

Sahkar Se Samridhhi - Cooperative Movement

Ever since the registration of first cooperative society in 1905 at Kanaginahal by Sri SS Ramanagouda Patil in Karnataka, Indian Cooperative movement has progressed leaps and bounds. The Industrial revolution was a death blow to village industries leaving only agriculture as source of employment and livelihood. Excessive taxation, illogical lending rates, illegal exaction lead farmers to bankruptcy and distress. The need of agricultural sector for seasonal loans and their exploitation by private money lenders ultimately necessitated the need to have cooperative banks/societies. As early as 1904 cooperative movement was made a State Policy as such the Cooperative Societies Act was enacted. Right now Indian Cooperative System is the biggest in the world, agriculture and allied sectors are flourishing on basis of cooperative societies only. Around .85 million cooperative societies with 290 million members, 17 national cooperative societies, 390 state level federations, 2705 district federations and around ten thousand Primal Agricultural Societies are working to lead the Indian Cooperative Movement. NAFED, IFFCO, AMUL are few most successful model cooperatives. Maharashtra is leading Cooperative Movement with 1.78 lakh cooperative societies, 50 percent state population connected, 31 district cooperative banks, one society for two villages against national average of 6 villages per society, 65 percent state credit for agriculture through cooperative credit system against national average of 35 percent, agriculture and sugar being major focus area. Even neighbouring Punjab has successful cooperatives like Verka and Sugar mills with 20 Cooperative Banks. Maharashtra, Punjab and other states have their own failure stories as well. Jammu and Kashmir also witnessed cooperative revolution but like other sectors nepotism, corruption, favouritism and lopsided policies totally ruined the cooperative societies of Jammu and Kashmir. Fact is all Cooperative Banks of Jammu and Kashmir are running in losses, restrained by RBI, without Central Banking System and some branches even without computerisation. There was plan to merge these banks in 2020 which was ultimately withheld after HMO's intervention and focus on cooperative movement in Jammu and Kashmir got renewed as in present scenario cooperatives are the most viable way out for unemployment issues. Recapitalisation plan has been worked but this is one part to get out of mess. Unless serious inadequacies in day to day governing and board members responsibilities gets fixed, NPAs will keep on rising making recapitalisation irrelevant over a period of time. No business module can work without profit and as such professional approach is must. Jammu & Kashmir Milk Producer's Co-operative Limited is classic example, Milk plants started in 1959 at Kashmir and 1970 in Jammu, turned into societies in 1983 then shut down in 2004 after years of losses, merged and revived with support of Amul.

Things are fast changing under Cooperation Ministry as every effort is being made to revive defunct societies and focus now on registering new societies with viable working plan in place. Government is providing even trainings to thousands of youth to reap the fruits of cooperative movement. Special focus being on women and youth empowerment, various departments are working in tandem to help these societies with financial, planning and marketing aid at different levels. Jammu and Kashmir has enough talent and products to have a national level recognition, it's just question of guidance and help from government. Sahkar Se Samridhhi is the tagline in India @75 year, factually Gol and LG Administration are putting extra efforts to put derailed Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Movement back on track.

JAKFED issues still unresolved

On one hand India is celebrating the 69th All India Cooperative Week while on other hand employees of erstwhile JAKFED (Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Limited) are running pillar to post for their pending dues since 2019 when it was closed after decision of State Administrative Council after years of continuous huge losses. At the time of winding up, JAKFED had around two hundred twenty plus employees who were assured adjustment to other departments or VRS under rules. Total liabilities were around one hundred seven crores but JAKFED had assets of hundred odd crores which were to be liquidated to clear liabilities also. Once a success story of selling fertilizers and seeds and then reckless expansion into every business from supply of domestic gas to cement to grocery and what not and ultimately proving story of jack of everything but master of none true. Practically rampant mismanagement, pilferage, corruption, embezzlement, excess staff, improper records keeping and what not happened with officers to clerks all hand in glove. The saga of fleeing exchequer money ended under watchful eyes of Gol. But fate of its employees remain undecided till now. Though some lucky ones got adjusted in Jammu and Kashmir and some other in Ladakh but all others are department less since 2019. Neither assets have been sold off due to ambiguities in land title nor VRS scheme rolled out and none of them got their dues or salaries. Employees only follow policies of bureaucrats deployed by administration but as in other cases no bureaucrat was held accountable for year after year dismissal performance, which still goes on with JAKFED rented out assets, but these employees have been made to suffer for too long now. With CIC intervention it is time now for administration to remove all hurdles and come out with a way to sort out the things to wind up the entire process in the most appropriate manner, deciding fate of employees, their salaries as well as VRS option.

Treat 1947 PoJK DPs equally

Ronik Sharma (Advocate)

In the past more than eight years, the Central Government, under the charismatic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has exhibited impressive sincerity and concern for addressing a variety of social issues in Jammu and Kashmir as well as resolving the various problems of the general populace that went unnoticed during the period of successive governments for unknown reasons. The 1947 Displaced Persons of Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK DPs), who reside in Jammu and Kashmir and other states throughout the country, have fought for their rightful demands for a long time and are still doing so. Their situation did not improve during the tenures of successive state governments or central governments. One of the major aspects that has remained unattended since the post-displacement of the Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir displaced persons is the resettlement and rehabilitation of the elderly and infirm, the young generation, women, widows, orphans, etc. During the post-displacement period, the welfare measures were in poor condition. Various welfare programmes in the former state of Jammu and Kashmir were unnoticed and neglected as a result of the careless approach of the then government. All of these circumstances led to the dispersal of a significant portion of society, forcing some to seek safety in different locations in Jammu, while others who received no assistance were compelled to flee the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. In order to ensure their own survival as well as the survival of future generations, the displaced people from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir had to face a harsh life across the nation. In one of the sad stories of Purshotam Lal Gupta (whose family is currently in Delhi), a victim of displacement from Mirpur (POJK), he was born in Mirpur Khas in 1926.

He passed his F.A. there and became the head teacher of a school in Mirpur. He also got married there and had a son, who was one year old at the time of his displacement in 1947. On November

25, 1947, which is called Mirpur Fall Day, suddenly the Pakistan Army in civil uniform attacked Mirpur. Immediately, there was uproar everywhere. The Pakistani army had explosives with them. They were throwing it on houses, and houses were burned immediately. After this chaotic situation, he and his family left their house in Mirpur immediately. He had money in his folded shirt arm. His family stepped out on any side where they found a path. On the way, they ran into some relatives and acquaintances. So they joined them and kept walking, carrying his one-year-old son. They encountered numerous difficulties along the way. They also saw that some of their Muslim neighbours and Muslim house helpers, who had lived with them for years, had also joined the Pakistani army. They were kidnapping young girls and women; they even raped some of them and took some of them along with them.

Some of the ladies jumped into the well, and his wife also jumped into the well so that Muslims would not take her along with them. Only a few girls or ladies survived, and the rest were raped, mercilessly killed, thrown into the river or well, or taken along with the attackers. This is considered to be the biggest genocide in the world. In another story of Om Prakash Sarafajji who used to live at Murda Gali, in front of Jama Masjid, Mirpur Khas before displacement. He had big three shops of jewelry in addition to other residential properties in Mirpur. In front of him, the Pakistani army, with the support of locals, tied the arms of around 100 young boys to their backsides with a rope, beat them brutally and mercilessly, and threw them half-dead there. He also requested that attackers shoot him with a gun so that he would die immediately rather than suffer from frequent pains, but he later managed to flee the scene. After escaping the clutches of Pakistani army he found a new lease on life. He had also witnessed that the Pakistani army, with the support of locals, was removing the jewellery from the dead bodies in many areas. In the Alibeg Camp, potassium cyanide was being distributed so that people ate it and died immedi-

ately. One of his sisters was also kidnapped by the locals for forced marriage. A different tragic tale is that of Bharat Bhushan Gupta, who was just five years old when the Pakistani army began storming Mirpur.

His parents and grandparents told him the story of what happened on November 25, 1947, when many innocent people were murdered in front of them and some of their own family members were also brutally murdered by the assailants while their other family members managed to flee the scene. After finding refuge in various places, they were forced to leave the former state of Jammu and Kashmir for reasons that are still unclear. They arrived in Delhi after a few months. After arriving in Delhi, they spent a significant amount of time working hard to support their children before returning to a regular life. There are numerous other upsetting and painful incidents like this. The terrible reality is that, even after more than seven decades have passed, the coming generations of displaced persons are still contending for their legal, political, constitutional rights and among other things. Even the successive governments in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir acted as stepmothers to the displaced families living outside of Jammu and Kashmir. Even politics was played here, with the statement that the displaced families who are living outside J&K had opted to settle there for their own good.

The J&K Administration, issued a Notification dated May 16, 2020, for registration of displaced person before the Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (Migrants), Jammu, for the purpose of issuing a domicile certificate to displaced persons living outside J&K. In the absence of any guidelines issued by the J&K Administration, initially, the applications were rejected. Many applications were also rejected three times. Registration for the online portal began on July 22, 2020. Then the functioning became more streamlined. Earlier, the displaced persons living outside J&K were not even considered residents of J&K State because the state government considered that they had opt-

ed themselves to settle in other states and Union Territories for their betterment, which was a wrong perception made by the successive government in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir. These families suffered compulsion for more than seventy years despite being Jammu and Kashmir's state subjects. The cause of each of these issues was the same: the failed political leadership or any authority in Jammu and Kashmir never attempted to take care of them. Furthermore, there was never any effort made to find out how these people were doing or to return them to Jammu and Kashmir.

They were disregarded for a very long time because of all these factors. Except a meager ex-gratia payment given in 60s not only to everyone but only to few, no compensation or relief of any kind has ever been given by the Central Government or the Jammu and Kashmir Government to the displaced persons living outside Jammu and Kashmir, and they are still called as "displaced persons." of Pakistan Occupied Jammu and Kashmir. With their hard work only, all the displaced families could manage their time. Last but not the least, the present government at the centre should treat the Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir displaced persons living outside J&K at par with the displaced persons living within Jammu and Kashmir. The central government as well as the Union Territory Administration must not delay in disbursing the Rehabilitation Package of Rs. 5.5 lakhs to each displaced family who is living outside Jammu and Kashmir, which was already announced by the present government at the center. To address all the concerns of the displaced people residing outside Jammu and Kashmir, it is suggested to establish a nodal authority in Delhi and in Jammu and Kashmir. There should be no delay in the allocation of lands to displaced persons of Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir who are residing outside of Jammu and Kashmir within Jammu and Kashmir in lieu of the movable and immovable properties left behind due to the forced displacement by Pakistan.

J&K reduced to a glorified municipality

Harsh Dev Singh

The State of J&K created by the dogra rulers and warriors with their countless sacrifices stands dismantled. Not only the status of J&K changed after August 5, 2019 decision but its nomenclature as well. Earlier a State, now a Union Territory. Something unheard and unseen in the history of Independent India. We often talk of promotion and advancement but what we actually got in the name of reformation is demotion. Our constitution provides a specific procedure for creation of new states but nowhere does it provide for conversion of a State into a Union Territory. But then everything is possible in BJP regime. As they say, "Modi hai to Mumkin hai". No bars, No red lines. Decisions can be taken in the middle of the night and implemented in the wee hours of the morning deliriously unmindful of the public sentiment. After all the people of J&K have to fall in line. For it is the saffron rule. And when saffron speaks you have to listen. Listen and to obey. My way or the Highway. The law of the rulers is very clear.

August 5, 2019 was a fateful day. None was aware of the proposed re-organization of J&K when the bill was suddenly introduced on this day in the Parliament and passed the very same day. Not only the common masses but even the political leadership including parliamentarians were mystified and befuddled by the impromptu introduction of the most significant bill, affecting the destiny of 13 million people of J&K, without any prior notice or information. Its passage was also ensured in the Parliament in the very same speed in which it was introduced. And before the political leadership of J&K could realize what had been done to their state, they were behind the bars. In the winking of an eye, the historical dogra state of J&K was dismantled and reduced to the status of UT.

The transition of state to UT has had its own repercussions. It's not merely demotion but disempowerment as well. The fallouts are too many to recount. In the first instance the Democratic values would get weakened and debilitated as the elected members, if at all the elections are held in J&K, would lose most of the powers which are usually conferred upon regular members of a state legislature.

While the new arrangement in the UT would witness disempowerment of the MLAs and Min-

Further there are certain bills which have necessarily to be presented to the President of India for his assent and approval. The law making powers of the elected representatives therefore also become subjective and restrictive in a UT.

Making the political executive subservient to bureaucracy was most likely to prove counterproductive besides adversely impacting the administrative functioning in a political system. It is an anti-thesis to the very spirit of democracy. The MLAs, Ministers and the Chief Minister would

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isters to a great extent, the union govt and its nominated functionaries would have an enhanced role in the affairs of the new set up. Not only the role of political executive in the affairs of state would get diminished in the new UT, but the legislative powers of the legislators would also be prejudicially affected. For instance, a bill passed by State legislature can be returned once by the Governor for re-consideration of the legislators and if it is again passed by them in the same form, the Governor can't decline assent to the bill. In a Union Territory, however, the Lt. Governor is empowered not only to propose amendments but can decline to give approval to the bill and send any bill to the President of India for his consideration.

lose not only in terms of powers but in position and stature as well with several constitutional authorities and bureaucrats attaining positions higher than them in the administrative hierarchy as enunciated in the warrant of precedence. Pertinent to note that J&K was earlier an independent state with a Maharaja. It was followed by a Prime Minister and Sadar-e-riyasat for the state which eventually made way for CM and Governor. And now with a lame CM's post and Lt. Governor to take over, it had got reduced to a glorified municipality.

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old Dogra state was an absurd act of histrionics which could not be justified by any stretch of imagination. It is being termed as a sinister move that has not only lowered the morale of the people of J&K but caused huge disenchantment in their hearts and minds. J&K was the only Dogra state in the country which was conceptualized and created by Dogra rulers with countless sacrifices made by the warrior clan. History bears the testimony that J&K State acceded to Union of India in 1947 which was only due to the historic decision taken by then Maharaja Hari Singh despite all pressures. The demotion of the state to the level of Union Territory was not only unprecedented in the history but amounted to huge disparagement of the patriotic Dogras of Jammu region.

The last few years have etched several creases on our faces. Even a seriously attempted smile fails to deliver the punch that it once carried. Fear psychosis has gripped the incarcerated land of J&K. There is a kind of confusion writ large on the faces of people in general. Is this the realization of something terribly going wrong with the erstwhile state of J&K? Or is this a feeling of guilty conscience for remaining mute spectators in the wake of multiple dents being inflicted upon the very dignity and pride of the people of erstwhile State. Whatever it may be, the situation surely calls for a deep introspection and soul searching by the saner elements, academicians and civil society members. With their role fast squeezing in the socio-political landscape of the new UT, the political parties except the ruling party too seem to be fast becoming irrelevant in the new set up. Despite having been the oldest state, we are getting demeaned and diminished with each passing day and invariably reduced to a sort of incorporated borough.

Sad but true.
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Shradda demands justice

Shiban Khaibri

That it can happen in this country is undoubtedly unbelievable but the stark fact is that it has happened six months ago reportedly on May 18. An act of absolute medieval barbarity which is blood curdling and spine chilling that a human being - a woman - is not only killed but chopped into 35 pieces and disposed of in instalments within a period of 15 days. What is intriguing, however, is that such an act of absolute savagery and heart piercing is not uniformly condemned across the country but only with "qualifications" through various headlines and reactions from some political parties especially under the alibi of "not giving it a religious colour". At once, the element of religion is brought in which is wont in this country and that unfortunately for this country as it is not the only instance where so called love relationship with partners of two different faiths has ended in such a sordid and gruesome manner. It is again a question of where are such yawning gaps and various loopholes in our families where children are not brought up under a disciplined and well inculcated traditions based on the great ancient religio-cultural legacies which in common parlance we call "sanaskars". Materialism has in most of the cases brought in the families more than required "liberty" which very often lead to committing of such heinous crimes. Anyway, Shradda could have been anybody's daughter in the country but it is shocking that the lobby has chosen to be silent.

That dangerous Satans live and roam about prying for their victims and using internet for their modus operandi has become evident as per the statement of the barbarian killer AftabAmeenPoonawala whom Shradda trusted and loved even forsaking her parents not knowing the fate of such relationship which is called live-in-relationship. The law of the land is giving its full permission as "a man and a woman can live together if they wish without marrying

"......such a relationship is legal between consenting adults provided parameters of age of marriage, consent and soundness of mind are met. Hence, there is no ban or restriction on such a relationship. The society initially regarded it as immoral but probably it has now become an accepted reality. Where shall more of it lead the societies to, is shrouded in mystery but very often it has been found that such relationships do not go on smoothly and very often end up in a smoke. Shradda may have believed and trusted and loved intensely Aftab but this love ended up in 35 chopped pieces of a living human being - a woman. A trust stands betrayed, confidence and faith having been shattered, hope and reliance dashed to ground and "love" smeared black. A lesson for those who are deficient in conviction to get easily tempted by the likes of Aftab.

A replica of and rather worse than the infamous Delhi Tandoor case after nearly 27 years which shook the entire nation. The murderer in the instant case had used Chat App to date and lure Shradda and see the extent of the demonic mind set of the monster that even when the girl had been killed, he used the same dating APP to hunt for the second victim and reportedly a second "partner" even had visited the same accommodation in Mehroli in Delhi. The devil continued to stay in the same house with chopped parts of the woman stuffed in cupboard, kitchen and fridge. A probe by professional personnel of the Police Force can establish the motive and whether Aftab was "assisted" by some others to help him visit such a dense forest during the dead of night where even during daytime one cannot venture to commute. How could neither the landlord nor any neighbour notice the savage in the dead of night moving out intermittently during 15 days of dumping chopped pieces of Shradda. NCW has written to the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi to order a fast track probe of the horrendously macabre act.

The savage had pre-planned and pre-meditated gruesome murder most foul and reportedly had receded the area where ultimately to dispose of the body in pieces for which it is said as a chef he had enough skills and hence "expertise". He had purchased a big knife for the purpose. It is further revealed that the savage partner used to beat her very often and perhaps sensing the ultimate, it is revealed that she had sent an SoS saying "Rescue me or I shall be killed". Whom had she sent this message of desperation is yet fully not known in which Delhi Police is investigating. The killer is reported to have sat on her chest to strangle her to death which he had done quite easily. The problem, however, was what to do with the body which he did by chopping her into pieces and stuffing the cupboard with it followed by purchasing a new fridge to keep the parts free from stench. He used incense sticks and perfumes to douse the smell. Society must necessarily not turn insensitive to what happens around as this murder unveils since where Aftab had a rented accommodation and the young woman disappearing for six months and the killer doing all usual and normal, inviting friends and showing all well, did not arouse any suspicion till the savage did it all and a period of six months kept whereabouts of Shradda under wraps. Had Shradda's father not lodged a report with the Police, this murder would have not surfaced as the killer had used the victim's phone till June 2020 while the murder took place in May.

Had Aftab looked, at the first instance, a devouring monster, perhaps the 26 year young woman would have thought twice before what is said "eloping" with him. He looked also not a person of unsound mind - the alibi - which many pseudo-intellectual radicals term such people belonging to a particular faith to save them. Many may try to term it as a mere accident or "was provoked to this extent" since the victim and the devourer professed two different

faiths. There are various questions that the system, the society and the lobbies must answer. It is the time to find where are those "most secular" leaders who have thought it not prudent to camp outside victim's house in solidarity as they, in lightning speed, do in "other cases" where vote Bank matters. It is also for those who at the drop of a hat take out long marches with candle lights but this time they are silent. It is again to find out as to where has the "elite club" of Award Wapsi Movement gone who have thought it imprudent to lodge protest, least extend sympathies to the bereaved family. Those who avowedly keep on berating this country in and outside and playing victim card of "Not Safe" are curiously mum over this spine chilling murder as they were in case of Palghar Maharashtra lynching of innocent Hindu Sadhus in 2020 and in other similar cases. Bollywood "Me Too" movement propagating its aim and ambition being against sexual abuse of women and fighting for their rights have so far uttered not a word. BBC which is habitually mocking Hindu culture and traditions and always showing this country down on manufactured issues can never report this ghastly committed savagery unheard of in the annals of human civilization. Likewise, Washington Post will not publish any article on what happened to 26 year old Hindu woman by the one whom she trusted the most even disregarding her father's concerns over such a selection of hers.

It is hoped that India's most grisly murder, the manner and the design, shall be tried in a fast track court on day to day basis so that exemplary punishment nothing below hanging is awarded to the monster killer so that the trust of the people in the system does not get eroded. Not only the parents of Shradda but the entire nation must unite to seek justice and in a shortest time bound period. Justice should not be delayed in the instant case which shall be tantamount to denying the justice.

(The views expressed by the authors are their personal)

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