

# The Sunday Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

CHANDIGARH | GURUGRAM | JALANDHAR | BATHINDA | VOL 140 NO. 337 | 16 PAGES | ₹6.00 | REGD. NO. CHD/0006/2018-2020 ESTABLISHED IN 1881

NC PAYS TRIBUTE TO FOUNDER  
SHEIKH ABDULLAH J&K

CALMING THE COVID MIND  
SPECTRUM

STONE-LAYING FOR PARLIAMENT  
BUILDING ON DEC 10 BACK PAGE

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

## IN BRIEF

Post office named  
after Sikh cop in US

WASHINGTON: The US Senate has passed a Bill to name a post office at 315 Addicks Howell Road in Houston after slain Sikh police officer Sandeep Singh Dhalwali, gunned down during a routine traffic stop a year ago. It's the second US post office to be named after an Indian-American, the first being in Southern California in 2006 after Congressman Dalip Singh Saund. PTI

Campus politics in Ker,  
LDF, Congress furious

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The ruling LDF and Opposition Congress in Kerala on Saturday flayed the Centre's decision to name the second campus of Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology here after late RSS ideologue MS Golwalkar, alleging the BJP was communalising everything and questioned his contribution to science. PTI

US court reinstates  
policy for immigrants

WASHINGTON: A federal court has ordered full reinstatement of an Obama-era policy that protects undocumented immigrants brought to the US as minors from deportation, a ruling that will help Indian migrants. BACK PAGE

## Tomar suggests middle path, farmers unmoved

Another round of talks on Dec 9 | Bharat bandh stays

VIBHA SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 5  
The fifth round of talks between the Centre and farmer leaders today failed to break the impasse. The next meeting is scheduled for December 9, a day after the Bharat bandh.

Kavitha Kuruganti of the Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch, one of the 40 unions invited for the talks with Union Ministers Narendra Singh Tomar, Piyush Goyal and Som Parkash on the contentious farm Acts, said: "The government sought some more time to present a concrete proposal. The ministers said they needed further consultations within the government and proposed December 9 for the next meeting, to which the union leaders agreed." Most unions see this as yet another attempt to "stretch matters and buy time".

After the more than four-hour meeting, Tomar reportedly urged the farmers to put forth their suggestions. "The Modi government is committed to the welfare of farmers. Today, we held the fifth round of talks. We said the MSP would continue and if



Representatives of farmers' outfits after a meeting with Union Ministers in New Delhi on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: MUKESH AGGARWAL

### HAVE RIGHT TO PROTEST

People have a right to demonstrate peacefully and the authorities should allow them to do so.

Antonio Guterres,  
UN SECRETARY GENERAL

### FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Canada will always stand up for the right for peaceful protest... for human rights around the world.

Justin Trudeau,  
CANADIAN PM

### JAISHANKAR MAY SKIP CANADA-LED GROUP MEET

New Delhi: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar may not attend a meeting of Canada-led 14-nation grouping, apparently in protest against Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's observations on the ongoing farmers' agitation. TNS

### 36 UK MPs SEEK MINISTERIAL INTERVENTION BACK PAGE

there were any doubts, the government was ready to dispel these. We also assured that the mandi system would be further strengthened," he said, adding: "We wanted

suggestions on some issues, but this did not happen."

For more than 90 minutes, the farmers' representatives remained mum as the Union

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

## Days after jab, Vij tests positive; took only one dose, says Centre

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI, DEC 5  
Days after he was administered a Covid vaccine, Haryana Home and Health Minister Anil Vij tested positive for Covid-19 today.

Vij tweeted he had tested positive for Covid and was admitted to the Civil Hospital, Ambala Cantt.

In response, the Union Health Ministry and Hyderabad-based Bharat Biotech, which is developing Covaxin in collaboration with the ICMR, said Vij testing positive was not a marker of the

### 2 DOSES 28 DAYS APART

- Covaxin clinical trials are based on a two-dose schedule, given 28 days apart
- Efficacy will be determined 14 days after 2nd dose, says developer Bharat Biotech
- Covaxin has been designed to be efficacious when subjects receive both doses

### COVID-19 CASES INDIA



### RUSSIA STARTS MASS VACCINATION WITH SPUTNIK

Moscow began distributing Sputnik-V Covid shots via 70 clinics on Saturday, marking first mass vaccination against the virus vaccine's efficacy. They said Covaxin, one of India's two indigenous Covid vaccines,

was a two-dose regimen and Vij had received only one

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Renewed bid to  
topple my govt,  
claims Gehlot

JAIPUR, DECEMBER 5  
Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot today alleged the BJP was making renewed attempts to topple his government, nearly four months after the Congress battled dissidence by his deputy Sachin Pilot and MLAs loyal to him.

Addressing a virtual function, Gehlot alleged that Union Home Minister Amit Shah had at that time met Congress MLAs and assured them of toppling the government, urging them to remain patient. Hitting back, BJP state president Satish Poonia said: "I think Gehlot has lost moral courage." — PTI

## In Tikri, women activists take centre stage

SANJEEV SINGH BARIANA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

TIKRI, DECEMBER 5

It is nearly midnight. State committee member of the Punjab Kisan Union Jasbir Kaur takes a round to ensure all is well. She stops near a truck. Young protesters, mostly students, are dancing to the tunes of "Teer te taa" by Manmohan Waris. She asks them to turn off the blaring music. "If the draconian farm laws are rescinded, I will surely dance with you. But today is no occasion for

Strategists, stage managers, motivators & more



Women activists at the Tikri protest site. A TRIBUNE PHOTO

any celebration," she chides them gently. The youngsters are prompt to comply.

A large number of women activists, participating in the farmers' stir here, are war

room managers. Harinder Bindu, president of the women's wing of the BKU (Ugrahan), is in charge of six stages raised at the protest site. Chief of the women's wing of the Dakhanda faction Sukhpal Kaur allots tasks and oversees arrangements. Paramjit Kaur of the Ekta-Ugrahan group delivers motivational speeches.

Dramatist Daljinder Kaur from Moga is here to stage "Eh desh kise da baap da nahin". Harveer Kaur, a firebrand

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



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# Ties broken, Akalis moot national front against BJP

Chandumajra reaches out to Mamata, Uddhav | Joint statement soon

JUPINDERJIT SINGH  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5  
In the backdrop of farmers' protest against the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA), the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) has set the ball rolling for forming a national front against the BJP by holding discussions with regional political parties.

It is aiming to contest the next Lok Sabha elections jointly with other parties. The SAD was one of the major regional parties in the NDA. SAD patriarch Parkash Singh Badal was among the founder members of the NDA. The party leadership feels that a political front against the NDA was the only way to check the "dictatorial decisions" taken by the Narendra Modi government.

A delegation of the SAD led by ex-MP Prem Singh Chandumajra met West Bengal Chief Minister and



Sukhbir Singh Badal and Narendra Modi in Gurdaspur. FILE PHOTO

All India Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee for forging a joint front.

Chandumajra told *The Tribune* that he had scheduled a meeting with Uddhav Thackeray, Chief Minister of Maharashtra and head of Shiv Sena, tomorrow. "A meeting with former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister

Akhilesh Yadav is also lined up early next week," he said.

Chandumajra said the response was encouraging. "The regional parties feel there is an urgent need for them to come together to save the federal structure of the country. Moreover, there is a complete absence of a strong opposition at

## NEED TO JOIN HANDS

**“**The regional parties feel there is an urgent need for them to come together to save the federal structure of the country. There is a complete absence of a strong opposition at the Centre.

Prem Singh Chandumajra,  
SAD LEADER

the Centre due to which regional parties can come together and question the Central Government."

Chandumajra had met leaders of the Biju Janata Dal also a few days ago. "Things are moving in the right direction. We hope to issue a joint statement soon," he said.

## Muktsar youth get waterproof tents for protesters in Delhi

ARCHIT WATTS  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATALA, DECEMBER 5  
Hundreds of farmers laid a siege to the Batala Club where Rajya Sabha MP and former Punjab BJP chief Shwai Malik was holding a meeting with party workers.

The farmers were holding a protest at Gandhi Chowk when a word spread that the MP was holding discussions with workers pertaining to the forthcoming Municipal Corporation elections at the club. Sensing that things could go out of hand, SSP Rachpal Singh asked DSP (City) Parvinder Kaur to rush to the spot. Sources said the cops tried to persuade Malik to end the meeting but the MP refused to listen. DSP Kaur said they had a tough time in taking out the MP from the rear door. "We feared that if the farmers, who till then were in hundreds, came in large numbers and started holding a protest outside the club premises, the situation could turn volatile," she said. An officer said it took the police a long time to take Malik to a safe spot.



Farmers with waterproof tents at the Tikri border in Delhi.

everything here. The need of the hour is waterproof tents as the Met Department has predicted rain in the coming days."

Meanwhile, Jagmel Singh, an elderly farmer from Amritsar district, said he had seen the young farmers not just offering accommodation, but also distributing handwritten charts with slogans like "we are farmers, not terrorists".

He added, "We are planning to buy some more tents and slippers for some elderly farmers. We have plenty of

hood were not put to inconvenience. Young farmers from Muktsar district collected garbage from roadsides at the Tikri border. Gurpreet Singh, sarpanch, Khokhar village, said, "We have been appealing to the farmers to keep the sites clean. We have cleaned a long stretch and will continue the cleanliness drive."

Khushwant Singh Bahla, president, Bariwala block, Bharti Kisan Union (Sidhpur), said, "We make it a point to clean the areas as we prepare food here."

## NRIs seek revocation of laws, protests intensify

### MORAL DUTY

**“**A majority of Punjabis living in Australia are from agricultural background. So we feel it is our moral duty to raise our voice in support of the protesting farmers.

Simar Aulakh, ORGANISER OF PROTESTS

includes international students, are from agricultural background. So we feel it is our moral duty to raise our voice in support of the protesting farmers."

In Canada, Punjabis have staged protests at Brampton, Vancouver, Surrey, Toronto and many other places.

In the US, a large number of Punjabi NRIs took out a rally outside the Indian Consulate in New York city in support of farmers. The protesters were seen carrying placards with a slogan "no farmers, no food" on their cars.

## At Kundli border, girls keep spirits high with revolutionary songs

VISHAV BHARTI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KUNDLI, DECEMBER 5  
When her powerful throat amid rhythm of 'dafti' blames 'Daku Dilly' for robbing the 'waves of Sutlej', time comes to a standstill in the cold nights at the Kundli border. Swayed by the melody, elderly farmers express gratitude with money, but she just smiles and tells them "I am one among you, your comrade, your daughter."

For the past nine days, Jagdeep Kaur, popularly known as Nikki, along with 11 other women cultural activists, is camping in a trolley parked on the National Highway-1.

The highway seems to have become just another bylane where these revolutionary artistes continuously move to and fro giving voice to words of rebel poets like Pash, Sant Ram Udasi and Minderpal Bhattal till midnight.

A cultural troupe built by Students for Society comprising mainly girls, which earlier was instrumental in changing the scene of student politics at Panjab University with their songs, is now performing at

### Poems of Pash, Sant Ram Udasi echo



Girls camp at the Kundli border in Delhi. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Kundli border and keeping farmers' morale high with revolutionary ballads.

"Delhi is now Punjab's capital," Nikki laughs. The PhD scholar in music at Panjab University had been at the forefront of every struggle in Chandigarh. She, along with other 'comrades', reached Kundli on November 27. Since then, a trolley with paddy stubble is their bed. Neetu, another BKU (Krantikari) activist from Hissar, says, "First night, we found it difficult to adjust in a small trolley. Later, they moved us to a bigger one." This epiphany

## Not scared of ED, Sukhbir's charge baseless: Capt

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5  
Terming Sukhbir Badal's latest tirade against him as "utter buffoonery", Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh today said no ED cases had ever stopped him for fighting for his people, nor was he spineless or a traitor to farmers like the Badals.

The Badals, who were totally cornered over their betrayal of the farmers, had clearly pressed all the panic buttons in their desperation to cover up their brazen treachery, said the Chief Minister, in a scathing reaction to Sukhbir's remarks on ED cases against his family and his allegations of "surrender to blackmail".

"Have you become so power-hungry that you have even closed your eyes to the threat posed by the Pakistanis to our security? Are you saying that all those arms, ammunition and drones our security forces have captured along the Punjab border are no danger?" he asked Sukhbir.

Earlier, SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal had said Capt Amarinder Singh had surrendered to the BJP on the farmers' issue and "he is now resorting to brave and foul words merely to cover up his cowardice and panic".

The former Deputy CM had also "ridiculed" Capt Amarinder's effort at pulling out the "cross-border card" and linking it with farmers' movement.



Farmers protest the Central laws at the Delhi-Noida border near Ghazipur on Saturday. PTI

## Trains cancelled, industry hit hard

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR/LUDHIANA, DEC 5

The New Delhi-Amritsar Shatabdi Express along with several other trains remain cancelled due to the blockade of the Kisan Mazdoor Sangarsh Committee (KMSC) at the Jandiala Guru railway station, about 10 km from Amritsar.

However, four goods trains are arriving in Amritsar district, but via a diverted route from Beas, Tarn Taran and Bhagtanwala to the railway station.

Rajesh Aggarwal, Divisional Railway Manager, said: "More trains could not be plied on the diverted route as it has a single-line section where trains cannot be operated beyond 50 km per hour speed. So the Railways had to cancel the trains to decrease the load on the section."

Besides, this section does not have an electricity line whereas all trains are being run with electric engine.

### SHORTAGE OF LABOUR

**“**Labourers come back to the city after Diwali and Chhath puja. With the disruption in rail traffic, their return has been stalled.

Vinay Kansal, LUDHIANA INDUSTRIALIST

Electric engines need to be replaced with diesel ones at the Beas railway station. The changeover of the engine consumes at least 45 minutes. Otherwise, the Amritsar-Delhi section is the busiest with dozens of trains being run over the route.

In the absence of train connectivity, people are compelled to catch trains from Ambala and other railway stations. The industry in Ludhiana is facing shortage of raw material due to disrupted rail traffic.

"Roads going to Delhi are also blocked and no train is running to Delhi from Ludhiana. Now, there is no other option left except the air route. Everyone cannot afford to travel by air," said Badish Jindal, president of the Federation of Punjab Small Industries Association.

"This has taken a toll on the manufacturing sector as raw material is unable to reach us. It has been a month since I ordered the raw material but it has not reached yet and production has been hit," says a hosiery manufacturer from the city.

In addition to Shatabdi, Bathinda-Varanasi Express Special, Amritsar-Ajmer Express and Dibrugarh-Amritsar Express Special remained suspended till today. Meanwhile, the Amritsar-New Jalpaiguri Karambhoomi Express, Amritsar-Korba Chhattisgarh Express and Amritsar-Jaynagar Humsafar Express remained short-terminated and short-terminated from Ambala Cantt till today.

## No Khalistan sentiment on ground: Police

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5

The Punjab Police and intelligence agencies which are keeping a watch on the farmers' protest against the Central laws say there is no specific report from the ground on any pro-Khalistan sentiment or participation of any secessionist elements in the protest.

Police officials and intelligence agencies have maintained a complete vigil at the 120 protest sites in the state as well as in Delhi. "We have observed and analysed the tone and tenor of the protests and there is no suggestion that any anti-India sentiment has erupted in the protest rallies," said a senior police official.

The police reports note that it is true that the situation is restive and surcharged which can be used by anti-India agencies from across the border or in other countries, but the farmers have not allowed anyone to dictate terms to them or to let attention divert from the Central farm laws.

Officials said barring a few initial incidents of attacks on BJP leaders, the protests had been peaceful. "The farmers have not even allowed Punjab politicians to share their stage," the officials said.

Sources said the Punjab Chief Minister had aired similar views to Home Minister Amit Shah yesterday. On the issue of threat to national security, the CM had informed the Home Minister that being a border state, any restive movement in Punjab could be exploited by the agencies inimical to India.

However, the state government, based on the ground reports, was confident that the protests were purely by the farmers and there was no involvement of any anti-India agencies.



A volunteer distributes fruit among protesting farmers in Delhi. PTI

## Centre must accept farmers' demands: Diljit

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 5

Punjabi star Diljit Dosanjh today joined the farmers' protests at Delhi's Singhu border and asked the demonstrators to be patient and peaceful in their agitation and requested the government to accept their demands.

Days after engaging in a bitter Twitter fight with actor Kangana Ranaut over the farmers' agitation, Dosanjh went to the protest site and initially sat among the crowd and listened to the speeches by other leaders. The 36-year-old actor then took the stage and started his address in Punjabi.

"I am not here to talk but only listen. You people are creating history once again. I used to listen to stories that Punjabis are full of energy but I'm witnessing it for the first time," Dosanjh said. To the agitating farmers, his message was: Be patient and peaceful in your protests.

"This is the only way we can win this fight. Stories of these days will definitely be told in future," he said, while thanking the people who joined the protest from Haryana.

Referring to his ugly war-of-words with Ranaut, Dosanjh said unlike the narrative being spread on Twitter, the farmers' agitation had been peaceful.

"Please don't divert issues. The government should accept the demands of the farmers," he said. — PTI



Diljit Dosanjh at Singhu border.

## Dubai bizman sends blankets, ration to Delhi

GURDASPUR, DECEMBER 5

Several farm unions sent an SOS to Dubai-based construction magnate Surinder Pal Singh Oberoi seeking help following which a team of 18 doctors, five ambulances, including one equipped with a ventilator and 20 tonnes of dry ration, were rushed today to the Haryana-Delhi border.

During Covid, the businessman had distributed thousands of PPE kits, masks and sanitizers and a dozen ventilators across Punjab.

Oberoi said for the past week, he was continuously flooded with requests to extend a helping hand to the protesting farmers. The social organisation which he heads, called the Sarbat Da Bhala Charitable Trust, was tasked to ensure the relief material reached Delhi immediately. Five tonnes of horse feed was also dispatched for the army of 1,000 Nihangs who have reached the national capital. Oberoi said 3,000 blankets and 12,000 pairs of sleepers were purchased from a Panipat-based wholesaler and sent to the Singhu and Tikri borders. — TNS

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, DECEMBER 5  
Indian farmers are getting huge support from across the world. A large number of Punjabi NRIs have come out in farmers' support and staged protests in Australia, USA, Canada, UK and New Zealand and criticised the Modi government's handling of protests.

British Parliament members today jumped in support of the ongoing farmer's agitation in India, with 36 MPs writing to UK's Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab to raise the matter with New Delhi. Peaceful demonstrations have taken place across Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide, Canberra and Sydney to call on the Indian government to stop using what they say is aggressive and other harsh measures against the farmers.

Simar Aulakh, one of the organisers of the protests held at Melbourne, said, "A majority of Punjabis living in Australia are from agricultural background. So we feel it is our moral duty to raise our voice in support of the protesting farmers."

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In Canada, Punjabis have staged protests at Brampton, Vancouver, Surrey, Toronto and many other places.

In the US, a large number of Punjabi NRIs took out a rally outside the Indian Consulate in New York city in support of farmers. The protesters were seen carrying placards with a slogan "no farmers, no food" on their cars.

# Sportspersons leave for Delhi to return awards

OUR CORRESPONDENT

**FATEHGHAR SAHIB, DEC 5** Several sportspersons from Punjab, including Padma Shri and Arjuna awardees, left for Delhi on Saturday to return their awards to President Ram Nath Kovind in support of the farmers' protest against the Central agriculture laws. They will join the farmers camping at the national capital's Singhu border on Saturday before returning their awards to the president the next day.

They paid obeisance at the Gurdwara Fatehgarh Sahib here. Talking to mediapersons, "We have left for Delhi today and will join the farmers' protest," said former wrestler Kartar Singh, who is a Padma Shri and Arjuna awardee.

Olympian Ajit Singh and hockey player Rajbir Kaur said more than 25 leading sportspersons had decided to return their awards to protest the 'force' used against the peasants en route to Delhi and for not repealing the farm laws.

Many former players like Sajjan Singh Cheema who



International sportspersons flanked by Balbir Singh Seewal before leaving for the Capital, in Jalandhar. MALKIAT SINGH



'HAVE SOUGHT TIME FROM PREZ'

"We have sought time from the President to return the awards on Sunday. If we are not allotted a time to meet him, we will place our awards outside the Rashtrapati Bhavan."

Rajbir Kaur, EX-HOCKEY PLAYER

could not join us because of health or other issues have given their sports awards to us," Kartar said.

Other former sportspersons who are headed to the national capital are Dhyani Chand awardee hockey Olympian Gurmail Singh and Arjuna awardees Kabaddi player Hardeep Singh,

and weightlifter Tara Singh. On Friday, former national boxing coach Gurbax Singh Sandhu, during whose tenure India won its maiden Olympic medal in the sport, Padma Shri boxer Kaur Singh and Arjuna awardee boxer Jaipal Singh had announced that they would return their awards.

# Farm leaders warn of intensifying stir, burn Modi's effigies across state

Tribune News Service



**ANGER MOUNTS:** Women burn an effigy of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a village in Moga on Saturday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## 'KANGANA HAS HURT PUNJABIS' SENTIMENTS'

- Abohar: Protesters burnt an effigy of actor Kangana Ranaut, expressing anguish over her "derogatory" remarks about Bathinda farmer Mahinder Kaur.
- Farm union leaders Sharandeep Singh, Davinder Singh and others said people were rising above politi-
- tics in support of farmers who had suffered atrocities while passing through Haryana in a peaceful march to Delhi.
- They said Kangana should have refrained from uploading objectionable messages which had hurt sentiments of Punjabis across the world, oc-

the country," alleged a protesting farmer at Nihalsinghwala in Moga district.

At some places, outside a silo and petrol pumps owned by private business groups, the farmers also burnt the effigies of corporate honchos and Central ministers.

Besides widespread protests in Moga, farmers also blocked the Moga-Ferozepur national highway for sometime at Dagru village.

Also, the youths made rounds of cities, towns and villages to mobilise support for December 8 bandh. Farmer leaders warned of intensifying stir if the farm laws were not rolled back.

"We will continue to hold protests across various locations in Punjab and block all highways leading to Delhi until the farm laws are rolled back," said Sukhdev Singh Kokri, general secretary of the BKU (Ekta).

A large number of farmers, including women, participated in the agitations in the agrarian state in which the effigies of PM Modi were burnt and slogans were raised against him.

Burning the effigies, farmers accused PM Modi of benefiting big corporate houses and working against the peasants' community. "PM Modi is misusing the majority in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha to dictate his terms, which is leading to social unrest in

Chandigarh, DECEMBER 5 Bathinda MP and former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal was taken to the PGI, Chandigarh, after she complained of breathlessness on Saturday evening. A PGI spokesperson said, "She is currently admitted to an isolation room of the emergency ward. Her vitals are stable and she is being examined as per the Covid-19 protocols." An Akali Dal spokesperson said she had tested negative for Covid-19 in New Delhi earlier in the day. However, on way to Chandigarh she felt uneasy and breathless. — TNS

## Heroin worth ₹27 cr seized

**FEROZEPUR, DECEMBER 5** BSF personnel today recovered five packets of heroin weighing 5.360 kg along the Indo-Pakistan border. The price of the contraband in international market is Rs 27 crore.

DIG, Ferozepur, Surinder Mehta said on November 18, seven packets of heroin worth Rs 38 crore were recovered. A pistol, magazine and seven live cartridges were also found. During this year, 486.453 kg of heroin has been recovered, besides, 35 weapons, 57 magazines and 650 cartridges. — OC

## Do not scrap power subsidy, govt urged

Tribune News Service

**PATIALA, DECEMBER 5** The All-India Power Engineers Federation (AIPEF) urged the government to scrap the farm laws and protect the power subsidy of farmers by withdrawing the Electricity (Amendment) Bill-2020 and the Standard Bidding Document (SBD).

Following a meeting, AIPEF spokesperson VK Gupta said the struggle of farmers was against the economic policy of the government, which meant to favour the corporates and industry leaders to maximise their trading business and profit at the cost of the farming community.

Shailender Dubey, chairman, AIPEF, said power engineers of the country had opposed the proposal of the government to eliminate the subsidy in electricity tariff.

"While the government has proposed the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), it will snatch away the subsidy of free power to farmers. The proposal of the DBT will cause economic problems for farmers, who will have to pay electricity bills of their tubewells to the discoms," he said.

"While the government has proposed the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), it will snatch away the subsidy of free power to farmers. The proposal of the DBT will cause economic problems for farmers, who will have to pay electricity bills of their tubewells to the discoms," he said.

## SGPC chief spells out dress code for employees

AMRITSAR, DECEMBER 5

New SGPC chief Bibi Jagir Kaur wants employees to wear traditional attire and not tie their beard.

She has asked them to shun western clothes and preferably wear "kurta-pyjama" during their working hours.

Except those deployed inside the Golden Temple,



Bibi Jagir Kaur

the entire office staff wear trousers, jeans and T-shirts. They have been strictly asked to wear traditional attire and SGPC identity cards around their neck.

Harjinder Singh Dhanni, Honorary Chief Secretary of the SGPC, said a meeting would be called soon to decide on the dress code. — TNS

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The Tribune dated 3.12.2020

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The Times of India dated 3.12.2020

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**PR-4 Road**

**To Avandpur Sahib**

**To Majra T-Point**

**To Siswan Baddi**

**PCA**

**PU**

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**From Chandigarh**

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Rs. 25,000/-Per. Sq. yd.

**DETAIL OF PLOTS OFFERED FOR ALLOTMENT**

No. of Plots	Size App. (Sq. Mtr.)	Size (Sq. Yds.)	Earnest Money	Tentative Price
20	167.22	200	₹ 5,00,000/-	₹ 50,00,000/-
150	250.84	300	₹ 7,50,000/-	₹ 75,00,000/-
5	334.44	400	₹ 10,00,000/-	₹ 1,00,00,000/-
5	376.25	450	₹ 11,25,000/-	₹ 1,12,50,000/-
40	418.06	500	₹ 12,50,000/-	₹ 1,25,00,000/-
63	836.12	1000	₹ 25,00,000/-	₹ 2,50,00,000/-
6	1672.24	2000	₹ 50,00,000/-	₹ 5,00,00,000/-

Note: Application Money (Non refundable): Rs. 1,000/- (To be deposited extra 2% Cancer Cess shall be charged extra on tentative price).

\* Number of Plots may vary any time.

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- Applicants can also apply online by visiting gmada.gov.in. Payment can be made online.

### PAYOUT SCHEDULE

- 10% Payment: To be deposited as earnest money alongwith application.
- 15% Payment: Within 30 days of issuance of the Letter of Intent (LoI) alongwith extra 2% Cancer Cess.
- 75% Payment: 5% rebate on lump-sum payment within 60 days from the date of issuance of Letter of Intent (LoI) or in 6 half-yearly equal instalments alongwith interest @ 9% compounded annually per annum. First instalment shall become due after six months from the date of issuance of Letter of Intent.

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paper.tribuneindia.com

# More farmers join stir at Singhu border

Tribune News Service

PANIPAT, DECEMBER 5

Farmers huddled in small groups playing cards over a hookah is a common sight at the Singhu border, where thousands of their brethren are protesting against the three controversial farm laws. Determined, they are holding the fort in chilly conditions.

The protest entered the ninth day on Saturday as the number of farmers rise by the day. Slowly and slowly, Haryana farmers are joining their counterparts from Punjab.

Scores of farmers, young and old, from nearby villages reach the dharna spot in the morning every day and return home in the evening.

Mahender Singh of Safidion said, "I, along with 50 of my village, have reached the dharna spot in solidarity with farmers. The participation of Haryana farmers is rising steadily."



Farmers listen to a speaker during a protest at the Singhu border near Delhi on Saturday. REUTERS

**VOICE OF PROTEST**

"I, along with 50 of my village, have reached the dharna spot in solidarity with farmers. The participation of Haryana farmers is rising steadily."

Mahender Singh, SAFIDION RESIDENT

farmers protesting at the Ghazipur border in UP was sent from the Singhu border.

Farmers of Panipat's Babail village brought ration, juice, water, fruits and other items for the protesting farmers. One of them, Mahender Singh Ahlawat, said: "All 36 communities in my village

support the protest. Villagers also collected money for the protesters."

Sonepat's Thana Khurd village resident Jagbir Singh, who brought vegetables and fruits for the farmers, said villagers collected money and food items for the agitators. "There is anger against the Centre for enacting the farm laws. Every resident of my village wants to contribute to the protest. Donating essential items is one of the ways," he said.

Mehar Singh of Kurukshetra said farmers not only from Punjab and Haryana, but also from other states such as UP, Rajasthan and MP were protesting.

**SYL canal non-issue as farmers of Pb, Hry join hands****Police beef up security at Tikri**

Tribune News Service

JHAJJAR, DECEMBER 5

The Delhi Police have beefed up security at the Tikri-Bahadurgarh border apprehending that the law and order situation would go out of control if the talks between farmer leaders and the Centre remained inconclusive.

"On Saturday, the police personnel deployed at the border for the past nine days were replaced with those from the Rapid Action police (RAP). Delhi cops were deployed behind the RAP personnel. Several boulders

were placed along the barricades to prevent the entry of farmers," said Hakam Singh walia, a Punjab farmer.

He is among the eight volunteers discharging duty at the barricade.

Sources say security arrangements have also been tightened at other borders and routes leading to the national capital.

A farmer leader said, "Police arrangements don't bother us, as we are capable of breaking the barricades and removing the boulders. We have been staging dharna at the border peacefully."

We will not move from here till the time our leadership does not ask to do so. The beefing up of security is an indication that the Centre is afraid of us."

Members of the MDU Alumni Association, meanwhile, reached the dharna spot with a tractor-trailer laden with onions, potatoes and other food items. "I have distributed 50 gunny bags each of onions and potatoes, two quintals of 'gur', salt, 'jeera', bottles of sanitiser and masks among farmers," said Suresh Rose, one of the members.

**SIDE LIGHTS****Capt Yadav joins protest**

Rewari: Congress leader Capt Ajay Yadav joined the farmers' protest at Rajeev Chowk here on Saturday. He drove a tractor to the protest spot and expressed his solidarity with the protesters. Later, the former minister told the media the laws would ruin the farmers. He demanded withdrawal of cases booked against the protesters during the ongoing agitation. Capt Yadav, along with Congress workers, submitted a memorandum to the Rewari SDM in this respect.

**State must intervene, says MLA**

Karnal: Nilokheri MLA and Haryana Forest Development Corporation chairman Dharampal Gondor on Friday urged the state government to raise the issue of the three farm laws with the Centre. He said if the government failed to resolve the issue, he would stand with the farmers. He said he would approach the Chief Minister and would request him to raise the issue with the Centre. He said he would not resign from the post of the chairman but would do so if people ask him resign. The Nilokheri MLA said, "I am hopeful that the issue would be resolved with dialogues by the Prime Minister."

**Effigies of PM, bizmen burnt**

Kurukshetra: Activists of the Bharatiya Kisan Union (Charuni) burnt effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, businessmen Ambani and Adani to mark their protest against the three farm laws in Shahabad on Saturday. They gathered at Shaheed Udhamp Singh Chowk, took out a protest march and reached the SDM's office to mark their protest. The farmers said a few people had captured the whole economy. "We will continue to protest till the three black laws are not withdrawn," one of the protesters said.



Trade unions burn the effigies of PM Narendra Modi and businessmen in Gurugram on Saturday. PHOTO: S CHAND

**300 from MP stuck at Palwal expressway**

Tribune News Service

FARIDABAD/PALWAL, DEC 5

A group of 300 farmers hailing from Madhya Pradesh is stuck at a point where the KMP and KGP expressways intersects in Palwal, as the police have stopped them in their tracks.

"The farmers can walk towards Delhi, and not on their tractors. They cannot take their vehicles beyond the expressway," a police official said, adding MP farmers came on 18 vehicles, including 14 tractor-trolleys.

Joga Singh, a farmer from MP, said, "We have no option, but to camp in Palwal. We cannot move without our tractor-trolleys, which is laden with food and clothes."

Meanwhile, another group of farmers from Palwal district on Saturday reached Ajronda Chowk in Faridabad on foot. They will camp there for the night and restart their march towards Delhi on Sunday.

Farmer leader Rattan Singh said, "We will stage a dharna at the Badarpur border on Sunday."

GEETANJALI GAYATRI

Tribune News Service

SONEPAT, DECEMBER 5

The Centre's farm laws have their flip side despite the "good intention" rhetoric of the government. This is evident from the raging farmers protest. However, inadvertently, there is one good these have done and nobody seems to be talking of that — the laws have brought estranged brothers back together and they can't seem to have enough of each other.

After being engaged in a war of words for ever, they are making the most of the ongoing agitation to catch up with each other and reach out in the most loving ways. They

are chopping vegetables together for langar all along the protest site, cooking side by side, they are eating together and they are resting under the same tents.

They have many faces but speak in one voice — Punjab is the elder brother and Haryana, the younger.

The bitterness between the states from the creation of the Haryana SGPC has been reduced to a non-issue as they are united in their fight against the government. The war over the Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal is forgotten as the farmers from both sides sit together and break bread.

"We have a lot of stock of water and there is no short-

age. We are sharing all that we have. The only issue we are faced with is saving our farms and farming," says Paramjit of Kurukshetra who extends a helping hand to Jagdeep of Punjab in chopping vegetables while a few others start a fire.

This one sentiment binds the farmers of both the states together. Though Punjab

took the lead in raising its voice against the laws and went right ahead in demolishing barricades that limited them, Haryana's farmers, seen as reluctant starters, are fast making up for the delay and even pitching in with the supply of essentials.

While a lot of water has flown under the bridge since the SYL created bad blood and continues to remain unresolved, the farmers are wary of the subject. "We don't want any divisions along water lines. We are brothers and we will sit and sort these out without any third party being allowed to play politics at our cost. We have family relations in both the states and those playing politics must understand that at heart, we are one," says Gurinder Singh, a graduate from Patiala, sitting at the protest site alongside Gurpreet, a youngster from Ambala.

Brothers in arms, the farmers of Punjab and Haryana, the many faces of brotherhood and camaraderie, are sure of finding their way out of these troubled waters together. "The long and short of everything is — united we stand, divided we fall. Everybody here realises that," quips Kewal Singh of Majhi Kalan in Samrala.

**Toll agency's operations suspended**

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5

The NHAI issued an order on Friday for suspension of toll operations to Panipat-Jalandhar section of NH-1 in Haryana and Punjab.

Sources say the company was in continuous default of its obligations regarding operation and maintenance, street

lighting, signage, payment of Authority's share in fee collected and completion of balance work of project highway. The project highway was lacking safety standards. — TNS

**Hooda: Why former Industries Minister not named in chargesheet?**

BHARTESH SINGH THAKUR

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5

Former CM and Leader of Opposition Bhupinder Singh Hooda questioned leaving out his Industries Minister as accused in the Manesar land scam during arguments, but the CBI Special Court ruled that the complainant or accused could move the application for it during the trial.

The case pertains to purchasing land from farmers at meagre rates in Manesar, Lakhnau and Naurangpur villages in Gurugram and then earning huge profits by getting it released in connection with bureaucracy and politicians.

As per the CBI, Rs 1,044 crore would have come as profit had the project of IMT Manesar been finalised for which the land was being acquired.

Regarding his order, dated August 24, 2007, for dropping land acquisition, which is cited as evidence of criminal conspiracy, Hooda said he could have "simply sat on the file for one day and the result would have been the same" but he acted like a "responsible public servant" and had ordered for a fresh notification.

After that, a committee recommended not initiating acquisition in its report on March 26, 2008.

MANESER LAND SCAM



Bhupinder Singh Hooda

The proposal for dropping acquisition proceedings was resubmitted on November 19, 2009, after Hooda's re-election, with the concurrence of Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSIIDC) and the then Industries Minister approved the same on December 24, 2009.

Hooda said he had approved the recommendations of the Industries Minister on January 29, 2010.

He argued that "the fact that none of these officers who have approved the recommendations of the committee or the then Industries Minister have been arraigned as accused in the chargesheet filed by the CBI" and his implication "goes to show political vendetta".

He claimed that the registration of the FIR came in the background of the statements made by CM Manohar Lal Khattar and other BJP leaders that he would be sent to jail in land scams.

**State prepares vaccine rollout plan**

25 more deaths, 1,557 new cases

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 5

COVID-19 CASES

DISTRICT-WISE COUNT

DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Gurugram	51,854	314
Faridabad	42,119	360
Hisar	16,077	262
Sonepat	13,418	65
Rohtak	11,146	135
Ambala	10,651	128
Rewari	10,640	62
Karnal	9,949	138
Panipat	9,604	130
Panchkula	9,045	131
Kurukshetra	7,859	116
Sirsia	7,535	109
Mahendragarh	6,399	13
Yamunanagar	5,817	119
Bhiwani	5,819	122
Jhajjar	5,315	62
Fatehabad	4,436	101
Jind	4,132	80
Palwal	4,105	23
Kaithal	3,525	45
Nuh	1,574	29
Charkhi Dadri	1,379	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,2398</b>	<b>2,564</b>

The case has been registered at Sushant Lok police station following the inquiry report of a committee under Civil Surgeon, Gurugram.—OC

With profound grief and sorrow it is informed that our mother **Smt. Daya Wanti** (W/o Late Com. Ami Chand Garg) left for heavenly abode on 28/11/2020.

**BHOG SHRI GARUD PURAN** will be held on 8/12/2020 Tuesday from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm in Aggarwal Dharmshala, Bagha Purana Road, Nihal Singh Walla (Distt. Moga)

**Grief Stricken:**

Er. D.K. Garg & Mrs. Sweety Garg (Son & Daughter-in-Law) M. 70592-00085  
Inderjit Garg Jolly & Mrs. Saro Garg (Son & Daughter-in-Law) M. 99152-86232  
Puneet Garg & Jeetna Garg (Grandson & Grand Daughter-in-Law)  
Abhinav Garg (Grandson)  
Ritik Garg (Grandson)  
Rudra Pratap Garg (Great Grandson)  
Veena Bansal & Satish Bansal (Daughter & Son-in-Law)  
Renu Singla & Sandeep Singla (Daughter & Son-in-Law)  
Nikita Garg Puri & Ishana Puri (Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-Law)  
Suhani Bansal & Dixit Bansal (Grand Daughter & Grand Son-in-Law)  
Meira Bansal (Great Grand Daughter)

PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF COVID

# Virbhadra moves to relative's home after 5 staffers test +ve

Dedicated vehicles to ferry Covid patients in home isolation, says CM

Tribune News Service

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 5

Former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh, his wife and son Vikaramaditya Singh have moved to a relative's house after five of his staff members tested positive for coronavirus.

As a precautionary measure, Virbhadra Singh today shifted from his private residence Hollylodge here to his brother-in-law's house at Kuthad, near Kasauli, along with his wife Pratibha Singh and son Vikramaditya Singh, who is MLA from Shimla (Rural). The test reports of all the three were negative after which they decided to shift to another place. Incidentally, the former Chief Minister is on dialysis, making him a high risk person as far as Covid is concerned.

## Two vehicles to be provided in select CHCs: Thakur

Two vehicles will be provided in select CHCs to facilitate patients. Besides, 30 ambulances will be provided from districts to supplement emergency services. Walk-in kiosks have been placed at a few places in the state to collect the samples of people.

Jai Ram Thakur, CHIEF MINISTER



It was late last night that the reports of the five staff, including a retired IAS officer, TG Negi, who had been Virbhadra's Principal Secretary, were received. The others who tested Covid positive included his security staff and a domestic help. Negi has been living at Hollylodge since his retirement.

Vikramaditya wrote in a Facebook post about the development and the fact that he and his parents are safe. He requested everyone to be cautious in case they

had come in close contact with people who had tested Covid positive in his house.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur today said dedicated vehicles would be provided in select Community Health Centres (CHC) to facilitate the transportation of patients in home isolation to a health institution for treatment, if required.

He said that this had been done as patients in home isolation might face difficulties in getting transport to reach a hospital. "These vehicles

will be fitted with a fibre glass to separate the driver's cabin from the rear seat to facilitate patients, especially in rural areas," he added.

He asked government officers concerned to ensure wide publicity of the measures so that general public could derive benefit of these.

Thakur said an effective mechanism be evolved to ensure at least one telephone call from a doctor to a patient under treatment at home to enquire after his health. This would not only help in getting effective information about the health parameters of the patients, but also help in boosting the morale of the patients. He said that the employees of Chief Minister Helpline-1100 would make phone calls to Covid-19 patients to boost their morale in the fight against the virus.

## 260 IGMC staff members infected, says Med Supdt

Tribune News Service

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 5

As many as 260 healthcare professionals have tested Covid positive at the Indira Gandhi Medical College and Hospital (IGMC) while fighting the pandemic so far. IGMC Medical Superintendent Dr Janak Raj said yesterday that the healthcare workers were in as much danger as patients or anyone else.

"We have successfully treated 530 Covid patients at the IGMC. All doctors, nurses and paramedical staff have given their best without worrying about their wellbeing to take care of the patients," he said.

"We have seen some deaths, too, but the main cause of the casualties is the late arrival of patients. Most of them died within 48 hours of reaching the hospital, giving us little time to treat them," he added.

Dr Balbir Verma, Covid Nodal Officer at the IGMC, said that the main cause of the casualties was the drop

The state is likely to hit the peak in the next 10 to 15 days

in the level of oxygen saturation. "People need to be vigilant about their oxygen saturation level. Fever, cough and body ache will not harm them until they have the required oxygen saturation. But if the oxygen level drops, they should immediately seek medical attention. We will be able to save more lives if people reach us in time," he said.

Dr Janak Raj also sought to address the contention that non-Covid patients were being ignored at the hospital. "During the pandemic, we have seen four lakh patients in the OPDs, conducted more than 17,000 surgeries, admitted around 28,000 patients to the hospital, and did more than 200 heart operations. So, I don't think it's correct to say non-Covid patients were not taken care of".

## Beware of quick cash loan offers: Cyber cops

Tribune News Service

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 5

Cyber criminals are duping innocent people, who are in dire need of money following the loss of jobs due to the Covid-19 lockdown, by offering quick cash loans at unbelievably low interest rates. As a result, personal loan scams have risen dramatically.

The cyber police have cautioned people against falling prey to such offers through unsecured and unverified apps and spurious Internet links. They have asked people to verify the physical address, and check

antecedents before accepting the offer and refrain from paying any money in the name of processing fee.

The lockdown has seen a large number of people losing their jobs, leaving them without steady income. "The scamsters ask for a processing fee or a transfer fee which needy persons pay considering it a small amount compared to a big loan offer. But the moment the money is transferred, you are blocked and you come to know that they have vanished," said Navir Singh Rathore, Additional SP, Cyber Crime cell.


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 Class 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> (AS DAY SCHOLAR AGAINST VACANCY ONLY).  
 Age Criteria as on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 for  
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 On successful Registration, online Test and Interview will be conducted. Syllabi will be provided.

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**Admission Notice (Advt. PR No. 21 of 2020)**  
 Online applications are invited for admission to MBA Executive (Evening) Program offered by Maharsi Dayanand University Centre for Professional and Allied Studies, (MDU-CPAS) Gurugram for the session 2020-2021  
 Opening date of Online Registration : 04.12.2020  
 Closing date of Online Registration : 15.12.2020  
 All information viz., eligibility conditions, Fee, number of seats alongwith break up of seats and guidelines/instructions for filling up the online application form for admissions are available on the University website i.e. [www.mdu.ac.in](http://www.mdu.ac.in).  
 Updates/changes, if any, will be notified on University website.  
**Help Desk**  
 For Online Registration/Technical help: 01262-293232.  
 Contact No. 0124-2383343 (General information about admission)  
 E-mail ID:- [dir.cpas@mdu.ac.in](mailto:dir.cpas@mdu.ac.in)  
 PRDH/84183

REGISTRAR

## Pharmacy diploma admissions tomorrow

MANDI, DECEMBER 5

Director of Technical Education Vivek Chandel said today that on-the-spot admissions to Diploma in Pharmacy at the institution level would be held on December 7 in different government and private polytechnics and pharmacy educational institutions of the state.

He said that interested candidates could visit their nearby government and private institutions such as Govern-

ment Polytechnic at Rohru in Shimla, Government Polytechnic for Women at Kandaghat in Solan, Shanti Niketan College of Pharmacy at Ratti in Mandi, KC Polytechnic at Pandoga in Una, Sarda Polytechnic in Naulakha in Sundernagar, Himalayan Institute of Pharmacy at Kala Amb, Laureate Institute of Pharmacy at Katho in Kangra and the Shiva Institute of Pharmacy at Bilaspur. — TNS

## Protests against farm laws

SHIMLA, DECEMBER 5

The Himachal Pradesh Kisan Sabha today held protests in all 12 districts

against the three contentious farm laws and demanded their immediate withdrawal. — TNS

## ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, DAGSHAI DISTT - SOLAN (HP) 173210

### TENDER NOTICE

- Sealed Tenders are invited from reputed Govt approved firms/ contractors for conducting safety audit of school buildings and fire safety of Army Public School, Dagshai.
- Interested govt approved firms/contractors/ engineers may visit school on any working day between 0900h to 1300h for on ground inspection. Tender be submitted within 20 days of publication of advertisement along with DD of Rs.500/- in favour of Principal APS Dagshai, payable at PNB Dagshai.
- For further details please log in to school website at [www.apsdagshai.org](http://www.apsdagshai.org) or contact school office Phone Nos 01792-266147, 266651.

PRINCIPAL

3 नगर निगमों, 1 नगर परिषद् और 3 नगर पालिकाओं के आम चुनाव  
दिनांक 27.12.2020  
चुनाव में NOTA भी लागू  
चुनाव ई.वी.एम. द्वारा होगा  
चुनाव पर्यवेक्षक निगरानी करेंगे



छोड़ो अपने सारे काम।  
पहले चलो करें मतदान।।



### चुनाव के पड़ाव

- नामांकन पत्र दाखिल करने की तारीख 11.12.2020 शुक्रवार से 16.12.2020 बुधवार (सिवाय 13.12.2020) समय प्रातः 11:00 बजे से सायं 3:00 बजे तक
- नामांकन पत्रों की पड़ताल 17.12.2020 प्रातः 11:30 बजे
- नामांकन पत्र वापिस लेने की तारीख 18.12.2020 प्रातः 11:00 बजे से सायं 3:00 बजे तक
- चुनाव की तारीख 27.12.2020 (रविवार) एवं मतदान का समय प्रातः 8:00 बजे से सायं 5:30 बजे तक
- वोटों की गिनती 30.12.2020 को सुबह 8:00 बजे से एवं परिणाम की घोषणा वोटों की गिनती सम्पन्न होने के तुरन्त बाद

आम चुनाव  
नगर निगम : अम्बाला, पंचकूला व सोनीपत  
नगर परिषद् : रेवाड़ी  
नगर पालिका : सांपला, धारुहेड़ा व उकलाना

हैल्पलाइन नं. 0172 - 2584810

कृपया नामांकन पत्र प्रस्तुत करते समय अपने चेहरे पर मास्क अवश्य लगाएं और सामाजिक दूरी अपनाएं।  
**राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग, हरियाणा**



**ARMED FORCES FLAG DAY**  
7 DECEMBER, 2020

### APPEAL

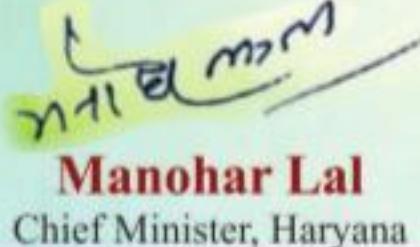
The Nation is observing Armed Forces Flag Day in the honour of our defence forces personnel on December 7, 2020.

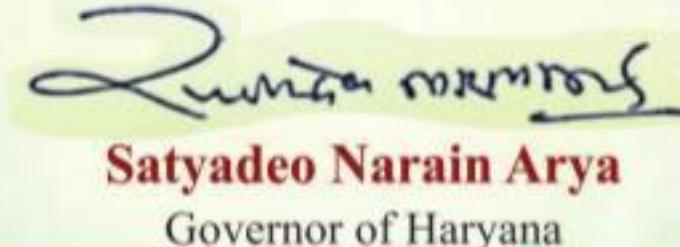
It is a solemn occasion to remember the brave soldiers of our Armed Forces, who have sacrificed their lives for the country. On this day, we honour the martyrs, express solidarity with the Armed Forces, show care and concern for the war widows, the disabled and needy ex-servicemen and reassure them that the entire Nation is with them.

The Flag Day offers an opportunity to all of us to demonstrate our solidarity with defence forces by contributing generously towards the well-being of serving as well as retired personnel of our Armed Forces and their families.

The people of Haryana have always honoured the brave soldiers and their families. Haryana Government has also implemented a number of schemes for their welfare.

On this occasion, we urge all the citizens of Haryana to contribute voluntarily towards the noble cause of the rehabilitation of the war widows, disabled defence personnel and needy ex-servicemen and make the Armed Forces Flag Day-2020 a great success.

  
**Manohar Lal**  
Chief Minister, Haryana

  
**Satyadeo Narain Arya**  
Governor of Haryana

**DEPUTY COMMISSIONER-CUM-DISTRICT ELECTORAL OFFICER, PATIALA****SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE**

Tenders are invited from interested firms for printing, composing and editing of Voters Lists of 4 Municipal Councils in District Patiala till 08.12.2020 at 3:00 p.m. The terms and conditions of the tender can be viewed on website of the district [www.patiala.nic.in](http://www.patiala.nic.in)

Sd/- Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Electoral Officer, Patiala.  
DPR/Pb/113385

**Tender Notice for Products, Equipment, etc.****Government of Punjab****Tender Notice Reference No. 14979**

The Department of Rajindra Hospital Patiala invites online bids for the following.

Sr. No.	Item	Quantity
1	Selection of House Surgeons	20

Closing date & time: 21.12.20 (11:00 AM)  
For details logon to [www.rajindrahospitalpatiala.com](http://www.rajindrahospitalpatiala.com)

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

Sd/- Medical Superintendent  
Rajindra Hospital Patiala  
Mobile No. 9878903807  
DPR/Pb/113385

**WESTERN RAILWAY****E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No.S/29/2020 Date 03.12.2020**

S.N.	Short Description of item	Quantity	T.O.D.
734	Washer for Dia	25062 Nos.	10.12.2020
735	Stainless Steel Wash Basin	56 Nos.	10.12.2020
736	Pin Washer	20517 Nos.	11.12.2020
737	Multi Tooth Lock Washer	897 Nos.	16.12.2020
738	Exhaust Pipe Mounting for Lavatory	153 Nos.	17.12.2020
739	Pin Flat Head	919 Nos.	17.12.2020
740	Flexible PVC flooring sheet	120 Nos.	18.12.2020
741	Set of High Tensile Hex Head Bolt	703 Nos.	21.12.2020
742	Drain Cook Asly.	1596 Nos.	21.12.2020
743	Plain Washer	2202 Nos.	21.12.2020
744	Servoplex SHC-120	3822 Kg.	21.12.2020
745	Push Type Flushing Valve	6083 Nos.	22.12.2020
746	E.P Brake unit, with Safety Valve	13 Nos.	23.12.2020
747	UIC - 130 CTRB for LHB	1500 Nos.	23.12.2020
748	Door Check Springs	3091 Nos.	23.12.2020
749	Rubber Pad for Longitudinal Bump Stop	2916 Nos.	24.12.2020
750	Set of Labyrinth Ring and Bearing Cover	28 Nos.	25.12.2020
751	Split Cotter	69129 Nos.	28.12.2020
752	Plain Washer	2000 Nos.	28.12.2020
753	Bush	826 Nos.	28.12.2020
754	Supply I & C of Onboard System of AAWS	10 Set	29.12.2020
755	Tag for Air Brake Cylinder	9567 Nos.	29.12.2020
756	Hose Coupling Support	2170 Nos.	29.12.2020
757	Locking Bolt	11400 Nos.	29.12.2020
758	Lever Hanger	1043 Nos.	30.12.2020
759	U Clamp with Bracket	2471 Set	30.12.2020
760	Safety Wire Rope Assly.	1573 Nos.	30.12.2020
761	Brake Gear	413 Nos.	30.12.2020
762	Anti Roll Bar Fork	129 Nos.	31.12.2020
763	STD.HEX Head Bolt	5082 Nos.	31.12.2020
764	Narrow Jaw Adapter for Class E, 6 X 11 CTRB	4000 Nos.	31.12.2020

**CORRIGENDUM :** Please visit [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in) for following tender: RA Tender at Sr. No.13 of Tender Notice No. S/25/2020 Dt.29.10.2020(Copper Contact Wire Joint less 107 Sq.mm). Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website [www.reps.gov.in](http://www.reps.gov.in) and [www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in).

For Principal Chief Materials Manager

Like us on : [facebook.com/WesternRty](https://facebook.com/WesternRty) | follows us on : [@WesternRty](https://twitter.com/WesternRty)

**MOTILAL NEHRU SCHOOL OF SPORTS, RAI — 131029****DISTT. SONIPAT (HARYANA)**

(Winner of Green School Certificate 2018-2019 & Winner International School Award (ISA) 2008-2011, 2012-2015 & 2016-2018)

(A co-educational residential school run by the Govt. of Haryana, sprawling over 250 acres of land, affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), New Delhi & Member of the Indian Public Schools' Conference (IPSC) and National Progressive Schools' Conference (NPSC).

**ADMISSION NOTICE SESSION 2021-2022****1. Admission to Class IV (Main Entry Point)**

Approximately 100 candidates in class IV (50 Boys + 50 Girls) will be admitted strictly on the basis of merit in various admission tests. 80% seats are reserved for Haryana Domiciles and 20% seats are for Non-Haryana. Reservation of seats will be strictly in accordance with the Govt. orders. Age group for class IV is (01.07.2011 to 30.06.2013) i.e. between 08 to 10 years as on 30th June 2021.

2. Since the age verification is carried out by various Sports Federation/Association on the basis of certificate of Birth of Date issued by Municipal Corporation/Registrar of Birth and Death hence date of birth certificate issued by Municipal Corporation/Registrar, Birth and Death will be accepted.

**3. Admission to Outstanding Sportsperson Category**

(i) All the remaining vacant seats in other classes will be filled under Outstanding Sportsperson Category on the basis of various tests and trials in relevant sports discipline. The students must be between 08 to 18 years of age. The Candidates must have participated at Open School or Nationals or have got First/Second/Third position in School States/Open State Tournaments. Preference will be given to position holder & participation National Level or position holder at State level within two years from 2019 to 2020.

(ii) Khelo India and National School Games, Khet Maha Kumbh medal winners are also eligible for admission under Outstanding Sports Person Category. However, names of such winner/players will be sponsored by Sports and Youth Affairs Dept. In case, the names are not sponsored by Sports and Youth Affairs Dept the admission of such winners/players will be considered at the level of MNSS, Rai.

**LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORMS****CLASSES-IV and OUTSTANDING SPORTS PERSON CATEGORY**

15.12.2020 (Tuesday) – Online Admission Process Begins

14.01.2020 (Thursday) – Without late fee

29.01.2020 (Friday) – Without late fee

**TENTATIVE DATES FOR VARIOUS TESTS**

CLASS	DATE OF TEST	NAME OF TEST	VENUE (CENTRE) OF TEST
IV and under Outstanding Sports Person Category and Game specific talent test	22.02.2021 to 26.02.2021 (Monday to Friday)	Physical Efficiency & Sports Aptitude Test (PESAT)	Only at MNSS, Rai
IV and under Outstanding Sports Person Category	14.03.2021 (Sunday)	Written Test	Only at MNSS, Rai

**NOTE:**

(a) Offline application will not be considered.  
(b) The admit card will be downloaded from School Website.  
(c) The payment of admission form will be accepted online.  
(d) Inter-se- Merit will be based on Physical Efficiency & Sports Aptitude Test (PESAT).  
(e) The Written Test will be conducted in Hindi-30 marks, English-30 marks, Maths-30 and GK-10 marks. (Total 100 marks) Written Test will be a qualifying test only.  
(f) The written test for other classes under Outstanding Sports Person Category (OSP) will be conducted in Hindi, English, Maths, Science and S.Science.

4. School Prospectus (along with Application Form) will be available on School Website: [www.mnssrai.com](http://www.mnssrai.com). The cost of Application Form is Rs. 1000/- (General Category) and Rs. 500/- for Scheduled Caste Category & School Staff. The cost of Application Form with late fee is Rs. 1500/- (General Category) and Rs. 1000/- for Scheduled Caste Category & School Staff. Admission Application Form will be accepted through online only.

Sd/- Principal & Director, M.N.S.S., Rai.

DPR/Pb/113385

# Pakistani Rangers shell forward posts, Kathua villages; no casualty

JAMMU, DECEMBER 5

Pakistani troops violated ceasefire by resorting to firing and mortar shelling on forward posts and villages along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch and Kathua districts, officials said on Saturday.

The firing and shelling from across the border was "unprovoked" and drew a strong retaliation by the Indian troops, they said. "At about 11.40 am, Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and shelling



with mortars along the LoC in Balakote sector of Poonch," a defence spokesperson said.

Later in the day, he said, Pakistan shelled forward areas in Qasba and Kirni sectors of the district from 4

**ARMY RETALIATES**

- The firing and shelling from across the border was unprovoked and drew a strong retaliation by the Indian troops.
- Firing begins on Friday night, continues till the wee hours of Saturday. No damage has surfaced

pm. "Army retaliated befittingly," the spokesperson said, adding there was no report of any damage on the Indian side. Earlier, the officials said Pakistani Rangers opened fire on forward posts and villages

along the IB in Hiranagar sector of Kathua district. The firing from across the border started around 9.50 pm on Friday in Pansar Border Outpost area, prompting a strong and an effective retaliation by the Border Security Force (BSF), they said.

The officials said that firing between both the sides continued till 3.35 am, but there was no report of any damage on the Indian side. Pakistani troops also fired for a few minutes in the Gurnam and the Karol Krishna border outpost areas, they said. — PTI



Farooq Abdullah, his son Omar Abdullah among others offer prayers at the mausoleum of Sheikh Abdullah in Srinagar. PTI

## NC remembers founder on birth anniversary

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 5

The National Conference (NC) on Saturday paid rich tributes to party founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, popularly known as 'Sher-e-Kashmir', on this 115th birth anniversary.

Led by NC president Farooq Abdullah, the party leaders and workers held a commemorative function at the mausoleum of Sheikh Abdullah at Naseem Bagh on the banks of the Dal Lake here to mark the occasion.

Besides Farooq Abdullah, his son and National Conference (NC) vice-president Omar Abdullah, general secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar, Lok Sabha members Hasnain Masoodi and Mohammad

Farooq doesn't hold customary media interaction

Akbar Lone were among several leaders who visited the grave of the party founder.

Farooq Abdullah did not hold the customary interaction with the media due to some unruly scenes created by a group of journalists.

The 114th birth anniversary of Sheikh Abdullah could not be observed last year as most of the top leaders of the party, including Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, were under detention following the scrapping of J&K's special status. — PTI

## NIA chargesheets 6 for narco-terrorism

JAMMU, DECEMBER 5

Two of the accused are still absconding

disclosure of Peer, the spokesperson said two more accused, Syed Iftikar Andabi (50) and Islam-Ul-Haq Peer (20), were arrested.

The NIA took over the case on June 23. The bank manager, who was on the run, was arrested on July 16. He said the investigation revealed

that the accused were involved in cross-border smuggling and supply of the narcotic drug heroin in J&K and other parts of the country after procuring the same from their associates based in Pakistan. — PTI

## BJP attacks 'dynasts' Farooq, Mehbooba

SRINAGAR, DECEMBER 5

BJP national general secretary Tarun Chug on Saturday asked Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti to think about how J&K's area under Pakistan occupation could be retrieved, instead of talking about Chinese incursions in Ladakh and Pakistan's involvement in promoting militancy.

Addressing a press conference here, Chug said, "The basic reason behind the one-

time arch political rivals like the NC and the PDP joining hands to form what has come to be known as the Gupkar gang is that they are feeling unnerved by the BJP. Corruption and nepotism are promoted by dynasty leaders which choked the development of the region."

Late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed spoke against corruption, but never acted against the big fish in the NC, Chug alleged. — IANS

time arch political rivals like the NC and the PDP joining hands to form what has come to be known as the Gupkar gang is that they are feeling unnerved by the BJP. Corruption and nepotism are promoted by dynasty leaders which choked the development of the region."

Late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed spoke against corruption, but never acted against the big fish in the NC, Chug alleged. — IANS

Minister of State for Commerce Som Parkash, who is from Punjab, tried to draw out some leaders by communicating

in Punjabi. President of the Krantikari Kisan Union Darshan Pal said the ministers kept insisting on amendments. "They (ministers) said they would send a fresh proposal by Sunday evening. There was complete silence in the room for quite a while. Some union leaders even tried to leave," a farmers' representative said.

Minister of State for Commerce Som Parkash, who

## MATRIMONIALS

## BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

## JAT SIKH

**Reputed Jatt Sikh business family** seeks professionally qualified well settled match for their November 87 born, (5'-4"), beautiful, slim, cultured and highly qualified daughter (Ph.D in Human Genetics from prestigious University). WhatsApp: 988051888. (CL20065217)

**Jatt Sikh family from Patiala** seeks PQM from USA or Canada for their Dentist daughter, 1991/ 5'-6", holding valid USA and Canada visas (DDOS aspirant, USA NBDE Part 1, 2 cleared). Send complete biodata at: darshanuppal65@gmail.com or +9187278-76568. (CL20068906)

**Suitable match for professionally qualified Jatt Sikh** beautiful, slim girl US Citizen born in Oct '87 and height 5'-5". She Graduated with Masters in Public Health, Biostatistics. Currently she is working as Quantitative Research Analyst with well-renowned Hospital Research Institution in Northern California. We are well settled family in the US for the past 35 years. Please contact with biodata and recent pictures: lakhman60@gmail.com (CL20065793)

**Wanted well qualified Gursikh** match for Jatt Sikh Canadian PR girl Chandigarh educated 87 born, 5'-5", LL.M. Contact 79734-75173. (CL20067396)

**Match for beautiful Jat Sikh** girl, 1991, 165 centent educated B.Tech Computer Science working as Grade-I in Nationalized bank. Malwa preferred. E-mail: bt1980@yahoo.com (CL20068155)

**Sydney based very beautiful divorcee girl, 1980, 5'-6", M.Sc. Comp. Sci.** seeks liberal minded, well educated, good looking, suitable match. E: vsv02@hotmail.com with photo. 9193066-0015. (CL20068586)

**Looking for suitable match for** centent educated Jat Sikh girl, Dec. 1993 born, 5'-2", B.Com., PGDCA. Currently working in Canada, PR applied. Good family background. Send bio-data and photographs at: zsingh041@gmail.com. Canada/ USA preferred. (CL20068705)

**Professional Jat Sikh match for** beautiful, cultured girl, working Software Developer USA GC initiated Nov 1985, 5'-3". Please share complete biodata with pictures. pqm1911@gmail.com, 76278-48684. (CL20068736)

**Suitable Match Required** beautiful homely Sidhu khandani family girl 1989, 5'-6" Schooling DPS Dalhouse, MA English, Diploma in (DGPM). Contact only educated well settled status family. 70094-0473 (CL20068757)

**Professional never married Jat Sikh boy** settled in USA for beautiful USA citizen IT professional Sidhu girl, 39, 5'-7" Email: t1942shadi@gmail.com , WhatsApp: +12404297477. (CL20068798)

**PQM for Jat Sikh girl (B.Tech.)**, beautiful, tall and slim, 29 years, 5'-6", wheatish complexion, Quality Analyst/ Graphic Designer in IT Park Chandigarh. Parents Govt. employees settled in Patiala. Email: navkiran.rain@gmail.com , Mob: 7973003203 (Note: Dowry seekers please excuse). (CL20068817)

**Suitable match for Jat Sikh girl,** Canadian PR, M.Tech. (Computers), 1991/ 5'-5". Looking for well educated boy, preferably in Canada. Contact: 8699365775. (CL20068897)

**Suitable match for Jat Sikh** single girl child, November 89/ 5'-7", schooling from The Punjab Public School, M.Phil in Psychology. Dowry seekers excuse. Cut surd preferred. Upper caste no bar. WhatsApp: 98782-20654 or Email at kittusingh55@yahoo.com with latest pics. (CL20069042)

**Jat Sikh Senior Officers** family invites alliance from high status Jat Sikh family for their beautiful daughter, 1990, 5'-7", professionally qualified from abroad. Boy should be well qualified having established business/ job abroad/ in India. Please mail full particulars with pictures to blesstedsingh485@gmail.com (CL20069049)

**Jat Sikh Amritdhari beautiful** girl 28/ 5'-7" B.Sc.(Non medical), B.Ed., M.Sc (Physics). Preferred Job PR Canada and having good property. 94646-57225, 94631-95314 (Bathinda) (CL20069354)

**Urban Jatt Sikh girl 28 yrs, 5'-6",** M.A., Ed, working, having fine backup. Seeks well settled urban Jatt Sikh boy with similar background. Send biodata, pics at 8872299936. (CL20069420)

**Convent educated daughter,** M.Sc., living in Canada, 5'-6", 1987 born, brother settled in Canada too. Jatt Sikh educated boy working in Canada preferred. Contact with details & pictures at contactabjw73@gmail.com or 98883-98703. (CL20069554)

**Chandigarh based status Jat Sikh family** invites alliance for their intelligent, smart and beautiful daughter, 84/5'-6". Masters from Ivy League University and Doctorate from USA. Doctor, Engineer or highly qualified professional match. Green card in process. Send biodata and photos whatspap at 98557-43279. Email : pirthisinghdhaliwal@gmail.com (CL20069656)

**For Circulation and Advertisement booking** and other related queries please call at following numbers from Monday to Saturday between 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.

## Advertisement:

Classified: 0172-2670257, 2670338, 2670258

E-mail at: classified@tribunemail.com

Display: 0172-2670256, 2670342

E-mail at: advt@tribunemail.com

Circulation: 0172-2670319, 2670250, 2670442

E-mail at: neindcirculation@tribunemail.com

**Suitable match for beautiful** Convent educated, 5'-5" girl, 1977 born, only Jat Sikh retired Army/Navy Officer (Divorcee/Widower) preferred, send bio-data with photos at Email: honey301977@gmail.com (CL20069791)

**Suitable match for Jatt Sikh** girl, 24.10.1992, 5'-5", M.Sc. (Honors PAU) private job. Preferred Ludhiana. 81959-23529, 87289-31322. (CL20069870)

**Jatt Sikh girl 2000** 5'-3", girl Master Degree Holder Chandigarh non-transferable clerical service, wants Jatt Sikh turbaned boy Govt./ good MNC company/ settled family in Tricity only. Please send photo with biodata and mobile number. gupreet3 8 5 3 @ y a h o o . c o m (CL20069877)

**Cleanshaven match for Jat Sikh** girl, Sep. 90, 5'-5", B.Tech., working MNC. WhatsApp: 94651-21655, manjithbular10@gmail.com (CL20069902)

**Suitable match for beautiful Jatt Sikh girl** 1989 born, 5'-7", B.CM. (HR), job in MNC, Gurgaon. Upper caste welcome. WhatsApp 98180-00557. (CL20070821)

**Jatt Sikh girl March 1991/ 5'-3",** convent educated, Astrologer MA (Eco), B.Ed., CTET, PTET, qualified. Mother teacher, Father retired. Contact: 94645-92130, 96467-40053 (WhatsApp). (CL20069951)

**Suitable match for Jat Sikh sober,** slim girl, 1983, 5'-1", M.A., B.Ed., M.Sc. IT, sees teetotaller boy 70879-11298. (CL20068616)

**Professional match required** for Mohali based 1991 born, 5'-4", innocent divorcee, Medicine Professor in Medical College, USA. Preferred Doctor/ Engineer from USA. harvin.singh1966@gmail.com (CL20070851)

**Professional match for** beautiful Jat Sikh girl 1992 born, 5'-2", B.Sc., MCA, seeks well-educated boy. Call or WhatsApp 94172-18585. (CL20070829)

**Suitable match for preferably from USA/ Canada for Jatt Sikh Bangaru girl, fair, slim, 5'-5" 1991, GNM + B.Sc. (Nursing), working at DMC, Ludhiana, Call/ WhatsApp: 98460-01346. (CL20070836)**

**Jatt Sikh Dhalwali issuesless** Doctor 31 years, 5'-4", innocent divorcee, Medicine Professor in Medical College, USA. Preferred Doctor/ Engineer from USA. arvind@hotmai.com (CL20069044)

**Professionally qualified match for** beautiful Jat Sikh girl, 5'-3", 14 August 1994, Chemical Engineer, MBA, PU, Chandigarh. Working MNC, Asst. Manager. Father Bank Manager (Retd.). Mother Govt. School Teacher. WhatsApp: 98767-93884, 98768-83074. (CL20070920)

**Wanted Jat Sikh match for Jat Sikh girl November 1993/ 5'-3",** MS in Information Systems from America, working as Software Developer in Boston America. Earning 100K+ USD annually preference to IT professional working in America/ Canada. Correspond with latest photograph, biodata on WhatsApp 98141-48680. (CL20070884)

**Wanted a suitable match for Kler** Jatt Sikh girl 1992 born, height 5'-5". Convent educated, M.Sc., B.Ed. Belongs to a well settled family in Bathinda. WhatsApp only: 62395-58160. (CL20070962)

**Required Jat Sikh suitable/ well settled issueless divorcee/ never married for slim, fair, BDS girl 43 years/ 5'-5", from Panchkula based reputed family. WhatsApp 98640-00091. (CL20070999)**

**Suitable employed Jatt Sikh boy** match for Jat Sikh 5'-7", 1994, B.Sc. Nursing, Govt. employee girl. Malwa area preferred. Mobile No. 98766-62147, 94177-73966. (CL20071004)

**PR unmarried Jat Sikh girl** Canada Dental Doctor 5'-3", August 1981, unmarried Doctor Engineer cleanshaven. 99161-69787. (CL20070964)

**Suitable match for Jat Sikh divorcee** (issueless) girl 1988/ 5', MBA, UGC (NET), B.Com., working in reputed private School. Contact with biodata email: wedlock2988@gmail.com (CL20070559)

**Match for Jat Sikh girl (B.Tech.),** beautiful, tall and slim, 29 years, 5'-6", wheatish complexion, Quality Analyst/ Graphic Designer in IT Park Chandigarh. Parents Govt. employees settled in Patiala. Email: navkiran.rain@gmail.com , Mob: 7973003203 (Note: Dowry seekers please excuse). (CL20068817)

**Suitable match for Jat Sikh girl,** Canadian PR, M.Tech. (Computers), 1991/ 5'-5". Looking for well educated boy, preferably in Canada. Contact: 8699365775. (CL20068897)

**Suitable match for Jat Sikh** single girl child, November 89/ 5'-7", schooling from The Punjab Public School, M.Phil in Psychology. Dowry seekers excuse. Cut surd preferred. Upper caste no bar. WhatsApp: 98782-20654 or Email at kittusingh55@yahoo.com with latest pics. (CL20069042)

**Suitable match for** beautiful Jat Sikh girl, 24.10.1992, 5'-5", BA, LLB, girl August 1990, 5'-2". Contact with biodata. E-mail: matrimony0 0 9 0 @ g m a i l . c o m (CL20070567)

**Match for Jat Sikh Brar** June-90 born girl M.Sc. (Nursing), 5'-5". Teaching private reputed college. Father retired Senior Class-I Officer Punjab Govt. Dowry seekers excuse. Contact: 75080-18888. (WhatsApp). (CL20070653)

**Suitable cleanshaven match for** Govt. teacher girl, 30, 5'-3", Ropar, Nangal, Mohali, Chandigarh preferred. 94780-32725. (CL20070566)

**Suitable match for Jat Sikh** professionally qualified MBA, LLB, girl August 1990, 5'-2". Contact with biodata. E-mail: matrimony0 0 9 0 @ g m a i l . c o m (CL20070567)

**Match for Jat Sikh** girl, 29/ 5'-4", Jat Sikh girl, MBBS Medical Officer PCMS-1, Patiala, Malwa preferred. WhatsApp: 97866-47500. (CL20070588)

**Match for my Sister, Jat Sikh** girl, 28/ 5'-4", M.Tech., Ph.D, working Assistant Professor in College. IELTS 7.5 Band (each), seeks equally qualified match. 94651-07944. (CL20070655)

**Beautiful, slim, 5'-6", 1992 born Jatt Sikh girl,** M.Tech. in CSE, in Psychology. Dowry seekers excuse. Cut surd preferred. Upper caste no bar. WhatsApp: 98557-43279. Email : pirthisinghdhaliwal@gmail.com (CL20069354)

**Seeking qualified Jatt-Sikh match** from landlord family for Bhullar girl, 1991, 5', B.Tech. (CSE) working at MNC. Malwa region preferred. Marriage bureaus don't contact. Mob. 93310-20532. (CL20070584)

**Match for 29/ 5'-4", Jat Sikh girl,** MBBS (IT), 1992, 5'-1", IELTS 7.5 Band (each), seeks equally qualified match. 94651-07944. (CL20070655)

**Match for my Sister, Jat Sikh** girl, 28/ 5'-4", M.Tech., Ph.D, working Assistant Professor in College. IELTS 7.5 Band (each), seeks equally qualified match. 94651-07944. (CL20070655)

**Match for clean-shave Ahluwalia** Sikh family girl at Ambala 6.9.1992, 5'-1", B.Tech., working MNC Pune, father Gazetted Officer Punjab. Preferred only cursud Punjabi boy working MNC Pune. 99918-33167. (CL20069803)

**Suitable match for tall beautiful** Bhatia girl Sep. 85/ 5'-7", Edu. M.Com., simple marriage. 98053-43709. (CL20070844)

**May 90, 5'-5" beautiful girl,** MDS Dentist, working in Gurgaon. Chandigarh family. 81463-07566. (CL20070561)

**Suitable employed match for Sikh** Khatri beautiful girl 1996 born/ 5'-6", ECE, employed MNC (Pune), upper caste no bar. WhatsApp: 70877-66776. (CL20070600)

**Suitable qualified match for Arora** Sikh girl 5'-3", 1991, Graduate, Banker. Seeking suitable match preferably Chd., Mohali, Ludhiana. 99888-52435. (CL20070627)

**Match for professional qualified** Sikh Khatri girl, 5'-7", Oct. 92 born, Canadian PR. Sikh boy from GTA Canada preferred. Contact: 97795-84339. (CL20070807)

**Status match for smart, well cultured,** convent educated girl, January 1989, 5'-3/2", MBA, B.Tech., self-employed. High income. Affluent status Ahluwalia Sikhs family Chandigarh. 98760-01157. (CL20070873)

**Well-qualified match for Canada** permanent resident Khatri Sikh girl 1990/ 5'-2", B.Sc. Biotech Hons PAU M.Sc. Biotech, Panjab University. Brother Canada permanent resident. Jatt Sikh welcome. 83602-62561. (CL20070942)

**Suitable match for** smart, well educated, conventionally educated girl, January 1989, 5'-3/2", MBA, B.Tech., self-employed. High income. Affluent status Ahluwalia Sikhs family Chandigarh. 98760-01157. (CL20070873)

**Match for beautiful, slim, attractive** featured girl, BDS. M.B.A from Punjabi University. Brother Canada permanent resident. Jatt Sikh welcome. 83602-62561. (CL20070942)

**Sikh Arora** girl 1989, 5'-4", BA, LLB, M.Com., simple marriage. 98053-43709. (CL20070844)

**Match for beautiful slim** (Inter) working in MNC, What's app data with snaps at 98152-00029. (CL20068703)

**Match for Mahajan Punjabi** girl 26/ 5' ft. (B.Tech.) working in IT MNC, Bangalore. Preferred City Chandigarh. 97151-33065. (CL20068827)

**SM4 slim fair 24, 5'-4", BA, MJMC** Mohali based Sikh girl, WhatsApp only. 94635-78500. (CL20069431)

**Garg Singh fair 2000, 5'-4", BA, MJMC** Mohali based Sikh girl, WhatsApp only. 94635-78500. (CL20069432)

**Garg Singh fair 2000, 5'-4", BA, MJMC** Mohali based Sikh girl, WhatsApp only. 94635-78500. (CL20069433)

**Garg Singh fair 2000, 5'-4", BA, MJMC** Mohali based Sikh girl, WhatsApp only. 94635-78500. (CL20069434)

**Suitable match for divorcee/ issueless (Khatri) girl BA, beautiful, 5'-5" 1982, work at Pvt. Co. as Assistant Manager. Required divorcee/ unmarried boy. 84373-37447. (CL20070589)**

**Beautiful B.Tech. Khatri girl 93/5'-3", Chandigarh, required good salaried boy from status family. WhatsApp 81463-66463. (CL20070593)**

**Wanted Industrialist high status business man families boy for Hindu Khatri MBA girl 1993/5'-4". WhatsApp 81463-66463. (CL20070604)**

**Slim beautiful 5'-2"/28.89/ 12:05 am**

**Chandigarh MA (Economics Hons). Gold Medalist Ph.D., working private University near Chandigarh. WhatsApp: 98886-54254. (CL20070611)**

**Khatri/ upper caste qualified employee/ entrepreneur or NRI having PR for 5'-6", CA, package 10.5 lac beautiful girl 30 March 1995, 18:40, Chandigarh. 79736-19305. (CL20070629)**

**Match for beautiful smart well educated (BA LLB) extremely intelligent Khatri girl, doing practice in Chandigarh (Anshik Manglik) Dob 25.1987, 10.35 pm birth place Ferozepur height 5'-3", looks younger, upper middle class family (decent marriage) preference legal professional and Gazetted Officer preference also from Tricity. WhatsApp 00905-04332, 98997-25328, email: dpa99971@gmail.com (CL20070658)**

**Suitable match for Himachali Verma Khatri girl 1 am, 1985, MA, B.Ed. 98723-40369. (CL20070675)**

**Suitable well settled qualified teetotaller match for Hindu Punjabi Khatri girl, 5'-0", Avg. 1990, done B.Tech., MBA, pursuing Ph.D. Doctors family, Call/ WhatsApp: 08549-42200. (CL20070684)**

**Match for Software Professional girl, working MNC Gurgaon. Jan. 1981, 5'-1", package over 20 lacs. Professionally qualified well settled match desired. blk\_248@yahoo.com (CL20068863)**

**Wanted a well settled, 6 feet, heavy built groom for a very fair, beautiful Verma girl, 28 years old, 5'-7", working with Edtech Unicorn company. anu920408@gmail.com (CL20070683)**

**Suitable match for Rajput match for beautiful girl, 27 November 1992, 5'-5", M.Tech Computers. Parents in Govt. service, settled in Kurukshtera. 94665-17398, 94161-09222, neelkantharwan25@gmail.com (CL20070683)**

**Rajput match for Himachali beautiful slim girl, 5'-3", born Feb. 1990, BA, B.Ed., 3 years Computer course from NIIT presently working in MNC preference Govt. services professional Defence Doctor Engineer. Contact: 87997-91992. (CL20068699)**

**Well settled Rajput match for beautiful girl, 27 November 1992, 5'-5", M.Tech. Computers. Parents in Govt. service, settled in Kurukshtera. 94665-17398, 94161-09222, neelkantharwan25@gmail.com (CL20070683)**

**Wanted settled Kamboj Sikhi girl, 5'-1", 10.07.1994, 10.25 pm, tall, beautiful, 90 born, M.Sc. Goldmedalist, PSTET, CTET pass, IELTS cleared, appeared in UGC NET and competitive examinations. Father retd. Professor Mother Ex-Teachress. Brother Advocate. 9876448510, 9780112050. (CL20068747)**

**Match for Rajput beautiful, fair 84 born, 5'-2" girl, MBA, IELTS 6.5. Brother & sister in Australia. Father Retd. Officer. Upper caste no bar. Contact: 9872850443. (CL20069111)**

**Doaba Rajput Govt job Chandigarh 5'-7" beautiful girl, 27 years, M.Tech. Upper caste Govt employee Tricity welcome. 94177-90585, 98886-05585. (CL20070628)**

**Suitable match for beautiful, fair Hindu Khatri divorcee (issueless) girl, M.Sc. Chemistry, 19 August 1991, 02:50 am, 5'-2". Required unmarried or issueless boy. Contact: 99885-41620. (CL20070835)**

**Hindu Arora girl 40, 5'-1", B.Com., MA, B.Ed., legally divorced. 83600-19127, akujara@gmail.com (CL20070862)**

**Match for Himachali Khatri Veterinary Doctor girl, 5'-5", BVSE, MVSC, 20.11.1993, 2:55 am. (Hamirpur). Himachali Doctor, Class-I Officer preferred. Contact: 94181-53994. (CL20070879)**

## SOOD

**Suitable match for Sood girl 5'-4", M.Com., Dob 1996. Contact 98720-40584, 70092-4184. Pursuing B.Ed. & UG Exam. (CL20070577)**

**30F/ 5'-3", Regulatory Specialist settled in Germany seeks qualified, employed, respectable man preferably settled in Europe. Share biodata & Horoscope. 75002-18822. (CL20070867)**

## PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

**Status match for Sarswat Brahmin girl, 26.11.1992, 2:47 pm, Sangrur, 5", B.A, B.Ed., PGDCA, short humpon left shoulder). Seeks slightly problem business or Govt. job boy. Upper caste no bar. 98145-70557. (CL20070823)**

## TONK-KASHTRIYA

**Seeking suitable well settled match for slim, beautiful Tonk Kashtriyai girl, 26.02.1985, 5'-1", MA English, B.Ed.**

**NRI welcome. Early marriage. Upper caste no bar. Brother Doctor. Father Engineer. Well settled family. WhatApp: +919855551189. (CL20069088)**

**Sikh Tonk- Kashtriyai girl, May 93, 5'-3", B.Com., MBA, Asstt. Professor, Engineering College, vegetarian family. Wants vegetarian well established match. 94651-34504. (CL20070634)**

## SAINI

**Saini Hindu Manglik girl, 10.10/93, 5'-2", M.Sc. (IT). 8146551778 (Whatsapp). (CL20068654)**

**Saini Sikh issueless divorce girl 1983/ 5'-3", M.Com., CA Inter. Required qualified match. Contact: 95010-86885. (CL20069116)**

**Suitable match for beautiful Saini girl 1992 born, 5'-4", B.Tech, Bachelor in Tourismani Journalsim, Diploma in Elementary education. 94181-08467 Saini preferred. 70183-41099, 94166-80230 (CL20069171)**

**Match for Saini beautiful girl (only daughter), 1990 born, 5", M.A. (English), B.Ed., Teacher in reputed school. NRI preferred. Upper caste no bar. 98729-97352, 99151-69991. (CL20068553)**

**SM4 Saini Sikh girl, 92 born, 5'-3", M.A. (Psychology) and P.G. Dip Counselling Psychology. Contact 98550-78214. (CL20069837)**

**Match for Saini Sikh girl 1993/5'-2", working in M.N.C. Noida. 94641-21943. (CL20070425)**

**Professionally qualified match for Saini girl, 5'-1", Nov. 1984 born, MCA, working Team Lead in reputed MNC in Bangalore 10 + LPA. Preferred MNC. Upper caste no bar. Mobile: 98556-94151. Email: parampal2018@gmail.com (CL20070613)**

**Match for Saini girl Feb. 1993, 5'-3", B.Tech. (Computer Science) Software Developer (5 years experience) brother Canadian citizen. 83604-74498. (CL20070643)**

**Match for beautiful Saini girl, 5'-3", born Nov. 1991, Chandigarh, working in IT Company. Contact: 98780-99547/ 90410-57287. (CL20070673)**

**Suitable match for Saini Sikh girl (Gota - Kamgar Tamra) 04.11.1990, 5'-2", Post Graduate Diploma in Sociology + Computer Diploma from Punjab University, Chandigarh. Well settled boy from Tricity only. Contact: 98988-74239. (CL20070689)**

**Vegetarian Hindu Saini girl 1986, 5'-2", Ph.D. Assistant Professor in Govt. College, Chandigarh (on contract). Tricity preferred. WhatsApp 86999-32424. (CL20070715)**

**Saini smart girl 25/5'-5", convention educated, graduate, B.Ed. Requires boy from well-settled family. 99155-20762, 95010-58995. Marriage bureau contact: 98886-54254. (CL20070693)**

## RAJPUT

**Match for Dadwal Rajput girl, March 1993/ 5'-6", BDS, MDS, Research Officer, PGI, Chandigarh based family. Tricity preferred. 9470-46385, 94178-60043. (CL20070857)**

**Himachali Rajput girl, 02.07.91, M.Sc., 5'-3", Clerk Punjab Govt. employee, Mohali, preferred Govt. employee. 94178-69271. (CL20069204)**

**Match for Govt. Job Garhwali Rajput girl in Chandigarh MA/ Nov. 1981, 5'-4", 98880-62206. (CL20069184)**

**Suitable match for Ph.D. NET qualified girl pursuing Ph.D. in University, 5'-0", 30 July 1986, Shimla, (HP). Call on 94593-67538. (CL20061379)**

**Chandigarh high status parents seeking local match for only daughter, 5'-8", 1984, pretty, well educated, never married. All upper castes Hindus welcome. Whatsapp 79018-23636. (CL20068627)**

**Rajput match for Himachali pure vegetarian Doctor MD (Ayurveda) Rajput girl, 5'-2", May 1991, working as Asstt. Professor in Ayurveda College near Chandigarh. Contact: 94181-53764, 89848-59450. (CL20070853)**

**Suitable match for Rajput girl, 3.15 am, 2 April 1994, B.Tech, Convent Educated, working MNC Chandigarh, preference Tricity. 98885-36155, 95928-94997. (CL20070897)**

**Match for Himachali Rajput girl, Captain in Indian Army, 5'-6", 16.03.1991 born, Defence Officers preferred. Contact: 82196-30313. (CL20070901)**

**Suitable match for Thakur Rajput girl 1989 born, 5'-3", MA (Economics), B.Ed., Deemed Govt. job, NRI preferred. 94178-87936, 86991-02308. (CL20070950)**

**Well educated Maid Rajput girl (subcaste- Khurmi). 1987 born, Time 9:15 pm, marital status-divorced (issueless). Required pure vegetarian, educated and well settled boy. Contact: 94175-82742. (CL20070959)**

**M4 Manglik 29.Jan.92/ 5'-2" girl, M.Tech, IIT Hyderabad, 30 LPA Microsoft Hyderabad, another one 5'-3" 15-Nov.1993 B.Tech 10 LPA Mohali. 94644-70424. (CL20071008)**

## KAMBOJ

**Wanted settled Kamboj Sikhi girl (agriculturist background) boy for tall, beautiful, 90 born, M.Sc. Goldmedalist, PSTET, CTET pass, IELTS cleared, appeared in UGC NET and competitive examinations. Father retd. Professor Mother Ex-Teachress. Brother Advocate. 9876448510, 9780112050. (CL20068747)**

**Extremely beautiful Kamboj girl, high status family 5'-7", 29, M.Tech. Suitable match. 86995-99347 Patiala. (CL20070479)**

**Kamboj Sikh girl 26, 5'-4", B.Pharmacy. Private job. Canada and America only. Cont. 94654-62996, 70872-94953. (CL20070870)**

## SCHEDULED CASTES

**Suitable match for Julaha Sikh beautiful girl, 29/ 5'-9", M.A B.Ed., Govt. ET Teacher, UGC NET clear. Marriage bureaus please excuse. Contact: 6239782868. (CL20069426)**

**Match for Ravidasia girl 5'-5", 09.1991, Tech. Class-I Officer in Centre Govt. preferred place of posting New Delhi/Mumbai in Centre Govt. 94633-15834. (CL20069212)**

**Suitable match for Ramdasia Sikhi beautiful girl, 5'-4", 30 years, BDS. Caste no bar PR of USA/ Canada preferred. Father of girl Ad. S.E. Retd. Mob: 94173-97354. (CL20069563)**

**Match for Mahasha (SC) Manglik girl, 5', 10.9.1991, 11:50 p.m., Birth place Amritsar. B.A. Caste no bar. Call/ Whatsapp 96461-07763. (CL20068340)**

**Suitable match for beautiful, issueless divorced Rajput girl 5'-2", 18.3.82, 9:15 am, Chandigarh, fair color, 10th, stitching course. Simple marriage. Issueless well-settled boy preferred. 78377-74543. (CL20069315)**

**Match for Thakur Rajput girl DOB 01.09.1988, Chandigarh, 10:44 pm, 5'-5", Pursuing Ph.D. from Himachal University. Ex Asstt. Professor 5 years Chd. Univ. Contact: 9876-43528. (CL20069808)**

**Only NRI match for SC Ad-dhamri beautiful girl, March 1990, 5'-7", M.Com., officer Nationalised bank. Father Sr. Manager, brother married Australian citizen. Contact: 98885-0673. (CL20067033)**

**Match for Rajput BAMS, MD Doctor girl, 5'-2" 4.8.1991. Contact: 78379-40180, 78885-04872. (CL20069253)**

**Suitable match for beautiful, issueless divorced Rajput girl 5'-2", 18.3.82, 9:15 am, Chandigarh, fair color, 10th, stitching course. Simple marriage. Issueless well-settled boy preferred. 78377-74543. (CL20069315)**

**Match for Hindu BAMS Doctor Rajput girl, 6 Aug. 1995, 5'-7", B.Tech., MBA. Working in Amazon, settled family. Call 98553-80484. (CL20068774)**

**Suitable match for Ramdasia Sikhi beautiful girl, 5'-4", 30 years, BDS. Caste no bar PR of USA/ Canada preferred. Father of girl Ad. S.E. Retd. Mob: 94173-97354. (CL20069563)**

**Match for Mahasha (SC) Manglik girl, 5', 10.9.1991, 11:50 p.m., Birth place Amritsar. B.A. Caste no bar. Call/ Whatsapp 96461-07763. (CL20068340)**

**Suitable match for SC Ad-dhamri beautiful girl, March 1990, 5'-7", M.Com., officer Nationalised bank. Father Sr. Manager, brother married Australian citizen. Contact: 98885-0673. (CL20067033)**

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**NRI**

**SMF Tall fair and beautiful, 5'-7"**  
Mahajan girl, 1992, Convent educated, M.Tech Gold Medalist, presently Govt. Lecturer, Canada PR under process, prefer tall boy, highly qualified well settled abroad. 97795-86770. Email: maha.jan.19.62@yahoo.co.in (CL20069682)

**Hindu Khatri PR/Australian citizen** match for self employed, educated 26/ 5'-2", Australian resident girl. Apply with detailed biodata at Email: aashkivithal@gmail.com (CL20070722)

**Canadian PR, 31, 5'-2", B.Tech,** MBA, \$ 100K package, Product Manager. Required Canada settled Software, etc. serviceman Casto no bar 9814568663. (CL20062759)

**Professional cultured boy** for sophisticated pretty 35, 5'-1", Jat Sikh girl, American citizen raised in New Jersey holding Managerial Healthcare job. Doctor/ high-level professional living in USA preferred. WhatsApp: +91-983-1984- +9195307-66987. (CL20068572)

**Canadian PR educated Punjabi Brahmin girl, Dec. 91, required professional well settled Punjabi Brahmin boy send full biodata with photo: 94172-75194. (CL20068808)**

**Professionally match required for Saraswat Brahmin girl 88 Fair, boy, 5'-3" M.Tech.(CS), Software developer in well reputed company of USA. Contact only on WhatsApp call 987252780. (CL20068935)**

**WIDOW**

**Match for widow, having one son aged 5 years, 5'-1", DOB: 31.12.1982, slim, good looking and homely girl.** Chandigarh. 84279-49488. (CL20069888)

**46 years SC, 5'-3", Chandigarh Govt. Teacher (SSA), two daughters (17 & 9), seeks local match, Tricity only, 98728-54604, 62396-05803. (CL20070973)**

**AHLUWALIA**

**Ahlawalia business family based in Yamuna Nagar** seeks alliance for their daughter birth 1989, 5'-3", fair, beautiful, homely, well behaved, well cultured, M.P.T. Ortho. Looking for Hindu handsome Ahluwalia boy only with equal status and stature, family backgrounds and other merits. N.R.I. may also contact. Good marriage. Marriage coordinators and bureaus kindly excuse. Interested families, please contact: ahluwaliasin@gmail.com or WhatsApp: 76776-77772. (CL20068719)

**JAT**

**Suitable match for beautiful, pure vegetarian, convent educated, Hindu Jat girl, 26, 5'-0". Working in MNC Bengaluru, Family settled Chandigarh. Hindu Jat boy from Tricity, working in MNC at Bengaluru preferred. Contact: 98722-02197. (CL20068745)**

**Suitable match for tall & beautiful, convent educated, 1990, 5'-6", M.A. (English), LL.B., engaged as Law Researcher at High Court. Only brother in Canada. Preferred established Advocate/Law Officer. Upper caste welcome. Contact 98768-19760. (CL20069591)**

**MANGLIK**

**PQM4 BE, DCE- MBA IIMC,** Manglik Rajak Rajput girl, 32+ LPA, 5'-6", 8 Oct, 90, 37 am, Delhi. # 98104-76472, 98724-33958. (CL20068228)

**Match for beautiful Hindu Khatri Aroa Manglik girl, 5'-2", 10 Jan. 1993 (05:45 am), Chandigarh, B.Tech./MBA, working in IT Company Chandigarh. Contact: 89682-66253. (CL20070558)**

**Canadian PR Parjapat girl 27/ 5'-3", wanted graduate, handsome Parjapat boy, student and work permanent Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib Dist. preference. Biodata and pictures send this WhatsApp No. 97936-87016. I will contact you. (CL20069284)**

**Professionally qualified match for Canada PR Sikh Tonk-Kashmiriya beautiful girl 36 yrs, 5'-2", MCA with distinction, working in reputed IT Company as Tech lead, handsome package. Issuesless divorcee, educated family. Brother and sister in USA. Issuesless or unmarried preferred. Upper caste welcome. Please contact: +919417199243. Email: hari.singh227086@gmail.com (CL20069352)**

**Wanted NRI Indian match for Jangra Brahmin girl, Haryanvi Hisar family. M.Sc. Maths, pursuing PhD final year. WhatsApp detail to 7818-05544, 93160-30909. (CL20069446)**

**Suitable match for Ramdasia Sikh, BDS PR Canada girl, Aug. 90/ 5'-4" Preferred BDS, MDS, PR Canada. Contact: 98157-23536. (CL20069674)**

**Match for beautiful Canadian educated Post-graduate Computer Science Engineer Punjabi Rajput girl, working as IT Analyst in Canada, 25 yrs, 5'-1". No bars. Canadian preferred. E-mail: saritarana78922@gmail.com (CL20069842)**

**Mazbi Valmiki girl 1991/ 5'-5", Canada PR, seeks B.Tech., M.Tech., B.Sc. IT, M.Sc. It boy from Punjab, 98881-05198, 98881-05197. (CL20068918)**

**Medico/Non-medico professional Arora/Khatri match from US/Canada for Canadian PR August 84 born (never married) beautiful Punjabi girl, 5'-3". M.D (Gynae), registered Sonographer Canada & US. WhatsApp: 9471131114. (CL20070033)**

**Match for beautiful girl Doctor MD Medicine Assistant Prof in USA, 5'-4", Hindu Punjabi Khatri, born Oct. 1989. Required Doctor boy in USA. Contact: 88470-39474. (CL20070243)**

**Highly educated professional, intellectual and tall, 6', handsome NRI match or willing to settle abroad, for a beautiful girl Dr. consultant 31, 51-7", born and raised in Europe. Parents Hindu Punjabi. Email: rkg162109@gmail.com (CL20070523)**

**Canadian citizen Hindu Khatri girl never married 29/ 5'-1", M.Sc. (CS), Govt. service. Preferred only Edmonton & Calaghar (Alberta) Canada. Email: jawa h a r i l a 1 3 0 2 @ g m a i l . c o m (CL20070554)**

**Seeking well settled Post Graduate PR/ citizen of Canada from upper caste Hindu for Ottawa based PR holder well settled Hindu Aroa, fair, beautiful girl 92 born, 5'-7", M.Com, CA (Inter), pursuing CPA. Canada, Jalandhar based family. Girl in India. WhatsApp biodata with latest pics at 98155-64320. (CL20070555)**

**Match for beautiful Canadian PR, well settled Hindu Punjabi girl, BBA (Canadian University), 29.03.1993, 10.10 pm (Chandigarh), 5'-2". WhatsApp: +919041931993, 9814016463. Email: m v b h a t i a 1 5 4 @ g m a i l . c o m (CL20068772)**

**Saraswat Brahmin PR Canada girl 20.8.1987, 5'-1", M.A., B.Ed. Teaching in school. Caste no bar. 81682-47060. (CL20070575)**

**USA citizen 1992, 5'-5", MS Engg. Software Engineer Amazon \$ 150,001. Req well educated match caste no bar. 79878-04027, 70675-80823. (CL20070592)**

**QM4 beautiful Hindu Australian citizen girl 23.02.1988, 5'-8", 8:05 am, Chandigarh, B.Sc. Biotech. not Manglik Australian well settled boy only. 99881-21299. (CL20070680)**

**Match for very beautiful Brahmin 88 born, 5'-3", well-educated (Canada settled) high status businessman family from Punjab, looking for well-educated businessman family from Canada contact. (WhatsApp No. 86997-57342) 79732-84915. (CL20070687)**

**PQM for beautiful Hindu Khatri girl 1991, 5'-6", PR Canada. Accountant. WhatsApp: +919464-20004, 0014318876700. (CL20070737)**

**Seeking alliance for MBA-IB Sept. 1992, 5'-5", fair in Chandigarh, 95297-  
20004 (CL20070688)**

**One kanal duplex modern house facing North East, A-one location Sector-8, choice 10, 11, 16, 32, 35, 36, Chandigarh. Contact genuine buyer. 98149-67149. (CL20069344)**

**Match for American citizen Maid Rajput October 1984/5-'3", MBA, Accounting Manager girl professional qualified boy preferred. WhatsApp: 79737-35909. (CL20070970)**

**SM4 beautiful girl 1981/5-'3", Post Graduate in Nursing pursuing Ph.D, brief marriage annulled, issuesless, preferred NRI, caste no bar. 85570-79460. (CL20070971)**

**WIDOW**

**Match for widow, having one son aged 5 years, 5'-1", DOB: 31.12.1982, slim, good looking and homely girl.** Chandigarh. 84279-49488. (CL20069888)

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**JAT**

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**Suitable match for tall & beautiful, convent educated, 1990, 5'-6", M.A. (English), LL.B., engaged as Law Researcher at High Court. Only brother in Canada. Preferred established Advocate/Law Officer. Upper caste welcome. Contact 98768-19760. (CL20069591)**

**MANGLIK**

**PQM4 BE, DCE- MBA IIMC,** Manglik Rajak Rajput girl, 32+ LPA, 5'-6", 8 Oct, 90, 37 am, Delhi. # 98104-76472, 98724-33958. (CL20068228)

**Match for beautiful Hindu Khatri Aroa Manglik girl, 5'-2", 10 Jan. 1993 (05:45 am), Chandigarh, B.Tech./MBA, working in IT Company Chandigarh. Contact: 89682-66253. (CL20070558)**

**Canadian PR Parjapat girl 27/ 5'-3", wanted graduate, handsome Parjapat boy, student and work permanent Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib Dist. preference. Biodata and pictures send this WhatsApp No. 97936-87016. I will contact you. (CL20069284)**

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**Match for very beautiful Brahmin 88 born, 5'-3", well-educated (Canada settled) high status businessman family from Punjab, looking for well-educated businessman family from Canada contact. (WhatsApp No. 86997-57342) 79732-84915. (CL20070687)**

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**Match for very beautiful Brahmin 88 born, 5'-3", well-educated (Canada settled) high status businessman family from Punjab, looking for well-educated businessman family from Canada contact. (WhatsApp No. 86997-57342) 79**

**PLOT FOR SALE**

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**Available all sizes of Plots in Aerocity and it city, Orbit Estates- 8728883540, 9915534500 (CL20069609)**

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**Sector 99: 4 marla plot 29 gaj, facing North, East facing, land pooling, Sector 6-B. (Construction time 3 years). Empire Estates: 95177-60000. (CL20070977)**

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**One kanal kothi first floor** 3 bedroom, drawing dining, lobby, 1203, 18C, Chandigarh. 98143-27800. (CL20070972)

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**3 BHK first floor of kanal house** facing park Sector-12-A, Panchkula, 93165-66999. (CL20069879)

**Independent 14 marla, 264/2, Pkla 3 BHK, BR, D/D, Garage** for rent. Army Officer/ Company/ Bank lease preferred. Contact: 98211-15891, 99993-15060. (CL20070499)

**Fully furnished one room with** kitchen and bathroom ground floor Kothi No. 848, Sector 8, Panchkula. 94636-54064. (CL20070753)

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**Falcon View JPL, Drawing Dining,** Three bedroom, One servant room, All A.C.'s, Furniture, LED's, Geyser, Washing Machine, Refrigerator, Beds well furnished flat Designer woodwork. Company lease of Foreigners only. Contact: 98777-36447, 98785-55117, 96465-23000. (CL20069894)

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**Consultant, Tricity Chandigarh, Mohali, Zirakpur. 99882-25134.**

**Interested parties may contact:-**

**81122-88710**

**80003-33212**

**CL20070449**

**SHOWROOM 289, first floor for** offices, Pharmas, wholesalers, main road, Motor Market Manimajra Chandigarh. 98146-39400, 99144-39400. (CL20069567)

**1750 sq. ft. fully furnished** office 26 work station, Bestech Business Tower, Contact: 98880-16700. (CL20070509)

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**Half ground floor, half basement** opp. Bus Stand Bank/ Company/ Mobile lease, Sector 22, Chandigarh. 98150-01900. (CL20070782)

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**ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE**

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**I Rajpal Singh S/o Nand Singh,** #12019, Street 1/5, Ardash Nagar, Bathinda declare that my son Gandeep Singh and his wife Palwinder Kaur are out of my control. I disown them from my moveable/ immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them will do at his own risk. (CL20070536)

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**Two Room, Kitchen, Bath, First** Floor, Sector 27-D, Chandigarh. Contact Mobile 94175-05934. (CL20070525)

**Sector-51-A: Newly constructed** 2 BHK first floor flat. Only Bank/ govt. employee. 98558-89295. (CL20069489)

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**One Room, Kitchen, Bath, First** Floor, Sector 27-D, Chandigarh. Contact: 98152-53053. (CL20069908)

**One Room, Kitchen, Bath, First** Floor, Sector 27-D, Chandigarh. Contact: 98152-53053. (CL20069908)

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**One Room, Kitchen, Bath, First** Floor, Sector 27-D, Chandigarh. Contact: 98152-53053. (CL20069908)

**One Room, Kitchen, Bath, First** Floor, Sector 27-D, Chand



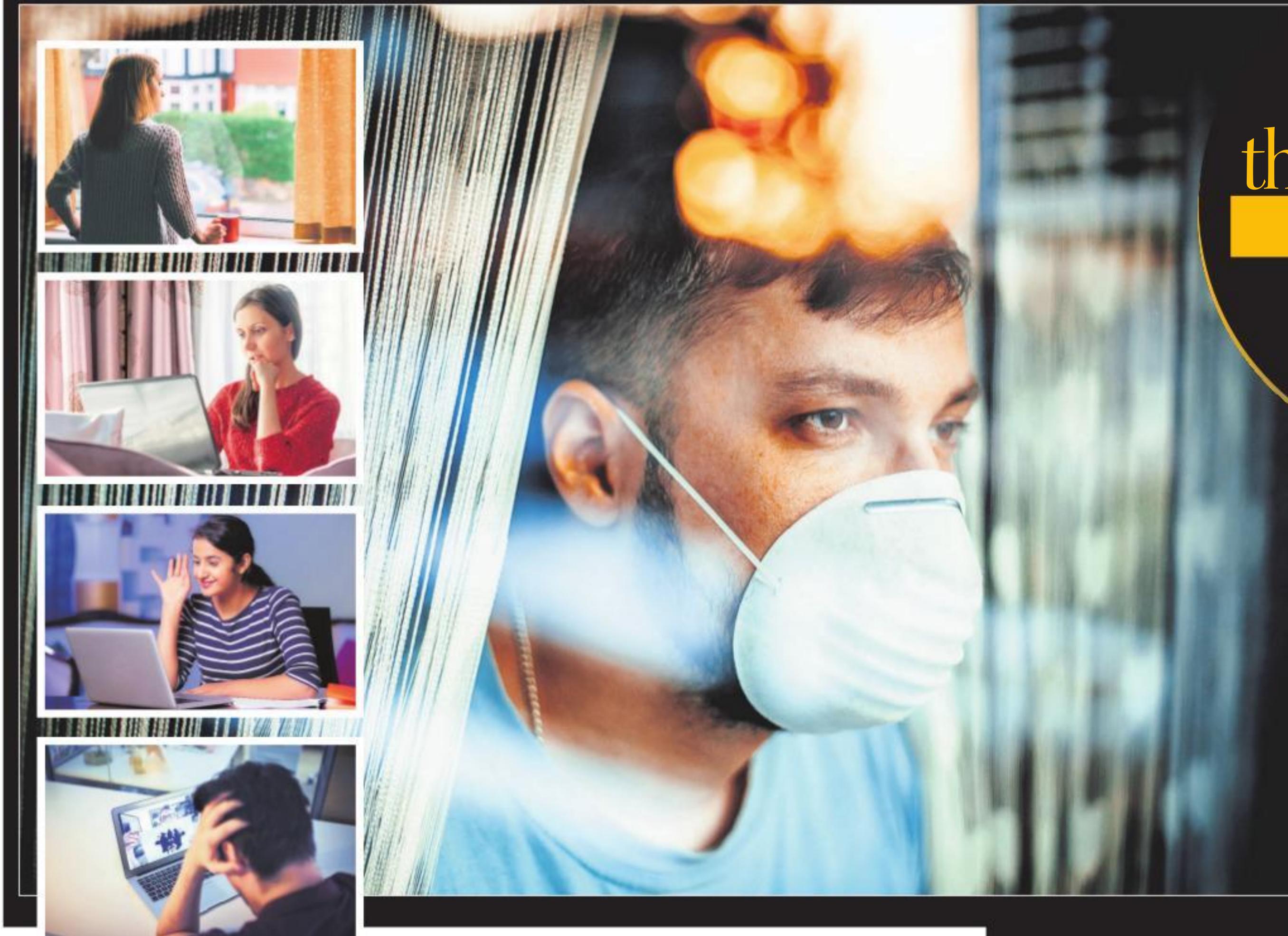
More than 50 years after it was fished out from the ocean bed, ownership war over the 2,200-year-old 'Victorious Youth' rages between Getty Museum & Italy **ARTS page 12**



As the mercury continues to drop, it is time to winterproof your house. Offering some simple tips and tricks that will help to make your house feel warmer and cosier

**HOMES 13**

Barack Obama's 'A Promised Land' is not an accidental presidential memoir. Like most events in his life, the release of the book was timed to perfection

**BOOKS page 14**

## Calming the Covid mind

Infected with the virus or not, very few have come out unaffected. Particularly vulnerable have been children, as parents confront a host of behavioural and mental health issues while struggling to maintain a posture of sanity themselves

ALL PICTURES HAVE BEEN USED FOR REPRESENTATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

RENU SUD SINHA &amp; CHANDNI S CHANDEL

**T**HE lockdown, the restrictions, the confinement, the paranoia — Covid-19 spawned situations that had no precedence. The virus not only tested immunity, but also the elasticity of human ties. As a vaccine shot becomes a reality, lifting the pandemic's occupation of the mindscape is the big challenge.

In the initial weeks, an unsuspecting populace treated it more like a holiday — not going to work, no school, spending time with family. The pause provided the much-needed break everyone had yearned for at some point of time. However, reality soon set in that the pandemic and the 'pause' is here to stay and no one knows for how long.

A palpable fatigue set in because of the restrictions. Families were now living and colliding in each other's personal space 24/7 within the four walls called home.

### Infecting the mind

The rising number of cases brought in a corresponding increase in anxiety and fear. The virus with unknown long-term effects not only claimed lives, it played havoc with minds too. There was a huge rise in the number of mental health patients. The condition of those already affected worsened in absence of therapy or treatment.

From toddlers to the elderly, everyone has been affected, some more than others.

All of three, Chandigarh-based Shubham, otherwise a bright and active child,

has had difficulty in learning new words. The lack of interaction with other kids and adults has led to a decline in communicative and expressing skills, says his paediatrician, Dr Mahesh Hiranandani.

On the other side of the spectrum is Anand (40), a Ludhiana-based teacher at a coaching centre. Already under psy-

chiatric care, his anxiety and phobia intensified. As his institution closed, he shut himself inside his room in April. When he eventually stopped eating altogether, his family had to forcibly admit him to a local mental health clinic.

"There has been a 40-50 per cent rise in mental health issues as compared to the pre-Covid days," says Delhi-based Dr Deepali Batra, a clinical psychologist.

The most worrying aspect has been the reported rise in the number of suicide cases. "At least two to three have been reported per day in Himachal Pradesh since May. For one death by suicide, there were 20 attempted suicide cases, including by teenagers, women and those in the middle-age groups," says Dr Sanjay Pathak, CEO, Himachal Pradesh State Mental Health Authority.

### Burdened beyond years

The pandemic has been especially trying for children and adolescents, particularly those in the age group of 13-19 years. "An under-pressure family unit is unknowingly transferring anxiety to children," says Dr Batra. As a result, many kids, particularly those under 10, have become clingy, adding to the pressures of an already stressed homemaker.

Teenagers, on the other hand, fear the proximity of parents more than the virus itself. On the threshold of adulthood, the loss of independence and privacy, and the lack of interaction with friends have turned many a home into a conflict zone, says Dr Rajeev Gupta, a Ludhiana-based psychiatrist.

For the energetic group of students appearing for Class XII boards and grueling competitive exams, looking forward to the outside world, the year has been one of 'parental surveillance' instead.

The common refrain among teens has been of parents preaching and judging more and listening less. "During a counselling session with a teenager, she

asked me to tell her parents to cut down on the speaking part," shares Dr Batra.

An overdose of negative attention has created an atmosphere of constant suffocation and resultant rebellion. That has resulted in an increasing number of cases of domestic violence and child abuse, adds Dr Gupta.

A prolonged admission process and uncertainty over admissions abroad have only added to the stress of this vulnerable group, already facing anxiety, says Dr Hiranandani.

### Of those already affected

Delhi-based Shanaya (18) suffers from obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). Her condition worsened in the face of a virus that could exist on any surface for an unknown period and needed increased hygiene practises. She locked herself in her room and was constantly sanitising herself and everything around. Crying continuously, she was barely sleeping and eventually stopped eating. Uncertainty and lack of information only fuelled her fears, that included the world ending due to pandemic. Even counselling, that had gone digital now, was not of much help initially, says her therapist, Ashita Mahendru, a clinical psychologist.

The condition of one of her other patients, Kritika (19), already under therapy for anxiety, had worsened in this constant state of uncertainty. It didn't help when both her parents acquired the dreaded infection. Her worst nightmare had come true. With parents under isolation and grandparents at home, the teenager had no time for self-care. However, a support group of friends, video calls with her 'cool and composed' mom and calming exercises from earlier therapy sessions kept her grounded.

Even those teens who had never suffered an anxious moment besides the usual exam stress could not cope. For a sports lover being cooped inside without any physical activity can be extremely frustrating. A few weeks into the lockdown, Anshul (17) started exhibiting symptoms like extreme irritability, mood swings, argumentativeness, etc. The realisation that this situation may well extend into next year made things worse. His mother was able to persuade him to go for therapy.

"Adolescents with adequate and constructive coping mechanism have been able to keep a modicum of composure but those with vulnerability, or having other traits like a tendency to be low and apprehensive, are finding it difficult," says Dr Adarsh Kohli, Professor, Clinical Psychology, PGIMER, Chandigarh.

### SYMPTOMS TO WATCH OUT FOR

- Disturbed sleep
- Irritability
- Extreme mood swings
- Aggressive, argumentative behaviour
- Frequent headaches
- Poor appetite
- Indifference towards self-care
- Self-isolation, less or no social interaction

### STRATEGIES TO HELP COPE

- Listen without judging or preaching
- Unconditional acceptance
- Give physical, emotional and mental space
- Provide a positive, conducive atmosphere
- Create a schedule or time table
- Have more all-inclusive family activities
- Encourage connecting with friends, cousins, family members
- Set time for exercise, walks, yoga
- Take up new hobbies together



### HELPLINE SERVICES

- Chandigarh Administration's 24X7 toll-free helpline no. 1800-180-2063
- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare provides a pan-India toll-free helpline no. 08046110007
- Paramarsh toll-free helpline no. 08047192224 (9 to 9) by Indian Association of Clinical Psychologists
- Rehabilitation Council of India provides free services by 640 certified professionals across India. Check its website for more info

### Too close for comfort

Forced proximity made many parents aware of the problems being faced by kids, signs of being dysfunctional and unsettling discoveries like the use of drugs or addiction to pornography or social media.

Conflicts increased as a result, but in the end, these harmful revelations also led them to face some bitter home truths about themselves and their kids and eventually seek help.

Life, as we knew in pre-Covid times, has changed forever. However, survival strategies, coping mechanisms, rules for parenting or for that matter any relationship have remained the same. Only their re-learning is needed. "More than adolescents, we had to counsel the parents," says Mahendru. "The problem lies majorly with parents. Most are critical, often compare their kids with siblings or peers, are judgmental, do not listen but order or preach. Even when they bring their kids to us, they seek validation for their own point of view," she rues.

### Rules for new normal

Kritika's mom, a homemaker, has a simple solution, validated by experts. "Listen to them. They are not kids anymore but young adults and they can be right at times. Don't impose your thinking; let them make their own mistakes and learn from them."

Dr Priyanka Kalra, a Ludhiana-based psychiatrist, has been holding training sessions for parents to help them deal with Covid-induced behavioural problems such as restlessness, aggression and even deception among kids as young as six. She cites the case of a 10-year-old boy, who along with his five-year-old sister, would log in for his class, and then watch cartoons on the other phone that he would ostensibly ask for to use the hotspot.

She advocates unintrusive and patient monitoring, more family activities and reinforcement of positive behaviour by parents as some key solutions.

For adolescents, Dr Sandeep Grover, HoD, Psychiatry, PGI, Chandigarh, suggests parents involving them in decision making, daily activities, helping around the house, teaching them basic life skills, and taking up some common activities or hobbies together to strengthen familial bonds.

In short, continue doing what we all did during the initial phase of lockdown, but with a better understanding and a positive perspective.

It was never meant to be easy, but why make it more difficult.

(Some names have been changed to protect identity)

Don't always tell or order your children; listen to them without judging them.

ISTOCK

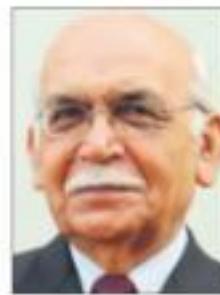
# Getty Bronze vs Italy: A statue divides

More than five decades after it was fished out from ocean bed, the ownership war rages over the 2,200-year-old 'Victorious Youth'

Lysippus modelled Alexander's daring and his whole form.  
How great is the power of this bronze!  
The brazen king  
seems to be gazing at Zeus and about to say:  
"I set Earth under my feet; thyself, Zeus,  
possess Olympus."

— An epigram by Asclepiades

**A**S I sit down to write, I realise that this piece can go in different directions: three at least. One, it can be about one of the greatest sculptors of ancient Greece who is celebrated in the same breath as Skopas and Polykleitos of ca. 4th century BC. Two, about the romance attached to great sunken treasures fished out from the ocean bed, purely by chance, by fishermen working in the eastern Mediterranean in particular. Three, about controversies that keep raging in the international art and legal circles about the return of antiquities by museums and private collectors to the countries of their origin.



**ART &  
SOUL**

BN GOSWAMY

At the centre of my thoughts in any case is a sculpture — one of the most engaging and justly admired works to have come from the ancient world — by Lysippus, contemporary and favourite of Alexander, which is at present in the celebrated Getty Museum in the Pacific Palisades of Los Angeles. Known and published now under different names — 'the Fano Athlete', the 'Victorious Youth', the 'Getty Bronze'. It was lost to the world till 1964, even though dating back about 2,200 years, when a group of Italian fishermen, plying their vessel close to Fano in the Adriatic Sea, pulled it out from the sea bed, completely covered by barnacles and other marine life from its centuries underwater. There was excitement among the fishermen even though they could only guess that this barnacle-covered and slimy green object was a heavy metal statue; the 'find' was taken ashore, the piece was secretly offered to a dealer who involved a priest, and paid the equivalent of \$3,500 to the fishermen. Everything was done under cover to keep it all away from the eyes of police: rough scrapers and sharp instruments were used to 'clean it up a bit'. A great deal of activity followed: the piece was smuggled in vans and hidden in garages, under a priest's stairs, buried in a cabbage patch, for avoiding detection. It kept changing hands, but it was not till it landed in Munich with the German art dealer, Herzer and was with great care restored, that its final glimmering shape emerged: a



The Victorious Youth. Detail, from different angles, of the standing nude figure in bronze. Greece; 4th century BC. Now in the Getty Museum, Los Angeles. ALL WORKS ARE BY, OR HAVE BEEN ATTRIBUTED TO, LYSIPPOS



(L-R) Fragment of the weary 'Farnese Herakles'. Roman marble copy of a bronze, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Portrait, in marble, of Alexander the Great. Athena Gallery, the Louvre, Paris; Portrait of Socrates; possibly a Roman copy in marble of a bronze, by Lysippus. 1st century CE, also at the Louvre, Paris.

young man, 'naked but not nude' as has been said, at the threshold of youth, lips lightly parted, a hovering nascent smile, standing *contrapposto*, right hand raised lightly pointing towards the laurel wreath of leaves he now wears — almost lost in his curly hair — having emerged victorious in some contest. All at once, charm and innocence and the first flush of youth lurk and shine in the work. A bronze like none other, one might say. The Getty is extremely rich in ancient bronzes, but this work is meant when anyone speaks of the 'Getty Bronze'.

Within a short span of time, the world was beginning to wake up to this bronze: dealers, collectors, authorities. Questions were being asked, of course, and speculation was

rife. Who did the work belong to? Could it be attributed to Lysippus with confidence? Why was it being transported from Greece to Italy? Was the fishing boat in Italy's territorial waters? Were the Italian authorities entitled to seize it? And so on. But the reputation of the work, and interest in it — Roman copies of Greek copies were one thing, but this was one of the very few life-size bronze statues to have survived from Greece — was growing. One of the most avid of collectors, the oil magnate of Croesus-like riches, J Paul Getty, got interested and even entertained at one time the thought of acquiring the work in partnership with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York: after due diligence and clean

paper-work, of course. There were counter-moves on in Italy at the same time where cases had been filed: charges of wrongdoing, including theft and smuggling, filling the air. One of the Italian courts dismissed the charges after imposing fines on the fishermen who had sold it to dealers against patrimony laws of the land. The air was clearing for acquisition, however: at least in the eyes of the Getty Trust. J Paul Getty himself died in 1976, but the deal had been more or less struck by that time: 3.58 million US dollars. In 1977, the Victorious Youth of Greece had turned into the Getty Bronze. But it was not over yet: nothing is. Italian courts were still in the picture, for cases continued to be filed. For 10 long years, bitter

arguments went on in Italy's highest court: the Court of Cassation. In 2018, that court pronounced its judgment: the bronze was found in Italian waters and improperly smuggled out of the country. Therefore, it belongs to Italy and must be returned. "It is the last word from Italian justice," the prosecutor stated. The Getty is in no mood to agree. Their argument, first, is that the bronze is Greek, not Italian: "it is not and has never been part of Italy's cultural heritage." The museum also says that the Romans probably took the statue from its original location in Greece in 100 BC-100 AD, and when it was being transported to Italy, a shipwreck caused the statue to sink and got preserved in the sea. "Accidental discovery by Italian citizens does not make the statue an Italian object," the museum says. "Found outside the territory of any modern state, and immersed in the sea for two millennia, the Bronze has only a fleeting and incidental connection with Italy."

All arguments in place, the Museum plans to fight it out: "defend our legal right to the statue". Incidentally, the Museum has also agreed to return to Italy close to 40 other objects, but not the Getty Bronze. It is up to international fora of justice now.

Meanwhile, there is time to take in the sight of some other great works that Lysippus produced in his lifetime: some 1,500 bronzes according to an estimate by Pliny, Roman author of the early Christian Era. A stunning 'portrait' of Alexander, his patron, for instance; another of Socrates, the great philosopher; a rendering of the fatigued Herakles after he had overcome the Nemean Lion.

## The forgotten saga of Indian dairy farmers

Little India in Singapore had a vibrant cattle trading history. A recently unveiled statue celebrates it

VANDANA AGGARWAL

**L**ITTLE INDIA sits in the heart of Singapore. Dotted with conserved shophouses and saree and goldsmith shops, Indian restaurants and garland sellers, people from the Indian subcontinent congregate here to buy groceries, visit places of worship or just chat with friends.

In the middle of this organised chaos runs Serangoon Road, one of the oldest arterial roads in the country. It is here that the statue of a man wearing an Indian style headgear and driving a bullock cart was unveiled last month, drawing appreciation from locals and history buffs. Made of fibreglass-reinforced poly-marble with faux brass coating, it sits in a high traffic area and immediately draws attention to an often-forgotten time when cattle trade dominated this district.

### Ode to the past

Till the 1860s, the area around Serangoon Road was dotted with lime pits and brick kilns that provided jobs to many Indian immigrants. The road was an important thoroughfare connecting the farmlands and plantations in the interior of the island to the seaport. As the country developed, buffaloes, often referred to as the "work-horses" of Singapore, were used to roll the roads that were being built.

Pioneer cattle traders included IR Belilios, a Jew from Calcutta, owner of several cattle sheds and pens in the area and an importer of cattle fodder. Belilios Road in the neighbourhood is named after him, as is Desker Road, which is named after the owner of the largest butchery and slaughterhouse in the area. The title of "Cattle King", however, was



Statue of a man driving a bullock cart; (R) Buffalo Road.

saw an employment avenue in cattle trade.

The abundance of water also meant that the land was fertile and lent itself to agricultural activities. With the cattle providing manure and a means of transporting the produce, business boomed. Ancillary enterprises like wheat grinding and pineapple preservation thrived, their waste providing food to the animals while the bullock carts ferried products from farms to factories.

Pioneer cattle traders included IR Belilios, a Jew from Calcutta, owner of several cattle sheds and pens in the area and an importer of cattle fodder. Belilios Road in the neighbourhood is named after him, as is Desker Road, which is named after the owner of the largest butchery and slaughterhouse in the area. The title of "Cattle King", however, was



given to Moona Kader Sultan, an Indian Muslim cattle trader and importer, whose Straits Cattle Trading Company dominated the trade for several decades, making him

one of the wealthiest men in Singapore then. While the name of Buffalo Road is self-explanatory, Kerbau Road (buffalo road in Malay) is a reminder that the Kampong

Kerbau or buffalo village once existed in the vicinity. Another reference to the importance of these animals is reflected in the name of Singapore's largest woman and child hospital — Kandang Kerbau Hospital. Kandang Kerbau means "buffalo enclosure" in Malay.

### All that was traded

While the Hindus focused on raising cattle and trading in livestock, the Indian Muslims also owned abattoirs and tanneries.

Old-timers fondly recall how cow herds would bring the cow to the customers' doorstep and milk it there. Sikh businessman Jiva Singh was a prominent cattle dealer who, along with his brother and son, started a dairy farm in the Serangoon area in 1921. The women traded in freshly made milk products such as sweets and curd.

As Serangoon Road became busier, settlements came up haphazardly. With the increase in population and arrival of other means of transport, there was a need to reorganise the roads and construct more buildings. In the 1930s, the swamps, that were key to thriving of cattle in the area, were drained. Gradually, the cattle trade died down, causing huge losses to Belilios and Kader Sultan.

The cattle industry of Little India would have been a forgotten memory, but for the names of the roads that linked to the past. A whimsical mural on Kerbau Road showcases colourful cattle reminding Singaporeans to be mindful of their diverse roots. One of the buffaloes is depicted riding a bicycle, a reminder of the time when milkmen distributed fresh milk on this vehicle.

Amid rapid urbanisation, the arts and road names have kept alive the memory of cattle trade in a time gone by.

# Homes

## Rug-ged warmth



BINDU GOPAL RAO

**A**s a décor accessory that can instantly transform a space from drab to fab, rugs win hands down. Add a wool rug to your room this winter and enjoy the softness and durability that will last for generations. Wool rugs are available in several styles and patterns. Geometric patterns, florals, abstract, traditional designs, you name it and the style is available in wool rugs, the most popular being Oriental designs.

"There is never a wrong time or place to add a rug to your living space. Adding such accessories to your space is not just functional but also aesthetically pleasing. Whether it is getting out of the bed and putting your feet onto a cold floor, a rug lessens this feeling, whether your flooring is marble, wooden or parquet," says Hussain Somjee, managing director of MIMI Homes.

### Trending tales

Rugs traditional designs in warmer, deep saturated, subtle tones can add warmth to your place. Placing an intricately patterned rug on the solid flat weave or hand-knotted rug is a good idea. "Using high-end rugs in smaller sizes as wall hanging can also add to the winter interiors. Placing a runner on your bedside or smaller rugs beneath your resting chair or placing a warm shag rug in the balcony with some floor cushion to enjoy the sun on a winter afternoon can impart a nice vibe to your house," says Angelique Dhamma at Obeetee.

### Décor mantra

No other carpet is as luxurious, timeless and classic as a wool rug. "Wool rugs also make great wall art. Given the nature of hand-knotted rugs, people are using these to transform their walls and the overall feel of a room. A colourful piece on the wall is good for the aesthetics of the room. The new rule with rugs is 'more the



merrier'. Using different types of rugs in layers is an easy way to add colours and patterns to a room or to experiment with trends. A mix and match of different rugs can add character and versatility to your house, both indoors and outdoors. You can experiment with rugs of different colours, textures and/or fibre like wool, silk, high/low or a flat weave with colour and pattern for a combination to stand out," says Yogesh Chaudhary of Jaipur Rugs. People are spending more time at home than ever before. Hence, they have taken to decorating their homes according to their needs.

"If you are looking to add some attention to your interiors, consider 'layering' rugs by creating a patchwork of motives and patterns. For instance, instead of selecting one solid rug, you can consider putting a smaller one on top of a bigger rug at an angle or off centre and add to the aesthetics," says Erik Jan Middlehoven of IKEA India.

So, while you enjoy your rugs, remember that vacuuming is the best way to clean your rug from time to time. Proper sanitisation in spray form should be done on a regular basis.

**From hard pruning to growing new plants, the season's right to reshape your garden**

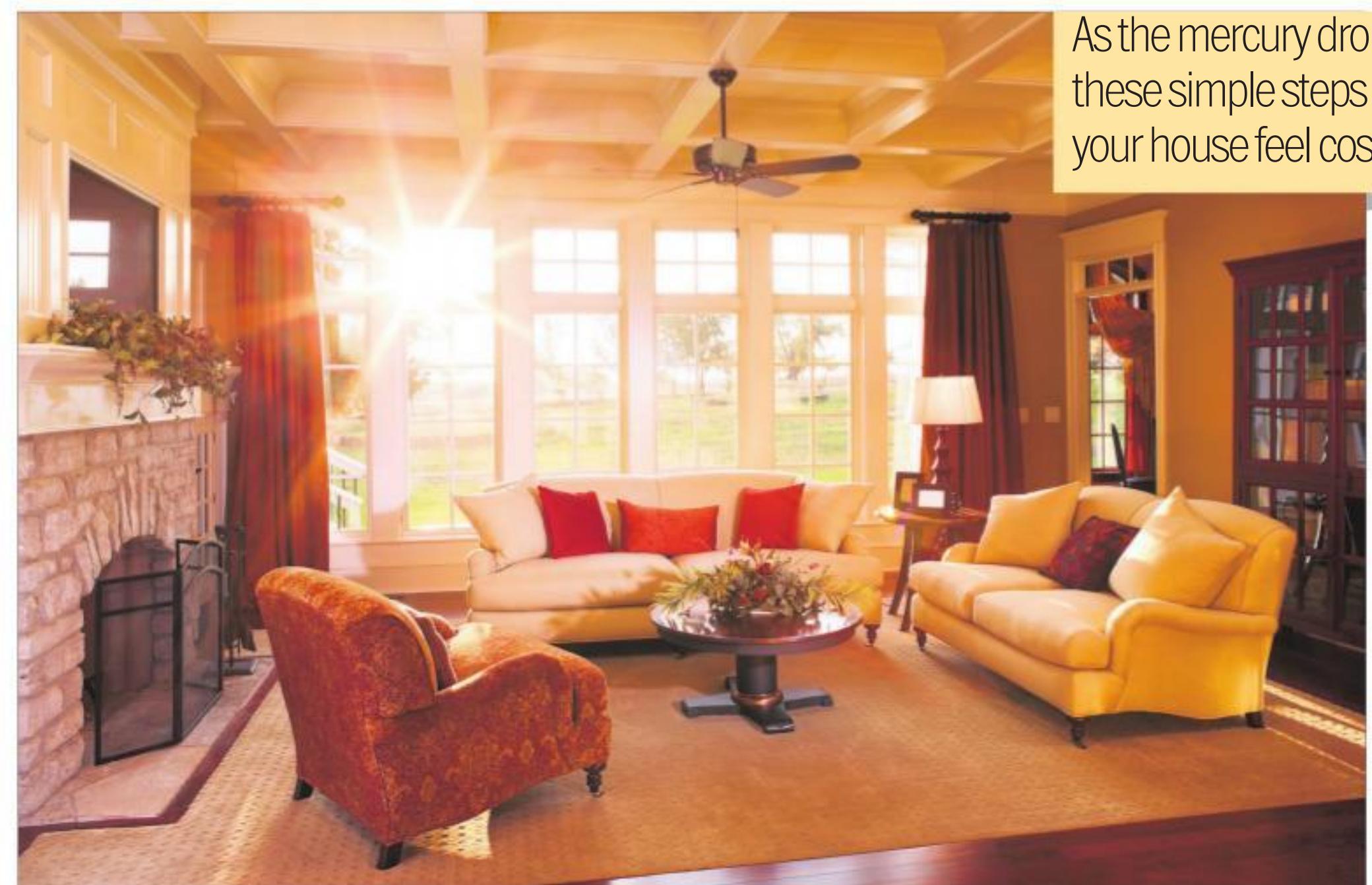
young tree with selective pruning and developing a single leader with strong and evenly spaced branches. In the subsequent years, retain only strong branches and remove the feeble ones, besides the ones that are too close. Pruning in a grown stage is done to improve the plant's health by thinning off the crown. This aids in better circulation of air and sunlight. Pruning adds to the safety, too, since the broken and damaged branches are removed. The process improves the quality of flowers. In fruit trees, it increases the yield. Removing low-growing limbs enhances the appearance of the tree.

### How much to prune

Too much pruning makes the tree vulnerable to disease and insects. Don't prune more than 25 per cent of the crown. Living branches should compose at least 2/3 of the height of the tree. A two-third ratio of crown to tree should be maintained. Prune young branches. Use proper tools to make clean cuts and treat these with antiseptic.

### Plant new trees

Mid-January is the time to plant fruit trees like plum, pear and peach that require sunny, well-drained, rich, sandy loamy to medium soil. Being sterile, the *Satluj Purple* plum variety needs the company of *Kala Amritsari* variety, else it will yield only flowers and bear no fruit. Maintain their 4:1 ratio, respectively. The hard and semi-soft pears are successfully grown in this region but the very soft ones are confined to higher altitude areas. The hard pear fruit matures by end July and has long keeping quality.



As the mercury drops, follow these simple steps to make your house feel cosier

## Winterproof your house

POOJA KHANNA TYAGI

**S**INCE it can become very cold and uncomfortable in winter, it is essential to make your house feel warmer and cosier. Here are some simple ways to weatherproof your house this winter and make it inviting:

### Bring in the sun

One of the best ways to make the house feel warm is by bringing in the sunlight. As the days get shorter and the nights longer, sunlight is available for a limited amount of time. Therefore, open the curtains in the morning and noon to bring in maximum sunlight. Draw the curtains as soon as the sun sets so that the indoor heat does not escape. If your house is surrounded by huge trees or shrubs that are creating shade or blocking the sunlight, trim these.

### Seal the cracks

Check for gaps and cracks between the walls and door-cum-window frames. Seal these properly with silicon rubber sealant, weather-stripping or adhesive tapes. Also check the walls for any hairline cracks, openings or holes. Close these properly. Use a weather strip to seal the gap between the base of the door and the floor so that cold air from outside does not enter the house.

### Install double curtains

Go for a combination of double curtains where the first layer comprises sheer curtains and the second has dark and heavy curtains. Dark fabric in materials like velvet, cotton and wool absorbs heat and adds an extra layer of insulation in the house. During the day, pull back the heavy curtains so that the thin sheer curtains ensure privacy while allowing the daylight to illuminate the interiors. Draw heavy curtains as soon as the sun sets.

### Roll out the carpet

Flooring material like marble, granite and tiles tends to become very cold in winter. Hence roll out the carpet on the floor so



ventional bedsheets material like cotton, polyester or linen to make your bedroom feel warmer. A combination of different fabrics on the bed, curtains and carpets creates a layered effect, making the house feel cosier and warmer.

### Switch on the lamps

Incandescent lights emit heat and make the space feel warmer as compared to the trending CFL or LED lights. Therefore, switch on the table lamps or pendant lights with incandescent lights to make the room cosy.

### Invest in an electric blanket

Electric blankets comprise an integrated internal wiring system that heats up the blanket uniformly. These blankets are available in many colours, designs and thickness. Use electric blankets to warm up the bed before you get into it. Switch it off before you go off to sleep. For safety, avoid using electric blankets in children's bedroom. Another way to keep your bed warm is by keeping a heating pad or hot water bottle under the blanket.



### ROOM HEATERS TO THE RESCUE

Different types of room heaters like infrared heaters, fan heaters and oil-filled room heaters are available in the market. The drawback of most heaters, however, is that these not only consume a lot of electricity but also reduce the quantity of moisture in the air, making it feel dry. Consider oil-filled room heaters because these heat the room slowly. These do not burn oxygen in the room nor do they dry the surrounding air.

that the flooring surface becomes warmer to walk on. Consider woollen carpets as these create an extra layer of insulation on the floor and feel cosy on the feet.

### Spread a warm bedding

Warm bedding material like fleece, flannel, or wool can be used instead of the con-

## Time to reshape greens

AMARJEET BAITH

**D**URING winter, plants go dormant but gardeners use this period to give shape to the garden by replacing dead plants and reallocating others. In this period, the stress and sap loss is minimum in the plant. Also the low temperatures reduce fungal and insect infection during this period. Pruning in late winter has another advantage. By then, most leaves are already off and it gives a better idea of the network of branches to be pruned.

### Create a balance

Removing the dead, diseased and broken branches is a round-the-year operation but during dormancy, hard pruning is done. While pruning a tree, the focus is on checking apical growth and forming lateral branches so as to create a balance between shoot and root growth. It starts in a



### Plant new trees

Mid-January is the time to plant fruit trees like plum, pear and peach that require sunny, well-drained, rich, sandy loamy to medium soil. These are decomposed with layers of soil mixed with little urea. Make a pit in a well-drained area, under partial shade. Dig a pit 3-4 feet in diameter and equal depth. Add layers of organic waste with a layer of cover up soil. Never throw inorganic waste like polythene in the pit. Add light mixture of urea to accelerate decomposition. Top it with a layer of soil. Make a concave top to retain water. Periodically turn the pile. It takes four to six months to turn organic waste into compost.

### CAPTION CONTEST 1282



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

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

### Selected entries for Caption Contest 1281

November 29 issue (see photo)

■ God's grace — Sudesh Kumar Sood, Moga

■ Crossing Laxman Rekha — Santosh Bhatia, Panchkula

■ From Kailash, landed on kinetic — A.S. Ahuja, Chandigarh

■ Godspeed — Sonal Sangwan, Chandigarh

■ Divine elopement — Meenakshi Sharma, Chandigarh



# Popular President scripts a winner, again

KP NAYAR

**T**HIS is not an accidental presidential memoir. Like most events in Barack Obama's life, the release of 'A Promised Land' was timed to perfection. Published just under four years after Obama left the White House, the United States of America is a very different country from what the author handed charge to his maverick successor, the outgoing President Donald Trump.

Obama came to office in January 2009 with an approval rating of 67 per cent. He left office without much dent in how Americans viewed his performance as President: an impressive 59 per cent compared to 34 per cent for his immediate predecessor George W Bush, but lower than Bill Clinton's 66 per cent. Since then, Trump has vilified Obama, blamed much of America's ills on its 44th President and calculatedly trampled on Obama's legacy to make him look bad in the run-up to this November's elections.

If 'A Promised Land' had been published a year or two ago, many readers the world over may not have given this excep-



Barack Obama's (R) eleventh hour oratory turned the tide for President-elect Joe Biden in some battleground states.

and unconventional relevance in American politics. Unconventional, because until now, former Presidents rarely, if at all, criticised their successors in public.

In India, a grave injustice has been done to this outstanding work of writing by overshadowing its vast and varied contents with Obama's observations about Rahul Gandhi and some other Indian leaders. Read against the backdrop of the insights which the memoir offers and their historical contexts, its lucid, novel-like style and, above all, the book's contemporary relevance, these observations are irrelevant. As someone who covered the entirety of Obama's career in nationwide public office, I can say with certainty that Obama was never swept off his feet by India or Indians. Unlike his two immediate predecessors, Bush and Clinton, Indians were unable to manipulate Obama, however much they tried. Which makes his observations about Indian leaders in his memoir all the more inconsequential.

Those who study this memoir to better understand the Obama years in 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, or to look for clues into the future under his Vice President, will not be disappointed. Scattered on the pages are episodes from Obama's life which foretell what is happening in the US now: the racial riots of this year; the widening inequality and the decay of its political apparatus. Hope is the pervasive feeling in the book, reinforced by anecdotes from every facet of the author's life: from the disappointments

of a teenager who found himself "in a series of affectionate, but chaste, friendships", to eventually winning the heart of his life partner Michelle. "I was smitten almost from the second I saw her," recalls the author.

As a Community Organiser in Chicago, Obama's first job, "I saw the transformation that took place when citizens held their leaders and institutions to account even on something as small as putting in a STOP sign on a busy corner or getting more police patrols. I noticed how people stood up a little straighter; saw themselves differently, when they learned that their voices mattered."

Yet, he realised the limitations of that job. "I might have managed to reshape a neighbourhood or a portion of the city." For this young man of 22, this was not enough. It was that desire to do more, and his undying faith in "the idea of America, the promise of America" which took him on a rather short road to the most powerful office in the world, the presidency, at the age of 47.

Reading the author's latest bestseller, I better understood why his second book, published two years before Obama's election as President was titled 'The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream'. It also explains why Obama's campaign slogan was 'Yes We Can', which was turned into a hit song in his campaign year by will.i.am.

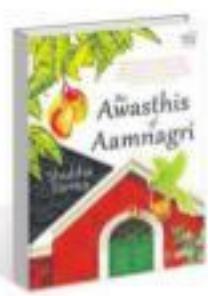
Obama has promised the readers a second volume.

tionally well-written book the attention and praise that it deserves. This is despite an average of polls from 2019 to 2020, showing Obama's popularity at 55 per cent in the weeks and months leading up to the release of the memoir, catapulting him to the centrestage of American politics all over again, in the same way Bill Clinton was the most popular Democratic campaigner for Obama in his re-election bid in 2012. Obama was, no doubt, the kingmaker without whose help the throne of US

presidency would have slipped away from Joe Biden.

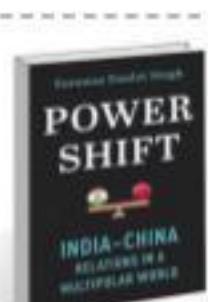
It was Obama's timely intervention which rescued Biden's primary campaign from the abyss it was falling into before the critical, influentially African-American, South Carolina Democratic primary on the last day of February this year. It was Obama's eleventh hour oratory which turned the tide for Biden in some battleground states. 'A Promised Land' is now reaping the sale and readership benefits of Obama's resurrected

## BACKFLAP



### THE AWASTHIS OF AAMNAGRI

by Shubha Sarma. Niyogi. Pages 188. ₹350



**P**OWER SHIFT by historian and strategist Zorawar Daulet Singh is a scholarly take on the increasingly volatile India-China relationship. It helps the reader make sense of the complexities involved and how the two powers are coping with each other's rise. As it explains how we got here, the book tries to provide critical insight on where we might go.

## The man who knows too much tells his story

NONIKA SINGH

**P**RIVILEGE breeds privilege, or so we presume. But as one pores over Lord Meghnad Desai's autobiography, chronicling more than his rise to eminence, including a seat in the House of Lords, we learn that the key to all, even illustrious and elusive positions, is but one. As Benjamin Franklin said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." Desai's life story is testimony to the same.

Born into a middle-class family in Baroda, Desai's quest for knowledge began early and was not limited to one discipline. How the man who is today acknowledged as one of the world's leading economists actually knows so much about playwrights (in his college days he even adapted a few plays) and literary figures is a revelation in itself. Equally fascinating is the way he uses the trajectory of his life to create what is akin to a socio-political and economic document.

Most autobiographies run the danger of edifying one. Desai clearly avoids the trap of putting himself on a pedestal. His achievements, not mean by any standards, are not extolled; rather, they are summed up in the jacket cover. Inside the book, these are referred to as markers of not just the times he lived in, but also the countries that became his home.

The man who, along with greats like Amartya Sen, coined terms like human development and Human Development Index, could have easily followed the self-congratulatory tone. Yet, he describes his life's amazing journey in a matter-of-fact way. Unlike his non-linear interests spanning more than economics, Desai opts for a linear way of storytelling. Starting from his childhood years to earning a scholarship to the US and then moving to London where he taught at the London School of Economics for 38 long years, there is much to learn.

**W**ORLD WAR I continues to inspire and intrigue. Author Mandeep Rai, a former IRS officer, delves into the mysteries of WW-I and how misguided patriotism and chauvinistic fervour propelled Europe into the vortex of disaster. 'The Wheel of Destiny' holds a stark mirror to the fact that wars are not fought for national interest, but for pride.

**T**HE WHEEL OF DESTINY by Mandeep Rai. Ferntree. Pages 302. ₹595

into the British Indian Army. Impressed by their bravery in the Anglo-Nepal war, the British decided to recruit soldiers from Nepal, and the 1st Gurkha Rifles was raised in 1815. This was the beginning of a 200-year-old legacy that survives till today.

World War I saw Nepal, a nation with a population of 50 lakh, contributing almost 200,000 soldiers between 1914 and 1918. A similar number joined the ranks of the British Indian Army during World War II. In the book, Tim briefly covers the operations of various Gurkha units in different campaigns and incidents of individual bravery. Together, in the two wars, the Gurkhas won 12 Victoria Crosses, Britain's highest gallantry award.

The book has two broad parts. The first is a retelling of the history of the Gurkha soldiers and their contribution to various wars. The second is largely focused on the Gurkhas in the British army and their struggle for equality and justice in matters of pay and service conditions. Here Tim Gurung brings in his own experience of 13 years in the British army.

The book takes us on a journey of the Gurkhas, starting with their induction

But if you were born in pre-Independence India and moved to the West, you could only be a witness to many winds of change and transition.

Clearly, he not only had the advantage of "it always helps to belong to two signs", but also to two worlds.

Living in the US in times of Vietnam War, he could easily note, "The country was being torn apart by Vietnam." India, the country of his birth, figures on and off. Yet, observations such as "India was a collection of many regional economies and nationalisms" are no less telling if not palatable to all.

His stay in the UK, where he became a member of the Labour Party, truly became the wind beneath his wings, leading to many a sterling academic endeavour.

Of course, an economist's life story, even if it incorporates his interest in cinema and other arts, can't possibly be a page turner. But nor is it a dreary summation of econometric models, his core specialisation. The yardstick he applied to his book, 'Testing Monetarism', which he wanted to be comprehensible to an intelligent reader and not just students of economics, rings true here too. Indeed, what is an economist's life without references to Keynesian and Marxist concepts? Desai, however, uses easy analogies here. Particularly engaging is the retelling of the foxes and rabbit game to drive home the predator-prey relationship.

In telling his story at the ripe age of 80, he takes us from the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi to being instrumental in having his statue up at the Parliament Square in London. He even factors in the arrival of Donald Trump on the political landscape. In short, full circle. Economics might be all about cycles, but Desai's has been an ascending graph, a fact that resonates and inspires, even if the man of many parts doesn't drum it up.

**M**EGHNADE DESAI: REBELLIOUS LORD An autobiography by Meghnad Desai. Westland. Pages 308. ₹799

Vidhate is certainly not the first author to explore Duryodhana's point of view.

Yet, he has tried to go beyond the popular

fable of good and evil, as represented by the Pandavas and the Kauravas, not

treating his characters as demi-gods but

as rulers, conquerors and human beings

with fatal flaws who are essentially driven

by politics. The 'Mahabharata' thus

is a tale of an epic battle replete with inci-

dents of heroism and sacrifice, as well as

treachery and duplicity. However, as in

most battles, the blame of destruction

does not lie solely with one side; both

were responsible for the apoplectic war

that decimated the Kauravas.

Vidhate makes an honest effort to con-

vey the perspectives from the brave war-

rior's point of view and explore the fac-

tors that shaped him. The shades of

Duryodhana's personality and actions

range from good to evil, from white to

black, interspersed with varying shades

of grey. "I am a warrior, not a murderer,"

declares Duryodhana at one point. "I

believe that the honourable way to elim-

inate the enemy is in war."

He was born to the blind king Dhri-

trashtra, who nurtured grand aspira-

tions for his eldest son, and Gandhari, who had voluntarily chosen blindness as a sacrifice for her husband and was a noble lady, but a cold mother. Duryodhana was educated by the luminary gurus of the times — Rishi Kanik, Guru Drona and his maternal uncle, Shakuni.

The larger-than-life protagonist is playing for high stakes but must fight formidable enemies consisting of his own family. He opts to challenge Krishna and his cousins when it is announced that Yudhishthira would be crowned king. He contests that as the eldest son of the elder brother, he is the true inheritor of the throne of Hastinapur and Yudhishthira, the false aspirant. The battle between dharma and adharma ensues. The question is: who is the rightful inheritor?

Vidhate scrutinises the fables of mysticism surrounding the protagonists of the 'Mahabharata', also giving alternative perspectives to the (infamous decisions of the eldest Kaurava. For example, the attempted killing of Bhima, the burning of the wax house, the loaded game of dice. In case of Draupadi's cheerhanan, where she is subjected to shame and humiliation while her husbands watch in abject silence, he turns his accusing gaze on each one present in the court.

While the overwhelming account of the book is in the voice of Duryodhana, there are also narrations by Dhritrashtra, Dushasana, Shakuni, Bhanumati, Krishna and Karna, each with a separate point of view and morality that sometimes challenges the traditional perceptions of the 'Mahabharata'.

Vikrant Pande, who has previously translated significant works, including Ranjit Desai's 'Shivaji the Great', NS Imamdar's 'Shahenshah, The Life of Aurangzeb' and 'Rau, The Love Story of Bajirao Mastani', has effectively captured the atmosphere.

**DURYODHAN**  
by Kaka Vidhate.  
Westland.  
Pages 582. ₹899



The Gurkha Memorial Service in Ipoh, Malaysia (June 10, 2017). PHOTO COURTESY: TIM GURUNG

Tim details the Gurkha Justice Campaign that was launched to fight for the rights and welfare of Gurkhas serving in the British army.

Their first success came in 2009 when the British government granted citizenship to Gurkha soldiers as was always applicable to all Commonwealth soldiers. The issues of equal pay and pension have also been resolved, though some matters remain.

As an officer who has worn the Gorkha badge for 40 years, I can relate to the passion and sentiment of Tim Gurung and his attempt in the book to go beyond the stories of valour and fighting skills of the Gurkhas.

He has, therefore, covered a whole range of issues like Gurkha women, Gurkhas in literature, recruitment policy, etc.

If there is a shortcoming, it is that the author has attempted to pack in too much information to ensure that no part of the Gurkha military history is omitted.

This results in a narrative that appears too factual and a touch dry. However, for those who wish to study a brief compendium on the Gurkhas, Tim Gurung's work provides a useful guide.

## Lt Gen DS HOODA (RETD)

**A**YOGORKHALI: A HISTORY OF THE GURKHAS by Tim I Gurung. Westland. Pages 344. ₹799

into the British Indian Army. Impressed by their bravery in the Anglo-Nepal war, the British decided to recruit soldiers from Nepal, and the 1st Gurkha Rifles was raised in 1815. This was the beginning of a 200-year-old legacy that survives till today.

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The book takes us on a journey of the Gurkhas, starting with their induction

# Leh to Keylong & back, 1982



**THE ITINERANT**  
NECHAL SANDHU

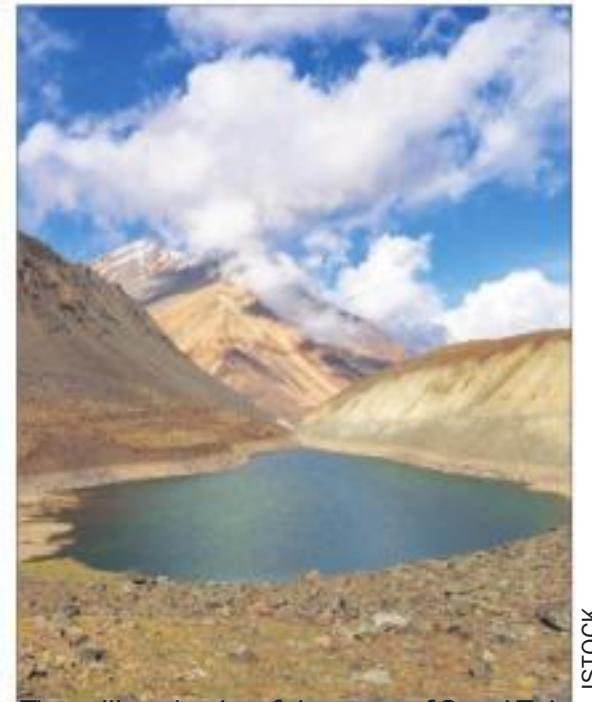
After covering 620 km in 29 hours, one wondered as to when this strategically vital axis to Leh would be completed. That did not eventuate for another seven years — a quarter of a century after work on it began

MY Ladakh tenure was drawing to a close in the evanescent phase of the autumn of 1982. On a quick tally, there was no apparent disparity between official objectives and accomplishments. However, on the personal front, I was afraid of losing the opportunity to proceed from Leh to Manali on an alignment that had not yet matured.

Following a demarche by Kushak Bakula, who was later to represent Ladakh in Parliament for a decade from 1967, with the Centre, work on this alignment commenced in 1964. Bakula later complained to Prime Ministers Morarji Desai and Charan Singh about the languid pace, but failed to have the project expedited. The former reportedly conveyed that the Army, though initially keen, had lost interest in it.

Buoyed by accounts of the adventurous few around us, we decided to drive from Leh to Keylong in Lahaul district of Himachal Pradesh, 70 km short of Manali. The fittest Jonga and a one-tonner were readied. A small posse of the willing and able was enlisted. Two of them had been part of the way on this route during a visit to Kar Tso, the highland salt water lake, wedged between the eastern extremity of the Zanskar range and western lobe of Changthang.

We set out at 4 am in early winter. The first 50 km upstream on the Indus was a breeze; there was no traffic. As we branched off into a tributary of the Indus, it began to pour. Fifteen minutes into the deluge, despite limited visibility, we found ourselves hedged in by sharp slopes distin-



The still and colourful waters of Suraj Tal.

guished by deep purple rocky bands; occasionally red sandstone emerged to make for an interesting chiaroscuro. This spectacle was capped by the unusual sight of a stream carrying grey black water crashing into the purplish water rivulet that had accompanied us ever since we parted ways with the Indus at Upshi.

In the Miru-Gya belt, famed for hosting the snow leopard, Eurasian lynx, blue sheep and Tibetan argali — an endangered mountain sheep, poor visibility and wet conditions extirpated the possibility of any sightings, not even of a marmot, and so our camera shutter remained unexercised.

Several layers of hairpin bends saw us ascend quickly to Taglang La, which was expectedly barren and swept by vicious icy cool winds amidst a weak snowfall. As we descended from this point at 17,500 feet, the rising solar orb tore through cloud cover. Its rays fell on jade green

bluffs past Debring. And after about 25 km and a descent of about 2,000 feet, we got to the aureate More Plains. That innocent looking level stretch was to prove to be the most challenging to negotiate; with no identifiable track, our vehicles would frequently get stuck in the loose sand. A covey of Bar-headed Geese, obviously laggards, heading southwards, and the occasional raspy call of Chakors constituted the only distractions from our predicament.

Having covered less than half of our route, clouds developing again and uncertainty about the challenges ahead, we decided to drive hell for leather. A gentle climb to Lachulung La, then a steep 3,000 foot descent to Tsarap river and a drive along it upstream to Sarchu gave us confidence that we would make it over the Bara Lacha La into Himachal Pradesh before dusk. And so it transpired.

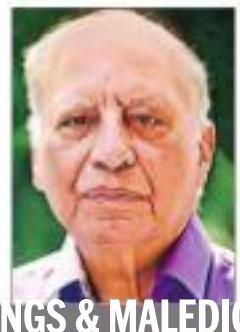
But soon after crossing Suraj Tal, where we did not tarry to absorb sufficiently the amazing change from azure in the centre of the lake to turquoise on its fringes, we came upon a terrible landslide at Zing Zing Bar. There being no chance of getting across it and nightfall anigh, we reconciled ourselves to a night there huddled within the solitary tent that we had. Having consumed a heavy breakfast and a heavy lunch en route and with our frames shaken during the 15 hours spent on the way, we gave up on dinner and hit the sack. The young cook, who had been jolted around in the back of the one-tonner, had the beans to cook next day's meals and pack them before he turned in.

Waking up at dawn to a clear sky, we spent a while contemplating the still and colourful waters of Suraj Tal before making a hurried run through Bara Lacha La onto Sarchu, which had been deserted by the seasonally depulated PWD staff, leaving a derelict road roller behind. Our colleague in the cabin about the challenges ahead was interrupted by the keenest nature lover amongst us as he spotted a Lachu plant (*Rheum spiciforme*) and extolled its use in indigenous medicine as a wonder cure for rheumatism. This perennial herb, a rhubarb of sorts, with all the leaves at its base and dried red flowers in the form of cylindrical spikes, was in abundance around Lachulung La and thus lends its name to that Pass.

Two captivating sights followed in the next few hours. The deep cleft between weathered sand-coloured escarpments at Pang could well be characterised as Ladakh's Grand Canyon. And a lone horseman with a cocky hat riding a spirited horse at a fair pace across the deserted More Plains in the late afternoon, generating a plume of dust, ignored our presence and headed determinedly towards what must be his destination in Changthang; he seemed injured to the difficult terrain and confident of dealing with any challenge that nature might throw at him.

Back in Leh that night, after covering about 620 km in 29 hours, one wondered as to when this strategically vital axis to Leh would be completed. That did not eventuate for another seven years — a quarter of a century after work on it began, but fortunately during the lifetime of Kushak Bakula!

## Linguistic safari



**MUSINGS & MALEDICTIONS**  
KEKI DARUWALA

WITH Diego's departure, the 'hand of God' goal against England has again got the lime-light. That's one of the most famous goals in history. How does that gel with a piece on BJP's football with linguistics I am embarking on? How the leaders dribble and never quibble as they move towards their goals. The other side doesn't have a blessed goalie. He has already been sent off by the referee (not to be confused by the one who never saw the Maradona goal).

The main minority is hardly ever mentioned in public discourse. When I was in school, mandir and masjid were mentioned in the same breath, so were Ram and Rahim. Gandhiji talked of Ishwar and Allah in the same breath, his favorite *bhajan* said the same thing. Why have things changed? A year or two ago, an actor in a Ram Leela was sacked just because he was Muslim. Mohd Rafi sang "Darshan do Ghanshyam" with great fervour: A Maharashtrian Brahmin, Lata Mangeshkar sang "Bekas pe karam kijije sarkar Madina" with as great passion as any Muslim could have summoned. Why has this camaraderie vanished?

The Progressive writers of Urdu mostly, and Hindi, were of Left leanings. In JNU today, for a section of students and teachers, to be a leftist is almost a crime. If I was a student, I could be failed for quoting Romila Thapar! And worse would befall me if I were to mention MN Roy in his communist phase (before he fell out with Stalin), or Shripad Amrit Dange, or that very able and good looking Brinda Karat.

What has happened to civilised discourse? TV is to blame to some extent, bringing opposite factions for a debate night after night. If there was TV in Jinnah and Gandhi's time, imagine the fun. Jinnah being a better lawyer, would he have won? Verbal duels have become coarser. Look at JNU. A national paper carries an article by a member of the Executive Council of JNU. How she lambasts leftists! "Having converted their centres and schools to leftist swamps, they have survived on past regurgitations of stale theories." And she dubs leftists as "the most malevolent anti-student force". Not one civil word in the piece.

Isn't consultation a component of civility? Why couldn't the farmers be asked before those laws were promulgated? Farming seems the only sector which is showing growth. This is how the farmer is treated.

Language is being coarsened and twisted. "The age demanded an image/Of its accelerated grimace". Nothing today exists by itself. We could end with Saul Bellow: "Everybody knows that there is no finesse or accuracy in suppression. If you hold one thing down, you hold down the adjoining."

## Why sportspersons stand firm with farmers



**GOOD SPORT**  
ROHIT MAHAJAN

Sons and daughters of farmers win us medals. They are aware that if they had remained tillers of land, they would have lived their lives in obscurity and, in many cases, penury. They are grateful for what sport has given them. And they have their hearts with farmers' protest



Gurbax Singh Sandhu (L) & Kaur Singh have announced they'd return their awards.

HIMA DAS, Lalita Babar, Sushil Kumar, Kaur Singh, Mirabai Chanu, Simranjit Kaur, Mamatha Poojary, Datu Bhokanal, Bajrang Punia, Mary Kom, Khushbir Kaur, Harmanpreet Singh, Sarita Devi, Neeraj Chopra, Nirmala Sheoran, Geeta Phogat, Tejinderpal Singh Toor, Manpreet Kaur, Sathish Sivalingam, Pritam Rani, Yogeshwar Dutt, Jitu Rai....

This list, made up almost off the cuff but with some knowledge of their declared histories, is of sportspersons hailing from all corners of India — and Nepal, in one case. They've raised India's flag at international sports events and, hand at heart, whispered the national anthem standing on the podium, watching the Tricolour go up. They have another thing in common — they are sons and daughters of farmers.

Sons and daughters of farmers win us medals in multi-sports events such as the Olympics and Commonwealth and Asian Games. They are aware that if they had remained tillers of land — their own, or someone else's as farmhands, like their parents — they would have lived their lives in complete obscurity and, in many cases, penury. They are grateful for what sport has given them. And they have their hearts with the farmers' protest.

### Soldier-farmer

Kaur Singh had fought in the 1971 war against Pakistan. He also won a gold medal in boxing in the 1982 Asian Games in New Delhi and thus

is a true legend — farmer, war hero and sports star. His photograph with Amitabh Bachchan from 1982 — the actor playfully planting a fist on the boxer's square jaw — stirs memories of his heyday. In his old age, after having served in the Army and in the fields, Kaur Singh found out he had to borrow money to be treated for a heart ailment, and had to be rescued by a handout from the Punjab Government.

Kaur Singh was awarded the Arjuna Award and the Padma Shri, and he has decided to return these to show solidarity with the protesting farmers.

A shooter — also a farmer and soldier — once told this writer a tale of him failing to do the right thing. "I once used money that was provided to me for training to repair my home, which was in a bad state, in my village," he said, with some regret. He thought of it as a minor moral failure, but a failure nonetheless. His story made two things clear — that it's the sons and daughters of farmers or eco-

nomically deprived families who opt to become jawans in the Army, and it's the sons and daughters of farmers or people used to manual labour who join sports that pose extreme physical challenges. In short, they provide food, soldiers and sportspersons to the country.

### Over 90 per cent?

Tough sports that require extremely strenuous training don't attract city-bred kids from privileged backgrounds. The supply to the Indian teams in combat sports such as wrestling, boxing, judo is completely rural — or their practitioners move to a city for coaching — because city kids don't go for sports that could hurt them badly or leave a mark on their faces. Also, tennis courts, badminton courts or golf courses are available in cities, not in villages.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that over 80 per cent of Indian athletes in Olympics sports are from rural backgrounds, and most of them

from farming families or 'mehnatkash' households, as Gurbax Singh Sandhu, former national boxing coach, puts it.

Sandhu lives in Patiala, but his father was a farmer in Mohammadpura village in Ludhiana. He coached the national boxing team for well over two decades and it was with him in charge that Indian boxing began to emerge as a force. Sandhu has decided to return the Dronacharya Award he was given in 1998.

Sandhu estimates that well over 80 per cent of sportspersons who join physically punishing sports — including track and field events — are from farmer families or from among those used to manual labour, the 'mehnatkash' people. "They are hardy people," he says. "They work in the fields from their childhood, and are willing to push their physical limits. We can make them train harder." Boxer Mary Kom from Manipur or kabaddi player Mamatha Poojary from Karnataka, to name two, exemplify this.

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At the National Institute of Sports in Patiala, an instructor estimates that more than 90 per cent in the latest batch of coaching trainees are from rural backgrounds — they are from families of farmers or allied fields such as dairy/poultry. He himself is a first-generation non-farmer. "I am from a farming family, and my uncles and cousins still till land," says the instructor. He says sportspersons are aware of the problems of the farmers — that's why they're firmly in solidarity with them.

It took me a while to recover from the shock and begin to laugh at my obviously useless accent. This week when I travelled to the Singhu and Tikri borders of Delhi to witness the massive mobilisation of farmers in protest against the farm laws, I was tempted to practise my rusty Punjabi again, but I didn't. I was proud enough to understand everything that was being said and translate for my colleagues.

"Atthey kapah de khet kithe ne?" I asked in my fresh city-accented Punjabi. The men indicated that I should repeat my question and I did, with more emphasis and some misplaced confidence.

"Hindi mein gal karo, behenji, sanu angrezi nai samjh aandi," answered a young man. "Speak to us in Hindi," he said, "we don't understand English."

I returned with hope. The farmers may well be the spark that will ignite the inspiration to see us out of the dark tunnel that the past few years have been.

While we were recording an interview with her, a man interrupted to ask, "Are you national media?"

"Yes," I answered, assuming that he would take us seriously and step back. I realised

quickly that it was the wrong answer. We learnt that many news teams have removed identifying logos from their mikes to escape the wrath of protesters after they have been vilified as "terrorists and Khalistanis" on various Hindi channels.

On the Tikri border, we walked nearly 4 km to reach the spot where many of the leaders of various farmers' unions were camping. On the way, we passed groups of farmers who were cooking dinner or had wound up and were putting away utensils. Many of them invited us to share the meal with them.

"When did you learn to cook?" I asked one group.

"The Modi government has taught us to make rotis also," laughed one young man, raising his rolling pin in jest. "I've watched our mothers and grandmothers all my life. They will be proud of me."

One farmer was on a video call with his adolescent daughter in Faridkot and was showing her tractors and trolleys parked along the highway till the camera could see. "This is the protest site. Look at it. See these

people from Delhi, they have come to talk to us," he said, turning the phone towards us. I waved at a girl on the screen. She was already tucked into bed and smiled back at me. "Hello, aunty," she said.

Lachman Singh Sewewala, who is a leader of farm labour and Dalits and part of the Punjab Khet Mazdoor Union, unpacked the farmers' demands in simple terms. "All Indians who want to live in a clean environment, breathe easily and in good health need to raise their voice against this black law."

"When the government encourages contract farming by large companies, the question of what crop will be sown arises. Will the choice be dictated by the need of the people or according to what brings maximum profits to multinational companies? Corporatisation of agriculture will create food scarcity and the entire country will suffer the brunt of these laws," he explained.

My most inspirational meeting was with Harinder Kaur Bindu of BKU Ekta Ugrahan. The writer in me was trying to format the story simultaneously as I was listening to her on

the history of the farmers' struggles and their unionisation since 1984. "All farmers' organisations are demanding the unconditional release of political prisoners," she shared. "If intellectuals do not have the right to express their opinion safely, then all people will lose the ability to struggle and protest."

We made friends with Amolak Singh, who has been part of the street theatre and drama movement in Punjab since 1972. "We are performing many plays every day at the protest site and in the villages of Haryana around us. Come back and witness the cultural side of Punjab," he said, handing us glasses of warm milk before we began our walk back to our car.

We had had a long day, yet I returned with hope and energy. The farmers of Punjab may well be the spark that will ignite the inspiration we all need to see us out of the dark tunnel that the past few years have been.

**The writer is an author and filmmaker**  
**natasha.badhwar@gmail.com**



**IMMORTAL FOR A MOMENT**  
NATASHA BADHWAR

While we were recording an interview with her, a man interrupted to ask, "Are you national media?"

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# US undocumented migrants safe as court reinstates policy

Reverses Trump govt decision | Move to help large number of Indians

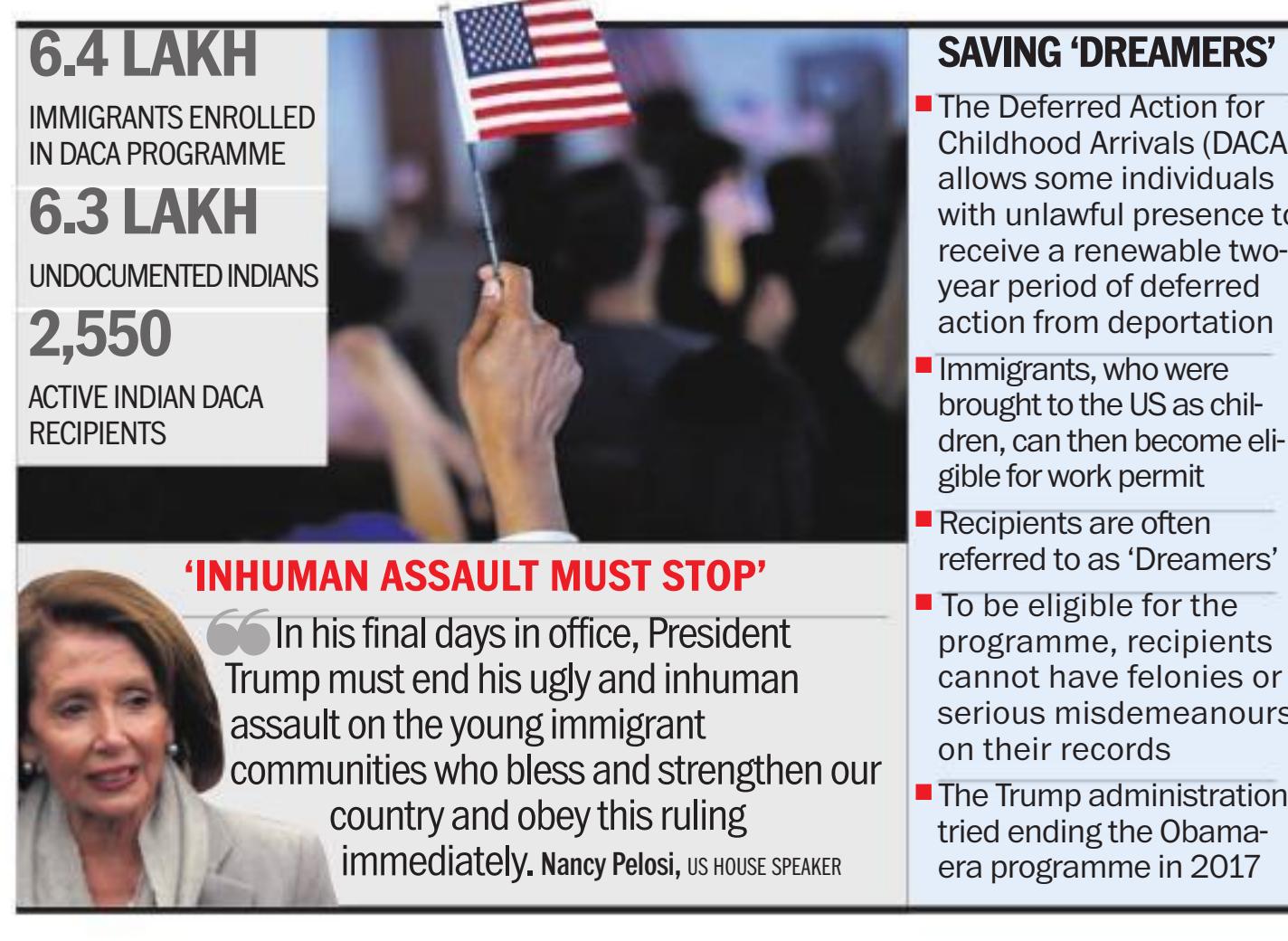
WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 5

Reversing the decision of the outgoing Trump administration, a US federal court has ordered full reinstatement of an Obama-era programme that protects undocumented immigrants brought to the country as minors from deportation, a ruling that will help a large number of Indian migrants.

The Trump administration tried ending the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) in 2017, but the US Supreme Court blocked the attempt in June.

On Friday, US District Judge Nicholas Garaufis in the Eastern District of New York directed the Department of Homeland Security to extend renewals to DACA recipients by two years and start accepting applications from first-time applicants from Monday.

This means first time since September 2017, new applicants who were not previously eligible may now apply for the programme that shield undocumented immigrants,



who came to the US as children, from deportation.

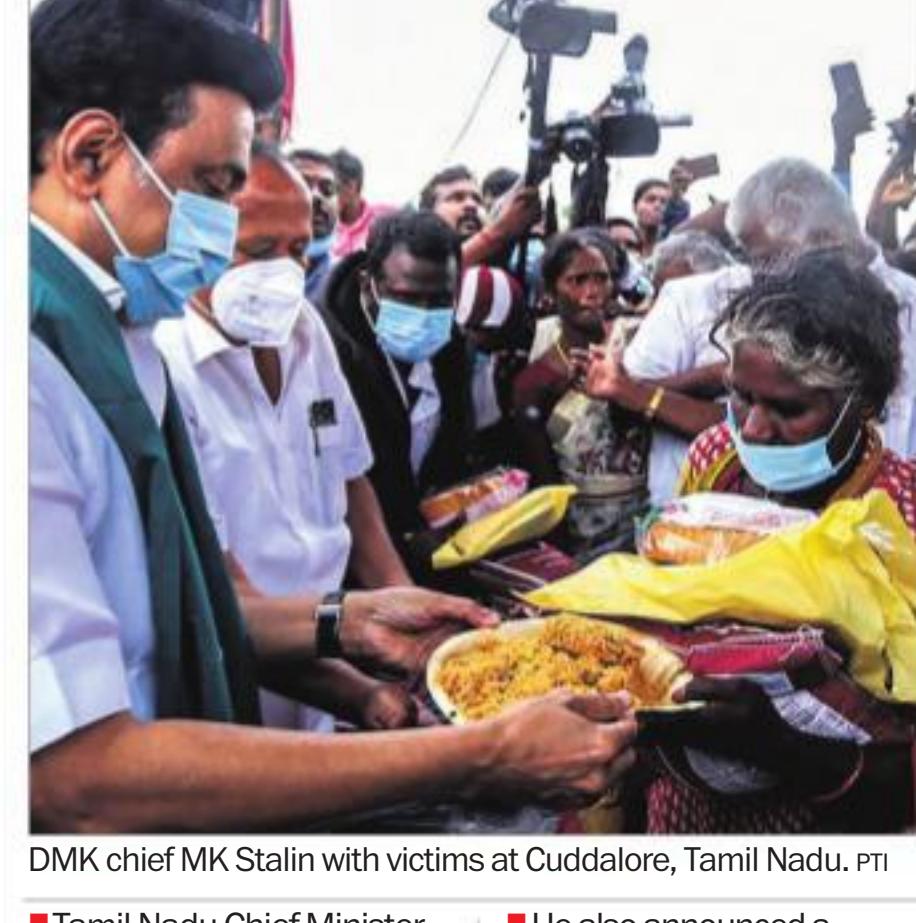
"The court believes these additional remedies are reasonable. Indeed, the government has assured the court that a public notice along the lines described is forthcoming," Judge Garaufis said in his order.

There are currently at least 4,300 active South Asian DACA recipients. As of August 2018, there are over 2,550 active Indian DACA recipients. Only 13 percent of the overall 20,000 DACA eligible Indians have applied and received DACA, the SAALT said.

There are 1,300 active Pakistani DACA recipients, 470 Bangladeshi, 120 Sri Lankan, and 60 Nepali, it said.

The Trump administration can now appeal to a federal appeals court or go to the Supreme Court for temporary relief from the enforcement of the judge's order. — PTI

## Relief for cyclone-hit



DMK chief MK Stalin with victims at Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu. PTI

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami on Saturday deputed 11 ministers to visit Cyclone Burevi-hit districts

He also announced a solatium of ₹10 lakh each to the families of seven persons who died in the cyclone. PTI

## PM to lay stone for new Parl building on Dec 10

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 5 Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone for a new Parliament building on December 10. The construction is expected to be completed by 2022 at an estimated cost of Rs 971 crore, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said on Saturday.

Birla said a number of House members had expressed the need for a modern and well-equipped facility. He said the existing building had many limitations with regard to modern communication, security and earthquake-safety requirements.

He also said keeping future needs in mind, the proposed building would have a seating capacity for 888 in the Lok Sabha Chamber, with an option to increase up to 1,224 members during joint sessions. Similarly, the Rajya Sabha Chamber would have a seating capacity for 384.

"The existing template of democracy is completing 100 years... It is a matter of pride for our countrymen that the new one will be built by our own people as a prime example of an atmanirbhar Bharat," Birla said. — TNS

Narendra Modi

## Mukul named in TMC MLA murder case

KOLKATA, DECEMBER 5 Senior BJP leader Mukul Roy has been named conspirator in the second supplementary chargesheet filed by the West Bengal CID on Saturday in the murder of Trinamool Congress MLA Satyajit Biswas, sources in the agency said.

The second supplementary chargesheet was filed in a court at Ranaghat in Nadia district on Saturday.

The BJP leader has been

### PART OF CONSPIRACY

Trinamool Congress MLA Satyajit Biswas was shot dead during a Saraswati Puja programme in Nadia district in February 2019. BJP leader Mukul Roy has been found to have been "very actively involved primarily as a conspirator" in the murder

found to have been "very actively involved primarily as a conspirator" in the killing of Biswas in February 2019, they said. Roy rubbished the charges and said he had "never believed in violence in politics".

"There are at least 45 cases pending against me. I do not believe in the politics of violence and never indulge in such things. I challenge Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who is also the police minister, to say it in public that I have such kind of taste. I was never involved in these things even when I was with her party. I have total faith in the judiciary of our country," said Roy.

BJP's national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya termed the CID's action against Roy a "conspiracy of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee". — PTI

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