

The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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PAK BOWS TO RADICALS OVER FRENCH ENVOY ROW WORLD

SECOND WAVE: INDIA INC BETTER PREPARED, BUT PESSIMISTIC BUSINESS

LG APPEALS TO MIGRANTS NOT TO FLEE DELHI BACK PAGE

WEDNESDAY | 21 APRIL 2021

Lockdown should be last resort: PM

Tells states to check migrant exodus | Nation left to fend for itself, says Cong

ADITI TANDON
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

Acknowledging that the second Covid wave had hit the country with fury, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said a lockdown should be the last resort for state governments and urged people to ensure 100 per cent compliance with safety protocols even as the Opposition Congress alleged people had been left on their own.

As India logged over 2.50 lakh daily cases for the third day in a row, the Prime Minister sought the help of children to enforce Covid-appropriate behaviour, urging them to make sure that family members did not step out of homes without reason or need. He asked the states to convince migrant workers to stay put at their places of work with a guarantee for their lives and livelihood.

"In today's situation, we have to save the country from a lockdown. If we follow Covid discipline, states will not need to set up containment zones or impose curfews and lockdown will be out of the question. I also urge the states to use lockdowns as the last resort."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

EDITS: VACCINE FOR ALL ADULTS
STOP MIGRANTS' EXODUS 2.0



A doctor pulls an oxygen cylinder at the Covid centre in CWG village, New Delhi, on Tuesday. PTI

US WARNS AGAINST TRAVEL TO INDIA

As the Covid-19 cases in India spurt to unprecedented levels, the US has asked its citizens to avoid travelling to India, saying even fully vaccinated travellers were at a greater risk.

VAX WASTAGE CRIMINAL, SAYS DELHI HIGH COURT

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday said wastage of even a single shot of Covid-19 vaccine was a "criminal waste" and directed the Centre to vaccinate whomever it could.

IMPORT DUTY ON REMDESIVIR WAIVED

The government on Tuesday waived import duty on Remdesivir and its active pharmaceutical ingredients. Minister Piyush Goyal tweeted: "The move will increase supply and reduce cost."

US may ease vaccine raw material curbs

SANDEEP DIKSHIT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

India's vaccine production remains at suboptimal levels despite a conversation between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

"We have taken up the issue very strongly with the US authorities," said sources, adding that they were expecting a resolution of the US ban on export of raw material for vaccines that has hit their manufacturing in India.

The White House skirted questions on the request by the Serum Institute of India (SII) to lift the export ban on certain raw materials needed for ramping up production of Covid-19 vaccine.

Readouts by both foreign offices show the subject was discussed by Jaishankar and

JAISHANKAR, BLINKEN HOLD DIALOGUE

The subject was discussed by Jaishankar and Blinken

■ The US State Department, however, made only a passing reference to it

■ S Jaishankar said he was pushing other countries to keep raw material flowing

ANTONY BLINKEN

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Cong for '1 nation, 1 vaccine price'

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

The Congress today questioned the government's new liberalised Covid vaccine policy for all adults from May 1. Party leader Jairam Ramesh said, "This government keeps talking about 'one nation, one election', 'one nation, one ration card'. Why not 'one nation, one price' for Covid vaccines? There should be uniform pricing for all segments." — TNS

Oxygen crisis worsens in Delhi hospitals

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

The surging Covid-19 pandemic left Delhi's health system in the lurch with the state government on Tuesday evening pressing alarm bells about most hospitals being left with few hours of oxygen supply.

"Serious oxygen crisis persists in Delhi. I again urge the Centre with folded

Kejriwal's SOS: Covid centres left with few hours of supply

NEXT THREE WEEKS CRUCIAL

Next 3 weeks are very crucial. The UTs have been advised to augment hospital infrastructure, ramp up testing, set up containment zones, Harsh Vardhan, HEALTH MINISTER

hands to urgently provide oxygen to Delhi. Hospitals are left with few hours of supply," Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal took to Twitter today to send an SOS hours after the government said at a meeting with

UTs that the next three weeks were crucial in the fight against the pandemic.

"The next three weeks are very crucial. At a meeting today, the union territories were advised to augment hospital infrastructure, ramp up testing, set up containment zones and enforce Covid behaviour," Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said.

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TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

A day after the Allahabad High Court imposed lockdown (till April 26) in five cities of Uttar Pradesh by a judicial order in view of a sudden spike in Covid-19

State to give free jabs to all 18+ from May 1

cases, the Supreme Court today stayed the decision.

A Bench led by CJI SA Bobde asked the UP Govern-

ment to report back to the high court on the steps taken by it to deal with the pandemic.

Meanwhile, the Yogi government imposed till further orders a weekend curfew in the entire state and a night curfew on weekdays in all districts with over 500 cases.

SC stays HC order on UP lockdown

HP caps weddings at 50,5-day wk in offices

SHIMLA, APRIL 20

Announcing stricter curbs amid the surge in Covid cases, the Himachal Pradesh Government today capped at 50 the attendance at weddings, funerals and other social, religious and political gatherings from April 22.

It imposed a five-day work-week in government offices and ordered the public transport, including inter-state and intra-state buses, to ply at 50 per cent capacity with immediate effect till May 1. The temples will remain out of bounds for the general public from April 23.

The decisions were taken at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur here. "In view of the sharp rise in infections and fatalities, we have decided to limit the attendance at weddings, funerals, social, religious, sports, cultural and political gatherings at 50," he said. The earlier limit was 50 for indoor and 200 for outdoor gatherings.

Thakur said no reports of exodus of migrant workers in view of lockdown fears had been received from the hill state. — TNS

STRICHER CURBS

- Public transport to plly at 50% capacity till May 1
- Temples to remain shut from April 23 onwards
- Shops, malls, sports complexes to remain shut on weekends

lishments like shops, malls, markets, gyms, sports complexes and swimming pools will remain closed on weekends. There will be a five-day week for employees of all government offices, autonomous bodies and PSUs and 50 per cent attendance on the other five days till May 1.

Though a sharp rise in infections and fatalities had been witnessed in the state over the past few days, the Chief Minister ruled out a lockdown for now. He said they would first focus on micro-containment.

As per media reports from Canada, the police with the help of some international agencies began working on a special operation code-named Project Cheetah to break the back of an international drug network in Canada. The police action on the ground began on

All defence PSUs told to produce oxygen

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

All companies and factories under the Ministry of Defence (MoD) have been told to immediately buy oxygen producing machines and provide extra beds to civil administration and state governments to combat the Covid crisis.

The decision was announced following an

TEJAS TECHNOLOGY FOR PVT INDUSTRY

- MoD has offered to the private industry a technology developed for oxygen generation onboard Tejas jet
- 1,000 litres of oxygen can be generated per hour; can cater to hospital needs



emergency virtual meeting chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday.

There are nine public sector undertakings (PSUs) under the MoD. Also, the Ordnance

Factory Board has 41 factories while the Defence Research and Development Organisation has multiple units and labs working on dual use technology—military and civil.

The Defence Minister asked the armed forces to be in close contact with state governments and use emergency powers to procure goods needed to fulfil critical medical requirements.

Rahul, Anand test positive

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday tested positive for Covid-19. "After experiencing mild symptoms, I've just tested positive for Covid. All those who've been in contact with me recently, please follow all safety protocols and stay safe," Gandhi tweeted. Congress deputy leader in Rajya Sabha Anand Sharma also tested positive for Covid-19. — TNS

Khattar rules out lockdown in Haryana

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

Putting an end to the ongoing lockdown rumours, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar today said that no lockdown would be imposed in the state.

The Chief Minister urged the labourers and workers to remain relaxed and keep doing their work. There is no need to panic, he said. INSIDE

25 Punjabis held in Canada drug racket

JUPINDERJIT SINGH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

The Canada police, after an almost yearlong operation, have busted an international drug racket by arresting more than 30 persons, 25 of them of Punjab origin.

As per media reports from Canada, the police with the help of some international agencies began working on a special operation code-named Project Cheetah to break the back of an international drug network in Canada. The police action on the ground began on

Inputs on trafficking came from Punjab Police, NCB



PROJECT CHEETAH

- Police action began on April 8
- By April 19, cops in Ontario, BC and California seized \$2.3 million worth of drugs, besides currency and 48 highly sophisticated firearms
- The drug haul included 10 kg cocaine, 8 kg ketamine, 3 kg heroin and 2.5 kg opium

carried out more than 50 search warrants and seized about \$2.3 million worth of

drugs, including heroin and ketamine, and 48 highly sophisticated firearms, besides \$7,30,000 in Canadian currency.

The drug haul included 10 kg cocaine, 8 kg ketamine, 3 kg heroin and 2.5 kg opium.

The big success against the drug cartel has excited Indian security agencies, especially the Punjab Police and the Narcotics Control Bureau, whose officials had shared vital inputs with Canada and the USA in the last two years over

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

After harvesting, Punjab farmers start returning to Tikri border

RAVINDER SAINI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JHAJJAR, APRIL 20

A day after the Samyukta Kisan Morcha announced 'Phir Delhi Chalo' campaign to bolster numbers at the protest sites, farmers and labourers from Punjab have started returning to Tikri to join the agitation against the central farm laws. — TNS

UNIONS DIVIDED OVER TESTING BY HRY GOVT

Farm leaders camping at Singhu and Tikri borders are learnt to be divided over the Haryana Government's offer of sending medical teams for conducting Covid tests and vaccinating the protesters. A few leaders alleged it was a plot by the BJP government to quell their agitation. INSIDE

Farmers at a protest in Tikri on Tuesday against the central farm laws. PHOTO: SUMIT THARAN

While the SKM, a joint forum of farm unions, said the farmers had returned home temporarily as the protest sites in Tikri, Singhu and Ghazipur had been steadily thinning at the protest sites in Tikri, Singhu and Ghazipur over the past few weeks.

vesting, some alleged the

protesters were unhappy with the top union leadership for campaigning in poll-bound states

at the cost of the farm stir.

"Around 3,000 farmers from Punjab have returned to Tikri after completing their rabi

harvest. Many more are likely to reach here in the coming days," claimed Purushottam Singh Gill, a BKU (Lakhawal

leader. He said the count of local farmers too was growing.

Pargat Singh, a BKU (Rajewal) leader, said farmers and labourers were arriving by trains, buses and in their personal vehicles as tractors were still required for agricultural tasks. "The numbers will keep rising now as farmers will be free for over a month after selling their produce," he claimed.

The SKM has appealed to the migrants returning to their native places not to panic and join their protest. "We will make all arrangements for food and shelter. They must join the common struggle against the Centre," said SKM leader Darshan Pal.

wards the file(s)/recommendations to the Supreme Court within 8 to 12 weeks from the date of receipt of views from the state government and the report/input

from the IB, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India SA Bobde said.

"It would be for the government to thereafter proceed to make the appointment

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

SC deadline for Centre on judges' appointment

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

The Supreme Court on Tuesday set deadlines for the Centre and Intelligence Bureau (IB) to clear the names recommended by the Collegium for appointment as judges of high courts, saying it would "facilitate timely appointments".

"The IB should submit its report/input within 4 to 6 weeks from the date of recommendation of the High Court Collegium, to the Central Government. It would be desirable that the Centre for

IB directed to submit inputs in 4-6 weeks

wards the file(s)/recommendations to the Supreme Court within 8 to 12 weeks from the date of receipt of views from the state government and the report/input from the IB, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India SA Bobde said.

Rain hits procurement, lifting

Suffering losses due to vagaries of weather, farmers urge govt to provide relief

AMAN SOOD
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, APRIL 20

Uncertain weather conditions have further added to the miseries of wheat farmers, who are still awaiting the lifting of their procured produce due to the shortage of gunny bags. At present, there is a glut-like situation in the grain markets of the district.

Farmers said rain at regular intervals had further hampered the lifting and procurement of wheat in the grain markets.

Last week too, the yield had suffered damage due to wind and rain and now a wet spell had further hampered the procurement process.

"Wheat has been lying in the open due to the shortage of gunny bags, and now when the use of old bags has been allowed, intermittent showers have added to the moisture content," said Balbir Singh, a farmer from Samana.

Farmers at the Patiala grain market demanded that the state government should assess the losses and provide compensation accordingly.



Labourers cover wheat sacks with a plastic sheet at the New Grain Market in Patiala. PHOTO: RAJESH SACHAR

"Not only the standing crop has suffered damage, but the produce kept or stored in the open will be spoiled due to rain. Now, it will be difficult to harvest the crop with a combine. Besides, prolonged drying may lead to the shattering of grain. Also, there is a fear of fungus and discolouration of grain," said farmers.

"Tough measures make it all the more difficult for us to sell our produce in the market as procurement agencies are particular about the wheat

stock they buy", they added.

Meanwhile, procurement agencies and the Food Corporation of India (FCI) have asked the farmers to bring produce to grain markets with moisture content not beyond 12 per cent. The advisory has been issued to avoid crowding and ensure social distancing at the grain markets to contain the spread of Covid-19.

Harsdeep Singh from Bhadoh in Patiala district said rain had flattened nearly half of his crop that was yet to be harvested. "Rain at this stage of the harvesting season is a cause of concern. Farmers are already facing a lot of difficulties in harvesting and selling their produce in the wake of the Covid outbreak," he said.

Reviewing the procurement process at a meeting with the District Food and Civil Supplies Controller, district managers of procurement agencies, district marketing and enforcement officer, arthiyas and farmers, Rajpura MLA Hardyal Singh Kamboj and

Deputy Commissioner Kumar Amit asked them to expedite wheat procurement and arrange gunny bags immediately as per the latest guidelines of the state government.

Deputy Commissioner Kumar Amit directed the district managers of the procurement agencies to immediately procure the wheat of the farmers who had reached the grain markets. "The Chief Minister is personally monitoring the entire procurement process," he added.

FEAR OF FUNGUS, DISCOLOURATION

Not only the standing crop, the produce kept in the open will also be damaged due to rain. Now, it will be difficult to harvest the crop with a combine. Also, prolonged drying may lead to the shattering of grain. Besides, there is a fear of fungus and discolouration of grain.

A Patiala farmer



Sacks containing procured wheat drenched in rain at the Bathinda grain market. PAWAN SHARMA

Poor arrangements exposed: Farmers

SUKHMEET BHASIN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, APRIL 20

With rain in the past 24 hours in the region impeding the harvest and procurement operations, farmers and arthiyas have complained about the poor arrangements at grain markets.

As wheat brought in the mandis got wet, procurement agencies and arthiyas were seen struggling to provide tarpaulin covers to farmers to protect their grain. Even the procured wheat lying in open at markets also got damped. Uncertain weather condi-

Another farmer, Gurdarshan Singh of Bir Behman, said: "The wheat is lying in open and there is no arrangement by the district administration to provide any tarpaulins to cover the crop. We have to save our crop on our own."

Deputy Commissioner B Srinivasan said procurement and lifting of wheat in the mandis was being done on time. About 3,58,413 metric tonnes of wheat has arrived and 3,13,156 metric tonnes has been procured. Besides, 1,11,573 metric tonnes of wheat has been lifted.

In Sangrur, houses turn granaries

SANGRUR, APRIL 20

In view of the tardy lifting of wheat and to protect their crop from rain, farmers have converted their houses into granaries. Meanwhile, the shortage of gunny bags continues in the district.

"I harvested wheat on 15 acres on April 10 and since then the crop has been lying at my house. The government must intervene as there is no space for fresh arrivals in view of the slow pace of lifting. Rain would have destroyed my entire produce had I not stored it in my house," says Amarjeet Singh Mann from Channo village.

Till last evening, various grain markets of the district had received 7,15,270 MT of wheat, of which 6,70,541 MT was purchased by various agencies. Pungrain has purchased 3,13,325 MT of wheat, Markfed (1,36,940 MT), Punsup (1,45,140 MT), Punjab State Ware House Corporation (63,215 MT) and the FCI (5,861

Growers lay siege to SDM offices



A wheat stored in a house in Sangrur. TRIBUNE PHOTO

MT). Of the total purchase, the authorities have lifted 2,88,630 MT and released a payment of Rs 94.76 crore.

"Our wheat has been lying in the open due to the tardy lifting. The authorities have failed to supply gunny bags. We have laid siege to the SDM offices in Lehra and Moonak. We will not lift our dharnas till the government makes required arrangements of gunny bags," said Dharminder Pashore,

BKU (Ugrahan) leader.

Deputy Commissioner Ramvir said they had been taking all required steps to ensure the smooth purchase of wheat across the district. "I along with other senior officials have been supervising the purchase of wheat and taking effective steps. If there is any problem, our officials will visit farmers to address their concerns," the Deputy Commissioner said. — TNS

AAP protests at Ashu's house

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

Lashing out at the state government for not addressing the issues raised by farmers and not making prior arrangements for procurement and gunny bags, AAP today protested outside Minister Of Food And Civil Supplies Bharat Bhushan Ashu's residence here on Tuesday. They also raised slogans against the government.

Farmers alleged for the past 10 days, they had been facing harassment in selling their produce, but the Punjab Government seemed to be in a deep slumber.

Jagbir Singh Jhumba, member, BKU (Ekta Ugrahan), said the claims of the government to buy the grains of the farmers had fallen flat.

He said due to the shortage of gunny bags, the wheat lying in the open was getting spoilt due to rain and there was no provision to protect it from showers. The farmers warned that they would not end the siege till proper arrangements were made.

Vikas Garg, District Manager,

No bags, BKU activists gherao officials

BATHINDA, APRIL 20



Farmers protest the shortage of gunny bags at a procurement centre in Bathinda. TRIBUNE PHOTO

PUNSUP INSPECTOR FACES FARMERS'IRE OVER GUNNY BAG SHORTAGE

Angered over the shortage of gunny bags, farmers under the banner of BKU (Ekta Ugrahan) on Tuesday gheraoed a PUNSUP inspector at a grain market in Muktsar

Farmers alleged the moisture content in their produce was increasing due to rain, but procurement agencies were unable to arrange the required gunny bags

On this, Keshav Kumar, inspector, PUNSUP, said he had recently supplied gunny bags to the commission agents and more stock was also reaching soon

er, Punsup, said the procurement inspector had been informed about the "bardana" being sent to the Bahot Yatri procurement centre. District

Manager, DM Warehouse, Gagandeep Mittal said they had sent 19 bales to the Burj Sema mandi on Monday and more would be sent soon.

Deputy Commissioner B Srinivasan said 3,500 bales of "bardana" had been allotted to the procurement agencies through a tender. — TNS

90 quintal of wheat seized

ABO哈尔, APRIL 20

The police have impounded a tractor-trailer loaded with 90 quintal of wheat that was smuggled from Rajasthan.

Driver Bindir Singh, who is employed with Seed Farm, has been booked under Section 420 of the IPC in this regard. He is absconding.

Market Committee secretary Baljinder Singh had informed the police that a person was transporting wheat from Rajasthan in a tractor-trailer to further sell it in Punjab. Although the driver managed to flee, the vehicle loaded with wheat was impounded. — OC

IISER physicist Prof Arvind is Pbi varsity VC

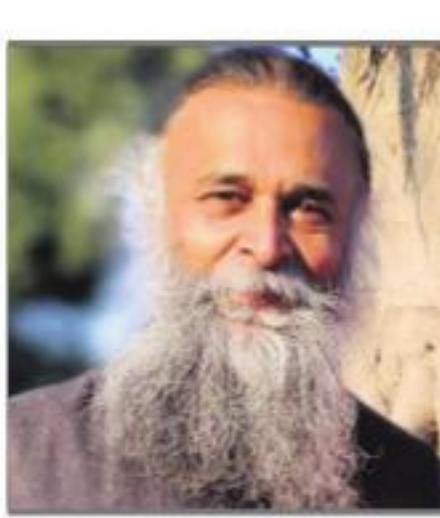
RAVNEET SINGH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, APRIL 20

The Punjab Government has appointed Professor Arvind of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali (IISER), the new Vice-Chancellor of Panjab University, Patiala.

Reviving and rebuilding the university by adding fresh courses to bring it on a par with international institutions remains on top of Professor Arvind's agenda.

Professor Arvind has been serving as a physics professor at the Mohali institute since March 3, 2010. He is a known



PLAN TO START FRESH COURSES

My vision is to restore the old glory of the institution and build on those areas. I plan to bring in new disciplines. Professor Arvind, IISER

theoretical quantum physicist working on science education, science communication and developing science paedagogy in Panjab and is credited with over 100 technical and non-technical publications, including "True experimental recon-

stitution of quantum states and processes via convex optimisation" published this year.

Professor Arvind said the university needed to recover and move forward. "On the academic front, my vision is to restore the old glory of the

culture," he said.

Professor Arvind is the national coordinator of theme-1 (photronics) of the National Multi-Institutional Networked Programme on Quantum Enabled Science and Technology (QuEST) launched by the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi, in 2018. He is also a member of the DPR drafting committee for the National Mission on Quantum Technologies and Applications (NMQTA).

Earlier, he had worked at the Physics Department of Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, as special faculty from 2002-2004.



Migrants board buses in Ludhiana. PHOTO: HIMANSHU MAHAJAN

Amid fears, migrants in Ldh head back home

SHIVANI BHAKOO
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LUDHIANA, APRIL 20

A large number of migrants from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have started leaving for their hometowns from the industrial city of Ludhiana. While it is believed that seeing the surge in Covid cases and amid speculation about a "partial lockdown", migrants have started leaving the city, industrialists claim it is the marriage season in UP and Bihar which is resulting in the movement.

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) former president SC Ralhan says many migrants had taken leave last month only as from tomorrow there is a wedding season in UP and Bihar. "About 25 per cent of the labourers have gone back to their native places, but they will be back in a month or so. In Delhi, they might be returning

because of a lockdown," says Ralhan.

However, labourers have something else to say. Priya, a domestic helper, along with her family left for UP all of a sudden because they wanted to be with their relatives in the Covid times.

"You never know when a complete lockdown is imposed", says a worried Priya. Migrants are not even bothered if trains are moving or not, they are hiring private buses to be with the families. "We will come back. But before the situation worsens, we wish to be in our native places", says Siyaram, a painter here.

Vancouver council backs farmers' stir

BATHINDA, APRIL 20

The Vancouver city council has passed a motion in support of farmers protesting outside New Delhi since November last year. The motion was moved by COPE councillor Jean Swanson and was passed by the 11-member city council. While four councillors joined Swanson in voting in favour, three others abstained and three, including Mayor Kennedy Stewart, stayed away.

The motion says the city stands in solidarity with Indian farmers and directs the mayor of Vancouver to write to the provincial and federal governments, asking them to speak out against laws intro-

Wants Canada govt to oppose agri laws

duced by the Indian Government. Thousands of farmers have been camping on the border of the national capital asking the BJP-led Centre to roll back three farm laws.

Demonstrations have been held in the past across Canada. Earlier, a rally was held outside Vancouver City Hall on March 29. The organisers displayed

more than 200 shoes on the steps leading to the building as a mark of respect to farmers who have lost their lives during the struggle. — TNS

Thousands set to leave for Delhi today

PARVESH SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SANGRUR, APRIL 20

Amid surge in Covid cases and harvesting of wheat, preparations are also going on in full swing across various districts to take thousands of farmers to New Delhi borders on April 21 under the banner of the BKU (Ugrahan) through Khanauri, Dabwali and Sardulgarh borders to counter the Centre's claims about decline in the number of protesters.

Many have got freed after harvesting wheat, while others are trying to finish chores before departing for Delhi. "Our protests have crossed 200 days at various locations and after failing to see any decline in our strength, the

Centre is now trying to spread misinformation about the reduction in number of protesters. We will join protests on April 21, which will further increase the number of protesters," said

Gurwinder Kaur, a woman protester in Sangrur. Darshan Singh, another farmer, said he had sold his wheat crop of 7 acres and was awaiting payment. He was also determined to leave for Delhi through train and trucks to supply milk. On April 21, more farmers will join them," said Sukhdev Singh Kokri Kalan, BKU (Ugrahan) state general secretary.

"Many youths have been going to Delhi through train and trucks to supply milk.

On April 21 even if he did not get the payment.

"I will borrow money from my brother, who is a government employee, while my son will take care of the payment. But I will definitely leave for Delhi," he said.

Teams of youngsters associated with the BKU (Ugrahan) have been working hard to make required arrangements of transportation and ration. There are many who are already supplying ration and milk to Delhi borders.

"Many youths have been going to Delhi through train and trucks to supply milk.

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25 pc drop in jabs as vaccine stock dries up

VISHAV BHARTI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20 State's Covid vaccine stocks seems to be drying up at a rapid pace as last week (April 13 to 19) the Health Department administered 25 per cent less doses of vaccination compared to the previous week.

As per the data of the Health Department, between April 5 and 12, the department administered 7.53 lakh doses. However, in the last week (April 13 to 19), it administered just 5.56 lakh doses of the vaccine.

As per a reality check made in the field, several districts of Punjab are facing shortage of vaccine. A large number of people who require second dose are being sent back on the pretext of shortage. In Moga and Barnala, the stock of Covishield had dried up.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Balbir Singh Sidhu said the state government had a strong health infrastructure and the capacity to vaccinate at least 3 lakh persons in a day



People queue up to get the jab at the Jalandhar Civil Hospital.

INOCULATION SO FAR

HEALTHCARE WORKERS DOSES

1,69,268 1st

81,104 2nd

FRONTLINE WARRIORS

3,14,427 1st

72,845 2nd

45+ AGE GROUP

18,63,111 1st

90,172 2nd



23.4 lakh administered vaccine in state

DAY'S SUPPLY LEFT

The situation is alarming with only one day of vaccine stock left.

—Balbir Singh Sidhu, HEALTH MINISTER



through more than 3,000 government health centres, but due to lesser supply of vaccine from the Centre, the state was not able to achieve the target.

Even CM Capt Amarinder Singh had raised the issue of

shortage of vaccine during a virtual meeting with the Centre and demanded immediate supplies of vaccines and quick approval for two new oxygen plants in the state amid concerns over depleting stocks of both.

High Court puts Pb, Chd on notice over 'grim' situation

Haryana to file status report on oxygen in hospitals

SAURABH MALIK
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

Taking cognisance of the "grim" situation in the region following surge in Covid cases — including the non-availability of beds in the hospitals and "depleted" oxygen supply, the Punjab and Haryana High Court today put the state of Punjab and Chandigarh on notice after impleading the two as party-respondents in an ongoing petition on the pandemic management. The newly added respondents were given two days' time to address the Bench on the issues after seeking instructions. The state of Haryana also undertook to file a status report on the requirement and supply of oxygen to the hospitals.

COMPLETE CHAOS

There is a complete chaos due to the situation arising out of Covid-19 spread... beds are not available to those seeking admission to the hospitals and the supply of oxygen is severely depleted.

Rupinder Khosla, AMICUS CURIAE

the government guidelines were not being followed in the region. Beds were not available to those seeking admission to the hospitals and the supply of oxygen was "severely depleted".

Praying for impleading Chandigarh and Punjab as parties as the conditions were "equally grim" in the two states and the UT, he further submitted that the situation demanded the Court's immediate attention.

He also brought to the Court's notice the "casual attitude of the general public even at a stage when spread of Covid-19 was reaching its

peak". The Bench was told that the public places were crowded and the government guidelines were not being followed. "The situation, to say the least, is alarming," he added.

Haryana Additional Advocate-General Ankur Mittal submitted appropriate steps were being taken, as submitted in an affidavit filed by Haryana Home Department Secretary Pankaj Yadav. At the same time, he did not dispute that something more was required to be done to bring the situation under control.

He added that state-level monitoring committee headed by the Haryana Health Minister had already been constituted to look into various issues, particularly timely supply of oxygen to the hospitals.

He added daily requirement of oxygen, as on date, was 70/80 MT, while the production in the Haryana was 270 MT. The directions came on a petition filed against Haryana and other respondents.

Sh. Manohar Lal
Chief Minister, Haryana

Don't Panic
Adopt Safety Norms
to prevent Corona

Cleanliness

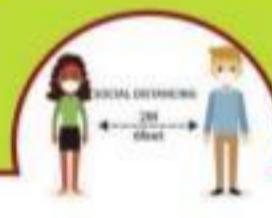
Frequently wash hands with soap and water or use sanitizer

Vaccination

COVID vaccine is safe, must get vaccination



Adopt Healthy Lifestyle & Ayurveda to Boost Immunity

Strictness

Strict adherence to social distancing and use of masks



Challan for not wearing mask as well as free mask distribution



Comprehensive arrangement in Covid Testing Centre under the supervision of District Administration

Follow the rule of SMS

S Sanitization

M Mask

S Social Distancing

Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana

www.prharyana.gov.in @Cmohry @DiprHaryana

P'kot ambulance sent to Nangal, MP fumes

RAVI DHALIWAL
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATHANKOT, APRIL 20

In times of Covid when almost all districts of the state are experiencing a surge in cases, the Pathankot Civil Surgeon "in violation of rules" has dispatched a ventilator-equipped ambulance acquired through MP Sunny Deol's MPLAD funds to Nangal not only leaving local residents to fend for themselves but also leaving the actor fuming at the turn of events.

An officer said the vehicle was sent to Nangal, the Assembly seat of Speaker Rana KP Singh, as "the case load of Covid was more as compared to Pathankot."

Dr Harvinder Singh, Civil Surgeon, said, "The vehicle was dispatched a few days ago on instructions of the state government and will return to the city this evening."

Rajindra Hospital sees 15 fatalities in 24 hours

KARAM PRAKASH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, APRIL 20

Fifteen persons died of Covid at Government Rajindra Hospital here over the past 24 hours. As many as 175 persons have died of Covid at the hospital in April.

The authorities said 194 persons had been receiving treatment in the isolation wing of the hospital of which 175 were positive, while the test reports of 19 were awaited. As many as 113 persons had died of Covid at the hospital last month.

Dr Sachin Kaushal, nodal officer, isolation wing, Government Rajindra Hospital, said, "Sixteen persons died at the isolation ward over the past 24 hours. Of 16, one was a suspected Covid patient, who tested negative. Patients are reaching hospital at late



The hospital mortuary is running short of space following a sudden rise in Covid deaths. TRIBUNE PHOTO: RAJESH SACHAR

stage. A majority of the cases were referrals from other districts." He added that a majority of patients had died within 48 hours of admission.

Officials revealed that of 5,757 positive cases, 1,109 had died at the hospital since the outbreak of the disease last year. The mortality rate at the hospital hovers around 20 per cent which was alarming, said experts. It has been learned that the

hospital mortuary is running short of space following the sudden rise in Covid deaths.

Meanwhile, the body of a Covid suspect at the hospital mortuary was allowed in the car of the family members. Officials at the mortuary said though the deceased was admitted at the isolation ward, his report came negative. They said the family members of the deceased could take the body if the report was negative.

Patwari, jiledaar exams deferred as cases surge

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

In view of the surging Covid cases, patwari and jiledaar examination slated to be conducted by the Subordinate Services Selection Board (SSSB) on May 2 have been postponed. This

Were slated to be held by SSSB on May 2

was disclosed by board Chairman Raman Behl.

He said the examination for these posts was to be held on May 2 which had now been postponed in pursuance of government Covid guidelines.

Behl said Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh had reviewed the Covid situation on April 19.



GLADA announces e-auction of

COMMERCIAL, RESIDENTIAL, SCHOOL & CHUNK SITES

at

LUDHIANA & MOGA

AUCTION BEGINS
10.05.2021
at 9:00 AM

AUCTION CONCLUDES
21.05.2021
at 1:00 PM

73

COMMERCIAL SITES

- 23 SCO
- 21 SCF
- 19 Booths
- 10 Shops

STARTING FROM ₹ 15.11 Lac

Possession on 25% payment of sites having reserve price below ₹ 50 Crore

Possession on 20% payment of sites having reserve price ₹ 50 Crore or above

Balance payment in easy installments at interest rate 9.5% P.A.



CHUNK SITES

- 2 Commercial Chunks
- 1 School Site

STARTING FROM ₹ 1.62 Crore

RESIDENTIAL SITES

STARTING FROM ₹ 35.97 Lac

visit www.puda.e-auctions.in for details

GREATER LUDHIANA AREA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

GLADA Complex, Rajguru Nagar, Ferozepur Road, Ludhiana

paper.tribuneindia.com

Soon, single number call centre for plaints

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

The state is all set to have a unified statewide single number call centre to address all citizen-centric grievances by the end of the month.

Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Tuesday directed that the process to standardise the redress mechanism be expedited, with instructions for bringing all 500 citizen services in the state online through the sewa kendras this year. He approved the recruitment of 503 personnel at various levels to give the necessary push for the process.

Chairing a virtual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Punjab State e-Governance Society, the Chief Minister also directed that for the convenience of citizens, home delivery

Citizen services to be made online through sewa kendras

of services and tatkal services should also be launched from sewa kendras immediately. He ordered total computerisation and digitisation of the backend of the citizen-centric service mechanism to ensure effective and timely disbursal of services.

Currently, 329 services of various departments are being delivered from these sewa kendras to the citizens with saanjan kendras (police) and fard kendras (revenue) recently integrated into the system. These services shall also have computerised backend and digitised legacy records. — TNS

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Office of the Medical Director, Northern Railway Central Hospital, Basant Lane, New Delhi-110055
File No. E/Med/SR/74/CH/2021
Advt. No. NRCH/SR/2021/002

ENGAGEMENT OF SENIOR RESIDENTS

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for engagement to the post of Senior Resident under Senior Residency Scheme at Northern Railway Central Hospital, New Delhi. Detailed advertisement with VACANCY STATUS, Terms & Conditions, Format of Application form is available on Northern Railway website www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in under head News & Recruitment info)

MEDICAL DIRECTOR
NORTHERN RAILWAY CENTRAL HOSPITAL,
BASANT LANE, NEW DELHI-110055

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

OSBI STATE BANK OF INDIA

[Rule 8(1)] Possession Notice (For Immoveable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised officer of the State Bank Of India, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 3 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice to borrower(s)/ guarantor(s), on the date mentioned hereunder, calling upon the borrower(s)/guarantor(s), to repay the amount mentioned in the respective demand notice, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower(s)/guarantor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower(s)/guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under sub section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned against below accounts.

The borrower(s)/ guarantor(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property / properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India, Factory Road, Maur Mandi, Distt. Bathinda for an amount of being less amount of recovery made, if any other charges/expenses, costs, thereon.

The borrower's/ Guarantor's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s)	Description of the Movable / Immoveable Property	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount Outstanding
1. Mr. Gaganpal Singh, Kotla Road, Maur Mandi through its Prop. Smt. Rani Bala W/o Sh. Rajender Kumar Resident of House No. 246, Ward No. 5, Teachers Colony, Maur Mandi-151509 (Borrower)	Equitable Mortgage of Property situated in Sector 102, Plot No. 09, Area 16, Block 16, Khata No. 69/237 share of 11 Kanal 17 Marla comprising in Khetwan / Khaton No. 337/1048, Khana No. 102/21 (7-14).	20.12.2020	19.04.2021	Rs.40,26,775.58/- plus future interest and other charges, less amount of recovery made, if any, plus interest and other charges/ expenses, costs, & fees etc.
2. Smt. Raj Rani W/o Sh. Parshotam Dass, Resident of Village Khana No. 102/21, Kheta No. 337/1048, Shisha Rani W/o Ashok Kumar Resident of House No. 334, Ward No. 5, Teachers Colony, Maur Mandi-151509 (Guarantor)	The property is bounded on the East:- 294'-0" Hardayal Singh, West:- 250'-0" Lang Singh, North:- 77'-0" Passage (16'-0" wide), South:- 73'-0" Bathinda Mansa Road, Location of Property: Opposite Electric Grids, Bathinda Mansa Road, Maur Mandi Distt. Bathinda.	11.03.2021	12.03.2021	1289/175 share of 11 Kanal 17 Marla 1 vide Sale Deed No. 156/195 share of 11 Kanal 17 Marla 1 vide Sale Deed No. 1152 Dated 11.08.2014 registered in the names of Raj Rani W/o Sh. Parshotam Dass (284/74 share of 11 Kanal 17 Marla) and Shisha Rani W/o Ashok Kumar (156/195 share of 11 Kanal 17 Marla) and Shisha Rani W/o Ashok Kumar (156/195 share of 11 Kanal 17 Marla).

DATE: 21.04.2021

PLACE: MAUR MANDI

AUTHORISED OFFICER

NORTHERN RAILWAY

NOTICE

Dt. 20.4.2021

WALK IN INTERVIEW FOR ENGAGEMENT OF CONTRACT MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS FOR WORKING IN EXTRA DIVISIONAL HOSPITAL, NORTHERN RAILWAY, JAGADHRI WORKSHOP

Extra Divisional Hospital, Jagadhi Workshop called MBBS qualified doctors to engage as CMP (GDMO) for one year.

1. Name of the post	Contract Medical Practitioner on full time basis
2. No. of post	02 (UR=02)
3. Station	Jagadhi Workshop
4. Date, Time & Venue	28.04.2021, 10.00 to 12.30 hrs., Office of the Addl. Chief Medical Supdt., N. Rly. Hospital, Jagadhi Workshop
5. Category of CMPs	GDMO
6. Monthly Remuneration (in Rs.)	75,000/-

Eligibility criteria, other details and applications format, can be seen at website www.pdis.judw.in.

Issued by:-
Chief Workshop Manager
893/2021

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PUNJAB & SIND BANK

(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
Branch Office: N.K. Road Patiala

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

A notice is hereby given that the following borrowers have defaulted in the repayment of credit facilities obtained by them from the bank and said facilities have turned NPA. The notice under section 13(2) of the Securitisation of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 were issued to the borrower/guarantors on their last known address by the registered post. However the notices have been returned unserved & the authorised officer has reason to believe that the borrower/guarantors are avoiding the service of notice as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.

Name of Branch & Borrowers / Guarantor	Details of Mortgaged Property	Demand Notice Date	Amount recoverable
Borrower: Sh. Sukhdev Singh son of Sh. Ram Singh, Sheesh Mahal Colony, H/O Bishan Singh Fauji, Near Gurdwara, Dakala Road, Patiala (Borrower), 2. Sh. Maninder Singh son of Sh. Sukhdev Singh, Sheesh Mahal Colony, H/O Bishan Singh Fauji, Near Gurdwara, Dakala Road, Patiala (Guarantor), 4. Sh. Rakesh Kumar son of Sh. Rakha Ram, Qr. No. 6, Dakala Road, Patiala, (Guarantor), 5. Smt. Ishar Kaur wife of Sh. Sukhdev Singh, Sheesh Mahal Colony, H/O Bishan Singh Fauji, Near Gurdwara, Dakala Road, Patiala.	Property/House comprises as Khewat/ Khata No. 3726/5765 Kharsa No. 1813 (2-0) out of which 2/40 share i.e. 0.02 Biswas measuring 100 sq. yds as per jamabandi for the year 1996-97 situated at Dakala Road, Sheesh Mahal Colony, Adjoining Bandha, Patiala, Tehsil & Distt Patiala in the name of Sh. Sukhdev Singh son of Sh. Sukhdev Singh, Sheesh Mahal Colony, H/O Bishan Singh Fauji, Near Gurdwara, Dakala Road, Patiala (Borrower), 3. Sh. Amardeep Singh son of Sh. Teja Singh, # 206, Street No.3, Abchal Nagar, Factory Area, Patiala, (Guarantor), 4. Sh. Rakesh Kumar son of Sh. Rakha Ram, Qr. No. 6, Dakala Road, Patiala, (Guarantor), 5. Smt. Ishar Kaur wife of Sh. Sukhdev Singh, Sheesh Mahal Colony, H/O Bishan Singh Fauji, Near Gurdwara, Dakala Road, Patiala.	06.04.2021	Rs. 1,46,647.66p along with Interest thereon

The above borrower/guarantors are advised to pay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days as per provisions of the Securitisation of financial Assets and enforcement of security interest Act, 2002. Moreover the borrower/guarantors are hereby restrained from dealing with any of the above secured assets mentioned above in any manner whatsoever without our prior consent. This is without prejudice to any other rights available to us under the subject act and/or any other law in force.

DATE: 21.04.2021

PLACE: PATERIA

AUTHORISED OFFICER

File affidavit on cases against lawmakers within 10 days: HC

SAURABH MALIK
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

Less than two months after the Punjab and Haryana High Court made clear its intent to fast lane cases involving sitting and erstwhile parliamentarians and legislators of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh, a 10-day deadline was today set for Punjab and the Punjab Police to file affidavits in the matter. The Centre was also given liberty to file an affidavit in the matter.

As the suo motu case, "In Re: Special Courts for MPs/MLAs", for monitoring the progress of cases pending against MP/MLAs came up for resumed hearing g before the Bench of Justice Rajan Gupta and Justice Karamjit Singh, Additional Solicitor

District judges of Pb, Haryana, Chandigarh directed to furnish details of all such cases

General of India Satya Pal Jain submitted that he required another one weeks' time to respond to the court's previous order dated February 25. "He shall be at liberty to file an affidavit on or before the next date of hearing," the Bench asserted.

The Bench also directed Punjab Additional Advocate General SPS Tinna and State's Inspector-General of Police, Crime, Arun Pal Singh, to file an affidavit. The case will now come up for further hearing in April last week.

The Bench, on the previous date of hearing, had made it clear that the information, to be furnished to

the court, would include details of cases pending with the Central Bureau of Investigation, the enforcement directorate and other Central investigating agencies.

The district judges of the two states and the Union Territory were also directed to furnish details of all such cases and to ensure speedy disposal. "They shall also send a report regarding the stage of such trials," the Bench had added.

The amicus curiae or the friend of the court, Rupinder Khosla, had also told the Bench that the operative part of the Supreme Court order specifically mentioned moni-

toring the trial of all criminal cases instituted by the state.

The suggestion to set up special courts flows from recommendations of the Vohra committee, set up in 1993 by the Central government. The committee was constituted under the chairmanship of the then Union Home Secretary, NN Vohra, to take stock of all available information about activities of crime syndicates/mafia organisations, which had developed links with, and were being permitted by government functionaries and political personalities.

Among other things, the report recommended the setting up of an efficient "nodal cell" with powers to take stringent action against crime syndicates, while ensuring immunity from being exploited or influenced.

The enactment of the legislation would give legal sanctity to the teacher transfer policy, introduced by his government in 2019 to make the entire process transparent, efficient and corruption-free, said the Chief Minister, pointing out that since the policy was brought in, not a single complaint of corruption had been received with respect to the transfer of school teachers.

Under the policy, which has now also been extended to non-teaching staff, of 1.12 lakh teachers, 21,600 teachers had availed the benefit so far.

On the issue of salary hike for the mid-day meal workers, the Chief Minister said it was a long-pending demand of the workers, who had got a hike last in 2017. The move would benefit 42,000 workers in 19,000 schools. The Chief Minister further announced that the process of the distribution of 2.14 lakh more

State to give legal sanctity to transfer policy for teachers

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Tuesday gave in-principle approval to a legislation on the teacher transfer policy in the Vidhan Sabha, while announcing Rs 500 per month increase in the salaries of mid-day meal workers.

He gave consent for the distribution of another 2.14 lakh smartphones to Class XII government school students this year.

Smartphones would commence within three months, with budget allocation already made for 2020-21.

Pointing out that 1.75 lakh students studying in Class XII had already been provided smartphones in 2020-21, the Chief Minister said in addition, 3,502 tablets had already been provided to the students of government schools, while Rs 5.25 crore had been kept aside for e-libraries.

School Education Secretary Krishan Kumar said 250 schools would be upgraded in 2020-21, with a draft policy for the same already sent to the Finance Department for approval.

Enrolment in government schools had registered an increase of 15.07 per cent with 27.20 lakh students enrolled during 2020-21, he added.

Bird from Pak has police in a fix

GS PAUL
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, APRIL 20

The local police department have a unique case on their hands — seizure of a pigeon from across the border. The bird tagged with a Pakistan number was captured by the BSF and handed over to the police for further action.

In a communication to the police, the BSF insisted on lodging an FIR against the recovered bird. A BSF official said around 6.25 pm on April 17, the bird came and sat on

slip bearing a Pakistani contact number was wrapped around one of its legs with an adhesive tape. Fearing it to be a 'spy code', the police were asked to initiate action.

Faced with a unique situation, the police have sought legal opinion. Attempts to reach the number mentioned on the slip have turned futile.

Attari DSP GS Sahota said: "We have lodged a FIR and are awaiting legal opinion." Till then, the bird would be in forest department's custody.

Rare nagarkirtan from Kartarpur shrine to zero line

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, APRIL 20

In a rare event, a nagar kirtan procession was taken out from Gurdwara Kartarpur Sahib in Narowal district of Pakistan to the zero line connecting Dera Baba Nanak on the Indian side last evening.

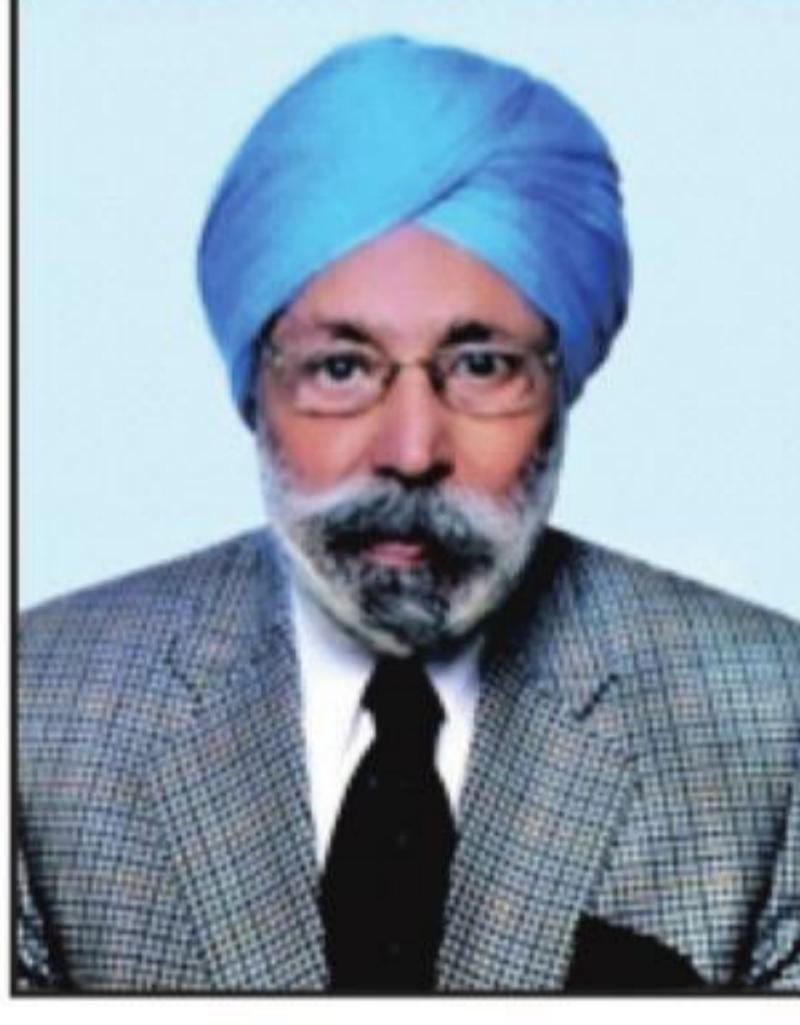
The procession, accompanied by a 'palki' was headed by 'panj pyaras' from India who are accompanying a jatha to commemorate Baisakhi in Pakistan.

Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (PSGPC) chief Satwant Singh said it was the first time such a nagar kirtan was organised from the Darbar Sahib, Kartarpur, to the Joint Check Post by an Indian Sikh jatha comprising 800 pilgrims.



www.edubilla.com

**Lives of great men all remind us, We can make our lives sublime,
And departing, leave behind us, Footprints on the sands of time.**



S. KARNAIL SINGH DOAD, ADVOCATE

Ex. M.L.A. Faridkot; Ex. Executive Member Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Sri Amritsar Sahib; Ex. District President Sikh Students Federation Punjab; Ex. Chairman Punjab Mandi Board, Chandigarh; Ex. Chairman Punjab Land Development & Mortgage Bank, Bathinda; Founder of Sangat Sahib Bhai Pheru Khalsa High School and Sangat Sahib Bhai Pheru Sikh Educational Society (Regd.), Faridkot along with its 11 educational institutions left for his eternal abode on 21st April, 2019.

Possessing all the qualities of head and heart he emerged as a large-hearted, philanthrop who stood by the downtrodden, spoke forcefully for a cause and pursued his noble objectives relentlessly. He was committed to the spread of quality and value based education which he felt is the panacea for all the social ailments and to cure them he established Sangat Sahib Bhai Pheru Khalsa School in 1954-55 named after a service-minded devotee, Bhai Pheru ji, of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib. This institution in due course of time emflowered into many institutions with 'DASMESH' prefix, an 'Honorable' associated with the Tenth Guru of the Sikh faith. These institutions together revolutionized the whole Malwa Region with quality education on CBSE lines and on lines of medical education related to dentistry, physiotherapy, nursing and pharmacy. Due to his insatiable desire for promoting education even beyond the confines of Faridkot, he remained deeply associated with Sikh Educational Society, Chandigarh, which in addition to running eight prominent institutions in Chandigarh runs reputed Colleges in Quadian (Gurdaspur) and Banga.

He was a gentleman politician who could rise above petty politics and did not hesitate from seeking cooperation from the best brains of the area for his cherished welfare-projects irrespective of the political party or faction they belonged to. One such experiment he replicated while making Managing Committee of his first-ever educational venture of Sangat Sahib Bhai Pheru Khalsa School, Faridkot.

While in politics he tirelessly strived for the upliftment of the poor and development of the area he represented. He always remained at the beck end call of the needy in his constituency. Being a man imbued with high values he never resorted to cheap politics and acted like a statesman of high stature. He was a beloved of all the people of Faridkot who in turn responded in unison to the yeomanly services rendered to them ensuring his decisive victory in election as an independent M.L.A. in 1985. Such a noble soul ended his worldly journey, ameliorating human conditions, through the thick and thin of his highly active life on 21st of April, 2019 leaving the imbridgeable void in the psyche of people who loved him from the core of their hearts.

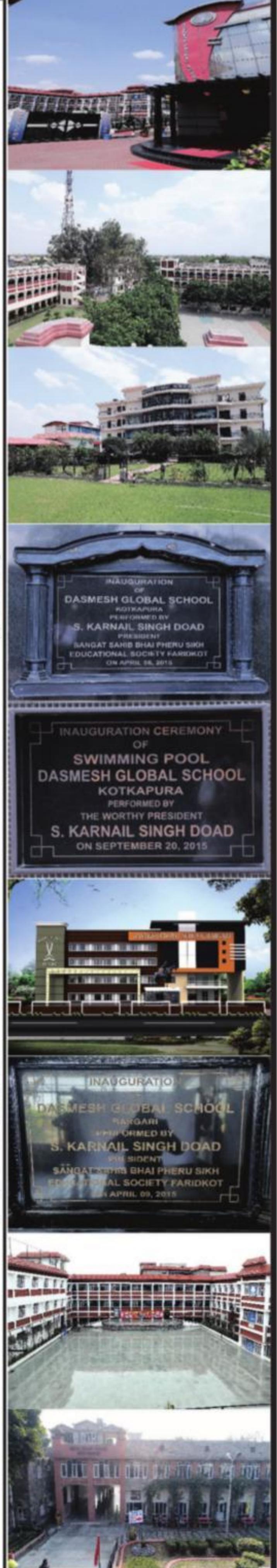
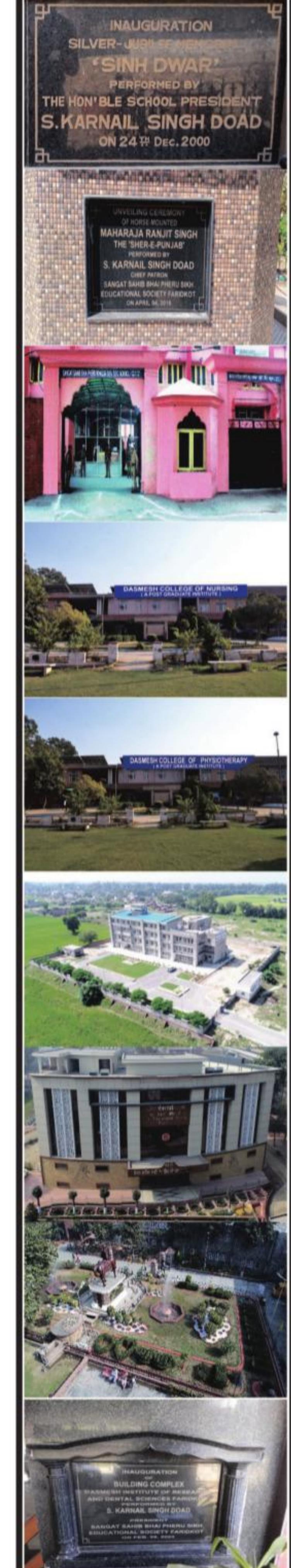
All the beneficiaries of institutions, students presently getting education and the ones who passed-out and their grateful parents, hundreds of employees, thousands of those who benefitted directly or indirectly from his efforts have ensconced him in their lasting memory.

All members of Sangat Sahib Bhai Pheru Sikh Educational Society, the staff and students of numerous institutions established by him bow their heads in gratitude before him feeling that his inspirational life will keep leading the institutions towards the great heights cherished by this energetic soul which will remain enshrined in the memories of all who love him.

Sangat Sahib Bhai Pheru Khalsa Sr. Sec. School, Faridkot

Dasmesh Dental College, Faridkot
Dasmesh College of Nursing, Faridkot
Dasmesh College of Physiotherapy, Faridkot
Dasmesh Multi-specialty Hospital, Faridkot
Dasmesh College of Pharmacy, Faridkot

Dasmesh Public School, Faridkot
Dasmesh Public School, Kotkapura
Dasmesh Public School, Bargari
Dasmesh Global School, Kotkapura
Dasmesh Global School, Bargari



The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Vaccine for all adults

Onus on Centre, pharma firms to ensure adequate supply

INDIA has taken a decisive step forward in its battle against Covid-19 by liberalising the vaccination drive that has been progressing in fits and starts ever since its launch in mid-January. All citizens above 18 years of age will be eligible for the jab from May 1. Several Opposition parties and state governments had been demanding the opening of the vaccination programme for all adults in view of the spiralling caseload, but the Centre took its time before doing the needful. From next month, vaccine manufacturers would be free to supply 50 per cent of the doses to the states and in the open market. The move is aimed at ensuring that there is no shortage of the vaccine in any part of the country. With tens of crores of young people set to converge on vaccination centres soon, the Central government and pharma companies will find themselves under increasing pressure to provide adequate vaccine stocks.

India has followed in America's footsteps by deciding to make the vaccine available for all adults, but the two nations are poles apart in terms of their vaccination trajectory. In the US, 40 per cent of the population has received at least one shot, while 25 per cent people have been fully inoculated. The corresponding figures for India are a dismal 8 per cent and 1.3 per cent, respectively.

The government has reportedly approved a payment of about Rs 4,500 crore as advance to vaccine makers Serum Institute of India and Bharat Biotech for future supplies. This grant will help both of them ramp up their production capacity in anticipation of the imminent rise in demand. Along with the fast-tracking of emergency approvals for foreign-produced coronavirus jabs, the Centre is said to be keen on waiving 10 per cent customs duty levied on imported vaccines. Such moves can facilitate the availability of a variety of safe and affordable vaccines in India shortly. With greater decentralisation, the vaccination drive is expected to gain much-needed momentum, provided the authorities are able to minimise vaccine wastage and prevent hoarding.

Stop migrants' exodus 2.0

Incentivise them to stay put, avoid wave of superspreaders

NO doubt, the migrant workers' exodus 2.0 — happening in many states, including Punjab, Delhi, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh — must be prevented. For, implicit in the mass movement is the crowding and congestion of trains and buses. And, as they ride on the raging Covid 2.0 wave, it is fraught with the danger of the fleeing flocks becoming superspreaders. The state governments must incentivise them to stay put. 'Main hoon na!' — this assurance by beleaguered Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to the worried migrant workers making a beeline for railway stations and bus stands to return home amid a weekend/week-long lockdown is all sound and no action. It carries little weight and appeal to the hordes bent on leaving. The other states are equally devoid of solid measures to stop the exodus. Even the Centre that had last year announced a stimulus for the poor to tide over the crisis is silent on the emergency emerging from Covid 2.0.

Unless the pleas are backed by solid facilities, the labourers, mostly daily-wage earners, are not likely to revisit their decision to leave. For, they are still singed by last year's terrible experience when millions of migrants endured extreme misery, as following job losses and food insecurity, they trudged/cycled thousands of kilometres from all corners of the country during the draconian Lockdown 1.0, when public transport came to a grinding halt, to reach the safety of their homes. It is accentuated by the trust deficit regarding the governments' decisions and flip-flops on the clamping of stricter lockdowns or curfews. The declarations of saving both lives and livelihoods, though well-meaning, are hollow as the welfare schemes announced for the poor are inadequate.

At the same time, the situation necessitates that the home states of the workers — largely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal — should be prepared to receive the thousands of daily arrivals with provisions of quarantine facilities, food and medical aid, besides Covid testing, before they are found safe to go home. However, the authorities have been found appallingly wanting as chaos reigns at the workers' destinations.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

We have a single mission: to protect and hand on the planet to the next generation. — Francois Hollande

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

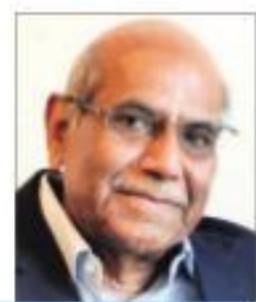
LAHORE, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1921

GOVERNMENT AND THE SIKHS.

THE Punjab Government has issued a resolution which defines the Government's position towards the Sikh community and puts in a strong plea for the maintenance of cordial relations between the Sikhs and the Government. After stating that "attempts are being made in public speeches and writings to embitter the cordial relations which have hitherto been maintained between the Government and the Sikh community", the resolution goes on to describe in detail what the Government has done for the Sikh community: "The tendency of the Government policy during the last few years has been to accord to the Sikh community reasonable privileges and to remove any grievances that may have existed. As examples of this policy may be mentioned the exemption of the wearing of the Sikh religious emblem, kirpan, from the restrictions of the Arms Act; the introduction of separate representation for Sikhs in the Legislative Council; the accession to the wish of the Sikh community for the retirement of Government officers from the control of the Khalsa College and the grant of three lakhs of rupees for the completion of the buildings in the College; the withdrawal of Government interference in the management of the Golden Temple; the appointment of a Sikh Member of the Executive Council; the removal of sundry restrictions and penalties on Sikh villages: the provision of two engineers for the protection from erosion by river of the shrine of Guru Nanak at Kartarpur in the Gurdaspur District, and so forth." But it will be remembered that the Government's action was taken after persistent agitation in almost every case. No one who has been following the activity of the Sikh public bodies during recent years could have failed to notice that the Government's granting of reasonable privileges to the Sikhs and the removal of their "legitimate grievances," have been almost universally pronounced by the Sikhs themselves to be unsatisfactory.

Global focus back on climate

Without China, no multilateral initiative is likely to have much credibility



SHYAM SARAN

FORMER FOREIGN SECRETARY AND SENIOR FELLOW, CENTRE FOR POLICY RESEARCH

US President Joe Biden has convened a virtual climate change summit later this week at which 20 top world leaders, whose economies contribute 80% of the global carbon emissions, are expected to be present. It is still not clear whether Chinese President Xi Jinping will avail of Biden's invitation. Though his special climate change envoy, John Kerry, recently visited China and held talks with his counterpart, Xie Zhenhua, no assurances were forthcoming. The US insists that climate change is a 'stand-alone' issue and should be insulated from other contentious issues in US-China relations, such as the raising of human rights issues in China's Xinjiang and Tibet. More recently, the issue of Taiwan has also surfaced as a source of tension. China has objected to former senior US officials being despatched to Taiwan by the Biden administration to convey support to Taiwan's security. The US Congress is considering legislation that would restore official level contacts between the two countries. This has further angered China. The Chinese spokesman has categorically rejected the US position that climate change should be considered as a stand-alone issue for cooperation between the two countries, asserting that the whole gamut of relations is interlinked.

On the eve of the Washington summit, Xi Jinping held his own virtual trilateral summit with President Macron of France and Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany with climate change on the agenda. This, too, seems to put in doubt whether Xi Jinping will eventually avail of Biden's invitation. If he



IN ACTION: The summit hopes to re-establish US leadership on climate change. REUTERS

Modi must draw attention to the importance of adaptation to developing countries and the need to arrange multilateral finance and technology for their efforts on this score.

does not, Biden's initiative to re-establish US leadership on climate change will receive a major setback. China is the largest emitter of carbon emissions, responsible for 30% of such emissions. This is the occasion when India should be 'decoupled' from China. The world should not expect India to match commitments that are expected from China. This does not mean that India and China cannot work together on climate issues where their interests converge. Recently, the group of BASIC countries (Brazil, South Africa, China and India) released a joint statement opposing the European proposal for a border carbon tax.

PM Modi should make the point that one cannot treat a country with only 7% of global emissions in the same manner as a country responsible for 30% of such emissions. This is the occasion when India should be 'decoupled' from China. The world should not expect India to match commitments that are expected from China. This does not mean that India and China cannot work together on climate issues where their interests converge. Recently, the group of BASIC countries (Brazil, South Africa, China and India) released a joint statement opposing the European proposal for a border carbon tax.

PM Modi should use the summit to draw the attention of his summit partners to the parallel importance of adaptation to developing countries and the need to arrange both multilateral finance and technology for their efforts on this score. The frequency of extreme climate events is rising. The world's ice caps are melting at an alarming rate, as are our own Himalayan glaciers. These are affecting weather patterns and ocean currents. There are both current impacts and the prospect of future

change. PM Modi should make the point that one cannot treat a country with only 7% of global emissions in the same manner as a country responsible for 30% of such emissions. This is the occasion when India should be 'decoupled' from China. The world should not expect India to match commitments that are expected from China. This does not mean that India and China cannot work together on climate issues where their interests converge. Recently, the group of BASIC countries (Brazil, South Africa, China and India) released a joint statement opposing the European proposal for a border carbon tax.

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When faith is not the anchor

SUMIT PAUL

MANY years ago, a girl from Bombay (sorry, no Mumbai for me) mailed me after chancing upon my email ID in a magazine. What struck me was her name: Anastha (unbelief). I had never come across a person having such a name. I asked whether her parents gave her this unusual name or she chose it for herself. She told me that her Brahmin parents gave her a conventional name: Anusuya (a goddess). But she didn't like it, and after growing up, when she lost all faith in 'god' and religion, she christened herself as Anastha.

I was very impressed. Not because she relinquished her parental — yes, every religion is parental, you

don't choose it for yourself, your parents foist it upon you — religion; she had the guts to rechristen herself in a fearless manner.

It was the courage of conviction of a young girl that made me think deeply. How many of us can defy traditions, conventions and customs? Go beyond your parents, your ancestors and your forefathers. To follow them without ever questioning their ways is not discipline or obedience. It's timidity,' emphasised Nietzsche in his epochal book, *Thus Spake Zarathustra*.

Very many people carry customs, names and conventions because all these past baggages have been bequeathed to them by their parents and ancestors. They carry, nay drag them, because they don't have the

courage to defy them. I've come across a number of people who are not happy with the names given by their parents. But they don't have the courage to change and choose a name of their liking. We've been taught right from our infancy, not to dare find fault with the 'wisdom' of our parents and ancestors.

This is inculcated so deeply that despite knowing that no one could be right every time and that parents aren't infallible, we continue to follow them blindly. Why can't we all find a way for ourselves, a way no one before us walked on? 'Percolated knowledge is no wisdom,' said Buddha. If you need to carve a niche for yourself and leave your footprints on the sands of time, you must have the gumption to challenge all con-

ventional wisdom, irrespective of where it comes from. Nothing and no one is sacrosanct. Your parents, teachers, friends, relatives, acquaintances and even the perceived enemies may only be your well-wishers or pointers, but you've to traverse all alone with your convictions and not with someone else's borrowed ones.

Anastha remained a non-believer till she breathed her last. She wasn't burnt or buried after her death as she never had even an iota of faith in obsequies. Her mortal remains were given away to the medical college where she passed away. I often wonder: will I ever come across yet another person like her having absolutely no faith in conventional wisdom? Perhaps never!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Failed governance

Even as the situation is turning grave with the escalating Covid death rate, the attitude of the governments across the country is shameful. People, too, are reluctant to follow the safety protocols. Union ministers, including the PM, are themselves holding huge election rallies. How can the public be expected to follow the protocols? A lot of money is being spent on campaigns rather than extending help to hospitals running out of vaccines, ventilators, oxygen, beds. In our country, failed governance is responsible for the rising cases and also the deaths, more than Covid itself.

HIMANI JAIN, MUKERIAN

People still socialising

Reference to 'Chandigarh announces weekend lockdown'; since the cases are rising at such an alarming rate, it is scary for all, but many of us are still socialising. The new symptoms of Covid-19 have affected people. The government has announced that the people cannot go out on weekends unless it is very necessary. Mass gatherings for religious and social purposes should be stopped too. Since the new Covid-19 variant is even more dangerous and explo-

sive, the mortality rate is rising exponentially. The elderly and those with existing chronic diseases must be vaccinated quickly.

DIVITA JAIN, BY MAIL

Public cooperation

The second wave of Covid is spreading fast, but the public is still not adhering to government guidelines. Markets are crowded, political rallies are well attended and Kumbh mela and the Navratras also have attracted a rush of devotees. While the government is lagging behind in the supply of vaccines, oxygen and remedial medicine for the treatment of corona patients, the health department is playing a commendable role in looking after patients and carrying out tests and vaccination by organising camps at a number of places. We must cooperate and appreciate their sincere efforts.

OP GARG, PATALIA

Mask must stay on

People are shedding initial hesitancy and the vaccine has gained acceptance. It will go a long way in curbing the pandemic. It should not be forgotten that the vaccinated person may still catch the virus. He may have mild symptoms or be asymptomatic, and spread it. By

getting vaccinated, we have discharged our national and social responsibility in the fight against this disease. However, we have to be more responsible in continuing to follow Covid-appropriate behaviour to stop its spread.

RAVINDEER MITTAL, LUDHIANA

Govt found wanting

'As flies to wanton boys...' (*The Sunday Tribune*) highlights the ground realities of how the pandemic surged during the second wave. It is the failure on the part of the government, both the state and the Central, which could not visualise that the next wave would be so destructive. The government didn't learn any lesson from the initial wave and concentrated

on winning the elections. Had new hospitals and infrastructure come up in advance on an emergency basis, we would have been better placed to meet the challenge of the second wave. Now after seeing the situation going out of control, the government has awakened from its deep slumber and gone into the action mode. It should have been well prepared to face the severity of the pandemic, but its priority was holding elections and religious gatherings.

SHADI LAL, BY MAIL

A real hero

Refer to 'Rly official rescues kid...'; I salute Mayur Shelke who risked his own life to save a child from being run over by a speeding train in Thane. We had seen such scenes in movies only, but what Shelke did was absolutely real and inspiring. The viral video gives goosebumps. He should be given a bravery award for his courageous and selfless act. We should have more people like him who keep our faith alive in humanity.

HARKAWAL JEET KAUR, MOHALI

The forgotten project

People have forgotten the dream project of City Centre, Ludhiana. After spending crores of rupees, it has not taken a turn for the good. The court case has taken years and nobody knows how many more years it will take to deliver the judgment. The project extends to acres and was to link the railway station. Its infrastructural plans should be changed so as to finish with lesser floors. Otherwise, not only will the money spent so far go waste but also the space dug out accumulates water to make it a breeding ground for mosquitoes. The new project should meet the needs of both parties, the government and private partners.

GURSHARAN SINGH NARULA, LUDHIANA

Lessons for India from China's food import



DEVINDER SHARMA
FOOD & AGRICULTURE SPECIALIST

reminder of what Lester Brown had warned decades back.

While the severity of China's food crisis is being denied, questions continue to be raised especially after President Xi Jinping launched an 'Operation Clean Plate' campaign in August last year, asking people to ensure that no food is wasted. With an estimated 6 per cent food wasted every year, good enough to feed 200 million people, the campaign even involved restaurants to ensure people are not provided with lavish spreads. If the consumers order for five meals, the restaurants would serve food for four people.

This reminds me of the times when in 1965, the then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri had asked Indians to observe a fast every Monday. This was primarily to ensure that people learned to 'share and care' at a time when food was in great shortage. In fact, in 1965, a year prior to the start of the Green Revolution, India had imported 10 million tonnes of food-grains to tide over the severe food crisis. It shows how precarious the situation was. But after the onset of the Green Revolution, India attained food 'self-sufficiency' but with the easy availability of food over the years, a kind of complacency has set in.

Similarly, China too had taken long strides in food production. It was in 1996 that China had brought in a policy focus to ensure that it meets 95 per cent of its food needs from domestic production. But by 2011, as per the World Trade Organisation (WTO), China had become the world's largest food importer. With rising incomes, the food



In our country where mainline economists revel in cut-paste prescriptions in the name of agricultural reforms, China's example illustrates how the transformation from state-regulated to market-oriented farming has brought it to the brink of an unmanageable food crisis.

SHIFT IN FOCUS: A change in food habits — from staples to nutritious items — has prompted China to scout for food all over the world. REUTERS

preferences of the burgeoning middle-class had undergone a change that shifted the food habits from staples to an exploding demand for meat and nutritious products, including dairy.

The changing food habits prompted the government to shift the policy focus from food self-sufficiency to allowing 'moderate imports'. Denials notwithstanding, mass urbanisation and the efforts to move a bulk of the farming population away from agriculture to join the industrial workforce in the cities did leave a gap in production. At the same time, intensive farming practices resulted in heavy soil contamination, groundwater decline as well as pollution, and the resulting

environmental degradation reduced the extent of arable lands, prompting China to announce that it will protect 120 million hectares of farmlands to meet its food security needs.

As the average farm size in China declined to 1.6 acres, the growing appetite for chemical fertilisers, including nitrogen, coupled with direct income support for farmers had resulted in a grain surplus of 600 million tonnes in 2017. Although the silos were bursting, the growing demand for nutritious foods including beef, also soared meanwhile. The sale of beef to China, for instance, had grown by 19,000 per cent. A change in diet therefore forced China to scout for food all over the

world, including India and Pakistan.

According to Fitch Ratings, China's imports of corn, wheat, sorghum and barley in 2020 soared by 136 per cent, 140 per cent, 437 per cent and 36.3 per cent, respectively. It expects the trend to continue in 2021 as well. Already it has exhausted soybean supplies from Brazil, the world's biggest soya producer, and is now turning to the US. So much so, as *Forbes* points out that despite being the world's second biggest wheat producer, China holds over half of the world's wheat stocks. Similarly, it has 65 per cent of the world's corn inventories.

Unable to meet its growing food needs domestically, China has been on an

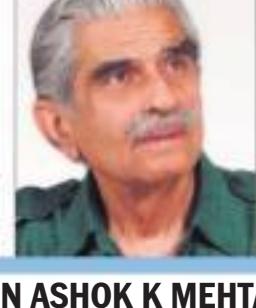
aggressive spree buying farmlands in Africa and Latin America, and is now turning its attention to purchase farm lands in America, European Union and Australia. The website farmlandgrab.com estimates that since 2010, China has already made an investment of \$94 billion in farm activities abroad, purchasing 3.2 million hectares.

While China is clearly on the brink of a severe food crisis, there are important lessons here for India. In a country where mainline economists revel in cut-paste prescriptions in the name of agricultural reforms, the Chinese example illustrates how the transformation from state-regulated farming to market-oriented agriculture has brought it closer to an unmanageable food crisis, perhaps pointing to a bigger crisis ahead. With the experiment to transform China into a manufacturing hub going awry, especially after Africa was able to provide cheap workforce, restoring farm viability now is becoming a still bigger challenge.

China provides \$206-billion farm subsidies every year (add to it tens of billions spent on importing food year after year) that shows if the same amount had gone into converting small farm lands into an economic powerhouse, the world's biggest grain producer could have easily avoided turning into world's biggest grain importer. There was an alternative economic pathway, more sustainable in the long run, that China failed to undertake.

India cannot afford to go on the same beaten track. Or else, the question as to who will feed India will continue to haunt future generations.

US pullout and the road ahead for Afghanistan



MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RETD)

MILITARY COMMENTATOR

A decade ago, doomsday scenarios were being painted over how American withdrawal from Afghanistan would lead to surplus Taliban being diverted to Kashmir and creating havoc. The pullout is happening from May 1, to be completed by September 11. At the Raisina Dialogue (April 16, 2021, New Delhi), Afghanistan's National Security Adviser Hamdullah Mohib described the US withdrawal as a great opportunity for Afghans to take hold of their destiny. He said: "We don't need US troops but we need US support," presumably moral, material and financial. He emphasised that 90 per cent of all operations are being conducted independently by the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). The level of US support for the ANSF will be worked out by the Afghan and US transition teams.

Mohib added that the "Taliban narrative of victory: we have won the war Americans have lost. We are ready for peace. We are ready for Jihad", smacks of arrogance. They have destroyed \$900 million worth of infrastructure in Afghanistan." He said he had spoken to his counterpart Ajit Doval that morning to discuss the new Biden-Blinken peace plan which is surrounded by uncertainty.

Mohib confirmed there was friction among the Taliban groups: Mullah Baradar who is leading the talks; Mullah Haibatullah Akhundzada, supreme of Taliban; Mullah Yaqub, son of Mullah Omar the founder leader; Haqqani network and a group in Helmand but does not subscribe to the Quetta Shura. In the same session, Foreign Minister S Jaishankar declined to indicate whether India would engage the Taliban but stressed it supported the peace process which must be Afghan-owned, Afghan-



WAR-WARY: The Taliban are being co-opted to bring stability in Afghanistan. REUTERS

led and Afghan-controlled. He mentioned that real peace in Afghanistan is about 'double peace' — peace within and peace in Afghanistan's neighbourhood. India's bona fides are well established with development projects in each of 34 provinces in Afghanistan, he added. Jaishankar was in Dushanbe recently for the 15th Heart of Asia conference of 15 countries that assist Afghanistan's development plan.

At Raisina, CDS General Bipin Rawat,

when asked about the impact of the vacuum caused due to de-induction of foreign troops, said it would create problems if vacant spaces were occupied by 'disrupters', referring to terrorist groups, including the Taliban entities outside the peace process. At Raisina 2018, it was General Rawat who had said India should engage the Taliban resulting in government clarification that General Rawat had spoken 'in his personal capacity'. When India will formally recognise and confer with Taliban has

become a minor mystery.

Designed to jump-start the Trump moribund peace process, the BB (Biden-Blinken) abridged peace plan appears to have removed conditions of February 29, 2020, US-Taliban agreement on counter-terrorism guarantees by the Taliban, talks with Kabul and a cease-fire. The withdrawal will be without any framework political agreement and no intra-Afghan talks till foreign troops have vacated the soil of the Islamic Emirate.

The BB plan envisages a transitional

power-sharing government to replace the present one with a 21-member com-

mission (10 from Taliban) to draft a new

Constitution followed by a 90-day agree-

ment on Significant Reduction in Vi-

lence. The Doha process is to be re-vamped between April 24 and May 4 with Ankara hosting the conversations.

President Ashraf Ghani has indicated he will divulge his counter-proposal for early presidential elections at Ankara, provided Mullah Haibatullah or Mullah

Yaqoob attend. A regional conference of stakeholders — on the lines of the Bonn conference in 2001 which the Taliban did not attend — is to be held with the US, Russia, China, Pakistan, Iran and India, along with the Taliban and other Afghan groups towards evolving a unified approach. The UN Secretary-General has appointed Jean Arnault as his personal envoy and Sherpa for this conference. Reasonable confusion prevails among the interlocutors with overlapping peace plans and Ghani's own ideas on political transition.

Foreign Minister Hanif Atmar, on a visit to Delhi on March 30, said that at Ankara, the Afghan government will discuss three issues with the Taliban: a permanent and comprehensive ceasefire (as opposed to 90-day reduction in violence); a political settlement including elections; and regional and international guarantees of peace. This is Kabul's agenda, not necessarily in sync with the Taliban's. Atmar virtually rejected the BB plan for interim government saying it was against the Afghan Constitution which is what is sought to be re-drafted. Atmar has can-

vassed for a bigger role for India in the peace process adding that Afghanistan does not wish to become a safe haven for international terrorists. Jaishankar informed Raisina 2021 that according to a UN report, there were some 8,000 foreign fighters in Afghanistan. In a cheeky comment, China said it will hold the US accountable for legitimate concerns of regional countries to prevent terrorists from taking advantage of withdrawal of foreign forces.

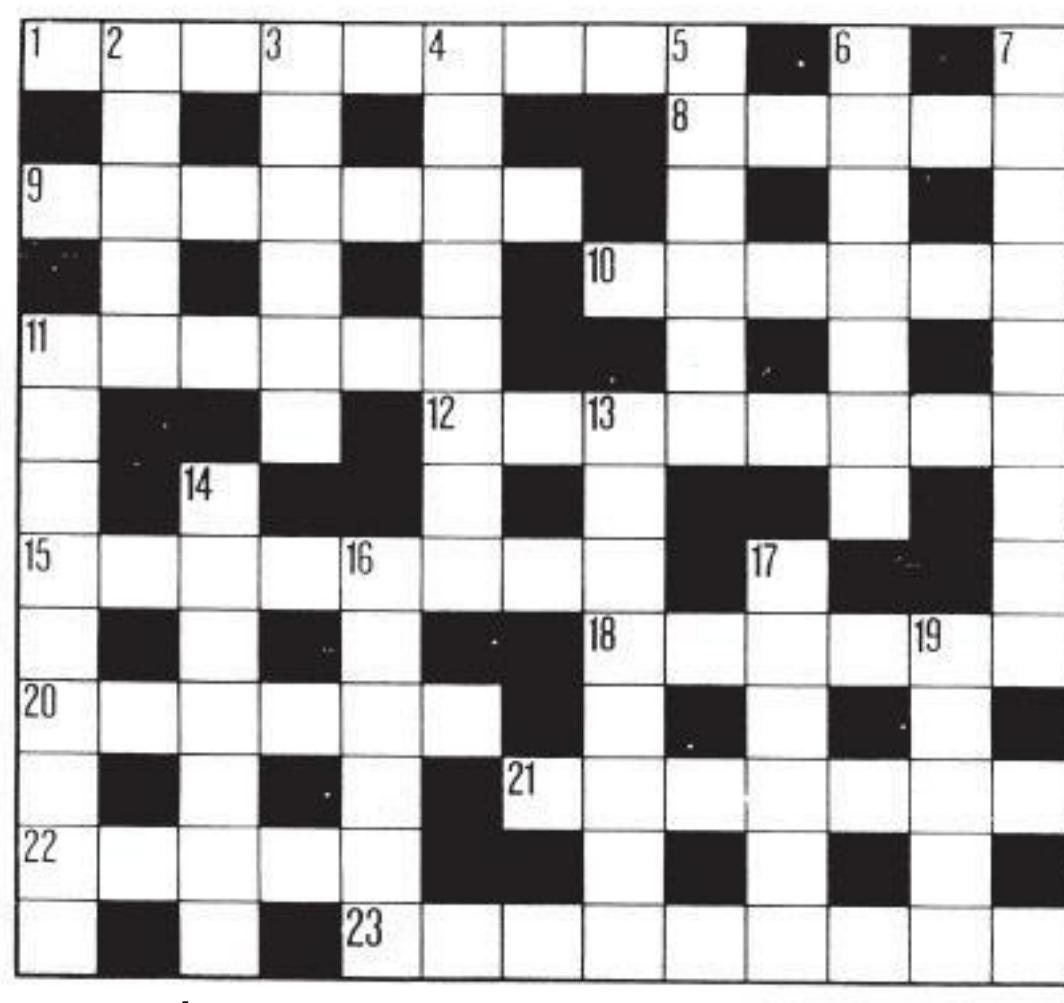
The Ghani government's acceptance of withdrawal of foreign troops by September 11 is not condition-based but accompanied by certain US assur-

ances of combat support for ANSF. Besides the 2,500 US troops left in Kabul, another 1,000 boots are on the ground belonging to the Special Forces and Ranger units which are not on inventory. The Bilateral Security Agreement (BSA) US-Afghanistan 2015 is meant to be in force till the end of 2024 and beyond. The BSA refers to the retention of US bases in Bagram, Jalalabad and Kandahar and is governed by a Status of Forces Agreement. It is inconceivable that the Americans will vacate strategic outposts such as these that lean on Russia and China. Silence shrouds the BSA!

Last week, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken paid a surprise visit to Kabul following one by Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin. He spoke to Pakistan's Army Chief General Bajwa who assured him of cooperation in the withdrawal process. He noted that the threat of terrorism has gone away from Afghanistan. The 132-day reprieve sought by the Biden administration will come at a cost. The Taliban has threatened consequences for overstaying the May 1 deadline. As many as 7,000 Taliban prisoners are still held by Kabul. These are in addition to the exchange of 5,000 hardcore Talibs released for 1,000 ANSF. Meanwhile, while no US soldier has been killed in combat last year, the monthly attrition rate for ANSF and civilians is a staggering 800 and 280.

One has to see whether a permanent ceasefire or a 90-day reduction in violence is successfully achieved or neither; and if Ghani's proposal for a mid-term presidential election is acceptable to the Taliban when the Americans have offered to catapult them to an interim provisional government. All eyes are on Ankara.

QUICK CROSSWORD



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

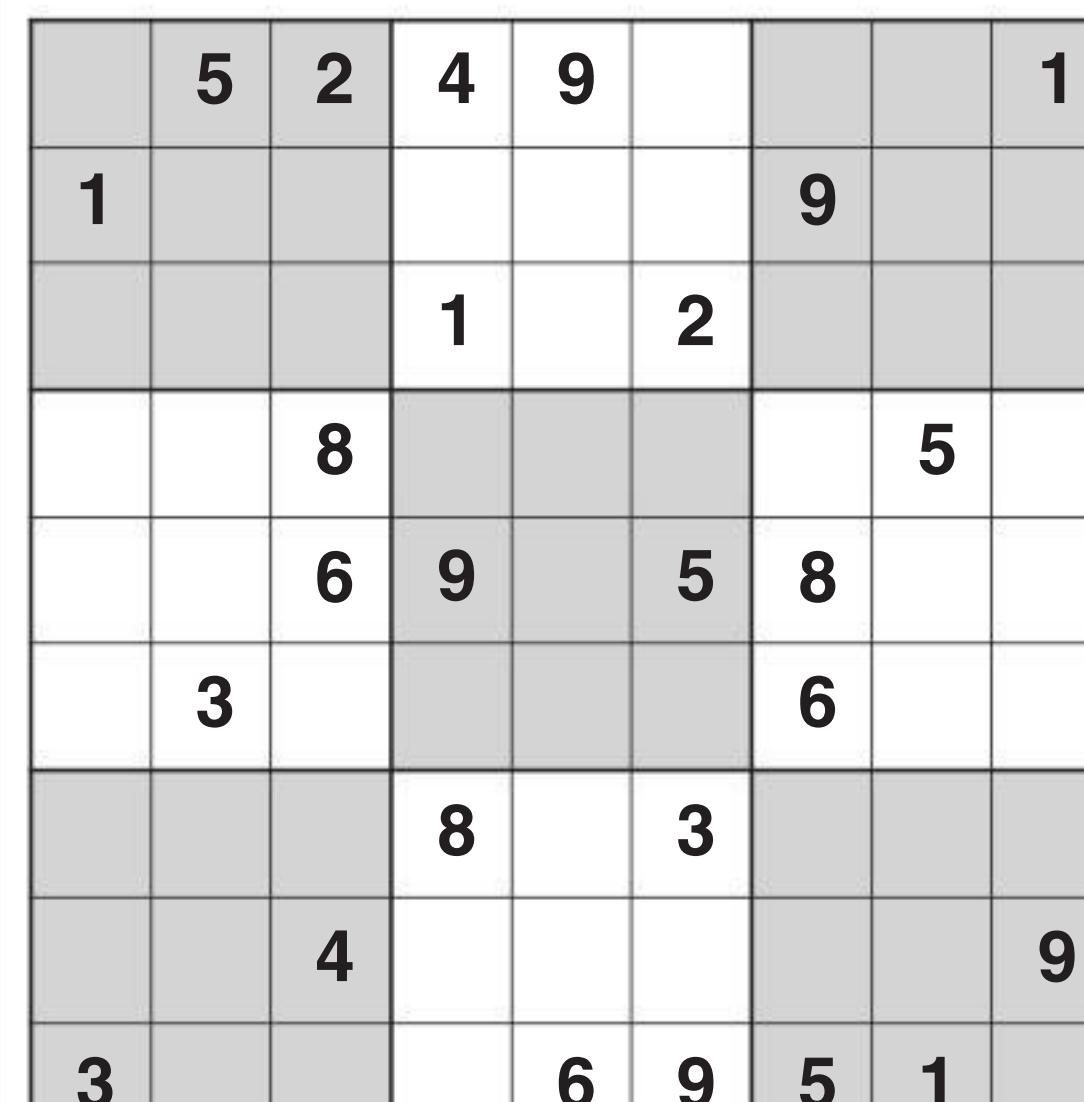
Across: 1 Miscast, 4 Scoff, 7 Guru, 8 Daylight, 10 Consummate, 12 Detect, 13

Barrel, 15 Out of reach, 18 Overcome, 19 Goya, 20 Fence, 21 Reputed.

Down: 1 Magic, 2 Serenity, 3 Trauma, 4 Split hairs, 5 Orgy, 6 Fateful, 9 Dutch uncle, 11

Break out, 12 Drop off, 14 Former, 16 Hoard, 17 Lean.

SU DO KU



MEDIUM

CALENDAR

APRIL 21, 2021, WEDNESDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat	2078
■ Shakra Samvat	1943
■ Vaisakh Shaka	1
■ Vaisakh Parvishite	9
■ Hijari	1442
■ Shukla Paksha Tithi 9, up to 12:36 am	
■ Shoola Yoga up to 6:42 pm	
■ Pushya Nakshatra up to 7:59 am	
■ Moon in Cancer sign	
■ Shridurganaami	
■ Ramnavami	
■ Navratre ended	
■ Gandmool start 7:59 am	

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

5	2	8	9	7	3	1	4	6
3	9	6	8	1	4	5	2	7
7	4	1	5	6	2	8	3	9
4	8	3	1	5	7	6	9	2
9	1	7	2	3	6	4	5	8
6	5	2	4	9	8	7	1	3
2	6	4	3	8	1	9	7	5
8	3	5	7	4	9	2	6	1
1	7	9	6	2	5	3	8	4

FORECAST

SUNSET: WEDNESDAY 18:53 HRS

SUNRISE: THURSDAY 05:48 HRS

CITY	MAX		MIN		
	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Cloudy	Rainy	Foggy
Chandigarh	26	19	12	10	8
New Delhi	35	19	15	12	10
Amritsar	28	15	13	11	9
Bathinda	31	18	15	13	11
Jalandhar	28	14	12	10	8
Ludhiana	30	20	18	16	14
Bhiwani	35	17	15	13	11
Hisar	33	20	18	16	14
Sirsia	33	21	19	17	15
Dharamsala	23	9	7		

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Civil Judge Junior Division-4,
Moga.
Jasvir Singh
Versus
Inderjit Singh
Suit for declaration
CNR No. PBMO02-001122-2019
Next Date:- 5.5.2021

Publication issued to:
1) Inderjit Singh s/o Harmann Singh s/o Bachittar Singh, r/o village Khosa Randhir, Tehsil Kot Ise Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

2) Karan Singh s/o Bachittar Singh s/o Munder Singh, r/o Village Khosa Randhir, Tehsil Kot Ise Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

3) Hari Singh @ Major Singh s/o Bachittar Singh s/o Munder Singh, r/o Village Khosa Randhir, Tehsil Kot Ise Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

4) Balwinder Singh s/o Gurnam Singh s/o Bachittar Singh, r/o Village Khosa Randhir, Tehsil Kot Ise Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

5) Manmohan Singh s/o Gurnam Singh s/o Bachittar Singh, r/o Village Khosa Randhir, Tehsil Kot Ise Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 05.05.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=moga*

Dated, this day of 7.4.2021.

Sd/- Civil Judge
Junior Division-4,
CL21007818 Moga.

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Ms. Bismann Mann
Civil Judge
(Junior Division),
Fatehgarh Sahib.

Gejja Ram
Vs.
Hardev Singh

CNR No: PBFG02-000702-2020
Next Date: 05.05.2021

Suit for specific performance of agreement to sell executed by defendant, in alternate suit for recovery of Rs. 25,00,00/- and suit for permanent injunction Publication issued to:
Hardev Singh

Father Name: Surjan Singh

Ram Dass Nagar, Samipur Road,

Sirhind, District FGS.

2nd Address: C/o Paramjeet Kaur w/o Darbara Singh s/o Surjan Singh r/o Gurudwara Sahib, FGS, Fehsil and Distt. FGS.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/ respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 05.05.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to:
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=moga*

Dated, this day of 19.05.2021.

Sd/- Civil Judge
(Junior Division),
CL21007821 Fatehgarh Sahib.

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of
Sh. Balwinder Kumar II
Additional District and
Sessions Judge, Ludhiana.

Sukhinder Singh Dhaliwal
Versus

Tresa Margaret Sidhu

CNR No.: PBLD01-013903-2019

Next Date: 05.05.2021

Appeal against the judgement and decree Dated 19.1.19 passed by the court of Ms. Shivani Garg

Publication issued to:
1) Tresa Margaret Sidhu S/o Lt. Devinder Singh Sidhu s/o Sh. Harmann Singh, 2) Sareena Sona d/o Lt. Devinder Singh Sidhu s/o Sh. Harmann Singh, both r/o House No. 5765, Duplex, Modern Housing Complex, Manimajra, Chandigarh, at present H.No. 549, Phase 10, Mohali, 3) Jatinder Kumar s/o Birbal s/o Rakha Ram r/o Mandi Mullapur, Sub Tehsil Mullapur Dakha, Ludhiana, 5) Gurdeep Kumar s/o Birbal s/o Rakha Ram r/o Mandi Mullapur, Sub Tehsil Mullapur Dakha, Ludhiana, 6) Ravinder Singh s/o Pritam Singh s/o Santokh Singh r/o Mandi Mullapur, Sub Tehsil Mullapur Dakha, Ludhiana, 7) Beant Kaur d/o Kartar Kaur and Harnam Singh having permanent address of Village Rakha, Ludhiana.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 05.05.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to:
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=ludhiana*

Dated, this day of 20.05.2021.

Sd/- Additional District and Sessions Judge, Ludhiana.

CL21007838

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)
In the Court of Shilpa
Additional Civil Judge
(Senior Division), Malerkota.

Abdul Razak s/o Chaudhary Shahab Din r/o Mohalla Arrian Sirdhani Gate Malerkota, District Sangrur.

Vs.

Sardar Banoo

CNR No.: PBSGC0-000634-2018

Next Date: 05.05.2021

Publication issued to:
1. Shehzaz Akhtar w/o Mohd. Shakeel c/o Farooqi Industries Jang Chowk, Ludhiana Road, Malerkota, District Sangrur.

2. Rukhsana w/o Gulam Mohd @ Butti r/o Mohalla Arrian Sirdhani Gate, Malerkota, District Sangrur.

3. Nahid Tanvir w/o Tanvir Ahmed s/o Mohd. Hanif r/o H. No. C-7/0563 Vila Enclave, Ludhiana Bypass, Malerkota, District Sangrur.

4. Shamima Bano d/o Late Abdul Jabbar now w/o Mohd. Ifran s/o Mohd. Hanif r/o Ward No. 13 Mohalla Arrian Backside Masjid Barotwali, Inside Sirdhani Gate Malerkota.

5. Bihola Bano d/o Late Abdul Jabbar now w/o Mohd. Farooq s/o Mehar Mohd. r/o H. No. 924 Rath Bure ADP 10 3 Missian LWU4454 Canada.

6. Shamima Bano d/o Late Abdul Jabbar now w/o Mohd. Ifran s/o Mohd. Hanif r/o Ward No. 13 Mohalla Arrian Backside Masjid Barotwali, Inside Sirdhani Gate Malerkota.

7. Bihola, 10, Mono, 11, Mohd. Danish sons of Late Abdul Rashid, 12, Ram, 13, Akbar, 14, Suraiya daughters of Late Abdul Rashid all r/o Badami Bagh Lahore (Pakistan).

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 05.05.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to:
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sangrur*

Dated, this day of 24.03.2021

Sd/-
Principal Judge,
Family Court,
Moga.

Versus

General Public

CNR No.

PBMO01-005031-2020

Next Date: 06.05.2021

Publication issued to:
General Public

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 06.05.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to:
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sangrur*

Dated, this day of 24.03.2021

Sd/-
Principal Judge,
Family Court,
Moga.

CL210097214 Moga.

For details logon to:
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sangrur*

Dated, this day of 24.03.2021

Sd/-
Additional Civil Judge
(Senior Division), Malerkota.

CL210097214 Moga.

For details logon to:
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sangrur*

Dated, this day of 24.03.2021

Sd/-
Additional Civil Judge
(Senior Division), Malerkota.

CL210097214 Moga.

For details logon to:
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sangrur*

Dated, this day of 24.03.2021

Sd/-
Additional Civil Judge
(Senior Division), Malerkota.

CL210097214 Moga.

For details logon to:
https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sangrur*

Dated, this day of 24.03.2021

Sd/-
Additional Civil Judge
(Senior Division), Malerkota.

CL210097214 Moga.

For details logon to:
<a href="https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs

No lockdown in state: Khattar

DRDO to set up 1,000-bed dedicated Covid hospital in Panipat

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

Putting an end to the ongoing lockdown rumours, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar today said that no lockdown would be imposed in the state.

The Chief Minister urged the labourers and workers to remain relaxed and keep doing their work. There is no need to panic, he said.

Khattar was interacting with people of the state today during the "Haryana ki Baat" programme held through live telecast.

"To ensure adequate medical arrangement for the Covid-19 patients, the state government has recently held discussion with the DRDO officials for setting



MEGA VACCINATION DRIVE UNDER WAY

Now, Covid testing has been increased. A statewide mega vaccination drive started on Tuesday. It will continue for five days.

Manohar Lal Khattar, CHIEF MINISTER

up a 500-1000 bedded dedicated COVID hospital in Panipat," informed the Chief Minister.

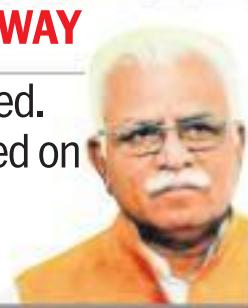
He said now testing in the state had been increased.

He said from April 20, 2021, till next five days, a mega vac-

cination drive would be run across the state.

This time, the state government had decided to directly transfer the procurement money in the verified accounts of the farmers within 72 hours. So far, about Rs 2,785 crore had been paid to the farmers.

He said till now, the payment of only one farmer had been delayed by one day, while the payment of three farmers had been delayed by nine days. Similarly, there are large numbers of farmers whose payments had been delayed by one day. Therefore, the state government had given an amount of Rs 7,80,000 as interest to 10,769 farmers for the delayed payments.



Biggest spike of 7,811 cases

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

The state reported the biggest spike of 7,811 cases on Tuesday, taking the overall tally to 3,71,624. With 34 more deaths, the toll reached 3,448.

Gurugram reported a maximum of 2,344 cases followed by Faridabad (1,245) and Karnal (547). Hisar and Jind reported a maximum of five death each followed by Gurugram, Karnal and Fatehabad (4 each), Panipat (3), Faridabad, Ambala and Sirsa (2 each) and Kurukshetra, Bhiwani, Palwal and Kaith (1 each).

There are 49,772 active cases in the state while 3,18,369 patients have been discharged after recovery. While the Covid positivity rate is pegged at 5.38 per cent, the recovery rate is reported to be 85.67 per cent. The fatality rate is reported to be 0.94 per cent. —TNS

Farmers opposed to Covid test, but open to vaccination

GEETANJALI GAYATRI

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

Farmer leaders camping at the Singhu and Tikri borders in protest against the Centre's three farm laws are opposed to Health Minister Anil Vij's offer of sending medical teams to conduct Covid tests, but welcomed his idea of vaccinating protesters.

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) will take a decision in a meeting soon, but farmer leader Balbir Singh Rajewal from Punjab said testing by health teams from Haryana was unacceptable.

"They (doctors from Haryana) will carry out tests and declare some of us Covid-positive and then force us to wind up the protest. We will not fall in the trap. Not one farmer has died of Covid at the Delhi borders.

TESTING PLOY TO WIND UP PROTEST

They (doctors from Haryana) will carry out tests and declare some of us Covid-positive and then force us to wind up the protest. We will not fall in the trap. Not one farmer has died of Covid at the Delhi borders.

Balbir Singh Rajewal, FARMER LEADER

us all these months. Why are they worried about our health now?" said Rajewal.

Apprehensive of getting tested, SKM leader Dr Darshan Pal said protesting farmers had no symptoms, so the question of getting tested should not arise.

Gurnam Singh Charuni, BKU (Charuni) chief, was also against testing.

Meanwhile, Sonepat SP Jashandeep Singh Randhawa and ADC Ashok Bansal met farmer leaders. During the meeting, the leaders rejected the administration's offer to call off major programmes scheduled for the next few weeks and "nearly" rejected the RT-PCR tests, but accepted the offer for vaccination, sources say.

not fall in the trap. We have a hospital here and more than 40 doctors are available round the clock. Not one farmer has died of Covid at the Delhi borders.

The Haryana Government was not bothered about

us all these months. Why are they worried about our health now?" said Rajewal.

Apprehensive of getting tested, SKM leader Dr Darshan Pal said protesting farmers had no symptoms, so the question of getting tested should not arise.

Gurnam Singh Charuni, BKU (Charuni) chief, was also against testing.

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APPOINTMENTS

GHG KHALSA COLLEGE

Gurusar Sadhar, Dist.: Ludhiana(Punjab)141104

NAAC Accredited 'A' Grade, Postgraduate, Multi-Faculty College, Estd. 1948

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Applications on the prescribed Performa, available with the College, are invited for the post of Principal on regular basis under Grant-in-Aid scheme from eligible candidates in accordance with the qualifications/ conditions laid down by the U.G.C./ State Govt./ NCTE/ Panjab University, through registered post/ speed post or in person so as to reach the Secretary, Managing Committee, with a copy to the Dean, College Development Council, Panjab University, Chandigarh within 30 days from the publication of the advertisement. The candidates are also required to submit 9 photocopies of the prescribed proforma to the college while sending their application.

- Secretary

01624-275227 | ghgkcs@gmail.com | www.ghgcollegesadhar.org



KHALSA COLLEGE AMRITSAR

An Autonomous College

Applications on prescribed proforma are invited for post of Associate Professors in Computer Science-1, Physiotherapy -1. The posts are on regular basis (Uncovered Management Posts). Qualification and salary as per UGC / DPI(c) Pb. /GNDU norms (Salary of the Experienced candidate already in service will be protected). Due representation to disabled persons as per rules. Reservation exists as per rules. Applications must be sent to the Honorary Secretary, Khalasa College Charitable Society, Amritsar through registered post on prescribed proforma (available in the office of undersigned on cash payment or download the same from website: khalsacollegecharitablesocietyamritsar.org) with demand draft of Rs. 1000/-.

Dr. Mehal Singh
Principal
Ph. 0183-5015511, 2258097

S. Rajinder Mohan Singh Chhina
Honorary Secretary,
Khalsa College Charitable Society, Amritsar.

Opportunities in Three Star Export House

A Government of India Recognised Three Star Export House engaged in Import & Export of Different products is looking for the Best Talents for the following Posts:

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Commerce Graduate with minimum 8-10 years experience having Complete knowledge & speciality in G.S.T & Accounts matter with sole responsibility of filing Monthly & Annual GST Returns, Filing GST Refunds, GST Audit & Assessment Handling .

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT

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ACCOUNTANTS

Commerce Graduate with minimum 2-3 years experience in the relevant field with good accounting skills.

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B.com / BBA / MBA with good commercial and communication skills and having work experience of minimum 4-5 years in the field of exports in West African Countries. Knowing of French language will be an added advantage.

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Graduate with minimum 4-5 years experience in Purchase & Procurement of Bicycle Parts for Exports and Indian Market.

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Graduate with minimum 8-10 years experience in the relevant field having Complete knowledge of Stock Maintenance. Knowledge of Cycle Parts/Auto Parts Industry's Stock Handling will be an added advantage.

Salaries will Commensurate with Qualification & Experience and will not be a constraint for the deserving candidate

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Focal Point, Ludhiana-141010 (Pb)
Ph : 0161-5026916, M: 93163-26943



Punjab Government

led by

Chief Minister

Capt. Amarinder Singh

extends heartiest greetings to the people

on the sacred occasion of

Ram Navami



Department of Information & Public Relations, Punjab

BABA FARID UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
SADIQ ROAD, FARIDKOT (PUNJAB) - 151203
Ph.: 01639 - 256232, 256236

Ph.D ENTRANCE TEST (PHDET) SESSION-2021-22

Online applications in the prescribed format are invited through University website w.e.f 22/04/2021 to 12/05/2021 for admission to Ph.D Courses in faculties of Medical/ Allied Health/ Dental/ Nursing/ Physiotherapy/ Pharmaceutical Sciences, along with fee of Rs 3000/- + 1% GST through University payment gateway. The date of the Entrance Examination will be notified on University website. For eligibility/ detail/ updates visit University website www.bfuhs.ac.in

REGISTRAR

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY)
E-Procurement Notice No. 7 Dated 20.04.2021
Email: pmb.xencpat@punjab.gov.in 0175-2364136

Executive Engineer (C), Punjab Mandi Board, Composite Office Building, N.G.M. Sirdhi Road, Patiala invites the item rate bid for "Up-gradation of link road, Patiala-Pehowa road to Jhunjian Via Bibipur, Kharabgarh, Ganeshpur Plant in District Patiala, Block Bhunerheri, Package No. PB-15-312" including their five years maintenance under PMGSY-III (Batch- I) Approximate value of work is Rs. 481.39 lacs through electronic tendering system. The eligible contractors registered with Punjab Mandi Board may submit bid for this work. Non-registered bidders may also submit bids; however, the successful bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate authority before signing the contract. The details regarding registration (enlistment) of contractors are available on www.mandiboard.nic.in

For details, terms and conditions of the notice inviting bids, refer to website www.pmgstenders.gov.in Corrigendum, if any, will only be issued on website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (C),
Punjab Mandi Board, Patiala.
DPR/Pb/3870

TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division Nohradhar invites following offline tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from eligible Contractors for the following work through offline process:-

Sr. No.	Description	E/Cost	E/Money	Time
1	R/M of LWSS Nihogin GP Gawahi in Tehsil Nohradhar Dist. Sirmour (H.P) (Sh:- Supplying and Erection of Submersible pumping machinery with allied accessories at 1st & 2nd stage)	460000/-	9200/-	1 Month

Cost of From: 250/-
The application for purchase of tender documents shall be entertained up to 4.00 p.m. dated 28.04.2021, non-refundable, in cash or by money order as per cost shown above. The tenders shall be received in the office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division Nohradhar up to 2.00 p.m. dated 29.04.2021 and shall be opened on the same day at 3.00 p.m. in the presence of intending contractors or their authorized representatives if any.

Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti Division Nohradhar.

E-TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, IPH Division, Hamirpur invites following tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following work(s) through e-tendering Process:-

Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money	Time of completion
Providing and Installation of 250 Nos India Mark-III 65 mm and Mark-II 32mm deep bore hand pumps on road off road locations in Non Tribal District of Himachal Pradesh (Sh:- Drilling of bore wells by DTH ODEX Percussion Calyx RC portable Rigs, 200 Nos by ODEX and 50 Nos DTH method under JSV Zone Hamirpur for the year of 2020-21 Standard Hand Pump 80 mtrs deep in the following districts:- 1. Hamirpur = 70 Nos 2. Una = 65 Nos. Bilaspur= 65 Nos. and Division, Sarkaghat & Dharmapur at Bharati under Distt. Mandi= 50 Nos.	Rs. 55165000 only	Rs. 584150 Only	1 Year

Last date of filing/uploading the tender through e-tendering 22.04.2021 upto 5.00 PM The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be obtained from the website www.hptenders.gov.in.

Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti Division, Hamirpur

Call to punish officials for losses to HPSEBL

NURPUR, APRIL 20

The Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd (HPSEBL) Employees' Union has demanded stern action against board officials, who had been found guilty of causing losses to the tune of crores of rupees by extending undue financial benefits to a Kullu-based company during 2014-15.

Kuldeep Kharwara, president of the union, said today that a five-member inquiry committee constituted by

board management had in its report on July 16, 2016, found two officials guilty of violating rules to extend huge financial benefits to the company. He appealed to Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur to implement the recommendations of the inquiry reports and initiate action against the guilty officials of the HPSEBL.

He alleged that instead of taking action against the guilty officials, the HPSEBL rewarded them with service promotions. — OC

निवादाएं

जिला बाल कल्याण परिषद, पंचकूला द्वारा वर्ष 2021-22 के जिला पंचकूला की तहसीलों में बिक्री फार्म व फाइल प्रिंट करवाने हेतु निवादाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। इन्हुक फर्म व टेकेटार अपनी छापाई की दरें सील बंद लियागए में दियाएं। 04.05.2021 तक इस कार्यालय में जमा करवायें। छापाई किये जाने वाले फार्म व फाइल करवाएं के प्रारूप की जानकारी के लिए कार्यालय से संपर्क करें।

जिला बाल कल्याण अधिकारी,
बेज नं. 19, से. 14, पंचकूला।
दूरभाष : 0172-2586554

PRDH/1225/11/17/2022/2660/31/4

HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Bays No. 1-10, Block-B, Sector-4, Panchkula

In continuation of the earlier Announcement dated 26.03.2021 published on 28.03.2021 in various newspapers, it is for the general information of the candidates that the Recruitment Tests for the post of District Attorney (Group-A), Assistant Professor in the subject of Zoology/Physical Education/Punjabi/Sanskrit/Chemistry/Scientist-B (Group-B) & Election Tehsildar scheduled to be held on 23.04.2021, 24.04.2021, 25.04.2021 & 02.05.2021 are hereby postponed due to administrative reasons, till further notice.

Dated: 20.04.21 Sd/- Deputy Secretary,
Haryana Public Service Commission,
Panchkula.

PRDH/1156/13/14/2022/2665/31/4

Government of Punjab
Tender Notice No. 1354/XEN/O&M/B Dated 19.04.2021

The Department of Municipal Corporation Ludhiana invites online bids for the following:

Sr. No.	Items	Amount (In lakh)
1.	Supply of Mortuary Van and LPG/CNG based Crematorium for M.C. Ludhiana.	As per uploaded DNIT

Closing Date & Time: 10.05.2021 till 04.30 p.m.

Opening of Technical bid: 11.05.2021 till 01.00 p.m.

Opening of Financing Bid: Date will be fixed after technical bid opening.

For Detail logon to eproc.punjab.gov.in

Note: Any Corrigendum(s) to the Tender Notice shall be published on the above website only.

Sd/- (Er. Ranbir Singh)
Executive Engineer-O&M,
Municipal Corporation Ludhiana.
Mobile: 97800-39477
e-mail: xenzoneb@gmail.com
Executive Engineer, (O&M)
M.C., Ludhiana.

DPR/Pb/3866

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.: 770-W/169/WA/1/FZR/06/2021-22-ADEN-LDH
Sr.DEN-1/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date- 10.05.2021 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. In place of Earnest money deposit, "Bid Security Declaration" is to be submitted or prescribed format as available in document section on the portal.

SN.	Tender Number	Details of Tender
1	06-2021-22-ADEN-LDH /DRM/FZR 19.04.2021	Ordinary repair and maintenances as well as new works, additions and alterations to existing structures, emergent works & sp! Works for quarters, service building gs, L-xings & Bridges etc. in the section of SSE/W/LDH for the year (2021-22) ADEN/LDH

Advertised Value	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion
3,81,73,732.39	45 Days	12 Months

Bid Starting Date: 26.04.2021, Bid Closing Date: 10.05.2021

Note: 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

884/21

IPH Dept cancels ₹600-crore tenders for flood control works

The Tribune
IMPACT

LALIT MOHAN

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, APRIL 20



IPH Secretary Vikas Labroo has ordered cancellation of tenders

The IPH Department has cancelled Rs 600 crore tenders of flood control works in the rivers of the state due to the controversy over a condition of wire thickness.

Sources said that IPH Secretary Vikas Labroo had written to the State Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) to revise the condition and ordered the cancellation of the tenders.

The matter was reported for the first time in these columns. The department had introduced a condition in the tenders that only those contractors, who had earlier worked on 5 mm wire created embankments, were eligible to bid. The eligibility condition was allegedly

added to favour a group of contractors, who had earlier worked on 5 mm wire created embankments in the Swan canalisation project.

When The Tribune highlighted the matter, the IPH Secretary put the tenders on hold on April 16 and sought a report on the matter. The sources said that

Engineer-in-Chief (Projects) Dharminder Gill stated in his report that the eligibility condition in the tenders was discriminatory and would reduce competition. The Secretary ordered the cancellation of all tenders, which would be reissued after the STAC revises the condition.

The sources said that the condition of 5 mm wire in creating embankments was continuing as per the 21-year-old recommendation of the STAC. However, despite the fact that technology had advanced the STAC was never approached for amending the condition since then. Labroo admitted that the tenders had been cancelled on the basis of the field report.

The cancellation of the tenders had also brought under scrutiny the flood control works done for Swan canalisation in the past one decade. The sources said that most of flood control works in the Swan were done on the basis of this controversial condition that eliminated competition and favoured a few contractors.

Most of the flood protection works in Punjab and Haryana are done using 4 mm wire embankments.

Due to this condition, the department had also paid more for earth works.

Missing pilot's bag, helmet found

OUR CORRESPONDENT

PALAMPUR, APRIL 20

Rohit Badhoria
Paraglider from Delhi was last seen on Jan 8

operation had to be abandoned mid way. It was a tough task to reach there and recover him.

Members of the team told The Tribune that if whether permitted, the search operation would be started next week again. The rescue teams would also be sent via Chamba. They were now hopeful that the body of the missing pilot would be recovered as snow melts.

Admn on tenterhooks as cases rise in border dists

AMBika SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, APRIL 20

The rising number of Covid positive cases has left the administration of bordering districts like Solan and Sirmaur worried.

These districts account for nearly one-fourth of the case load in the state. Out of the 1,695 new cases registered yesterday, as many as 453 are from Solan and Sirmaur alone.

They also account for 2,584 active cases out of 9,783 registered in the state till last evening.

Because of industrial hubs like Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh, Parwanoo, Kala Amb and Paonta Sahib, there is large-scale daily entry of workers from high load states like Punjab and Haryana. Besides, movement of trucks from Maharashtra, Delhi, Karnataka, etc., leaves the areas more susceptible.

"The number of critical patients requiring oxygen and better medical facilities is rising every week and such patients are referred to the IGMC Shimla", added the official.

The DDU Zonal Hospital at Nahan has been declared a dedicated Covid hospital since April 18 given the surge in cases in Sirmaur district.

In the state's industrial hub of Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh the health department was unable to make functional two ventilators despite the rising number of critically ill patients. Such patients are referred to MMU medical college at Sultnpur which too was facing a scarcity of facilities.

The rise in number of cases in residential schools and universities has become a cause for concern in Solan; Four schools have been declared containment zones.

HC dismisses Zaidi's bail plea in Kotkhai custodial death case

SAURABH MALIK

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 20

The Punjab and Haryana High Court today ruled that the Special Judge could not have straightaway cancelled the bail granted by the Supreme Court to senior IPS officer of HP cadre ZH Zaidi in the Kotkhai custodial death case.

The High Court, at the same time, dismissed his regular bail plea after holding that the same had been already been declined by a coordinate bench and there was no material change of circumstances since then to justify the grant of fresh bail.

Justice Arun Monga observed bail was granted to Zaidi by the apex court vide order dated April 5, 2019. But the petitioner was put in jail on January 24, 2020, as his bail was cancelled by Special Judge, CBI court.

The main reason was that he had tried to intimidate, pressurize and influence a prosecution witness and there was possibility of him intimidating, influencing and pressurizing other witnesses from the police department.

After hearing CBI counsel Sumeet Goel and arguments on Zaidi's behalf, Justice

Monga added this was the petitioner's third foray in the high court for bail, after having been unsuccessful in assailing the bail cancellation order, which was upheld by a coordinate bench vide order dated May 21, 2020.

Justice Monga asserted the petitioner was granted bail by the Supreme Court and he was directed to be released on satisfaction of appropriate conditions as may be imposed by the trial court. Merely because the Supreme Court directed that the petitioner be released on satisfaction of appropriate conditions, it would not and could not change the reality that the order granting bail was that of the Supreme Court and not the trial court.

Justice Monga further asserted once the trial court held that the petitioner had violated the undertaking given in form of personal bond submitted at the time of furnishing the bail and the surety bonds, it ought to have followed the course of action prescribed under the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure for forfeiture of bonds executed by him and the surety/sureties, besides imposition and recovery of penalty thereof.

Roads made for illegal mining dismantled

RAVINDER SOOD

PALAMPUR, APRIL 20

Local administration along with heavy police force and mining department officials today dismantled a road constructed by mining mafia leading to illegal mining site in Neugal river near Thural, 30 km from here. The mining department also issued warning to mining mafia to refrain from illegal mining activities or face action under the Indian Penal Code and environmental laws.

The Tribune had carried a news in these columns yesterday highlighting large-scale illegal mining going on in Neugal river near Thural, where villagers had also lodged protest against the illegal mining.

The residents of Thural area had also protested against illegal mining going on in Neugal river near Naun village damaging local paths, electric installations, water channels, roads and cremation grounds.

Today officials of the mining department along with police force arrived on the spot and dismantled road with the help of JCB machine constructed by the mining mafia to reach the river bed.

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP./AUTH.	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE	CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) in Rupees	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/CORP./AUTH.	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/ EMAIL
1	THE AMBALA DISTT. COOP. MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD.	E-TENDER NOTICE FOR SUPPLY OF PADDY RICE HUSK	24.04.2021	05.05.2021	1 LAKH	www.vitaindia.org.in	0171-2540614 milkplant@vitambala.com
2	HPGCL	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT OF OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF COAL MILL REJECT HANDLING SYSTEM FOR UNIT-I & II AT RGTPP, KHEDAR, HISAR FOR TWO YEARS	29.04.2021		4.82 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9354516229 xenbm1.rgtppp@hpgcl.org.in
3	M.C., ROHTAK	PROVIDING AND LAYING WATER LINE KRISHAN PURI WALA + 3 OTHER WORK	19.04.2021	29.04.2021	117.49 LACS	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	xenmcrohtak@gmail.com
4	HVPNL	PROVIDING 1 X 7.2 MVAR CAPACITOR BANK ALONG WITH ALLIED EQUIPMENT & STEEL STRUT AT 132 KV SUB-STATION MIDHLANA, PROVIDING LIGHTING ARRANGEMENTS ALONG WITH BOUNDARY WALL OF YARD AT 132 KV SUB-STATION SECTOR-3, ROHTAK AND AUGMENTATION OF 132 KV SUB-STATION BADLI FROM 2X20/25 MVA, 132/3 KV TO (1X40/50 + 1X20/25) MVA 132/3 KV T/F (NIT NO. 04/2021-22/XEN/TS/RTK DATED: 16.04.2021)	16.04.2021	22.04.2021	7.42 LACS	www.hvpn.org.in	01722583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
5	HLRDC LTD.	INVITING OFFER FOR THE RATES OF VARIOUS PESTICIDES, FERTILIZERS, MICRONUTRIENTS, BIO-PESTIC					



Health workers process Covid antigen test samples in Srinagar on Tuesday. PTI

Night curbs in all districts; over 2,000 cases reported

JAMMU, APRIL 20

The J&K administration on Tuesday extended the ongoing night curfew to all municipal and urban local body limits in 20 districts in view of the spike in Covid cases. J&K recorded its highest single-day spike of 2,030 cases, including 352 travellers, taking the infection tally in the UT past 1.50 lakh. They said eight more fatalities were registered in a span of 24 hours, pushing the death toll to 2,071.

The night curfew shall be extended to all municipal and urban local body limits of all 20 districts. It was already in force in eight districts from 10 pm

SEVEN CONTRACTORS BOOKED FOR VIOLATION

Leh: The Ladakh administration has booked seven General Reserve Engineer Force contractors for allegedly violating Covid guidelines

They are said to have brought labourers without having their negative RT-PCR reports, officials said. PTI

to 6 am," the L-G office tweeted. It also said that public transport (matadors/minibuses/buses) shall be permitted to ply only at 50 per cent of its authorised seating capacity.

The DSPs shall ensure compliance, it added.

"Only 50% shops in market complexes/bazaars/malls within the municipal limits/urban local body limits shall be open on an alternate basis through a rotation system," it said in another tweet. It directed all the district magistrates to devise a mechanism to implement this, "preferably in consultation with local market associations".

Meanwhile, Ladakh saw 175 new Covid cases, taking its overall infection tally to 12,306. The number of active cases stands at 1,699 — 1,631 in Leh and 68 in Kargil. — PTI

FROM PAGE 1

25 Punjabis held in Canada...

the racket being run from Canadian soil.

The Indian agencies had in different operations in the last three years found drugs were transported to Canada from Punjab in vessels, electronic machines and even in holy books. Punjab counter-intelligence teams had in June 2018 named Canadian nationals Devinder Dev and Kamaljit Singh Chauhan in a drug racket which used improvised vessels to transport ketamine and opium to Canada.

In one case, the NCB had traced smuggling of cocaine to Punjab from Canada for local use as well as further trafficking to Delhi and Goa. This gang first used a paper-cutting machine to send a sample of the drug. Later, it sent a consignment hidden in printer machines to a Jalandhar-based company. "Canadian national Amrinder Singh Chhina was running the racket. As per our reports, he is active in Canada," said an NCB official. "Another smuggler from Canada Jimmy Sand-

MODUS OPERANDI

In the past three years, Indian agencies found in different operations that drugs were transported to Canada from Punjab in vessels, electronic machines and even in holy books.

he is reportedly in hiding after the NCB sounded Interpol about his activities."

The agencies are hoping the follow-up investigation would lead to the arrest of a number of international smugglers based out of Canada, Italy and Australia who were wanted by security agencies in India.

Officials with the drug network said Punjab was a vital cog in the wheel with smugglers using the state for transportation of drugs to Delhi and Goa, besides Australia, UK, Vietnam and Italy. "We hope to get details about the accused belonging from Punjab soon," said officials of the Punjab Police, Special Task Force against drugs and the Narcotics Control Bureau.

INVOLVED IN THE DRUG RACKET

Rupinder Sharma (25), Vaughan
Prabhdeep Kaur (25), Vaughan
Parshotam Malhi (54), Brampton
Rupinder Dhillon (37), Brampton
Sanveer Singh (25), Brampton
Haripal Nagra (45), Brampton
Hassam Syed (30), Brampton
Pritpal Singh (56), Brampton
Harkiran Singh (33), Brampton
Lakhpreet Brar (29), Brampton
Didy Adansi (52), Toronto
Sarbjit Singh (43), Woodstock
Balwinder Dhaliwal (60), Brampton
Rupinder Dhaliwal (39), Toronto
Ranjit Singh (40), Toronto
Sukhmanpreet Singh (23), Brampton
Khushal Bhinder (36), Brampton
Prabhjeet Mundian (34), Brampton
Vansh Aurora (24), Brampton
Simranjeet Narang (28), Brampton
Harjinder Jhaj (28), Caledon
Gaganpreet Gill (28), Brampton
Sukhjot Dhaliwal (47), Brampton
Imran Khan (33), Toronto
Chinedu Ajoku (51), Brampton
Harjot Singh (31), Brampton
Sukhjot Dugga (35), Brampton

Oxygen crisis...

Delhi's crisis came on a day when the national Covid cases touched 1,53,21,089 with 2,59,170 daily infections, a slight dip over the past two days. Toll has increased to 1,80,530 with a record 1,761 new fatalities today and active cases surged to 20,31,977 — making up 13.26 per cent of all infections. The recovery rate has dropped to 85.56 per cent.

Daily Covid cases today were marginally less than yesterday's 27,3810 and day before's 2,61,500 but still whopping enough to overwhelm the health systems.

Delhi, which has witnessed significant breakdown of infrastructure, continued to reel under massive medical equipment supply constraint today with Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia saying hospitals were making frantic calls to say they had just 8 to 12 hours of oxygen supply left.

If oxygen supplies in adequate quantities are not arranged by tomorrow morning, there will be mayhem in the Capital," warned Sisodia on Twitter, noting that suppliers were being stopped in different states.

Lockdown should be last resort, says PM

We have to try our level best to save ourselves from a lockdown and focus on micro-containment. This way we can improve the health of our economy as well as the people," the PM said, ruling out a national lockdown for now.

He invoked Lord Rama and the spirit of Ramzan to urge people for self-restraint. "Today is the last day of Navratri. Tomorrow is Ram

Navami and Lord Rama's message to us is to follow discipline. Today is also the seventh day of the auspicious month of Ramzan, which teaches us patience, self-restraint and discipline. To win the war against Covid, discipline is necessary. Leave homes only when absolutely necessary," he said.

Appealing to the youth to form committees for enforce-

ment of Covid discipline, the PM assured work on war footing to ease oxygen supplies, raise the production of medicines and ramp up hospital bed capacities, while urging individuals to help those in need in this time of grave crisis.

"We have to ease the panic, dispel myths and fears," the PM noted. He hailed India's ability to become the fastest

country in the world to administer over 12 crore vaccine doses and said from May 1, all adults would be eligible for inoculation.

Taking a jibe at the PM after his address to the nation, the first during the second Covid wave, Congress media chief Randeep Surjewala said, "The sum and substance of what the PM said today was—people are on their own."

Two officials arrested for bribery

FROM PAGE 1

immediately on the aforesaid consideration and undoubtedly if government has any reservations on suitability or in public interest, within the same period of time it may be sent back to the SC Collegium with the specific reasons. If the Collegium, after consideration of the inputs, still reiterates the recommendation(s) unanimously, such appointment should be processed and appointment should be made within 3 to 4 weeks," the top court said.

A CBI official said the

SOUGHT ₹4.5 LAKH TO SETTLE CLAIM

Two officials of National Insurance Company Ltd in Srinagar sought Rs 4.5 lakh from to settle accidental claim

CBI caught one of them while taking bribe.

accused had demanded Rs 4.5 lakh from a complainant to settle a personal accidental claim of her father, who died in a road accident.

The CBI laid a trap and caught the administrative officer after which the other official's involvement was revealed, it said. Later, a search was conducted at their residential and official premises in Srinagar and Chandigarh.

"Rs 1 lakh (approx) in cash, bank deposits of Rs 30 lakh (approx) and some documents related to bank accounts, shares, property and other movable assets were seized on the premises of the senior divisional manager," the official added.

नगर सूचार टर्मस्ट, लुपिअला

मिति: २०.०४.२०२१

मिति: २०.०४.२०२१

भूमि का संकेत

आम परिवर्क ने मुख्य बोर्ड जांचा है कि इस दस्तवाज़ के द्वारा वैधता वाली भूमि का विवरण उत्तरांश द्वारा टर्मस्ट की आवश्यकताएँ दर्शायी गई हैं। इस दस्तवाज़ की तारीख 24.03.2021 है। प्रत्यासित वर्षावाला निगम ने 09.04.2021 को नीं अंडे वह दिन दस्तवाज़ की तारीख 28.04.2021 कर देंगे गयी हैं।

टिप्पणी: इस दस्तवाज़ की वैधता वाली भूमि का संकेत

DPR/Pb/3883 स्तरीय/ बारमासापक अदामर, नगर सूचार टर्मस्ट, लुपिअला।

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(An Autonomous Scientific Society of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India)

Birla Farms, Bada Phull, Rupnagar (Ropar) — 140001, Punjab

FIRNO-3/04/2021 RECRUITMENT NOTICE CORRIDGEON

Please refer to our advertisement day 06141/11/0001/2122 carried in The Tribune on 20.04.2021 on Page No. 3. The last line of the first para may be read correctly as "... on contract basis, to be deployed with a client department in Punjab;"

Secondly the Phone No.: 257032 at the bottom may be read correctly as 257032. Rest remains the same.

davp 06141/11/0001/2122 DIRECTOR

Uttarakhand Metro Rail, Urban Infrastructure and Building Construction Corporation Limited (UKMRC)

(A Government of Uttarakhand Undertaking)

4th Floor, SCI Tower Haridwar Bypass Road Ajabpur, Dehradun - 248121, Tel: 0135-2719442

CIN: 45309UR 2017 SGCC007687

Website: www.ukmrc.org Email: info@ukmrc.org

NIT No.:UM-140/EOI Cum RFQ PRT Hardiwar/2021-22/01 Dt: 20-04-2021

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

UKMRC invites Open e-Tender (EOI cum RFQ) for the Work: Development of Personalised Rapid Transit (PRT) System in Haridwar City of Uttarakhand called "Haridwar Darshan" under Design Built Finance Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) basis- (PPP Model)

Cost of EOI Cum RFQ Process: ₹ 20,000/- (Twenty Thousand Only) + GST @ 18% or as Applicable

EOI Cum RFQ Document can be downloaded from the e-procurement website i.e. https://uktenders.gov.in

MD (UKMRC)

एसजेनीएन लिमिटेड SJVN Limited
(भारत सरकार एवं वित्त विभाग सरकार का संयुक्त उम्मीदवार)
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of H.P.)
CIN No. LA40101HP1988GIO100409

PRESS NOTICE

e-Tender No.: DCB-CCD-SDHEP-430/01

SJVN Limited invites online bids (e-tender) on Domestic Competitive Bidding (DCB) basis for EPC Contract package covering Design & Engineering Services, Civil and Hydro-Mechanical works of Sunni Dam Hydroelectric Project (382 MW) in Distt. Shimla and Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.

For details, visit websites www.sjvn.nic.in and www.eprocure.gov.in. Bid document shall be available for downloading w.e.f. 23.04.2021. Last date for bid submission is 21.06.2021 (1300 Hrs). Amendments, if any, shall be issued only on websites.

HOD (Civil Contracts)

SJVN Corporate Office Complex, Shanan, Shimla - 171006 (H.P.) E-mail: civilcontract@sjvn.nic.in

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

NOTICE INVITING of e-TENDERS (2021-22)

eproc.punjab.gov.in

E-Tender Notice PWSSB/Divn. 1/IASR/2020 Date: 20.04.2021

On behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, Punjab W/S & Sewerage Board, Chandigarh, Executive Engineer, PB W/S & Divn., Ferozepur invites bids from eligible bidders for the works detailed below:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Work	Bid Security	Cost of Document	Period of completion
1.	DNIT for (Balance work of South East Zone) Construction of Sewerage House Connection and Construction of Cement Concrete roads in various street and all other works contingent thereto at South East Zone, Amritsar.	1% of approved DNIT	1000/- As applicable	6 Months

Estimated Cost (in lacs): Rs/ 537.32 lacs

Important Dates are as under:
1. Period of availability of tender Online shall be Up to 20.04.2021 to 04.05.2021 up to 1.00 p.m.
2. Last Date & Time for online submission of Bids 04.05.2021 up to 1.00 p.m.
3. Date and Time for Opening of Technical bids shall be 04.05.2021 at 3.00 p.m.For detailed terms and conditions refer to website eproc.punjab.gov.in Corrigendum, if any, will be issued on website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PB W/S & Sew. Divn. No. 2, Amritsar.

Advertisement for engagement of Legal Retainer

PUNJAB LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD

O/o Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Punjab, Livestock Complex, Sector-68, S.A.S. Nagar

Email ID: daphujan@gmail.com Tel. No. 0172-2210783

Punjab Livestock Development Board, Livestock Complex, Sector-68, S.A.S. Nagar invites applications to hire services of an Advocate duly enrolled with Bar Council constituted under the Advocates Act 1961. The applications should be submitted till 05.05.2021 up to 5:00 p.m.

Eligibility: He/she must be a law graduate and enrolled as an Advocate with Bar Council constituted under the Advocates Act 1961. Minimum qualification: BA, LLB.

Work Experience: He should have experience of at least 10 years as practicing Advocate in the High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh.

Work Profile: He/she has to visit the office Complex of PLDB (Livestock Complex, Sector-68, S.A.S. Nagar) at least once in a week during office hours after making liaison with Nodal officer, Legal; to provide legal advice on the legal cases of the Department/Board.

Pay and allowances: He/she shall be paid Rs. 25,000/- per month as per decision of the selection committee.

How to apply:- Applications shall be addressed to Additional Chief Executive Officer, Punjab Livestock Development Board, Sector-68, SAS Nagar on simple paper mentioning Bio data, education qualification along with proof of work experience.

Details also be obtained from the Departmental website: www.husbandrypunjab.org.

Corrigendum, if any, will be upload on above websites, only.

Sd/- Director Animal Husbandry Punjab-cum-Addl. Chief Executive Officer, Punjab Livestock Development Board.

BRIEFLY

NEW DELHI

Hockey statistician

BG Joshi dead

Renowned hockey statistician and historian Baboolal Goverdhan Joshi died on Tuesday due to Covid-19 related complications. Joshi was 67. Joshi had been maintaining records of the sport since the early 1970s.

TOKYO

94 days before Oly, only 1% Japanese vaccinated

The Tokyo Olympics organising committee said today that they received no request from athletes to vaccinate them before the opening of the Olympic Games. The vaccine rollout in Japan has been very slow with less than 1% vaccinated, causing concern about the postponed Tokyo Olympics that are scheduled to open in just over three months.

TASHKENT

Babar sets sight on Kohli's T20I runs record

Pakistan cricket team captain Babar Azam will aim to become the fastest – and 11th player overall – to score 2,000 T20I runs when his team locks horns with Zimbabwe in the three-match series from tomorrow. Azam needs only 60 more runs to break India skipper Virat Kohli's record of fastest to 2,000 T20I runs. Kohli achieved the landmark in 56 innings. Azam has scored 1,940 runs in 49 innings.

LONDON

Mason, 29, named Tottenham manager for rest of season

Ryan Mason will lead Tottenham into the English League Cup final against Manchester City on Sunday as the youngest manager in the club's history after being installed as the replacement for the fired Jose Mourinho until the end of the season. The 29-year-old Mason has been working with Tottenham academy's players but was given the top job today for the remaining month of the season.

LEEDS

Liverpool held by Leeds after late equaliser

Liverpool conceded an 87th-minute equaliser to draw at Leeds 1-1, denying Jurgen Klopp's team a spot in the top-four of the EPL. AGENCIES

TODAY ON TV

IPL
PUNJAB VS HYDERABAD 3:30PM
KOLKATA VS CHENNAI 7:30PM
STAR SPORTS

EPL
TOTTEHAM VS SOUTHAMPTON
10:30PM
ASTON VILLA VS MAN CITY
00:45AM (THURSDAY)
STAR SPORTS

UEFA to Super prodigals: Come back home, there's still time

MONTREUX (FRANCE), APRIL 20 In a direct appeal to the owners of the English clubs in the Super League project, the chief of Union of European associations (UEFA) Aleksander Ceferin today urged them to change their minds out of respect for fans of football. Ceferin both cajoled and criticised the six-club English group — made up of American billionaires, Middle East royalty and a Russian oligarch — less than 48 hours after the Super League was launched in alliance with three clubs from each of Italy and Spain.

"Gentlemen, you made a huge mistake," Ceferin said in a speech to European football leaders at the UEFA annual meeting. "Some will say it is greed, others (will say) disdain, arrogance, flippancy or complete ignorance of England's football culture. It does not matter. What does matter is that there is still time to change your mind. Everyone makes mistakes."

Come to senses'

Ceferin urged them to turn back out of respect for fans in England, aiming another barb at what he earlier called "a few selfish people". "Come to your sens-

epaper.tribuneindia.com

Chanu crushes Euro champ, India assured of 11 medals

Haryana lads Narwal, Sachin also enter semifinals

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

Babyrojisan Chanu was the star of the evening as she outclassed defending European champion Alexas Kubicka in the quarterfinal of boxing's Youth World Championships in Kielce, Poland. In all, seven boxers from India stormed into the semifinals on Day 7 of the event.

Apart from 51kg specialist Chanu, Arundhati Choudhary (69kg), Sanamacha Chanu (75kg), Ankit Narwal



Babyrojisan Chanu in action against European youth champion Alexas Kubicka; RIGHT: Arundhati Choudhary after winning her quarterfinal in Kielce, Poland. PTI

(64kg), Vishal Gupta (91kg), Bishwamitra Chongtham (49kg) and Sachin (56kg)

assured themselves of at least a bronze by advancing to the semifinals.



Four other Indian boxers had made it to the semifinals earlier, so the 20-mem- ber Indian contingent is assured of 11 medals in the championship. On Day 6,

Vinka, Alfiya, Gitika and Poonam had advanced to the semifinals.

Continental clash

In a clash between two strong gold contenders in the women's 51kg category, Asian youth champion Chanu put up a strong tactical performance, blanking European champion Kubicka 5-0. The Manipuri boxer will take on Lucia Ayari of Italy in the semifinals.

Arundhati and Sanamacha were also dominant in their quarterfinals wins. While Arundhati outpunched Ukraine's Anna Sezko 5-0, Sanamacha sent Russia's Margarita Zueva packing, the referee stopping the contest in the second round.

In the men's category, Asian junior champion Bishwamitra and Asian Youth Championship silver medallist Narwal also lived up to the expectations, notching up easy 5-0 victories against Serbian Omer Ametovic and Brazil's Ezequiel Da Cruz, respectively. Manish (75kg) and Sumit (69kg) were the only two Indian boxers who suffered defeats in the quarterfinals.

With seven women in the semifinals, India is currently placed at the top of the table alongside Russia with the highest number of boxers qualifying for that stage.

In the men's section, India is placed fourth with four boxers in the semifinals. — TNS, agencies

Delhi shoot down Mumbai

Mishra's 4 wickets make it easy for Dhawan in chase



Delhi Capitals' Amit Mishra celebrates the wicket of Mumbai Indians' Hardik Pandya in Chennai on Tuesday. PTI

CHENNAI, APRIL 20 Delhi Capitals rose to joint lead on the points table of the IPL when they defeated Mumbai Indians by six wickets here tonight. After restricting MI to a very modest 137/9, DC reached the target in the final over, with five balls to spare.

Shikhar Dhawan, who had smashed 92 to power DC to victory over Punjab Kings two days ago, was the batting star today as well with 45 off 42 balls. After Prithvi Shaw fell early for 7, Dhawan added 53 runs with Steve Smith (33 off 29) in 7.5 overs to put DC on way to victory.

When Dhawan finally holed out to Krunal Pandya off Rahul Chahar, going for a six, DC were 100/3 and needed only 38 off 31 balls.

MI's bowlers kept it tight for a bit and Jasprit Bumrah got Rishabh Pant for 7, but the target was too small for them to make a difference today. DC did not have to exert themselves too much and only one six was hit in their innings, by Dhawan.

Mishra to the fore

Earlier, leg-spinner Amit Mishra snared four crucial wickets as DC kept MI to a below-par score.

MI suffered a middle-order collapse on a sluggish Chepauk track after they were 67/2 at one stage as Delhi, led by Mishra (4/24), made a spectacular comeback. Opting to bat, Mumbai lost opener Quinton De Kock (1) early as he edged a Marcus Stoinis (1/20) delivery to Rishabh Pant in the third over.

Suryakumar Yadav (24) then joined Rohit Sharma (44), who got his first boundary with an elegant drive, and the duo rallied the innings with their 58-run stand.

Rohit took on ace off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin (0/30) in the fourth over,

which fetched 15 runs. The Mumbai skipper hammered a boundary and a six with a lofted shot over extra cover, while Yadav got one boundary, courtesy an outside edge.

Rohit then hit Kagiso Rabada (1/25) for a six over long-off, and Yadav hit successive fours off Mishra as Mumbai raced to 55/1 after six overs.

This project officer allegedly committed the offence in Siri Fort sports complex, where he was giving private coaching to the girl.

The girl reported the assault to her parents and an FIR was then registered at the Hauz Khas police station the same day, April 10. The SAI official was arrested the same day and is currently lodged at Tihar Jail.

Then it became 81/5 as

Krunal Pandya (1) chopped an under-cutting arm ball by Lalit Yadav (1/17) onto his stumps. Mishra tricked Kieron Pollard (2) with a googly, and MI were teetering at 84/6. In the end, a responsible 26 from Ishan Kishan, who became Mishra's fourth wicket, coupled with Jayant Yadav's 23 took the side beyond the 125-run mark. — TNS, agencies

SAI project officer in Tihar for assaulting schoolgirl

VINAYAK PADMADEO

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

In a shocking incident, a project officer employed with the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been arrested for sexual assault on a schoolgirl.

However, Delhi paged back the defending champions by grabbing three quick wickets.

The girl reported the assault to her parents and an FIR was then registered at the Hauz Khas police station the same day, April 10. The SAI official was arrested the same day and is currently lodged at Tihar Jail.

The FIR is registered

under IPC section 354B (for criminal force to woman with intent to disrobe), which carries a sentence between three to seven years, and under section 10 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, which carries a maximum sentence of seven years' imprisonment.

"...he also asked if I have any problem since your parents are known to me. I

felt very uncomfortable and ask him to stop. I came back home and narrated the incident to my parents. Kindly take legal action," the FIR reads.

A Delhi Police official said that the matter is under investigation. "We arrested him the same day and he was sent to judicial custody," the official said on the condition of anonymity, adding: "The matter is under investigation and we will be filing a chargesheet soon in this case."

Fight on May 1 will determine first WBC India champ

been worn by illustrious champions in history including Muhammad Ali, Lennox Lewis, Mike Tyson, Floyd Mayweather etc. I am excited to initiate this historic move," Goraya added.

"It's a great development for Indian professional boxing and gives us the confidence that we at Indian Boxing Council (IBC) are on the right path," said Muralidharan Raja, president of IBC, which recently got affiliated with the Asian wing of WBC.

"This is a game-changer for Indian professional boxing," said Parm Goraya, CEO of LZ Promotions and India Unleashed Promoter. "The green/gold belt has

It's Chandni vs Suman as WBC comes to India

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

In a historic move, the World Boxing Council (WBC) has sanctioned a title bout to be contested by two Indian professional women boxers.

The WBC, one of the four major organisations that sanction professional bouts globally, has endorsed the Indian Championship fight between Chandni Mehra and Suman Kumari, scheduled to be part of India Unleashed.

"This is a game-changer for Indian professional boxing," said Parm Goraya, CEO of LZ Promotions and India Unleashed Promoter. "The green/gold belt has

Fight Night — the country's first-ever Professional USA boxing event — on May 1.

The fight between Chandni and Suman, India's No.1 boxers in lightweight and featherweight categories, will determine the first-ever WBC India champion, male or female.

"This is a game-changer for Indian professional boxing," said Parm Goraya, CEO of LZ Promotions and India Unleashed Promoter. "The green/gold belt has

been worn by illustrious champions in history including Muhammad Ali, Lennox Lewis, Mike Tyson, Floyd Mayweather etc. I am excited to initiate this historic move," Goraya added.

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Haryana Medical Services Corporation Limited

(A Government of Haryana Undertaking)

Bays No 59-62, Sector 2, Panchkula.

Phone: 01722567945

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (NIT)

Tender Enquiry No.: 162/Tend/COR/2020-21/3/4-A

Online Tender of Medical consumables for a period of Six Months procurement of Logistics for Corona virus, Haryana of "Group C" and documents can be downloaded from 20.04.2021 onwards on e-procurement portal

www.etenders.hry.nic.in

For Managing Director
HMSCL, Panchkula

PRDH/1058/11/40/2022/2657/31/4

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEN-I/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 13/05/2021 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. In place of Earnest Money deposit, "Bid Security Declaration" is to be submitted or prescribed format as available in document section on the portal.

S.No.	Tender No.	Details of Tender
1	07-2021-22-ADEN/LDH 19.04.2021	Ordinary repair and maintenance as well as new works, additions and alterations to existing structures, emergent works & Special Works for quarters, service buildings, L-xings & Bridges etc. in the section SSE/W/P/GW for the year (2021-22) under ADEN/LDH.
	Advertised Value (Rs.)	Validity of offer
	1,43,33,073.27/-	45 days

Bidding Starting Date : 29.04.2021, Bid Closing Date : 13.05.2021.

Note :- 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.

Tender Notice No.: -770-W/169/WA/1/FZR/07/2021-22 ADEN/LDH Date :- 20.04.2021

892/2021

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(141012) E-MAIL: bo4540@pnb.co.in TEL: 0161-2550270/2550275, M-95017-10721

IN BRIEF

UP to give free jabs to all 18+ from May 1

NEW DELHI: The Uttar Pradesh Government on Tuesday announced to give free Covid-19 vaccines to all above 18 years of age. On being asked if the Congress-led governments would do the same, party veteran P Chidambaram said, "The Congress-ruled state governments will have to consider the new policy and deliberate." TNS

2 sell Remdesivir vial containing water, held

NAGPUR: Two men were held on Tuesday for allegedly selling Remdesivir vials filled with water for ₹28,000 in Nagpur. The accused are Abhilash Petkar (28) and Aniket Nandeshwar (21), both working as X-Ray technicians. TNS

PM Modi cancels Portugal visit

NEW DELHI: PM Narendra Modi has cancelled his visit to Portugal next month to attend a meeting with European Union leaders. Though the MEA announced the cancellation of PM's visit to Porto, Portugal, it did not say whether the PM's second leg to France stands. TNS

Counting on you for expanded jab drive: PM to vaccine makers

Bharat Biotech to ramp up production to 700 million doses a year

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20



People line up outside a health centre for a jab in Bengal. PTI

ment of new vaccines.

He noted that vaccines manufactured in India were the cheapest, saying the world's largest vaccine programme was under way in India.

Throughout the process of developing and manufacturing vaccines, the country had constantly worked with the spirit of public-private partnership under the 'Mission Covid Suraksha' and created an end-to-end vaccine development ecosystem, the PM said.

"The government ensured

that all vaccine manufacturers not only get all possible help and logistic support, but also the process of vaccine approval is speedy and scientific," the PM said, assuring support and smooth approval process for the vaccine candidates which are currently in a trial phase.

The PM said health infrastructure of the private sector had played a big role in the country's fight against Covid-19 and in the coming days would play a greater

J&J APPLIES FOR COVID VAX IMPORT LICENCE

Johnson & Johnson has applied to the Drug Controller General of India for licence to import Covid vaccine and also undertake Phase 3 bridging trials post approval. The application follows flexibility to foreign jab makers to apply for import licences after the govt waived off pre-approval bridging trial requirement for them before grant of emergency use approval for the vaccines approved by US FDA, and regulators of UK, EU and Japan.

role in the vaccination drive.

"This will require better coordination between hospitals and industry," he said.

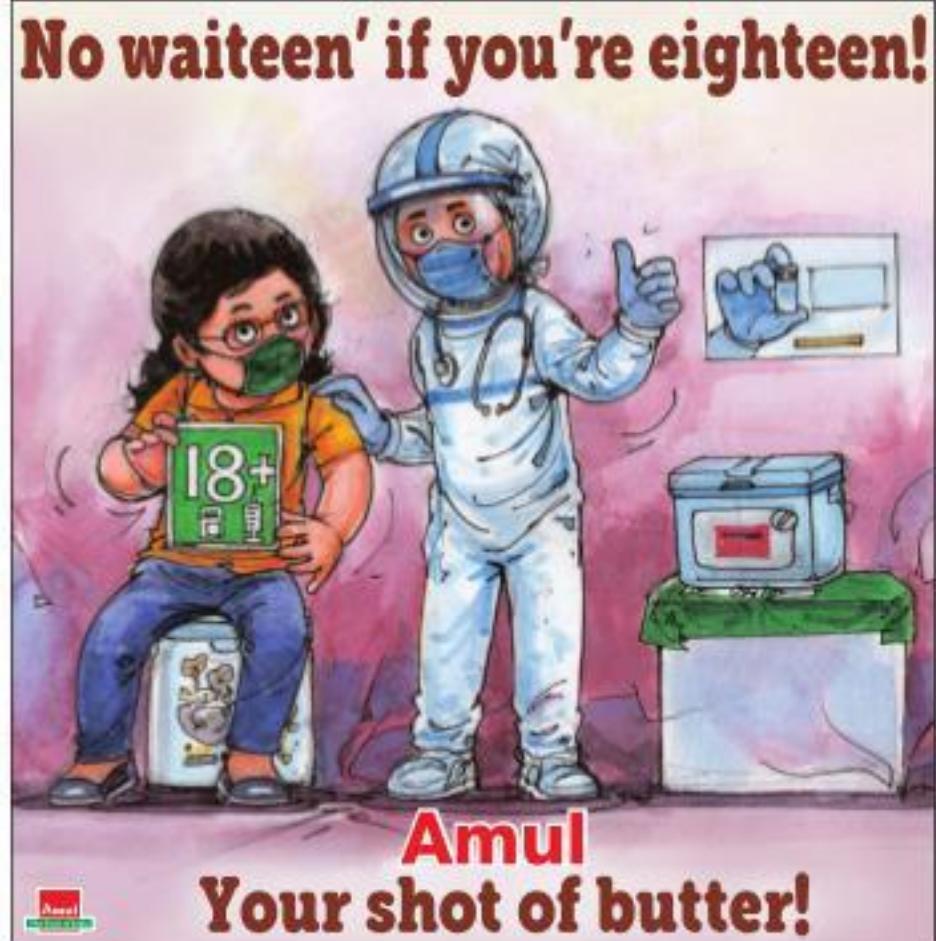
Meanwhile, Bharat Biotech today announced to scale up its manufacturing capacity to produce 700 million doses of Covaxin annually. Its current production capacity is 1.6 lakh doses a day.

Manufacturing scale-up will happen in a step-wise manner across multiple facilities in Hyderabad and Bengaluru, the firm said.

BJYM launches state helplines for Covid assistance

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

BJP's youth wing BJYM today launched special state-wise Covid-19 helplines for assisting citizens in need in Mumbai (020-6732 6460), Delhi (011-6119 5322), Maharashtra (020-6732 6090), Madhya Pradesh (0731-4821 330) and Puducherry (044-61713330). Helplines have also been launched for Bihar, Kerala, HP, Tripura, and Manipur. Karyakartas will provide assistance with respect to testing, medicine availability, vaccination and hospitalisation.—TNS



Amul Your shot of butter!

daCunha/AB/736

Plan response in advance: Centre to UTs

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla today held a high-level review meeting to assess the status of Covid-19 situation and steps taken to contain the spread of infection and the state of other public health measures in all Union Territories (UTs).



The government in an official statement said, "Bhalla, along with Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan, chaired a high-level meeting to review and discuss the Covid-19 status and the management and

VK Paul, ICMR Director General Dr Balram Bhargava and Director Generals (DGs) of Police of all UTs.

During the meeting, it was advised that the UT administrations should "plan augmentation of hospital infrastructure in advance for the next three weeks", as they also need to ramp up testing and other infrastructure related to large containment zones, the government said in its statement, adding that suggestions were made with regard to "strict enforcement of Covid-19 appropriate behaviour and movement restrictions".

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short term sealed item rate tenders on forms 6 & 8 for the below mentioned works are hereby invited from the contractors of appropriate class enlisted with the Jal Shakti Vibhag so as to reach in the office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division No. I, Shimla-9 on or before **30.04.2021** up to 3.00 P.M. The tender shall be opened on same day at 3.30 P.M. in the presence of the intending contractors or their authorized representatives who wish to be present at the time of opening of tenders. The tender forms and term and condition can be had on submission of Earnest Money and the production of valid registration in Jal Shakti Vibhag and registration under GST Act, from the office of the undersigned during working hour's up to on **29.04.2021** payment of cost of form. The earnest money shall be in the shape of NSC/FDR or Saving Bank Account of Post Office/ Time Deposit of H.P. State Co-Operative Bank or any other Nationalized Bank duly pledged in the name of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division No. I, Shimla-9. The offer shall remain open for 90 days. Conditional tender will not be accepted. The Executive Engineer, reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons. If it happens to be holiday on the date of opening of tender, then the tender shall be opened on the next working day.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimate cost	E/Money	Time limit	Cost of form	Mode of Tender
1.	Prov. Water supply to P.C Habitation Panchayat viz., Malayna, Chamiana, Rajhana and Beolia under JMM under Kasumpati Section, Tehsil and Distt Shimla. HP (SH:- Laying and jointing of G.I Pipe of 15mm and 40mm dia from Shrigull tank to vill. Kuffer from LWSS Tube well Mehlji Pujari in GP Beolia.)	Rs. 3,42,431/-	Rs. 6,850/-	6 Months	Rs. 250/-	Offline
2.	WSS for village Panog Kantli Dhami & C/o Storage tank in Sub Tehsil Dhami, Distt. Shimla HP (SH:- C/o RCC Storage tank 20000 ltrs. Capacity and laying and jointing of G.I. Pipe of various dia)	Rs. 3,32,726/-	Rs. 6,660/-	6 Months	Rs. 250/-	Offline
3.	R/M of LWSS Jhalgi Malog in G.P. Anandpur Tehsil & Distt. Shimla HP (SH:- Repair of pump set make KSB WL 65/11, 125 HP Sr. No: 0610644	Rs. 1,11,310/-	Rs. 2,230/-	6 Months	Rs. 250/-	Offline

Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti Division No. I,
Shimla-9.

DPR/HP/355

DISTRICT CONSUMER DISPUTES REDRESSAL COMMISSION-UNION TERRITORY, CHANDIGARH

Plot No. 5-B, Sector 19-B, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh – 160019

Phone No. 0172-2700172

ADVERTISEMENT/NOTICE

Applications are invited for empanelment of Mediators for the Chandigarh District Consumer Mediation Cell-I, U.T., Chandigarh, attached with the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission-I, U.T., Chandigarh for mediation in the consumer cases from:

- (i) Retired Members of Consumer Commission,
- (ii) Retired District and Sessions Judges, retired Additional District and Sessions Judges or other retired Members of the Higher Judicial Services of a State,
- (iii) Retired judicial officers, having experience of not less than ten years;
- (iv) An advocate with a minimum experience of ten years at Bar;
- (v) Mediators empanelled with the Mediation Cell of a District Court;
- (vi) A person having experience of at least five years in mediation or conciliation; and
- (vii) Experts or other professionals with atleast fifteen years experience or retired senior bureaucrats or retired executives; Mediators will be empanelled in terms of section 75 of The Consumer Protection Act 2019, The Consumer Protection (Mediation) Rules, 2020 and The Consumer Protection (Mediation) Regulations 2020. The terms and conditions of the Mediators/Mediation Cell shall be, as referred in the relevant provisions of the Act, Rules and the Regulations which may be gone through by the desirous candidates.

2. Fee of the mediators will be assessed by the Mediation Advisory Committee in due course.

3. Interested candidates may submit their applications in the format given below:

Application for Empanelment of Mediator for the Chandigarh District Consumer Mediation Cell-I, U.T., Chandigarh.

Passport Size Photo

1. Name	:			
2. (a) Father's Name (b) Husband's Name	:			
3. Date of birth	:			
4. Permanent address and Home District	:			
5. Address for correspondence with Mobile No. and E-mail ID	:			
6. Present Occupation and annual income	:			
7. Academic Qualifications with detailed marks obtained in bachelor's degree from a recognized university and Post-graduation, if any.	:			
College/University	Degree	Total Marks obtained with percentage	Passing year	Remarks
Experience of Mediation and in his/her academic field/service.				
Have you ever held Civil Post under State or Central Govt.? If yes, give details;				
Have you ever obtained any training of mediation? If yes, give details and attach the requisite certificate of training				
Annual Income from all sources. Copy of Income Tax return, if any				
Permanent Account No.(PAN)				
Any other information not covered under columns No.1 to 10 above.				
14. An Affidavit be also submitted alongwith the application, to the following effect:				
<p>a. That he/she has not been adjudged as insolvent;</p> <p>b. That against him/her no criminal charges involving moral turpitude are framed by a criminal court and are pending;</p> <p>c. That he/she has not been convicted by a criminal court for any offence involving moral turpitude;</p> <p>d. That against him/her no disciplinary proceedings have been initiated by the appropriate disciplinary authority and are not pending or have not resulted in a punishment;</p> <p>e. That he/she is not or has not been interested in or connected with the subject matter of the consumer dispute or related to or has not been associated or connected in any manner, including in a professional capacity, with any of the parties to the consumer disputes or any of their associates, affiliates, promoters, holding companies, subsidiaries companies, partners, directors or employees.</p>				

Signature of Applicant

Verification: Verified that the information given is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and nothing has been concealed therefrom. In case, the information or any part thereof is found false then it may be treated disqualification.

Date:

NOTES:-

- i) Self-attested copies of the relevant documents in support of proof of age, academic qualifications, experience, income etc. be attached.
- ii) The proforma of application may be downloaded from the office website i.e. chdconsumercourt.gov.in and filled up the same and then email alongwith documents at office E-mail id - vacancydistrictcomm1@gmail.com.
- iii) Hard copy of application and e-application complete in all respects must reach in this office on or before 17.5.2021 by 5:00 p.m.

WARNING: The candidate must carefully read the instructions given above and send the complete documents given in the format.

Interview letters to the eligible candidates will be issued separately, in due course of time.

President,
District Consumer Disputes
Redressal Commission-I,
U.T. Chandigarh.

SC lays norms for ad hoc judges' appointment

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

Expressing concern over migrant workers leaving the city following the imposition of a six-day lockdown to curb the rise in Covid cases, Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal today deputed Principal Secretary (home) and Special Commissioner of Police to handle the situation.

After announcing the lockdown yesterday, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had appealed to the migrants not to leave the city. He had assured the

Deputies 2 top officials to handle situation

migrants of all possible help and insisted that the lockdown would not be extended.

Refusing to heed Kejriwal's appeal, thousands of workers had reached the ISBT and railway stations in Delhi to board buses to return home.

At an emergency meeting with Kejriwal and the Chief Secretary, Baijal asked the administration to initiate steps to prevent a reverse migration.

The SC came on a PIL filed by "Lok Prahar" seeking appointment of ad hoc judges to clear pendency of cases.

Those appointed ad hoc judges would get emolu-

ments

and allowances on a par with a permanent judge minus the pension, the top court ordered. Ad hoc judges will be entitled to allowance, perks and perquisites as available to permanent/additional judge(s), it added.

The SC asked the Union Law Ministry to act in tandem with HC and submit a progress report in four months.

The order came on a PIL filed by "Lok Prahar" seeking appointment of ad hoc judges to clear pendency of cases.

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Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, APRIL 20

The power to order a provisional attachment of property, including the bank account of a taxable person, under the GST law is draconian in nature and must be based on tangible material, the Supreme Court said on Tuesday.

Deciding an appeal against an order of the Himachal Pradesh High Court, a Bench headed by Justice DY Chandrabhad said the exercise of such power must be preceded by the formation of an opinion by the Commissioner that it is necessary to do so for the purpose of protecting the interest of the government revenue.

"Before ordering a provisional attachment, the Commissioner must form an opinion on the basis of tangible material that the assessee is likely to defeat the demand, if any, and that therefore, it is

SC asks HCs to adopt draft rules of criminal trials in six months



necessary so to do for the purpose of protecting the interest of the government revenue," it said, quashing an order passed by a Joint Commissioner and upheld by the High Court.

The Commissioner was duty-bound to deal with the objections to the attachment by passing a reasoned order which must be communicated to the taxable person whose property is attached, the Bench said, clarifying that the expression "necessary so to do for protecting the government revenue"

implicated that it could not be protected without ordering a provisional attachment.

The verdict — which lays down parameters for exercise of powers to order provisional attachment — came on a petition filed by Radha Krishan Industries challenging an October 28, 2020, order of the Himachal Pradesh High Court dismissing a petition against orders for provisional attachment. The assessee was represented by senior counsel Punet Bali and advocate Surjeet Bhadu.