

The Sunday Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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UK BACKS VACCINE POST
BLOOD CLOT CASES WORLD

SHOT IN THE ARM: ISSF CUP SEES INDIAN
SHOOTERS WIN 30 MEDALS SPECTRUM

BJP CREATING COMMUNAL STRIFE,
ALLEGES MAMATA BACK PAGE

SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021



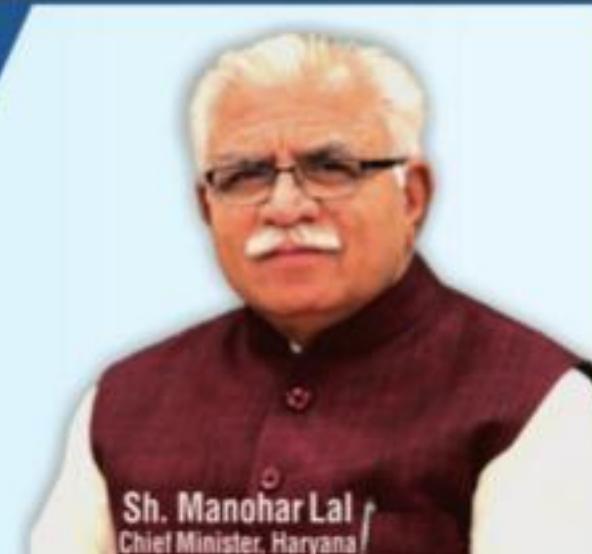
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Water Conservation by Crop Diversification

Rs. 7,000 per acre as incentive to farmers
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such as maize, cotton, millet, pulses, vegetable, gram etc.

Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana www.prharyana.gov.in @Cmohry @DiprHaryana



Sh. Manohar Lal
Chief Minister, Haryana

Wrong to link letter with farm stir: MHA

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, APRIL 3
Noting that it has nothing against the farmers of Punjab, the Centre today issued a clarification saying the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) letter to the state Chief Secretary was only intended to highlight the issue of bonded labourers in border villages and to seek appropriate action against human trafficking syndicates.

SAYS ALERTED STATES ON TRAFFICKING SYNDICATES

In an official statement, the MHA said, "A section of the media has erroneously reported that this ministry has written to the Punjab Government allegedly levelling grave charges against the farmers of state. These news reports present a distorted and highly editorised opinion of a simple

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

No 'bonded labour', Pb cops refute BSF claim

GS PAUL & RAVI DHALIWAL
Tribune News Service

AMRITSAR/GURDASPUR, APRIL 3
The term "bonded labour" was never mentioned in any of the cases lodged with the police on those apprehended by the BSF at the International Border, say the Punjab Police. SPS Parmar, IG (Border Range), Amritsar, says an investigation is being conducted to ascertain the BSF claim, cited by the MHA in its letter to Punjab, on having apprehended and handed over to the Punjab cops 58 Indian nationals from the border areas of Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Ferozepur and Abohar during 2019-20.

Gurpartap Sahota, Attari DSP, said: "We are scrutinising the cases of those handed over to us by the BSF in the past two years." A BSF official, pleading anonymity,

We are scrutinising the cases of those handed over to us by the BSF in the past two years. Gurpartap Sahota, ATTARI DSP



claimed it was a known fact that labourers from UP, Bihar, MP and Jharkhand, mostly in the age group of 30-50, were allured with handsome packages and perks. "In some cases, they end up being exploited and hooked on drugs," he said.

Backing his claim, Amarjit Shastri, a trade unionist,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

asserted that providing drugs to the labour was a common practice in rural Punjab. But Rattan Singh Randhawa, vice-president, Jamhoori Kisan Sabha, called the MHA report a "complete lie," arguing that farmers who offered "langar" amid humanitarian crisis could never indulge in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Farmers protest Khattar's visit, clash with cops

SUNIT DHAWAN
Tribune News Service

Policeman among 3 hurt in Rohtak, stones hurled;
CM's chopper forced to land at Police Lines



ROADS BLOCKED IN JIND

Villagers blocked roads at various points in Jind district to protest the police action on farmers in Rohtak.

BJP MP PUTS OFF VISIT

Sirs MP Sunita Duggal was forced to cancel visit to Fatehabad as farmers carrying black flags assembled at BJP office.

Put DBT on hold, consensus must, Capt writes to PM

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 3
Arthiyas service providers not middlemen: CM

with the PM to apprise him of the concerns raised by various stakeholders "before the situation gets out of hand," assuring his complete support to evolving a consensus for long-term reforms.

Expressing concern over the efforts to "rock" the well-established institutional and social arrangements, the CM said he could see a pattern in some of the one-sided decisions and steps taken by the Centre.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Study: Linking printouts to source possible

DIPENDER MANTA
Tribune News Service

MANDI, APRIL 3
Printed documents can now be linked to specific types of printers like inkjet, laser or photocopier. This was revealed in a study conducted jointly by researchers of Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL), Mandi, and University of Technology and Management, Malaysia. Dr Rajesh Verma, Deputy Director, RFSL, told *The Tribune* that documents served important evidence in forensic cases.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Prof jailed for Maoist links loses his job

NEW DELHI: Delhi University's Ram Lal Anand College has terminated the service of assistant professor GN Saibaba, who's serving life term in Nagpur jail for "Maoist links". —PTI

Delhi all-rounder Axar Patel infected too;
matches can be moved to another city



ing in Mumbai with a negative report. Six others, part of the event management team, have also tested positive.

Four IPL teams — Delhi Capitals, Mumbai Indians, Rajasthan Royals and Punjab Kings — are currently in Mumbai and their access to

scheduled to host 10 league matches between April 10 and 25. If the Covid situation worsens, there is a possibility that these matches could be moved elsewhere. The five other host cities are Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Ahmedabad.

Though the BCCI is confident about organising matches in Mumbai, in case the city is scratched out, its share of matches could be moved to Hyderabad or Indore, which have been placed on standby.

Days before IPL, 10 Wankhede staffers test +ve

Tribune News Service

MUMBAI, APRIL 3
Exactly a week before Mumbai is to hold the second match of the IPL, which kicks off on April 9 in Chennai, 10 staff members of Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium have tested positive for Covid-19.

What's more worrying is the fact that India player Axar Patel, who plays for Delhi Capitals, has also tested positive. He had checked into the team hotel on March 28 after arriv-

At 89K, daily cases near 2020 peak

SECOND WAVE In Punjab, 49 deaths in 24 hrs, 12-fold jump in 2 months

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, APRIL 3
The daily Covid-19 cases reached 89,129 on Saturday, nearing the 97,000 peak during the first wave of the pandemic last year with states witnessing an alarming rise in active cases requiring home or hospital care, ICU and oxygen.

The active caseload nationally reached 6,58,909, making up 5.32 per cent of the country's total cases. The total active cases surged by 44,213 over the last 24 hours.

An analysis of the increase in the number of active cases in the top 10 states in the last two months (February 3 to April 3) paints a grim picture.

In percentage terms (see table), Punjab has reported the maximum increase in active cases — 12-fold jump from 2,122 to 25,458 cases in two

13 DELHI ST STEPHEN'S STUDENTS TEST +VE AFTER TRIP TO HP

SINGLE DOSE MAY BE EFFECTIVE FOR SURVIVORS, SAYS STUDY

J&K EX-CM FAROOQ ABDULLAH HOSPITALISED

WOMAN MISTAKENLY GIVEN 2 SHOTS IN UP

A midwife, who was on a phone call, administered two doses to a woman in Akbarpur area of Kanpur Dehat in UP, leading to an uproar at the health centre.

months. Haryana has seen a

reviewed all over again to be ready for a potential surge.

Only yesterday, Cabinet Secretary Rajeev Gauba had said the current wave was much more infectious than the previous one and was spreading to hitherto unaffected areas and was more lethal as well.

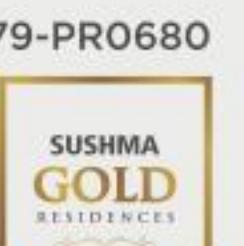
The daily rise today was the highest in over six months as total cases rose to over 1.23 crore and the toll touched 1,64,110 after 714 deaths — the highest since October 21 last year.

The daily cases stood at 92,605 on September 20, 2020. The active cases have been rising for 24 days in a row and the recovery rate fell to 93.36 per cent today.

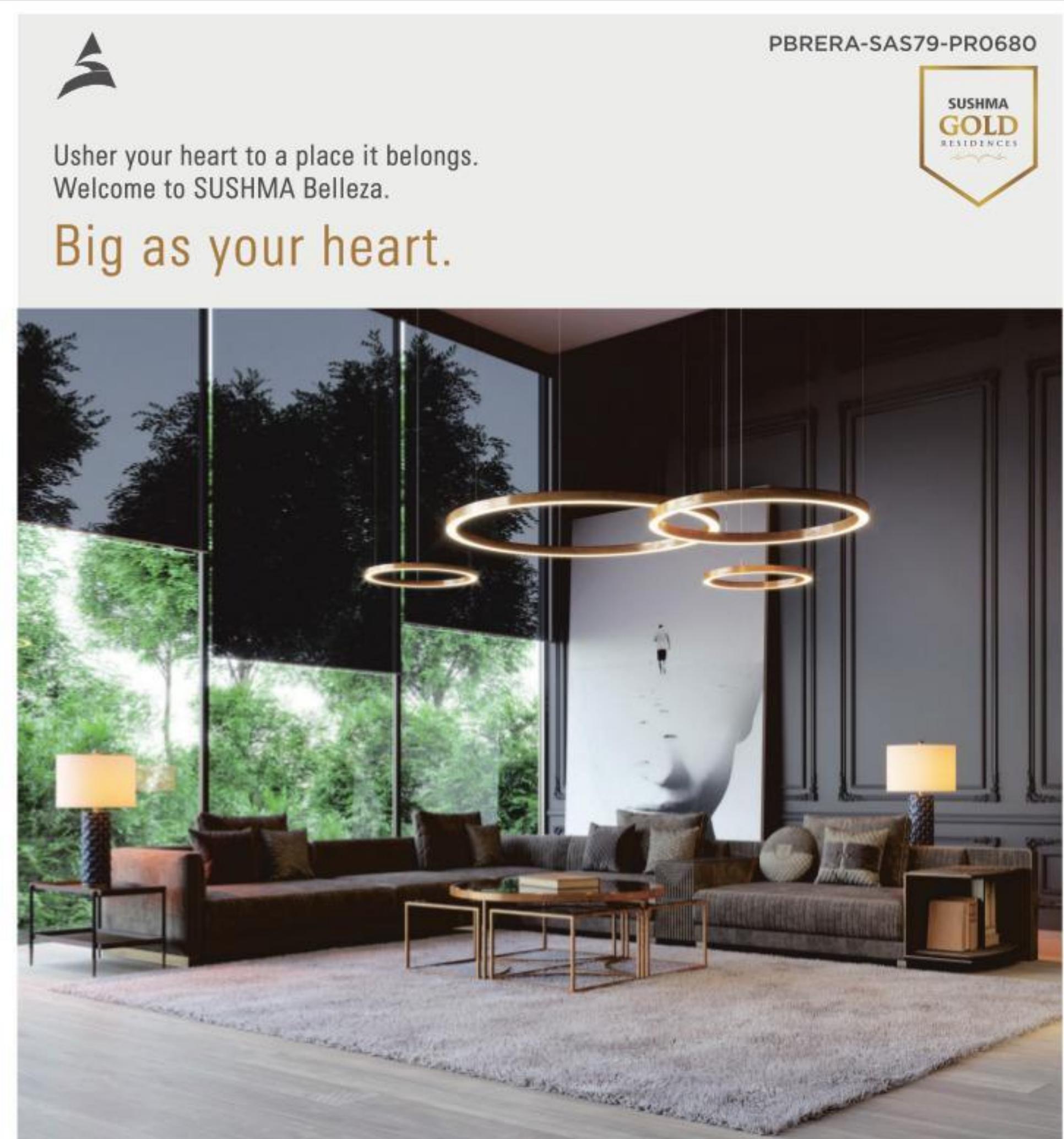


714 1,64,110

deaths in 24 hours, highest since Oct 21 last year



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MHA letter attempt to 'defame' farmers

BONDED LABOURERS Farm leaders call workers family, say they come to state willingly, are treated well

ANIRUDH GUPTA

FEROZEPUR, APRIL 3

Though the Centre today issued a clarification regarding the letter written by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) to the state Chief Secretary regarding the issue of bonded labourers and human trafficking allegedly afoot in border villages of Punjab, the issue has triggered a controversy among farmers and political parties who are terming it an attempt to defame the farm sector, which is already at loggerheads with the Centre.

The issue has also set the alarm bells ringing for the security agencies operating along the "zero" line in the state. The MHA wrote to the Chief Secretary following a report submitted by the BSF stating that it had already rescued 58 such migrant labourers who had been allegedly drugged and made to work for long hours against their wish.

An intelligence official said there had been shortage of labour in Punjab post implementation of MNREGA and other such schemes for the past few years, but the issue of bonded labour or human trafficking had never sur-



MANY INVOLVED IN DRUG PEDDLING: BSF

YEAR	PERSONS APPREHENDED
2020	104
2019	83
2018	66
2013	21

SUDDEN SPURT IN ARRESTS ALONG BORDER, MAJORITY INSANE, CLAIMS BORDER FORCE

Workers from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are engaged by state farmers during the paddy-sowing season. TRIBUNE PHOTO

faced. "There have been instances when building contractors or other such contractors offered them drugs to increase their productivity, but these cases are generally not reported," he said.

"During the pandemic the migrant labourers were treated so well that they refused to go back to their

native place even after the government arranged buses and trains for them," said another official.

Satnam Singh Pannu, state president, Kisan Majdoor Sangharsh Committee, said it was a conspiracy of the Centre to malign the image of farmers and dent their relations with labourers.

"Farmers consider labourers their family members and treat them accordingly," he said, adding: "If a farmer is found ill-treating any labourer, he should be strictly punished, but the attempt in the present scenario is different."

Darshan Singh Karma, district in-charge, Bharti Kisan

Union (Ekta Dakonda), said in Punjab, the farmers paid the labourers in advance. "The labourers from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh come to Punjab willingly, not by force because they are treated well here," he added.

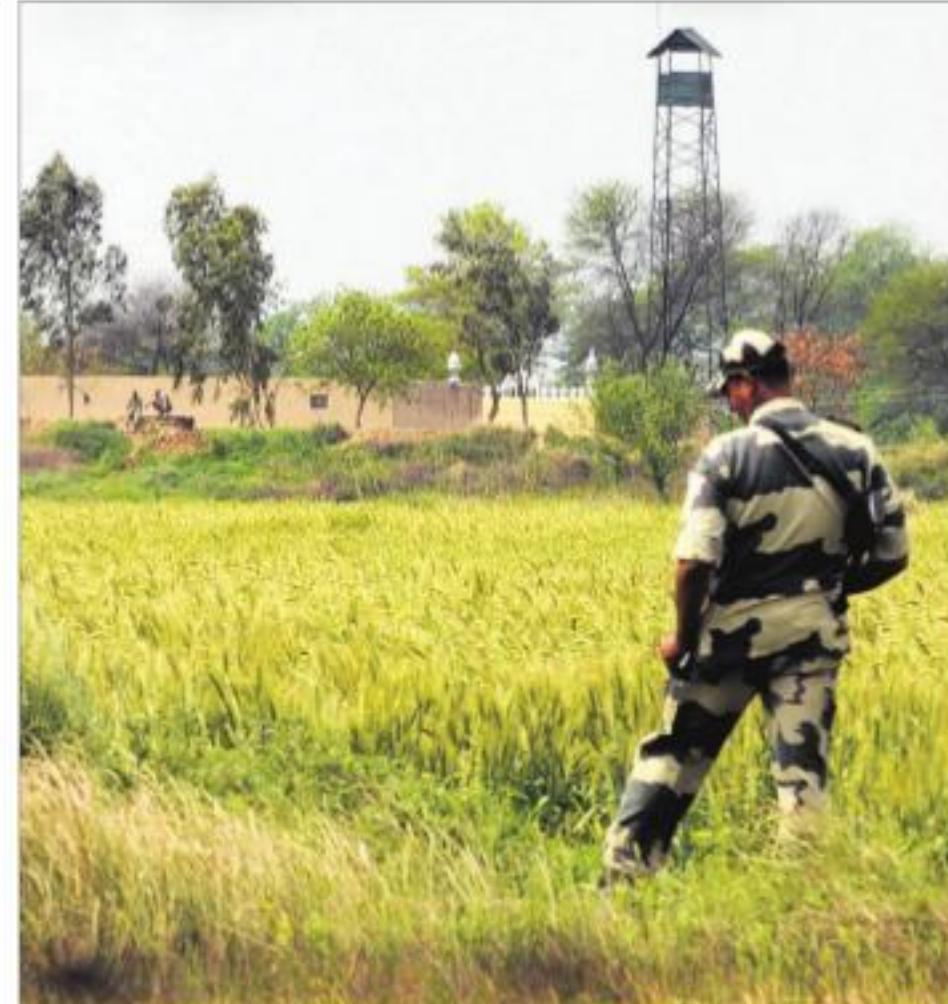
Senior BSF officials said there had been instances when Indian nationals were

apprehended from border areas, adding that many of them were not in healthy state of mind due to reasons beyond their comprehension.

As per information, the BSF had last year apprehended 104 Indian nationals roaming under suspicious circumstances along the India-Pakistan border in the state, while this number was 83 in 2019 and 66 in 2018. The data indicates that the number of apprehensions had seen constant spurt in the last decade from 21 in 2013 to 104 in 2020.

"Many of these apprehended persons were involved in drug peddling. Many of them were either insane or 'deaf and dumb' or feeble-minded. We generally hand them over to the police," said an official, pleading anonymity.

In its official statement today, the MHA said the matter was erroneously reported in a section of media and the government had no intention of levelling such charges against the farmers of the state. Sources in the MHA said the media reports were misleading and distorted and the letter was written on the basis of simple observation about a socio-economic problem.



BSF jawans rescue people within a 50 metre area from the fence, particularly during the daily restriction period from 5 pm to 5 am.

BSF: Rescued, they're forced to work again

Tribune News Service

commandant posted at one of the border posts in Amritsar on phone.

He, however, contended that on several occasions the BSF personnel spotted the same person handed over to the police again in the area. "On specific enquiry with the villagers, it was found out that the farming family who engage such persons get them released from the nearby police station."

Says farmers who engage such persons get them released

Narrating the enormity of the problem, another senior BSF official said it was common to spot such people in villages near the border fence. "We know for sure that these people are from eastern UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh. There are two ways of their coming and getting trapped into this kind of exploitation. First, they come on their own to look for jobs in Punjab and end up hitting India's border. Secondly, since such a workforce is beneficial for the farming community here, there are a few small syndicates who bring them by luring them with good money," he added.

NO SUCH CASE IN FAZILKA: SSP

Fazilka: Fazilka SSP Harjeet Singh said the Border Security Force never handed over to the police any mentally or physically challenged person engaged by any farmer in the past two years. He said the BSF did not report any such case to the Fazilka district police. "No case of any farmer engaging mentally challenged people from other states for agricultural purposes has been registered in Fazilka district," the SSP claimed. Several attempts to contact the DIG, BSF Abohar sector, proved futile. oc

Morcha flays Centre, plans to intensify stir

LUDHIANA, APRIL 3

Members of Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) today criticised the central government for levelling "false" allegations on the Punjab farmers to defame them.

Demanding that the government should revoke its letter to the Punjab Chief Secretary, they said the Centre wanted to divide them but its "conspiracy" would not succeed.

The SKM leaders conducted a meeting with trade unions, employees and students organisations at Punjab Agricultural University here today to plan the next strategy to strengthen the "kisan andolan".

SKM leader Dr Darshan Pal said: "The central government is making various attempts to defame the farmers of Punjab. We have unions in border areas and they never received any complaint regarding bonded labourers or drugs being given to them. The allegations levelled by the central government are false. It should revoke its false letter."

Another SKM leader Balbir Singh Rajewal said: "It is a conspiracy of the central government to defame farmers. There are no bonded labourers here and there will never be."

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Balbir Singh Rajewal, SKM LEADER

bir Singh Rajewal said: "It is a conspiracy of the central government to defame farmers. There are no bonded labourers here and there will never be."

SMK leaders said they would gherao the Food Corporation of India offices on April 5 across the country against the "wrong" policies of the central government.

Balbir Singh Rajewal said the Centre wanted to disband the FCI but they would not tolerate it. — TNS

Report a farce, says Tarn Taran SSP

GURBAXPURI

TARN TARAN, APRIL 3

Most of the sources in the border area of the district, including farmers, rejected reports that farmers in the state brought mentally challenged people from Bihar and UP and forced them into farm labour.

SSP Dhruman H Nimbale said not even a single such incident had been reported from the border areas of Khalra, Sarai Amanat Khan, Patti, Bhikhawind, Valtoba and Khemkaran.

"The report prepared by the BSF is far from facts. Seven such cases were brought to our notice and the district police conducted a detailed inquiry. Four of them were even medically examined and none was detected as a drug addict. Just one person was physically challenged and he was handed over to his parents," Nimbale said.

The SSP said the BSF report was a farce as two of the seven persons apprehended were from Punjab, one from Maharashtra, one from Assam and three from UP. Two others were found to be suspicious and sent to jail.

Questioning the BSF report, he said it was neither a social organisation nor



Claims not even a single such incident reported from border areas of district

He said there was no report of keeping them as bonded labourers or giving them drugs to make them work longer.

Daljit Singh Dialpur of Jamhoori Kisan Sabha, also a resident of border area village Dialpur, said the BSF report were incorrect and just aimed at defaming the farmers' agitation as it was being spearheaded by the leaders of Punjab.

Despite several attempts, Ferozepur range DIG Surinder Mehta could not be contacted for comment. Amritsar DIG Bhupinder Singh also refused to comment on the issue.

entrusted with the responsibility of conducting such a study. "I have never seen such a case anywhere. But if anybody is seen indulging in such human trafficking, he must be dealt with seriously according to the law," he said.

Cheema said during the farmers' movement, their unity reached new heights. "Now, adopting its old policy of divide and rule, the BJP is trying to divide them," he said. Targeting the Congress, he said before the last elections, Capt Amarinder had announced drug menace would be wiped out within four weeks. The Centre's report, which talked of labourers being given drugs, was a testimony to the fact that the government had failed to curtail the menace, he said. — TNS

Slams Capt for failing to curb drug menace

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Sidhana: Will continue to be part of morcha

BATHINDA, APRIL 3

Clearing his position on the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) recognising him as part of the 'kisan andolan' and announcing his return, Lakhbir Singh Lakha Sidhana, who is on the run in connection with the Republic Day violence in Delhi, today said he had been fighting for the Punjabi language and interests of the state.

In a statement, Sidhana said he became part of the farmers' protest because the Union Government had "secretly" attacked the economy and future of farmers by introducing the three "black" farm laws. He said implementation of the laws would have a detrimental effect on the state's economy.

Sidhana clarified his decision to stand with the farmers' organisations was taken with the intention of giving an impetus to the movement. He refuted one-sided "propaganda" on the social and print media and clarified the clamour for his apology was baseless. He would remain with the peasant struggle, he added. — TNS

Akal Takht: Growing communalism a matter of concern

Tribune News Service



Jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh addresses a gathering of SGPC on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Akali Takht's officiating Jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh today accused the Centre of suppressing minority communities and patronising communalism.

He was addressing representatives of various Sikh organisations, societies and sects here to get their feedback for the 400th birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib on May 1.

Accusing the Centre of spreading hatred against minorities, Giani Harpreet Singh said those promoting communalism, like the one prevalent during the Mughal era, enjoyed patronage of the Centre.

"It is a matter of concern. An atmosphere of communalism is being created in the country and minorities are being oppressed under the patronage of the gov-

No grain lifting till ₹131-cr arrears cleared: Arhtiyas

OUR CORRESPONDENT

ABOHAL, APRIL 3

The Arhtiya Association today slammed the Food Corporation of India (FCI) for not clearing Rs 131 crore arrears of wheat purchased in the past besides pending loading bills.

At a meeting held at Aravansh Dharamshala here, association president Anil Nagori said the FCI would not be allowed to purchase even a single grain from the markets if arrears were not paid before April 10.

The meeting was presided over by patron Gurbachan



Singh Sran. Nearly 300 arhtiyas and Pesticide and Fertilizer Association president Rakesh Kalani, Gaushala Managing Committee president Fakir Chand Goyal and Girdhari Lal Doda, chief of the Accountants Welfare Association were present.

Nagori said the Centre was pursuing policies that would harm arhtiyas and other

traders, farmers and labourers. "The farm laws were enacted without consulting the stakeholders and most of the state governments were under pressure to implement

the same despite a historic protest by farmers. Now, the Centre is making it mandatory for farmers to produce specific revenue records for sale of produce. It is wrong as 50 per cent of the farmers own less than 5 acres of land and some farmers are doing farming on contract basis. How can they produce the ownership documents," he said.

He condemned the Centre for pressuring states to adopt direct payment for procurement to eliminate arhtiyas. The meeting gave a call to all to take part in "Kisan Mahapanchayat" on April 4.

SAD dharnas from tomorrow

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 3

The Shiromani Akali Dal today announced it would organise protests in every constituency on April 5 to protest against the Amarinder Singh government.

The officiating Jathedar said due to the ongoing farmers' struggle, the Centre had backed out of the anniversary celebrations. "The Centre appeared to be taking farm protest as the struggle of Sikhs", he said.

"The dharnas will focus on hike in domestic power tariff from Rs 5 to Rs 10 per unit, state taxes accounting for the bulk of the hike in the prices

of diesel and petrol, denial of post-matric scholarship to Dalits and on the Amarinder-BJP collusion against farmers on DBT as a means to punish farmers for their peaceful struggle against the three farm laws. The protests will also focus on the breakdown of law and order machinery in the state," said Harcharan Bains, principal

adviser of party chief Sukhbir Singh Badal.

A decision to this effect was taken at a meeting of the party core committee that met today. Bains said the meeting condemned "the attack on Rakesh Tikait by BJP activists last night" and demanded a high-level judicial probe to expose the forces behind the attack. — TNS

He said he would approach

Cong objects to rallies

JALANDHAR, APRIL 3

Congress leader and Bholath constituency in charge Ranjit Singh Rana today objected to SAD's plans to hold rallies across the state on April 5. He demanded action against the organisers of SGPC chief Bibi Jagir Kaur's Nadrala rally on April 5 if the Covid protocol was not followed.

He said he would approach

Says will move HC if Covid norms violated

the HC if protocol was not followed during rallies. "The SAD is jeopardising people's health amid rising Covid cases. It would spread the virus. It is ironic Sukhbir held rallies despite being infected." — TNS

Take Ansari back by April 8, UP Police told

JUPINDERJIT SINGH

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 3

Clearing the decks for the transfer of Uttar Pradesh gangster-turned-MLA Mukhtar Ansari from the Ropar jail, the Punjab Home Department has asked the UP Police to shift him by April 8.

In a letter to the UP Home Department, it said in pursuance of the Supreme Court's orders to transfer Ansari to Banda Jail in UP by April 8, the police should, however, make necessary arrangements keeping in view his medical condition.

It asked the UP Government to ensure Ansari's presence before a Mohali court via video conferencing on April 12, the next date of hearing in a criminal case. The Mohali police had booked Ansari for allegedly threatening a Punjab businessman over the phone for ransom.

Punjab had not allowed Ansari's transfer to UP for almost two years citing his



Make arrangements given MLA's medical condition, says Pb

medical condition. Apart from doctors at the Ropar jail, a Board of Doctors at the PGI, Chandigarh, had also said Ansari had a heart ailment and severe backache.

Two days ago, a Mohali court declined Ansari's plea for his fresh medical examination from the board as he was in medical distress.

Ansari's case had brought Punjab and UP police at loggerheads. Ansari was brought to the Ropar jail on production remand for investigation. However, when the UP Police later sought his transfer back, the Jail Department declined, saying doctors had advised bed rest for Ansari due to ailment and hence could not be allowed to travel.

The UP Police had sought his transfer back due to pending cases against him in the state. The UP Government alleged Punjab was protecting Ansari due to his connection with top Congress leaders.

Opposition parties in Punjab alleged Ansari was kept as a state guest in the jail where he was provided all facilities. The matter reached the Supreme Court, which on March 26 ordered Ansari's transfer to the UP jail in two weeks.



The police with seized liquor at Jethuwal village at Amritsar.

Two held with illicit liquor, pilfered ENA

AMRITSAR, APRIL 3

The Amritsar rural police in a joint operation with the Excise Department arrested two bootleggers during a raid at Jethuwal village today. Illicit liquor and extra neutral alcohol (ENA) besides lahan were recovered from the spot.

The teams busted two illegal stills from the village. Those arrested were identified as Tarsem Singh and his brother Kuljeet Singh. The police recovered 2,500 litres of illicit liquor, 300 litres of ENA and 400-kg lahan from the spot.

The team was headed by DSP (Special Branch) Sukhraj Singh, DSP (Head-

quarter) Baldev Singh and Excise and Taxation officer Sukhjot Singh. SSP Amritsar rural Dhruv Dahiya said investigation was on to unearth the racket involving pilferage of ENA. During investigations into last year's hooch tragedy in Tarn Taran, Amritsar and Batala, the bootleggers were found mixing ENA with water.

The seizure of ENA showed its pilferage from trucks had not ceased. —TNS

Seventh op in rural Amritsar in 1 month

quarter) Baldev Singh and Excise and Taxation officer Sukhjot Singh. SSP Amritsar rural Dhruv Dahiya said investigation was on to unearth the racket involving pilferage of ENA. During investigations into last year's hooch tragedy in Tarn Taran, Amritsar and Batala, the bootleggers were found mixing ENA with water.

The seizure of ENA showed its pilferage from trucks had not ceased. —TNS



Manjinder Singh Sirsa

Paramjit Singh Sarna

Manj Singh GK

THE SCHEDULE

Filing of papers	April 7
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Scrutiny of papers	April 8
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Withdrawal of papers	April 10
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Voting	April 25
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April 7

April 8

April 10

April 25

They have entered into a seat sharing understanding with Bhai Ranjit Singh, a former jathedar of the Akal Takht.

"We plan to contest 35-36 seats. The rest will be left for Bhai Ranjit Singh," said Harvinder. Paramjit is the former president of the DSGMC.

There was a move among the opponents of the Badal family to get Manj Singh GK and Sarna brothers join hands. "That has not worked out," said a senior Sikh leader.

Both GK and Sarna brothers have been raising the issues of dipping finances of the DSGMC, including

pending payments for educational institutions.

Sirsa will bank upon recent initiatives such as free dialysis centre and new hospital, besides the DSGMC efforts to get bail for farmers arrested for the January 26 violence.

Further, the DSGMC ensured langar did not stop during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The process of filing of nominations is till April 7. Scrutiny of nomination papers will be conducted on April 8 and the last date for withdrawal of candidature is April 10.

ICAR-Indian Institute of Wheat and Barley Research Karnal- (Haryana)

Online Interview

The On-line Interview through Zoom App for the positions of "YP / Field worker / Assistant / JRF" is to be held on 13th, 15th, 16th April, 2021 at ICAR - IIWBR, Karnal (Haryana). The last date of receipt of application through E-mail (neerajkumar2@icar.gov.in) in prescribed format is 10-04-2021. For more details viz. title/duration of projects, number of positions criteria, emoluments, educational qualifications, date/time of online Interview, other terms & conditions & application form for the positions, please visit our website <https://iiwbr.org>.

Sr. Administrative Officer

SAINIK SCHOOL KUNJPURA

NOTICE

RESULT WRITTEN TEST : ALL INDIA SAINIK SCHOOLS ENTRANCE EXAM -2021

Initial call list (Written Test) of All India Sainik Schools Entrance Exam 2021 held in Feb 2021 for admission in Sainik Schools is published on School Website www.sskunjpura.org. Initial Call List comprises class - wise, gender - wise category wise roll numbers of candidates in sequence in the ratio of 3 candidates for every vacancy, who are required to undergo Medical Exam. For further details please visit the www.sskunjpura.org. Final Merit list will be published in May 2021 (tentative) after completion of Medical Examination of the shortlisted candidates.

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PhD Admissions

Applications are invited from prospective candidates for admission to the PhD Program at IISER Mohali in the areas of Biological Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Physical Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Earth & Environmental Sciences and Humanities & Social Sciences, for the session beginning in August/September 2021. Candidates interested in pursuing research in interdisciplinary areas are also encouraged to apply. IISER Mohali is one of the PMRF granting Institutes offering PMRF Fellowship to meritorious Ph.D. candidates. Candidates are advised to visit <https://dec2020.pmrif.in/> to know more.

Eligibility Criteria: The applicant should have a Master's degree/ B.Tech/ MBB/S. M.Tech with a good academic record (at least a high second class) and should be GATE/ CSIR or UGC-NET/ JEST/ GPAT/ ICMR-JRF/ DBT-JRF/ DBT-BINC/ ICAR-NET/ DST- INSPIRE qualified in the relevant subject. Additional details are available in the link: <http://www.iisermohali.ac.in>

Application procedure: Prospective candidates should apply online using the "Online Application Facility" by visiting the website at [https://www.iisermohali.ac.in](http://www.iisermohali.ac.in). Short-listed candidates will be invited for a screening-test/interview/online interview at IISER Mohali.

Last date: The online application facility will be open till 12.00 noon, April 30, 2021 (Friday). For further details about the program and research areas, please visit our website: <http://www.iisermohali.ac.in>.

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For more information: Contact: 0172-223105, 9872597267 Email to maibhagoafpi@yahoo.in or visit [www.mbafpigirls.in](http://mbafpigirls.in) website or CDAC website: <http://recruitment-portal.in>

NOTE: MAFPI HAS NO TIE UP WITH ANY ENTRANCE EXAM TRAINING INSTITUTE ANYWHERE. THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT OF ANY FORMAL COACHING TO GET ADMISSION IN MAIBHAGO AFPI

Bill to amend MTP Act passed by House, HC told

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 3

More than 50 years after the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act came into being, a Bill for termination of advanced-stage pregnancies in view of medical opinion has been passed by both Houses of Parliament. The Bill was pending for almost a year.

As the matter came up for resumed hearing before the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Justice Arun Monga's Bench was told requisite amendments to the 1971 Act, introduced by way of a Bill, had been passed and formal assent had been accorded by the President of India. Additional Solicitor-General of India Satya Pal Jain also submitted only the notification was required to be issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

The matter was brought to Justice Monga's notice by a pregnant woman through counsel Ranjan Lakhpal. Referring to the Bill and other aspects related to termination of pregnancies in advanced stages, Justice Monga had asserted the legal and moral predicament of the court, yet again, was whether to permit a pregnant mother to abort the life of a foetus aged 23 weeks plus five days, before completion of gestation period.

Medical reports to terminate pregnancy were in the mother's favour. But, legal impediment in view of the



Only notification to be issued: Addl Solicitor-General

statutory mandate envisaged under the provisions of the 1971 Act did not allow the doctors to implement their medical recommendation.

Justice Monga had asserted this was not the first time such a case had come before the court. Past instances were aplenty and, perhaps, becoming a routine, but only where a litigant had the means to approach the court.

Justice Monga, on a previous date of hearing, asserted a uniform policy was required to be formulated to deal with all such cases. Jain was also asked to apprise the court of the steps being taken or contemplated to frame a uniform policy on legal termination of pregnancies, where medical opinion was strongly in its favour. Apart from easier access to justice, such a policy would also ensure the deserved dignity and confidentiality to the women, confronted with such legal impediments, Justice Monga had added.

JE booked for 'negligence'

Fazilka: A day after the death of assistant lineman, identified as Gurwinder Singh (31), Manohar Lal, junior engineer, PSPCL, Fazilka, has been booked for negligence. Lal has been booked under Section 304 of the IPC. Maan Singh of Dhobi Ghat locality, alleged in the FIR on instructions of Lal, his son was checking the fault in feeder at Malout Road here. —OC



A man gets the jab in Jalandhar. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

2,705 CASES, 49 DEATHS IN 24 HOURS

The state reported 2,705 cases and 49 deaths in the last 24 hours. In the district-wise break up, Amritsar topped the chart with seven deaths, followed by Hoshiarpur (6), Gurdaspur and Ludhiana (5 each), Jalandhar and Ropar (4 each), Kapurthala, SAS Nagar, Sangrur (3 each), Tarn Taran, Patiala and Bathinda (2 each), and Fazilka, Ferozepur and Pathankot (1 each).

schools or provide relief to us by exempting us from taxes. With buses not plying, there is no source of income for us and paying monthly instalments has become difficult."

"If not to the full capacity, the government must start schools with less strength, with Covid-19 guidelines in place, otherwise we will intensify our stir in the coming days," he said.

said he was trying to ensure the two protesters — Saram Singh (82) and Kulwinder Singh (84) — climbed down safely.

Sources say the Chief Engineer and protesters came close to finding a solution today. "The decks had been cleared for the two to come down. However, the DOSC threw a spanner into the works by coming up with more demands, including issuing appointment letters to the displaced. This was not acceptable to the dam officials, following which the talks broke down. The situation is back to square one," said a police officer.

DC Sanyam Aggarwal and SSP Gulneet Singh Khurana were in touch with the protesters. "It is a dicey situation. However, I am trying

FINDING SOLUTION

We have a rehab and resettlement policy for displaced people. Going by its content, it is difficult for us to provide them with jobs. I am trying to hammer out a solution. Sandeep Saluja, DAM CHIEF ENGINEER

Daya Singh, DOSC president, shifted the blame on the dam officials. "The two men atop the tower are carrying suicide notes naming a top functionary. It is better if the dam officials implement the Khaira report at the earliest," he said.

The previous DC Gurpreet Singh Khaira had prepared a rehabilitation report, which heavily favours the DOSC.

Officials, however, claim when they told the DOSC they were prepared to implement the report, they again raised their demands.

Pb protester assaulted at Tikri, dies

JHAKJAR, APRIL 3 Gurpreet Singh (26), a farmer from Barnala district, who was injured in a scuffle with someone at the Tikri border, died on Friday. A case of murder has been registered against Gurpreet's fellow villager Satta Singh.

Gurpreet had come to Tikri three days ago. Jai Bhagwan, investigation officer, said Satta, according to a complaint,

SECOND INCIDENT

This is the second such incident at Tikri. On March 25, Hakum Singh (61) of Patti Fuddu village in Bathinda was found murdered with his throat slit near the new bus stand in Bahadurgarh town.

thrashed Gurpreet badly on Thursday evening. Next day, Gurpreet's relatives took him to the Civil Hospital in Bahadurgarh town where he was declared brought dead. The assailant would be arrested soon, he added.

It is the second such incident at the Tikri border. On March 25, 61-year-old Hakum Singh of Patti Fuddu village in Bathinda was found murdered with his throat slit near the new bus stand in Bahadurgarh. —TNS

Unscheduled wheat purchase allowed after farmers protest

Register crop on Meri Fasal Mera Byora portal, says DC

PARVEEN ARORA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, APRIL 3

The district administration also allowed the procurement of wheat crop without the schedule in grain markets after the daylong protest by farmers at the office of the Karnal Market Committee on Saturday. The farmers alleged that were not being allowed to enter grain markets without the schedule.

However, the farmers called off the protest after Deputy Commissioner Nishant Kumar Yadav assured them that gate passes would be issued even to those who come without the schedule. But he made it clear to the farmers that the gate passes would be issued only to those who get their crops registered on the Meri Fasal Mera Byora portal. Those who were yet to register on the portal could do so on April 5 and 6. He added that the state government had made the registration of crop on the portal mandatory.



Farmers protest outside the Karnal Market Committee office on Saturday. PHOTO: SAYEED AHMED

ry, and accordingly SMSes were being sent to the farmers about the schedule.

"We apprised the government about the issue of the farmers and it allowed the procurement of wheat without the schedule. Gate passes will be issued manually to those whose crop has been registered on the portal," said Yadav. He appealed to the farmers to bring their crop after cleaning and drying it. After pacifying the farmers, the

Deputy Commissioner got the auction of the wheat crop conducted. He also assured the farmers that their payments would be transferred to their bank accounts within 48 hours and the commission of the arthiyas would be delivered to them.

Earlier in the morning, on the call of the BKU, hundreds of farmers and arthiyas gathered at the office of the market committee. The SDM tried to pacify

them but they remained adamant on their demand. "We have been opposing the scheduling system since the first day, as it is not feasible," said Rajnish Chaudhary, president of the Karnal Arthiyas Association.

Jagdeep Singh Aulakh, a member of the state core committee of the BKU (Charuni), said that farmers could not wait for the schedule to be issued to them as the crop was ripening and the threat of fire looms large.

Arrangements poor in grain markets: Hooda

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 3

Former Chief Minister and Leader of the Opposition Bhupinder Singh Hooda has blamed the BJP-JJP government for mismanagement in farm mandis.

He said that wheat procurement from April 1 was announced but proper arrangements were not made.

"Where will the farmers go if they have already harvested their wheat crop but haven't got the message? Will they take the harvested crop home and then bring it to mandis? This will double their labour and transport cost. The government should procure wheat from the farmers whenever they bring it to the market."

Hooda also opposed the decision to reduce the moisture content in wheat from 14 per cent to 12 per cent. He expressed concern over rising unemployment in the state.

"About 45,000 posts of teacher in government schools are lying vacant. Even in schools, about 50 per cent of the posts of head master and principal are vacant. According to a report, 54 per cent of the schools in Karnal do not have head teachers but still

EXCUSES BEING MADE

Farmers at mandis are being harassed on the excuse that the web server is down. They are being told that only those who get the message can come to the mandis to sell their crops. —
Bhupinder Singh Hooda, EX-CM

the government is not making new recruitment," he claimed.

Hooda said that nearly one lakh youths, who had passed the HTET, were waiting for JBT recruitment for the past seven years but the BJP government had not made even one appointment during its tenure. The previous Congress government had recruited more than 20,000 JBTs.

"The government is neglecting schools, hospitals, and medical colleges. There is a shortage of staff everywhere but instead of hiring people, the government has introduced a freeze on new recruitment. This is the reason Haryana has once again topped the CMIE report on unemployment.

Farmers not getting SMS for procurement, claims Selja

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 3 Kumari Selja, president of the Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee, today accused the BJP-JJP government of harassing farmers during the procurement of wheat crop.

She said, "The government has reduced the moisture content from 14 per cent to 12 per cent due to which the crops of farmers are not being purchased. The farmers, whose crop is ready, are not getting the message. At the same time, those whose crops are not ready are getting the message for procurement," she claimed.

Selja added that at some places, the message was being sent to farmers at night to bring their crops to the mandis the next morning. "At some places, passes are not being issued to farmers to enter mandis," she alleged.

She said that the government decision regarding registration for the purchase of crops had compounded the problems of the farmers. "The government should procure the entire crop of the farmers," she added. —TNS

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Send resume mentioning post applied for at
dpsbti@yahoo.co.in by April 10th, 2021

IN BRIEF

1,959 Covid cases, 10 deaths

Chandigarh: At least 1,959 Covid cases were reported on Saturday, taking the tally to 2,961 lakh. Ten persons died in the past 24 hours. Three deaths were reported in Ambala, two in Kurukshetra, while one each died in Gurugram, Panipat, Sirsa, Yamunanagar and Kaithal. TNS

New power tariff for advocates' chambers, crematoriums

BHARTESH SINGH THAKUR

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 3

The Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (HERC) has introduced a new tariff structure for electric vehicles charging stations, crematoriums, burial grounds and advocate chambers on court premises. It had earlier agreed not to change the power rates for 2021-22 despite a projection of a revenue gap of over Rs 3,000 crore by DISCOMS.

The commission has said that despite the revenue gap, the DISCOMS have not proposed "any methodology" to bridge it. For electric vehicle

charging stations, the HERC has approved a concessional rate of Rs 5.55 per unit. The fixed charges will be Rs 100 per kW per month.

For crematoriums and burial grounds, the energy charges for low tension supply or high tension supply categories will be the lowest rate of the tariff structure but there will be no fixed charges.

The advocate chambers will be charged Rs 6.90 per unit. To give relief to the bulk

(domestic supply) consumers category, the fixed charges have been reduced from Rs 100 per kW per month to Rs 90 per kW per month.

For crematoriums and burial grounds, the energy charges for low tension supply or high tension supply categories will be the lowest rate of the tariff structure but there will be no fixed charges.

The commission has approved a flat rate of Rs 6.90 per unit for the places of worship for providing support during Covid-19 and playing a role in "cultural reformation". Earlier, the tariff of Rs 2 per unit for

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(Area of jurisdiction Himachal Pradesh and Punjab Distt. from

(A to J)

PUBLICATION NOTICE of demand from Certificate Debtor / Defaulter (See Sessions 25 to 29 of the RDBDFI Act, 1993 r/w Rule 2 of Second Schedule of Income Tax Act, 1961)

PUBLICATION NOTICE D.No. 7196 RC No. 542/2018 Dated : 26-03-2021

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK V/S AHUJA AUTOMOBILES

To

1. M/s Ahuja Automobiles, a Proprietorship Firm through its Partner Sh. Gagan Ahuja & Smt. Madhu Ahuja, Batala Road, Amritsar, Punjab.
2. Mr. Gagan Ahuja S/o Late Sh. Harish Kumar Ahuja, R/o 28A, Green Avenue, Amritsar 143001
3. Ms. Madhu Ahuja W/o Late Sh. Harish Kumar Ahuja, 28A, Green Avenue, Amritsar 143001. Also
4. Late Sh. Harish Kumar Ahuja, Erstwhile Partner as well as guarantor. Where as a Recovery Certificate bearing OA No. 2795/2017 dated 16-05-2018 had been forwarded under sub section (7) of Sec. 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 by the Presiding Officer, the Debts Recovery Tribunal-I, Chandigarh for the recovery of sum of Rs. 24,43,74,038/- with future interest @ 11.85% p.a in CC limits @ 9.85% p.a & @ 9.75% p.a in car Loan Accounts and @ 12.75% p.a in term of loan with monthly rests from the date of filing of the OA i.e 04-07-2017 till realization with costs given in the certificate and the said sum has become due from you.

You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipt of this notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the provision of law.

Proceedings in this matter are further listed for 15-04-2021. Given under my hand and seal at Chandigarh on 25-03-2021
Sd/- (S.K Tiwary) Recovery Officer, DRT-I, Chandigarh

SAURABH MALIK

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 3

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has made it clear that bail cannot be granted to habitual offenders indulging in drug trafficking even after being enlarged on bail in another case of a similar nature.

The High Court also made it clear that giving repeated chances to habitual offenders in drug cases to join the mainstream was dangerous for society and the fact was required to be kept in mind while considering their bail pleas.

Justice Harsimran Singh Sethi asserted that bail could be granted in drug cases only when the court was of the opinion that the petitioner-accused would not indulge in the same activities again if enlarged on bail.

Justice Harsimran Singh Sethi asserted that the consumption of drugs was ruining the life of youngsters.

The families of drug addicts, too, were not only facing social stigma but also mental trauma, which was required to be curtailed at any cost.

"Offenders need to be

SOLE EXCEPTION

● Bail can be granted in drug cases only when the court is of the opinion that the petitioner-accused will not indulge in the same activities again if enlarged on bail.

Dismissing the bail plea, Justice Sethi added it transpired from the facts of the case that the present FIR was registered while the petitioner was on bail in another matter.

The allegation against him showed he had again indulged in similar activities, violating the process the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act.

In his detailed order, Justice Sethi added this fact could not be ignored while considering the plea of an accused, "who com-

given another chance to come in main society and live a normal life. But where the offender is repeatedly indulging in the same activities again if enlarged on bail.

"The petitioner is a habitual offender. Hence, this court is of the opinion that in case the petitioner is granted the concession of bail, he will again indulge in unlawful activities," Justice Harsimran Singh Sethi asserted.

The petitioner is a habitual offender. Hence, this court is of the opinion that in case the petitioner is granted the concession of bail, he will again indulge in unlawful activities," Justice Harsimran Singh Sethi asserted.

IN MEMORIAM

Our heart still aches in sadness and tears still flow what we meant to lose you no one will ever know. In sweet and cherished memory of our beloved.

ANURAG LAMBA
(10.6.80 - 4.4.2003)

S.S. LAMBA : Father

(Retd. District and Session Judge)

Former Registrar, Lokayukt, Haryana

Anupama Yadav : Sister

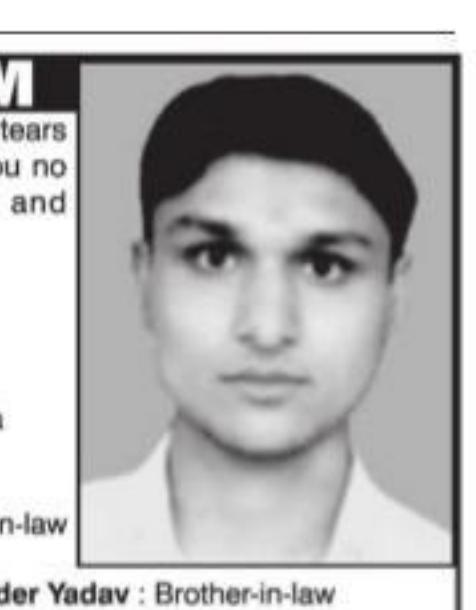
Kamlesh Lamba : Mother

Alam Yadav : Brother-in-law

Ms. Anuradha Lamba : Sister

Aan Yadav, Aahna Yadav & Shallinder Yadav : Brother-in-law

Samyra Yadav : Niece



Branch Name, Address and Contact No.	Name of the Borrowers and Guarantors	Details of Secured Asset	Amount Due	Reserve Price EMD Amount
1 Union Bank of India Beas Branch : G.T. Road, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar - 143201 E-mail : beasjalandhar@unionbankofindia.com Branch Head (M) 98883-16610	(i) M/s Sonu Auto through Prop. Sh. Jagit Singh Village Jalal, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar - 143201 (ii) Sh. Sandeep Singh S/o Sh. Sukhwinder Singh R/o House no. 39, Village Dhola, Tehsil Khandro Sahib, Tarar, Punjab (iii) Smt. Surinder Kaur W/o Sh. Jaswant Singh Village Jalal, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Amritsar	(i) Open Plot Measuring 7.2 Marla, situated at Village Budha Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar, Owned by Smt. Surinder Kaur W/o Sh. Jaswant Singh (ii) Open Plot Measuring 5 Marla, situated at Village Budha, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar, Owned by Sh. Jagit Singh and Sh. Sandeep Singh	Rs. 20,88,035/- + interest + penal interest and / or other charges	(i) Rs. 10.08 Lakh Rs. 1,00,800 (ii) Rs. 5 Lakh Rs. 50,000/-
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BJP MLA targets CM over development

Tribune News Service



AREA NEGLECTED

If development was done in the Mandi Sadar Assembly segment in the last three years, the Chief Minister and the IPH Minister would not have to visit Mandi for votes in the MC elections.

Anil Sharma, MANDI SADAR BJP MLA

now there was resentment among people against the state government.

He alleged that a budget of

only Rs 3 lakh had been made available for a school building of Rs 1.5 crore at Kotli. "Almost 45 per cent of the budget of the Jal Jeevan Mission was approved for only two Assembly constituencies at Seraj and Dharmpur in Mandi. A budget of Rs 270 crore is being spent in one area and Rs 170 crore in the other in Seraj and Dharmpur, respectively. While the remaining eight Assembly constituencies of the district are being discriminated against in terms of development," he added.

"Almost 55 years ago, my father and former Telecom Minister Pandit Sukh Ram had started his political career from Mandi Sadar. At that time, there was the practice of manual scavenging here. He gave Himachal's first sewerage scheme to Mandi and Indira Market was also his vision," he said.

Sharma alleged that the Chief and the IPH Minister always targeted him during public meetings.

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Telephone No. 0177-2623806

SHORT TERM AUCTION NOTICE

The open auction for sale of Govt. coniferous timber of HP State Forest Development Corporation Limited, stacked at Retail Sale Depot Kanlog Shimla shall be held during the months of April, May & June 2021 at 11:30 A.M as per detail given below:

Month	Name of Retail Sale Depot	Date
April	Kanlog	29.04.2021
May	-do-	28.05.2021
June	-do-	29.06.2021

The venue of auction will be at Retail Sale Depot Kanlog Shimla-171002
For further detail please contact Divisional Manager, Forest Working Division Shimla.
Phone No. 0177-2623806
Divisional Manager, FWD Shimla

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Integrated MS-PhD Admissions

Applications are invited from prospective candidates for admission to the Integrated MS-PhD Program at IISER Mohali in the areas of Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics for the session beginning in August/September 2021. The programme involves course work as well as research work. Successful completion of the program will lead to an MS degree and a PhD degree.

Eligibility Criteria: The applicant should have a Bachelors degree in Science and related areas with a good academic record (at least 60% aggregate or at least CGPA 6.0 on a scale of 10).

Additional Qualifications: Applicants who have obtained one of the following national-level qualifying examinations, are advised to mention the same in their application form:

1. NBHM Masters or PhD scholarship for Mathematics
2. Rank in JEST examination for Physics
3. DST INSPIRE fellowship or KVPY scholarship
4. Rank in IIT JAM for the chosen specialization

Application procedure: Prospective candidates should apply online using the "Online Application Facility" by visiting the website at <https://www.iisermohali.ac.in>. Short-listed candidates will be invited for a screening-test/interview at IISER Mohali. Last date: The online application facility will be open till 12.00 noon, April 30, 2021 (Friday). For further details about the program and research areas, please visit our website: <https://www.iisermohali.ac.in>

SAINIK SCHOOL SUJANPUR TIRA (HP)
NOTICE
Result Written Test : All India Sainik Schools Entrance Exam - 2021

Initial Call List of All India Sainik Schools Entrance Exam 2021 held in Feb 2021 for admission in Sainik School Sujanpur Tira (HP) is published on the School website <http://sainikschoolsujanpurtira.org> Initial Call List comprises class-wise, gender-wise, category-wise roll numbers of candidates in sequence, in the ratio of 3 candidates for every vacancy, who are required to undergo Medical Exam. For further details please visit the Sainik School Sujanpur Tira (HP) website. Final Merit List will be published in May 2021 (tentative) by Sainik School Sujanpur Tira (HP) after completion of Medical Examination of the shortlisted candidates.

SAINIK SCHOOLS SOCIETY MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, NEW DELHI
NOTICE
RESULT WRITTEN TEST: ALL INDIA SAINIK SCHOOLS ENTRANCE EXAM - 2021.

Initial Call List of All India Sainik Schools Entrance Exam 2021 held in Feb 2021 for admission in Sainik Schools is published on the respective Sainik School website. Initial Call List comprises class-wise, gender-wise, category-wise roll numbers of candidates in sequence, in the ratio of 3 candidates for every vacancy, who are required to undergo Medical Exam. For further details please visit the respective Sainik School website. Final Merit List will be published in May 2021 (tentative) by respective Sainik Schools after completion of Medical Examination of the shortlisted candidates.

DI-216

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (BUILDING AND ROADS BRANCH)
NOTICE
The 31st March 2021

Ludhiana-Malerkotla-Sangrur (hereinafter called "Project Road") has been up graded to 4 lane/2 lane with paved shoulders under World Bank Aided Punjab State Road Sector Project which amounts to public funded project under the provisions of Notification referred to hereinafter. And in exercise of powers conferred by section 2, section 3 read with clauses (ii) and (iii) of sub section 4 of the Act, and all other powers enabling him in the behalf, the Governor of Punjab was pleased to notify toll rates for various categories of mechanical vehicles vide Notification No. S.O. 72/PA. 13/1998/Ss.2,3 and 4/2016, dated the 5th September, 2013 issued by the Government of Punjab, Department of Public Works (Buildings and Roads Branch). The Toll Charges for the year 2015-16 were published vide notice dated 28th August 2015, for the year 2016-2017 were published vide Notice dated 29th March 2016, for the year 2017-2018 were published vide notice dated 29th March 2017 and 2nd time for the year 2017-2018 on operation of newly constructed Dehlon Bypass were published vide Notice dated 26 October, 2017, for the year 2018-19 were published vide notice dated 27th April 2018, for the year 2019-20 were published vide notice dated 26 March 2019 and for the year 2020-21 were published vide notice dated 26 March 2019 and for the year 2020-21 were published vide notice dated 31 March 2020 Now, in exercise of powers conferred by Section 2 of the Act and provisions of Notification, the revised applicable toll charges to be levied at Lehra (TP-II) and Ladda (TP-II) toll plaza and paid on the mechanical vehicles using the Project Road for the year 2021-22 (W.E.F. 01-04-2021) are published as under:-

S No.	Category of Vehicle	User Charges (Rupees)	
		Single Trip	Return Trip
1.	Car/Jeep/Three Wheeler/LMV	55	85
2.	LCV/Tractor with Trailer/LGV or Mini Bus	90	130
3.	Bus/Truck/Road Roller (two axles)	180	275
4.	Three axles Commercial Vehicle	195	290
5.	MAV (four to six axles), Heavy Construction Machinery, Earth Moving Equipment	285	425
6.	Oversized Vehicle (Seven or more axles)	345	520

Executive Engineer,
Construction Division,
Punjab PWD (B&R), Branch
Malerkotla

Former J&K Bank Chairman held in illegal tender allotment case

SRINAGAR, APRIL 3

Former Chairman of J&K Bank Parvez Ahmad Nengroo was arrested on Saturday in connection with a case of illegal allotment of tenders for housekeeping that led to a loss of crores of rupees to the bank, the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) said.

The ACB had registered a case in October last year against a private firm and three former bank officials, including former chairman of J&K Bank Parvez Ahmad Nengroo, for allegedly causing a ₹6.92-crore loss to the bank by not following tendering rules.

"Nengroo has been arrested by the ACB in connection

₹6.92-CRORE LOSS

The ACB had registered a case in October last year against a private firm and three former bank officials, including former chairman of J&K Bank Parvez Ahmad Nengroo, for allegedly causing a ₹6.92-crore loss to the bank by not following tendering rules.

with the investigation of a case that pertains to illegal allotment of tenders by Jammu and Kashmir Bank regarding housekeeping to a Mumbai-based company (M/S. SILA Solutions Pvt. Ltd) by not following proper tendering norms as provided in the contract," the ACB said in a statement here.

The statement said due to not following the proper

tendering processes, improper ATM cleaning, undue addition of the Management Fee and other omissions and commissions detected during the investigation, the J&K Bank suffered losses worth crores of rupees from the date of award of the contract.

Besides this case, the ACB said charge sheets in connection with another case regis-

tered a year earlier have already been filed before the Anti-Corruption Court against Nengroo. The case relates to illegal appointments in J&K Bank that suffered a loss of more than Rs 250 crore on account of salary paid to these illegal employees over the period.

Besides Nengroo, the ACB has named Sahil Vora and Rishabh Vora, directors, SILA Solutions Pvt Ltd; Surjeet Singh Seghal, the then executive president of J&K Bank (now retired); and Feroz Ahmad, the then assistant vice-president, in the tendering fraud. — PTI

Tulip Festival begins in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, APRIL 3

Sandwiched between Zabarwan Hills and the picturesque Dal lake, Asia's largest Tulip Garden here reverberated with music as famous singers, including rapper Badshah, mesmerised the audience with some popular numbers on Saturday at the beginning of a six-day festival.

Tulip Festival was thrown open by Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha in presence of Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan at the majestic Tulip Garden, which was opened for visitors last month after two years.

Hundreds of visitors, locals as well as tourists flocked the garden on the first day of the festival amid an almost full bloom of the tulip bulbs to be part of the festival organised by the Tourism and Floriculture Departments.

The 30-hectare garden presented a colourful look as 15 lakh tulip bulbs of various colours and 62 varieties captivated the visitors.

Several singers, including those from J&K, performed some of the famous numbers, enthralled the audience. But it was singer and rapper Badshah who stole the show. — PTI

Man booked for bank fraud in Kathua dist

JAMMU, APRIL 3

A man was booked for allegedly duping a resident of Kathua district by posing as a bank official, an official said on Saturday.

A case under relevant sections of the law was registered by the Jammu Crime Branch against Dulen Yadav, a resident of Bihar, a spokesperson of the agency said.

According to a complaint received from Onkar Chand Sharma of Mahanpur area of Kathua, his money from two bank accounts was fraudulently withdrawn

after someone, introducing himself as a bank official, called him and enquired about his ATM numbers.

"The complainant was induced by the notorious fraudster on the pretext of enquiry related to his ATM numbers and after obtaining ATM and PIN details of his two accounts, the money was withdrawn and he was cheated," the spokesman said.

He said the accused had been booked under various sections of the Information Technology Act and the Indian Penal Code. — PTI

Soldier eyes Guinness record, begins 4,300-km run

SPRINTING TO GLORY IN 50 DAYS

Last year in June, Naik Velu P became the first Indian ultra-runner to complete 1,600 km in just 17 days. He has now set for a run from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, a distance of about 4,300 km, and aims to finish it in 50 days.

Nursing Assistant in the 60 Para Field Hospital, is an ultra-marathoner who is attempting a Guinness world record by running from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, a distance of about 4,300 km under 50 days.

Last year in June, Velu P became the first Indian ultra-runner to complete 1,600 km in just 17 days, a feat which is in the process of being entered as an Asian record.

"Naik Velu, serving as a

said Naik Velu, who is celebrating his 30th birthday on April 21, was flagged off from 92 base hospital at Srinagar on Friday with a heartwarming gathering of enthusiasts who accompanied him in his solo run for the initial five km carrying the national flag and boosting his morale.

To start this epic feat, he

ran from Kashmir to Kanyakumari in 50 days, Velu would be running 70-100 km per day, crossing major towns, cities and states," Lt Col Navneet said. The PRO said Naik Velu has already won many ultra-marathons, Tuffman runs and Stadium runs across India. After covering 200 km distance from his starting point, Naik left Udhampur headquarters at 7 am Saturday and is on way to Jammu, running 10 km per hour, he said.

Born on April 21, 1991 at Krishnagiri (Tamil Nadu) and

having represented his state in athletics at the age of 13, Naik Velu joined the Army in December 2011 and his first achievement in the Army was a gold medal in cross-country 12.5 km in 2012.

He represents the India team of Athletic Federation of India since 2016 and in coming September he would be representing India for Stadium run at the world championship at Romania, for which he had won a trial run of 24 hour stadium running held at Bengaluru, Lt Col Navneet said. — PTI

One held for trying to snatch bank guard's rifle

SRINAGAR, APRIL 3

A man was arrested for allegedly trying to snatch the rifle of a guard at a bank's branch in Shopian district on Saturday, a police official said.

The incident took place at the J&K Bank's Imam Sahab branch in the afternoon, he said. Nadish Ahmad tried to snatch a 12 bore rifle from the bank guard. — PTI

Wrong to link letter with farm stir: MHA

FROM PAGE 1

observation about a socio-economic problem emerging from four sensitive border districts of Punjab over a period of two years, which has been brought to the attention of this ministry by the CAPF concerned."

"Some news reports about the letter have juxtaposed in a totally unrelated context to conclude that the MHA has framed grave charges against the farmers of Punjab and has also connected this with the ongoing farmers' agitation," it said.

"This letter only states that 'human trafficking syndicates' hire such labourers and they are 'exploited, paid poorly and given inhuman treatment' besides luring them with drugs to get more work, it noted.

No 'bonded labour', Pb cops refute BSF claim

FROM PAGE 1

such practices. "Also, agriculture being more technical these days, a person with a low IQ would be unfit for the job," he argued.

Senior police officers of Punjab's three border police districts — Gurdaspur, Pathankot and Batala — strongly refuted the BSF claim. Pathankot SSP Gulneet Singh Khurana emphasised: "No such activity is taking place in the border villages of Pathankot."

Ramesh Rana, senior vice-president of the Indian Federation of Trade Unions (IFTU), said: "In 2019, we

received information that a landlord had paid Rs 25,000 as advance to a farmhand in Pahra village of Gurdaspur, who died days later. The landlord then asked the son of the deceased to complete the task for which his father was hired. We sent a team to the village and rescued the youth. After that, we did not receive a single case of bonded labour."

Batala SSP Rachpal Singh said about a decade ago, brick-kilns indulged in the illegal practice. "However, we cannot recall a single instance of a migrant having been forced to work in a factory or fields."

Farmers protest Khattar's visit, clash with cops

FROM PAGE 1

of Khattar's chopper and the police personnel deployed there tried to stop them.

Some youths among the protesters threw stones at the police personnel, which triggered the clash.

A number of women protesters also participated in the protest.

Rohtak SP Rahul Sharma denied any lathicharge or use of force by the police,

maintaining the policeman and the farmers were injured in "stone-pelting by the protesters".

On the other hand, the injured farmers, Raj Singh (73) of Sanghi village and Ishwar (80) of Basantpur village in Rohtak district, alleged before the media that they were injured in police lathicharge. The farmers also alleged that several protesters had been rounded up.

CALENDAR

APRIL 4, 2021, Sunday

- Vikram Samvat 2077
- Shaka Samvat 1943
- Chaitra Parvish 22
- Krishna 1442
- Parigha Paksha Tithi 8, up to 3.00 am
- Parigha Yuga up to 6.42 pm
- Purvashadha Nakshatra up to 2.06 am
- Moon in Sagittarius sign

1971 India-Pakistan war victory torch reaches UT

JAMMU, APRIL 3

The 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' 'mashaal', as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations of India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war, reached Basoli military station near Lakhanpur — the gateway to Jammu and Kashmir — on Saturday, a defence spokesman said.

The spokesman said the 'mashaal' would remain in the folds of

MATRIMONIALS

BRIDEROOMS WANTED

ARORA

Match for fair, beautiful Arora girl 17.12.1992, 11:55 am Feropur 4'-11", B.Com., PGDCA. Interior Designer. Preparing Bank exams. Status family. WhatsApp: 098552-27686. (CL21002023)

PQM for Arora/ Khatri girl, convent educated B.Tech, MBA, 5'-2", 19.10.1990, 05:22 pm, Feropur (Punjab), working in Big 4 at Gurgaon, package 10 Lac. Boy preferred working in Delhi/ NCR. Contact: +9194172-19854. Agents please excuse. (CL21002005)

Match for Panchkula based girl 18.10.1989, 9:53 a.m., Chandigarh, 5'-4", MA Economics honours having business for french learning 7 figure earning. Father retired officer. WhatsApp: 99158-07342. (CL21001993)

SM4 beautiful Arora girl, MBA, 21.09.1987, 12:45 pm, Panipat, 5'-2", 13 Lac Pa. 98961-42302, 88263-49812. (CL21002066)

Unmarried status match for Hindu Arora girl 08.08.1988, 07:30 pm, Ludhiana, 5'-5", MA (English), B.Ed. 8820-8950. (CL21001736)

Match for beautiful vegetarian Arora girl 02.11.1991, 09:45 p.m., Ludhiana, 5'-4", B.Sc (Fashion Designing), residence Rahon, brother married, two sister married, Canada. Preference to Canada/ Australia PR. Mobile: 94177-44450. (CL21001888)

Match for Arora 82, 5'-5", Govt. PES-2, Headmistress, few days issueless divorcee girl. 9889-92921 (Muktsar). (CL21002010)

Match for beautiful Arora girl, 5 feet, 6.9.86, Ph.D pursuing, Chandigarh based. WhatsApp: 94662-64136. (CL21002109)

Hindu Arora Manglik girl 5'-2", 6.12.1994, M.Sc (Chem.), B.Ed, PSTET, CTET qualified. 98884-62632. (Govt. job preferred). (Only pure veg. families can contact). (CL21002156)

Well educated, well settled business/ placed job handsome boy for Punjabi Khatri smart and beautiful, slim, beautiful homely girl, belongs industrialist family. Email: sushiladevi1100@yahoo.com (CL21002122)

Match for Punjabi Khatri 47/158, MA innocent issueless divorce, fair, slim, beautiful homely girl, belongs industrialist family. Email: sushiladevi1100@yahoo.com (CL21001712)

Professionally qualified match for Bank Manager girl 2.1.1986, 8.04 pm, Ludhiana, 5'-2", Parents: Banker. 98720-11351. (CL21001712)

Professionally qualified match for Amritsar based Khatri 1986/ 5'-3", M.Sc. Biotech. Non working girl, 79734-78228. (CL21001793)

High status Khatri girls, anshik manglik, 1991, M.Com, 1993, M.Tech. Required Industrialists, Businessman, Tricity. 84271-23150, 86993-72414. (CL21001840)

Khatri regular Staff Nurse 1988, 5'-5", Rajinder Hospital Patiala. Seeks Govt. employee. Upper caste no bar. 9433-30866, 99159-17670. (CL21001858)

Suitable match for Khatri Makkar beautiful girl M.Com., Teaching/ office experience 02.12.1978, 10.22 pm, 5' 94175-84243. (CL21001873)

Suitable match for Manglik Ahluwalia girl of 29, M.Com, B.Ed NET cleared CA Inter Commerce faculty in private coaching institute, local preferred. Contact: 98140-03335. (CL21001882)

Suitable match for Hindu Khatri girl 22.02.1992, 19:19, Ludhiana, 5'-2", MCA, working Noida, package 6 lac. 98727-26372. (CL21001885)

Suitable match for Hindu Khatri girl 26/ 6', Air Hostess/ Cabin Crew in Air India Company seeks Canada PR, 6' above boy. 98552-11070, 98142-01180. (CL21001893)

Match for non Manglik Khatri girl M.Sc. (Hons) Chemistry B.Ed., July 1992/ 5'-5", Govt. job. 94651-51572. (CL21001930)

Match for Majahans girl, 23 November 1991, 5 ft., B.Com. Honour, Karhar working Team Leader in MNC, package 7 Lacs annum. 98152-13990. (CL21001965)

Match for Manglik Khatri, M.Sc. girl, 21.08.1990, 12:30 pm, Chandigarh, 5'-2". Preferred Tricity. Contact: 98724-01201, 76962-09651. (CL21002028)

Teetotaler match for Radha Swami girl, Ht 5'-4", 20-07-1985, 04:45 am, Ambala MA (English), MA Education, B.Ed, working teacher, minor white patch near nose. 94160-03873, 94660-28640. (CL21000379)

Suitable Manglik match for Khatri beautiful, slim girl, 29 Nov. 1990, 5:40 pm., Patiala, 5'-5/2", B.Tech, working as Senior Engineer in MNC in Pune. 78371-43256. (CL21000381)

Match for Ludhiana based NM girl, 5'-1", M.Tech., B.Arch., 3.12.1990, 3:15 am, birth place Sirsa, working as Associate Architect. 94464-84469, 98726-27719. (CL21001954)

Match for Khatri girl 23.7.1987, 4.35 p.m., Software Engineer MNC Chandigarh. 62832-00412, 98777-25173. (CL21001936)

Match for Ludhiana based NM girl, 5'-1", M.Tech., B.Arch., 3.12.1990, 3:15 am, birth place Sirsa, working as Associate Architect. 94464-84469, 98726-27719. (CL21001954)

Match for Khatri girl 10.19.1991, 5'-6", preferred Ludhiana, CA, Govt. employee, businessman. 99143-17377, 84376-38455. (CL21001998)

Hindu Khatri PR Australian citizen match for self employed, educated 26, 5'-2", Australian resident girl for exchange of details - 98151-55800. (CL21002040)

Match for girl doing MD Anaesthesia 10 August 1989, Chandigarh 5'-3", caste no bar. 98055-37606. (CL21000495)

Khatri girl 21.30.90/ 4:23 am/ Saharanpur, 5'-3", B.Com., MBA, working in Gurugram, family from Yamuna Nagar, pkg 6 Lacs. Contact: 99885-07414. (CL21001651)

Match for beautiful Hindu Arora girl, 5'-5", 80 born, Chemical engineer, status family well settled in Chandigarh, seeks boy from well-established family. Email: matrimony606@gmail.com (CL21000833)

Match for Pahujia Khatri girl (Bawali) 7.1.1992, 3:36 pm, Patiala, B.A., M.Sc.(IT), PGDCA, 4'-11", 94639-42673, 9041657480. (CL21001432)

Khatri fair girl, 5'-2"/ 26 yrs, working in MNC Gurugram, Deputy Manager, seeks boy working in Gurugram. Ph: 98855-07414. (CL21001651)

Required smart handsome well settled businessman (educated)/ Government employee for Convent educated, very beautiful 5'-6", M.Sc, 1986 born girl. 77195-75459. (CL21000538)

Hindu Khatri girl 14.11.91, 7:15 pm, Ambala, 5'-2", working MCA, B.Tech, MBA 12 Lakhs annual Gurugram, permanent residence Panjkulu, 75893-01681. (CL21001707)

Tricity based Hindu Arora/ Khatri seeks alliance for their issueless divorce daughter 40 years 5'-3", technically qualified good income. Contact: 62834-05847 (WhatsApp). (CL21001799)

SM4 for unmarried beautiful, slim girl, 5'-2", June 1981, working as Manager in private firm. Tricity preferred. Caste no bar. Contact: 96467-45510. (CL21002046)

Teetotaler employed match for beautiful Khatri, B.Tech., homely girl (interested in job), 14.06.90/ 3:30 pm/ 5'-3", Narwana (Jind). Belongs Rajputra, now settled Kaital/ may be shifted Mohali/ Pkl. in future. Parents retired SBI DGM/ Headmistress Two sisters - One sister married. 88978-44466, 82838-05991, sedhavan@yahoo.com (CL21001995)

Professionally qualified match for beautiful Punjabi Khatri girl, 5'-1", Dec. 1990, M.Tech. in CSE. Currently working with MNC in Mohali. Tricity preferred. Contact: 94180-75129. (CL21001707)

Match for Jaat Govt. Officer daughter MBA CFA qualified Oct. 93 born, 5'-5", boy should be well qualified set well preferably a Govt. Officer. 99118-53385. (CL21001846)

Suitable match for Jaat Govt. Officer daughter MBA CFA qualified Oct. 93 born, 5'-5", boy should be well qualified set well preferably a Govt. Officer. 99118-53385. (CL21001846)

Suitable match for Khatri girl, 17.12.1992, 11:55 am Feropur 4'-11", B.Com., PGDCA. Interior Designer. Preparing Bank exams. Status family. WhatsApp 098552-27686. (CL21002023)

Seeking Chandigarh based Groom up to 39 years for convention educated, Ph.D. girl 5'-8", 1984. Excellent status background, Chandigarh based Himachali Rajput and Punjabi Jatt parents. Only daughter. Upper caste no bar. WhatsApp/Call 79018-23636. (CL21000961)

Suitable match for Himachali Khatri beautiful girl 5'-1", 18.6.90, Chandigarh, M.Sc. Ph.D. Banker, Engineer & Professor will be preferred. Surrounding Chandigarh. Contact: 83602-27966. (CL21001007)

Seeking suitable match for Khatri slim divorcee, issueless girl, 5'-8, 12:55 am, 5'-3", MCA employed settled education, teetotaler required. Kundti must. Bureau and dowry seekers excuse. 9872975745. (CL21001045)

Match for Panchkula based girl 18.10.1989, 9:53 a.m., Chandigarh, 5'-4", MA Economics honours having business for french learning 7 figure earning. Father retired officer. WhatsApp: 99158-07342. (CL21001993)

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Suitable match for Hindu Khatri girl 26/ 6', Air Hostess/ Cabin Crew in Air India Company seeks Canada PR, 6' above boy. 98552-11070, 98142-01180. (CL21001893)

Match for non Manglik Khatri girl M.Sc. (Hons) Chemistry B.Ed., July 1992/ 5'-5", Govt. job. 94651-51572. (CL21001930)

Match for Majahans girl, 23 November 1991, 5 ft., B.Com. Honour, Karhar working Team Leader in MNC, package 7 Lacs annum. 98152-13990. (CL21001965)

Khatri/upper caste: qualified/ entrepreneur for Chartered Accountant 5'-6", beautiful girl, 30 March 1995, 18.40, Chandigarh. 98159-00490. (CL21002011)

POM for fair vegetarian slim Arora girl 5'-2", 1984. 5:45 pm, PSU Shimla, 5'-5" 14-11-89, 5:30 a.m. Chandigarh, practicing CA/CA/ MCA, preferred, intends to quit job after marriage. Phone: 83606-06516. Email: rajaahans@gmail.com (CL21000507)

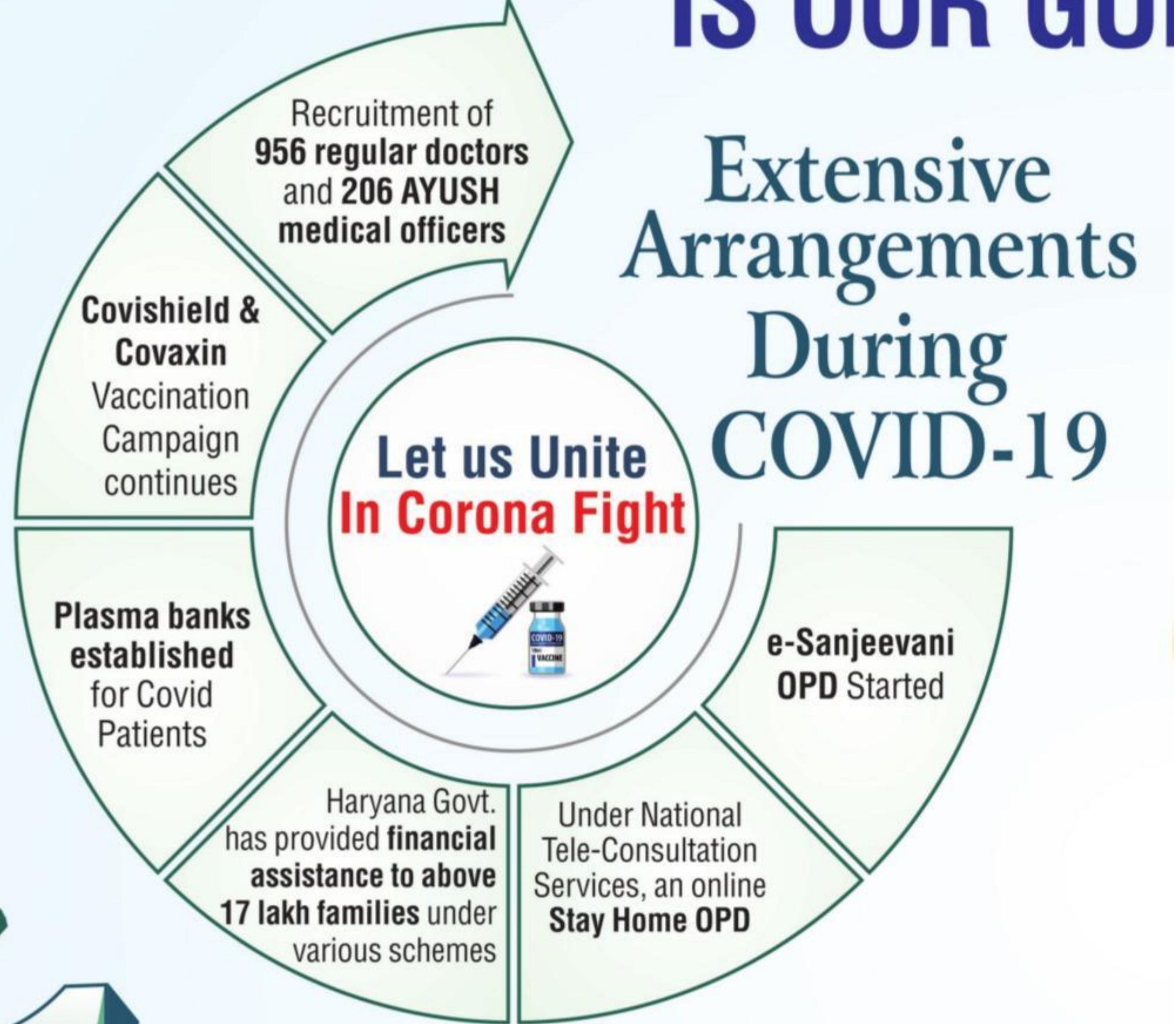
Suitable PQM for fair vegetarian beautiful manglik girl, CA working Govt. PSU Shimla, 5'-5" 14-11-89, 5:30 a.m. Chandigarh, practicing CA/CA/ MCA, preferred, intends to quit job after marriage. Phone: 83606-06516. Email: rajaahans@gmail.com (CL21000507)

Match for Arora 82, 5'-5", Govt. PES-2, Headmistress, few days issueless divorcee girl. 9889-92921 (Muk

सर्वे भावन्तु सुखिणः सर्वे



Govt. of Haryana



Haryana: The First State in the

In Anaemia Mukt Bharat campaign

To provide Hepatitis B & C medicines free of cost

To incorporate the injectable contraceptive in available Family Planning measures



Free Health Facilities

228 surgeries
69 types of tests
21 types of dental operations



Health and Wellness Centres

816 Health & Wellness Centres are functional, target to open 1035 till September, 2021 and 1589 till March, 2022



Yoga and Fitness centres

Ayush Department will open 1000 Yoga and Fitness centres soon



National Cancer Institute

National Cancer Institute established at a cost of Rs. 2035 cro in Badsa (Jhajjar)

Haryana Cashless Health Scheme

Facility for all Government employees, pensioners and their dependents for indoor treatment



Expansion in Number of Beds

Bed capacity of all civil hospitals will be increased to minimum 200 along with ICU and private rooms



Dental College

Shaheed Hasan Khan Mewati Government Medical College in Nalhar (Nuh)



New Medical College

Medical college established in 2021 soon in Sirsa, Kaithal &



Information, Public Relations &
Languages Department, Haryana



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Awa

सन्तु निरामया:

... IDING PHILOSOPHY

“
 A healthy soul resides
 in healthy body.
 Keeping this in view,
 our Government is
 committed to strengthen
 the health services
 on top priority.

- **Manohar Lal**
 Chief Minister, Haryana

the Country

To implement
**Pradhan Mantri
 Jan Arogya Yojana**
 (Ayushman Bharat)

**Health
 Institutions**
 69 Civil hospitals
 118 CHCs
 530 PHC buildings
 2660 sub-health centres

**Ayurveda
 Institute**

Shri Krishna AYUSH
 University in Kurukshetra,
 National Institute of
 Ayurveda in Panchkula

Medical Colleges

colleges to be
 in every district
 a, Yamunanagar,
 & Bhiwani

**Centre for Cancer
 Sciences**

To be established in
 Maharaja Agrasen Medical
 College, Agroha



Careness with Vaccination, Adopt Strict Measures

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 07

NRI

SM4 Hindu Rajput girl, Ph.D (Physics), UGC net, 03.09.88, 5'-6", NRI match preferred. Upper caste no bar, 94637-40240, 82880-16464. (CL21001658)

EQM preferably US settled for a pretty, very bright Jat Sikh Doctor girl 1983/5'-2", Associate Professor of Medicine, born in India, raised and educated in top schools of US. Never married, family of US professionals, biodata/ recent photos at: drboparai@yahoo.com (CL21002016)

27, 5'-2", M.Tech girl in Sydne, beautiful Chandigarh based girl wanted Sydney settled boy family from Chandigarh. Tricity preferred. 99888-77071. (CL21000828)

Suitable match for a Jatt Sikh Doctor girl 5'-8", Dec. 1992, American PR, Resident Doctor in Texas, US. Father own business in USA. Mother Graduate, brother-PR in US and pursuing USMLE. Seeking for Jatt Sikh Resident Doctor in US, vegetarian, non-alcoholic, 6 feet or above. Contact: singhveer77888@gmail.com, Ph: +9199947-54557. (CL21009085)

Match for Brahmin British citizen girl 5'-8", Dec. 1992, American PR, Resident Doctor in Texas, US. Father own business in USA. Mother Graduate, brother-PR in US and pursuing USMLE. Seeking for Jatt Sikh Resident Doctor in US, vegetarian, non-alcoholic, 6 feet or above. Contact: singhveer77888@gmail.com, Ph: +9199947-54557. (CL21009085)

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PQM for a smart Ramgarhia Sikh girl 1985, 5'-4", B.Tech., MBA, IT Manager MNC Toronto Canada PR, well established business family Mohali. Presently in India, gk.schmehby@gmail.com, 99141-09313. (CL210114897)

Ramgarhia divorced Canada PR girl 30/ 5', preferred graduate boy. Marriage bureau excuse. Amritsar 62805-27858. (CL21000360)

Match for Toronto work permit Bhateria Sikhi girl, Feb. 1990/ 5'-5", MCA, WhatsApp: 98144-04976. (CL21000473)

30/5'-4", beautiful girl working in Australia seeks suitable match. 86025-07879. (CL21000721)

28/5'-4", beautiful girl working in Canada, seeks suitable match. 91110-88979. (CL21000726)

Match for very beautiful Manglik; Brahmin girl, 95 born, Ludhiana, 5'-4", studying in Australia only PR boy family contact. Khatra also welcome. 84272-70005. (CL21000954)

Match for very beautiful Brahmin girl, 88 born, 5'-3", well educated (Canada settled) high status Businessman family from Punjab, looking for well educated Businessman family from Canada. Contact: 85570-89519. (CL21000957)

Match for Goel BCA girl, 12.6.1994, 5'-4", PR in Canada, Canadian PR/work permit boy preferred. Call: 9417420871. (CL21000995)

Australian citizen Swarnkar girl, 90, 5'-3", Engineer in Sydne. Qualified, doing white collar job preferred. Caste no bar, 96462-00286. (CL21001078)

Nai girl July 87, Canada PR, M.Sc. Chemistry, issueless divorcee. Upper caste no bar, 94633-92325, 98888-39416. (CL21001144)

Match for beautiful Dhiman Brahmin girl, B.D.S, 32/5'4", income 100,000/- per month, own bank building. Job in MNC, PR shortly. Working match of business family. 9417223496. Email: zdhiman@yahoo.com (CL21001655)

Jatt Sikh 1995 / 5'-5" B.Sc. Agriculture, Studying MBA Australia, Preference Australia/ Canada PR, 98145-98892 (CL21001718)

Manglik Brahmin Canada PR girl DoB 13.8.1991 at 6:05 p.m., National PR boy required. Contact: 79734-17641. (CL21001826)

Ph.D, beautiful Sikh Ahluwalia girl likely to settle abroad (PR in Progress), 1986/ 5'-5", currently working as Assistant Professor looking for never married and well educated preferably NRI match working in MNC or reputed place. 97798-08043. (CL21001949)

Suitable match for Hindu Arora divorcee (issueless) girl 26/5'-3", BDS, Canadian PR, Doctor or well settled NRI (only Canada) preferred, no marriage bureau. Contact: 70099-28993, 98725-15815. (CL21002036)

Professionally qualified USA based match for beautiful Sood Khatri girl 5'-5", Dec. 1991 born, BE-CSE, Punjab University Chandigarh, MBA, MS from USA, job in MNC USA. Contact: 95926-14110. (CL21002162)

BRAHMINS

Manglik Moyal Brahmin girl, slim, fair, Sept. 91, 5'-4", M.Tech Software Engineer employed. MNC Gurgaon. Punjabi & same profession preferred. M-8776-7713. (CL21001938)

Teeotaller match for vegetarian Gaur Brahmin beautiful fair slim homely girl. B.Com, PGDBA, 5'-0", 02.07.1992, 06:11 pm (Amritala City). 94664-46199. (CL21000189)

Brahmin, B.Tech., 5'-5", 10.05 a.m., Ambala, Scale-1 officer, Central Government, upper caste no bar, Government job preferred. 94661-57029. (CL21001737)

Looking for someone educated boy preferably at officer post/businessman for beautiful, slim Saraswat Brahmin girl, M.B.A., September 1989, 5'-5" from status family Chandigarh. Preference for family living in Tricity. Send kundli. WhatsApp: 88475-86455. (CL21001372)

Match for Saraswat Brahmin homely girl, 18.8.85, 5'-2", B.A. Contact: 9779586166, 9465157084. (CL21001478)

Suitable match for beautiful Brahmin girl, PO in Govt. Bank, 16.01.1987, 5'-0"/ 08.22 am, (Pathankot). 70093-88638. (CL210114730)

Beautiful Brahmin girl, Gotra Garg, 01.08.1977, 10.00 p.m., Yamunanager, 5'-4", M.A. English, B.Ed. 094663-63132. (CL21000156)

Suitable educated M4 Brahmin girl, 5'-2", 14.07.1992, 2:20 a.m., B.Tech, IT working MNC Pune. Family Dehradun based. EM: ranti Sharma 63@gmail.com. M: 929056301 (CL210114907); P:

Beautiful Gaur Brahmin girl, 5'-0", 19.03.1994, highly qualified, working in US based MNC at IT Park Chd, seeking a well qualified and well settled boy, Tricity only. WhatsApp the bio data with picture on 98158-67717. (CL21014941)

Wanted a groom for Gaur Brahmin girl well educated B.Com, LL.B, April 1992 born, 5'-6", working Pvt. Bank. Contact: 70153-76991. (CL21014983)

Suitable match for Brahmin girl 4.29.90, 11.20 pm, Jalandhar, height 5'-8", B.Sc (CS), M.Sc, Math, B.Ed CTET qualified. Father mother Govt. Employee retired. Daughters preferred. 9872734117, 98154-655457. (CL21014998)

Brahmin girl 36/ 5'-5", Graduate, Computer Course, ETT from respectable family at Bathinda. Mobile-95019-63574. (CL21000092)

Suitable match for beautiful, slim, fair color, 5'-3", B.Sc, B.Ed, Saraswat Brahmin girl, regular Teacher in Central School (KV). DoB: 08.10.1994, Mother Govt. Teacher Retd. Father self business, elder brother Army Officer, Parents living in Mohali. Govt. job Tricity boy preferred. 98729-05985 (07:00 pm- 10 pm). (CL21000129)

TM Tech CE 26.12.1991, 5'-6", girl, suitable match boy, B.Tech Govt/Defence Officer Jalandhar, Mukerian, Hoshiarpur. 94782-95479. (CL21014856)

Match for Brahmin British citizen girl 5'-8", Dec. 1992, American PR, Resident Doctor in Texas, US. Father own business in USA and pursuing USMLE. Seeking for Jatt Sikh Resident Doctor in US, vegetarian, non-alcoholic, 6 feet or above. Contact: singhveer77888@gmail.com, Ph: +9199947-54557. (CL21009085)

Suitable match for a Jatt Sikh Doctor girl 5'-8", Dec. 1992, American PR, Resident Doctor in Texas, US. Father own business in USA and pursuing USMLE. Seeking for Jatt Sikh Resident Doctor in US, vegetarian, non-alcoholic, 6 feet or above. Contact: singhveer77888@gmail.com, Ph: +9199947-54557. (CL21009085)

Suitable match for a Jatt Sikh Doctor girl 5 ft 2 in, February 1989 born beautiful Saraswat Brahmin girl, BAMS, working as Medical Officer in reputed private hospital. Reputed family WhatsApp: 98551-56085. (CL2100202)

Brahmin Manglik girl 26.02.1985, 7:50 pm/ Amritsar, 5'-1", Fashion Designing (NIFD), medium body. 75082-05666 (CL21000395)

Suitable match working Delhi/ NCR Punjab Saraswat Brahmin veg, fair girl 28/ 5'-6", B.Tech, Officer Central Govt. Undertaking 15 Lakh annually. WhatsApp App: 99145-39003. 98154-01992. (CL21001956)

Suitable match for unmarried Brahmin girl, October 1975/ 5'-4", M.Sc. (Maths), B.Ed. Government service. 98550-13040. (CL21001962)

Saraswat Brahmin girl born on 22.01.1990, MBA and holds Canadian PR looking for an educated boy who is residing in Ontario Canada. Contact: 98148-69358, 79825-41032. (CL21001969)

Highly educated match for beautiful Canadian PR Brahmin girl 1992, 5'-7", professionally decent Manager at Vancouver from decent educated family. Boy should hail from a decent educated family, caste, no bar. Contact: 81460-52444, 83604-61093. (CL21001983)

Match for Punjabi Saraswat Brahmin girl, 7.10.1990, 4.00 pm, Delhi/ 5'-3", MBA, working in MNC Noida. TCC 10 Lacs P.A., Khatra also welcome. WhatsApp App: 98717-93997. (CL21000500)

28/5'-4", beautiful girl working in Canada, seeks suitable match. 91110-88979. (CL21000726)

Suitable upper middle class match for Kalia (Bhardwaj) Manglik smart homely girl, 14.09.1994, 6.4 am, height 5'-4", M.Com, B.Ed, belongs to Una (HP), Birth place: SNP (Haryana). Contact after matching Kundi, Himachali/ Punjabi Brahman preferred. Near Chandigarh. Mobile: 98130-6554. Brokers excused. (CL21000515)

Manglik Saraswat Brahmin Graduate girl, 29-10-1993, 10:06 a.m., 5'-5", Mohali, tricity preferred. M.No. 81466-14609. (CL21000549)

Saraswat Brahmin BDS girl, 23.09.1994, 5:31 pm, 5'-2" Mohali running own clinic, tricity preferred. M.No. 94635-94403. (CL21000552)

Match for Hindu Brahmin girl born 1984, BDS. Only child. Father Executive Engineer, retired, issueless divorcee. +91-79869-48766. (CL21000566)

Highly qualified well settled, tall match for Saraswat, Non-Manglik, Brahmin girl, Ph.D Biotechnology (final stage), 2 July 1990, 5:20 am, Nangal Dam, 5'-4". WhatsApp: 94788-17787, 70093-49323. (CL2100216)

Professional qualified match for Punjabi Saraswat Brahmin girl 5'-5", M.Com, B.Ed. Contact: 70093-49400. (CL21002128)

Beautiful Brahmin girl, 5'-3", Dec. 1988, convent educated, MBA, MCA, Affiliated School Teacher. Contact: 90562-36270. (CL21002146)

Saraswat Brahmin girl, B.Tech/ IT, Software developer, Mohali, 07.08.93, 3:15 pm, 5'-5", Patiala, Only Canada/ Australia preferred. Contact: 97732-84913, 98153-33500. (CL21000941)

Suitable match for beautiful, fair, slim girl 20.5.1985, 4.20 pm, Chandigarh, height 5'-7", Professionally qualified Interior Designer, working with renowned Architect. Contact: 98555-86595. (CL21000784)

Suitable match for beautiful, fair, slim girl 20.5.1985, 4.20 pm, Chandigarh, height 5'-7", Professionally qualified Interior Designer, working with renowned Architect. Contact: 98555-86595. (CL21000784)

Suitable match for a Jatt Sikh girl, 29/5'-3", 10:00 a.m., Panjguri, Kalan, Diploma Computer B.Sc., IT, MCA, MA English, Content Writer, kundli must. dowry excuse, no gathering, well settled or NRI preferred. Contact: 98882-9112, 97990-87084. (CL21001827)

Brahmin girl 24/ 5'-4", B.Tech., M.Tech. (CSE), Software developer, Mohali, 07.08.93, 3:15 pm, 5'-5", Patiala, Only Canada/ Australia preferred. Contact: 97732-84913, 98153-33500. (CL21000941)

Match for Saraswat Brahmin girl, Feb. 88, born 8 pm, 5 ft. Homeopathy Dr. and Dietician, upper caste, professional and businessman are welcome. 98153-00648, 99159-00648. (CL21000945)

Suitable match working Delhi/ NCR Punjabi Sarawat Brahmin Veg, fair girl, 28/ 5'-6", B.Tech., Officer Central Govt. undertaking 15 Lakh annually. WhatsApp App: 98728-74012. (CL21002018)

Suitable match for a Jatt Sikh girl born 1992, working as investment Bunker. Canadian resident preferred. 94647-97959, 98768-47677. (CL21001827)

Match for Saraswat Brahmin girl, PO in Govt. Bank, 16.01.1987, 5:00 pm, Panjguri, Kalan, Diploma Computer B.Sc., IT, MCA, MA English, Content Writer, kundli must. dowry excuse, no gathering, well settled or NRI preferred. Contact: 97732-84913, 98153-33500. (CL21000941)

Suitable educated M4 Brahmin girl, 5'-2", 14.07.1992, 2:20 a.m., B.Tech, IT working MNC Pune. Family Dehradun based. EM: ranti Sharma 63@gmail.com. M: 929056301 (CL210114907); P:

Beautiful Gaur Brahmin girl, slim, fair, Sept. 91, 5'-4", M.Tech Software Engineer employed. MNC Gurgaon. Punjabi & same profession preferred. M-8776-7713. (CL21001938)

Teeotaller match for vegetarian Gaur Brahmin beautiful fair slim homely girl. B.Com, PGDBA, 5'-0", 02.07.1992, 06:11 pm (Amritala City). 94664-46199. (CL21000189)

Brahmin, B.Tech., 5'-5", 10.05 a.m., Ambala, Scale-1 officer, Central Government, upper caste no bar, Government job preferred. 94661-57029. (CL21001737)

CLASSIFIEDS

PROPERTY FOR SALE



Chandigarh 2 kanal livable good house prime location, Posh Area, North-East Sector 2, (Genuine buyers only), direct deal 98149-67149.

Chandigarh more than 2 kanal corner house prime location, Sector 8-A, (near Lake) plot price, direct deal. Genuine buyers. 98149-67149. (CL20114711)

Showroom Sector 17 (near Neelam Cinema) best location, available for immediate sale, below Market price. 98149-67149. (CL20114713)

Chandigarh one kanal kothi 8, 10, 11, 16, 18, 21, 32, 33, 35, 38, 98149-67149. (CL20114718)

Wanted 6 kanal, 4 kanal, 2 kanal and marlas plots/ kothies residential/ commercial/ industrial. (Spot payment). Chandigarh, Panchkula, Mohali, Mullanpur. Bansal Associates 98149-67149. (CL20114719)

One Kanal Kothi Sector 10 / 8/ 21 Chandigarh (Direct meeting Owner) Arora Rd. (HSAS) 50-51/ 17A. 9878079884. (CL20114851)

Chandigarh showroom (287.5 sq.yds) ground floor Sector 35 rented to Bank @ 3,13,000/- per month for sale. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL20114861)

Chandigarh one kanal Marbled facing park second floor Sector 33. Below Market price. Shree Properties. 98140-35506. (CL20114863)

Chandigarh showroom freehold (from stairs) corner Sector 19. Busiest Market vacant possession. Shree Properties. 98140-35506. (CL20114865)

Chandigarh shop bay in busiest Market, food market Sector 32 for sale vacant. Shree Properties. 98140-35506. (CL20114867)

Chandigarh four kanal houses B-Road Sector-8, 9. Prime location confirm deal. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL20114877)

Chandigarh one kanal houses Sector-18, 21. Confirm deal only confirmation with. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL20114879)

Chandigarh 7 marla triple storey houses Sector-32, 35, 37. Confirmation with. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL20114880)

Chandigarh showroom (287.5 sq.yds) first and second floor for sale Sector-22. Prime centrally located. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL20114881)

Aerocity/ IT City specialist: Available 200 yd Max cheque, 300 yd East facing, 500 yd on main road. Contact: 98151-78832, 92167-0970. (CL20114971)

Aerotropolis Agriculture land Block E, F, H. Also available LIO Block A, B, C, D. Call 98151-78832, 98760-67233. (CL20114972)

Permanent rental opportunities prime location SCOs/ Booths Airport Road, Aerocity Mohali ready possession. Call 98151-78832, 98145-67788. (CL20114974)

Aero City/ IT City: 125, 200, 300 yd plot/ kothi available, floorwise option also available. Contact: 98145-67788, 88940-4448. (CL20114975)

Chandigarh more than 4 kanal house-B-road, (Lush Green Area Northern Sector. 98149-67149. (CL20114972)

EMAAR/ Sec 108/109: Available 300/ 400 yrd in Sector 109/ EMAAR, 250 yd facing main road in Sector 104. Contact: 98146-70154, 98151-78832. (CL20114977)

One/ two kanal facing park Sector 8, 34, 35. Four kanal 8, 9, Chandigarh. Shaheen Ent. 98811-21133. (CL2000264)

Chandigarh 10/ 8 marla full/ floor wise Sector 15, 16, 19, 20, 27, 34, 98151-86915. (CL2000415)

Chandigarh one kanal newly built duplex house Sector 16A. Also Sector 35A. Gulati Estates 98140-06264. (CL2000420)

Chandigarh one kanal single old house, facing North East Sector 10-A. Gulati Estates 98140-06264. (CL2000422)

Chandigarh Sector 15, 16, 21 corner 10/ 12 marla single/ triple kothies confirmed/ vast choice. Harman 99150-01900, 98722-55755. (CL2011489)

10 marla newly built first floor main road opposite market Sector 18, fourteen marla first floor Sector 34, one kanal newly built with lift Sector 33. Chandigarh. 0172-2700041, 9475-67249. (CL20100775)

Newly built kanal second floor with lift, terrace Sector 18, demand 3 cr. Shankar 99966-61837. (CL2010087)

2 kanal nicely built up house Sector 18, Chandigarh. Contact Delhi Punjab Real Estate 98724-07071. (CL2010089)

1 kanal confirm house Sector 9, Chandigarh, only genuine buyer may Contact: Delhi Punjab Real Estate 98724-07071. (CL2010091)

16 marla corner house Sector 16, 14 marla single storey house Sector 35, Chandigarh. Contact: Delhi Punjab Real Estate 95011-21600. (CL2010092)

Two kanal approx Industrial Area Phase 1 Chandigarh from main road immediate sale reasonable price 98149-67149. (CL20100980)

1 kanal corner house green belt Sector 8 (near lake) Chandigarh. Direct deal (genuine buyer only) 98149-67149. (CL20100987)

Showroom Sector 34, monthly rent 11,50,000/- Mohali bank tenant service 3,00,000/- Sharan 98728-92299, 98766-60333. (CL20100208)

6 kanal prime location Sector 9, four kanal Sectors 8, 9, 2, 5, 27. Sharan 98728-92299, 98766-60333. (CL20100208)

Two showroom site adjacent at Silvercity Main, Zirakpur. Contact 98140-20073. (CL20100207)

Land 2.25 acre can be used for school/ housing project. Village Singhpura, on 65 feet mettle road at Zirakpur. Contact 98159-67529. (CL20100730)

400 gaj total land area and built area of showroom (size 20 feet front & 70 feet length) at Raipurani, Main highway can be used as Showroom/ institute/ godown etc. Contact 97799-47529. (CL20100734)

Commercial site available on wide road (size 80 feet front x 117 feet depth) in Panchkula Municipal Committee at Village Bhassa Tibba near IT Park Chandigarh land can be used for Guest House/ Hotel/ Office/ Space/ Showroom/ Restaurant. Contact 98159-67529. (CL20100744)

HIG/ MIG Sector 38W, 39B, 43B, 44A, 45A, 49D, 51A, 61, 63, freehold Society flats Sector 48, 49, 50, 51. Rajesh Estates: 98140-12730, 98148-22730. (CL20100814)

Kothis full/ floorwise 11, 21, 34, 35, 40, ten marla 15, 21, 37, 40, 42, 44, eight marla 18, 20, 38, 40, 44, seven marla Sector 32, 35, 37, five marla 22, 38, 40, 46, SCO Sector 21, 22, 32, 35, 37, 38, 40, 44, 46. Aarkay Estates: 98140-12730, 98148-22730. (CL20100817)

Kothi 8 marla ground/ first floor Sector 44, MIG ground renovated 450 Sector 45, MIG 2270D renovated Sector 63. HIG upper 1234/2 Sector 43B. Aarkay Estates: 98140-12730, 98148-22730. (CL20100822)

1 Kanal Corner/ Park beautiful Duplex Sector 7, Panchkula. Contact K.D. Sharma Real Estates 98142-10139. (CL20100863)

10 Marla marbled House floorwise Sector 21, Chandigarh. Contact K.D. Sharma Real Estates 98142-10139. (CL20100108)

House for sale in Pimpore City, Go to abroad. Plot size 1200 sqft. 98999-65196, 88294-45196. (CL20100108)

152 yards ground floor old map approved facing park facing Sun Sector 20, Chandigarh. 98720-38900. (CL20100106)

Kanal Single Storey Sector 35, Newly built floorwise Kanal/ Ten Marla Sector 33. 98761-13630. (CL20100136)

Eco City 1 plot one kanal good location, Omaxe 300 yard duplex house and kothi 350 yard DLF New Chandigarh. 98159-05086. (CL201001661)

Sector 38 West MIG first floor, HIG Lower second floor and HIG Upper, HIG independent, Megh Estates: 98159-05086, 98762-22255. (CL201001662)

Kothi 10 marla Sector 15, 20, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38. Eight marla Sector 22, 23, 38, 40. Seven marla Sector 35, 37, 20. Five marla Sector 22, 32, 37, 38, 40. Megh Estates: 98144-10897. (CL201001867)

DLF Hyde Park New Chandigarh-350 sqyds plot and 350 sqyds double storey brand new kothi for sale, meeting with owner. 98769-55966. (CL201001850)

+90+ rooms, hotel/ resort/ prime location in Manali-Himachal Pradesh. Owner going abroad. Contact: Yellow Bricks Realtors Pvt. Ltd. 92163-41515. (CL201001851)

Kothi 16 marla Sector 70 kothi one kanal Sector 71, Mohali. 98144-10897. (CL201001868)

Three flats of 3 BHK, built on 260 square yards, Peermuchalla, excellent location. Can be sold separately or together. Owner: 98780-27626. (CL201001836)

MIG 1st floor transfer case Sector-45C & EWS ground floor transfer case Sector-40A, Chandigarh. Contact: 9872-74572, 86993-14587. (CL201001841)

3 BHK top floor Kendriya Vidhyalya Society Sector-20, Panchkula. Contact: 9872-74572, 86993-14587. (CL201001842)

Omaxe Ph-1, New Chandigarh. One kanal corner plot for sale exceptional location. Details: 98766-9885. (CL201002232)

Bhola Estates 98153-01547, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, marla full/ floors in all Sectors. (CL201002235)

7 marla plot for sale in Sector 38, Chandigarh. 98766-69885. (CL201001909)

16x65 built-up showroom for sale in Sector-5, MDC. Satya Estates 99157-86900. (CL201001912)

14/ 10 M/ 20 M/ 20 M/ 20 M/ 20 M/ House/ 17. 97800-72710. (CL201001915)

Booth site for sale in Sector-4-MDC, Panchkula. Satya Estates 99157-86900. (CL201001916)

One kanal and 14 marla facing park, one kanal plot for sale in Sector 1 & II. Rajan Estates: 98147-02555, 98153-86161. (CL201001769)

15 marla newly built floors with lift. Corner facing park. 8. Sethi Estates: 98140-04849. (CL201001771)

10 marla duplex with stilt parking and lift available in Sector 7, 8, 9, 16, 4, Panchkula. Contact: 98766-69885. (CL201002228)

10 marla floors with stilt parking and lift available in Sector 7, 8, 9, 16, 4, Panchkula. Contact: 98766-69885. (CL201001776)

10 marla kothi #454 Sector 80, Mohali, ground and first floor 2 BHK each floor available. 98760-52353. (CL201001822)

6 marla kothi #87, Sector 78, Mohali, facing park triple storey front pocket. 98787-80000. (CL201001822)

10 Marla facing North-East 1280 Sector-80. Smart Move Ready 87250-15131. (CL201001745)

125 gaj kothi newly built (old Sunny Enclave) commercial location corner facing park. Chandigarh Realtors: 98854-04849. (CL201001771)

5 and 8 marla newly built floor at Aerocity Mohali. Contact: 98854-04849. (CL201001776)

Ten bigha for sale in Kandhaghhat on Solan Shimla Highway. Contact: 97815-86467. (CL201002218)

Panchkula - One kanal duplex on dividing Sector 7 & 8 main road, two kanal duplexes Sector 6 main road reasonable rate. Sethi Estates: 98140-30249. (CL201000983)

Panchkula - One kanal duplex facing park, one kanal facing park, one kanal duplexes Sector 6 main road reasonable rate. Sethi Estates: 98140-30249. (CL201000983)

Panchkula - One kanal duplex facing park, one kanal facing park, one kanal duplexes Sector 6 main road reasonable rate. Sethi Estates: 98140-30249. (CL201000983)

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Panchkula - One kanal duplex facing park, one kanal facing park, one kanal duplexes Sector 6 main road reasonable rate. Sethi Estates: 98140-30249. (CL201000983)

Panchkula - One kanal duplex facing park, one kanal facing park, one kanal duplexes Sector 6 main road reasonable rate. Sethi Estates: 98140-30249. (CL201000983)

Panchkula - One kanal duplex facing park, one kanal facing park, one

6000 yard commercial plot
Tilaknagar, 8600 yard land Mehrauli
Delhi sale or Finance. 98782-31283.
(CL21001895)

Mohali plots: 1 kanal plot corner
Sector 79, 6 marla plot Aero City North
facing, 4, 8, 12 marla plot Sector 89,
HIG, MIG, LIG facing park corner Sector
70, 30 rooms. PG Mattau Balongi GS
Property Consultant 1090 Mattau Sector
70, 98775-21383, 99881-51254, 94175-
26778. (CL21001935)

DLF Hyde Park: 500 sq.yds. plot for
sale, top location, New Chandigarh,
meeting with owner: 98769-55966.
(CL21001955)

Available 200 sq. yards plots in
Chandigarh Royal City on Zirakpur
Patiala Highway @ very reasonable
price. 92561-44577. (CL21002061)

All sizes of plots/house/ floor
available in Aerocity Mohali. Call
81968-97777. (CL21002067)

All sizes of plots/ flats/ bungalows/
terraces available in EMAAR Mohali.
Call: 81968-97777. (CL21002076)

250 sq. yards plot for sale at Sunny
Enclave, Sec. 123, Mohali. Owner:
98154-81526. (CL21002093)

CURO One Mullanpur New
Chandigarh showroom site 124 sqyds
dimension 16x468 Block-C in CURO
One Madhya Marg Extension
Mullanpur Gagan Realech: 99880-
06114. (CL21002050)

Available: 10 sqyds booth IT City
Mohali reasonable price, location draw
in April, all location good near Airport.
99882-06114. (CL21002055)

Available: 10 sqyds booth
IT City Mohali reasonable price,
location draw in April, all location
near Amity University. 94173-02223.
(CL21002058)

Five marla plot No. 1955, Sector 80,
Mohali, single lane, demand 60 laacs.
Owner: 98151-80816. (CL21002095)

490 sq. yards corner plot in prime
location of Sector 86, Mohali.
Registry case. Price 1.25 Cr. 98727-
20510. (CL21002140)

Janta Land: 818 gaj, big corner,
2 kanal corner, B-Road, Sector-82
(best for display shop/ industries etc).
Contact Empire Estates 93763-00005.
(CL21002176)

12.5 marla plot Omax
New Chandigarh, Near Cricket
Stadium, facing East. 81958-49999.
(CL21000762)

Mohali: 1 & 2 kanal, 60 feet road,
industrial plots, Phase-9 (genuine
rates). Empire Estates 93763-00005.
(CL21002179)

Aerocity: 125, 150, 200, 250, 300 gaj
residential plots (available confirm &
genuine rates). Empire Estates 98772-
85647. (CL21002180)

Mohali: 200, 250, 300 gaj all plots
available. Nand Estate 99888-99131, 73555-
55606. (CL21002181)

Mohali Aerotropolis LOI Block
C, D residential and commercial.
Nand Estate 99888-99131, 73555-
55606. (CL21002182)

Aerocity: 1 kanal, residential plot in
Block-D, E. (Genuine rates). Empire
Estates: 95177-60000. (CL21002183)

Mohali IT City: 66 sale 100 sqyds
plot facing park, North East facing.
98030-01000. (CL21002196)

Janta Land: 1 kanal, B-road, North
facing, single lane, Sector 82. (Direct
road from IT City). Empire Estates
93763-00005. (CL21002208)

PLOT WANTED

Get maximum price for all sizes of
plots Sec. 76 to 80 JPL. Industrial 82/88/
89 Aero City/ Eco City/ IT City Mohali.
Rama Properties, RERA approved.
98140-42287. (CL20114992)

LAND FOR SALE

Agriculture lands suitable for
farmhouse near New Chandigarh good
investment in future 1 acre, 2.5 acre, 6
acre, 15 acre, 25 acre 50 acre + only
genuine buyers contact Hello Hi
Bhatia 94170-09175. (CL20115043)

6 biigh 14 biswa (6700 sq. yard),
8 biigh (8000 sq. yard), 50 biigh
(50000 sq. yard) land for Hotel Resort,
Ashram, Education Institutions, etc.
and Cottages in Chail (Himachal).
Transferable to non Himachalis.
Contact: 78883-36004. (CL21000115)

Land deals in Zirakpur, Derabassi,
Dappar, Tricity, residential, commercial
and agriculture, fair deal. 98766-
10603. (CL21000238)

50 marla road connected land near
Government Hospital & Railway
Station Una, Himachal. Contact:
94172-90875. (CL21000456)

All sizes of lands available on
Kharar (Banur Landra Budanpur) to
Ambala Ambala to Ludhiana and
Rajpura to Patiala at best prices. Contact:
JPG 98720-92001. (CL21000709)

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New Chandigarh, Near Cricket
Stadium, facing East. 81958-49999.
(CL21000762)

12.5 marla plot Omax



Chef Manish Mehrotra on the hard times that the pandemic has pushed the F&B industry into and helming the 'Best Restaurant in India'

VARIETY page 14



Recalling the exploits of Maha Vir Chakra recipient Wing Commander Swaroop Krishna Kaul, later Chief of Air Staff, who led the Black Panthers into the battle

TRIBUTE page 15



'The World Beneath Their Feet' is a narrative of man's quest to conquer the Himalayas, particularly the 10 peaks above 8,000m, in the first half of the last century

BOOKS page 16

SHOT IN THE ARM



Hosts India won an impressive 30 medals in the first international event for many shooters in over 15 months. It gave a glimpse of preparedness going into Tokyo Olympics, but the players know who they would be up against — the best in the world

VINAYAK PADMADEO

IT'S the last day of the ISSF World Cup in New Delhi. The team competition in trap discipline is being played out and skeet shooter Mairaj Ahmad Khan has walked in to watch the proceedings. Looking relaxed, the 45-year-old is at the Karni Singh Shooting Ranges to push for his training proposal with the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) officials. After the meeting, he is at the final range. "Ah! He is too slow, the target is well past him," Mairaj indulges in commentary after a quick glance at the commentary box, which is empty.

For someone who has had disappointing outings in two back-to-back World Cups, Mairaj is relatively calm and composed. For sport watchers, his scores were a bit alarming. A meagre 113 at the Cairo World Cup in February was followed by a decent score of 121 at the New Delhi competition. Mairaj failed to make the final of either competition. It must be said, though, that the veteran lost his chance in a four-man shoot-off for two places in the finals.

"I am not worried at all about the scores. I want to peak at the right time and am in the middle of my preparation phase for the Olympics."

I'm trying to fix issues with equipment and trying a few things with my technique," Mairaj says. "I was sick in Cairo. I dragged myself for the team competition... But I

at events that define their professional careers. In the Olympics year, they have their eye on an Olympics medal.

Fifteen shooters have earned India quota places for the Games, though it's not certain that they themselves would be in Tokyo, for the final team selection would be on form and experience.

Conceding that his personal coach Ennio Falco has influenced his approach to major events, Mairaj relays a backstory from the 2016 Rio Olympics. Mairaj had an average outing at the Pre-event training (PET), a day before the competition. "Ennio was happy. He said: 'It's good you didn't put in a lot of effort today. I have come to realise that sometimes you have to take a foot back in training. Shooting 75/75 in PET doesn't count,'" says Mairaj of his experience in Rio, where he finished a creditable ninth with a qualification score of 121.

To explain this in layman's terms, the Khurja man says: "My coach always says: 'You have one bottle of water at your disposal, now do you want to drink it in a World Cup or at the Olympics?' Guess we know the answer." Mairaj plans to fly to Italy soon, where apart from getting his stock fixed, he has plans to take part in the Italian Grand Prix and the Lonato World Cup before heading to Tokyo. "I'll be ready for the Olympics by June."

Back in the arena
In the pistol range, Rahi Sarnobat is equally relieved. The first major international event after a long gap is what she was yearning for. Rahi's qualification score of 581 may not be enough to seal a spot in the final in Tokyo, however. Chinki Yadav, who won gold in 25m Pistol, qualified for the final with 580, while Manu Bhaker shot a modest 576.

Considering the time away from international shooting, and that she was coming into this competition on the back of a heel injury, for Rahi it was a decent enough outing. "My scores will improve. But more than the performance, I was keen to compete against international shooters as it is a different feeling altogether," Rahi said. "I came here to soak this atmosphere. And I almost won a gold, so all in all I am happy."

The big tick is, however, from the 10m

Air Pistol competition, raising hopes of a medal at Tokyo. Trailblazing teen Saurabh Chaudhary and his older teammate and reigning world No. 1 Abhishek Verma gave glimpses of what they're capable of — qualification score of 587 and 583 at Delhi would have easily put them into any major international final.

Between them, the duo won all gold medals in World Cups in the 2019 cycle and looked set to start this season with the same result, before Iran's Javad Foroughi pipped Chaudhary in New Delhi.

"While other shooters have a set plan to peak before the Olympics, I keep it fairly simple. I need to keep myself motivated and doing well at major competitions is the only way forward for me," Verma said of his training mantra. "I had a fairly satisfying World Cup. I may leave for Switzerland in May to get my Morini pistol serviced and be ready for the Games."

The medal rush

Overall, the home contingent did well in the first international competition in over 15 months, winning 30 medals, including 15 gold. Understandably, there has been a lot of hype regarding the team's performance, but scratch the surface a bit, and the picture is anything but rosy.

Of the 30 medals, 16, including 10 gold medals, were won in non-Olympic categories where team representation was next to nothing. Take, for instance, the 25m Rapid Fire Pistol mixed team — it had only two entries and so the gold medal match was played between two Indian teams, and Tejaswini and Vijayveer beat Abhindya Patil and Gurpreet Singh 9-1.

The biggest gain for Team India came in form of the emergence of two Chandigarh-based shooters, Ganemat Sekhon and Vijayveer Sidhu.

Ganemat, only 20, became the first Indian woman skeet shooter to win a medal,

when she finished third in women's Skeet competition. Vijayveer, in his first major international meet, came within a whisker of gold in 25m Rapid Fire Pistol.

"Indian shooters should enjoy wins. But the next competition could be harder as the Delhi World Cup was impacted by Covid-19 restrictions and many countries, including China, Russia and even Serbia, stayed away," said an international shooter, who did not wish to be named.

Rifts emerge
Pistol team's high performance coach Samaresh Jung has sounded the alarm bells. "We need to be really careful since the cases are rising up. We need to look at the competitions and where we want to go... Obviously, performance is important, but the whole world does not travel. We can have local events. Our trials are very competitive."

international meet, came within a whisker of gold in 25m Rapid Fire Pistol.

"Indian shooters should enjoy wins. But the next competition could be harder as the Delhi World Cup was impacted by Covid-19 restrictions and many countries, including China, Russia and even Serbia, stayed away," said an international shooter, who did not wish to be named.

Rifts emerge
Apart from tougher competitions in the

lead-up to the Tokyo Games, the Indian shooting contingent has a few internal rifts to sort out before thinking too far ahead.

Celebrated pistol coach Jaspal Rana and pistol ace Manu Bhaker have had a falling out. At the heart of the problem is the emergence of Chinki Yadav in the 25m Pistol competition. Chinki has come out of the Madhya Pradesh Academy, where Jaspal is a coach.

Before Chinki, Manu was a straight pick for representing India in 25m Pistol, which could have been her third competition in Tokyo, besides 10m Pistol and mixed competition. However, a combination of a dip in form and Chinki's upward graph has raised question marks over Manu's future with India in the 25m pistol event.

The duo was not on talking terms during the World Cup. NRAI president Raninder Singh had to intervene and Ronak Pandit has been appointed as pistol manager of the team for better coordination.

Mixed team conundrum

A dip in form by a few shooters — including Apurvi Chanderla, Anjum Moudgil and Tejaswani Sawant — has caused worries in the rifle contingent as well. Apurvi had a torrid time at the World Cup, to the extent she did not register a shot in the 10m Air Rifle women team bronze medal match.

Apurvi's loss of form in the World Cup and the selection trials earlier has opened a debate over the composition of the mixed team for Tokyo. Anjum and Tejaswani, too, have had average outings.

However, Deepali Deshpande, rifle coach with the senior team, said it was wrong to question their form. "I am not worried... Rather, I am happy that they are struggling now and not in Tokyo. We still have time to fix these issues. Do not worry, we will be ready for Tokyo," Deepali said.

After two Olympics in which India won medals, they fired a blank in Rio. Hopes are high this time, and worry is impossible to escape from.

At the recent ISSF World Cup in New Delhi, Panchkula's Yashaswini Singh Deswal (centre) pipped Manu Bhaker (L) for the 10m Air Pistol gold medal; P Shri Nivetha (R) finished fourth.
PHOTOS COURTESY: NRAI

LIKELY TEAM

50M RIFLE 3P

- Sanjeev Rajput
- Aishwary PS Tomar
- Tejaswini Sawant

10M AIR RIFLE

- Divyansh S Panwar
- Deepak Kumar
- Anjum Moudgil
- Apurvi Chanderla

10M AIR PISTOL

- Saurabh Chaudhary
- Abhishek Verma
- Manu Bhaker
- Yashaswini Deswal

SKEET

- Angad Bajwa
- Mairaj Ahmad Khan

25M PISTOL

- Rahi Sarnobat
- Chinki Yadav

*THESE SHOOTERS HAVE EARNED INDIA A QUOTA PLACE

From extreme left: Vijayveer Sidhu, Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar and Angad Vir Singh Bajwa.



"I want to peak at the right time and am in the middle of my preparation phase."

MAIRAJ AHMAD KHAN

Ganemat Sekhon, the star find.

MAIRAJ AHMAD KHAN

The new kitchen rules & tools

Chef Manish Mehrotra on the hard times and helming the 'Best Restaurant in India'

BINDU GOPAL RAO

LAST MARCH, Chef Manish Mehrotra had just returned from a food trip to Mumbai with his daughter and was all set to take his food pop-ups to Spain, Mexico and Tokyo, when Covid-19 struck. The pandemic brought the world to a halt and shut businesses, restaurants being among the worst hit. When things started opening up, restaurants limped back to life too and Mehrotra's restaurant Indian Accent has now won the Best Restaurant in India award at Asia's 50 Best Restaurants, the list published by UK-based William Reed Business Media, seventh time in a row.

Indian Accent won the award for excelling "through a combination of creative modern dishes and warm hospitality... Season after season, Chef Manish Mehrotra's inventive tasting menus add an international accent to his country's cuisine by mixing in global ingredients and techniques".

The chef is understandably elated. "It is an international award, very big and transparent. No influence works here. So, it feels good," he says. The year seems to have ended well for him, but that is not how it began. Like people the world over, Mehrotra found himself locked inside the house, cooking far simpler stuff than what he is known for, sharing daily chores and meals with family. Large-scale unemployment soon laid bare the basic flaws with the industry. What transpired over the next few months left a tome of lessons for him, on both personal and professional fronts.

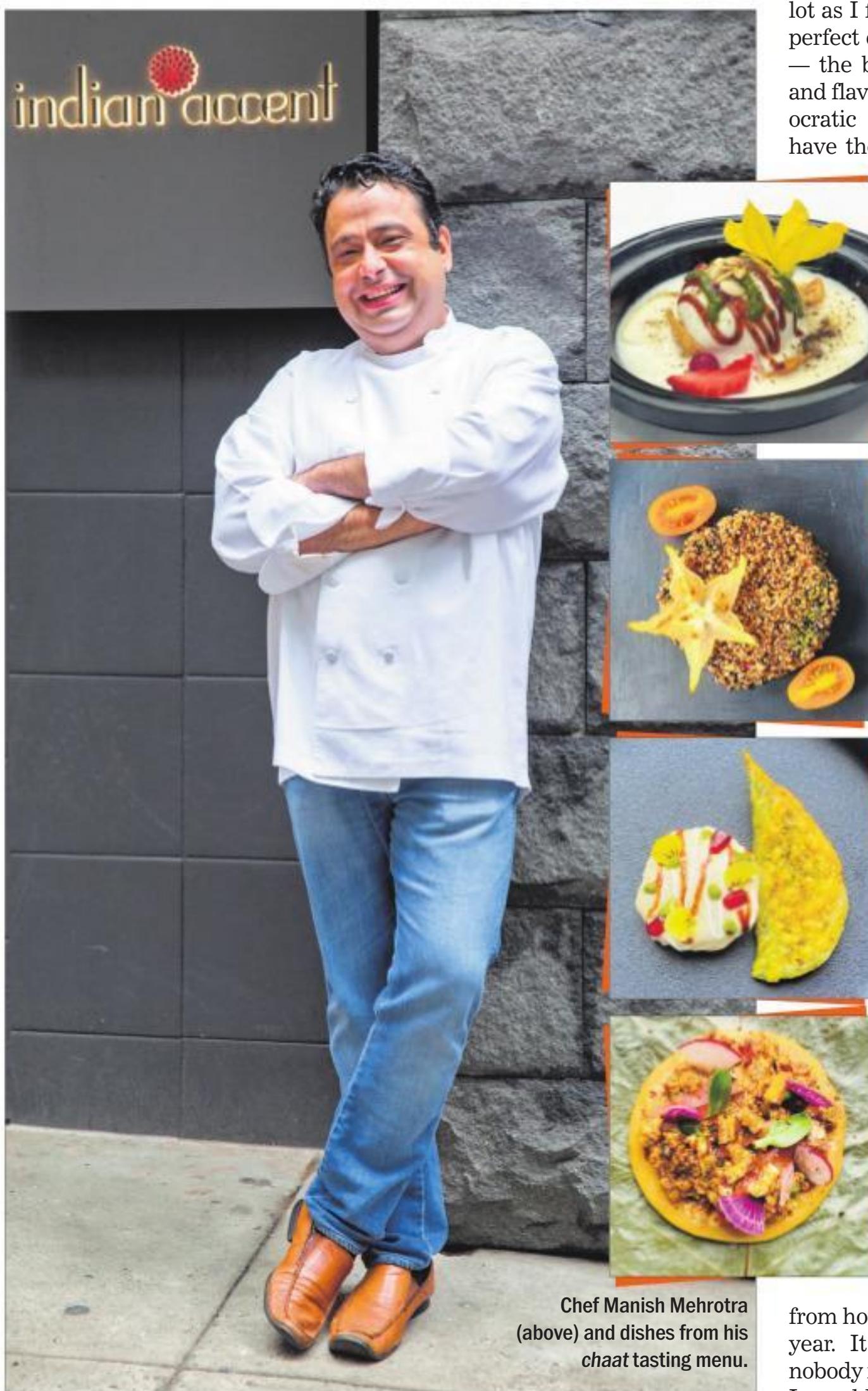
■ The pandemic was a big blow to the industry. Right?

Yes, for the industry, the long-term effect is big as it will take yet another year to get back to normal. This industry requires a lot of foreign and corporate business as they are the ones who spend the money for the revival to happen.

■ Smaller businesses were hit harder.

Smaller restaurants have gone through a very tough time. We are part of a big corporate business with slightly better infrastructure. We faced losses, but survived. But, a lot of smaller businesses closed permanently. We all must realise that cost control is very important and all chefs, owners and managers should work on how to effectively control costs without compromising on quality.

■ Takeaways seem to have saved



Chef Manish Mehrotra (above) and dishes from his chaat tasting menu.

the day for consumers.

We too wanted to do takeaways, but at Indian Accent, the food is all about experience, presentation, textures and flavours. It becomes very tough to replicate this in a takeaway box. However, we did this at our sister restaurant, Comorin in Gurugram, where it is going on well.

■ And what about the takeaways from the pandemic year...?

On the personal front, spend more time with the family because the future is uncertain and make time to get in touch with long lost friends.

On the professional front, hygiene standards must continue. While we were always using gloves, masks are a new thing and will continue even after the pandemic as it is a good practice. I also want more transparency between the front and the back of the house. Every guest is welcome to visit my kitchen to see what we cook and how.

■ You have come up with a new tasting menu. What is it all about?

The one thing that everybody missed during the lockdown was street food. Personally, I like chaat a

lot as I find it to be one of the most perfect dishes ever created in India — the balance of textures, colours and flavours is beautiful. It is a democratic dish where everyone can have their own version. The menu helped increase footfall at the restaurant. We have 11 different types of chaat from different parts of India. That becomes challenging for the team and for me too; and it is both fun and educational. From April 13, we will be doing a Ramzan tasting menu, a completely different take.

■ What were the apprehensions of your guests and how did you counter them?

People are still hesitant about coming to a crowded place, which is fine. I believe they should fear the virus. While we take measures, to be honest, precautions must be from both sides. It's a two-way role and everybody's responsibility.

■ The industry has seen large-scale unemployment. How has the government helped?

We really wish the government could help, but I think they have bigger problems in different sectors which I hope they are addressing. Here, they can help by slightly toning down the regulations or helping the industry in some way. I really feel sad for the students who graduated

from hotel schools last year and this year. It is going to be tough as nobody is hiring at this point of time. I would tell them to hang on as things are going to improve.

■ 2020 saw the rise of home chefs and experiments such as cloud kitchens. Has this impacted you?

These concepts are very good and helped many chefs financially. I am happy for them. But its impact on my kind of restaurant is not much because we are not only about food but also about experience. However, people have come up with fantastic food and there is place for everyone. In this game, quality matters and till the time they maintain it, they will survive and flourish.



FOOD TALK

PUSHPESH PANT

Why shikanji is not nimbu-pani

THREE was a time when we would beat the heat by treating ourselves to homemade sharbat. The most common was sharbat-e-shikanjai that has, over the years, become a banal lemonade called shikanji. Most people believe shikanji is nothing else but sweetened nimbu-pani, but that's a misconception. The name shikanji derives from the word shikanja, that literally translates as a trap. This is justified, as a small wooden contraption is used to squeeze the lemons. However, the original sharbat was far more complex a product than nimbu-pani. In those days, sugar syrup was prepared by mixing lemon juice with sugar and keeping it in the sun for four-five days to expose it to heat gently. This method is described in the Mahabharata and is called 'halpaak' as it is believed it was the gifted royal cook Nal who invented this method.

The word sharbat comes from Arabic and is commonly used in Persia/Iran. The denizens of the desert understandably loved the cold drink when the sun scorched the expanse of sand. The original drink was not only a thirst quencher, but served as a generous dose of oral rehydration. In medieval India, royal meals often began with sharbat after invoking the name of the lord and was called sharbat-e-labgir. Alas, the days are gone and we all find ourselves addicted to bottled, mass-produced carbonated drinks and squashes that are fruity only in name, are coloured and flavoured artificially.

We are grateful to friends who gift us homemade phalsa and bael sharbat every year as soon as these fruits start appearing in the market. Phalsa is prized as the fruit is short seasonal. The sharbat made from it is delicate pink in hue and its sweet-sour taste is rendered exotic by a hint of astringency. It has a short shelf life as even sugar, otherwise a natural preservative, ruins its wonderful taste.

Bael, on the other hand, is wood apple that the devout Shaivites offer to Lord Shiva. Its yellow flesh has an alluring aroma and is believed to cure many a digestive ailment. In recent years, bael murabba has made a reappearance in Ayurveda.

BAEL AND PHALSA SHARBAT

Ingredients

Bael fruit flesh or phalsa berries	500 gm
Sugar	250 gm
Salt	1/4 tsp or to taste
Water	As required

Method

Mash the flesh of bael fruit to a pulp. Keep aside. If using phalsa, wash the berries well and rub and mash to remove the seeds. Keep the pulp/residue in a bowl. Prepare sugar syrup by boiling it with an equal amount of water. Mix the fruit pulp with sugar syrup and add salt. Dilute it with water. Garnish the bael sharbat with a few leaves of mint and sprinkle a small pinch of black rock salt or roasted cumin powder over the sharbat. Serve chilled.



CAPTION CONTEST 1299



Entries are invited to suggest a caption for the above photograph. The caption should only be in English, witty and not exceeding 10 words, and reach Spectrum, The Tribune, Chandigarh, 160030, by Thursday. The best five captions will be published and awarded ₹300, ₹250, ₹200, ₹150 and ₹100, respectively. Each caption must be accompanied by a clipping of the caption contest and its number. Photocopies of the caption photo will not be accepted. Please mention the pin code in your address.

You have a camera or a phone camera? Click and send us a picture for the caption contest. The selected picture will be used for Caption Contest. Mail the high resolution picture (.jpg format) at captionpics@tribunemail.com

Selected entries for Caption Contest 1298

March 28 issue (see photo)

- Hitchhiking — Jaskaran Preet Kaur, Chandigarh.
- Mirror, mirror, who's the fairest monkey here — Joy, Karnal.
- Glassmates — Dr Kanika Kumar, Chandigarh.
- Be(a)st friends — Narinder Sharma, Panchkula.
- Play(y)net of the apes — Alka Kalia, Zirakpur.



Pressure cooker: Safety is paramount



CONSUMERS BEWARE!

PUSHPA GIRIMAJI

I was cooking lentils in a new pressure cooker that we had bought. After a whistle, I switched off the gas stove and when I opened the lid (without applying any force) after some time, the cooker spewed out the boiling food, causing severe burns on my face. It has been two months now. I have not gone to work since and am still receiving treatment for the burns I suffered. I want the manufacturer to pay for the defective product sold to us. Can you please guide me in this regard?

As food is cooked under pressure in these gadgets, safety parameters require that the lid remains tightly locked until the pressure inside the cooker has fallen sufficiently for it to be completely safe. In other words, the lid should open only when it is safe to do so. It is for this reason that the Indian Standards provide for a test called 'removal of lid under pressure' to be performed on pressure cookers. This is meant to prevent opening of the lid until the pressure inside reaches a safe level. In your case, it seems like there was a manufacturing defect that allowed the lid to open even before sufficient release of pressure.

From your account, it seems to me that the doctrine of 'Res Ipsa Loquitur' (the thing speaks for itself) should apply here. The very fact that the lid opened before the pressure was fully released should prove the defect, thereby holding the manufacturer liable. I must also mention that under the new consumer protection law, there is a separate chapter on product liability, clearly defining the right of a consumer to compensation for any harm caused by a defective product.

However, manufacturers often take the defence of misuse of the gadget for the accidents. In fact, in TTK Prestige Ltd Vs Akhil



All pressure cookers in the country now need to conform to Indian Standards formulated by the BIS and must bear the 'standard' mark

Bhartiya Grahak Panchayat (September 30, 1999), the SC agreed with the manufacturer that the consumer should have complained to him so that he could have investigated into the accident and checked whether the cooker burst was caused on account of a manufacturing defect or mishandling.

Frankly, I am not sure whether any manufacturer will admit to a manufacturing defect — he would always try to fasten the blame on the consumer. Besides, your case is different. This is not a case of bursting of the pressure cooker, but of the lid opening prematurely.

However, just to be on the safer side, I would suggest the following steps before you formally lodge your complaint before the consumer court: (a) immediately complain to the manufacturer and seek compensation; (b) get an independent expert to look at the pressure cooker and give an opinion on the cause of the accident; (c) if your pressure cooker carried the Indian Standards (IS) mark, lodge a complaint with the Bureau of Indian Standards too. It will independently investigate into the matter and its opinion will also help you with your case.

In addition to these, keep the certificate from the doctor, the prescriptions and the bills pertaining to your treatment. Besides the cost of treatment, you can also claim compensation for the mental and physical agony caused to you, besides the loss caused on account of your not attending to your professional commitments.

■ As a newly married couple, this was our first pressure cooker and the experience has left us devastated. How can we ensure the purchase of a defect-free pressure cooker?

To prevent such accidents, the government recently brought pressure cookers under mandatory quality control. Under the Domestic Pressure Cooker (Quality Control) Order, 2020, all pressure cookers sold in the country have to conform to Indian Standards formulated by the BIS and must bear the standard mark under a licence from the BIS. The order has come into effect from February 1, 2021. So, buy a pressure cooker with the mandatory certification, read the usage instructions carefully and follow them strictly. You should not face any problem.

Leading Black Panthers into battle

Recalling exploits of recce and strike leader Wing Commander Swaroop Krishna 'Suppi' Kaul, MVC, later the Chief of Air Staff

ARJUN SUBRAMANIAM & HARISH MASAND

SOON after he took over command of No. 37 Squadron (Black Panthers) at Hasimara (an airbase in North Bengal) in April 1971, Wing Commander Swaroop Krishna 'Suppi' Kaul (later the Chief of Air Staff) was asked by the Senior Air Staff Officer in Eastern Air Command, Air Vice Marshal Devasher, to explore the possibility of modifying the Hunter Mk 56s to carry photo-recce pods. This was considered a key operational requirement to create a mosaic of ground deployments of the Pakistan army in East Pakistan. Soon after, the Black Panthers were chosen for this additional role since Suppi had a lot of experience in Fighter Reconnaissance (FR) with camcorders on Vampires.

Accordingly, from May-June 1971, around six fighter aircraft and a trainer of the squadron were modified with Vinten cameras, two side-looking F-95 cameras and a forward-looking one, the F-135, in the nose. As soon as the trainer was ready, Suppi trained a few pilots in this role. Harish



Masand, a young Flying Officer, was among these pilots and emerged as Suppi's near-permanent wingman from then on till the end of the war, collecting a Vir Chakra for his own individual exploit of shooting down a Sabre on the first day of the war on December 4 in a chaotic dogfight and melee over Dacca.

By October 1971, Suppi and Harish were doing FR missions inside East Pakistan photographing areas/targets of interest. That is when Harish gathered how good Suppi was in low-level navigation. As his wingman, Harish's job was to keep abreast of him around 2,000 yards and keep the tail of the formation clear while they navigated to the target, and then let the cameras roll from both aircraft when he called. Almost from the first such mission over hostile territory, Harish realised that he didn't ever have to look at the map: if a check point was to be crossed at 7 minutes and 50 seconds, he just had to glance at the ground at that time and the check point would be right there where it was supposed to be. Due to Suppi's accurate navigation and gentle corrections in course/speed in total radio



Wing Commander SK Kaul (R) with Flying Officer Harish Masand (C) explaining a recce route to Air Marshal Dewan, the C-in-C of Eastern Air Command; (L) the Black Panthers after the 1971 war. Wing Commander Kaul is seated fourth from right, Flying Officer Masand is standing in middle row, second from left. PHOTOS COURTESY: THE WRITER

As per Wing Commander SK Kaul's Maha Vir Chakra citation, 'His reconnaissance flights over Tezgaon and Kurmitola airfields, in the face of the most sustained and heavy enemy ground fire, stand out as acts of heroism, extreme gallantry and devotion to duty'

Wing Commander (later Chief of Air Staff) SK Kaul >>



silence, Harish could devote a major portion of his attention to scanning the skies around and behind for any enemy threat. That is how he spotted two Sabres well in time on the very first mission on December 4, 1971, and that is a story that Harish has narrated earlier.

Suppi and Harish did some nine FR missions before the war, the last one being as late as December 2 over Comilla and Lalmai Hills for 4 Corps. Taking off from Gauhati, they landed in Kumbhigram around noon because they did not have the gas to get back. The photo section in Kumbhigram developed the films, 6,000 frames between the two of them, after which Suppi and Harish stayed up till two in the morning, looking at the photos and marking out gun positions, troop concentration and the defensive works on each frame with a Chinagraph pencil, since there was no photo interpreter available there and the intelligence was required

urgently by the Army. The films were sent off to the 4 Corps headquarters in Telimura the following morning (December 3) before they flew back to Hasimara to get into the war the very next day.

Suppi flew several strike missions during the war, including the mission that struck the Governor's House in Dacca on December 14, but his risk-taking and leadership qualities emerged on Day One itself. Harish recounts that mission with clarity. 'We were to launch the first raid of four Hunters on Tezgaon airfield on December 4, call sign Mission 501, Time Over Target of 0705 IST/0730 East Pakistan Time. The formation comprised Suppi in the lead, Billoo Sengar as his wingman, Mascarenhas as number 3 and me as number 4. Suppi's aircraft did not start so he jumped into the standby aircraft. Masc's aircraft went unserviceable so we took off as three aircraft. After take-off, my landing gear refused to go

up and I started trailing the lead section of Suppi and Billoo for quite some time till I finally decided to use the emergency override switch and get the gear up and catch up. While I was having this problem, Suppi could have easily aborted the mission since two of the four aircraft had fallen out, but he continued, displaying his courage and dedication to the task given to him. Fortunately, we finally went in as three aircraft since we were bounced by two F-86 Sabres about two minutes short of target and had to engage them in combat.'

Harish continued, 'Throughout the war and the many missions we did together, Suppi was cool and did not ever flinch from facing the heavy anti-aircraft fire over Dacca or the threat of enemy Sabres during the initial days of the conflict. He was also open to suggestions from youngsters like me on the planning of missions and attacks, which resulted in great team

effort for more effective attacks with minimum losses. Due to adaptation of different attack patterns through such open discussions between us, we survived the war without a scratch at least when we were together, even in the attacks on Governor's House in Dacca on December 14 and the university area on the 15th where in the anti-aircraft fire was dense.'

'Suppi was also a compassionate human being during the war and cared about his subordinates, officers or men. I personally experienced how he handled the loss of my younger brother, a paratrooper, during the war when the unfortunate news came to him on December 10. Slowly, and very gently, he broke the bad news to me and told me to get drunk that night and take the next day off, an offer that I firmly declined.'

Wing Commander Kaul was awarded the Maha Vir Chakra for leading his squadron into battle and as per the citation, 'His reconnaissance flights over Tezgaon and Kurmitola airfields, in the face of the most sustained and heavy enemy ground fire, stand out as acts of heroism, extreme gallantry and devotion to duty.'

Modest and gracious as ever, Air Chief Marshal Swaroop Krishna Kaul attributes the performance of the squadron to exemplary teamwork and esprit-de-corps.

Arjun Subramaniam is a retired Air Vice Marshal and a military historian. Harish Masand is a retired Air Marshal and Vir Chakra awardee

Pak trailblazer who shaped young minds here

Writer-dramatist from across the border, Haseena Moin was a regular on the literary and theatre circuit of Amritsar in the 1970s

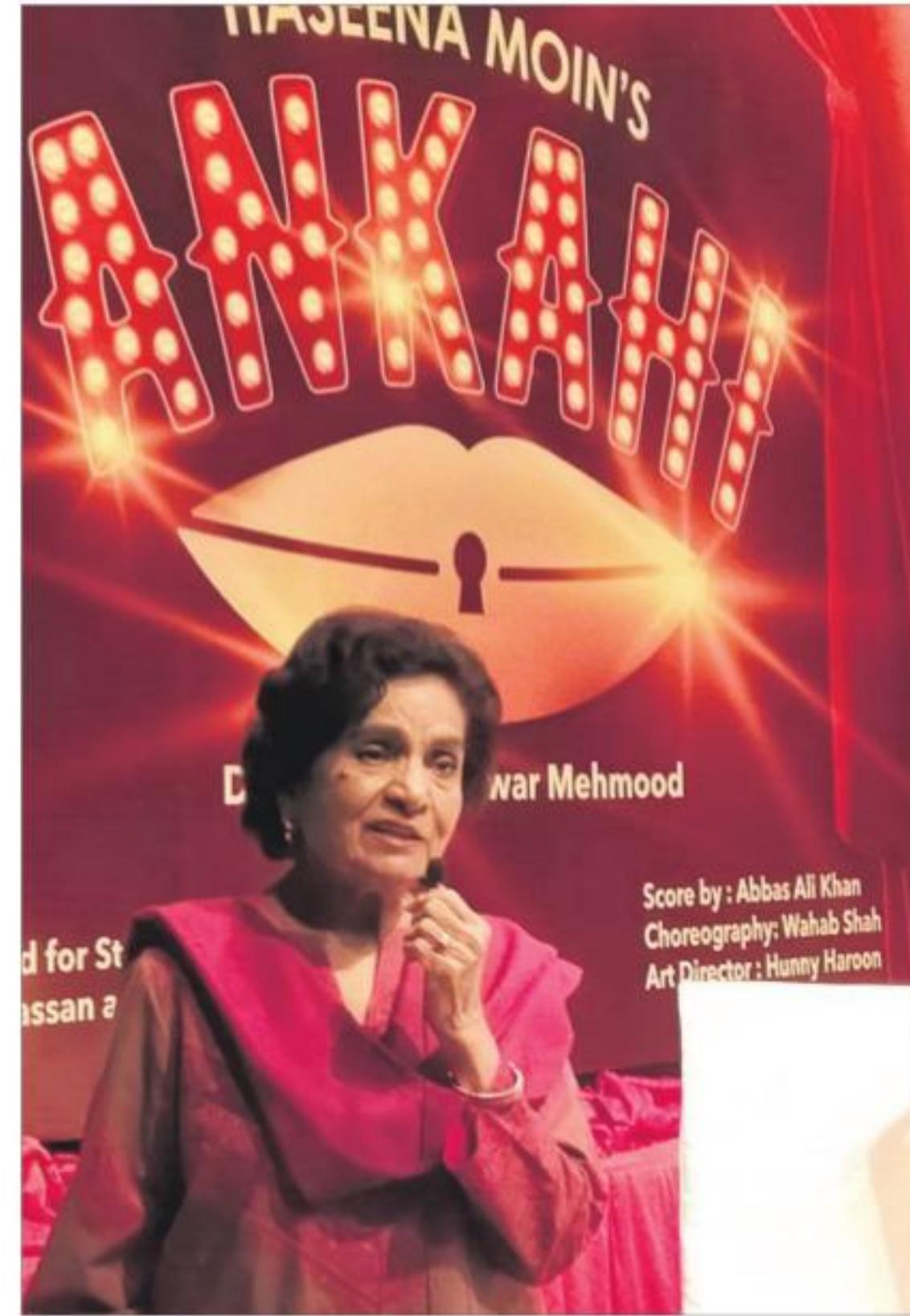
NEHA SAINI

WHEN the cult classic Pakistani drama 'Dhoop Kinare' was first telecast on PTV in 1987, Seema Grewal was a Class XII student in Amritsar. Like many aspiring doctors at the time, she was hooked to the show, its influence so strong in her life that till date this writer-doctor keeps in touch with the fan page of the popular serial. Such was the pull of the show whose creator breathed her last recently. Haseena Moin is credited with giving iconic, trailblazing and popular role models to women from both sides of the border during the late 1970s and the early '80s through her writings.

Moin, 80, was one of the most recognised and acclaimed playwrights of Pakistan. She was the recipient of the Pride of Performance award for her contribution to arts and wrote the country's first original script for TV, 'Kiran Kahani' that aired in Pakistan during the 1970s. Her work, considered progressive and path-breaking at the time, has been globally recognised with 'Dhoop Kinare' being aired in Saudi Arabia in 2020; it was also adapted in India under the title 'Kuch Toh Log Kahenge' and featured Mohsin Behl and Kritika Kamra.

The late 1970s were the peak of her work as a screenwriter as her TV shows, which also included 'Tanhayian', 'Ankahi', 'Aahat' and 'Uncle Urfi', were telecast on PTV. At the time, the broadcaster was experimenting with versatile shows and Moin's protagonists — ambitious, progressive women — were unheard of.

As Dr Grewal reminisces: 'Rahat Kazmi, who played the role of Dr Ahmer Ansari, and Marina Khan, who played the vivacious Dr Zoya Ali Khan, remain my favourite characters. The show was so popular that during Punjabi classes, nine out of 10 students used to refer to the characters from the show as examples during sentence-making. Even our teachers would find it amusing,' she shares. Her characters were relatable and intense, yet vulner-



the two cities of Amritsar and Lahore resonate culturally," he remembers. For Chamak, what stands out is that despite adverse circumstances during Zia-ul-Haq's time, she continued with her spirited writing. 'Her literary legacy is a gift to the future generations.'

Though Moin did not visit Amritsar much in her later life, she was an active part of the city's literary itinerary in the early 1970s. Surinder Malhi, 72-year-old writer and critic, fondly remembers how she would attend theatre and literature festivals in Amritsar on priority. 'I had met her at one such literary event back in 1979 and asked her if she finds her existence in her writing. Her answer was simple, yet matched her resilience as a writer. She said that every writer exists through his or her work and each writer or artist carries a streak of rebellion. She said more important to her was whether her readers found their existence through her work,' shares Malhi.

Giving an insight into her writing process, Malhi says that sometimes she would write while working in the kitchen. 'She had this habit of multi-tasking and had thus created a small writing space in the kitchen. She would call herself lucky to have found support from her family, a big deal in those times,' he recalls.

It was not just the literary minded who were influenced by her. In her works, everyday folk found freedom too. Like Baldev Singh, a retired government teacher, from Patti. Watching Moin's dramas on PTV was a sort of ritual for people in the border belt at that time, he says. 'In 1976-77, most border areas did not receive Doordarshan and people would watch PTV. Most of the shows were black and white. The first coloured Pakistani drama to air was 'Parchayian' and it was written by Haseena Moin. After that, many of her shows became instant hits. For the fans, her characters were real people. She changed the way people perceived Pakistani society in the aftermath of Partition.'

able; they had that instant connect. 'Dhoop Kinare' was the first time I got acquainted with Moin's work and that was just the beginning. Her writings were so nuanced, they left an impact without one feeling disturbed,' says Grewal. Now a writer herself, she attributes her early introduction to writing to Moin.

Moin's fans didn't just include women, men were equally enthralled. One of them

is Arvinder Chamak, an Amritsar-based writer and artiste, who grew up on Moin's body of work. 'My memories of watching her shows, including 'Tanhayian', are still fresh. We were of impressionable age and to watch women in Pakistan sporting short hair or displaying a rebellious streak was life-changing. We had heard Pakistan was a regressive society, but to watch such amazing, strong female characters was revolution-

ary. The shows created a huge buzz among audiences and the fraternity on both sides of the border,' he shares.

Chamak had the opportunity of meeting Moin during his visit to Lahore in 2006. 'At the time, I was visiting with Rafi Peer Theatre and Madeeha Gauhar and went to Lahore for a literary event. It was wonderful to speak to her and discuss at length about the progressive writers of the time and how

Conquering Himalayan peaks

AVAY SHUKLA

THIS is a book about the mountains. But it is also a book about the men and women who dared to match them." These opening lines by the author provide the essence of this detailed narrative on conquering the Himalayas in the first half of the last century, particularly the 'Achttausenders', the 10 peaks above 8,000 metres. The lofty crown of the Himalayas remained the only unexplored territory on the planet where the human imprint was still missing.

This fascinating book is set against a twin backdrop: one, the evolution (skills, technology, knowledge) of mountaineering which was as yet a developing adventure activity; and two, the geo-political context of the time — the waning power of England, the rise of the Nazis in Germany, the aftermath of the Great War. In a proxy competition, the 'Achttausenders' became the focal point of rivalry between England, USA and Germany for global stature and influence. Conquering the Himalayas turned into a goal that would validate their respective ideologies and their greatness, in the eyes of their own people and the world.

The author's focus, however, never shifts for long from the incredible men and women — the mountaineers and the Sherpas — whose heroic feats of resolve, perseverance, strength, courage and sacrifice are recorded in mesmerising detail. Like the three doomed Sherpas in the 1939 attempt on K2 who climbed an incredible 6,600 feet in one day from Base Camp to Camp Seven to rescue a stranded American climber. All four were never heard of again, just some of the hundreds these



For long, nobody made it beyond 27,000 feet on Everest. The weather, logistics of maintaining a supply chain and pitching camp on narrow ledges and precarious cornices — the odds needed a superhuman effort to conquer.

mighty peaks have taken as sacrifice for man's presumption in challenging these eternal sentinels.

By the 1930s, the highest peaks of the Karakoram and Hindukush ranges had more or less been parcelled out among the three great powers: Everest "belonged" to the British, Nanga Parbat to the Germans and K2 to the Americans. None had been summited in spite of numerous attempts; only Nanda Devi had been conquered, by an Anglo-American team in 1936, but it was not an 'Achttausender'.

This book records, in captivating detail, the various attempts made to conquer these forbidding peaks: four on Everest by the British after George Mallory and Sandy Irvine's ill-fated expedition of 1924, three by the Americans on K2, three on Nanga Parbat by the Germans who perhaps suffered the maximum casualties. But these intrepid mountaineers kept coming back again and again, in a love

affair where rejection was just not acceptable. Their indomitable resolve is ultimately what this book is about.

The first 'Achttausender' to be climbed successfully was Annapurna, the 10th highest peak in the world. This was achieved by a French team, led by Maurice Herzog, on June 3, 1950. For the British, who had so far failed in 10 attempts on the Everest, this was a spur to redouble their efforts.

By this time, however, China had occupied Tibet and barred all foreigners from it; the usual northern route was no longer available and the peak could be approached only from its south face in Nepal. Fortunately for them, this route had been attempted by Shipton and Smythe in 1938 and the valuable information collated by them would now come in useful.

In 1953, the British launched their fifth attempt on Everest after Mallory's failed 1924 expedition, this time led by Edmund

Hillary. His climbing partner was Tenzing Norgay, by now a respected veteran, a Sherpa sirdar whose endurance, technical prowess and genial nature had earned the respect of mountaineers from all countries. Nobody had made it beyond 27,000 feet on Everest so far, and for good reason: the weather, the sheer logistics of maintaining a supply chain and pitching camp on narrow ledges and precarious cornices, the final "Hillary's step" below the summit were all indomitable odds that needed a superhuman effort to conquer.

The first summit team comprising John Hunt and Dr. Namgyal fell short within sight of the peak because of the lateness of the hour: they could perhaps have attained the summit but would surely have perished on the way back to Camp Nine. Two days later, it was the turn of Hillary and Tenzing, and they reached the highest point on the planet at 11.30 am on April 29, 1953. It was the stuff legends and fantasies are made of; it was also a befitting gift to the new monarch of Britain, Queen Elizabeth II, who was crowned two days later, adding a timeless lustre to her coronation. This was not the moment to note that neither of the two heroes were British!

For the climbing buff, however, this book answers one of the two enduring mysteries that have haunted mountaineers for long. The first — did Mallory and Irvine make it to the peak 19 years before Hillary and Tenzing? — remains unanswered and will probably remain so forever. But the second — who among the latter two stepped on the peak first? — has been settled. The author quotes from Tenzing's interview: "We went on slowly, steadily. And then we were there. Hillary stepped on top first. And I stepped up after him."

It was a moment of triumph. But it was also a moment of sadness, for the last frontier had been vanquished. Romance should never end.

IMMORTALISED

by the Bolwood mega hit 'Border', the Battle of Longewala is much celebrated and contentious too over the exact roles played by the Army and Air Force in pinning down the Pakistani ground forces during the 1971 war. 'The Epic Battle of Longewala' is another attempt to 'set the record straight' and give the Indian Air Force its due. The Battle of Longewala, according to the author, Air Marshal Bharat Kumar (retd), owes its success to the brilliant base commander, Air Marshal MS Bawa, and the highly motivated and skilful pilots of No. 122 Squadron. Repeated attempts to downplay the role of IAF, he claims, forced him, an author of nine books on the IAF's history, to write this book. It brings out the 'factual performance' — how a meagre force of six Hunters at Jaisalmer not only thwarted the Pakistani thrust, but also decimated their armour.

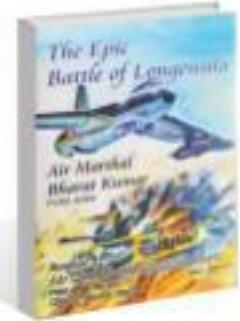
EIGHT stories, each adding to the warmth of the patchwork quilt woven by regional children's stories. A ghost who longs to use a computer, a smart thief who is outsmarted by his travel companion, a girl who dreams of playing cricket, and a runaway scooter! This book includes translations from Assamese, Gujarati, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Maithili, Punjabi and Sindhi. And adding to its charm are illustrations by Sherline Pimenta K, who showcases the popular art style of each of these regions. For instance, KP Poornachandra Tejasvi's 'Maara's Mission' is preceded by Chittra wall paintings from the Deewari tribe in the Western Ghats, Meena Kakodkar's 'Oink Oink' by Goa's Kaavi wall painting style and Ushakiran Khan's 'Raghu's Story' by a Madhubani style painting from Maithili region in Bihar.

THEY are the forests' first line of defence in protecting India's natural heritage and safeguarding its ecosystem. Yet, forest guards remain uncelebrated, unsung. Their daily dedication remains unheard of, even as they continue to protect the wilderness at odd hours too. With this book, 'The Tigers Behind the Tigers', Sashidhar Vempala attempts to change that. He traces the footsteps of the 1,75,000 and women serving the forests of India day and night, striving to protect its tigers; the wild cats often threaten their life, but these forest guards go on, undaunted. The book is a collection of photographs and stories told with the forest guards and tigers in focus.

WHEN Puerto Rican author Sharon M Koenig sat down to translate her bestselling book into English, she realised how relevant the book had become in the last nine years, especially since the pandemic has brought extreme chaos to the world and how tolerance, consolation and hope have become key values. In 'Seasons of the Soul', the author and motivational speaker distils the secrets of spirituality and teaches how to re-establish our link with the divine. Borrowing from diverse world traditions that she has studied for nearly three decades, Koenig hopes to make the book a sort of instruction manual to awaken the soul via lessons of spirituality, universal values and real-life practices.

At one time, Rania made headlines as the first girl from Heera Mandi, Lahore's famous red light area, to go to New York for a musical bonanza. A year later, she found herself being hounded by the FBI. Award-winning filmmaker Saba Karim Khan's debut novel, 'Skyfall', is the story of a 17-year-old who wants to fight prejudices related to gender, religion, caste, class and country. She hopes the West will change her fate, take her away from a home that she shares with an abusive father. The dystopia shatters and she comes to love her own broken homeland.

BACKFLAP



THE EPIC BATTLE OF LONGEWALA
by Air Marshal Bharat Kumar.
IMR.
Pages 276. ₹595



THE STORY QUILT
Edited by Harshika Udasi.
HarperCollins.
Pages 120. ₹225

Re-telling of the pain and scars of Partition

ARADHIKA SHARMA

ARGUABLY one of the bloodiest chapters in the history of the world, the partition of India and Pakistan along Punjab and Bengal wreaked havoc on millions of lives. Tens of thousands of people were displaced, killed, savagely raped, and forced to convert and flee, becoming refugees in an alien land that was ironically designated to be their 'home'.

Partition cast a long shadow on the history and fortunes of both the nations. Many who suffered loss and grief tried to forget the terrifying events, but collective memory cannot deny the bloody legacy and the events are revisited time and again. The wounds still fester.

The re-examining of this fractured chapter of the history of the subcontinent has spawned a genre of Partition literature. Modern writers and thinkers hope that the wounds caused by the wrongdoings that the nations and communities perpetrated on one another can be healed by collective penitence and forgiveness, with the hope of eventual reconciliation. Therein lies a valuable lesson for today's fractured polity.

'The Partition Bond' is an account detailing the upheavals, anger, bewilderment, helplessness and hate that were suffered by the vast numbers of people because of a single political decision. Although it is a fictionalised account, Musrat Siddiqi's book attempts to record the oral memories of the cataclysmic time, inspired by her "mother's tales of the lost homeland in East Punjab".

Siddiqi was born in Lahore and her narrative is of the disruption of a Muslim family uprooted from their village, Dessaan Da Raja, in Jullundur and after a long, arduous journey that began from their homeland,

reached their destination at 18 Jail Road, Lahore. The pater familia is Akbar, a wealthy landlord.

She speaks of how the three intertwined communities, Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims, were torn asunder as the unimaginable horrors of Partition were unleashed on a hapless population, most of whom were unwilling participants of the migration. No community was exempt of the blame of rioting and disturbance: "Amritsar was as violent as Lahore."

Siddiqi also captures the cultural ethos of the time. The women were expected to marry and nurture their families, while the men could study and work. Roshan, Akbar's daughter, who wanted to be a 'lady doctor', was married off to a suitable boy, while Saleem, her brother, studied in a college in Lahore, where he was witness to the rift among the student communities. Many of his Hindu fellow students lost their entire families when their villages were burnt to the ground. "The seeds of division sown by them (British) between the three communities through reforms such as a separate electorate had taken root... Punjab was a seething volcano."

The book is divided into two parts that constitute different stories: the first, 'Home', being the story of Akbar and the migration of his family to Lahore. The second, 'Grace', is about Amit Narayan, a Hindu exiled from Kashmir in 1807. Amit must don the Muslim identity of Abdul Chirag since his banishment from Kashmir. After many adventures, Amit goes on to build a robust business and starts a family in Jalandhar.

The two accounts do come together in the end in a moment of shared history. However, 'Grace', though it is about rootlessness and exile, meanders and doesn't add to the overall storytelling. Had Siddiqi stayed with the Partition theme, she might have produced a more relevant work.



Gopichand has produced world-class players, of whom PV Sindhu (L) is among the most celebrated.

The workings of Gopichand's will

ROHIT MAHAJAN

IS Pullela Gopichand, the national badminton coach, a dictator? This slim book, which encapsulates the distant and contemporary history of the sport in India, the latter shaped by Gopichand, addresses this interesting question, too. Gopichand doesn't shy away from it; he insists that if you want to train with him, he is the only way.

Gopichand controls training, but also personally controls sleep, eating habits, phone-time, sugar-intake, etc, of his trainees. Temple prasad may be linked with piety, but for him, it's just a sugar-bomb.

"Wherever I could control, I would control. I used to get the kids to wake up at 5 am and be ready for training at 6 am. If we had a flight at 7 am, we would train at 4 am," he says.

"My approach was seen as dictatorial. But it had to be done that way," he adds.

Is he a control freak? Gopichand doesn't treat it as an insult — for him, it's a bare fact, a necessity. "I believe I should be. If I had an option, it would be even stricter," he responds.

If Gopichand is tough, he had to be. As a kid, he wanted to play tennis, but his father figured out that tennis is the sport of the rich — so Gopichand had to take up badminton, a "lower-middle-class sport". There was only a cycle to take him and his brother for training. Their mother walked several kilometres daily, in scorching heat, to save bus fare.



THE GOPICHAND FACTOR: THE RISE AND RISE OF INDIAN BADMINTON
by Abhijeet Kulkarni.
Westland.
Pages 224.
₹399

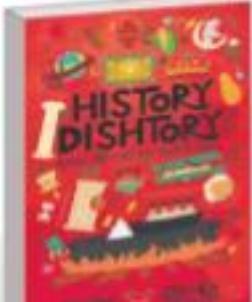
Gopi became flinty. Seven years after suffering a terrible injury, he won the All England title in 2001. It was done through relentless physical labours that pushed him to the edge of collapse. "The body adapts. I had seen that in my case," he says. Gopi replicated his methods for his wards when he became a coach. He changed Indian badminton, hitherto known for grace and deception — he injected power and speed into it. Fitness was an obsession. As a coach notes, Gopi himself "trained like a weightlifter". No more portly players from India!

Gopichand produced a string of world-class players, of whom Saina Nehwal and PV Sindhu are the most celebrated, but he's also made the careers of former world No. 1 Srikanth Kidambi, P Kashyap, HS Prannoy, Sai Praneeth, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, Gururaj Datt, etc.

There have been controversies — the anger of Jwala Gutta, the disaffection of Saina and Sindhu, the court case filed by Prajakta Sawant for "mental harassment". This book touches them all, through the writer's experience, anecdotes and interviews.

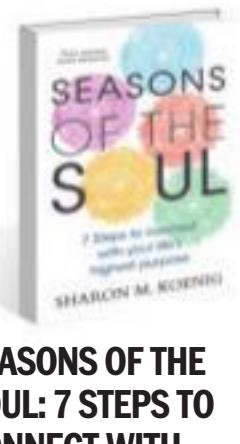
The label "dictator" is an extreme exaggeration for "strict disciplinarian" — Gopichand is not training kids after stealing them. Their parents can take them away if they wish. But if they want to train with him, it's his will that must prevail. As is clear, yet again, from this book, his will has worked wonders.

Varied flavours of world history

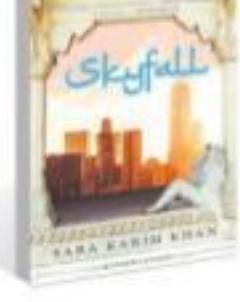


HISTORY DISHTORY: ADVENTURES AND RECIPES FROM THE PAST
by Ranjini Rao and Ruchira Ramanujan.
Hachette.
Pages 242. ₹450

Revolution to the Holocaust, from the first Greek Olympiad to the first flight by Wright Brothers, from World War I to the Great Depression, there's a lot to be discovered. A quiz marks the beginning of each adventure, which ends with guessing, and then preparing, a dish before the twins can set out on another adventure. Sounds like 'Just Add Magic', the US series? But if those recipes were more of imagination and less of reality, sprinkled throughout the book are easy recipes inspired by these key historical moments. Now, that's a yummy adventure!

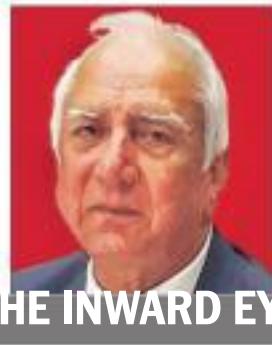


SEASONS OF THE SOUL: 7 STEPS TO CONNECT WITH YOUR LIFE'S HIGHEST PURPOSE
by Sharon M Koenig.
Pan Macmillan.
Pages 260. ₹399



SKYFALL
by Saba Karim Khan.
Bloomsbury.
Pages 292. ₹599

Fall of mighty Mumbai Police



THE INWARD EYE

GURBACHAN JAGAT

It is the entry of the politician into the bureaucratic structure and the havoc he has wrought in the day-to-day administration that has led to this miserable decline as far as the police is concerned. A police force brought to heel by state governments is further ground into the dust by Central organisations



Former Commissioner of Police Param Bir Singh (L) with Home Minister Anil Deshmukh.

WHILE growing up in Pune in the early 1950s, one always heard the elders referring to Bombay Police as the Scotland Yard of India. Bombay Police had a formidable reputation for its professionalism and integrity. Looking back today after having retired from the police, my conviction remains that Bombay Police was the best police force in the country when we joined the IPS. It has been over a month since the former Mumbai Commissioner of Police fired the first shot against his own Home Minister. He could have written to the Chief Minister, the Home Secretary or the Chief Secretary before his transfer. In fact, he should have written on the very day that the Home Minister is alleged to have instructed him and his subordinates to indulge in illegal acts. The fact that he failed to do so leads to the inescapable conclusion that he was party to whatever was happening. He was the chief and the responsibility was his and by failing to lodge a protest, he compromised his moral and legal position. Lodging a protest after his transfer is another matter and he does so with diminished credibility.

I do not propose to bring in the Ambani affair, that is a matter of investigation which will soon get muddled up in a maze of enquiries by various agencies with no clear end result. Let me stick to the 'transfer'. I've waited for over a month in which I kept on scanning newspapers to find reactions to this episode. As far as I've seen, there has been no reaction from the IPS associations, either Central or state. Nor has there been any reaction from the organisation of junior officers. Similarly, the NGOs and various other civil society groups have kept quiet. The silence of retired officers, especially those based in Mumbai, Delhi or other metros, is intriguing, to say the least. The Maharashtra government and the political parties in power have thrown the allegations into the dustbin after calculating for a few days the pros and cons of any government reaction. We now await the verdict of the Bombay High Court but already the media and the people have moved on to juicier topics and Param Bir Singh should consider his days in the sun as over. I've written about the lack of reactions in

some detail because how come not a single protest has taken place in the aftermath of the CP's abrupt transfer? How come such a deafening silence on the part of the people and the police?

I've written earlier about the gradual decline in the professional and moral standards of the police over the years, especially since the mid-1970s. Without going into details, it is the entry of the politician into the bureaucratic structure and the havoc he has wrought in the day-to-day administration that has led to this miserable decline as far as the police is concerned. The politician discovered that recruitment and transfers at all levels are his best weapon which bring both money and power. Pliable officers had also realised the potential of cooperating with the politicians and so the tango began. Other groups in society also sensed the true worth of the police, especially in all metropolitan cities and more so in Mumbai, which was growing at great speed, with huge amounts of black money floating around. Many incidents have happened in the brief history of this metropolis, which has come to represent so much of both the good and bad in India — Mumbai is the financial hub and is therefore representative of the economic growth which the country has seen, and has been the centre of both the formal and the black economy. With the entry of the black economy, smugglers, drugs, criminal underworld and its various gangs and lobbies, the importance of

the police protection system came into being. They were all initially interconnected and the same sources financed bootlegging, drugs, films, laundering of black money and smuggling on international levels. All these activities needed police protection and so the leaders joined hands with the politicians to control the police through prized postings and appointments. The political-criminal-police nexus was born, with police officers vying for prized postings.

The lobbies mentioned above started sponsoring candidates for their lucrative positions and thus having obtained prized postings, they had to deliver results, as a consequence of which normal standards of professionalism and integrity suffered heavily. The Bombay riots of 1992, the subsequent bombings in 1993 and the massacres of 2008 were the fructification of this evil nexus. Mumbai Police failed on almost all fronts. Haphazard individual efforts could not replace a trained, coordinated response and so many died in vain. No special cells had been set up, no efforts made to gather specific intelligence and no problems anticipated.

I have given a brief description of a city bursting with activity, of a police force besieged from within — do we expect them to come out in support of Param Bir? What has he done for them? These are not personal but rhetorical questions, which is why even today Pawar wants a 92-year-old retired police officer to inquire into this

sordid affair. I'm sure that there are other equally good officers, but Mr Ribeiro struck a chord with his officers and men wherever he went and looked after them as he still does. It is not only the state governments and their officers and men who have done the maximum damage to police professionalism and integrity. Law and order being a state subject and control of the police such an important matter, the MHA has been trying to nibble away at these powers and acquire for itself an important role. It was the CBI at first through which the Centre operated and inquired into serious cases in which it had political or business interest. This led to weakening of the state police and a fall in its professional standards. The CBI experiment has proved to be a success for the interests of the Centre and today the MHA is using the CBI, NIA, ED, IRS, Customs and Excise, Narcotics Bureau, etc.

Without the knowledge of the state government or police, hundreds of them descend upon dozens of locations and you read about hundreds and thousands of crores recovered and then the news dries up. All is gradually forgotten until the next target is unveiled and proceeded against. A police force brought to heel by state governments is further ground into the dust by the Central organisations, which imply that the state police is party to all these nefarious activities and so the knights in shining armour come from Delhi and do the needful. Let me disabuse them of their ignorance. In the eyes of the people, they are considered far worse than the state police because their targets are given to them from Delhi, the actions are virtually supervised from Delhi and people are left guessing as to what happened.

So, to conclude, back to the question as to why Param Bir stands alone today. He chose to do so when only he knows under what circumstances he accepted the posting. Forgetting all this, why did he keep quiet when an illegal demand was made by the HM? He chose 'Omerta' and hence must take the fall. However, let us not worry too much, the sponsors behind the scenes will sort it out. That is why godfathers have 'cousiniers'.

The writer is ex-chairman of UPSC, former Manipur Governor and served as J&KDGP

Bengal hues, blues



TOUCHSTONES

IRA PANDE

have been uprooted by the winds of change and turned this arcadian world into a battleground between two crass political parties.

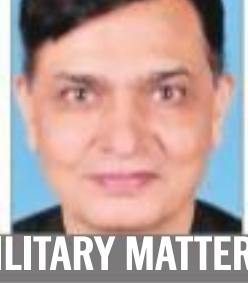
Bengal's misfortune was that it never stopped living in its past. Doubtless, its glorious history had much to be proud of but when this pride descended into narrow jingoism, it lost touch with the rest of the country. Isolated, bereft of its thriving jute and engineering industries after the Naxal phase and the slow dismantling of its enviable educational institutions led to a brain drain that enriched other parts of the country and the world, but impoverished Bengal itself. Poverty in these circumstances became a romantic trope that was mined brilliantly in its literature and cinema, but left it a shadow of its former self. Today, even Bangladesh, once its poor cousin, outpaces it on all markers of development. Surely, someone needs to answer what brought this proud state to such a sorry situation.

One of Ray's most poignant films is 'Jalsaghar', his requiem on the death of feudalism. A rich zamindar hosts a last concert (played by the one and only Begum Akhtar) for his friends. His fortunes are long depleted so he sells his last elephant to pay off the debt he owes for this indulgence. The last frame of the film is of the elephant lost in the dust kicked up by a passing lorry as it is being led away to its new owner. A similar scene is Apu and his sister running across a field to catch a glimpse of a passing train in 'Pather Panchali'. And who can forget the classic 'Shatranj ke Khilari' where the two nawabs are immersed in their game of chess even as Outram's troops are going to dethrone Wajid Ali Shah, the last nawab of Oudh?

It puzzles me how the Bengali elite chose to ignore a changing India, one where steam engines and factories were replacing the bullock cart and the rice field. All those great economists, historians, writers and thinkers who played such a vital role in the fashioning of a vibrant new world elsewhere were seemingly unable to persuade their comrades and fellow Bengalis to open the windows to let in this new world.

It was once said that when Bengal sneezes, the rest of India catches a cold. So today, when one is watching the sorry spectacle of two leaders exchange insults and brickbats and operatic speeches delivered in the most *abhagra* language, one wants to ask: what happened to the famous *bhadralok* of the novels of Sharatchandra and Bibhutibhushan Bandopadhyay? Was that an imaginary world that never really existed save in the romantic world of literature and cinema? Were Ritwik Ghatak and Satyajit Ray making films about an imagined Bengal whose fragile huts could not withstand the Kaal Baisakhi storms that shook the earth and uprooted noble old trees?

Farewell to Military Farms, an era ends



MILITARY MATTERS

MAJ GEN PARTAP NARWAL (RETD)

Curtains might have been drawn on Military Farms, but not before their having played a crucial role for the Army and country

THE news was disconcerting: "Curtains drawn on Military Farms"; alongside was a photograph of an officer presenting a properly folded green flag of his Corps in a military drill. The recipient of the flag was a senior officer, presumably the Colonel Commandant of his Corps. The ceremony was held at Delhi Cantonment. I posted the news item on the social chat group of veterans from my Remount Veterinary Corps. One of the senior veterans promptly responded: "Very sad day." It was indeed.

My thoughts went back to 1987-89 when I was posted as a veterinary officer at Military Farm, Deolali. I recalled how triumphant we had felt when the higher fertility at our farm had led to the number of gravid heifers being far more than needed locally, and so those heifers were shifted to Port Blair to open a new farm there. That was the period when new farms were being inaugurated near

the frontiers. And now, it is all over!

The Corps of Military Farms came into being on February 1, 1889, with the opening of the first such facility at Allahabad. This was the time when the country had neither adequate milk supply, nor was there any technology to increase the shelf life of milk. The organisation soon expanded to meet the requirements of fresh, hygienic milk and butter for the British army. They pioneered the artificial cattle breeding programme in 1925 in the country. And, with the pivotal support from Army veterinarians, the Corps spread out into large-scale, organised cattle farms, introducing precious and precarious exotic breeds to the inhospitable climate of the hinterland. It wasn't an easy task, but a daunting duty requiring meticulous and rigorous care and management of the stock. This challenge was met through a mix of modern practices and innovative protocols, which not just made the exotic stock thrive but also scaled up

the milk production to unprecedented levels. At the time of Partition, there were 130 farms, each holding a large number of cattle heads.

The demonstration of successful management and upkeep of the so-called "difficult breeds" gave confidence to the civil side, resulting in the gradual expansion of the cross-breeding programme. The Military Farms catalysed the growth of organised cattle farms and dairy development in the country. Subsequently, the Corps collaborated with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in 1991 to develop a high-yielding cross-bred cattle breed in an ambitious project called 'Frieswal'. It is among the largest contemporary cross-bred cattle breeding programmes.

In the meantime, India became the world's highest milk producer thanks to 'Operation Flood' and related programmes. The soldiers' accessibility to fresh milk, even in

remote corners and difficult borders of the country, became easier than before. The necessity, thus, of having a separate setup just to meet the dairy needs of the Army gradually became redundant. Among other reasons, the dire needs of rebalancing defence expenditure and enhancing combat capability stirred the impending decision of Military Farm closure in 2017.

The flag ceremony for disbanding a Corps certainly is a sad moment, not only for its personnel but also those associated with it. Analysing it, however, with the head and not the heart and recalling the tenets of strategic management taught at the College of Defence Management that "organisations exist in an environment as per needs, which are dynamic, ever-changing" makes one sombre. The curtains might have been drawn on Military Farms, but not before their having played a crucial role for the Army and the country.

THE pandemic has curtailed the international travel of world leaders. Earlier, our Prime Minister was a constant traveller to many capitals. He had stamped his authority at home with two huge election victories, but also wanted to be recognised as a world statesman, as respected as Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi. The pandemic has confined him to the domestic front. Nevertheless, he made the correct move by choosing Dhaka for his first official visit abroad in over a year. The occasion was the 50th anniversary of the founding of Bangladesh.

Pakistan's founder, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, had scornfully called the nation bequeathed to him as "moth-eaten", since the two wings were separated by 1,600 km of Indian territory. Geography apart, Pakistan's rulers favoured West Pakistan, while neglecting East Pakistan. For instance, 80 per cent of the army consisted of Punjabis from the West wing. Development funds were mostly allocated to West Pakistan. But the tipping point came when Islamabad tried to impose Urdu as the state language

on East Pakistanis, who had a fierce love for their native Bangla. Not even the glue of religion could keep the two wings together.

In the first ever general election held in Pakistan on December 7, 1970, the Awami League in the East wing, led by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, won 160 seats in the 300-member House. Constitutional propriety demanded that they should have come to power. But Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the leader of the biggest party in the West wing, would have none of that. He prevailed over the inept General Yahya Khan to order a military crackdown in East Pakistan. It was a monumentally disastrous move. Hence, Bhutto and Yahya Khan were, in a fashion, the real founders of Bangladesh.

Some one crore refugees from East Pakistan poured into India. New Delhi was inexorably drawn into war, while Bangladeshi independence was declared from Chittagong. The war lasted just 14 days, with Pakistan's Lt Gen AAK Niazi signing the Instrument of Surrender before India's Lt Gen Jagjit Singh Aurora, and Maj Gen (later Lt Gen) JFR Jacob looking on. That photo is

embedded with pride in the memory of Indians. It was an even prouder victory for India's secularism. The Army Chief, Gen "Sam" Manekshaw, was a Parsi, Aurora a Sikh, and Jacob a Jew. It was Indira Gandhi's finest hour, though there are some who feel she should have extracted more concessions from Bhutto in the peace negotiations in Shimla, considering India held 93,000 PoWs.

I was fortunate to get on the first plane for civilians that flew into Dhaka after the surrender. There were mostly journalists on the plane. The runway at the airport was pockmarked with craters from bombing by the Indian Air Force to make it inoperative for Pakistani planes. The control tower was in ruins. As we drove towards our hotel (Hilton), we passed a train full of Pakistani PoWs being taken to their camps. They were guarded by Indian soldiers. Near the railway tracks, a big enraged mob had collected. Shouting "Jai Bangla", I am sure they would have stopped the train and lynched the PoWs were it not for the Indian soldiers. At the hotel, Brig Kler regaled me with his heroics of being in an open jeep while driving into Dhaka, knocking

out Pakistani snipers in buildings alongside the road. I wonder what happened to him?

We later learnt of how "collaborators" were rounded up, herded into a stadium full of spectators, and bayoneted to death. A few Indian journalists witnessed the grisly proceedings. I am glad I was not one of them. But at the university I heard during the last days of the war, Pakistani soldiers had got hold of scores of scientists, professors, teachers, doctors, and systematically killed them. The intention, clearly, was to deprive the new nation of its intellectuals, those who could guide the coming generation. We also heard narratives of mass rapes, again by soldiers and "collaborators". Various commissions have inquired into these atrocities but I don't believe any of the perpetrators have been brought before a war crimes tribunal.

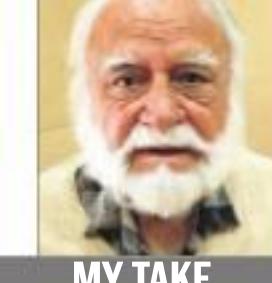
Sadly, Mujibur Rahman and most of his family were killed in a coup by young army officers (his two daughters were abroad at the time, one of them being the present Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina). However, in the last decade or so, after being labelled sur-

prisingly well. Its social and economic parameters, which determine the well-being of a people, are now among the best in major developing countries. The life expectancy of a Bangladeshi, which was 47 years in 1971, is 72 now, higher than India's.

Apart from the Bangladesh victory, India overcame its worst domestic crisis when it confronted terrorism in Punjab. After the disastrous miscalculation of launching Operation Bluestar, three people in Punjab played a key role in turning the tide. I happened to be in Chandigarh at the time and interacted with them closely: Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala, Chief Secretary Praful Vaishnav and Julio Ribeiro, the police chief. One was a Sikh, the other a Hindu from Gujarat who spoke fluent Punjabi, and the third a Roman Catholic who spoke no Punjabi at all. Three men who exemplify the best there is in their respective fields. As in the Bangladesh victory, this was secularism and inclusiveness at its finest. That is what keeps India together, and helps us to overcome whatever challenge lies ahead.

The writer is a veteran journalist

Witnessing birth of a nation and trip to Dhaka 50 years ago

MY TAKE
RAHUL SINGH

After being labelled a 'basket case', Bangladesh has done surprisingly well. Its social and economic parameters are among the best in major developing countries

Communal divide on BJP's mind: TMC

ASSEMBLY POLLS 2021



ENGINEERING STRIFE

They will divide West Bengal and its people. Remember how they deleted the names of 14 lakh Bengalis and 2 lakh Biharis in the updated NRC in Assam. Mamata Banerjee, CM

devout Hindu who recites Chandi mantra every day before leaving home. But I believe in our tradition of giving respect to every religion." Taking a dig at BJP leaders having lunch at houses of Dalits, she said, "I am a Brahmin woman. But an SC woman takes care of all my needs and cooks for me," she said. —PTI

The ISF is fighting the elections in alliance with the CPI(M) and the Congress. The TMC supremo also urged Hindus to be on the guard against the BJP's attempts to "instigate communal clashes" and called upon them to chase away outsiders sent to foment trouble in their respective localities. Affirming her Hindu identity, in an apparent attempt to counter the minority appeasement charge against her, Banerjee said, "I am a

Game over, why blame EC: PM Modi takes a dig at Mamata

SHUBHADEEP CHOUDHURY
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KOLKATA, APRIL 3

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday took a dig at West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee on her "Delhi ambition". He was reacting to a TMC tweet suggesting that the party supremo might challenge PM Modi in his Lok Sabha constituency Varanasi.

Addressing an election rally at Sonarpur in West Bengal, Modi said people of Varanasi would receive Mamata with so much affection that "they won't allow her to go to Delhi". He said people there would not call Mamata an "outsider" or a "tourist" (words frequently used by the TMC against BJP leaders canvassing in West Bengal).

The PM said the fact that Mamata wanted to contest from Varanasi showed that she had already accepted defeat in Bengal. He said the TMC propaganda against "outsiders" was an insult to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, who was born in Orissa and educated in Bengal. Earlier addressing a meeting at Tarakeswar, Modi said Mamata's frequent outbursts against the Election Commission and Central forces deployed in Bengal for the



PM Narendra Modi being presented a memento during an election rally in Hooghly district. PTI

BLAME GAME WON'T DO

She (Mamata) keeps criticising the EC....If players keep bashing umpires, you should know their 'khela sesh' (game's over). Narendra Modi, PRIME MINISTER

CAMPAIGN BAN ON HIMANTA CUT TO 24 HRS

The Election Commission on Saturday reduced the 48-hour campaign ban imposed on Assam minister and BJP leader Himanta Biswa Sarma to 24 hours after he tendered an "unconditional apology" and assured the poll panel that he would abide by the provi-

sions of the model code. The EC said after considering his "unconditional apology and assurance/undertaking", it decided to modify its April 2 order. TNS

Magisterial probe ordered into Assam EVM row

smooth conduct of elections were similar to a cricketer blaming the umpire for his poor form. He alleged the

TMC's "obstructionist mindset" deprived West Bengal of industries and jobs. "She keeps criticising EVMs, the

EC....If players keep criticising umpires, you should know their 'Khela Sesh' (game's over)," he said. (With inputs from PTI)

Covid norms go for toss



Applicants, not following social-distancing norms, wait to file their nomination papers for Uttar Pradesh gram panchayat elections in Prayagraj on Saturday. PTI

Need structures to fight polls: Rahul to Burns

NEW DELHI, APRIL 3

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Friday night said he needed institutional structures and protection to fight elections but did not have them.

In a virtual conversation with Harvard Kennedy professor and former US Under Secretary of State Nicholas Burns, Gandhi alleged that the BJP had indulged in "wholesale capture of institutions" and asked "what the US had done about what was going on in India". Raking up the Assam Karimganj issue where EVMs were transported in a BJP candidate's car leading to the EC suspending four officers and ordering a repoll, Rahul said BJP men were transporting voting machines.

"In Assam, the person running our campaign has been sending me videos of BJP candidates running around with voting machines in their cars. He is screaming, saying look, I have a really serious problem here. But there is nothing going on in the national media...there is wholesale capture of the country's institutional framework," Rahul said.

"It is not just the Congress, even the BSP is not winning an election, the SP is not winning an election, the NCP is not winning an election. To fight elections, I need institu-



HE'S SHOWING INDIA IN POOR LIGHT: BJP

■ The BJP has slammed Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for "seeking US interference in India's internal matters" and showing the country in "poor light".

■ BJP IT cell in charge Amit Malviya said "at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP president JP Nadda and other senior party leaders were campaigning in poll-bound states, Rahul was busy calling up professors in the US.

tional structures, a judicial system that protects me, a media that is reasonably free, financial parity, institutional structures that allow me to operate as a party," he said. —TNS

Pak PM says no to trade with India



Imran Khan

India in August 2019.

Several explanations are being given in Pakistan for reversing a proposal that would have generated economic activity on both sides of the Wagah border. Moeed

Yusuf, Pakistan's designated NSA, said Imran Khan wore two hats. As the minister in charge of commerce, he approved trade with India but as the PM, he opposed the proposal, explained Yusuf.

The PM has now instructed officials to find alternatives, other than Indian, for cheap sources of import of the needed commodities.

Indian sugar was 15 to 20 per cent below global prices and Indian cotton and yarn would have bridged the supply shortfall for Pakistani textile mills. —TNS

Panel submits report on arrest of ISRO ex-scientist

NEW DELHI, APRIL 3

Almost two-and-a-half-year after the Supreme Court asked it look into the lapses on the part of the Kerala Police officers in wrongfully arresting scientist S Nambi Narayanan in the 1994 ISRO spy scandal, the Justice DK Jain Committee has submitted its report to the Supreme Court.

The three-man committee, which also included DK Prasad and VS Senthil — representing the Centre and the Kerala Government, respectively — submitted its report in a sealed cover recently, sources said.

The Supreme Court had on September 14, 2018, ordered the Kerala Government to pay a compensation of Rs 50 Lakh to the former ISRO scientist whose life got ruined after he was falsely implicated in the ISRO spy scandal.

It had set up a three-member panel led by Justice DK Jain (retd) "to find out ways



Contempt plea against Justice Katju: Solicitor General's nod sought

and means to take appropriate steps against the erring (Kerala Police) officials".

The top court is likely to take up the report later this month for passing necessary orders.

"The entire prosecution initiated by the state police was malicious and it has caused tremendous harassment and immeasurable anguish to the appellant," said the Bench which had reserved its verdict on July 10 on his petition seeking action against former Kerala DGP Siby Mathews and other police officers who allegedly falsely implicated him in the case. —TNS

1969 Congress split and the 1971 General Election win of former PM Indira Gandhi led faction which was reduced to 90 MPs in a 245 member RS.

Late President Pranab Mukherjee, a five-time RS member himself, dwelt on this predicament of governments in his memoirs where, com-

69 years of Rajya Sabha: Debate rages over its role

WHAT PRANAB SAID ABOUT UPPER HOUSE

■ Late President Pranab Mukherjee had said it was clear that the makers of the Constitution did not anticipate that the Upper House would become an impediment to lawmaking.

■ The constitution of Rajya Sabha was such that six states with the highest population and their ruling parties determined the majority in the Upper House.

Late President Pranab Mukherjee, a five-time RS member himself, dwelt on this predicament of governments in his memoirs where, com-

menting on the 1971 era, he said, "The Upper House started asserting itself against the government and rejected many important laws and constitutional amendments despite the fact that these were supported in the Lok Sabha. The constitution amendment Bill of 1970 which sought to abolish privy purses failed to get two-thirds majority in the Rajya Sabha by a fraction of votes." Going by the Constituent Assembly debates, Mukherjee said it was clear that the makers of the Constitution did not anticipate that the Upper House would become an impediment to lawmaking.

Army changes summer mess dress for Brigadiers and above

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 3

Following a review of uniforms to be worn by officers, the Army has brought about a change to remove all regimental affiliations from the 'summer mess dress' to be worn by Brigadiers and above.

There will be no change for officers up to the rank of Colonel, who will continue to wear the regimental affiliations on their mess dress.

The changes to the summer mess dress, colloquially known as dress 6(b), will apply to the rank of Brigadier, Major General, Lt General and General.

The mess dress will not have any regimental colour on badges and only brass badges will be allowed. The headgear will be black—turban for Sikhs, cap for others. The colourful regimental cummerbund has been done away

with and only black is permitted with an Army crest.

The Army headquarters has said only the mess dress has been changed. The Indian Army uses nine types of uniforms,

which can be divided into winter and summer categories. These are also divided into combat, peacetime uni-

form, uniform and ceremonial uniform. The ceremonial uniform is also of three types.

The next on the idea list is uniform appearance of officers of the rank of Brigadier and above.

form, uniform and ceremonial uniform. The ceremonial uniform is also of three types.

The next on the idea list is uniform appearance of officers of the rank of Brigadier and above, implying they will sport same beret, cap, shoulder badge, lanyard and belt.

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