

Kashmir Sentinel

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Panun Kashmir Demonstrates Against Mass Killings in Jammu, HP

KS Correspondent

DELHI: Kashmiri Pandits from Delhi and adjoining areas under the aegis of Panun Kashmir organised a large demonstration in front of Pakistan embassy on 5th August in protest against the massacres of innocent people in J&K and HP. The protesters including women shouted slogans against Pakistan and ISI who were providing material and moral support to terrorists in J&K.

The demonstration was led by Dr Shakti Bhan, Chairperson, PANUN KASHMIR FOUNDATION and other senior Kashmir Pandit leaders were also present. Agitated demonstrators carrying banners and wearing head bands blocked the main highway from Teen Murty to Pakistan embassy in presence of large police force.

While addressing the demonstrators Dr Shakti Bhan



Panun Kashmir Activists Demonstrating outside Pak Embassy at New Delhi.

condemned the continued Hindu massacres of Hindus and as a terrorist state and said blamed Pakistan for the on going proxy war in J&K and violation of Human rights of

part in diplomatic parleys was an eye wash to hoodwink public opinion and destroy all scope of any meaningful dia-

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Kashmiri militants strike in Himachal Pradesh

In continuation of gruesome massacres, militants struck in Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh. In two separate incidents at Kalaban and Satrundi, militants massacred 35 people, injured 12 and kidnapped 9 others. Later three of them were released. The government failed to take preventive measures despite advance reports about militants infiltration in the area from neighbouring Doda. Though government claimed to have launched a combing operation to apprehend the culprits, there was no success even if the militants were spotted by the people in Pangi valley.

Reshuffle in relief organisation

Creating a new cesspool

Special Correspondent

J A M M U

Under sustained public pressure, government at last did respond to the public demand of disciplining the relief organisation. In a major overhaul of the relief organisation it ordered mass transfers of the employees working in the relief and rehabilitation departments. However, this reshuffle apparently aimed at breaking the vested interest and curtailing the corrupt practices has raised many doubts. The confidence of public in the relief organisation is far from being restored.

Talking to many displaced persons recently, it appears that the corrupt practices in the relief organisation have

touched new heights. It is a commonly known fact that for settling of the cases of ex-gratia relief of displaced persons, the vested interest within the organisation would demand 3% of the amount sanctioned as a bribe previously. It had become an established practice over the years. Only during the time of previous Relief Commissioner Sh Lone these corrupt practices were curtailed to some extent to the relief of victims. The illegal commission demanded from the displaced persons for settling of their cases, during Mr Lone's time had come down to 2% of the amount sanctioned.

As per the survey conducted by this correspondent amongst the applicants for ex-

gratia relief, after the recent reshuffle this malpractice has touched a new spike. The bribe which a displaced person has to pay to get his case settled now is 5% of the amount sanctioned. Other corrupt practices like demanding of bribe of Rs 20-25 for signing of state subject certificates or demanding commission at the time of disbursement of cash relief to the displaced are continuing with impunity.

Sources within the relief organisation attribute this new spurt in organised corruption within the relief organisation to the strengthening of vested interest as a result of the recent reshuffle in the organisation.

The government, as per re-

ports, had decided to relieve all employees to their parent departments who were deputed to the organisation till March 1992. In this process, 115 employees were recently transferred to their parent departments. Intriguingly 26 employees, who also fall in the same category of employees were retained. These twenty six persons constitute, as per reports, the entire list of persons against whom complaints for indulging in corrupt practices have been registered.

As per the sources within the organisation, and personal experiences of many displaced persons, these retained employees are seen as the main nucleus of the vested interest within the relief commissioner office. "These persons have

now been placed in such positions where scope of corruption is more", said one of the angry displaced persons at the relief counter in Sarwaal.

Even during the debates in the legislative assembly Sh BL Bhat (MLC) had furnished the 'stay list' of employees in relief commissioner. All the employees retained had a stay in relief commissioner's department prior to March 1992. Some of them are in the department since 1990-91.

Since the assumption of elected government the affairs within the relief organisation have become murkier with politicians trying to extract their pound of flesh. Immediately after the new govern-

(Contd. on page 11)

LETTERS

REMINISCENCES

Dear Sir,

The question answer item in the Kashmir Sentinel dated August 1-15, 1998 about Jyothi Pandit Prem Nath Ji Shastri created a nostalgic sense in me about my childhood days. I got so deeply absorbed in the reverie that a vivid picture of those days raced through my mind as if those old happy days of my childhood had retraced and settled in me. The immured state of mind took me to Bijbihara, a town in Anantnag district, the birth place of Shastriji.

Having been in the habit of excessive play with my younger brother-Pt Soom Nath Ji. I was somewhat hesitant to take to schooling. This imbecility drew me to the charge of Pandit Bir Bal a Hindi/Sanskrit teacher in the school. He was a tough and strict teacher and I found myself dumb driven under his awful face. It was here that I came into contact with Shastriji. While I was admitted to formal academic education, Shastriji was a student of Sanskrit-if my memory doesnot fail me.

Coincidence has it that we

again met each other in 1937 when I was a student in Government High School, Bagh Dilavar Khan, Fateh Kadal, Srinagar, and Shastriji was a student of Shastras-Hindu scriptures-in the Pathshala attached to the said school. I passed my Matriculation examination in 1938 and continued my studies in the SP College. In my tenth class our Hindi/Sanskrit teacher Pt. Goverdhan Sharma was promoted as Head Pandit in the Pathshala and we, the 9th & 10th class students together with the students of the Pathshala took a joint photograph of our teacher in which Shastriji is one of the students. I had preserved it till I left Srinagar as a refugee. Shastriji continued acquiring religious education in the various institutions to perfect himself in the line of learning bequeathed to him by his most respected and highly learned father Pt. Aftab Ram Ji. He was a great friend of my father because elder Jyothi Ji's erudition in religious scriptures was intense and complete. For some time we lived in the same mohalla and I used to accompany my father to Shastri Ji's residence and listen to his sermons which were too difficult for a boy of my age. My father

reposed a great faith in the scholarship of Jyotshi Aftab Ram Ji and he would consult the Guru whenever he (my father) felt some difficulty. Elder Panditji was a great and versatile scholar of astronomy and none could compete him though there were many in Bijbihara claiming the knowledge. Pandit Aftab Ram Ji was so well versed in his line of knowledge that he had foretold many events to my father which proved true to the hilt. The present Pandit Ji-our good Prem Nath Ji-could hardly be inferior in astronomy and other Hindu scriptures to his great and illustrious father-his Guru also. I bow my head in reverence to late Pandit Aftab Ram Ji because he happened to be a Guru of my father.

(R.K. Sher)

Upper

Laxminager Jammu

Sentinel plays a vital role

Dear Sir,

It gives me immense pleasure to know that the August 1-15 issue was the 50th issue of the fortnightly. The paper has not only become a genuine voice of exiled KP community, but all the nationalist forces in the country, particularly J&K State.

The paper presents true picture of present socio-political scenario of the state and educates people about the historical blunders committed in the past that lead to present mess and chaos.

It is hoped that paper will highlight the problems faced by the community and keep the leadership at helm of affairs informed about the developments that will lead to the solution of Kashmir imbroglio.

B.L. Koul
(Udhampur)

THOSE WHO LEFT US

(1-8-98--15-8-98)

Kashmir Sentinel and Panun Kashmir Foundation mourn their sad demise and pray for peace and rest to the departed souls.

1. **Sh Kanhya Lal Bhat (Sumbly)**; presently at H.No: 230/20-A Gali No: 3 Railway Colony Mandawali Fazilpur Delhi. 21/7/98
2. **Mrs Phoola Raina** W/o Sh Hari Krishen Raina, R/o Nunar Ganderbal; presently at C/o Dr V.Sharma Krishna Nagar Canal Road, Jammu. 22/7/98.
3. **Sh Brij Krishen Koul**, R/o Alikadal Srg; presently at Plot No: 6, Rishi Appts. Sector:9 Rohini Delhi. 24/7/98.
4. **Sh Nilakanth Koul**, R/o Alikadal Sgr. presently at 8-S.F.S./D.D.A Punjabi Bagh Appts. Madhipur, Rohtak Road, N.Delhi. 28/7/98.
5. **Sh Sham Lal Dhar**, R/o Safakadal Sgr. presently at 219 Lane:9 Shakti Nagar, Jammu. 30/7/98.
6. **Sh Daleep Kumar Bhat** S/o Sh Dwarka Nath Bhat, R/o Khunmoo Kashmir; presently at Qtr. No: 312 Migrant Camp Nagrota. 30/7/98
7. **Sh Dwarika Nath Koul**, R/o Shelitengh Habbakadal; presently at F-6A, Sect:23 Sanjay Nagar Ghaziabad (UP). 1/8/98.
8. **Smt Gonawati** W/o Sh Ram Chand, R/o Kupwara; presently at Patoli Brehmuna Akhnoor Road, Jammu. 31/7/98.
9. **Sh Triloki Nath Kak**, R/o Sathu Babar Shah; presently at Hazuri Bagh Road, Bohri, Talab Tillo, Jammu. 1/8/98.
10. **Smt Leelawati Mukoo** W/o Late Sh Harishwar Nath Mukoo, R/o Sathu Payeen; presently at A:20 Bada Mohalla Devli Road, Khanpur, New Delhi. 29/7/98.
11. **Sh Niranjan Nath Koul**, R/o Tankipora Dadikadal; presently at 216 Toomal Jatta Anand Nagar, Bohri, Jammu. 2/8/98.
12. **Sh Parkash Ram Raina**; presently at Lariyar Tral, Kashmir. 1/8/98
13. **Sh Badri Nath Wali**, R/o Gowkadal Sgr; presently at ER-37 Inderpuri, New Delhi. 2/8/98.
14. **Sh Soom Nath Raina**, R/o Shamswari, Sgr; presently at 1/103 Vikas Nagar, Sarwal, Jammu. 4/8/98.
15. **Sh Dwarka Nath Raina**, R/o Hawal Pulwama; Not Available. 3/8/98
16. **Sh PN Bhan** R/o Malpora Habba Kadal Sgr; presently at 9, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu. 30/7/98.
17. **Sh Bowa Koul**, R/o Fateh Kadal, Sgr; presently at A-J/209 Clifton Appts. Charmwood Village Surajkund Road, Faridabad. 3/8/98
18. **Smt Soomawati Mirza**, R/o Jawahar Nagar, Sgr; presently at 23 Lower Laxmi Nagar, Sarwal, Jammu. 5/8/98.
19. **Smt Sham Rani Koul** W/o Dr Sham Lal Koul, R/o Pushyar; presently at Qtr. No: 24 RRL, Canal Road, Jammu. 4/8/98.
20. **Smt Omawati Koul**, R/o Turka Wangam Shopian; presently at kathua. 5/8/98.
21. **Sh Kashi Nath Koul**, R/o Karahma Tangmarg; presently at Krishna Nagar Basti, Miran Sahib, Jammu. 5/8/98.
22. **Sh Kashi Nath Hakeem**, R/o Kharyar, Sgr; presently at F-25 Canal Road, Lane: 2 Shakti Nagar, Jammu. 5/8/98.
23. **Sh Zoonmali Ganjoo**, R/o Akura Anantnag; presently at 154 Sector-9, Nanak Nagar, Jammu. 5/8/98.
24. **Smt Raj Kumar Bhat** W/o Sh Mahraj Krishan Bhat, R/o Kulgam; presently at 173 (J) Govt. Qtr. Janipur, Jammu. 6/8/98.
25. **Sh Radha Krishan Pandita**, R/o Khajabagh, Baramulla; presently at D-62 Muthi Camp-II, Jammu. 7/8/98.
26. **Smt Tarashori Koul**, R/o Naidyar Rainawari; presently at 391 Sector-3 Gangyal, Jammu. 8/8/98.
27. **Sh Mmaheshwar Nath Koul**, R/o Vessu Anantnag; presently at Kunjwani By-pass (near Temple) Jammu. 8/8/98.
28. **Smt Shobawati Bhat**, R/o Chadora Budgam; presently at 263 Ward-2, Narwal Pain Satwari, Jammu. 7/8/98.
29. **Sh Jaggar Nath Raina**, R/o Palhalan Kashmir; presently H.No. 1, Indira Colony, Talab Tillo, Jammu. 11/8/98.
30. **Smt Sudesh Pandita**, R/o Chowelgam Kulgam; presently at H.No:88, Lane-5 Preetnagar Digyana Jammu 11/8/98.
31. **Smt Dhanwati Pandita**, R/o Wadipora Handwara; presently at 235 Hujזורibagh Bori, Talab Tillo, Jammu. 11/8/98.
32. **Smt Kamla Kak** W/o Sh Omkar Nath Kak; presently at Gali No: 2 Talab Tillo, Jammu. 11/8/98.
33. **Sh Rajnath Chowdhary**, R/o Rajouri Kadal, Sgr; presently at 6/531, Raja Park Janipur, Jammu. 5/8/98.
34. **Sh Prem Nath Koul (Jajali)**, R/o Jawahar Nagar, presently at 91 Sect-B, Tritsh Nagar, Talab Tillo, Jammu. 10/8/98.
35. **Sh Piary Lal Kuchroo**, R/o Srinagar; presently at Near Shiv Mandir Ward-4, Indira Colony Lakadmandi, Janipur, Jammu. 12/8/98.
36. **Sh Radha Krishan Bhat**, R/o Delina Baramullah; presently at Qtr No: 11 Block-8 Police Colony, Guishan Ground, Jammu. 11/8/98.

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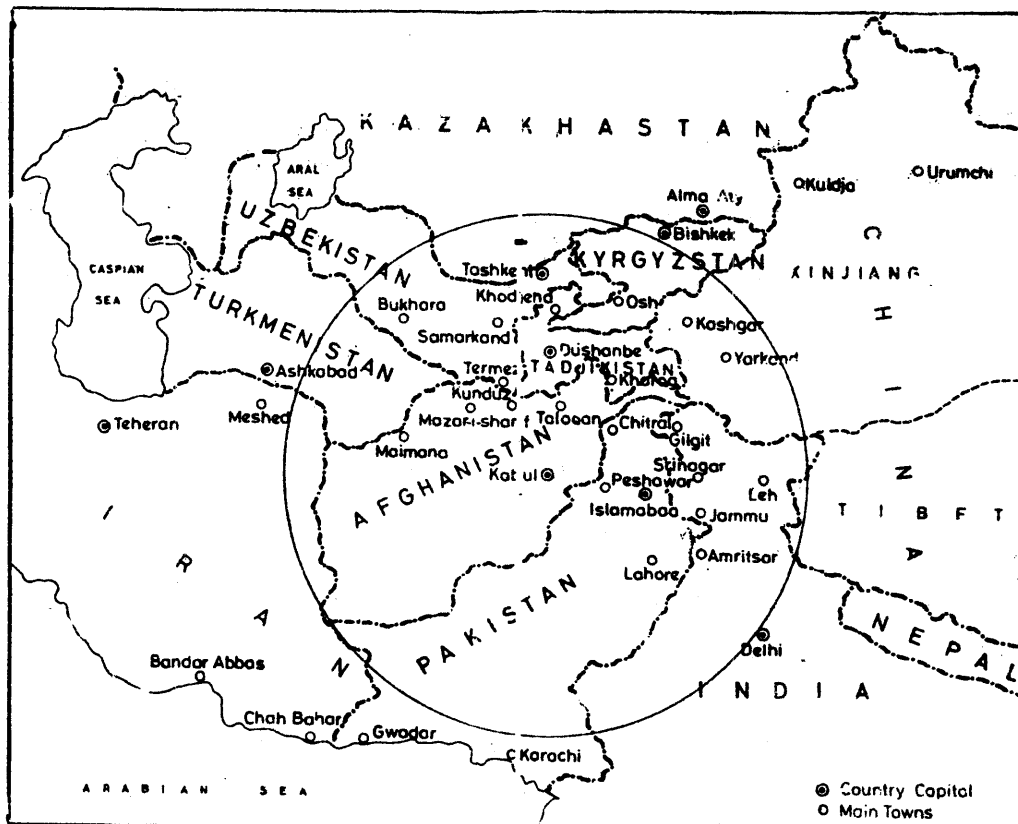
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Stop casual posturing on POK



Special Correspondent

JAMMU : Gunnar Myrdal, the famous economist startled Indian politicians and civil society by referring to India as a 'soft state' in his celebrated work *'The Asian Drama'*. That was four decades back. Not only this statement has been vindicated but the Indian state and its political leadership has shown remarkable consistency in its incapacity to define vital strategic interests of the country and pursue these to the logical conclusion.

For once, the nation has never been told where does Kashmir fit in our national interests. If it is vital to the ideological foundations of our secular nation-state, why the country's political leadership is so casual to the ethnic-cleansing of Hindus from the only Muslim-majority province of India. Is the Indian state willing to reverse the process of complete secular breakdown by resolutely fighting all variants of communalism or fundamentalism?

If our stakes in Kashmir are not ideological, then necessarily these have to be strategic ones. Kashmir constitutes the northern frontier of India, where once 'Three empires met'. How sensitive has been the country's leadership to these strategic concerns! Even an elementary student of strategic studies would agree that in 1947 Indian troops should have never stopped at URI and conceded the highly strategic Northern Area of Gilgit and Baltistan to Pakistan.

This blunder has cost and continues to cost India dearly in terms of national security. China, our traditional rival with hegemonist designs

grabbed one-third of J&K and by constructing Karakoram highway has threatened our defence. At what cost we are defending SIACHEN, it is the Indian soldier who knows. Defending Siachen has become critical to our security in this area in the face of aggressive sino-Pak designs.

Moreover, the collapse of Soviet Union and the emergence of Central Asian states has increased the importance of South West Asian region many-fold. All this has grave implications for India in terms of promoting economic interests and national security. Had we not stopped at URI, India would have direct access to these republics through the WAKHAN strip. In 1947, the referendum in NWFP (to which northern areas link with J&K) could possibly have gone in favour of India. Peshawar was a Hindu-majority city in pre-independence India. Similarly today the country would have been able to influence events in volatile Afghanistan, where India stands totally isolated.

The importance of PoK as an integral part of India need not be over-emphasised. Indian Parliament in 1994 took a historic decision, when it passed a unanimous resolution declaring nation's will to liberate PoK from the enemy's occupation. Any posturing with even remote hints on abdicating PoK, would tantamount to a contempt of the Indian Parliament and the nation.

Last year, J&K Chief Minister Dr Farooq Abdullah suggested conversion of present LoC into international border. One of his cabinet ministers even declared that NC Uri," when Mr Raina replied will move a resolution to this

effect in state assembly. Mr Jaswant Singh, had to retract his statement echoing similar views, when there was furore from the opposition and even from his own party men. In the past also Nehru and Indira Gandhi tried to engage in similar posturing.

US-Pak-China collusion have created new threats for India. US involvement in Kashmir is not simply related to armtwisting on CTBT or gaining an independent foothold but aims at larger balkanisation. By putting Tibet on the backburner, US has gained a willing ally in China to destabilise our Himalayan border states ranging from Kashmir to northeast. Mr George Fernandes can be faulted for raising a shrill rhetoric on Chinese threat but it underlines what already exists as a grim reality.

It is time that a firm and unambiguous declaration is made that at no cost shall India yield PoK to Pakistan. Americans are deft-masters in pursuing their hegemonistic aims. Clad Plan, one of the many plans on future of J&K does talk of conversion of LoC into international border. Its undertones in essence aim at autonomous Muslim state in this part of the country.

In 1947 also, Mountbatten tricked Nehru. The circumstantial evidence clearly points to it. When heroic Indian soldiers were advancing to clear J&K of invaders, the TASS correspondent Orestov asked the veteran communist leader, N.N. Raina, "Do you think they will go beyond Uri," when Mr Raina replied

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India should declare Pakistan as a terrorist state

Defence Analysts Endorse Panun Kashmir view

Entire National and International Media, galaxy of dignitaries—most of them noted Kashmir analysts, and rest of the distinguished gathering in the jam packed auditorium waited with anxious silence, the moving of the main resolution in the first ever World Kashmiri Pandit Conference at Siri Fort Auditorium on 28th Dec, 1993. The resolution-The Delhi Declaration of Kashmiri Pandits 1993, was moved and the august gathering acknowledged with amazement the clarity and forthrightness with which it underlined the problem of Kashmiri Pandits and India in Kashmir.

The debate that ensued when the declaration was put to vote saw the reputed Kashmir experts struggling to wriggle out of any public commitment on many of the assumptions and propositions put forth in the declaration. Three former foreign secretaries sitting on the panel while appreciating Panun Kashmir's efforts, avoided any comment on the operative portions of the declaration.

The Delhi Declaration of 1993 by Kashmiri Pandits underlined certain bitter realities. *"...Indian state is showing all the classical symptoms of a set up that is internally subverted. Subversion is not just confined to the state of Jammu and Kashmir but is widespread. It is both ideological and physical.....Threat is not so much from outside as it is from within."*

However the most challenging proposition put forth by Kashmiri Pandits in front of the Nation, in this penultimate session of the world conference through the adoption of this document of 'Delhi Declaration' was in the form of the vow and a clear appeal to the nation. *"In this World Conference of Kashmiri Pandits on 28th Dec 1993 at Siri Fort Auditorium New Delhi, we declare Pakistan a terrorist state and call upon All Civilised People, Human Rights Groups and Civil Liberties Organisations, Religious bodies and the Nation to do the same.....In the World Conference of Kashmiri Pandits we also appeal to all organisations in India.....to adopt resolutions declaring Pakistan a terrorist state"*.

Think tanks on security issues in India appear now to be realising the import of such proposition. In a virtual endorsement of Panun Kashmir view, the Director of Institute of Defence Analysis, Air Commodore Jasjit Singh stated in his speech on the '40

Anniversary Lecture Series' organised by HCM Rajasthan State Institute of Public Administration as, "on the basis of evidence available India should declare Pakistan as a terrorist state and there is no need to look towards Americans to Achieve this goal".

It is a known fact that over the years government of India has pursued primarily a diplomatic campaign aimed at somehow convincing USA and the West about the involvement of Pakistan in global terrorism. Expecting other countries to declare Pakistan as a 'terrorist state' only presented a very weak picture of India and many a nations have started considering it as a 'soft state'. Such an image has done immense damage to the prestige of India in the community of Nations.

Reflecting the undercurrents of thinking in the Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis, on this particular aspect, Sh Jasjit Singh said, "Do we want Americans to solve our problems? India should have confidence to announce that Pakistan is a terrorist state".

Panun Kashmir Working Council has welcomed the statements of Air Commodore Jasjit Singh and expressed hope that Government of India would rise to the occasion and clear the confusion plaguing its policy making. "Government of India is nourishing a dangerous dilemma. While it is convinced about Pakistan's role in creating and perpetuating terrorism on this side of the border, it still refuses to treat Pakistan as a terrorist state", said Dr Ajay Chrunoo Chairman of Political Affairs Committee of Panun Kashmir. "We will never have a clear policy on security issues and diplomatic initiatives unless Government of India clearly identifies the quality and contours of dangers emanating from Pakistan", he said while expressing his unhappiness over the lethargy which has infected the crucial policy making institutions in India. He hoped that views expressed by Sh Jasjit Singh will be taken proper cognisance of by political parties. "BJP should take a lead and adopt a resolution declaring Pakistan as a terrorist state and urging Government of India to do the same", said Sh Kuldeep Raina General Secretary of Panun Kashmir.

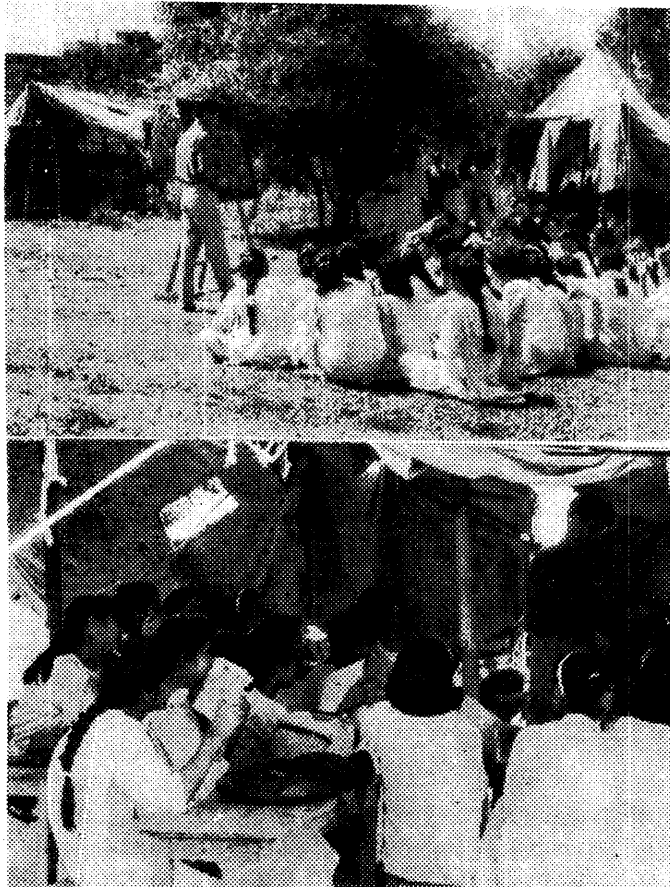
High Court comes to Rescue of Gandhi College teachers Displaced students suffering one way or the other

KS Correspondent

JAMMU: A Degree course for BA-B.Sc-B.Com takes five years for the displaced students instead of normal 3 years. This state of affairs is continuing since 8th July, 1990 when camp colleges were officially established in Jammu after a lot of struggle.

During first half of 90's displaced students had to suffer because their fellow Muslim students in valley were less keen to pursue their normal academic careers, as they appeared to have more pressing priorities of supporting and participating in the so called "Azadi Movement". University and colleges in valley functioned in fits and starts. Displaced students in Jammu pursuing their academic careers had to wait for Kashmir University to conduct examinations as well as declare the results for the same. On an average each batch of displaced students lost two years playing havoc with their professional pursuits and educational standards.

Situation has not changed much after the elected government assumed power. As some semblance of regular academic activities in University and Colleges in Kashmir valley has started, displaced students in Jammu are now suffering for a new



Displaced students and their camp colleges.

excuse by University administration.

The students of Ist. Year Ba, Bsc, Bcom had to undergo a new agonising ordeal last year. Their admission to the Ist. Year of this degree course took place in September. To their bewilderment they received a notification for examination to be conducted in December the same year. Kashmir University expected them to complete their normal academic year within just two

months.

When the teachers association and the students took up the case with the concerned authorities they were told that the Kashmir university has reverted back to the November session. Students in valley join in march and as such November December is the proper time for the examinations. Authorities were not sensitive enough to appreciate that while the session was reverted back in valley the

(Contd. on page 11)

'Kuthar-the safe heaven for militants'

Special Correspondent
Jammu

Besides hundreds of training camps being run in Pakistan, PoK and Afghanistan, militants have succeeded in creating a number of such training camps in hilly areas of the state where training is given to the locals by Pak trained militants.

Such camps are reportedly created in the areas that are topographically linked to other areas through hilly passes. One such area is Kuthar in south Kashmir district of Anantnag that has peculiar topography linking it to Pahalgam and Kukernag areas, through mountain ranges and district Doda through Margan pass. There are reportedly a number of training camps being run by the militants and recently destroyed camp at Thimran (Chittergul) is one among such camps in the area.

In the outset of militancy in 1989-90, the area was a green pasture for Pak militants particularly Hizbul-Mujahideen and Albaraq. The dreaded militant Sher Khan used to operate from the area and was instrumental in killings of number of Hindus in the area and adjoining Brang valley.

However, evolution of counter insurgency and deployment of Rashtriya Rifles (RR) resulted in almost sanitisation of the area from Pak militants. The area came fully under control of Azad

Nabi's Muslim Mujahideen, a premier counter insurgent group, till the installation of popular government.

The policies of Farooq government have lead to the demoralisation of counter insurgents that resulted in the regrouping of Pak militants in the area. As per reports, presently, the mercenaries are ruling the roost in the area.

The people in the area complain that they are under tremendous pressure from militants. The composition of population in this remote hilly valley is advantageous to the foreign militants. The area has a good number of Gujjar and Bakerwal population and these foreigners mix up easily with these Gujjar Bakerwalls with out being recognised. Moreover they easily infiltrate to the Wadwan area of Doda district in the guise of migratory Gujjars.

The concentration of militants in the area is also a result of mounting pressure on militants in the Pahalgam area in wake of Amarnath yatra. Though the area has an important army base, but lack of coordination amongst security forces and topography of the area is working to the advantage of militants. It is reported that if forces can launch a pro-active operation in the area with plugging of the escape routes, they can achieve a major success which will prove very helpful in containing militancy in south Kashmir and neighbouring Doda.

State BJP starts distancing from NC

KS Correspondent

JAMMU: Alarmed at the rapid slide of the BJP image in Jammu Province and growing disillusionment among its cadres, state BJP leadership has started distancing itself from the central government's line on Jammu and Kashmir.

In a scathing attack on National Conference Sh. Vaid Vishnudutt Sharma, state BJP leader and MP from Jammu province expressed his doubts about the sincerity and integrity of the ruling National Conference in dealing with growing terrorism in the state. Sh. Vishnudutt was more critical about the patronage provided by an influential section of administration as well as the ruling party to subversive elements in the state.

However the severest indictment of the ruling national Conference came from the

state BJP president Sh Daya Krishen Kotwal. Sh. Kotwal minced no words in alleging the involvement of some National conference leaders in the militancy related incidents in Jammu Province. Addressing a press-conference on Aug. 4, Sh. Kotwal blamed NC leaders for sheilding the culprits. He particularly cautioned the political parties against defaming the Village Defence Committees. Sh. Kotwal alleged, "vested interests have unleashed a vicious campaign even against the setting up of village defence committies." Declaring his faith and support for Village Defence Committees, Sh. Kotwal claimed that VDC's have been instrumental in repulsing many terrorist attacks and strongly refuted the charge that VDC's have indulged in excesses against any

particular family or community.

Sh Kotwal did not even spare the administration and blamed it for putting up impediments in the smooth functioning of VDCs. He alleged that members of VDC are metted out humiliating treatment when they approach concerned police officers for replacement of ammunition.

Resentment of state BJP with the central government was also communicated in an indirect manner by Sh. Kotwal when he criticised the central government team lead by union Home Secretary B.P. Singh and condemned him for not visiting any of the affected villages including Chasna and Sarwan.

BJP Leader also expressed his grave concern for the treatment to which Hindu females are subjected to in terrorist

infested areas of Doda. He said that four girls were raped and later tied to trees in naked condition by the militants after massacre on July 27 in Doda.

Scathing attack on the ruling National Conference and gradual distancing from the central line by the state BJP leadership is seen by analysts as growing awareness within BJP about disenchantment of party cadres. National president of BJP Sh. Kusha Bhao Thakre was put to embarrassing moments during his visit to the Jammu region. He was publicly confronted and asked "how many more lives should be sacrificed before BJP awakens to the gravity of situation?" The Rajouri-Poonch leaders of BJP openly expressed their lack of confidence in central leadership when they expressed that their

reports to party leadership as usual will be ignored and consigned to waste paper baskets.

Growing resentment within BJP is best expressed in the statements of the state Bhartiya Janta Yuva Morcha. Its president Sh. Shemsher Singh while criticising National Conference and central government for their failures in preventing the deterioration of law and order situation, openly declared that the government which can not protect the life, honour and property of its citizens has no business to continue.

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NEWS BRIEFS

20 massacred in inter-militant war fare

In the worst ever inter-gang war fare, the militants of Hizbul Mujahideen eliminated 20 family members and close relations of self styled area commander of Lashkar-e-Toiba at Sailan village in Surankote (Poonch). The dead include 14 children. As per reports, the HM militants retaliated to take revenge of killing of Zakir Hussain by LET.

Farooq Abdullah, Chief Minister J&K, who was holidaying at London at the time of massacre, visited the site on his arrival and surprisingly ordered inquiry by the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) in the incident.

Kashmiri Pandits have been demanding a high level inquiry since long in their exodus from Valley. However, the government is denying the same as it is expected that many political heads will roll if the inquiry is ordered and carried to logical end.

Major killed in mine blast at Drass

At a time when Kargil is in the grip of heavy shelling from across the border, the militants demonstrated their presence by planting land mines near Drass on Srinagar Leh national highway. The army succeeded in defusing one IED while other went off killing Major Batra and injuring a commanding officer and a captain. It is the first incident of its kind in Kargil in the decade long militancy. It shows the militants are successfully increasing their area of operation.

Meanwhile, five army personnel, including a Brigadier, were injured in a land-mine blast at Sopore while two jawans were killed and seven others were injure in yet another similar blast in Chittergul in south Kashmir. Such incidents belie government claims that militants are attacking only "soft targets".

Ayub's tantrums

Pakistan's foreign minister Gohar Ayub Khan has said that border clashes can lead to a major conflict. He charged India for failure of talks at Colombo and said that they had come without home work.

He threatened India that "if war was imposed on us, India would not be given chance to use nuclear weapons".

Constitution of VDC leads to massacre Women cop involved

The proposed constitution of Village Defence Committees (VDCs) in Thukri area of Kishtwar resulted in the massacres at Horna and Sarwan villages in Kishtwar. The security forces had reportedly motivated some youth of area to become members of the proposed VDCs.

This message was leaked to the militants by a women police constable who according to reports was actively working for Hizbul Mujahideen and Harkat-ul-Ansar. The information provoked militants to harass the minority community. However, it is surprising how a women cop got the air of such a secret plan and hand of some senior officials can not be ruled out. It once again proves that some elements in civil and police administration are hand in glove with the militants

Madhok favours re-organisation of J&K**KS Correspondent**

Mr Balraj Madhok, founder president of erstwhile Bhartiya Jan Sangh and the chairman of Natinoalist Forum, has suggested separating Jammu and Kashmir region administratively and according union territory status to Ladakh region.

He supported the rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits in Hindu dominated areas of south Kashmir. Mr Madhok is a supporter of political reorganisation of state with Ladakh and 'Panun Kashmir Home land' as union territories, and Jammu and Kashmir as separate states.

He described 'alarming and distressing' the reported connivance of terrorists and a section of police in Doda for driving out Hindus from the area and said that such developments raise doubts about bonafides of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and state government. He said that ethnic cleansing of minorities from Muslim dominated areas shows that Farooq Abdullah is pursuing the dream of his father Sheikh Mohd Abdullah of "greater Islamic Kashmir".

He criticised Home Minister LK Advani for lack of political will, vision and clarity regarding how to solve Kashmir problem.

Amarnath yatra concludes

KS Correspondent Jammu

The month long Amarnath yatra concluded with "Chari Pujan" in the holy Amarnath cave on Shraavan Purnima. A record 1 lac, 40 thousand yatis had the darshan of *Ice-Lingam* amidst threat from Harkat-ul-Ansar to disrupt yatra.

The yatra remained almost peaceful as the government succeeded in timely detection of IED's in the base camp and either eliminated or apprehended militants in different encounters enroute to the holy cave during month long yatra.

In Bijbehara area four dreaded militants were eliminated who were planning to attack the yatis. However, six Amarnath pilgrims were injured in a grenade attack in Srinagar city.

Though the civil administration and army succeeded in frustrating nefarious designs of militants to disrupt yatra, yet the administration failed to anticipate the rush of yatis. Many yatis coming from nook and corner of the country complained of difficulties and indifference of administration. Reportedly many touts were operating and minting money from the yatis to get their registration, accommodation or transportation.

Some correspondents also found irregularities being made in registration. Many yatis who were not properly guided by the administration had to return back without



Ice Lingam of Lord Shiva at Shri Amarnath cave as captured by KASHMIR TIMES lensman on Monday.

darshan.

At one time, the government stopped registration on pretext of exhausting the entire quota. However, the honourable High Court abolished quota system and declared it as infringement of the fundamental rights of citizens to profess and preach religion that resulted in resumption of registration.

Meanwhile, Amarnath yatra Nyas assailed government for implementing only one recommendation of Nitish Sen

Gupta report about quota and ignoring other recommendations. The president of Nyas assailed government for not constructing any semi-pucca structures enroute Amarnath from Pahalgam to the cave as suggested in the report.

In the meantime, police also foiled an attempt of militants to disrupt Boodha Amarnath yatra in Poonch district by seizing large quantity of ammunition to be used to disrupt the yatra.

Sikhs migrate, pushed back

KS Correspondent Jammu

In the wake of swelling in number of militants, particularly mercenaries, and lack of security facilities in Doda, Poonch-Rajouri and upper reaches of Udhampur district, the minorities are fleeing to safer places to save their skin from the cruel militants.

In the latest incident about 100 families of Sikhs migrated from Mahore area of Udhampur district and proceeded towards Jammu via Rajouri. However, only 30 families reached Jammu while others were pushed back forcibly by the divisional administration to Rajouri.

The migration was a result of two massacres in the

area in less than a week and militants' open warning to the minorities to leave the area. Though the government has not given official recognition to the migrants of Jammu region, however, there are reportedly thousands of families living the life of exile. These families mostly from Doda district are living with their relatives.

Meanwhile, there are reports that Sikhs in Valley are also facing pressure from militants to leave Valley. The militants are mounting pressure on Sikhs in wake of reports that a good number of Sikhs in police are active in SOG (Special Operation Group) of police created to combat terrorism.

Azam Inquilabi arrested

August 1: Azam Inquilabi, the secessionist leader and former self styled chief commander of "operation Balakote", was arrested by Army from his residence.

Mr Inquilabi, who was dismissed from his services for anti-national activities and later arrested, was released on parole in 1989 by CM Farooq Abdullah to facilitate his attendance at the funeral of Mahaz-e-Azadi chairman Sofi Mohd Akbar.

However, Mr Inquilabi disappeared and surfaced with a gun, that introduced gun culture in the state. He operated as chief of "operation Balakote" from Kupwara sector and crossed over to Pakistan. Later he came back in 1994 in full knowledge of administration, but was not arrested. Army has described him as "publicity chief" of Harkat-ul-Ansar.

KASHMIR SENTINEL

(August 16-31, 1998)

A losing battle

Indian state seems involved in a losing battle with Pakistan, if one looks at the recent figures of terrorist violence in Jammu & Kashmir. The militarized Pan-Islamist movement has now entered a decisive phase and the proxy-war has opened another front in neighbouring Himachal Pradesh. Notwithstanding the tall claims of the Union Home Ministry, the terrorist operatives are calling shots after having achieved complete ethnic cleansing in Kashmir valley, engaging Indian troops and inflicting heavy damage on both civil and paramilitary personnel in Jammu.

It was during 1990-91 that both the Home Ministry as well as defence analysts had taken upon themselves an analysis of the contours of the Pan-Islamic movement. A complete assessment of the situation with inevitable fallout in Doda, Rajouri, Poonch and adjoining Himachal Pradesh was made. These experts had also been apprised of the on-going activities in the Nepalese territory and the larger destabilization design of the enemy. It was made amply clear to the Indian establishment that an Afghanistan like situation was on the cards in the entire Indian territory along the Pakistani and Chinese border. The intelligence reports too had established that Pakistani operatives were using the area from Tarai to Kargil for this larger design of destabilizing the northern frontiers of India. So, what has happened from 1991 to 1998, should not surprise the Union of India.

What is demoralizing in the entire context is the failure of the Indian state to stem the trend and effectively counter the Pakistani strategy despite having been fully aware of its civilizational as well as strategic contours. The Indian state was neither found prepared to destroy the terrorist operatives with requisite ruthlessness, nor did it allow the security forces to have a free hand in the terrorist infested areas. The political leadership appeared to be a bundle of confused mass talking of winning over the "alienated rebels" and calling the terrorists as "mislead youth." It was found more interested in diplomatic initiatives and bundling out hoards of politicians, strategists and NGO activists to Geneva, Vienna, New York and London without effectively addressing the ground reality. Millions of dollars were spent on these official picnics doing shadow boxing. The entire exercise was reflective of a total lack of perspective and permissiveness of the Indian state.

The change of guard in Delhi had generated a hope that there would be a shift in the policy. The BJP, to be more correct the Jan Sangh, was born on Kashmir plank. It had challenged the Congress policy on Kashmir and scrapping of Article 370 continued to be its main agenda till 1998 elections. It was talking of radical shift in the entire perspective on Kashmir.

In case, the events are allowed to unfold in its present form and in case the reality is not confronted headlong, the Pakistani designs would manifest with total ruthlessness. Pakistan has been given enough time and cuddling. It is high time the Indian state declares Pakistan a terrorist state and snaps its diplomatic ties with her.

**Kashmir
Agenda of Indian I***By Dr. M.K. Teng*

The actual game plan of Nawab, the support of Pakistan to grab the Muslim ruled States with the support of the British and the Muslim majority states with the support of their Muslim subjects, unfolded on 14 August 1947. The Nawab of Junagarh, a Hindu majority State situated in the midst of the Kathiawad States, acceded to Pakistan. Pakistan had secured the accession of all the Princely States, situated within its territorial limits, including the State of Kalat, which had resisted accession to the new Muslim State.

The Indian leaders failed to respond to the threat Pakistan posed to the Kathiawad States and instead of taking immediate counter-action against the Nawab of Junagarh, they feebly, complained to Pakistan against the decision of the Nawab and proposed that the final disposition of the Junagarh State be determined by reference to the people of the state. The bogey of referendum was actually raised by Mountbatten to enable him to execute his

design to divide the States on the basis of the partition. The Congress leaders walked into the trap, perhaps, unsure of the British reaction and unable to face Mountbatten, they did not dare take advantage of the people's wrath against the rulers of Junagarh and Hyderabad. In Hyderabad, feverish preparations were afoot to declare the independence of the State and a secret understanding was already reached between the Nawab of Hyderabad and the League leaders, assuring the

support of Pakistan for an independent Hyderabad.

Contrary to the avowedly pro-Pakistan stand of the rulers of Junagarh and Hyderabad, the ruler of Jammu and Kashmir, Hari Singh maintained scrupulous silence on the issue of accession. Hari Singh told the Viceroy as well, and in plain terms, that he would take such a decision on the accession of the State as would be in the interests of his people. Indeed, Mountbatten denounced him for his indecision and accused him of stupidity in reacting to the situation in a way which the British did not approve. Hari Singh offered a standstill agreement to both the Dominions on 12 August 1947.

India had a claim to all the three states, mainly because of their geographical contiguity to the Indian Dominion and their strategic importance to its security and territorial integrity. Neither the partition of India nor Pakistan was a factor, in the determination of the future of

Babriwad and Mangrol. The warning administered a jolt to the Indian leaders.

Mountbatten laughed in his sleeves, for he realised that Pakistan had assumed the initiative in using Junagarh as a

- i) The Indian Princely States process of partition and the India on communal proportion of the British Paramountcy
- ii) The integration of the Indian by the people of the State strength, leaving Mountbatten States Ministry a peripheral
- iii) Hari Singh deferred a decision of the Congress leaders: the consequences of the a Kashmir to India on Junagarh
- iv) Pakistan was limited to the of the British India and the early Princely State in India, v lim Princes, or populated by

India had a claim to all the three states, mainly because of their geographical contiguity to the Indian Dominion and their strategic importance to its security and territorial integrity. Neither the partition of India nor Pakistan was a factor, in the determination of the future of Junagarh and Hyderabad which were embedded in the heart of the Indian Dominion and Jammu and Kashmir which formed the traditional frontier of India in the north.

design to divide the States on the basis of the partition.

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Junagarh and Hyderabad which were embedded in the heart of the Indian Dominion and Jammu and Kashmir, which formed the traditional frontier of India in the north.

The indecisiveness of the Congress leaders to act promptly in Junagarh had a far-reaching impact on the Kathiawad states, and some of the rulers warned the Government of India that its prestige in Kathiawad had been irreparably impaired by its inability to save Junagarh and the two smaller states of

pawn for a bargain on Jammu and Kashmir as well as di Hyderabad. Pakistan followed the course Mountbatten had visualised. Acceptance of a plebiscite would, in effect mean the deferment of the accession of Hyderabad and Jammu and Kashmir and the Continuation of the status-quo in Junagarh indefinitely. For how would the proposed plebiscite be conducted and by whom, more specially a situation when the Nawabs of Junagarh and Hyderabad, were under no obligation to accept an agreement between the two Dominions which impinged upon their power.

The Indian leadership was broken into factions which were led by decript and small men, who had lost the courage to face the problems, the partition had created. Nehru put himself at the mercy of the Viceroy, who exhibited determination to tackle the problems of the partition, which Nehru himself, was hardly prepared to face. Gandhi had obsolete views on the States and had lost contact with the stupendous developments, which rocked the Princely India.

The separation of the Princely States into a third confederacy, Jinnah had visualised, was bound to Balkanise India sooner or later. Junagarh with a long sea-coast, which provided it access to Pakistan, posed a grave threat to the whole Kathiawad peninsula. Hyderabad was in the heart of India, and was boiling in internal distrust, which

Partition-IV

1 dangerous portents for the role of the India in the north. Jammu and Kashmir formed a part of the warm malayan hinterland, and if was lost to Pakistan, the role of the Indian frontier

were not included in the decision of the British and did not impair the lapse

States was accomplished as, a hundred million in ten and Menon and the role to perform.

on the accession of a, on the secret instructions, who were frightened of the accession of Jammu and Hyderabad.

Muslim majority regions before, and no claim to whether ruled by the Muslim majorities.

the north, would suddenly integrate.

After the transfer of power to India, the Dominion Government of India extended the offer for accession, to the two states of Jammu and Kashmir and Hyderabad, which had offered a standstill agreement to continue the relationship already subsisting between the state and the British India. The standstill agreement was the same standard pattern, which the State department of India had evolved for all the States. The standstill agreements, it needs to be noted, had no political implications and were restricted to the continuation of arrangements, which had governed the relations between the Princely States and the British Government of India.

While Pakistan kept the fire burning in Junagarh, it prepared fast to deliver another stunning blow to India. On 1 October 1947, hardly four days after Pakistan had formally warned India against any intervention in Junagarh, it launched a massive invasion of the Jammu and Kashmir State.

Thousands of armed tribesmen and irregulars, led by the crack Tochi Scouts, easily identified by their bicorn helmets, stormed into the State, with the twin objective of occupying the Kashmir valley and attacking Jammu from across the Sialkot border to cut off the only communication line connecting the State with Madhopur in the Punjab. The State government had

ordered it to be repaired into a more serviceable highway for communications with India.

Even at that time, Pakistan claimed that the invading forces were the Muslim subjects of the State, who had risen in revolt against the Dogra rule and the Afridi and the other tribesmen had only joined their brethren in the war of their liberation.

Junagarh was already in Pakistan. The Nawab of Hyderabad was eagerly waiting for the crucial movement to sneak into its protectorate. The Tochi troops and the Afridi tribesmen, who had delivered a blitzkrieg attack on Jammu and Kashmir, were close to their military objectives. After Jammu and Kashmir was reduced, Pakistan could negotiate a settlement on Junagarh and Hyderabad from a position of strength.

M.A. Jinnah, had forestalled Mountbatten in his bid to divide the States on the basis of the partition. No one in Pakistan, not even the Governor General of that country, had any intention to invoke partition as a basis for any settlement of the Princely States, including Jammu and Kashmir.

Pakistan, indeed, tried to claim Jammu and Kashmir on the basis of the Muslim majority of its population, when Hari Singh upturned its game plan, and before the invading forces of Pakistan had annexed the state, acceded to India. Pakistan, in its bid to annex Kashmir by a proxy-invasion, did not reckon the resistances, which the Hindus, the Sikhs and Buddhists would offer to the invading armies.

While the besieged Maharaja was fighting for movements of reprieve, his army, depleted by the desertion of its Muslim ranks, which formed almost half of its strength blocked the advance of the invading forces in the rugged terrain of Uri in Kashmir. Jammu and Kashmir acceded to India on 26 October 1947. The same day the Indian forces entered Junagarh on 27 October 1947, airborne Indian troops landed in Srinagar. (Concluded)

*Author is an internationally reputed analyst on Kashmir, and former Head of Department of Political Sciences in Kashmir University

NSS survey at Muthi Camp

Exiled community needs immediate employment, proper educational facilities and health care

We here reproduce the excerpts of the special NSS survey report conducted by the NSS Unit of Government MAM Camp College Jammu. The survey was conducted during the special NSS Camp at Muthi from 1st April 1998 to 8th April 1998. The comprehensive report of the survey was prepared by Prof BL Zutshi who is the member secretary of NSS Advisory committee of Government MAM Camp College.

Working of NSS Unit at MAM Camp College

NSS Unit was established in camp colleges in January 1995 because of the keen interest shown by Sh Ajit Kumar IAS, Additional Chief Secretary education. With his vision and wisdom the units were able to initiate programmes and the special camp this year.

The programme received tremendous response from the students and the community. We are also thankful to Dr Muzafar Ahmed Khan, Director colleges for his cooperation and help in reviving the Camp College, 'NSS Units. His initiative and guidance has made the camp college units vibrant and result oriented.

The volunteers of NSS of camp colleges have shown tremendous enthusiasm in the programmes and sense of self sacrifice which is the essence of NSS. The volunteers showed exemplary discipline, dedication and devotion in their work and assignment from time to time. Our special camp adopted Muthi migrant camp as our case study. Seeing the response of the volunteers it was very difficult for me to differentiate in terms of the rating of their work. I am also impressed by the work and conduct of the volunteers for their work at Muthi camp, for which they deserve all appreciation. I am thankful to Proff. K.B. Abrol, Principal of our Camp College for his valuable guidance and patronage. The special camp received full support from the red cross Jammu in training the volunteers on the first aid. We also are thankful to Sh Dinesh Gupta and Sh SC Bali of Jammu Red Cross for their active participation in the special camp.

Prof. B.L. Zutshi

N.S.S. ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF GOVERNMENT M.A.M. CAMP COLLEGE REPORT OF THE N.S.S. SPECIAL CAMP FROM 1ST APRIL 1998 TO 8TH APRIL 1998

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Prof K.B. Abrol, Principal--(Chairman) | 1. Prof. Lalita Dhar |
| 2. Prof B.L. Zutshi--(Member Secretary) | 2. Prof Indu Kilam |
| | 3. Prof Som Lal |

The College has 100 volunteers, but as per the norms of special camp of N.S.S. 51 volunteers participated in the special CAMP from 1st April, 1998 to 8th April, 1998. The following are the Volunteers of N.S.S. who participated in the special camp.

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Pankaj Dhar | 2. Rekha Ganju | 3. Suman Jotshi |
| 4. Devinder Kour | 5. Rajinder Kumar Koul | 6. Archana Raina |
| 7. Cristy Koul | 8. Previnky Bhat | 9. Vinod Bushan |
| 10. Sunita Koul | 11. Amit Koul | 12. Jeevan Jyoti |
| 13. Sanjay Kichloo | 14. Jasmeet Kour | 15. Vikram Mawa |
| 16. Sunita Pandita | 17. Sanjeev Bakshi | 18. Ravi Raina |
| 19. Arvind Bhat | 20. Deep Ji Bhat | 21. Neeraj Kumar Koul |
| 22. Sanjeev Tickoo | 23. Imran Khan | 24. Sunil Raina |
| 25. Ravikant Shah | 26. Ashok Raina | 27. Suman Kuchroo |
| 28. Purnima Bhat | 29. Sanjay Kumar | 30. Purnima Raina |
| 31. Suresh Koul | 32. Veer Ji Raina | 33. Sanjay Kumar Koul |
| 34. Sunil Tickoo | 35. Rakesh Raina | 36. Pintoo Ji Bhat |
| 37. Vinod Kumar Koul | 38. Rakesh Kumar | 39. Sanjay Bhat |
| 40. Sunita Gadroo | 41. Ramesh Koul | 42. Anita Raina |
| 43. Anju Raina | 44. Raj Kumar Koul | 45. Sunita Kumari |
| 46. Sanjay Saproo | 47. Meenakshi Haksar | 48. Simi Raina |
| 49. Deepak Tickoo | 50. Suman Lata | 51. Sundeepa Jalali |

In these the chief volunteers of N.S.S. Camp are as follows

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Pankaj Dhar | 2. Suman Jotshi | 3. Cristy Koul |
| 4. Rajinder Kumar Koul | 5. Amit Koul | 6. Arvind Koul |
| 7. Sanjeev Bakshi | 8. Ravi Raina | 9. Sanjay Kichloo |
| 10. Deep Ji Bhat | | |

Format of the Questionere for Muthi Migrant Camp.

The Format of Survey was based on the following queries.

Name of the head of the displaced home	Strength of the Family members	Employment/ Assistance relief	Un-employed Age group	Deaths due to militancy in Kashmir
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20-25
25-30
30-40 Above

Burnt House in Kashmir	Original place of residence in Kashmir	Deaths during Exile	Births during Exile
------------------------	--	---------------------	---------------------

DISEASE	Response of Government
Asthma	A. Good
Blood Pressure	B. Bad
Neurotic Problems	C. Insufficient
Blood Sugar	
Depression	
Heart Ailments	

OBSERVATIONS

The type of assistance they require from the Government or other Voluntary Agencies.

SURVEY REPORT OF THE MUTHI CAMP

Total one Room tenements surveyed by the volunteers in the Muthi Migrant Camp, Phase-I and Phase-II	= 498
Total Family Members living in 498 tenements	= 2345 (Total residents)
A. More than 7 members residing in one room tenement (It varies from 8,9,10,11 and even 12 members living in one room)	= 41 tenements
B. Between 5 to 7 family members	= 204 tenements
C. Upto 4 members	= 253 tenements
Families who have lost Family Members because of militant killing in Kashmir prior to exodus	= 41
Families whose houses have been burnt by the militant	= 36
Shops/Commercial establishments destroyed	= 10
Vehicles destroyed	= 02

(Contd. from page 10)

A Bloody Run

Kashmir militants spread their tentacles to neighbouring Himachal Pradesh. And there's no stopping their murderous campaign in Doda, Poonch and Udhampur districts

By Binoo Joshi

The night of terror is etched vividly in her memory. "They came in the darkness and posed themselves as saviours of the poor," recalled Malti Devi, 38, of Kalaban village in the Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh. The dozen-odd visitors to the village on August 3 were no saviours, though. They were Kashmir terrorists. And they cloaked a deadly intent.

In no time the militants woke up the men and asked each one his name. They then lined them up with their hands tied and opened up their AK-47s. Twenty six villagers fell in an instant; all of them were labourers on the Chamba-Bhaderwah road that connects Himachal with Jammu and Kashmir. Among the dead was Bahadur Singh, Malti's husband.

"Most of them were shot in the head," said Chamba

Additional Deputy Commissioner B.S. Thakur. After striking terror at Kalaban the militants moved on to Shatrundi village in the Pangi valley and reenacted their gory deed. The toll here; nine labourers dead.

The ostensible reason for the militants' attack was to clear all hurdles from the area north of the Chenab. The rocky caves and dense forests provide them perfect hideouts and vantage points to watch the movement of the security forces.

With the Chamba massacres, the toll in militant strikes in just one week shot up to 84. This included 17 people killed in two villages in Doda district on July 28; 19 killed near Saurankote in the border district of Poonch on August 4; nine in three places in Udhampur the same day; and four on August 1 in Sildhar Dhok in the same district.

Barring Surankote, where



Bodies of labourers, who were shot dead by Kashmiri militants in village Kalaban of Chamba district in Himachal Pradesh

the victims were Muslims, the others fell prey to 'ethnic cleansing'. "Inter-gang rivalry between the militant outfits Hizb-ul-Mujahideen and Lashkar-e-Toiba were responsible for the killings in Surankote," said DGP Gurbachan Jagat. The local people, however, alleged that counter-insurgents were involved in the massacre.

The burial of the victims at Surankote was a tense affair: the air was thick with pro-Pakistani slogans which once echoed in the Pir Panjal range. "This is a sign of deterioration in Poonch and adjoining Rajouri," said Nazir Ahmad of Surankote. Jagat did not agree. According to him the army and the security forces have carried out effective operations in both the districts and the killings

indicated the desperation of the militants.

All the same, with the recent killings the militants have proved their supremacy in the mountains. The higher reaches of Doda and Udhampur districts are the favourite ground of foreign militants; they find it easy to strike without being challenged. The militants had hacked 26 people, including women and children, at Rankote-Dhakikote in Udhampur in April and massacred 13 others in the Dessi area of Doda in May. And in Champnari, 25 of a marriage party were mowed down.

Fear grips the villagers who are fleeing the hills. On July 27 militants struck Surwan and Shan Thakrai, two remote villages in Doda district. Two groups of militants in army fatigues and carrying automatic assault rifles gunned down 17 members of a particular community. Within four days, militants felled four more in Sildhar Dhok, near Prankote.

"In spite of recurring massacres there are no visible efforts to check militancy and instill a sense of security and confidence among the people," said Daya Krishan Kotwal, state BJP President. He wants Doda to be declared a disturbed area so that the army gets more powers to tackle the militants. He also wants the villagers to be given sophisticated weapons to help them set up self-defence committees.

Such a move did not find favour with Syed Ali Gilani, chairman of the All Party Hurriyat Conference. "Why arm the civilians when the army is there?" he asked. There are around 500 village defence committees (VDC) in Doda alone which have repulsed scores of militant attacks. "But when you give arms to a particular community the seeds for communal tensions are sown," argued Gilani.

The VDCs are also vulner-

able as anyone who is associated with them is marked by the militants. "I am their number one target," said Farcoq Khan, a former superintendent of police who claimed the VDCs had "averted many Prankotes". Today he cannot move out of his house for the fear of militants.

The J&K government has requested the Centre for more forces to deal with militancy and for stepping up vigil on the border to check infiltration. "None of these things have happened and innocents are getting killed," said Transport Minister Bashir Ahmad Nengroo. Acknowledging the presence of militants in his state, Himachal Chief Minister Prem Kumar Dhumal too has asked for more Central forces. According to Union special secretary for home, MB Koushal, who was in Chamba following the massacre, the Centre would seek "greater cooperation between the police forces of both states to face the new challenges".

While the Indian and Pakistani Prime Ministers were shaking hands in Colombo, troops of the two countries were exchanging gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC). Twenty four civilians were among the 31 killed in Karnah, Keran, Gurez, Tanghdhar, Teetwal and Uri sectors. The worst affected by the recent spurt of firing and shelling from across the border are Kupwara and Baramulla districts.

According to SP Vaid, DIG police, Baramulla-Kupwara range, the Pakistani troops are targeting civilian localities. Mohammad Husain and his family fled Boniyar in Uri sector when Pak shells killed his two cows and "houses shook like trees in a storm." "It was nothing short of a war," said Hussain who took refuge in Baramulla. Rampur and Sultan Dhaki in the Uri sector are also deserted af-

(Contd. on page 11)

A Chilling reminder the terrorism cannot be a 'state subject'

By Anshu Chaturvedi

The BJP President, Mr Keshubhai Thakre's recent visit to Jammu was revealing in so far as his comments and quotes served to reflect the policy of the country's ruling party. One was amazed when, upon being questioned over the Centre's efforts to curb militancy in the state, he replied, not once but repeatedly, "law and order is a State Subject and the State government must handle it, though the Centre shall extend cooperation..." or words to such effect.

It was a matter of considerable surprise to oneself that the chief of the political organisation which is identified in the public mind with the image of a strong Centre and relentless opposition to terrorism should so casually pass the buck on such a crucial issue. Till any other top leader clarified otherwise, it must be accepted that this

is the official stand of the Centre, since the PM and the Home Minister are true-blooded RSS and BJP functionaries, as indeed is Thakre himself. It is matter of deep regret that events in neighbouring states immediately after Mr Thakre's enlightening comments have served to brutally repudiate this stand.

A couple of days back the Punjab DGP, Mr PC Dogra convened a press conference wherein he state that over 200 kg of RDX seized by the Punjab cops in recent days had been brought in from Pakistan through the Jammu border. Without saying it in so many words, he indicated that the militants were attempting to re-establish their hold in Punjab by operating from safer bases in Jammu region where infiltration was also easier.

Yesterday's carnage of a remote village in Himachal adjoining Doda serves to fur-

ther highlight the fragility of the "State Subject" perspective of terrorism. Himachal has suffered earlier as well through sporadic incidents of extortion, kidnapping and abductions by militants based in Doda who cross over into Chamba when things get too hot for them. It was perhaps with some foresight that the HP CM had spoken just couple of days back of launching combined operations by the JKP and Himachal police in the hilly region separating the two states. He was perhaps disturbed by the death of four Himachal traders at the hands of militants in Doda recently.

What has happened now will truly force his hand into strengthening security measures along the State border. The horrible, totally unprovoked and revolting massacre of nearly three dozen labourers serves to show that

(Contd. on page 11)

Misperceptions about Kashmir Shaivism

By M.L. Koul

The articulation and exposition of the Kashmir strand of philosophy has to be viewed in the backdrop of an active exchange of ideas that went on unabated between Kashmir and Indian subcontinent. Despite being mountain-girt, Kashmir was a recipient of intellectual, religious and philosophical thought waves which fermented and spurred the indigenous genius to make unprecedented contributions to the broad cultural mosaic of India. There are evidences galore which suggest that the roots of Shaivism were embedded in the misty past of Kashmir. The growth and flowering of Shaivite thought, therefore, was the culmination of a process that got generated from the Shaivite centres littering over the entire trans-Himalayan belt. The Shaivite centres presided over by a siddha, a perfect soul, named Trayambaka conceived and propagated the seed ideas of monism which the Kashmir thinkers felt attracted to and deftly utilized to weave a web of thought placed on the pedestal of monism which was at variance with the dualist and pluralist versions in circulation in south of India. The main objective context of such a thought pattern was to counteract and contradict the extremely indeast philosophies of Buddhism which had lost their philosophical and sociological relevance and had failed to satisfy the intellectual and spiritual urges and yearnings of people at large. The philosophy of Shaivism

as evolved by the Kashmir Brahmanical thinkers is monistic in its essence. Its approach and premises, thought constructs and other building blocks are so bonded and welded together that there is no scope for it to deflect away from its essential standpoint. That is why scholars have characterized the Kashmir philosophy as more monistic than monism itself. The system is also featured as integrative as it has culled and gleaned diverse concepts and constructs from contemporary thinking models and schemed them into a system in tune with Tantric enunciations. Para-advait is the name assigned to the thought model by Bhagwan Abhinavagupta who has enriched the system with his monumental contributions without founding a separate school of Shaivism.

It is absolutely misleading to call para-advait philosophy of Kashmir as Trika philosophy. Lacking in in-depth study of the philosophy, both PN Bazaz and PN Bamzai have fallaciously equated the monistic philosophy with Trika, over the Bhairav Tantras. The same is testified by the glaring differences that sunder apart the two systems. The Kashmir monism is tantric in its basic assumptions and as is well known Shankar detested Tantricism in any variety. It has rejected the vivarta theory of Vedanta and has incorporated Maya as a potency of Shiva. Kashmir monism is life-affirming and world affirming and does not subscribe to the vedantic concept of renunciation as a nec-

essary condition for spiritual ascension. It upholds sublimation of bodily senses with a view to yoking them for spiritual aspirations and has opposed their forcible suppression and regression.

PN Bazaz least read in the original texts of Shaivite thought of monism has floated an astounding theory that Trika paved the way for Islam in Kashmir. He has not cared to explain his off the cuff statement in details and has harnessed it as a ploy to give content to his hollow theory of peaceful conversions in Kashmir. On the very face of it the statement needs immediate rejection as Trika which in its essentials is only a mode of worship to achieve higher state of ascension is not even remotely connected with the spread of Islam in Kashmir. To Bazaz, Trika philosophy is basically similar to Islamic philosophy. But, dismaying as it, he has failed to see the essential differences between the two world-views and made a mishmash of it.

The present day votaries of independence for Kashmir have thoughtlessly dragged in Kashmir monistic philosophy to buttress their unfounded thesis of independence. As per them, Kashmir was not only politically independent but was also philosophically independent, as Kashmir Shaivism is different from the thought processes which emerged in the Indian subcontinent. Be it said that no systematic thought can evolve and develop independent of other thought processes. If philosophy is a tree, all systems of

thought are branches of the same tree drawing nourishment from the roots of the same tree. The votaries of the half-baked idea of the independence of Kashmir philosophy should update their learning level by knowing that Kashmir thought of Shaivism is a blend of Buddhist philosophies, Tantric conceptualizing and Panch-ratra views about man, world and ultimate consciousness which is only a mode of worship and meditation. It certainly forms a part of Shaivite praxis but is not so broad in its philosophical scope as to encompass the entire systemic thought content. Trika is one of the pathways that a seeker can take a resort to in his journey towards self-realization or self-recognition. Other pathways available to a spiritual aspirant are Kaula, Mata, Vama et al. Trika, therefore, is only part of the whole system and as such cannot represent the whole.

It is equally fallacious to nomenclature it as Kashmir Shaivism as it does not justify the essential spirit of the thought structure that pervades it to give it a well-cemented unity. The name-tag of Kashmir Shaivism stuck to the system when Dr. J C Chatterjee, the then Director of Research and Archaeology, J&K Government, published his first ever thesis on the subject under the title of Kashmir Shaivism. Kashmir Shaivism is a broad name which embodies within its ambit all the three strands of thought process based on dualist, deal-cum-non-dualist

and non-dualist assumptions. The rationale and motivating spirit of the Kashmir philosophy is the monistic standpoint which runs counter to the dualist and dual-cum-non-dualist positions and postulations. Hence it is incongruous to nomenclature it Kashmir Shaivism. Shaiva Strasan, Trayambaker-Sampradaya and Rahasya-Sampradaya as different nomenclatures are equally lopsided and fallacious.

Scholars not versed in the Shaivite lore and learning have fragmented the para-advait thought model into three schools of Agama, Spanda and Pratyabijna. Agama as the scriptural texts, Spanda as the inherent nature of Shiva and Pratybijna as self-recognition through Shaiva yoga practices and disciplines are integral to the thought structure and are not based on postulations and concepts that are mutually antagonistic. Kula, Krama and Trika are pathways of practice a seeker can adopt in accordance with his intrinsic abilities under the guidance of an illustrious preceptor. These three methodologies of praxes are not independent sub-schools harbouring separate theologies and philosophical content.

That Kashmir monistic philosophy is a Shaivite variant of Shankar Vedanta is also a mis-perception perpetuated by scholars. The fact is that the Shaivite variety of monism is altogether an independent growth and development and was basically determined by the seed ideas, even though amorphous, littered.

by Prof Somnath Dhar

Tea-drinkers of the world unite-raise a cup to China for having introduced tea as a lively beverage as far back as 2737 B.C. It was brought to Europe first in 1610 AD and it rapidly became fashionable. The Chinese kept it to themselves for that long.

In 1823, it was found growing in North India in Assam, as well as in Ceylon (Sri Lanka). As tea drinking became popular, other countries started practising tea cultivation. Today producers include Africa, South America, Georgic, Azerbaijan, Indonesia and Iran. The evergreen shrub, *carmelius sineusis*, belonging to the family Theacraceae, of which the fermented leaves are infused to make a beverage of the same name.

The CUPPA

There is black tea and green tea: the latter is quickly dried before fermentation. Green tea used to be a speciality of Tibet and it used to be exported to Ladakh and Kashmir, as 'brick tea'. One had to chip off tea leaves from each brick, roughly 6" by 3-4" in size. This used to be the most delicious tea. The secret was not to mix sugar, or the smallest quantity of it.

Tea is best taken with sugar found in Russia. The Russians too called it *chai*. Also, in Moscow, I found another word common to Russia and Kashmir: *Kulich* for cake. The difference, however, is that the Russian *kulich* is bigger and more substantial than the Kashmiri one.

Tea is brewed in many ways

all over the world. But the question is asked: what is the best way to make a cuppa? Years ago, in the mid-50's, the question was asked by the *Times*, London. A number of replies were received. Out of these, the paper published the prize-winning entry. I do not have the cutting, but the formula ran on these lines. Put the tea in the kettle. Pour boiling water-an inch or so. Cover the kettle with a cosy. Wait for three minutes or so. This is 'mother liquid'. To it you can now add the required hot water. Serve. Add milk and sugar to taste.

You will notice that the tea brewed like this has a better flavour. Never go for tea that is boiled too much:

nicotine is produced that way, which is bad for digestion. Kashmiris make one kind of tea that is boiled this way, to which they add salt, which is also not a healthful beverage. But drinking another Kashmiri tea, called *kahva* made in a samovar, is an out-of-the-world experience. Anybody who has it wants more, again and again.

In the 1920's, Maharaja Hari Singh had appointed a Scout Commissioner. We, students used to call on him at his houseboat near the first bridge, at Amirakadal. The Commissioner had two hobbyhorses: one was to make Kashmiris give up eating meat, and the other was to make them forsake tea. He never realised that Kashmiris only ate meat

when they could afford it, and drank tea because the cold climate demanded it, and also that it was intimately bound up with Kashmiri customs. The Commissioner gave us long lectures on the evils of meat eating, and we always (hypocritically) assured him that we had given up this pernicious habit. He also advocated herbal (horrible) tea made from strips of peeled organs. We used to sip this stuff-much to his delight.

In the Japanese Tea Ceremony, the ritual is intricate and traditionally the pottery is passed on from one generation to the next with awe and veneration. But it takes a Japanese to appreciate the subtle flavours of the tea ceremony. The rest of the world, unfortunately, only finds the tea a let-down after the long song-and-dance ses-

(Contd. on page 11)

TERRORISTS TRAINING CAMPS ORGANISED BY ISI (CONTINUED)-1990			
Sl. No.	Location of Traing Camp	When estab- lished	Details
1.	PALANDARI (POK-Poonch)	1987	JKLF terrorists given training
2.	PALANGI (NQ-1084)	1989	Details not known
3.	HAJIRA (NQ-9770)	1989	Details not known
1.	SAMBLI DAM Islamabad	1/90	Kashmiri separatist given commando traing by ISI instructors
2.	KAMRI (NL-9693)	1/90	Training given to clean shaven Sikhs.
3.	MAAKRI	1/90	Training camp for JKLF groups
4.	MUZAFFARABAD (NL-5041)	1/90	--do--
5.	MIRPUR (NL-8351)	1/90	--do--
6.	RAWALKOT	1/90	Joint training camp for JKLF, Hizbul Mujahideen
7.	CHAKOTHI (NL-9212)	1/90	Training camp JKLF
8.	CHAKLALA AIR BASE	1/90	Joint training camp for JKLF & Hizbul Mujahideen
9.	ATHMUQAM	1/90	Training imparted to JKLF & Dukhtaran-e Millaat (female wing of Hizbul Mujahideen) terrorists.
10.	DUDHNIHAL	1/90	JKLF group
11.	GOJARAN (NL-4939)	1/90	To counter MQM, some Muhajir women also given training here.
12.	GUJARANWALA	1/90	JKLF group
13.	CHINARI	2/90	Details not clear.
14.	CHIRAT	2/90	Training imparted by ISI to JKLF & other groups.
15.	DOMEL	2/90	Training camp for JKLF
16.	DADIAL	2/90	--do--
17.	RAWALKOTE-II	2/90	JKLF separatist trained by Pak Army
18.	JARI KAS near MANGLA	2/90	50 Kashmiri separatists trained by ISI instructors on behalf of Pak Army
19.	FATEH JANG located in SAKESAR Jungle of Distt: Attock.	2/90	Training camp for JKLF
20.	MANG BAZARI (NQ-73910)	2/90	Training camp for Muslim JANBAZ force.
21.	RUDAN	3/90	Training imparted by Ex-Servicemen of Pak Army.
22.	BHIMBER	3/90	Training camp for JKLF terrorists
23.	BATRASI (NL-3444)	4/90	Kashmiri terrorists trained by Afghan instructors
24.	BALAKOTE (NL-3562)	5/90	Details not clear
25.	GOJARAN II	5/90	Muslim Janbaz force training camp
26.	KAHUTA (NR-1685)	6/90	Details not clear
27.	NILAM (NL-9578)	6/90	Training camp for Kashmiri women terrorists.
28.	BIMBER II	6/90	No details.
29.	BERI	6/90	Training camp for JKLF and Hizbul Mujahideen groups
31.	CHAL-KOT	6/90	Training camp for JKLF
32.	CHEELA (NQ-7193)	6/90	--do--
33.	CHAKAR SURMA	6/90	--do--
34.	CHATTAR	6/90	Details of the trainees affiliation not clear.
35.	BAGH (NQ-9295)	8/90	Camp for JKLF
36.	GOJARAN III	8/90	Training imparted to People's League activists
37.	HATALPUL	8/90	Training was being imparted by SSG
38.	HAMSERI	8/90	Details not clear.
39.	KOTLI (Eastern Bank of Poonch River)	10/90	20 JKLF activists from Kashmir
40.	RAWALPINDI	11/90	Training imparted to Tehrik-i-Huriyat Azadi, Kashmir.
41.	DHANNA (NM-2186)	12/90	Hizbul training centre.

Readers Please

We welcome suggestions and inputs from our readers to make Kashmir Sentinel more effective and interesting. Articles and write ups on Kashmir related issues may be sent to us duly typed.

Editorial Board
KASHMIR SENTINEL

Exiled community needs immediate employment, proper educational facilities and health care

(Contd. from page 7)

DEATH DURING EXILE

= 143 (Three died by snakebites Two die in one family Alone because of snakebite)

BIRTHS DURING EXILE

222

Families solely dependent on financial relief of Rs 1800/-

253

Families dependent on salaries, include particularly

belonging to the category pensioners.

245

Problems of unemployment

Total claimants for immediate employment on 8th April, 1998 = 669

With BA/BSC/B.Com	= 53%
MA/MSC	= 40%
M.phil	= 3
Ph.D	= 1

Unemployment

Age Group	= Above 40 years	2
	= 30-40 years	98
	= 25-30	447
	= 20-25	122

Prevalent Diseases

A. Asthma	105 cases
B. Heart Ailments	46 cases
C. Neurotic Problem	98 cases
D. Diabetic	105 cases
E. Blood pressure	111 cases
F. Depression	208 cases
G. Other diseases	27 cases

District wise Breakup of Migrants from Kashmir in Muthi Camp

1. Srinagar	= 74
2. Anantnag	= 170
3. Pulwama	= 69
4. Budgam	= 17
5. Baramulla	= 73
6. Kupwara	= 95
Total	498 Families

Response of Government as surveyed by the volunteers, Good/Bad/Insufficient

Good	= 16
Bad/Disgusting	= 468 families
Insufficient	= 14 families

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY

The survey of 183 pages gives a grim picture of the inhabitants of the Muthi Camp of Phase I & II. Inadequate living space has created terrible psychological problems like irritating temperament, depressions and pessimistic view of life. An average family of 4 members get\$ 4x5 living space for per member for managing day to day living. They seem to have lost faith in the system and its edifice, with growing unemployment at an alarming rate the age group of 25-30, 30-40 they are terribly frustrated and most of them are confronted with bouts of depression. In case we fail to utilise them in gainful employment there is every apprehension of social conflicts and their mental stagnation. As per the survey it was observed that 468 families expressed their disgust and anger with the governmental role. Only 16 families expressed satisfaction with the role of government and about 19 families said the government need to be more responsive to their dire need.

Going through the survey the thrust areas for families:

1. An immediate recruitment drive from the governmental agencies to facilitate the rehabilitation of the families.
2. Young scholars reading in schools require immediate textbooks and other educational inputs as the families are finding it very difficult to sustain the education of their children. This aspect could be taken care by the voluntary organizations, community organisations and NGO's apart from the governmental agencies. Our volunteers have assured the residents of Muthi Camp of their fullest cooperation and their help in launching a drive for books and other educational inputs for these needy students. They have also offered their fullest co-operation in giving free tutions to the students who need this facility.

Another aspect which needs the fullest help and co-operation from the government is in the sphere of Health and sanitation. The type of diseases which are prevalent in the camps, the residents need constant medication and doctor's attention. With exorbitant rates in medicines and doctors, care, a free medical mobile dispensary must be opened in the camp with "SPECIALISTS" visiting the camp frequently. The volunteers identified some families, which are crippled physically and financially for want of the medical assistance for some of their patients. A resident living in Q.No: C/28, their child is suffering from heart problem V.S.D. and for his constant medication they require badly the financial and medical assistance from the government. These families must be provided free medicines and medical aid and with meager allowances of Rs 1800. It is very difficult for the families to cope with medical bills. The camps needs improvement in sanitation and hygiene. With erratic water supply even for days together at times, the camps have terrible problem in the scorching summer. The government must arrange proper water supply and electric supply for the camp residents.

The government, the voluntary organisations have to rise to the occasion to comprehend the human tragedy of this section of displaced community, who seem to have become victims of neglect and indifference. Some of the families being victims of militants killings, identified by the volunteers have till date not been able to get the governmental jobs. It is imperative for the government to appoint and adjust such cases on humanitarian grounds, without any further delay. One old lady in her late 80's demanded nothing except her desire to return to their home and neighbourhood in Kashmir. Volunteers assured her of early return.

As N.S.S. volunteers believing in the dignity of human life, scientific temper, liberal outlook, fabric of secularism and ethos of national integration, assured the residents of Muthi of sensitivity of the system, the rule of law and good Governance. The volunteers assured the residents of their care and concern, they being themselves displaced, so they can comprehend and visualise the agony and turbulence. At the same time believing in the just system and the cherished ideals of constitution and laws of the state, the volunteers felt that the laws of the state have to be animate not in-animate so as to be sensitive to projection of the every section of the community. The volunteers assured the residents of the Projection of the magnitude of their problems to the functionaries of the government and the voluntary organisations and their resolve to help them.

Creating a new cesspool

(Contd. from page 1)

ment assumed reigns, a list of 659 persons was reportedly sent to the relief commissioner's office for entitlement for registration and cash relief. Many influential politicians are said to have their quota of ration cards either against fake names or against the names of those persons who are not bonafide 'migrants'.

The new registration of migrants, particularly belonging to Muslim community has also increased during recent times. As per reports, the new registration carried out recently during the time of elected government numbers around 5000. Most of these new migrants are Muslims. As per sources out of 2000 cases of new Muslim migrants sent to DIG-CID for police verification 1102 have been found to be fake. Political interference not only has encouraged registration on fake certificates but has also exerted pressure for scuttling any proper verification of cases by concerned departments.

One of the most intriguing aspects of the entire affair is the appointment of favoured persons as drawing and disbursing authorities. As per convention and also the rules, government at the very inception of the relief organisation had decided to appoint Tehsildars, Naib-Tehsildars or employees of an equivalent grade as the drawing and disbursing au-

thorities. This practice has been given up and now even favoured employees of lower grades like junior teachers or draftsman are being appointed as drawing and disbursing authorities.

As per reports a relative of a cabinet minister was appointed in the relief organisation in Sarwaal Zone. Placement in the relief department has become a prized posting. Employees are ready to pay even Rs 30,000 to get adjusted in such zones of relief organisation which in the corrupt parlance are referred to as 'payable zones'.

People also complain against relegating to much authority in a few persons and attribute the rise of corruption to this practice as well. For example one Sh PP Gupta is reported to be heading all the so called 'payable' departments like Accounts, Bifurcation, Establishment etc. It is also alleged that while genuine bifurcation of Hindu migrants is rarely allowed, Muslim migrants bifurcation of family is relatively an easier affair.

While as people still hope that the government will rise to the occasion and clean the mess in the relief organisation, doubts that the recent reshuffle in relief organisation was basically aimed at only deflecting public opinion, continue to multiply undermining the faith of people in this organisation.

A chilling reminder that terrorism cannot be a 'State Subject'

(Contd. from page 8)

bloodshed and savagery are not bound by administrative boundaries, unlike what Mr. Thakre would like us to believe. Will the Centre now accept responsibility for the Chamba incident or will it pass it on to the Himachal administration as a "law and order problem" and expect the 303-equipped HP police to flush out the terrorists? If this indeed is the policy, then it is an absurd one, to say the least.

While routine law and order maintenance is truly a subject for which the State government is responsible, Mr Thakre and Mr Advani would do well to remember

that insurgency, terrorism and savagery are never confined to administrative boundaries. Challenges to the nation's integrity must be handled by the Centre, which must squarely and fairly accept responsibility for the advent of terrorism in Himachal. Now, what is needed is the handing over of the Doda/Chamba belt to a single Central office--preferably the Army--and joint operations by security personnel of both states so that these terrorists are eliminated before they entrench themselves. These aberrations in human form must be exterminated. Or should we expect a statement by Sh Thakre, Advani and Co.--Mr Dhumal is responsible for restoring normalcy, since this issue is a State Subject. 'Wake up, Shrimanji! We are still waiting for a glimpse of 'pro-activism'

Courtesy:Himalyan Mail

A Bloody Run

(Contd. from page 8)

ter shelling claimed seven lives.

"It was a rain of shells", recalled Roshan Bee, who sustained splinter injuries and lost her father in the firing on Sultan Dhaki. "We have lost everything," added Showkat Hussain, 22, whose shop was burnt down in Tanghdar in Kupwara district, 17 civilians were killed when shells pounded the army hospital in the hilly township. "It is a clear design to instill fear in the populace," said an army officer. And it has had an impact.

Courtesy: The Week

Displaced students suffering one way or the other

(Contd. from page 4)

displaced students in camp colleges in Jammu continued with the summer schedule. After a lot of persuasion the authorities agreed to consider the case of this class and allow them to complete their normal academic year.

However the fate of other classes remains hanging in uncertainty as no formal decision has been taken on the entire issue. "Problem can be solved if Kashmir University agrees to declare camp colleges in Jammu as a Summer Zone as in case of Board", said B.L.Zutshi, who over the years has worked selflessly

for the cause of displaced students.

2nd and 3rd year students of BA-BSc-BCom fear that such a situation may force almost the entire batch of the classes to drop one year, as it is impossible to prepare a degree course in just two months. "Government invents problems for us. There are very simple solutions to these problems. It must be giving only some sadistic pleasure to those at helm in the valley. They make us to suffer one way or the other", said a displaced student of MAM College who is not sure as to when his degree course will be completed.

Panun Kashmir Demonstrates against Mass killings in Jammu, HP

(Contd. from page 1)

logue between the two countries and seek outside mediation." Dr Bhan termed the demand for creation of a union territory for the community in Kashmir valley as justified so that political, social and economic rights are restored to the ethnic minorities facing the onslaughts of Muslim terrorism.

While condemning the role of Pakistan, Sh. Romesh Razdan working committee

A Cuppa

(Contd. from page 9)

sion conducted by the pretty Geishas.

Then there is mint tea, and for medicinal purposes, tulsi tea. Western scientists refuse to acknowledge the healing properties of most herbal teas, and mutter dark warnings about quacks. But they have recently identified a class of compounds in tea called flavonoids that they claim have remarkable anti-cancer properties. Too bad, they all get destroyed as soon as you add milk? Might one suspect that the Westerners are trying to brainwash us into drinking tea without what we call milk, and they call cream? Well, like I said, they have been trying to brainwash us for centuries. Partially successful, at least since this piece is written in English!

Today there are literally dozens of herbal teas. But Darjeeling tea continues to rule the roost. Too bad, it is all exported and few of us can afford it! Just like, the weavers in Kanchipuram can not afford the sarees they themselves weave. But that is another story.

member of PANUN KASHMIR said that Pakistan has no right to advocate for Kashmiri Muslims since it is still treating its own people in Pakistan as "Mohajirs" and denied them their basic rights. "Pakistan's main aim is to grab Kashmir in the name of religious war 'Jihad' and they are bound to fail said Sh Razdan.

Mrs Nancy Koul programme coordinator, PANUN KASHMIR while speaking to press urged US government to declare Pakistan a terrorist state and demanded from Union government to declare "Doda Rajouri and Poonch as disturbed areas and protect the life and property of innocent citizens.

Other Kashmiri Pandit leaders who addressed the demonstrators were Sh H.N. Jattu, President All India Kashmiri Pandit Conference, Sh Triloki Nath Wanchoo, General Secretary All India Kashmiri Samaj, Sh HK Koul President All India Displaced Employees Forum, Sh NN Ziju, Vice President Kashmiri Samiti Delhi, Prof ML Raina and Sh YN Trisal Senior Panun Kashmir Activists.

A delegation of KP leaders latter on met Secretary Political Affairs Pakistan embassy and conveyed him to immediately stop sponsoring terrorist activities and inhu-

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Tashkent Declaration

The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan, having met at Tashkent and having discussed the existing relations between India and Pakistan, hereby declare their firm resolve to restore normal and peaceful relations between their countries and to promote understanding and friendly relations between their peoples. They consider the attainment of these objectives of vital importance for the welfare of the 600 million people of India and Pakistan.

I
The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan agree that both sides will exert all efforts to create good neighbourly relations between India and Pakistan in accordance with the United Nations Charter. They reaffirm their obligation under the Charter not to have recourse to force and to settle their disputes through peaceful means. They considered that the interests of peace in their region and particularly in the Indo-Pakistan sub-continent and, indeed, the interests of the peoples of India and Pakistan were not served by the continuance of tension between the two countries. It was against this background that Jammu and Kashmir was discussed, and each of the sides set forth its respective position.

II
The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that all armed personnel of the two countries shall be withdrawn not later than 25 February, 1996, to the positions they held prior to 5 August, 1965, and both sides shall observe the cease-fire terms on the cease-fire line.

III
The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that relations between India and Pakistan shall be based on the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of each other.

IV
The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that both sides will discourage any propaganda directed against the other country, and will encourage propaganda which promotes the development of friendly relations between the two countries.

V
The Prime Minister of India and the President have agreed that the High Commissioner of India to Pakistan and the High Commissioner of Pakistan to India will return to their posts and that the normal functioning of diplomatic missions of both countries will be restored. Both Government shall observe the Vienna Convention of 1961 on Diplomatic Intercourse.

VI
The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed to consider measures towards the restoration of economic and trade relations, communications, as well as cultural exchanges between India and Pakistan, and to take measures to implement the existing agreements between India and Pakistan.

VIII
The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that the two sides will continue the discussions of questions re-

lating to the problems of refugees and evictions/illegal immigrations. They also agreed that both sides will create conditions which will prevent the exodus of people. They further agree to discuss the return of the property and assets taken over by either side in connection with the conflict.

IX
The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan have agreed that the two sides will continue meetings both at the highest and at other levels on matters of direct concern to both countries. Both sides have recognised the need to set up joint Indian-Pakistan bodies which will report to their Governments in order to decide what further steps should be taken.

The Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan record their feelings of deep appreciation and gratitude to the leaders of the Soviet Union, the Soviet Government, and personally to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR for their constructive, friendly and noble part in bringing about the present meeting which has resulted in mutually satisfactory results. They also express to the Government and friendly people of Uzbekistan their sincere thankfulness for their overwhelming reception and generous hospitality.

They invite the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR to witness this Declaration.

Prime Minister of India
Lal Bahadur Shastri
President of Pakistan
Mohammed Ayub Khan
Tashkent, 10 January 1966

Stop casual postering in POK

(Contd. from page 3)

"why not", Orestov retorted "that would be the negation of the entire game of the imperialists." British colonialists did not want a link up with the Pakhtoons, who had great respect for Badshah Khan. In doing so the British plan would fall through.

Not only that, George Cunningham, the Governor-General of NWFP at the time of partition, had written a letter to Lord Mountbatten divulging information that Pakistan was sending armed tribesmen to Kashmir. There are conflicting versions on who sub-

sequently handled this vital piece of information. According to one version, the letter was forwarded to Prime Minister Nehru by the Viceroy. Nehru later admitted in Parliament of having accidentally destroyed the crucial document.

India has to live with the reality that so long as Paki-

stan exists as a confessional state, it will continue to keep Kashmir problem alive. Given its own contradictions, Pakistan is bound to break up. Why should our politicians be so casual in renouncing our claim to PoK, which legally and morally belongs to India. History will have its verdict.

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Militancy in J&K from August 1-15

August 2, 16 killed--	10 militants, one civilian, 3 army helpers and 2 Army jawans.
August 3, 44 killed--	38 civilians including 35 in Chamba (H.P.), 5 militants and one JCO.
August 4, 40 killed--	33 civilians including 20 in Surankote (Poonch), 6 militants and two jawans.
August 5, 17 killed--	7 militants, 6 civilians and 4 jawans.
August 10, 27 killed--	17 militants, 7 civilians and 3 Armymen.

Ghost of militancy still haunts Punjab

KS Correspondent

Recalling the bloody days of '80's, Punjab situation is far more normal than many other states in India. But, the memories of militancy, ISI's game plan to regroup Punjab militants and above all terrorism in neighbouring J&K, are giving sleep-less nights to Punjab police. Thorough searches are being conducted and even night bus services have been withdrawn till 15th August to avoid any untoward incident.

Meanwhile, red alert has been sounded in entire Jammu region amidst reports that militants may strike in a big way on the eve of Independence Day and Janamashtmi.

Thorough checkings are

being made and combing operation was launched in Muslim dominated localities in out skirts of Jammu city after reports about militants presence in the city. Reportedly 5 militants were seen in the out-skirts of Jammu carrying guns.

Like Punjab, night bus services have also been withdrawn from Jammu region. Though militants failed to strike in a big way, yet the school children had a providential escape when militants fired and hurled grenades on I-Day rehearsal at Darhal (Rajouri). Militants also showered rockets in the twin districts of Poonch and Rajouri on Independence Day. However, there was no casualty.

With compliments

from

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