



SOCER STAR RONALDO TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID SPORT

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BIDEN MADE CORRUPT BARGAIN FOR HIS NOMINATION: TRUMP WORLD

MAHA CM, GUVT SPAR OVER OPENING OF SHRINES BACK PAGE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020



Beijing rakes up Ladakh, border infra

Seventh military meeting also fails to chart out pullback plan

AJAY BANERJEE
Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13
An apparent distrust stood in the way of a breakthrough during the seventh round of talks between senior military commanders of India and China, while Beijing on Tuesday again ratcheted up aggression saying that it did not 'recognise' Ladakh's UT status. It also opposed border infrastructure development, including the recent opening of bridges, by India.

A joint readout today on the India-China commanders' meeting held on Monday stated: "Both sides agreed to... arrive at a mutually acceptable solution for disengagement as early as possible." However, sources said that no date or timeline had been set for any such disengagement. In Beijing on Tuesday, Foreign Ministry



(From left) US envoy Ken Juster, US Deputy Secretary of State Stephen Biegun and Indian Foreign Secretary Harsh Shringla in New Delhi. PTI

US INDO-PACIFIC PLAN A SECURITY RISK: WANG

Kuala Lumpur: The US poses a "huge security risk" to Asia by pushing to boost engagement with the region, China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi said. The US is trying to "stir up confrontation among different groups while maintaining its predominance," he said. AP

spokesperson Zhao Lijian, while answering questions at a press conference, said: "China doesn't recognise the so-called 'Ladakh Union Territory' illegally set up by India or 'Arunachal Pradesh', and opposes infra-

CONFICTING NOTES

CHINA FOREIGN MINISTRY IRKED BY 44 BRIDGES

China doesn't recognise 'Ladakh UT' illegally set up by India or 'Arunachal', and opposes infra in border areas... the root cause of tensions.

Zhao Lijian, Chinese spokesperson

JOINT STATEMENT SAYS DISCUSSION 'POSITIVE'

The 7th round of talks was positive & constructive. Both sides had enhanced understanding of each other's positions.

structure-building aimed at military contention in disputed border areas."

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

India, US vow to bolster strategic partnership

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla held consultations with US Deputy Secretary of State Stephen Biegun over a range of issues today, said the Ministry of External Affairs. "They highlighted convergences and shared interests between India and the US. Both sides reiterated their commitment to comprehensive global strategic partnership. They discussed ways to strengthen cooperation in the UN," it added.

Biegun's engagements will also focus on how the US and India can work together to advance peace, prosperity, and security in the Indo-Pacific and around the globe," said the US State Department in a statement. — TNS



Farmers raise slogans as they block railway tracks at Devi Dass Pura village in Amritsar. PTI

30 Punjab farm unions accept Centre's invite, meeting today

CHANDIGARH/AMRITSAR, OCT 13

As many as 30 farmers' unions in Punjab, which have been holding protests against the contentious farm laws, have agreed to hold talks with the Centre on Wednesday.

Representatives of 29 organisations met here on Tuesday and decided to accept Centre's invitation. The Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan), which has been holding separate protests, has also agreed to be part of the meeting with the Secretary, Agriculture. The unions, however, decided to continue the protests.

Punjab ministers Tript

FUTURE ENTERPRISES

Opportunities are being created to boost farming and help farmers to grow from being food providers to entrepreneurs.

Narendra Modi

'ATTACK PRE-PLANNED'
Pathankot: A day after he was attacked, Punjab BJP chief Ashwani Sharma on Tuesday termed it 'an act of state-sponsored terrorism'. He claimed he had evidence that state agencies had planned and executed the 'assault'. "They wanted to make it appear as if farmers were behind it," Sharma alleged.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri also held a virtual meet with farmers, most of whom expressed resentment against the laws. — TNS

Late-night cremation violation of Hathras victim's rights: HC

LUCKNOW/NEW DELHI, OCT 13
The Allahabad High Court has observed that the late-night cremation of the Hathras woman, who died after alleged gang rape, was a violation of human rights for which the responsibility should be fixed.

The Lucknow Bench of the HC also directed the state government to lay down modalities for cremation in Hathras-like situations.

Considering the sensitivity of the issue, the court directed Uttar Pradesh officials, political parties and all others to avoid making any statement in public on it. The court said it expected the electronic and print media to observe restraint while reporting and discussing the matter. Meanwhile, a CBI team on

CRIMINALS EMBOLDENED: PRIYANKA
The Uttar Pradesh Government's politically motivated narrative of justifying and protecting perpetrators of crimes against women has only emboldened criminals across the state.

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, CONGRESS LEADER

CHEMICAL POURED ON 3 MINOR SISTERS IN UP

Gonda: Three sisters suffered injuries when someone poured a chemical on them while they were sleeping on the roof of their house at Pakasaville here. The minor girls are out of danger. — PTI

Tuesday quizzed family members of the victim and examined the crime scene. The team called her brother

YOGI GOVT MULLS NSA IN JHANSI RAPE CASE

Jhansi: Eight college students have been arrested after a minor was allegedly raped inside their hostel. District officials said the stringent National Security Act might be invoked against them. — PTI

to take it to the crime spot and directed the police to cordon off the area. — TNS/PTI

IMF: INDIAN ECONOMY TO SHRINK BY 10.3%

The Indian economy, severely hit by the Covid-19 pandemic, is projected to contract by a massive 10.3% this year, says IMF.

REPORT ON PAGE 10



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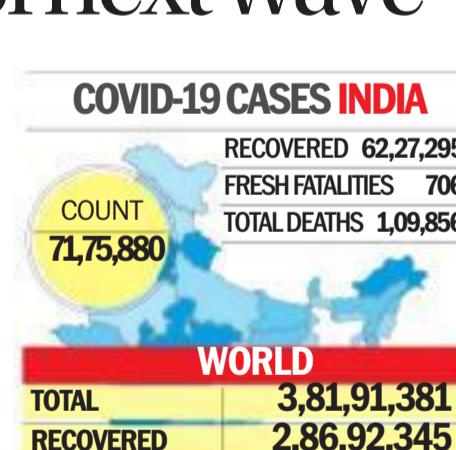
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New cases below 60K, but govt warns of next wave

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13
India's new infections today dropped below 60,000 to settle at 55,342 for the first time in two months, signalling that the Covid-19 graph was flattening.

The government announced that the graph had plateaued but gains could be lost if people disregarded Covid-appropriate behaviour. The Health Ministry said a potentially severe second wave was likely in winters if people didn't maintain hygiene. NITI Aayog Member (Health) VK Paul said the 1918 pandemic wreaked greater havoc during its second wave in winter. — TNS



Himachal resumes inter-state bus service from today

SHIMLA, OCTOBER 13
The Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC) buses would resume plying on inter-state routes after around seven months from tomorrow, said state Transport Minister Bikram Singh here today.

To begin with, the buses would start plying to 25 destinations, including Chandigarh, Pathankot, Baddi, Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana, Ambala and Hardwar. Only non-AC buses would ply on interstate routes and the night service would also be available. The service would soon be extended to other destinations, the minister said. — TNS

2,500 DOORS STOLEN

- 696 flats were constructed at Sector 15, Bahadurgarh
- ₹25 crore cost was incurred on the flats, completed in 2015
- 2,500 doors, 1,100 windows and 400 railings have been found missing

<< Flats constructed for BPL families at Bahadurgarh town in Haryana.

been stolen from the flats. The thefts came to light when HSVP officials inspected the flats recently. Sandeep Dahiya, HSVP

Executive Engineer, said a team had been formed to finalise eligible candidates on the basis of parameters

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

Hry BPL flats unallotted since '15

RAVINDER SAINI
Tribune News Service



Meanwhile, as many as 2,500 doors, 1,100 windows and 400 iron railings have

Victim takes U-turn in Chinmayanand case

LUCKNOW: In a courtroom twist on Tuesday to the high-profile case, a law student, who had accused former Union Minister Chinmayanand of sexually exploiting her, disowned her statements. Angered at this, the prosecution immediately sought stern action against her for perjury. PTI

epaper.tribuneindia.com

At virtual meet, farmers reject Puri's assurance on farm laws

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, OCTOBER 13 As part of the Centre's initiative to convince the farming community on the new farm laws in 16 districts of Punjab through video-conferences, Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri kicked off a virtual talk with farmers at the BJP office in Amritsar today.

However, the interaction failed to yield the desired result as majority of farmers expressed dissatisfaction with the Acts. On Puri's insistence, senior BJP leader Rajinder Mohan Singh Chhina, who was physically present here, said the whole text of farm laws was being translated and printed in Punjabi language for a better understanding among the farmers.

While answering the farmers' queries, Puri promised them that the MSP and old mandi pattern would remain intact in addition to private players' participation to procure the crop. "The sale, lease or mortgage of farmers' land is nowhere in the law and the land will be protected against any recovery," Puri said.

Promising an increased MSP for wheat by the Centre



Farmers interact with Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri via video-conferencing in Amritsar. VISHAL KUMAR

'QUERY ON CORPORATES NOT HEARD'

» There were fewer farmers and more BJP workers in today's interaction. My question on contract-farming and invasion of corporate sector was not heard.

Amrit Singh, PATHANIA VILLAGE FARMER

'FARMERS' LAND CAN'T BE ACQUIRED'

» Some people are spreading 'lies' that the corporates will take over farmers' land. The laws clearly say that farmers' land will not be acquired.

Hardeep Singh Puri, UNION MINISTER

in the future, he said the purchase centres, which were 30,349 in 2018-2019, would be increased to 36,130 by 2021, an increase of 30 per cent. He said the Opposition was spreading misinformation among the farmers.

BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra said it was a wrong notion that farmers could not knock the door of the courts in case of a dispute.

He said the first redressal forum would be at the SDM level. "If the farmers are not satisfied, they may go to the High Court or Supreme Court," he said.

Nonetheless, Harbhajan Singh, a farmer from Chak Mukand, said the meeting had reached no logical conclusion as most of their queries remained unanswered.

"We are not at all satisfied

with the NDA's 'self-reliant' farm Acts. The SDMs seldom respond to a common man's grievance, until and unless the victim has some political connection. How can we expect justice under such an administrative set-up? If SDMs or DCs are so concerned, why don't they bother to check the procurement which is being done at a lesser price in mandis?" he said.

He said the BJP leadership should understand the farmers' issues and not try to use pressure tactics to make them accept the contentious farm laws.

Listen to them, don't sermonise, Congasks Centre

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 13 Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee chief Sunil Jakhar today asked the Narendra Modi-led NDA government to listen to the anguished and angry farmers, instead of giving them sermons.

Jakhar said now when the farmers unions had agreed for a dialogue, PM Modi should not do "Mann ki Baat" and instead listen to them patiently.

The PPCC chief said BJP ministers were heard saying that what had been decided had been decided. "Then what is the point in calling the farmers union for a dialogue," he added.

On the BJP blaming the Congress for attack on its state chief Ashwani Sharma, Jakhar said it was condemnable and strict action should be taken against the culprits. Advising the BJP not to make an issue out of it, Jakhar said it should focus on raising the farmers' issues with its central leadership.

He said the BJP leadership should understand the farmers' issues and not try to use pressure tactics to make them accept the contentious farm laws.



Farmers continue their 'rail roko' stir by blocking a track at Davi Dass Pura near Amritsar. VISHAL KUMAR

Despite talks, no let-up in stir

OUR CORRESPONDENT

RETD OFFICERS LEND SUPPORT TO FARMERS

MANDI AHMEDGARH, OCTOBER 13

Even as leaders of 30 farmer organisations will be busy in attending the scheduled meeting with the Central Government in Delhi tomorrow, regional leaders of these outfits will ensure there is no let-up in protests at petrol pumps, malls, toll plazas and outside residences of BJP leaders in their respective regions.

Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan) leader Saudagar Singh Ghudani said secretary general Sukhdev Singh Kokri had advised him to supervise protests at Lehra

organised in the coming days," said Ghudani.

Farmers here have also threatened to burn effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar and Home Minister Amit Shah on Dussehra if the farm Acts are not withdrawn.

All-India Kisan Sabha (Punjab) leaders Sikandar Singh Jartauli and Baldev Singh Lataala said all events related to the struggle would continue as usual, irrespective of the outcome of the meeting. They hoped that farmer leaders will prevail upon the Centre to withdraw the farms Acts during their meeting.

and Jagera Bridge and other places. "Having received instructions from our leaders, we have already started identifying BJP leaders in front of whose establishments and residences protests are to be

No pact with BJP in future: SAD

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE



'TRYING TO BRING NCP, TMC ON BOARD'

» The SAD is trying to bring all pro-farmer parties on one platform. We have held talks with NCP supremo Sharad Pawar and TMC head and West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee to bring them on board for the fight against the farm Acts.

Sikander Singh Maluka, SAD LEADER

sion should be held with all stakeholders. He said the laws could be framed afresh with proper safeguards for farmers, including making MSP a statutory right to ensure private players did not exploit them.

Maluka said the SAD would chalk out a programme for another round of protests to ensure justice for farmers, farm labourers and arthiyas.

When asked about former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal showering praises on the NDA government, Maluka said: "We ensured AIIMS and other development projects in the state from the NDA government. However, we have issues with them on the controversial agriculture legislations".

Maluka said since the Acts would have maximum impact on Punjab and Haryana, a genuine discus-

State agencies planned attack: Sharma

PATHANKOT, OCTOBER 13

A day after he was attacked, BJP state president Ashwani Sharma today termed it "an act of state-sponsored terrorism", even as nearly 500 BJP supporters held a two-hour demonstration at Valmiki Chowk over police inaction in nabbing the miscreants.

Sharma, however, didn't participate in the protest. The demonstrators were led by Sujanpur MLA Dinesh Babu and former Cabinet minister Master Mohan Lal.

Babu said if the assailants were not identified and nabbed soon he would be forced to stage another protest in Sujanpur. The BJP state chief claimed he had concrete evidence that state agencies had planned and executed the assault.

"They wanted to make it appear as if farmers had instigated the attack. The site was chosen carefully as a farmer union was holding a protest nearby. Farmers have nothing to do with whatever happened," Ashwani claimed.

"Once my cavalcade



BJP leaders and workers protest in Jalandhar. PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

'FARMERS ARE NOT BEHIND SUCH ACTS'

» We condemn the attack on the BJP state chief. It is the work of anti-social forces which want to sabotage the ongoing farmers' protest. We are very clear that farmers cannot indulge in any such actions. Sukhbir Singh Badal, SAD PRESIDENT

BJP MEN PROTEST IN BATHINDA, J'DHAR

■ BJP workers on Tuesday staged a protest against the attack on BJP state president Ashwani Sharma in Jalandhar and Bathinda

■ Led by former minister Manoranjan Kalia and former CPS KD Bhandari, party workers in Jalandhar held a two-hour dharna in front of the Deputy Commissioner's office

■ In Bathinda, BJP district chief Vinod Binta led the protesters and alleged party workers were being intimidated and false cases were being registered against them every day

laid siege to his house in Pathankot a fortnight ago. He added that on his way back to Pathankot after the incident, his men spotted another group of youths at the Manser toll plaza on the Mukerian-Pathankot highway, which was probably there to attack him again. — TNS

crossed the toll plaza, my security personnel told me that a couple of cars were following us. Soon, they intercepted my vehicle and some youths started stoning it. Fortunately, I escaped unharmed. Even though SSP Navjot Singh Mahal had assured me that the offend-

ers would be nabbed soon, nothing tangible has been done. The complicity of the state government is clear," he added.

To lend credence to his claim, the BJP leader said his request for additional security was turned down even when protesters had twice

Farmer pedals to spread word on laws

AAKANKSHA N BHARDWAJ

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JALANDHAR, OCTOBER 13 Congress MLA Davinder Singh Ghubaya, along with large number of supporters, staged a protest for the second consecutive day near the Ferozepur road flyover against the "tardy" lifting of paddy from the Fazilka grain market. The protesters raised slogans against the district administration over its alleged failure in getting the produce lifted

Notice to Fazilka contractor for 'tardy' lifting

OUR CORRESPONDENT

FAZILKA, OCTOBER 13 Congress MLA Davinder Singh Ghubaya, along with large number of supporters, staged a protest for the second consecutive day near the Ferozepur road flyover against the "tardy" lifting of paddy from the Fazilka grain market. The protesters raised slogans against the district administration over its alleged failure in getting the produce lifted

through the lyrics, the Shahkot-based marginal farmer wants to convey how the farmers got together and started a mass movement against the agri Acts. On his cycle, he has even displayed a message which says, 'Kheti Bill Vapis Lao'.

It is with the efforts of farmers like Gurtej that the movement has reached a point where it is today. Singh, who starts his day at 5 am, has covered Mehatpur, Uduwal, Ramuwal, Balandi, Parjia villages.

He cited that a high percentage of people didn't have access to newspapers,



Gurtej Singh raises awareness on the farm Acts at a village in Jalandhar. TRIBUNE PHOTO

from the market.

The District Food and Supplies Controller has now issued a notice to Nishant Gumber, the loading contractor. The notice said there was resentment among commission agents and farmers over the tardy lifting. The contractor has been advised to expedite the process. He has been asked to present himself before the District Tender Committee. After the notice was issued, Ghubaya suspended his agitation.

He cited that a high percentage of people didn't have access to newspapers, social media and were oblivious to protests happening around, so he took it upon himself to educate people on these acts. "I won't stop unless the Acts are repealed," he said.

To boost the morale of protesting farmers, he has been circulating self-composed poems on social media.

"I even participate in protests happening around, and stay put there for 2 to 3 hours. However, I feel the need to do something more, which is when I put my bicycle and pen to use. I have been apprising people why it was vital for farmers to take such a huge step," he said.

BJP state chief Ashwani Sharma had claimed he was chased and attacked by some youths in two vehicles after he crossed the Cholang toll plaza, but sources said the FIR stated that he was attacked at the toll plaza itself.

DSP ducks questions related to case

the FIR. No police officer is willing to divulge any information in the matter. When asked, the SSP said DSP Daljit Singh Khakh would share the details. Khakh, however, ducked all questions pertaining to the FIR.

BJP state chief Ashwani Sharma had claimed he was chased and attacked by some youths in two vehicles after he crossed the Cholang toll plaza, but sources said the FIR stated that he was attacked at the toll plaza itself.

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(क) अल्पसेवा कमीशन (गैर तकनीकी) जे.ए.जी. भर्ती योजना 26वां पाठ्यक्रम पुरुष और महिला विधि स्नातकों के लिए अप्रैल, 2021 में निर्धारित।

ऑनलाइन आवेदन 13 अक्टूबर, 2020 से 11 नवंबर, 2020 तक खुले हैं।

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OFFICER ENTRIES

Applications are invited for the following courses:

(a) Short Service Commission (NT) JAG Entry Scheme 26th Course for Men & Women Law Graduates scheduled in Apr 2021.

Online applications are open from 13 Oct 2020 to 11 Nov 2020.

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Online applications are open from 14 Oct 2020 to 12 Nov 2020.

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Vigilance yet to get orders of full probe

COOP BANK FRAUD Govt had announced shifting of investigation to department

PK JAISWAR

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, OCTOBER 13

The Punjab Government move to shift investigation into the multi-crore cooperative bank fraud to the Vigilance Department has turned out to be a mere eyewash as the department is yet to get the orders of full investigation into the case.

As per Vigilance officials, they have only received orders for holding an 'enquiry', implying they will not have the authority for search, arrest or preparing the final report in the alleged scam. It only allows them to ascertain the facts given in the FIR registered in the fraud in February.



ASKED TO HOLD ENQUIRY

We have got orders for holding an enquiry into the alleged fraud. We have written to the state government for shifting complete investigations to the Vigilance. Parampal Singh, SSP (VIGILANCE)

Cooperation Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa had shifted the probe to the Vigilance for detailed investigations into the fraud, involving bungling of government funds worth several crores by several cooperative societies.

In February, the police had registered an FIR under Sections 409 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating) and 120B (crim-

inal conspiracy) of the IPC into Rs 3 crore fraud at Tarsikka branch of the bank.

In the case, four persons, including branch manager Rakesh Kumar and cashier Ram Kishore, were arrested. Two of their accomplices, Sukhdev Singh of Sarai village and Sukhbir Singh of Bhatti village (both secretaries of the cooperative societies), were booked.

The police filed a challan

in the local court on May 16. The police investigations found that the senior manager, district manager, bank officials, deputy registrars, assistant registrars, inspectors of cooperative societies and officials of the Audit Department colluded and misappropriated funds running into crores.

The investigation was extended to other branches of the cooperative bank, thereby unearthing a major scam. It was found that the fraud was committed at five branches, including Tarsikka, Sadoke Lehal, Bhattike, Chogwan Sadhpur and Kohala, falling under the jurisdiction of the Tarsikka branch of the bank.

The case was shifted to the Vigilance after the Amritsar rural police failed to make any further progress. Besides the two, the police did not arrest any other suspect or nominated new suspects in the FIR. The police were apparently acting under pressure as the accused were considered close to a prominent leader of the region, it was learnt.

Assembly of the IPC in this regard. Victim's brother Bohar Singh, alias Gagan, demanded stern action against the perpetrators.

SSP Harjeet Singh said the victim was beaten up on the suspicion of being a thief as he was found roaming near the village around 10.30 pm on October 8. On October 10, he was admitted to the hospital. The police received a medico-legal report on October 12 and subsequently registered a case. The SSP said the police officials concerned had been directed to add charges under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act to the FIR. He said the accused would be nabbed soon. — OC

Fazilkha Dalit youth forced to 'drink' urine, three booked

FAZILKA, OCTOBER 13

An incidence of a Dalit youth allegedly being forced to drink urine after being assaulted has come to light in Chak Janisar village of the district. Three persons have been booked in this regard.

Farm labourer Gurnam Singh, alias Gora, a resident of Chak Madrasa village in Muktsar district, in a statement to the Chak Vairoke police alleged he was on his way to meet his brother at Chak Janisar village when some persons, allegedly in an inebriated state, stopped him and took him to a 'dharmshala' where they beat him up and forced him to drink urine.

A video clip of the assault has gone viral. Farm labourer Gurnam Singh, alias Gora, a resident of Chak Madrasa village in Muktsar district, in a statement to the Chak Vairoke police alleged he was on his way to meet his brother at Chak Janisar village when some persons, allegedly in an inebriated state, stopped him and took him to a 'dharmshala' where they beat him up and forced him to drink urine. A video clip of the assault has gone viral.

Victim assaulted on suspicion of being thief, says SSP

However, Deputy Commissioner Arvind Pal Singh Sandhu said he was not aware of the incident.

Investigating officer Iqbal Singh said Simranjit Singh, alias Kala, Ramandeep Singh, alias Ramna Sangha, and Jagvir Singh, alias Bhola Pandit, all residents of Chak Janisar village, had been booked under Sections 323 (causing hurt), 341 (wrongful restraint), 365 (kidnapping), 382 (theft), 506 (criminal intimidation), 295A (outraging religious feelings), 148 (rioting) and 149 (unlawful assembly) of the IPC in this regard. Victim's brother Bohar Singh, alias Gagan, demanded stern action against the perpetrators.

SSP Harjeet Singh said the victim was beaten up on the suspicion of being a thief as he was found roaming near the village around 10.30 pm on October 8. On October 10, he was admitted to the hospital. The police received a medico-legal report on October 12 and subsequently registered a case. The SSP said the police officials concerned had been directed to add charges under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act to the FIR. He said the accused would be nabbed soon. — OC

Scammers use GNDU VC's photo on fake identity cards

AVNEET KAUR



JALANDHAR, OCTOBER 13
Scammers are duping innocent people in the name of 'KBC lottery' using pictures of Guru Nanak Dev University (GNDU) Vice Chancellor Jaspal Sandhu on their fake Aadhaar cards and IDs.

Posing as the manager of SBI, Palamaner branch, Andhra Pradesh, a person claiming to be Rana Pratap Singh has been calling up people on WhatsApp saying they have won a 'Rs 25 lakh lottery' in the 'KBC All India SIM Card Lucky Draw Competition'. However, the IDs sent by him as proof to his potential victims bear Sandhu's photos. VC's personal assistant Gurinder Singh said Sandhu was aware of the

scam and he had already lodged a complaint with the cyber cell. However, the cell is yet to trace the suspects.

Neetu, a domestic helper from Phooliwal, told *The Tribune* that she got a call from number 70975783333 and the person introduced himself as bank manager Rana Pratap Singh and claimed she had won a lot-

tery. He sent a copy of his bank ID, Aadhaar card, an audio message and an APK file with details of the 'lottery' to gain her trust.

The scammer told her he would transfer the amount to her account within a week once she completed the formalities. "He asked me to deposit Rs 5,000 as transaction money to avail Rs 25 lakh. He also sought my bank details, PAN card and Aadhaar card to verify my identity," she said. "I was taken in by his claims, but as an afterthought decided to consult someone trustworthy," said Neetu, adding she discussed this matter with the owner of one of the households where she works. "Sensing fraud, they warned me against sharing my details with them," she added.

File status report on 'illegal mining': HC

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 13

Digging deep into the issue of illegal mining in riverbeds, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has directed the state of Punjab to file a status report on preventive steps undertaken.

The Bench of Chief Justice Ravi Shanker Jha and Justice Arun Palli made it clear the order was being passed in view of the serious allegations regarding illegal mining in riverbeds. "However, it is made clear that this court has not prohibited the state authorities from permitting mining activities, in accordance with law," the Bench added.

The state counsel, during the course of hearing, submitted that reply to the contentions raised in the petition was ready and would be filed within a week. The case

will now come up for further hearing on November 3.

Alleging illegal mining in Pathankot, Hoshiarpur and Gurdaspur districts, petitioner Karan Singh through counsel Saurav Bhatia was seeking directions for a thorough probe and a complete halt on illegal mining. Describing it as illegal, unjust and arbitrary, Bhatia had submitted that it was endangering the agricultural process in nearby villages, besides threatening the environment. He had added illegal mining was being carried out on an enormous scale despite the lockdown after taking benefit of "lesser public scrutiny".

He said auction of these sites had not taken place and illegal mining was being undertaken by the sand mafia. — TNS

692 cases, 34 deaths in 24 hrs

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 13

The state recorded 692 cases and 34 deaths in the past 24 hours, taking the tally to 1,25,211 and toll to 3,894. In the district-wise breakup, Ludhiana topped the list with 103 cases, followed by Jalandhar (95), SAS Nagar and Amritsar (57 each), Bathinda (55) and Patiala (44).

The number of active cases has climbed down to 8,212 and the total number of recoveries stand at 1.13 lakh. At present, 186 patients are on oxygen support and 38 on ventilator support. Of the deaths reported, Amritsar topped the list with six deaths, followed by Ludhiana (four), Gurdaspur and Sangrur (three each), and Hoshiarpur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, SAS Nagar, Muktsar, and Patiala and Ropar (two each).



Health officials conduct a door-to-door survey in Nawanshahr.

Covid Cases District-Wise Count

DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS	DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Ludhiana	19,339	806	Moga	2,406	78
Jalandhar	14,209	441	Fatehgarh Sahib	2,050	97
Amritsar	11,260	417	Tarn Taran	1,888	78
Patiala	12,235	359	Kapurthala	3,807	161
Sangrur	3,756	160	Fazilka	2,738	45
SAS Nagar	11,533	198	SBS Nagar	1,816	58
Gurdaspur	6,581	184	Fardikot	2,995	53
Bathinda	6,441	131	Barnala	1,945	48
Hoshiarpur	5,148	189	Ropar	2,325	94
Ferozepur	4,052	113	Muktsar	2,768	56
Pathankot	4,129	95	Mansa	1,790	33
Total		1,25,211	3,894		

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VS Group (Barnala) require Admission Counselor, Child Psychologist (Female - Salary upto 30000); TGT - Maths (Salary upto 25000); PRTs - English, Maths, Computers (Salary upto 22000), Storytelling Faculty, Kindergarten Teachers (Salary upto 22000), Digital Media Manager (Salary upto 22000); vs.school@rediffmail.com, 098880-23168. (CL20050505)

Star Plus Convention School, Bathinda, 151301, Bathinda (P.H.). A Senior Secondary School (CBSE). Requires: PGT- English, Accountancy, Biology, Art & Craft, Vice Principal and Coordinator. Handsome salary as per qualification and experience. Transport facility available from Bathinda and nearby places. Walk in interview on 20th October 2020 between 09:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in school premises. Email: vks.spcbs@gmail.com (CL20050482)

Star Plus Convention School, Bathinda, 151301, Bathinda (P.H.). A Senior Secondary School (CBSE). Requires: PGT- English, Accountancy, Biology, Art & Craft, Vice Principal and Coordinator. Handsome salary as per qualification and experience. Transport facility available from Bathinda and nearby places. Walk in interview on 20th October 2020 between 09:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in school premises. Email: vks.spcbs@gmail.com (CL20050482)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

I. Satpal s/o Talha Ram, Begu Road, Sirsa have changed name to Satpal Bajaj. (CL20050466)

I. Kanwalpreet Kaur, w/o Sukhvir Randhawa r/o Bhaliapur Dogran, Tehsil Khadoor Sahib, Distt. Tarn Taran, have changed my name to Kanwalpreet Kaur. (CL20048714)

I. Kamaljeet Kaur d/o Gurdas Singh & w/o Manvir Singh r/o # 89, Street No. 30-D, Anand Nagar-B, Patiala, have changed my name to Kamaljeet Kaur. (CL20050220)

I. Jaskaranjeet Singh s/o Sukhwinder Singh r/o H.No. 16, Street No. 6, Vikas Nagar, Patiala, Punjab (147001), have changed my name to Jaskaranjeet Singh (CL20050227)

I. Sanjeev Kumar Kaila s/o Sh. Dharam Bir Kaila, r/o 62, Hem Bagh Colony, Patiala- 147001, have changed my name to Sanjeev Kumar (CL20050279)

I. Sudha Rani w/o Kamal Sohni resident of B-1197 Sunder Nagar, Batala, Tehsil Batala, (Gurdaspur), have changed my name Sudha Rani to Sudha Sohni. (CL20050349)

I. Aashish K. Suryan alias Aashish Kandankot Suryan K/S K Suryan R/o 701 Tungala Kirpal Colony, Majithia Road, Amritsar, 143001, have changed my name to Aashish Matthew. (CL20050380)

I. Omarna Alias Omna K Suryan W/o Kandankot Suryan R/o 701 Tungala Kirpal Colony, Majithia Road, Amritsar, 143001, have changed my name to Omna Matthew. (CL20050394)

I. Kandankot Suryan alias Kandankot Suryan alias K Suryan S/o Maina R/o 701, Tugbal, Kirpal Colony, Majithia Road Amritsar, 143001, have changed my name to Kuren Matthew. (CL20050398)

I. Priyanka D/o Kandankot Suryan R/o 701 Tungala Kirpal Colony, Majithia Road, Amritsar, 143001, have changed my name to Priyanka Matthew. (CL20050411)

I. Rohit Kumar s/o Jasvir Singh r/o Station Mazri, Tehsil Derabassi, Distt. SAS Nagar (Mohali) Panjab declare that I belongs to Ramdasia Sikh Religion vide Affidavit No: AN907888 Dt. 05/10/2020 before Executive Magistrate, Derabassi. (CL20050427)

I. Arvind Kumar s/o Sukhdev Yadav, Vill. Pankar Bigha, Post- Bansi Bigha, Jehanabad, Bihar 804405, have changed my name to Bholu Ray. Please note. (CL20050463)

I. Poonam w/o Rakesh Kumar, Village Jodhkan (Sirsia) have changed name to Poonam Bharti. (CL20050467)

I. Satish Kumar alias Satish Kumar Virmani s/o Mukund Lal Virmani r/o F-246, Jattan Mohalla, Karnal (Haryana), have changed my minor son's name Pukit to Pukit Virmani. (CL20050499)

I. 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.

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I. Radhe Shiam Goyal s/o Sh. Hukam Chand r/o H.No. 1279, Sector 37-B, Chandigarh declare that my son Yogesh and his wife Pooja are out of my control. I disown them from my moveable/ immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them at his/her own risk. (CL20050508)

I. Devinder Singh s/o Darshan Singh r/o Faridkot (Faridkot) declare that my son Dilpreet Singh his wife Palpreet Kaur are out of my control. Therefore, I disown and deem them from all my moveable/ immovable property. Please note. (CL20050510)

I. Satish Shiva Gerange s/o Shivaji Sukhdev Gerange r/o Gram Islak, Teh. Ahmednagar, Maharashtra declare that in school certificates of my son Sanjiv Shiva Gerange and Jyoti Gerange. My correct name is Satish Shiva Gerange and my wife name is Jyoti Satish Gerange. (CL20050510)

I. Avtar Chand S/o Sardara Ram and Balvir Kaur W/o Avtar Chand R/o Village Kurdi, Tehsil & Distt. SAS Nagar (Mohali) declare that our son Kulvir Singh & his wife Jaspreet Kaur are out of our control. We therefore disown and deem them from all our moveable / immovable property. Anybody dealing with them will do so at his own risk and responsibilities. We will not be responsible and liable for any of their activities. (CL20050343)

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Casualties go past 1,600 mark

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 13 With nine more deaths, Covid casualties crossed the 1,600 mark on Tuesday. With 1,081 fresh cases, the tally reached 1,44,302. — TNS

COVID-19 CASES DISTRICT-WISE COUNT

DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Gurugram	24,065	187
Faridabad	21,804	232
Sonepat	9,018	48
Ambala	8,555	104
Karnal	7,891	111
Panipat	7,699	98
Hisar	7,597	91
Rohtak	6,678	70
Panchkula	6,657	101
Rewari	6,530	34
Kurukshetra	6,150	96
Yamunanagar	4,684	92
Sirsia	4,408	73
Mahendragarh	3,933	7
Bhiwani	3,172	43
Palwal	2,931	19
Jhajjar	2,871	32
Kaithal	2,702	41
Fatehabad	2,593	49
Jind	2,428	44
Nuh	1,189	25
Charkhi Dadri	747	4
Total	14,4302	1,601

Booked, farm leader sticks to his guns

Charuni gave call to burn PM Modi's effigies on Dasehra in protest against agri laws

NITISH SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KURUKSHETRA, OCTOBER 13 Bhartiya Kisan Union (Charuni) chief Gurnam Singh Charuni has been booked for promoting enmity and intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace after giving a call to burn effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and local BJP leaders on Dasehra to protest recent farm laws.

Complainant Sahil Guliani of Shahabad, a BJP supporter said Charuni had hurt his sentiments by making an objectionable video about the PM. He claimed the video could promote enmity.

"I have been told that FIRs have been registered in Shahabad and Karnal and more are likely to be registered soon. I will stick to the call that we have given and the government is free to register FIRs. It cannot suppress the voice of farmers by registering FIRs," Charuni said.

"Even after the Pipri incident,

CAN'T SILENCE ME

“I have been told that FIRs have been registered in Shahabad and Karnal and more are likely to be registered soon. I will stick to the call that we have given and the government is free to register FIRs. It cannot suppress the voice of farmers by registering FIRs.”

Gurnam Singh Charuni, BKU LEADER

dent, FIRs were registered against farmers. We will protest against the farm laws. I advise the BJP to listen to the people and withdraw the farm laws," he stated.

"The case has been registered under political pressure and on government directions. The person who has got the case registered is an aide of former minister Krishan Bedi, who is political secretary to the Chief Minister," said Rakesh Bains, BKU spokesman.



Farmers stage a dharna at a police station in Yamunanagar district on Tuesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Farmers protest as 2 summoned

YAMUNANAGAR, OCTOBER 13

Farmers under the banner of the Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) staged a dharna at the Pratap Nagar police station in Yamunanagar today after the police summoned two farmers for forwarding a message on WhatsApp groups.

Gurdial Singh of

Chuharpur Kalan village and

Shiv Kumar of Bakkarwala village were accused of forwarding the message that the BKU would show black flags to the tractor yatra of Education Minister Kanwar Pal Gujjar in support of the three farm laws in Yamunanagar district on October 15.

District BKU president Sanju Gundiana said the police called the two farmers to the police station and made them sign black papers. He said the police kept their mobile phones. He said they lifted the dharna when the police returned the mobile phones. — TNS

HC pulls up HSSC, imposes ₹50K costs

SAURABH MALIK
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 13

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has imposed Rs 50,000 costs on the Haryana Staff Selection Commission (HSSC) in view of its "pathetic attitude" in not filing a reply to contentions raised in a petition despite repeated adjournments. The case pertains to recruitment to 4,858 posts of clerk.

Taking up the plea against

Haryana and other respondents by Ramesh Kumar, Justice Raj Mohan Singh granted liberty to the HSSC to recover the amount from the "erring" official. The amount was directed to be deposited in the Covid fund maintained by the PGI in Chandigarh.

The petitioner was successful in the written examination and had appeared for scrutiny of documents. He had filed objections with

regard to five questions.

Justice Raj Mohan Singh observed that notice of motion issued on September 14 was accepted by the state counsel in court on behalf of the respondents. The reply was to be filed by September 23, the next date of hearing, but the case was adjourned to September 25. On that date, the state counsel sought time. A lenient view was taken and the matter was adjourned to October 7.

On that date, the state counsel sought a short adjournment to have further instructions. Adjourning the matter to October 12, the Bench made it clear that selection, if any, would be subject to the rights of the petitioner with regard to the post in question. Taking up the matter on that date, Justice Raj Mohan Singh asserted that a reply had not been filed on behalf of the state.

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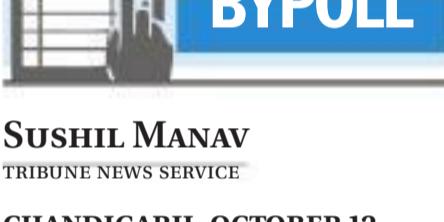
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Eligible candidates may send their applications at principalsaccm@gmail.com by 24th October, 2020. Salary will be commensurate with quality of experience.

Dr. Ajay Sharma, Principal

Hectic lobbying for Congress ticket

Khattar, Dhankar to meet Nadda today to take call on nominee



SUSHIL MANAV
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 13 Hectic lobbying is on for the Congress ticket even as a meeting convened by Vivek Bansal, AICC in charge for Haryana, to discuss the issue remained inconclusive.

Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and state BJP

chief Om Prakash Dhankar will meet national party president JP Nadda on Wednesday to finalise the candidate. Nominations can be filed till Friday.

Several candidates, including Jitender Hooda alias "Jeeta", son of late legislator Sri Krishan Hooda, his wife Gayatri Hooda, Pardeep Sangwan, son of late former BJP MP Krishan Singh Sangwan, Induraj Narwal, Kamla Bhawar and Col Rohit More are lobbying for the Congress ticket.

Sources said local party workers were in favour of a leader from the constituency. With this in mind, late MLA Sri Krishan Hooda's daughter-in-law Gayatri, whose parental village Bhaiswan falls in Baroda, has applied for the ticket.

There were talks of BJP leader Kapoor Narwal joining the Congress in the presence of Hooda last week. Hooda had convened a press meet for the occasion, but Narwal's entry did not happen.

Among those aspiring for

the BJP ticket are Olympian Yogeshwar Dutt, who lost to Sri Krishan Hooda in 2019 by less than 5,000 votes, and JJP leaders Bhupinder Malik and KC Bagra. Dutt, who has the advantage of being an insider with his village Bhainswal in the segment, had been campaigning since April.

"We will apprise the national party president about the strengths and weaknesses of all aspirants and the party will come out with the candidate in a day or two," said Dhankar.

सुरक्षा की युक्ति, कोरोना से मुक्ति

अभियान

14 से 31 अक्टूबर, 2020

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हाथों की नियकित सफाई

सुरक्षा घर

बुजुर्गों के स्वास्थ्य की देखभाल

दूरगति के लिए ध्वनि व्यवस्था

प्रश्नोत्तरी के लिए जल्दी

साश्रीय स्वास्थ्य मिशन

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग, हिमाचल प्रदेश

NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION

विश्व मानक दिवस, 14 अक्टूबर, 2020

हार्दिक शुभकामनाओं सहित

भारतीय मानक द्वारा

उत्तर क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय

प्लॉट नं. 4-ए, सेक्टर-27-बी, चंडीगढ़

मानक : पथप्रदर्शक :

The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

The Hathras question

Allahabad HC poser to DM hits the nail on the head

THE question supposed to have been posed by the Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court to Hathras District Magistrate Praveen Kumar Laxkar has in it encapsulated the most disturbing aspects of the terrible tragedy that struck the helpless 19-year-old girl on September 14, when she was brutally gang-raped, and later when her body was cremated at 2.30 am on September 30, keeping the family locked up. The media was not allowed inside the courtroom on Monday during the hearing of the case, where the parents and siblings of the victim accused the DM of forcibly cremating the body. Seema Kushwaha, the lawyer appearing for the family of the victim, is quoted by a national newspaper as saying that the court asked the DM whether he would have done the same thing had it been someone from his family.

If this statement is indeed true, the court has identified the real issue in its very first hearing. The Valmiki girl would not have got brutalised and then her body would not have been snatched away by the law had she been rich or influential. Also, the Uttar Pradesh Government would not have been in a hurry to declare her 'not raped' or initiate a witch-hunt against her family's supporters had the accused been someone else. The caste, class and religious identities of victims and perpetrators seem to dictate a certain kind of official response.

Prashant Kumar of the UP Police should have viewed the video clips of the victim's statement before claiming that there was no proof of rape, clutching at the forensic laboratory report of the 11-day-old sample, which obviously could not have had semen in it. Whereas the three video clips, according to new reports, are consistent testimony against the accused. The first was recorded while she was lying outside the Chandpa police station with flies hovering over her; the second at the district hospital and the third at the Aligarh medical college. In all these, she clearly names the accused and uses the term 'zabardasti' and explains she was strangled because she resisted rape. And that's clinching evidence.

Shootouts in Chandigarh

Gun culture in city is a worrisome trend

THE serenity of City Beautiful was shattered by gunfire in recent days, raising concern over the law and order situation and the safety of its residents. In one of these incidents, a former student leader was gunned down in what has been described as a case of rivalry between gangs. More worrisome is the fact that the shootings have taken place outside malls and clubs that are places of recreation. With normalcy returning to Chandigarh after the lockdown, such incidents of crime will only create wariness among the people. The police and the administration had so far been preoccupied with Covid-related duties in the city, which meant that all energy was focused on enforcing rules related to the lockdown. With life gradually returning back to normal, it is time for the usual law and order routine to take precedence through vigil and verification. Being the capital of Punjab and Haryana, Chandigarh serves as a convenient stopover for gangsters from both states, calling for greater coordination between the authorities of these states and the UT to avert such episodes.

That the incident involved youngsters and student leaders points to another factor. The lockdown has affected life on the campus and Panjab University has been no exception. Offline classes have virtually ceased and students had to leave with hostels being vacated. Because of Covid, there is also uncertainty over the holding of the students' union elections this year. In the absence of activities, outlets to channelise the energy of the youth have been minimised.

Student bodies at Panjab University have always set a precedent, giving leaders to the mainstream political parties and even electing a woman president to head the students' union. In such a backdrop, the tendency among the student groups to flaunt association with criminal gangs because of the raw power it helps them wield is unfortunate. The use of arms in incidents of crime points to their easy availability and their supply chain needs to be snapped. Gun culture will only serve to destroy the city's unique character.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

In crisis management, be quick with the facts, slow with the blame. — Leonard Saffir

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

LAHORE, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1920

Professor Keith on the Esher Report.

If the Esher report still had any credit left after the recent cruel exposure in the British Press, it ought to be definitely and effectively destroyed by the strong criticism to which it has been subjected by such a man as Professor A.B. Keith who has made a special study of inter-imperial questions, and whose impartiality is as unquestionable as his competence to form and express an opinion on this subject. When such a man says that the report reveals "the lack of appreciation of the position in India," that the Esher Committee, the India Office and Parliament believe that the development of responsible government in India will be leisurely" and that "the fundamental defect of the report is the Committee's failure to appreciate the fact that any attempt to keep India virtually dependent is bound to fail," he not only goes to the very root of the matter, but points out in the most conclusive manner possible the danger of the policy laid down in the report. "Before any final decisions are taken on the recommendations of the report," says the writer, "the matter should be submitted to the new legislature of India, confronting whom with a *fait accompli* would be playing into the hands of those in India who deny the sincerity of the Imperial Government's policy of reform." This is, of course, the very least which the Government can do, though we are by no means certain, not knowing at this moment what the composition of the legislature will be, that the mere consideration of the matter by the legislature would serve a profitable purpose. The question here is fundamental and the same considerations that have led the Imperial Government to resolve to make India self-governing in civil affairs ought to lead them to equally definitely resolve to make her self-governing in the matter of her defence.

Tackling a second wave

We need to be better prepared for another Covid surge



DR KK TALWAR

EX-DIRECTOR, PGIMER, AND ADVISER ON HEALTH TO PUNJAB GOVT



TOGETHER: The government, healthcare professionals and public need to cooperate.

In the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic, Punjab was doing reasonably well in containing the spread of the virus. Strict lockdown measures had been imposed, and that period was utilised for increasing testing capacity and strengthening healthcare infrastructure. The 'micro-containment' approach initiated by the state was hailed at the national level.

With the relaxation in the lockdown, and the inflow of travellers from other states, we began to witness an increase in Covid cases in cities, especially in crowded areas and colonies. Preventive voluntary measures such as mask use, physical distancing and hand hygiene norms were also, perhaps, not adopted by the people in earnest. The spread of misinformation and a sense of fear about testing limited the efficacy of the measures to test/trace and control the spread of the virus. This impacted the early and timely identification of patients for treatment and control of the spread.

The efforts of the administration did instill a sense of confidence among the people, and gradually, more people began to undertake early testing and supported contact tracing. The use of high flow nasal cannula for oxygenation and pulse steroid therapy to treat and save seriously sick patients played an important role. With the cooperation of the people, the measures taken by the government have helped to control the surge, also resulting in a decrease in the number of deaths.

The Covid-19 cases are coming down,

and the positive trend should continue. However, in view of further relaxations in regard to day-to-day movement and activities, as well as the upcoming festive season, there is a fear of a second wave. Scientific predictions by the pundits do indicate a second wave of the spread of the disease in six-eight weeks. Many nations are facing this kind of a wave of infections. We need to learn from our recent experiences to ensure better outcomes. Both the government and the public have to jointly make every effort to minimise the spread of this virus.

We must all realise the vital significance of mask use. Countries like Japan, Thailand and the Czech Republic have fared well on account of the widespread use of face masks. There cannot be a cheaper and more easily implementable preventive measure than simply using a mask. Many organisations have been distributing masks among persons who are unable to purchase them. The festive season, and the resultant increase in social activities, could

trigger a second wave if we don't take all necessary precautions. A mask not only protects the wearer but also helps limit the spread of the virus. The use of a mask may also provide secondary immunity akin to the variolation effect.

People with co-morbid conditions must be given quick access to treatment at public healthcare facilities. Government hospitals and professionals have to create confidence among the people. We need to adopt an outreach approach to identify and help such patients. The mobile clinic service adopted by the state should help meet this end. Optimum and timely treatment of such patients for the underlying disease would not only ensure better outcomes in Covid-positive cases but may also prevent the patient from contracting the virus. This would certainly reduce mortality in these cases.

Another important lesson we should learn is to ensure evidence-based investigative and therapeutic practices if we have to effectively

treat these patients. Irrational use of some antiviral drugs and even steroids (which otherwise improve the chances of survival if used properly) is counterproductive. The use of steroids should be avoided in patients who do not require oxygen. Delayed clearance of viral RNA has been observed in patients with SARS, MERS and influenza when treated with steroids. Thus, the indiscriminate use of otherwise useful drugs may even harm patients. Another life-saving therapy is to treat hypoxia. The experience from prominent medical institutes and hospitals has shown that optimum oxygenation using masks, high flow nasal cannula, non-invasive ventilation and proning position help most patients recover. Invasive ventilation is to be discouraged, unless all non-invasive measures have been effectively attempted. Resorting too early to invasive ventilation is also counterproductive, and may well increase mortality rates. Meticulous adherence to optimal evidence-based medical guideline practices will go a long way in achieving better treatment outcomes till we get a vaccine or effective antiviral drug.

One investigation which has been thoroughly misused during this pandemic is the CT scan. People are being advised CT scans even without doing a Covid test or without any symptoms. CT scans are only indicated in cases with worsening hypoxia. The aim must be to treat the patient based on established clinical guidelines. Unnecessary and profligate use of investigative tests and procedures will diminish public confidence in medical and healthcare professionals, as patients with limited means would be constrained to waste precious resources. Experts must help and guide their professional colleagues to follow evidence-based clinical best practices, so as to provide the best possible care to patients.

In sum, the government, healthcare professionals and members of the public must all come together and act in concert in order to prevent and mitigate the possible second wave of infections.

The Lahaulite snowmen of yore

KL NOATAY

WITH the opening of the Atal Tunnel, the Lahaul valley is bound to become an extension of Kulu-Manali. The development makes me nostalgic about my two-year tenure in the tribal area from 1964.

In the '50s, Lahaul-Spiti was part of Kangra district of east Punjab. It was constituted as a separate district of Punjab during the early '60s. Government employees earned 100% remote locality allowance there. Moreover, emoluments for six winter months were disbursed lump sum in advance every September-October.

Kulu officials would do their best to avoid a posting to Lahaul-Spiti. Punjabis, however, opted for it and

undertook the tenure for monetary savings. There were no helicopter flights then. Electronic exchange of information not known in that epoch, monthly accumulation of postal *dak* at Keylong and Manali, even during winter, was around a quintal or so on either side. Evenly packed in *dak-bags*, each weighing 10 kg, it was exchanged up and down between Keylong and Manali by man-pack — at least once a month. Two or three Lahaulites youths were hired as special winter *dak* porters. Well-equipped with snow-wear, each porter would generally take three or more bags, which meant nearly 30 kg or so of backpack, depending on an individual's carrying capacity. They would leave Keylong at 3 am, cruise some 14 km snow-bound trek up to Gondhla

by 8 am and rest. On the following morning, they would likewise trek the next 14 km up to Teling (opposite Koksar); again between 3 am and 8 am and rest. On the third morning, starting again in the wee hours, they would cross Rohtang before twilight, to be at Manali by noon. They followed the same itinerary while returning with *dak-bags*. They took all care to move only under clear sky and not in inclement weather. A round trip took them a week to 10 days. The Deputy Commissioner was empowered to fix rates for any task like this and the portage for a 10 kg *dak-bag* between Keylong and Manali, one way, was Rs 60. Thus a porter carrying three bags either way used to earn about Rs 360 in a round trip. Gold cost about Rs 150 a tola (10 gm)

then, and the porters made a handsome earning out of their exacting venture. There was no untoward incident during two winters of this mode of movement of *dak* during the winters of 1964 to 1966. The post-Atal Tunnel generation of Lahaulites might perhaps find it difficult to believe how daring snowmen their elders used to be!

Though Spiti, having its headquarters at Kaza, is clubbed with Lahaul (constituting the catchment of Chandra and Bhaga, or the Chenab river) for district administration, geographically it constitutes the catchment of the Sutlej. All communications therewith were accordingly wireless-based, sans any exchange of post-bags, unlike that between Keylong and Manali.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LTC vouchers

Apropos of 'LTC cash vouchers, fest advance to spur demand' (Oct 13), these steps are too feeble to spur demand, and needless to say, in the wrong direction. What does festival advance mean to millions of employees stuck by the Covid syndrome, and when the government is advocating social distancing? These steps look contradictory at best. People cannot be expected to spend in times of crisis and uncertainty. The government should open up businesses and markets with caution and care. The WHO is changing guidelines daily, and with no fool-proof methods in place to stop Covid spread, the widely accepted norm of keeping distance and washing hands should be strictly advised. As soon as the fear goes away, generation of demand will be automatic.

ASHOK GOSWAMI, NEW YORK

Tourism booster

Apropos of 'Lahaul hotels witness 80% occupancy' (Oct 12), the Atal Tunnel has proved to be beneficial to the economy of the hill state and has changed the dynamics of tourism as for a long part of the year, the area was shut down for the movement of people. It will create multiple employment opportunities in the state and improve connectiv-

ity with other parts of the country, especially during the winters. Even though the cost of such projects is high, the benefits are immense.

ISHITA KUKREJA, BY MAIL

Svanitva scheme

I applaud the Union Government's Svanitva scheme, under which every villager will get a property card (land, house, etc) for what they own, but don't have any ownership document. The scheme is a game-changer that will not only empower villagers, but will also reduce a huge burden off the judicial system. It will complement the recent agriculture reforms and open up avenues for various economic and development activities in rural India. The digital map produced as a byproduct of this scheme will be another game changer in the field of agriculture, forestry, rural infrastructure, healthcare, security, law enforcement and disaster management.

CHANDER SANGRA, IRELAND

Farmers' fight

Refer to 'Fighting for farmers', Punjab political parties are thinking about the 2022 elections. The Akalis said their party sacrificed for the farmers by giving up the Cabinet berth. The Congress said the sacrifice of the Akalis was a drama,

and then its leaders sat comfortably on tractors with Bisleri water, to show support to farmers. But in reality, sitting under the sun, on the ground, on the railway track, and taking a huge risk during the pandemic, it is the farmers who are struggling and making a sacrifice.

NIKITA SHARMA, BY MAIL

Farmer cooperatives

Refer to farm laws, the GOI certainly has not done its homework before pushing and passing the farm Bills. Earlier, at the ground level, it failed to interact with the farmers' bodies to understand what they wanted and tell them about the reforms. The farmers' protests in prominent agrarian states of Punjab and Haryana and many others too are an indicator of the resentment which is spreading across India. The Centre's pro-urban and pro-corporate policies are visible, as it always asks for comments from MSMEs and other big industrial bodies before framing policies for the manufacturing sector. Never before

have the farmers united, as is being seen now. They apprehend that the big corporates are going to benefit, and not the farmers as most of them are small and marginal farmers, with no understanding of commercial issues in these laws. In fact, in such an impasse, the role of cooperatives of

the farmers should be explored rather than just encouraging industrial corporates who are known for profiteering at the expense of farmers.

BRU B GOYAL, LUDHIANA

Deplorable act

The way the police have behaved with a former Sikh ex-serviceman ('Minorities panel moved...') in West Bengal is highly deplorable. It seems the present state government cannot tolerate the activities of any opposition party. Instead of development politics, it has been adopting narrow politics with an eye on the vote bank. A thorough investigation should be undertaken and the police personnel at the helm of affairs must be punished.

SHANKAR CHATTERJEE, HYDERABAD
Address the issue
Many Indians, specially employees working in the government or private sectors are in the same dilemma, but have the privilege of having several home addresses due to frequent transfers and a sense of belongingness to place of work ('Where do we really belong?'). In today's 'one India' era, permanent address generally asked for in every application/form has no meaning and should be dispensed with.

NARENDRA KUMAR SINGHAL, NOIDA

India-US economic ties await a new dawn



SUSHMA RAMACHANDRAN
SENIOR FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

THE election of a new President of a global superpower like the United States has ramifications around the world. For India, the US elections scheduled for November 3 come at a pivotal moment partly because of the Covid crisis and partly because of the current border tensions with China. So far, the Republican Trump administration has been broadly supportive of India in its rift with the northern neighbour. Whether this support will continue if Democratic nominee Joe Biden becomes President is a moot point. Given the Democrats' preoccupation with Russia as an adversary rather than China, Donald Trump is being considered by many here as a better friend despite his growing eccentricities. The bonhomie with Prime Minister Narendra Modi is seen as another plus point.

What is pushed to the background, however, is Trump's role in the deterioration of Indo-US economic relations in recent years. In fact, it is this administration that has relentlessly raised tariffs on Indian goods, altered visa terms for software engineers working in that country and also raised concerns over medical device price caps as well as digital economy issues. While the strategic nature of the relationship is indeed critical right

now, the collapse in growth owing to the pandemic means that supportive economic ties are likely to become extremely important in the future.

The biggest area of friction between India and the US during the Trump administration's tenure has been trade and tariffs. In an increasingly protectionist era, both governments have become trigger-happy in terms of import duties. The battle began with the US President deciding to focus on countries with which it had a high trade deficit. India was ranked 10th on the list of such entities in 2016 with a \$24.3 billion deficit coming down to \$23.3 billion in 2019. Negotiations on this issue have been continuing for quite some time with India trying to buy more by importing American crude oil and LNG. But the scenario was embittered last year with the sudden decision to drop this country from the group of developing economies entitled to duty free import tariffs. Known as the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP), the scheme launched in 1975 enables duty free import of goods from the US by developing countries.

India was the largest beneficiary of this programme in 2017 with \$5.7 billion worth of goods covered by it. Commerce Ministry officials maintained the withdrawal of concessions would have little impact since the actual benefit amounted to only 190 million dollars annually. But it effectively highlighted the cavalier attitude towards India's economic concerns despite the apparent deepening of the US-India partnership under the Trump administration.

The reason given for the withdrawal of GSP benefits was the lack of market access provided to American products in this country. Market



PROTECTIONIST STANCE: The biggest area of friction between India and the US during Trump's tenure has been trade and tariffs.

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access issues, however, are not new and have been under negotiation for many years now. So, the decision on GSP not only came as a surprise but ran contrary to the public camaraderie between the heads of government.

Tariff hikes affecting Indian products have also taken place with little compunction for the close strategic ties. The latest round of increase in import duties was on aluminium products from 18 countries, including India, in the first week of October. This is the second wave of tariff hikes on metals. The first came in 2018 when duties were raised by 25 per cent on steel and 10 per cent on aluminium from India and several other countries. India finally retaliated to these measures as well as withdrawal of GSP by imposing higher tariffs on many US imports in June last year. These included apples, almonds, chickpeas,

lentils, steel and chemicals. In other words, a mini trade war had erupted between two countries that were becoming close allies in other sectors.

The visa policy for highly skilled software professionals has also been revamped by the Trump administration, making it more expensive to hire foreign personnel. This is an issue that affects both the Indian and the American information technology industries but the policies are becoming more restrictive than ever in the past.

On its part, the US administration has complained about India's rigid attitude on several key issues, including the imposition of price caps on medical devices like stents and implants. These were imposed in 2017 and staunchly opposed by American manufacturer of such devices. Other criticisms include the failure to allow

market access to dairy products on religious grounds as well as long standing issues over intellectual property rights. While President Trump was vocal about the high tariffs on imports of Harley Davidson motorcycles, these are actually bought in minuscule numbers in this country. In contrast, the more relevant issues concerning American corporate investors are the continuation of foreign investment limits in key sectors like insurance, banking and retail. The proposals for a new e-commerce policy and data protection issues have also come under the spotlight amid the focus on *swadeshi* and the *Atmanirbhar* drive. India too has been guilty of raising tariffs on a wide range of goods in a surge of protectionism over the past two years.

Unfortunately, the discussions on trade and other economic issues have not only failed to reach any resolution but seem to have worsened the relationship between the two countries in these areas. It is possible that a Biden presidency may lead to better communication on such fractious issues, though one has to be prepared for the Biden camp to try and link other issues like climate change to trade and market access.

As of now, the Democratic candidate appears to be leading in the polls in the run-up to the US elections, though this is never a guarantee of success. In case Biden does win the election, however, the new administration will not necessarily reverse the growing closeness in ties between the two countries. At least as far as the economic relationship is concerned, there is even a possibility that the steady decline in this area may be halted and make the outlook more sanguine in the coming years.

Plug gaps to make RTI Act realise potential



LT GEN PK GROVER (RETD)
FORMER STATE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER, PUNJAB

Fifteen years after the RTI Act came into force, awareness still eludes the public at large of the power bestowed on them by this law to seek information in larger public interest and hold the authorities accountable. An effective and transparent information regime demands a change in the mindset of the officials, who must realise that their authority will in no way be undermined by opening up official bureaus.

ON October 12, 2005, India enforced the Right to Information (RTI) Act. The RTI mandate has been seen as the key to strengthening participatory democracy and ushering in citizen-centric governance.

With transparency, accountability of the government to every citizen, and empowerment of the public, as its three fundamental areas of focus, the Act entails a much greater responsibility on public servants. At the same time, it strengthens the premise that a government is of the people, for the people and by the people.

The introduction of this Act ushered in an era in which wrongdoings in high places could be questioned and exposed. This led to a consistent increase in the number of applications filed — as per an estimate, it is about 60 lakh annually. Many of these applications are filed by the poorest and most marginalised people to access information about their basic rights and entitlements. About 300 cases have been reported across India in which people were attacked, murdered, physically or mentally harassed or had their property damaged because of the information they sought under the Act.

Fifteen years after its advent, awareness still eludes the public at large of the power bestowed on them by the RTI Act to seek information in larger public interest and hold public authorities accountable. Greater commitment and effort on the part of the functionaries of the state is essential to create public awareness about the Act. There should be immediate and widespread dissemination of knowledge about the



FOUL PLAY: There have been repeated attempts to dilute this potentially powerful law.

law, as mentioned in Section 26 of the Act. The media and the civil society can play a major role in highlighting the significance of this social legislation.

An effective and transparent information regime demands a change in the mindset of the officials, who must realise that their authority will in no way be undermined by opening up official bureaus. In fact, it will further strengthen their role in a vibrant democracy.

With the experience of the past 15 years, public authorities are aware of the type of information being sought. The challenge here is to speedily modernise the administrative systems and make the official machinery people-friendly. Further, the officials have to be organised and motivated to put extra hours of work for streamlining and record-keeping, weeding out records as per the proce-

dure laid down and computerising maximum information with proper indexing. All relevant information, even beyond the provisions of Section 4, such as information on the proposed projects and schemes, should be made available on the official website. Information in the public domain should be easily accessible. This will reduce the number of requests for information.

Computerisation and scientific record-keeping is mandated in Section 4 of the Act. Most of the public authorities have not been able to undertake this task due to non-availability of infrastructure and trained manpower. Routine documents in most government offices are not systematically maintained and recorded. As such, even where an authority wishes to cooperate with the informa-

tion seeker, it is unable to retrieve the material from the files within the stipulated time frame. The IT (information technology) revolution, originating in the commercial sector, has influenced government functioning. Improved communication has exposed the common man to the winds of change in the private sector. E-governance, therefore, needs to be adopted at the earliest in order to effectively implement the Act.

There are still problems related to the implementation of the Act, such as lack of knowledge about it, which inevitably leads to unnecessary delays in providing information. Basic training of PIOs, APIOs and the appellate authorities becomes important. An information bank comprising important precedents regarding RTI complaints and the decisions by the appellate authorities should be maintained for the benefit of the appointed officers and the public.

Every commission is required to function as an adjudicator as well as a regulator. If the commissions are to fulfil the objectives of the Act to empower the common man, the process of adjudication has to be made more simple and convenient for information seekers. Disposal of court work has to be prompt and compliance of orders speedy. Priority must be given to cases related to senior citizens.

Its role of regulator, every commission is required to monitor the implementation of the Act by the government and its agencies. The commissions are to report to the legislature on how the Act has been implemented. In this regard, every commission must keep its ear to the ground and remain receptive

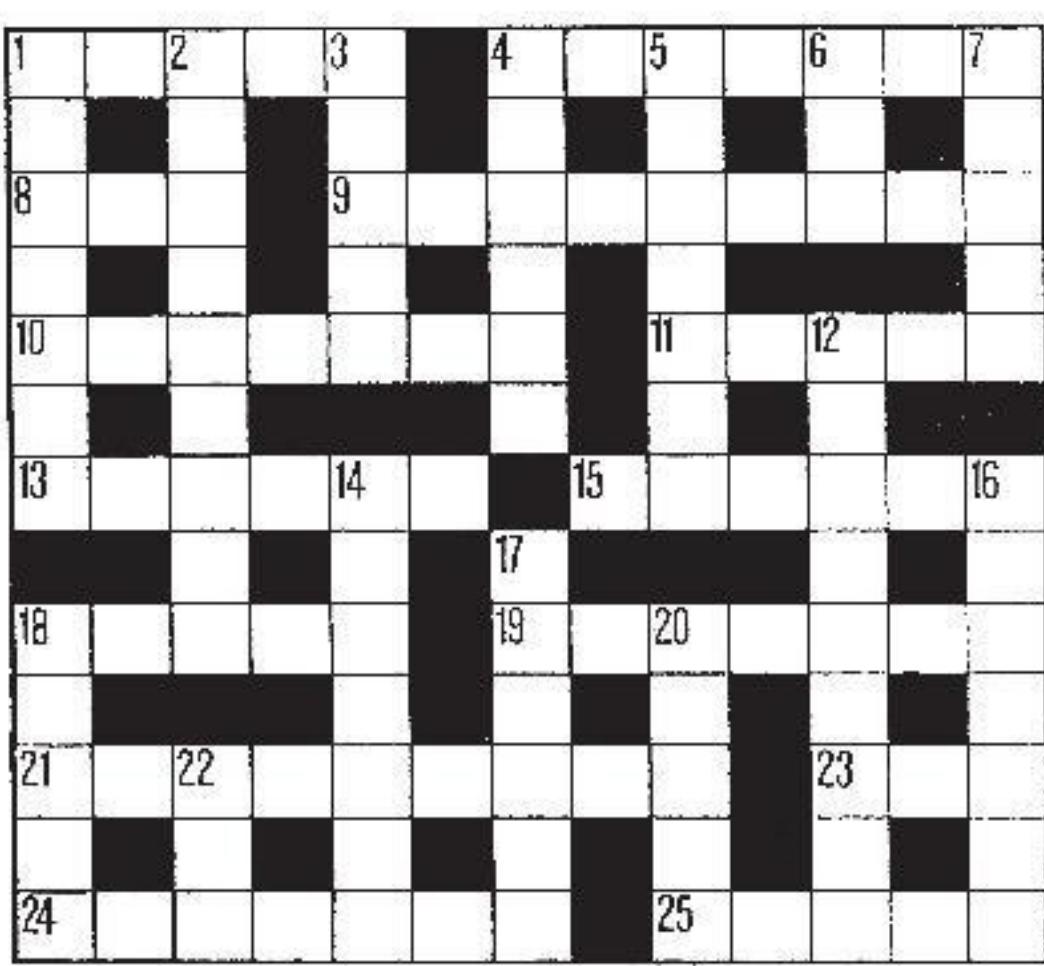
to the view of the public, the media and non-government organisations, all of whom have an important stake in information freedom.

Although the Act provides for precedence of its provisions over any other existing law that may contradict it, there is a chance of conflict of laws. Thus, constant and consistent review and analysis of various provisions of the Act should be undertaken to ensure that it actually facilitates and does not restrict access to information.

Ever since its enactment, there have been attempts to dilute this potentially powerful law. The dilution has come from government action as well as by judicial interpretation. For example, concerted efforts were made to remove 'file notings' from the purview of the Act in 2006 and again in 2009 to stop 'vexatious' and 'frivolous' RTI queries. However, on both occasions, the proposed amendments were withdrawn in view of widespread resistance. More recently, the RTI (Amendment) Bill, passed in July 2019, modified the terms and conditions of service of the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) and Information Commissioners at the Centre and in the states. This has been criticised as watering down of the independence of the information commissions.

In a democracy, people are the most powerful element. The Right to Information empowers them. There are difficulties and challenges still being experienced in implementing the Act. Concerted efforts, therefore, have to be made to overcome these issues to ensure a regime accountable to its people.

QUICK CROSSWORD

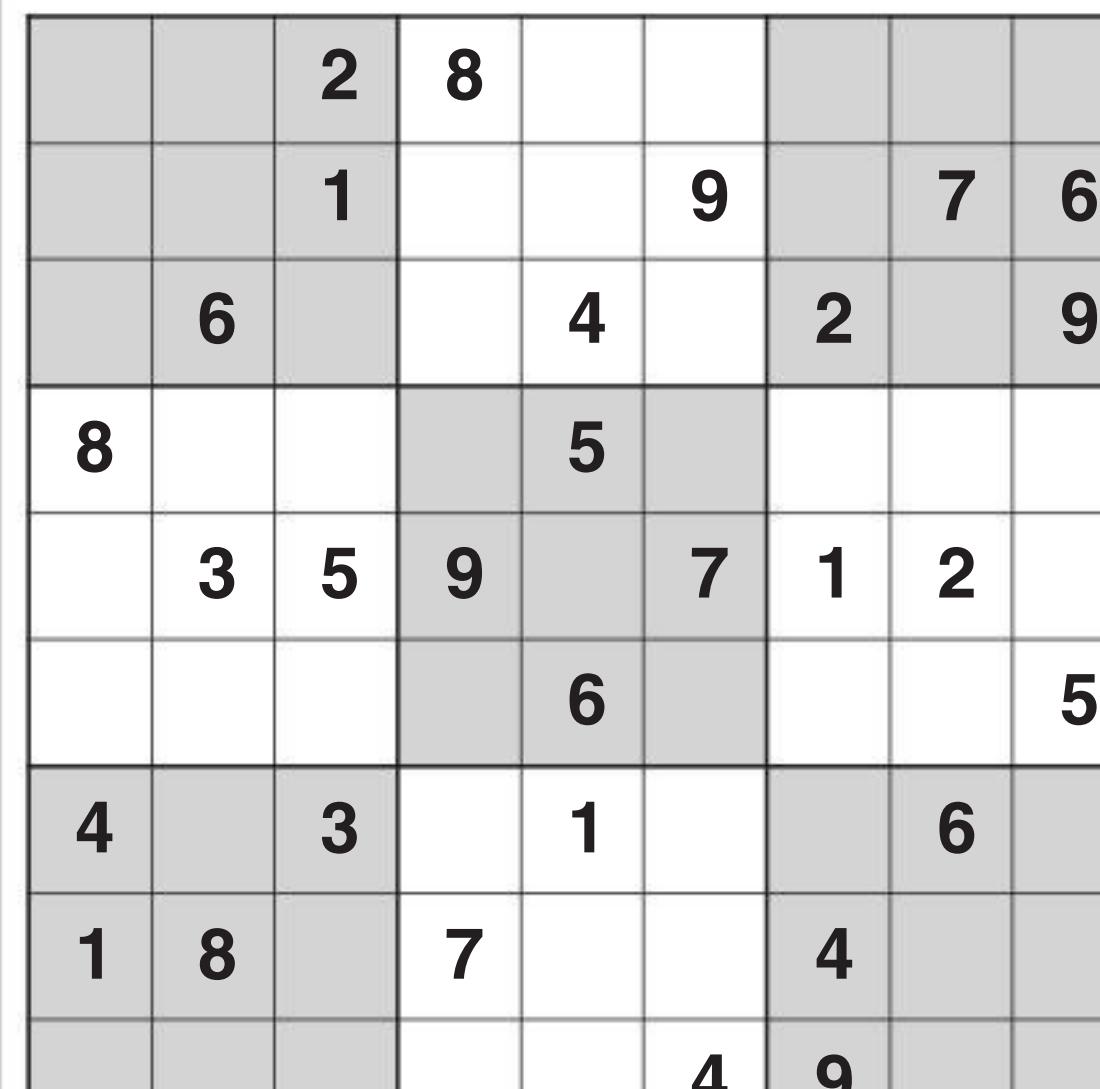


YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

Crossword: 1 Blow-by-blow, 8 On end, 9 Avarice, 10 Flannel, 11 Leeds, 12 Hidden, 14 Studio, 17 Haste, 19 Upgrade, 21 Outback, 22 Imply, 23 On the blink.

Down: 2 Leward, 3 Widen, 4 Yearly, 5 Leaflet, 6 While, 7 Set store by, 8 Off the hook, 13 Elegant, 15 Deadpan, 16 Buckle, 18 Set-to, 20 Grill.

SU DO KU



EASY

CALENDAR

OCTOBER 14, 2020, WEDNESDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat	2077
■ Shaka Samvat	1942
■ Ashwin Shaka	22
■ Ashwin Parvishte	29
■ Hijri	1442
■ Krishna Paksha Tithi 12, up to 11:51 am	
■ Shukla Yoga up to 2:14 pm	
■ Purvaphalguni Nakshatra up to 8:41 pm	
■ Moon enters Virgo sign 2:02 am	
■ Pardosh Vrat	

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

FORECAST

SUNSET: WEDNESDAY 17:52 HRS

SUNRISE: THURSDAY 06:25 HRS

CITY MAX MIN

Chandigarh	35	22	
New Delhi	35	20	
Amritsar	35	19	
Bathinda	36	18	
Jalandhar	35	19	
Ludhiana	35	20	
Bhiwani	36	20	
Hisar	36	18	
Sirsia	36	20	
Dharamsala	27	16	
Manali	25	08	
Shimla	23	15	
Srinagar	26	05	
Jammu	34	18	
Kargil	16	02	
Leh	21	-02	
Dehradun	33	20	
Mussoorie	24	14	

TEMPERATURE IN °C

NORTHERN RAILWAY				
E-Tender Notice				
Tender Notice No 433-Sig-T-10-20-21 Dated: 12.10.2020				
Closing Date/Time: 09.11.2020/15:00				
Sr. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender notice no. 433-Sig-T-10-20-21 Closing Date/Time: 09.11.2020/15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.				
Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.				
1. NIT HEADER				
Contract Type	Works			
Name of Work	Work no. 1-S&T work in c/w Engineering TTR work for 93 sets (45 Nos. 1 in 12 TWS & 48 Nos. 1 in 8.5) on SNL-JRC and JRC-PTK-JAT section over Firozpur Division.			
Tender Type	Open (E-tendering)	Bidding System	Single Packet System	
Tender Closing Date Time	09/11/2020 15:00	Date Time of Uploading Tender	12/10/2020 16:22	
Pre-Bid Required	No	Pre-Bid Query Date Time	Not Applicable	
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Work no. 1 - 81,54,637.60	Tendering Section	SINGAL	
Bidding Style	Single Rate for Each Schedule Item	Bidding Unit	Rs./Unit	
Earnest Money (Rs.)	Work no. 1 - 1,63,100.00	Validity of Offer (Days)	45 days	
Tender Doc. Cost (Rs.)	Work no. 1 - 5,000.00	Period of Completion	Work no. 1 - 6 Months	
Bidding Start Date as per IREPS	26/10/2020		2200/2020	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE				

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD**RE-TENDER NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS**

Bid No. 19/PWSSD FEROZEPUR DATED 13.10.2020

<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

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

Sr. No.	Description of Work	Earliest Money	Cost of document/ Tender Processing Fee (Rs.)	Period of completion	Approx. Value of the Work	Remarks
1.	Providing & Laying SW- RCC Pipe Sewer, Interlock Pavers and Sewerage House Connections including Inspection Chamber complete in all respects and all other works contingent there to at Gurharsahai Town Distt. Ferozepur (Left out by SPCPL) Village Area.	1% of DNIT Amount Rs. 5.55 Lacs	Rs. 100/- Processing Fee & 5000/- + Taxes as applicable	6 Months	Rs. 555.26 Lacs	Last Submission Date: 28.10.2020 05:00 p.m. Date of Opening 29.10.2020 12:00 p.m.

2. Important dates are as under:

i) Period of availability of tender online shall be : From up to 14.10.2020, 09.00 a.m. for detailed terms and conditions refer to website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

ii) If any, corrigendum, issued will be loaded & seen at website

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Punjab W/S & Sew. Divn., Ferozepur.

DPR/Pb/89479

NORTHERN RAILWAY**E-Tender Notice**

S N	Tender No	Name of work	Date & Time of Opening	Approx. Cost Rs.	Earrest Money Rs.	Completion period
1	OT-18/2020-21	Signalling work in c/w Construction of LHS/ROB at 92-C & 117-C and Raising and extension of PF at JUDW over Ambala Division.	11.11.2020 at 15.00 hrs	5254255.50/-	105100/-	Six Months
2	OT-19/2020-21	Signalling Work involving trenching, cable laying, termination and outdoor wiring in connection with TTR 43 set TWS over Ambala Division.	11.11.2020 at 15.00 hrs	15757351.95/-	228800/-	Six Months

Note:

1. Open tender through E-tendering are invited by Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom, Engineer/N.Railway, DRM Office, Rail Vihar, Ambala Cantt from the willing contractors for above noted work up to 15 HRS on due date shown against the work and will be opened soon thereafter. Tenderer(s) are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/TAN /TIN as per conditions.

2. Please refer to the Website www.ireps.gov.in for detailed notice and tender documents.

3. Tenderer should have class-III Digital Signature Certificate and registered themselves on website stated above to participate in E-Tendering and they are requested to read all the instructions contained in the tender notice and tender documents carefully before submitting their offer so as to comply with all the requisite provision/special conditions.

No.: SW-Sig/UMB/NIT-07/2020-21 Dated : 12.10.2020

2201/2020

Serving Customers With A Smile

NORTHERN RAILWAY**Open Tender Notice No. 11/2020-21**

Open tenders through E-tendering are invited by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/G, Northern Railway, Ambala from the willing contractors for following work up to 15:00 hrs. on the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter:-

S. N.	Open Tender No.	Name of work	Date of Closing/Opening	Approx. Cost	Earrest Money	Completion period	Validity Period	Cost of tender form
1	30-Elect/ T-20/ 2020-2021 (open Tender)	Electrification work in connection with system strengthening to provide the power supply for CNC machine in BCN Yard at KJGY, Saharanpur over Ambala Division.	06.11.2020	Rs. 52,56,066.80	Rs. 1,05,100/-	04 Months	45 Days	NIL
2	30-Elect/ T-21/ 2020-2021 (open Tender)	Hiring of 9.00 MT Truck for day to day transportation of Electrical material of Oil engine & pump, Coaching & Power depots for 3 years over Ambala Division.	06.11.2020	Rs. 27,56,703.00	Rs. 55,100/-	36 Months	45 Days	NIL

1. Tenderer(s) are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/TIN as per conditions. The required Earnest Money & Tender Document Cost will be acceptable On-Line payment through Net Banking/or Payment Gateway payment only well before & upto 15:00 Hrs. of closing date & time of tender.

2. As a proof of technical experience/competence, the tenderer must have successfully completed any of the following during last 07 (seven) years, ending last day of month previous to the one in which tender is invited: **Three similar works** costing not less than the amount equal to 30% of advertised value of the tender, **Or Two similar works** costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of advertised value of the tender, **Or One similar work** costing not less than the amount equal to 60% of advertised value of the tender.

Definition of Similar Nature of Work to be considered for the above work (Item No: 1):

"Design, manufacture, supply , installation and commissioning of LT Panels complete with earthing arrangements and associated electrical works". OR
 "Design, manufacture, supply , installation and commissioning of APFC Panels and associated electrical works such as earthing arrangements and laying of cables".

3. Tenderer(s) should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in E-Tendering of Works Tenders.

4. For details, please log on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in

No.: 30-Elect/T/Notice/11/2020-21 Dated: 13.10.2020

2209/2020

Serving Customers with a Smile

IN THE COURT OF CALA-cum-S.D.O. (C), CHOPAL, DISTRICT SHIMLA**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas the land mentioned in the below noted schedule, situated in village Rohana, Tehsil Nerwa, District Shimla, has been vested in the Central Government, free from all incumbrances, for construction/ widening etc. of NH-72B (Faonta-Gumma Section), from the date of publication of Notification, under section 3D, in the Official Gazette i.e. on 23-04-2020. In pursuance of section 3G(3) of the National Highway Act, 1956, it is hereby informed to all concerned right holders that claim for compensation in respect to schedule published under section 3D of the ibid Act. Now, therefore, compensation of the land, payable to the owners/interested persons, is to be determined by the undersigned. Hence, all the interested persons are hereby informed to appear personally or by an agent or by legal practitioner to submit their claims regarding compensation in my office at Chopal or in the office of the Tehsildar, Nerwa, within twenty one days from the publication of this Public Notice, failing which the compensation will be determined and announced, as per the norms fixed by the Government, on 30th October, 2020, in Tehsil Office Nerwa.

Schedule

State: HIMACHAL PRADESH		District: SHIMLA		
Sr. No.	Survey No.	Type of land	Nature of land	Area in Hectare
1	2	3	4	5
Taluk Nerwa				6
Village: Rohana				
1. 275/1	Government	Charand	0.2265	Govt. of HIMACHAL PRADESH
2. 281/1	Government	Ge.Mu. Nala	0.0432	-do-
3. 285/1	Government	Charand	0.3735	-do-
4. 378/1	Government	Non Agriculture land	0.4300	-do-
5. 387/1	Government	Non Agriculture land	0.3207	-do-
6. 389/1	Government	Non Agriculture land	0.3929	-do-
7. 394/1	Government	Non Agriculture land	0.0618	-do-
8. 449/396/1	Private	Non Agriculture land	0.0020	Hariram s/o Shibu
9. 450/396/1	Private	Non Agriculture land	0.0040	Kedar Singh s/o Bhup Singh
10. 441/396/1	Private	Non Agriculture land	0.0020	Man Das s/o Sabla Ram
11. 443/396/1	Private	Non Agriculture land	0.0039	Sunder Singh s/o Shobha Ram ½ Bhag, Roshani Devi w/o Prem Chand ½ Bhag
12. 442/396/1	Private	Non Agriculture land	0.0025	Radha Devi w/o Dhuni Chand
13. 444/396/1	Private	Non Agriculture land	0.0036	Rajendra Singh, Balbir Singh ss/o Kanna Singh Bhag brabar
14. 452/396/1	Private	Non Agriculture land	0.0054	Panch Ram s/o Sadhu
			TOTAL	1.8720

Issued under my signature and seal of the court on this 9th day of October, 2020

CALA-cum-S.D.O. (C)

Chopal, Dist. Shimla, H.P.

Trekker from Jammu dies at Deo Tibba**OUR CORRESPONDENT**

KULLU, OCTOBER 13

A tourist from Jammu died after being hit by a falling rock near the Pitam ridge while trekking on Deo Tibba, near Manali, yesterday.

Kullu SP Gaurav Singh said that they received information today that Ishan, a resident of Jammu and son of Ravinder Sharma, died while trekking after being hit on the head by a falling rock.

Earlier, the government was planning to set up the drug park at Nalagarh.

Sources here said a meeting of a high-powered committee was held yesterday

in which it was decided that the park would be set up in Una district.

The government has proposed to set up the park on 1,400 acres in Haroli

Industries Department has started eyeing private lands and entered into an agreement to buy 35 acres for the project.

Ram Kumar Sharma thanked Chief Minister Jai

would bring in an investment of Rs 10,000 crore from the Centre. At present, Una district has an investment of Rs 2,100 crore.



White Knight, Fire and Fury Corps get new commanders

Lt Gen Suchindra Kumar, Lt Gen PGK Mennan take over as GOCs

JAMMU, OCTOBER 13

Lt Gen MV Suchindra Kumar took over as the General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the Army's elite 16 Corps, known as White Knight Corps, here on Tuesday, a Defence spokesperson said. He succeeds Lt Gen Harsha Gupta.

Lt Gen Suchindra Kumar said it was an honour to command such an elite formation with a rich history of Jammu and Kashmir.

He exhorted all ranks to continue working with utmost zeal and enthusiasm. He asked them to always remain combat-ready to thwart the nefarious designs of adversaries and imminent forces while being in complete synergy with the civil administration and paramilitary forces, the spokesperson said.

Relinquishing the command, Lt Gen Gupta laid a wreath at Ashwamedh Shaurya Sthal at the Nagrota Military Station in



Lt Gen PGK Menon assumes charge of the GOC of the Fire and Fury Corps from Lt Gen Harinder Singh. PHOTO: TWITTER/@NORTHERNCOMD_IA

the memory of soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice for the nation.

He called upon all ranks to continue to strive for excellence, the spokesperson said.

Srinagar: Lt Gen PGK Menon on Tuesday took over command of Leh-based Fire and Fury Corps of the Army, a Defence spokesperson said here.

The officer commanded a

Rashtriya Rifles unit in the Kashmir valley, an infantry brigade along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir and an infantry division in the eastern sector, he said.

"The General has had a distinguished career in the Indian Army, tenuring a number of important command and staff appointments," the spokesperson said. Before assuming command of the

COMBAT-READY

“Work with utmost zeal and enthusiasm. Always remain combat-ready to thwart the nefarious designs of adversaries.

Lt Gen Suchindra Kumar,
GOC, WHITE KNIGHT CORPS

Fire and Fury Corps, Lt Gen Menon was tenanting the appointment of Director General, Recruiting, in New Delhi.

Lt Gen Menon exhorted all ranks to continue to discharge their duties with the same commitment and zeal and always be prepared to deal with any threat to the national security, the spokesperson said.

Lt Gen Menon succeeded Lt Gen Harinder Singh, who in his farewell message conveyed his gratitude and deep appreciation to all ranks of the Fire and Fury Corps. — PTI

Protest against Farooq's remark



Activists of the Dogra Front and Shiv Sena protest against National Conference president Farooq Abdullah for his 'anti-India' statement, in Jammu on Tuesday. PTI

Arms, ammo recovered in Kupwara

Srinagar, October 13

Security forces have recovered a cache of arms and ammunition during a search operation in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir, an Army official said on Tuesday.

The search operation by a joint team of security forces was launched in general area of Gundishah of north Kashmir on Monday, following inputs by the Jammu and Kashmir Police, he said.

Eighty-nine more patients were discharged from different hospitals on Monday. Seven out of them were from Kargil district and 82 from Leh.

So far, 4,126 Covid-19 patients have recovered, while 961 others are undergoing treatment.

The number of Covid-19 fatalities in Ladakh stands at 64. — PTI

Ensure security of sarpanches in J&K: BJP leader to NHRC

JAMMU, OCTOBER 13

A BJP leader has approached the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to seek its intervention to ensure security of sarpanches facing terror threat in Kashmir.

The NHRC has taken note of the matter and has forwarded it to the Union Secretary for Home Affairs and Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary,

Chrungoo has filed the case with the NHRC along with a complaint from Vijay Raina, a sarpanch in south Kashmir's Kulgama district.

He has sought intervention of the commission for direction to authorities to provide security to all sarpanches and

has said if the same is not possible, at least the authorities should try to induce a sense of fearlessness among them by other means. — PTI

the NHRC had said in case the report was not received within the stipulated time, it would be constrained to invoke Section 13 of the Protection of Human Rights Act for personal appearance of the authority concerned.

Chrungoo has filed the case with the NHRC along with a complaint from Vijay Raina, a sarpanch in south

Kashmir's Kulgama district.

He has sought intervention of the commission for direction to authorities to provide security to all sarpanches and

has said if the same is not possible, at least the authorities should try to induce a sense of fearlessness among them by other means. — PTI

J&K records 677 fresh virus cases, Ladakh 70

73,502 patients have recovered so far, according to the officials.

Out of the fresh 677 cases, 313 are from the Jammu region and 364 from Kashmir. Srinagar district reported the highest number of 145 new cases, followed by 121 in Jammu district, the officials said.

Three out of the seven more deaths were in Jammu and four in Kashmir, taking the death toll to 1,340, with seven more deaths, officials said.

There are 9,866 active cases of the disease, while



Leh: Ladakh reported 70 fresh Covid-19 cases on Tuesday, taking the union

territory's caseload to 5,151, an official bulletin said.

All the new cases were

detected in Leh district during the past 24 hours, the official bulletin said.

Eighty-nine more patients were discharged from different hospitals on Monday. Seven out of them were from Kargil district and 82 from Leh.

So far, 4,126 Covid-19 patients have recovered, while 961 others are undergoing treatment.

The number of Covid-19 fatalities in Ladakh stands at 64. — PTI

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

E-Tenders are invited on or before 27.10.2020 for Pick-up of Garbage from Medical College, Patiala and Rajindra Hospital Patiala, as per terms and conditions of the tender. The tender document containing detailed terms & conditions may be downloaded from the E-procurement website of the Punjab Government i.e. <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

For further details, corrigendum, addendums, clarifications, important dates, etc. concerning the project, the bidders are requested to visit the website referred above on regular basis. No separate advertisement shall be published in newspaper.

Sd/- Principal,
Govt. Medical College, Patiala.

DPR/Pb/89350

Office of the Sub Divisional Magistrate-cum-Registering Authority (Motors) Batala Public Notice for online auction of Fancy Registration Numbers

It is notified for General Public that registration of login for online auction of Fancy Registration Number of Series PB 18 W will be open from date 15.10.2020 to 21.10.2020 and online auction will be held from 22.10.2020 to 28.10.2020. The interested persons can register his login on the official website www.parivahan.gov.in from date 15.10.2020 to 21.10.2020 and join on Online auction from 22.10.2020 to 28.10.2020. No new registration is possible once the auction starts. notifications rates dated 17.12.2018 bearing all terms and conditions regarding auction and fancy registration numbers are available on the official website www.punjabtransport.org.

Sd/- Sub Divisional Magistrate-cum-Registering Authority (Motors) Batala.

DPR/Pb/89291

INVITATION OF BIDS

PUDA Online bids are invited from eligible bidders for selection of Software Solution Provider (SSP) for implementation of Online Building Plan approval System. Comprehensive Request for Proposal document containing detailed scope of work, instructions, terms & conditions can be obtained from website www.puda.gov.in or www.eproc.punjab.gov.in

Last date of submission of bid 5.11.2020 at 3:00 PM.

Date of opening of bid 5.11.2020 at 5:00 PM.

Earnest Money Rs. 2,00,000/-

Application Fee Rs. 5,000/-

Interested bidders qualifying eligibility criteria should submit their bids at www.eproc.punjab.gov.in

Chief Administrator

PUNJAB URBAN PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PUDA Bhawan, Sector-62, SAS Nagar (Punjab)

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Chief Administrator

PUNJAB URBAN PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

PUDA Bhawan, Sector-62

**PUNJAB MANDI BOARD
NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS
TENDER NOTICE NO. 02 DATED 13.10.2020**

Executive Engineer (Civil), Punjab Mandi Board, Faridkot invites bids from Eligible bidders enlisted with Punjab Mandi Board for Special Repair of various Link Roads in Market Committee Faridkot, Sadiq, Kotakpura and Jaitu Faridkot under Special Repair Programme 2020-21 (Phase-III)

For any detail, terms and conditions of notice inviting bids, Refer to website: <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in/>

Corrigendum, if any, will only be issued on website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (C)
Punjab Mandi Board, Faridkot.

DPR/Pb/89341

ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ ਸਟੋਰ ਟੈਕਸ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।
ਸੇਲ੍ਫ ਕੱਬ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।
ਟੈਲੀਫਨ ਨੰਬਰ: 0175-2359539

ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ

ਅਮਰ ਜਨਤਾ ਨੂੰ ਸੁਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਬਿਸ ਦਾ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਦੀ ਵਿਭਾਗੀ ਵਰਤੋਂ ਕੱਥਮ ਗਠੀ ਜਿੱਥੇ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਵੀ ਦੱਖਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੈ, ਦੇ ਨਿਪਾਰੇ ਲਈ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਮੌਜੂਦ ਹੈ ਜੋ ਇਸ ਦਾ ਵਿਖੇ ਵਿੱਖੀ 04.11.2020 ਨਾਲ ਦੱਖਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੀਤੇ ਗਏ ਹਨ।

ਦੱਖਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੀਤੇ ਗਏ ਹਨ। ਅਤੇ ਬਾਅਦ ਦੀ ਦੱਖਣ ਵਿੱਚ 3.00 ਲੋੜ ਖੋਲ੍ਹੇ ਜਾਣਗੇ। ਜਿਸ ਦਾ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਸਭ ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ, ਉਸ ਨੂੰ ਗੱਢੀ ਵੱਚ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

ਲੜੀ ਨੰ. ਗੱਢੀ ਨੰ. ਮਾਡਲ ਮਾਰਕ ਰਿਚਰਡ ਕੀਮਤ ਬਿਕਾਨ ਰਕਮ
1 ਪੈਸੀ-11-ਐਮ-2045 1998 ਅਧੀਸ਼ਤਰ ਕਾਰ 22,000/- 2200/-

ਸੱਤਾ: 1. ਟੈਂਡਰ ਦਾ ਮਹੱਤਵ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ 20/- ਗੁਪਟੇ ਦੀ ਅਦਾਇਕੀ ਕਰਕੇ ਸਹਿਯੋਗ ਸਟੋਰ ਟੈਕਸ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।
2. ਕੱਥਮ ਗਠੀ ਦੀ ਵਿਭਾਗੀ ਕੀਮਤ ਮੁਕਾਬਲਾ 10% (ਕਾਥ ਅਧੀਕਾਰ ਕਰ ਪੈਸੀ-11-ਐਮ-2045 ਲਈ 2200/-) ਦਾ ਛਿੰਗ ਕਾਥ ਦਾ ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ ਸਟੋਰ ਟੈਕਸ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਤੋਂ ਹੀ ਨੀਂ ਹੋਰ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਵੀ ਦੱਖਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।

DPR/Pb/89355 ਸਰੀ/- ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨਰ ਸਟੋਰ ਟੈਕਸ, ਪਟਿਆਲਾ।

**NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE**

Dy. CSTE/Project/UMB/NR acting for & on behalf of President of India invites E-tenders in Two packer system from the experienced & established contractors sufficient experience in similar work and satisfying minimum eligibility criteria for the under noted work:

1. Name of work	Design, Supply, Installation, wiring, testing and commissioning with part supply of material for electronic interlocking at Nogawan, Rupnagar and Kiratpur Sahib stations on Ambala division of Northern Railway.
2. Approximate cost of the work	Rs. 11,93,67,374.54/- (Rs. Eleven Crores, ninety three Lacs, Sixty Seven Thousands, Three Hundred and four and paise fifty four only)
3. Earnest money	Rs. 7,46,800/- (Rs. Seven Lacs, Forty Six Thousand, eight hundred only)
4. Completion period	Twelve Months from the date of issue of acceptance letter
5. Closing Date	11.00 Hrs. on 05.11.2020
6. Validity of offer	60 days from the date of opening of tender

No: NR-SNTUMB-06 Dt: 13.10.2020 2203/2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Website <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

TENDER NOTICE

SHORT TERMS TENDER

E-Tendering Notice No. 10/2020 Dated: 13.10.2020

SECURE ONLINE SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

E-Tenders on work order basis are hereby invited on behalf of the Governor of Punjab through our website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from approved and eligible Contractors/Agencies registered with P.W.D. (B&R) Department, Mandi Board and Water Supply Sanitation Department and Punjab Water Resources Department and only those L&C Societies who are registered/ enlisted only with Punjab PWD B&R (Principal Department) as per notification of Punjab Govt., Department of Co-operation (Co-operation-1 Branch) No. 76/52/79-C-1(5432 dated 2.10.2014 as details given below:-

Important Dates/Time

Sr. No.	Events	Date	Time
1	Issue of Notice Inviting Tender	13.10.2020	17:00 Hrs
2	Start of Sale of tenders	14.10.2020	10:00 a.m.
3	Closing of Submission of Tenders	28.10.2020	12:00 Noon
4	Opening of Technical Bid	29.10.2020	15:00 p.m.
5	Opening of Financial Bid		After Evaluation of Technical Bid

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Tender Form Cost (in Rs.)	Completion period
1	Supply and laying semi dense bituminous concrete 25 to 30 mm thick (30MM Thick) & B.M. 75mm Thick on Pocket-C additional Colony roads at RSD-Shahpurkandi.	59,19,545/-	(i) 1,18,390/- For Contractor (ii) 59,195/- For L&C Society	500/-	20 Days
2	Supply and laying semi dense Bituminous concrete 25 to 30 mm thick (30MM Thick) & B.M. 75mm Thick on Pocket-A additional Colony roads at RSD-Shahpurkandi.	45,61,510/-	(i) 91,230/- For Contractor (ii) 45,615/- For L&C Society	500/-	20 Days
3	Special repair of VIP Rest house building at Ranjit Sagar Dam Shahpurkandi Township	4,25,657/-	(i) 8,514/- For Contractor Society Rs. Nil	500/-	30 Days
4	RENOVATION OF TYPE T-7/1 HOUSE IN JUGAL COLONY AT RANJIT SAGAR DAM SHAHPURKANDI IN DISTT. PATHANKOT.	2371737/-	Contractor Rs. 47,434/- Society Rs. 23717/-	500/-	90 Days

For detailed terms and conditions refer to website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

Corrigendum, if any, will be issued on website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Township Division No. 1, Ranjit Sagar Dam Project,
Shahpurkandi T/Ship. Phone No. 6005722896

PRDH/89425

**DIRECTORATE OF HORTICULTURE
PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION UNIT (PIU HORT.)**

Navabhar, Shimla - 171002

E-mail: hdp-dohno-hp@gov.in, hdp-podoh-hp@gov.in

Website: hds.hp.gov.in

Telephone: 0177-2843975, 2842390

File No: HP-HDP- PIU - 52/2020 Dated: Oct, 2020

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTANCY SERVICES - FIRM SELECTION)**

Project ID: P151744/Credit No. 5838-IN

Assignment Title: Hiring of Auditors (CA) firm for the audit of Water User Association (WUA) under Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project.

1. State Government of H.P. through Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Society (PHDHS) is implementing Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project (PHDHP) and for that the International Development Association (IDA) has provided credit of US\$ 135 million and the Society intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to eligible payments for hiring services of auditors for which this Expression of Interest issued.

2. The Director-cum-Chief Nodal Officer, Project Implementation Unit (PIU Hort.) Navabhar, Shimla now invites eligible Chartered Accountant Firms to provide their interest for conducting the Audit of Water User Association (WUA).

The details of the requisite qualifications & Experience, Scope of Work, and other details are given in Terms of Reference for Hiring of Auditors for Water User Association (WUA), which can be downloaded from website: www.hds.hp.gov.in and can be obtained from the address given below during office hours i.e. [10:00 to 17:00 hours] on any working day.

3. Any further information (if needed) can also be obtained through e-mail hdp-dohno-hp@gov.in and hdp-podoh-hp@gov.in.

4. The attention of interested Consulting firms is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants [under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants] by World Bank Borrowers in January 2011, revised July 2014, setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest (www.worldbank.org).

5. The Selection of the Chartered Accountant firm will be made in accordance with "Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS)" set out in the Consultant Guidelines of the World Bank.

Interested eligible Chartered Accountant firms may submit EoI in sealed envelopes clearly superscribed as "EoI for Hiring Auditors FOR Water User Association (WUA), by 1:00 PM on 9th Nov, 2020 in the office of the undersigned as per address given above.

Sd/- Director-cum-Chief Nodal Officer
Directorate of Horticulture
Navabhar, Shimla - 171002

Biden made corrupt bargain for his nomination: Trump

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 13

Joe Biden has agreed to hand over the control of the Democratic Party to the socialist, Marxist and left-wing extremists to get the party's nomination, President Donald Trump has said as he resumed his re-election campaign from the battle ground State of Florida after recovering from Covid-19.

Trump was briefly forced to pause his re-election campaign after he tested positive on October 1 and was admitted to a military hospital for three nights and four days.

In a memorandum issued on Monday night, White House physician Dr Sean Conley said Trump "has tested negative, on consecutive days" using the Abbott BinaxNOW antigen card.

Resuming his re-election campaign from the battle ground State of Florida on Monday, Trump who is trailing behind his Democratic rival Biden in the run-up to the

DEMOCRAT OWNED BY RADICAL GLOBALIST

“Joe Biden is owned by the radical globalist, who shipped away your jobs, shut down your factories and ravaged our cities while sacrificing American blood and treasure in this ridiculous endless war.”

Donald Trump,
PRESIDENT

INDIAN-AMERICAN COUPLE CAMPAIGNS THE DESI WAY

A Silicon Valley-based Indian-American couple has released a digital graphic campaign in Hindi, urging their community members to support and vote for Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden and his running mate Kamala Harris.

November 3 elections, said this is the most important election in the history of the United

NEED TO REVIVE SPIRIT OF BIPARTISANSHIP

“There is an urgent need to revive the spirit of bipartisanship. A spirit of being able to work with one another. It's time to unite America and we'll do that by choosing hope over fear, science over fiction and truth over lies.”

Joe Biden, DEMOCRATIC
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

INDIAN-AMERICAN COUPLE CAMPAIGNS THE DESI WAY

The campaign titled “Trump Hatao, America Bachao” and “Biden Harris ko jitao, America ka aage badao”, was launched in 14 Indian languages on Monday, said Biden supporters, Ajay and Vinita Bhutoria.

States. “Most important we've ever had. Biden has made a corrupt bargain in exchange

for his party's nomination. He's handed control to the socialist, the Marxist and the left-wing extremists. And you know that. And he's got no strength left. He's got no power left. He's got nothing going on,” he said.

“Joe Biden is owned by the radical globalist, wealthy donors, big money, special interest, who shipped away your jobs, shut down your factories and ravaged our cities while sacrificing American blood and treasure in this ridiculous endless war,” he said. The troops are now coming back home, he said. “The corrupt political class is desperate to regain their power by any means necessary. We're the ones standing in their way,” Trump said. With the crucial elections just 22 days ahead, Trump exuded confidence of winning Florida, the battle ground State where, according to Real Clear Politics, Biden is leading by 3.5 percentage points. —PTI



PROTESTING APATHY: Catalan primary health workers demand better working conditions in Barcelona, Spain, on Tuesday. REUTERS

J&J halts trials after participant falls ill

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 13

Johnson & Johnson has paused clinical

Superhuman AB wows Kohli

'On a slow pitch, only de Villiers could have done this'



Ravi Shastri urges de Villiers to unretire

AB de Villiers retired from international cricket over two years ago, and last year, there was some speculation that he might make a return for the ODI World Cup in England, but it didn't work out. Ravi Shastri, the Indian head coach, has now urged the South African to come back to international cricket. "Now, that the penny has dropped. What one saw last night was unreal. And the feeling is the same waking up. AB de Villiers, the game in these trying times or otherwise needs you back in the international arena and out of retirement. The game will be better off," Shastri wrote on Twitter.

LEFT: AB de Villiers watches the ball sail out of the ground after hitting Kamlesh Nagarkoti for a six; BELOW: The ball landed on the busy street outside the stadium and hit two moving cars, briefly stopping traffic.



CSK BEAT HYDERABAD BY 20 RUNS

IPL STANDINGS

Team	P	W	L	Pts
Mumbai	7	5	2	10
Delhi	7	5	2	10
Bangalore	7	5	2	10
Kolkata	7	4	3	8
Hyderabad	8	3	5	6
Chennai	8	3	5	6
Rajasthan	7	3	4	6
Punjab	7	1	6	2

*Read under Team, Played, Won, Lost, Points

(Williamson 57, Bairstow 23; Sharma 2/37, Bravo 2/25).

pitch. The talk was around getting 165, but we got 194 know exactly why. It was unbelievable," Kohli said.

"I thought I had a few balls under my belt, and I might

start striking. He (de Villiers) just came in and struck the third ball, and said he felt good. You might see a lot of people do what is done in other games, but only AB can

do what he did. It was a fabulous knock," Kohli added.

He said it was only due to the genius of de Villiers that his side got to 194. "I was happy we could string together a partnership (of 100 runs), and mine was the best seat to watch from," the Indian captain said.

De Villiers, the Man of the Match, said he surprised himself with his innings. "I got a duck last game, that is a terrible feeling. I am very happy that I contributed. I surprised myself today, to be honest. We were headed towards 140-150, and I thought I might try for 160-165, but I was surprised we reached 194," said the star South African. — TNS, agencies

Shooter Angad to miss national camp

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

participation latest by October 12. All others have confirmed their participation.

Current world No. 1 Elavenil has opted out of the camp due to her university exams, while Gaayathri N and skeet shooter Angad Vir Singh Bajwa have confirmed that they will not be available for the camp for various reasons.

Skeet team's foreign coach, Ennio Falco, is also expected to give the camp a miss. Skeet's second quota winner, Mairaj Ahmad, has raised a few concerns about the camp and is yet to make himself available for the camp.

The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) had asked all the shooters and coaches to confirm their par-

GURU JAMBHESHWAR UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, HISAR

(Established by State Legislature Act 17 of 1995)

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ADMISSION TO PH.D. PROGRAMMES (2020-21) under AICTE Doctoral Fellowship Scheme (ADF)

Online applications through University Web Portal are invited from eligible candidates for admission to Ph.D. programmes under AICTE Doctoral Fellowship Scheme (ADF) in Environmental Science & Engineering, Bio & Nano Technology, Mechanical Engineering, Computer Science & Engineering and Electronics & Communication Engineering departments of the University for session 2020-21 latest by 30.10.2020. Applicants may visit University website www.gjjust.ac.in w.e.f. 15.10.2020 for Application Form, minimum eligibility, detailed guidelines of ADF and University Ph.D. Ordinance (Chapter-12 of Ph.D. Information Brochure-2019-20 subject to change for 2020-21) and other relevant information.

PRDH/83195

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE

It is for the information of General Public that the vehicle bearing registration No.- DL-01-LP-5775 belongs to Sh. Mahesh Chand s/o Sh. Bharat Singh, H.No.- 2023, Nurses Complex, Shri Niwas Pur, New Delhi and goods loaded in it i.e. men's round neck cotton T-shirts, quantity-19200 pieces will be put to auction on 28.10.2020, Wednesday at 11:00 A.M. in the O/o Dy. Excise & Taxation Commissioner, Bikri Kar Bhawan (Excise & Taxation Office) Near Sports Complex, Faridabad (West) under section 79 of the Goods and Services Tax Act 2017. The details of conveyance and goods are mentioned below:

1. **Conveyance:-** Registration No. - DL-01-LP-5775
 Closed body Eicher Canter
 Mfg. Eicher Motors Ltd.
 Engine No.- E48CD6E531890
 Chassis No.: MC152ERCOBE224407
 Model-2011
2. **Goods:-** Men's round neck cotton T-shirts
 HSN Code- 61091000
 Quantity- 19200 pieces
 Value of Goods- 19682880/-

You all are invited in the auction.

Terms and Conditions:

The successful bidder has to deposit 25% on the spot of acceptance of the bid by Authority and remaining amount i.e. 75% in seven days.

After total payment the ownership will be transferred by the competent authority and the necessary certificate will be issued.

Endst. No. 2764/Dated: 12.10.2020

Sd/- Proper Officer (GST)-cum-Excise & Taxation Officer
 O/o Dy. Excise & Taxation Commissioner, Faridabad (West).

PRDH/83203

NORTHERN RAILWAY

2nd corrigendum to E-tender Notice No 4-W/Dy.

CE/C/JAT/01/2020-21 Dated : 19.09.2020

Name of work or work
 Construction of Portal protection of P1 & P2 (T-8 & 9) & P1, P2 (T-10), Boundary wall over tunnel, T-8, & T-9. Drainage arrangement on both sides of portals and protection works to piers & abutment of Br. No. 32 (Banganga Bridge), including construction of retaining/breast walls, Stone pitching works & security huts, shelter including other allied works between Km. 25.000 to 30.000 on Katra-Reasi section of USBR Project

Last paragraph of Clause No. 6.7 (ix) on page No. 5 of 40 of Special Conditions relating to site data and specifications

The contractor shall submit concrete mix design for the concrete strength M-20 and above. The design shall be further checked by trial mixes as per relevant BIS/IS codes. Cement for trial mixes shall be issued free of cost. The mix design shall be as per IS: 10262 and shall be subject to approval by the Railways.

Should be read as

The contractor shall submit concrete mix design for the concrete strength M-20 and above. The design shall be further checked by trial mixes as per relevant BIS/IS codes. Cement for trial mixes shall be supplied by the contractor at his own cost. The mix design shall be as per IS: 10262 and shall be subject to approval by the Railways.

No. 4-W/Dy.CE/C/JAT/01/2020-21 D: 12.10.2020 2210/2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

PRDH/83203

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

TENDER NOTICE

S.R. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN Rupees	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HSAM BOARD, KAITHAL	CONSTRUCTION OF 1 NO. COVERED SHED (ABOVE FOUNDATION) OFFICE COMPLEX (GROUND FLOOR ONLY) & KISAN REST HOUSE IN EXT. NGM KAITHAL AT PATTI CHAUDHARY + 2 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 03.11.2020	EMD 5.90 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01746-22374 xenkaithal1.hsam@gmail.com
2	HVPNL, ROHTAK	PROVIDING METERING ARRANGEMENTS OF 132 KV CHANDI/KHIRAINI LINE BAY AT 132 KV SUB-STATION CHANDI	CLOSING DATE 15.10.2020	4000/-	https://www.hvpn.org.in	0172-583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
3	HVPNL, ROHTAK	1. PAINTING AND PHASE MARKING OF CTS AND CVTS AT 220 KV NUNA MAJRA. 2. PROVIDING BAY BOARD AT 5 NOS. S/STN. 3. ALIGNMENT OF 220 KV AND 132 KV BUS. LINE AND T/F ISOLATORS AT 220 KV NUNA MAJRA. 4. REPLACEMENT OF OLD T-CLAMPS/P/G CLAMPS WITH C- WEDGE CONNECTORS ON 132 KV SIDE AT 220 KV NUNA MAJRA. 5. PAINTING OF 20/25 MVA 132/33 KV T/F T-2 AND ALL BAY EQUIPMENTS AT 132 KV S/STN.. SEC-3 ROHTAK.	CLOSING DATE 15.10.2020	3.83 LACS	https://www.hvpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
4	HVPNL HISAR	SUPPLY AND SPREADING OF 25MM TO 40MM GRAVEL IN SWITCH YARD AT 132 KV SUB-STATION HVPNL, ALEWA	CLOSING DATE 19.10.2020	3.66 LACS	https://www.hvpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
5	HVPNL HISAR	SUPPLY AND SPREADING OF 25MM TO 40MM GRAVEL IN SWITCH YARD AT 132 KV SUB-STATION HVPNL, BIPUR	CLOSING DATE 19.10.2020	3.50 LACS	https://www.hvpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
6	HVPNL HISAR	CREATION OF 1 NO. 132 KV LINE BAY AT 400 KV SUBSTATION, NUHIYAWALI TO ACCOMMODATE STRINGING OF 2NO CIRCUIT OF NUHIYANWAL-DUDHIANWALI D/C LINE (SUPPLYING & SPREADING OF BAJRI)	CLOSING DATE 19.10.2020	6.23 LACS	https://www.hvpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
7	HVPNL HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF 03 NOS 220 KV SF-6 BREAKER FOUNDATION AT 220 KV SUB-STATION IA HISAR.	CLOSING DATE 19.10.2020	4.10 LACS	https://www.hvpn.org.in	0172-2583789 pro@hvpn.org.in
8	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL PALWAL	DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTION, SEGREGATION, TRANSPORTATION AS WELL AS PROCESSING OF WASTE IN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL PALWAL.	Opening of Technical Bid-03.11.2020 at 02.00 PM	8.54 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	7011419674

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) in Rupees	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK LEVEL E-TENDERING COMMITTEE, BLOCK SIWAN	SUPPLY OF PAVER BLOCKS IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCKS SIWAN IN DISTT. KAITHAL.	05.10.2020 20.10.2020	NIL	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9813604629
2	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK LEVEL E-TENDERING COMMITTEE, BLOCK SIWAN	SUPPLY OF FLY ASH BRICKS IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCKS SIWAN IN DISTT. KAITHAL.	05.10.2020 20.10.2020	NIL	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9813604629
3	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK LEVEL E-TENDERING COMMITTEE, BLOCK SIWAN	SUPPLY OF BUILDING MATERIAL IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCKS SIWAN IN DISTT. KAITHAL.	05.10.2020 20.10.2020	NIL	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9813604629
4	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK LEVEL E-TENDERING COMMITTEE, BLOCK SIWAN	SUPPLY OF BRICKS IN VARIOUS VILLAGES OF BLOCKS SIWAN IN DISTT. KAITHAL.	05.10.2020 20.10.2020	NIL	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9813604629
5	PANCHAYATI RAJ BLOCK DEV. & PANCHAYAT OFFICER,					

CBI to probe assault plaint against DIG

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13
The CBI has initiated a fact-finding inquiry into allegations of its public prosecutor that a DIG punched him in the face for delaying the submission of a report pertaining to Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal's private secretary Rajinder Kumar.

The issue came to light during a court hearing, where public prosecutor Sunil Verma said he had filed a complaint against DIG Raghavendra Vatsa for punching him in the face, agency sources said, adding that the court has summoned the DIG on October 19.

FROM PAGE 1

Beijing...

Hry BPL flats unallotted since 2015

fixed for the allotment.

"The flats have been lying unallotted for the past five years as the district administration is yet to send us the list of beneficiaries. Moreover, the private contractor who built the flats is responsible for their maintenance and security as the houses are yet to be handed over to the HSV," maintained Dahiya.

He said a case had been lodged at the Sector 6 police station in Bahadurgarh for the thefts.

Additional Deputy Commissioner Jag Niwas could not be contacted despite repeated attempts.

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Editor: Rajesh Ramachandran*

*Editor for purpose of PRB Act, 1867

20 states allowed to borrow ₹68K cr to meet GST shortfall

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13
A day after the GST Council meeting ended in a stalemate, the Centre has allowed 20 states that had agreed with its formula for making up GST shortfall to raise Rs 68,825 crore through open market borrowings after waiving certain conditions it had stipulated in May.

The decision, being seen as a pressure tactic, leaves eight states, including Punjab, in suspense. In May, the Centre had allowed states to borrow two per cent of their GDP. But to borrow the final instalment of 0.5 per cent — Rs 68,825 crore — they had to fulfil three out of four reform conditions.

The Centre has now waived the condition for carrying out the reforms that included ending power subsidy to rural areas.

Haryana has been allowed to borrow Rs 4,293 crore and Himachal Pradesh Rs 877 crore. Punjab Finance Minister Manpreet Badal said at the resumed GST Council meeting on Monday that the Centre owes Punjab Rs 9,000 in GST compensation. The eight remaining states want the Centre to borrow and compensate them for the shortfall in GST dues. — TNS

Maharashtra Guv, CM spar over reopening of shrines

Don't need your certificate on Hindutva, Thackeray tells Koshyari

MUMBAI, OCTOBER 13

Maharashtra Governor BS Koshyari and CM Uddhav Thackeray engaged in a bitter exchange of words over reopening of places of worship in the state amid the Covid-19 pandemic with "secularism" and "Hindutva" figuring prominently in their discourse.

The spat started after Koshyari wrote a letter to the CM on Monday, saying, "It is ironical that the state government has permitted opening of bars, restaurants and beaches, but our gods and goddesses have been condemned to stay in the lockdown."

Thackeray today wrote to the Governor, saying the government will consider his request.

The CM said a decision on

reopening shrines, a demand

being vociferously made by

the BJP, would be taken after

careful consideration of the

Covid-19 situation in the state.

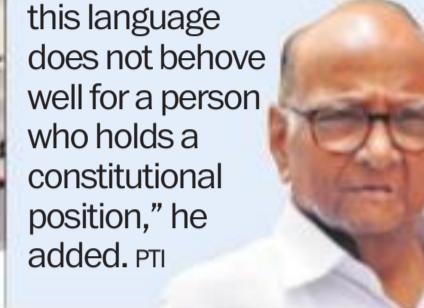
Koshyari had said he has received three representations from delegations demanding that religious places be reopened. Thackeray pointed out the "coinci-



Cops deployed at Siddhivinayak Temple during BJP workers' protest. PTI

Intemperate language in letter: Pawar to PM

Mumbai: NCP chief Sharad Pawar on Tuesday wrote to PM Narendra Modi, complaining about the "intemperate language" used by M'strashtra Governor BS Koshyari in a letter to the CM. "I am sure he too would have noticed the intemperate language that has been used and this language does not behove well for a person who holds a constitutional position," he added. PTI



Does Hindutva mean merely reopening religious places? Isn't secularism a key component of the Constitution by which you swore while taking oath as the state Governor

— Uddhav Thackeray, MAHARASHTRA CM

Has Uddhav suddenly turned secular? It is ironical that while the state govt permitted opening of restaurants and beaches, our gods and goddesses have been condemned to stay in lockdown

— BS Koshyari, GOVERNOR

— PTI

dence" that all three letters were from BJP supporters.

In the letter to the CM, whose Shiv Sena is wedded to Hin-

dutva, Koshyari asked, "Have you suddenly turned secular, the term you hated?" "While considering people's beliefs, it

is also important to take care of their lives and it is wrong to impose and lift lockdown sud-

denly," the CM wrote. — PTI



Lalu's elder son Tej Pratap files papers

SAMASTIPUR: RJD president Lalu Prasad's elder son Tej Pratap Yadav on Tuesday filed nomination from the Hasanpur Assembly constituency in the Samastipur district which goes to the polls in the second phase on November 3. He was accompanied by his younger brother and Grand Alliance chief ministerial candidate Tejashwi Yadav. PTI

Elections to 11 RS seats on Nov 9

NEW DELHI: The Election Commission on Tuesday announced it would hold elections on November 9 to fill 10 Rajya Sabha seats from Uttar Pradesh and one from Uttarakhand. Among those whose term ends on November 25 are Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and actor-politician Raj Babbar (Congress). TNS

Media commenting on court cases: AG

NEW DELHI: Amid allegations of unethical conduct on the part of some media outlets, Attorney General KK Venugopal on Tuesday raised questions over the manner in which journalists report on matters of public importance, particularly cases pending before courts.

"Today, print and electronic media are freely commenting on pending cases, seeking to influence the judges and public perception. It amounts to contempt of court," the AG told a Bench, which is hearing a criminal contempt against lawyer Prashant Bhushan. TNS

Seoul seeks closer defence ties with India

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 13

South Korea has suggested the revival of in-person diplomacy, including two-plus-two talks with India, during a meeting of its first Vice Foreign Minister Choi Jong-kun with Indian ambassador Yoo Myung-hee candidature for the WTO DG's post. Yoo has entered the final round of the selection process and is com-

Wants support for
WTO DG position, bats
for two-plus-two talks

especially in defence and
people-to-people exchanges,
according to a South Korean
Foreign Ministry statement.

"Delighted to call on the first

Vice Foreign Minister and
hear firsthand his thoughts
on how best to strengthen the
already robust India-

ROK relationship even more," said Ranganathan in a social media post.

Choi concurred with the
Indian envoy on the need to

continue close communication
via virtual meetings between the two governments
and agreed to seek ways to
resume high-level talks.

Separately, South Korean
President Moon Jae-in, in a
special missive, said, "India
means a lot to us, given the
fact that it is the world's
second most populous nation and a key partner for

my administration's New
Southern Policy."

MARUTI SUZUKI

NEXA

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NEXA

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YEARS**



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New 17.78 cm Smartplay Studio
(Available from Zeta variant onwards)

New Rear Spoiler and Roof Rails

Auto Gear Shift

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1.2L VVT Petrol Engine (BS VI Compliant)

NEXA Safety Shield
Standard Across All Variants

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