hit his head so forcefully that parts of his brain spilt on the dirt of Gani Memo-

rial Sports Stadium according to reports.

Both Qayoom and Mattoo were the only sons of their parents.

Torture Tale

After finishing Friday prayers, protests started. To foil protests, police chased protestors and dispersed the mob. However, police were able to lay their hand on Umar Qayoom Bhat and he was beaten on the street itself alleges the family. As Bhat's phone was switched off, the worried family started looking for him. They found a single slipper lying on the street which they presumed belonged to Bhat.

"Everyone was saying that a boy has been almost killed on the street. Soon an old man asked my father to go to a police station to ascertain if his son is in the police station near SKIMS Soura," his sister said.

He had succumbed due to, "respiratory hypertension with severely deranged blood gases, diffuse intrapulmonary haemorrhage and blunt trauma on chest," as per the hospital records accessed by *Kashmir Life*.

HOSPITAL INVOLVEMENT

However, the family believes that hospital authorities were complicit with police in hiding the truth as they initially kept us in dark over internal damage to organs. "At the hospital, the doctors said he is normal without conducting proper tests and discharged Umar swiftly. On the next day when his condition got worsened, we rushed him to the hospital again wherein after he was put him on the ventilator," said his sister.

He succumbed to his injuries on August 25, 2010, triggering a wave of protests in his area of Soura.

Eight Years

A daily wager, Abdul Qayoom Bhat lost his only son among three daughters. He continued to pursue justice. Besides, the expenses, the legal process cost him his earnings, his daughter said.

In 2011 the family had moved an application before the court seeking an FIR into his death wherein they had mentioned that Qayoom was "arrested by the personnel of Soura police station Soura and was beaten mercilessly".

"It took us eight long years to get an FIR lodged," his daughter said after a local court in Srinagar directed the Soura police station to lodge an FIR in the custodial killing.

In March 2018, the family hired deceased Babar Qadri and three hearings later an FIR was lodged. An FIR into his death was filed at Police Station Soura on the directions of the CJM on September 9, 2018, under FIR No 97 of 2018 under section 302 RPC.

Police were given 42 days to file a charge sheet but nearly three years have passed the police are yet to submit it. Lately, on August 26, 2021, the daughter and father protested in the press enclave and demanded to file the charge sheet.

"I am fighting for everyone and not just my brother. What happened with us can happen with anyone," she said. We cannot even afford a lawyer and need support to continue justice. "I am looking for a lawyer," she said.

For more than a decade the justice according to families continues to elude them. **KL**

‘MAINTAIN A RESPECTABLE DISTANCE WITH WILDLIFE’

People get scared watching a Kashmir lady catching snakes in the homes and driving them to the forests. As the man-wild animal conflict surges, Kashmir's lone wildlife rescuer is in sharp focus. **Urvat il Wuska** talks to **Aaliya Mir** about a wide range of wildlife

KASHMIR LIFE (KL): *What motivated you to choose wildlife rescue as your career despite being from a mathematics background?*

AALIYA MIR (AM): I did my masters in Mathematics as I was inclined towards teachings at that time. While pursuing my graduation I got married to a veterinarian and it was the time when my journey into wildlife begun and my interest in this field started to develop. So I first started to work as a volunteer for wildlife and used to participate in workshops and their fundraising programmes.

While working, I gradually realized that doing this job is giving me a different self-satisfac-

tion. I think one gets this satisfaction only when you are working for a good cause and this motivated me to work in wildlife. So I joined Wildlife SOS as an employee and joined them officially in 2007 when they started their project of mitigation of man and animal conflict in Jammu and Kashmir.

While doing my job, I go to different colleges and schools for awareness programmes and interact with the youth and students. This is why I always feel that wildlife is providing me with an opportunity to fulfil my passion of being a teacher.

KL: *How challenging do you face as a female?*

AM: I think every job is a challenge in itself but the extra challenging

thing in my job is that as a female I work with wildlife, which is usually considered as a men's field. I am very much thankful to almighty Allah that I got to work with people who always boosted my morale. Everyone in my organization including my seniors and co-workers never let me feel down or made me realize that I am alone in this field.

KL: *What was your family's reaction when you decided to choose this profession?*

AM: My actual journey of wildlife started soon after my marriage so it was not possible without their support to continue in this field. I feel lucky to be a part of such a family that never stopped me to follow my passion especially my husband. Wildlife is not a day job, it is a field where you can get a call anytime as there is no barrier of day and night in this profession. But everyone in my family supported me and my children are also very cooperative. So whatever I have achieved is only because of their support.

KL: *Man-animal conflict is increasing day by day. What are the main reasons behind it and what measures should be taken to overcome this?*

AM: First of all, we need to understand the reason behind why animals move towards human habitations.





Before that, however, we have to ask ourselves whether it is actually a human habitation or not? The human population is increasing, people are making their homes near the forests so animals come down in search of food and get attracted towards the livestock. Rapid urbanization is another cause of rising man-animal conflict as we can see big concrete buildings all around us and roads being built through wildlife sanctuaries.

The developmental work going on in Dhoodpathri and Tosamaidan is one such example of rapid urbanization. It has been a trend now that we get two to four calls on average of reptile cases. Before 2014 snakes were rarely seen. So we can clearly understand that we are in a consistent conflict because of habitat loss of these wildlife animals.

KL: *What is the focus of Wildlife SOS?*

AM: We work for three main causes. The first is to rescue wild animals and then release them to the wild after proper examination. Second is education and awareness of the masses about the human and wild animal conflict. We make people aware of the precautions and prevention of human

lives. The third is the training of frontline staff who are directly and indirectly involved with the society for mitigation of human wild animal conflict. Wildlife SOS also works with local communities through outreach programmes and workshops to reduce or resolve human-wildlife conflicts. We believe it is possible and absolutely critical that humans and wildlife find ways to peacefully coexist.

KL: *Do you ever feel scared while doing risky rescue operations like helping a venomous reptile?*

AM: Yes. Because unless you do not have fear of them, you cannot maintain a gap with them. If you do not fear you will keep disturbing them so in order to save yourself it is important to maintain a reasonable gap.

Animals usually attack you when you disturb them or make them feel that they are in danger. So we should always respect the animals and maintain the distance between them. We have many examples where people especially youngsters mishandle these animals and get attacked.

We need to understand that they too are living creatures - when you

improperly handle them they feel danger so in order to save themselves they attack you. So I always try to maintain a space with them.

KL: *In Kashmir, there are only a few professions that are socially acceptable for females but you are an example for girls who want to go beyond that and pursue an apparently risky profession. So what is your message for half of the population, I mean the women?*

AM: My message to girls is that if you feel you are capable of doing something do not think twice, just do the work you are comfortable in. But always remember that you are a special creation of Almighty so take care of yourself and your parents by being obedient to them. When you keep these things in mind, nobody will stop you from achieving success. If I can do well in this field despite being a female, you can also do. Nothing is impossible when you are confident about yourself and work honestly. And my message to all those parents who believe that their children can be successful only if he/she becomes a doctor or an engineer is to let your children free to explore different professions.

KL: *How do you manage your profession and home at the same time despite being the mother of two children?*

AM: It is very challenging for me to do so but with the support of my family and team, I am able to manage my profession as well as my home. My children have accepted my job with all those challenges that I go through and they are always ready with me to face these challenges.

KL: *Do you wish to tell anything to the commoners?*

AM: We should always remember that animals both domestic and wild are the creatures of Almighty Allah. He has made everything in this universe with a purpose so everything that exists has its own worth. Respect these animals because we will be held accountable for whatever we do in this world. Be responsible and always do well so to play a better role as a human being. And this world is precious, we need to save this world for future generations so that they will have a good environment with fresh air and water. **KL**

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Production Comparison (Per Kanal)

Years	Traditional (10 Kg Boxes)	HDP (10 Kg Boxes)
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Y1	33	0
Y2	83	0
Y3	166	0
Y4	249	0
Y5	282	10
Y10	322	60

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ENTREPRENEURSHIP

ANCIENT FUTURES

A social entrepreneur has created a facility on Sindh foothills with a focus on reviving the traditional culture and lifestyle in twentieth-century Kashmir. Apart from taking students for ‘living in past’ for a change and educating them about sustainable transformation, Fayaz Ahmad Dar hopes that copying the model can help individuals live a tension-free, self-sufficient life and revive the forgotten culture, reports **Khalid Bashir Gura**

In the lap of mountains, treading a green alley as one unlatches the wooden door of *Sagg* Eco Village, at Lar (Ganderbal), one instantly zooms past into Kashmir’s recent cultural past. From the orchestra of cicadas to birds chirping, one is filled with serenity as fresh wafts of cold breeze provide relief from the scorching summer sun. At dusk, as the crescent moon reclines on mountains, the city from far twinkles and the unpolluted dark blue sky is filled with galaxies of stars. As invisible insects buzz in the abundant sea of flora, the night is filled with serene silence and cold.

Spread over 11 *Kanals* of land, *Sagg* founder, Fayaz Ahmad Dar, 45, believes he is reclaiming pristine past and healing polluted present with universal core values.

“*Sagg* (Kashmiri word for nurture) is an eco-cultural, recreational, educational farm with camping facility besides hosting and facilitating individual and group recreational stays, events and retreats, social gatherings, treks, walks, bike rides, and eco-therapy sessions,” said Dar who leads a team of ten members. “When someone enters *Sagg* they are coming home as it is a place where one is reconnected with oneself, reflect,

rejuvenates, detoxifies.” De-stressing is natural as visitors are far away from the din and fast-paced life.

ENTER THE VILLAGE

As one enters the *Sagg*, optimal use of space and discarded products adorn the pathway. Kashmiri traditional hand-made products are omnipresent in the dwellings and cafés. The floor of the restaurant is plain soil, which emanates a soothing smell when watered to mop. Its benches and chairs are made of wicker and wood. Similarly, the reed mats gone out of fashion adorn mud walls and floors.

“We prepare and sell healthy foods based on natural ingredients and traditional recipes, and handcrafted lifestyle products based on eco-friendly processes,” said Dar, who coaches individuals, groups, and organizations to achieve the desired transformation for personal development, professional enhancement and social well-being. “We explore the connections between beliefs, behaviours and values to understand their impact on the quality of our life and the ways we can transform them.”

Sagg also collaborates and works with individuals, groups and organizations on social

entrepreneurship, participatory action research and developmental projects.

EVOLUTION

Dar still remembers a haunting call from his father to go to school. “I was sowing rice sapling in the paddy field when my father called and compelled me to go to school. I loved to be in the mud. My heart sank as I hated monotonous classrooms, syllabus and being far away from family,” said Dar who has travelled to more than dozens of countries now.

Dar is now a social entrepreneur as he develops regenerative systems and coaches people and organizations for sustainable transformation. He is also trained and experienced in personality transformation, sustainable development, regenerative agriculture, business and human resources management, and conflict resolution. “For over 20 years I studied and worked in different cultural settings and varied fields – including educational, organizational and developmental practice, administration and research.”

After studying at Government Middle School, Wahidpora, Dar availed

scholarship to study at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya School. After passing his matriculation, he pursued science. However, he had no great academic interests and putting himself in a rat race of being meritorious.

After passing his higher secondary, his academics took a back seat in his priorities as he prioritized working full time and studying part-time.

In August 1995, he went to Delhi to pursue higher studies and study foreign languages. Having exhausted his father’s money, he had to fend for himself. “My first job was cleaning the clinic and assisting the homoeopathic doctor. My monthly salary was Rs320,” he said. He juggled with diverse jobs and somehow learned to operate a computer. He changed jobs and employers till he became an assistant to the joint secretary to Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts.

A COUNSELLOR

Somehow, Dar completed his Bachelors in Commerce from Delhi University. In 2001, he joined United States - India Educational Foundation in Delhi where he mainly counselled aspirants about procedures for admission.

“I grew from an administrative assistant to the director and resigned as projects and administrative officer in 2009,” Dar said. Simultaneously, he worked on various projects involving children and underprivileged groups. Meanwhile, he completed the MBA evening program and by 2009 he owned a flat in Delhi.

“Even though I gave my best, deep down I knew this is not forever and I always wanted to listen to my calling as I had realized my limitations,” Dar said as his heart yearned to come back to Kashmir.

In 2009 he began to prepare to come back. He had never been a full-time student at university or college; he decided to pursue a course that will help him come back. He chooses a programme in Conflict Transformation and Sustainability in the USA. After spending a year he fulfilled the yearning of his heart.

THE RETURN

Back home, Dar said he carried the baggage of childhood traumas and in the healing process; he started working on pitfalls that others especially young may go through.

“I wanted to tell people what educa-

tion and schooling is. Schooling is necessarily not an education. Education is life,” he said. He started engagement with youth in order to find the like-minded.

In Delhi, Dar had started an NGO *Koshish* (effort) with a focus on sustainable development. “In sustainable development, we underline living life or creating an institution or infrastructure that does not damage anything in social, economic, and ecological terms,” Dar said, insisting the human beings are not owners but custodians of resources for progeny. *Koshish* failed as he left for the US.

When he came back, he launched *Mool*, the root, *Mool* sustainability research and training centre, a charitable trust since 2012, working for sustainable socio-economic development through participatory capacity building, sustainable development, and rehabilitation in Kashmir. The ongoing work includes participatory research with youth (capacity building via participatory dialogue, fellowships, internships, volunteering opportunities), promoting sustainable practices in farming and development.



“One of our ongoing participatory research projects is the articulation of a common and shared value-based vision for our life and society,” Dar said. “It is this participatory work that paved the way for the idea of *sagg* to emerge. *Sagg* and *Mool* now nourish each other.”

In *Mool*, social sustainability entails participatory consultations and regular engagement with the community, including farmers and practitioners associated with indigenous methods, trades and skills, science and technology fraternity, and people in public service delivery to improve quality of individual and community experience of life - in areas of education, livelihood, healthcare and ecology, and explore a sustainable and integrated way of living. These interactions build shared networks and a culture of collective problem-solving.

Similarly, for economic sustainability, *Mool* collaborates with a sheep and vegetable farm to provide youth with the opportunity to learn skills and acquire the knowledge necessary to operate a successful small farm.

Mool also ensures ecological sustainability by using eco-friendly systemic practices. Optimum use of

infrastructure, materials, and time are key values for *Mool*. Through these values, *Mool* uses and promotes zero waste systems, cost-effective earth-building designs for infrastructure, organic practices, and materials for farming such as zero pesticides and organic manure. Through the community wellbeing program, the attention of the community is drawn towards the need to create zero waste systems.

THE SAGG INITIATIVE

Dar’s interactions with youth resulted in developing land-linked initiatives to survive and sustain. “When Kashmir’s highway is closed there is a crisis as our dependence for materials especially food is aggravated,” Dar said. In order to diminish dependence Dar believes land-based initiatives are indispensable.

Dar launched *Sagg* eco-village in 2012 as an eco-cultural, recreational and educational farm and a camping facility. It develops and promotes regenerative lifestyles based on the integration of resources and needs.

“*Sagg* offers creative services, spaces, products and programmes promoting healthy and re-creative

lifestyles, which include educational, work, and leadership capacity building and consulting programmes for individuals, groups, and organizations,” Dar said. “The idea is to integrate traditional with the modern.”

Education and Recreation

With the aim to develop critical thinking, reflection, leadership, planning, decision-making and entrepreneurship abilities in children and youth from 5-14 years age group, *Sagg* organizes collaborative, educational and recreational camps for school children and youth. “We primarily focus on fear-based decision making and understand the phenomenon. And also on self-expression like organizing theatre activities, paintings, art, drama,” Dar said. The students practically understand the science from germination of seeds to blooming of flowers. They also participate in various group activities in the field and nature, which help in their cognitive and holistic development rather than being bookish and lived on an ingrained fear mental framework.

“Children besides playing in the open do various activities like playing

in the mud to learn farming, cook, indulge in artistic activities,” Dar said.

Besides personal, educational and professional counselling and coaching packages, the education menu has a lot to offer like, the eco-educational tours, seminars, career planning, goal-oriented capacity building programmes, coaching capsules with personalized feedback, mental health programmes, facilitated day workshops and seminars for youth, students, teachers, parents, farmers, professionals and entrepreneurs.

“We also focus on ecological entrepreneurship training in which we build a business that also seeks to undo the damage that the commercialization of our life has done to ecology and quality of our life,” Dar said as designing a business that serves the needs of people improve quality of life and ecology are all interconnected.

Sagg also organises recreational activities like eco-therapy sessions, mud therapy, art therapy, treks, and rides.

PRODUCTS

In a life flooded with adulterated eat-





© KL Image: SYED AHMAD RUFAI

ables and products which inevitably impact the health of individuals, *Sagg* produces organic foods, vegetables, fruits, poultry, and meat. The un-adulterated produce is processed in the kitchen. There are a number of products that *Sagg* sells, like Kashmiri *wuer* (a traditional mix of herbs and spices), wild honey, dried apples, lotus stem, pickles, and jams. *Sagg* also provides a wide variety of handcrafted lifestyle products based on eco-friendly processes.

PLACES

In the vast, hygienic, and ventilated kitchen organic food is processed and served. The smell of brewing *Kahwa*, herbal and salty tealingers, alongside the aroma of traditional food being prepared from a wide variety of natural products.

KOTHAS

Unlike any palatial hotel stay, for any guests desiring a calm and cosy stay in a natural setting, *Sagg's* two spacious cottages with thatched roofs, mud walls, beautifully adorned in Kashmiri indigenous architecture makes a big difference.

"In *Kotha*, we integrate vernacular architecture with modern techniques to create a unique blend of eco-friendly dwelling experience with health

benefits, modern comforts and traditional nomadic feel," Dar said. *Kotha* is a traditional nomadic hut-like dwelling constructed mainly using stones, timber and mud. At *Sagg*, however, concrete and iron rings have been used to add strength to the structure. The walls are finished with mud plaster and the roof has wooden tiles, thatch or tin sheets.

As traditional architecture has been replaced with modern concrete and glass, the huts at *Saggs* like traditional old houses have natural insulation as it is warmer in winters and cooler in summers. The thick mud-plastered walls are also good sound absorbers. "The architecture of the house is integrated with our healthy living as it is mind and body-friendly – calms our senses and reduces chances of many diseases including respiratory problems, bone diseases, and allergies," Dar explained. Also, in the construction of the houses, we generated livelihood for locals as we used local materials and labour. It will also help in culture revival and preservation.

Besides, traditional huts, there are many raised platforms of stone and earth called *Pyend* surrounded by wooden poles erected to hold the roof, which can be finished with wooden tiles, thatch or tin sheets. It offers a

panoramic view of the backwoods and afar city and is an impressive place to relax, reflect and work.

Till recently, the human excreta was used as manure but has been abandoned. At *Sagg*, the methods to decompose have evolved into *Souan* eco-toilet, a natural, hygienic and cost-effective way of processing human waste. "It is modified for hygiene traditional toilet, which uses a drum to store the solid waste, and can also have a urine separation facility. It is an environment-friendly sustainable sanitation system which renders human waste as a resource for agricultural purposes," Dar said.

However, it uses replaceable and recyclable drums to accumulate solid waste. It produces safe and natural manure for agriculture purposes thus ensures a healthy food system.

TAMAH ECO CLUB

Tamah eco-club is a multi-faceted lifestyle offering that brings to you services, spaces, products, and programmes for an integrative and regenerative lifestyle and society. "*Tamah* seeks to fulfil all your individual, family and community needs for recreation, rejuvenation and reflection," Dar said as *Tamah* also endeavours to run public awareness

and engagement campaigns on safeguarding our ecology.

In the facilities Food Forests, *Sagg* is growing different species of food trees like canopies, fruits and nut trees, shrubs, herbaceous, berries, and climbers.

Vision

Having started the forest farm village academy in 2020 with a mission to help 100,000 people build ecological entrepreneurship ventures by 2030, *Sagg* envisions an ecologically sensitive and regenerative future that is socially integrative and equitable, and economically self-sustaining.

So far, more than 8500 youth have participated in capacity-building programmes. "It is an open-source ecological entrepreneurship venture. Aspirants can come and replicate the model," Dar said, insisting he provides consultancy services to train and equips people to become ecological entrepreneurs.

Sagg is supported and sustained by the revenue it generates from its products and services. "I need more investments and I will be turning it into a private limited company to organize it better," Dar said as he working for its growth. *Sagg* charges Rs 199 to Rs 499 per adult per with no charges for girls and only up to Rs 15 for boys. **KL**

JOBS

A GRIM SITUATION

For managing joblessness in one of the least poor territories in India, **Syed Suhail Yaqoob** argues for a quick rethink in curriculum and innovative policy interventions at the earliest



© KL Image: BILAL BAHADUR

Youth crowded a vast ground of the BSF headquarters in Srinagar outskirts. They had come to write their examination that will pave way for their entry into BSF or CISF.

An interesting situation has emerged in Jammu and Kashmir. Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) figures put the unemployment in Jammu and Kashmir at 16.2 per cent, much higher unemployment than the national average that stands at 6.7 per cent in 2016. In 2020, the unemployment rate has gone up to 17.8 per cent.

The greatest concern is that youth unemployment stands at around 14 per cent in Jammu and Kashmir. The PLFS (Periodic Labour Force Survey) report argues that there is also huge chronic underemployment across the erstwhile state. If the status under 'current daily' and 'current weekly'

will be taken into consideration, the unemployment rate will be much higher than the UPS.

THE GSDP

In Jammu and Kashmir, agriculture does not provide employment throughout the year but has some job peaks, especially during harvesting. The recent report by CMIE has argued that the unemployment level has fallen to single digits. This conclusion is debated given that Jammu and Kashmir has gone through some worst phases since 2016. Unemployment is at such an extreme level despite over six per cent growth in Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP).

Over the years, there has been an

increase in the share as well as the growth of the service sector in the GSDP. However, this sector has failed to generate employment for youth as per the surge it shows. Although the service sector doesn't contribute that much to employment, it is the agriculture sector that has more than 50 per cent share in total employment despite that it contributes less than 15 per cent to our GSDP.

SHRINKING LANDHOLDING

It is pertinent to mention that Jammu and Kashmir is highly reliant on agriculture for jobs but these jobs are only available for a few months, especially around harvesting. There is a serious crisis going on in agriculture

and Jammu and Kashmir will also see a dip in job creation as there is an increase in marginal holdings which now consist of more than 90 per cent of overall landholdings.

Further training guns in the horticulture industry will not serve the goals of job creation, however, income generation can be achieved through community-driven agriculture and moving to new cash crops from within the fruits basket. In recent weeks, reports appearing in the media suggest the prices of agricultural production especially apples have crashed. The present global economic crisis owing to the Covid-19 pandemic has only made the unemployment situation much worse.

FRAGILE TOURISM

Some analysis suggests that the solution to the problem of unemployment lies in sectors like the industrial and tourism sector. No doubt that Kashmir is known for its tourism potential, however, the fragile activity has remained dependant on the political situation in the region.

A crisis in the region leads to a direct impact on tourism. It is a phenomenon that Kashmir was observed since 1990. There was a sharp fall in the arrivals in 2008, 2010, 2016 and now during the pandemic. Until the region remains at peace, it is impossible to create a sustainable livelihood from the tourism sector. Good relations between Pakistan and India will create a conducive atmosphere for sustainable livelihood from the tourism sector. Peace in the region will facilitate the opening of roads, which are bound to generate enough employment.

THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

The same is the case with the industrial sector. The region can boost only those sectors on which we have an edge like shawl industry, carpet making and paper machie. No doubt Kashmir also produces a lot of important inputs for industrial purposes. What is lacking is the processing of those inputs.

For instance, we produce one of the finest apples in the world, which we selling to other states rather than processing here. The state could have created thousands of jobs through the simple installation of food processing units. Unfortunately, the erstwhile state has become the producer of raw materials rather than finished goods.

Few of us have an idea that the state is rich in minerals like copper, lead, zinc, bauxite, chromium, gold, arsenic, kaolinite, bios-pore, ochre, coal, lignite, slate, marble, sapphire, rubellite, quartz and serpentine. The exploitation of these resources is crucial to generate employment for thousands of people.

ROAD REOPENING

Given that Jammu and Kashmir has a unique geographical position, it needs both investment and political will between India and Pakistan. The location of the state closer to the central Asian countries would provide a boost to its economy and make it a financial hub.

Economic history has shown that

the border-states have always become the hub of economic activity. The history of Kashmir has shown that the state had huge economic relations with the central Asian countries spanning many centuries. In 2008 the government of Jammu and Kashmir opened two important routes which include Uri-Muzaffarabad and Poonch-Rawalakote. The new routes may include Jammu-Sialkot, Chhamb-Jourian-Mirpur, Gurez-Astor-Gilgit and Jhanger-Mirpur. Simple economics suggest that connectivity is essential for the growth of employment in every economy. If the opening of the trade routes takes place, there will be a boom in job creation in the state.

Since it began the experts estimated that more than Rs 6000 crore worth of trade was transacted through the cross-LoC points and a total of 1.6 lakh job days were created. In 2008-09, the traded goods were only worth Rs 3 crore (Pakistani) and Rs 2 crore (Indian). The trade jumped to Rs 441 crore (Pakistani) and Rs 454 crore (Indian) respectively in 2018-19.

BRIEF STUDY

According to a study by the Bureau of Research on Industry and Economic Fundamentals (BRIEF), about 662 traders from Jammu and Kashmir are registered to trade at both points at Uri and Poonch, of whom 110 traded actively. The traders had said that with uncertainty over the reopening

of the trade, their livelihoods will be in jeopardy, along with those loaders, transporters, retailers who were part of their trade, as well as their families, totalling around 40 thousand people.

The Jammu and Kashmir government had estimated that there was a recorded import of Rs 2500 crore of Indian currency up to (the end) of March 2016. A kind of peace agreement between the two states can help to boost the growth rate.

REFORM EDUCATION

Reform in the education sector is especially needed to ensure that the youth get decent jobs. It is everybody's knowledge that the sector is beset with problems of incompetence, lethargy and bookish knowledge, which is less valuable in the current digital age. A cursory look at higher education will reveal that these institutions lack imparting skilled courses to students. Jammu and Kashmir still rely on outdated theoretical knowledge with no regard to either combination of subjects or skill courses.

Now when skill courses are introduced in the college curriculum, there is also corruption and lack of planning in introducing these courses. Unfortunately, skill courses provided are just the other theoretical subjects. Some colleges have made an effort to introduce skill courses through incubation and learning centres, however, there is still a long way ahead.

At the same time, the education sector is beset with redundancy and corruption as a long term plan is completely missing. History suggests that economic growth and employment goes in tune with quality education especially skill development. It has become a matter of most importance to revive education especially college education to boost chances of employment in the state.

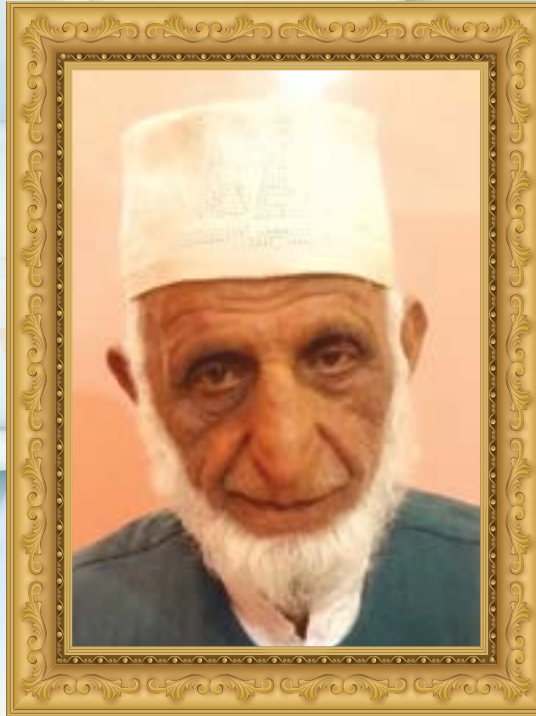
The recent data on unemployment must generate a serious concern at every level of our society. The report shows that the state is fairing worst in the unemployment scenario, especially among youth. For the employment generation, few necessary steps must be taken. It needs a serious political will. Opening of trade routes and communication is sure enough to generate much employment coupled with reviving education and investment in new tourist places. It is important for researchers to note why in Jammu and Kashmir the poverty is so low despite high levels of unemployment. Few have dwelled on the subject. However at present to provide opportunities for employment skill courses with long term planning must be encouraged at the earliest. **KL**

(The author is PhD in economics from Aligarh Muslim University. The opinions expressed in this write-up are those of the author's and do not purport to reflect the views of Kashmir Life.)



GRATITUDE

“DEATH OF A MUSLIM SCHOLAR IS A LOSS TO THE WHOLE UNIVERSE AND IS IRREPLACEABLE.”



We Extend our immense Gratitude & thanks to all those who expressed their condolences, offered prayers and showed sympathy with us on the demise of our Esteemed Head of the family **MOULVI GHULAM RASOOL SHAH** residence of Nawakadal on **2nd Sept 2021**, who was a Prominent Religious Islamic Scholar, a Pious and Noble soul. He was a Selfless & Sincere person and the secret of his Happiness was Simplicity.

He was a true **Muhib e Mirwaizeen Kashmir...**

And He was at the Forefront of Sacred Holy Relic of **PROPHET MUHAMMAD** (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) Movement (Moi-e-Muqaddus) in 1963 along side Shaheed Milat **Moulvi Mohammad Farooq (RA)** as his close comrade and confident...

He guided people in worldly & spiritual affairs till his end. He had been a very Helpful & a Sociable person who spent his life in a much Humble way.

We Thank all our Relatives, Neighbours, Friends, Colleagues, Social, Professional & Religious Organizations especially;

- **Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir Dr Moulvi Mohammad Umar Farooq sahib**
- **Mr Khursheed Ahmad Tramboo sahib (Chairman Khyber Group Industries)**
- **Prof G M Bhat sahib (President Jamiat Ahli hadees)**
- **Mufti Yaqoob sahib and Molana Rehmatullah sahib**

We learned during these moments of profound grief and sorrow, Human Relationship truly does give value to survival.

WE PRAY TO ALMIGHTY ALLAH TO GRANT HIM THE HIGHEST PLACE IN JANNAH. (AAMEEN)

From

Gh Ahmad Shah | Shafeeq Shah | Dr Showkat Shah

[77808 08018]