

“ The Budget carries a vision of self-reliance and inclusion of all sections. Enhanced allocations for infra will help in job creation and growth. — NARENDRA MODI, PM

“ The FM has delivered on her promise of unveiling a ‘Budget like no other’ with a raft of prudent measures aimed at rejuvenating spending towards critical areas — UDAY KOTAK, CII PREZ

“ Forget putting cash in the hands of people, the Narendra Modi-led Central Government plans to hand over India’s assets to his crony capitalist friends. — RAHUL GANDHI, CONG LEADER



TUESDAY | 2 FEBRUARY 2021



Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana  
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## ONE TIME REGISTRATION

for Government Jobs in Haryana Staff Selection Commission

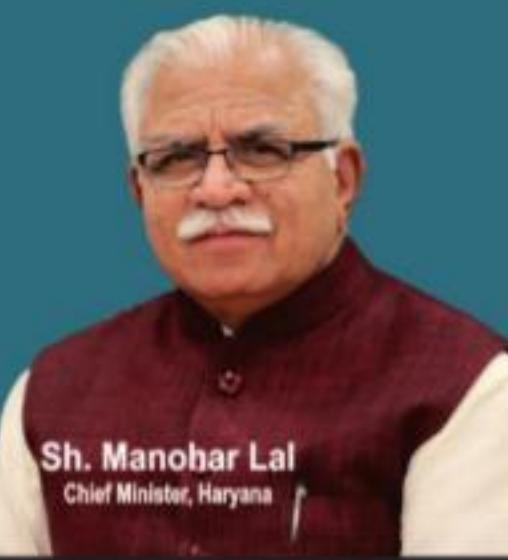
Common Eligibility Test for Group ‘C’ & ‘D’ recruitments

Applicant has to deposit fee once in 3 years for examination

All Applications will be linked to Parivar Pehchan-Patra

[www.onetimeregn.haryana.gov.in](http://www.onetimeregn.haryana.gov.in)

Registration of 6388 Applicants till now



140 years of  
fearless journalism



COMMENCING publication at Lahore on February 2, 1881, The Tribune had to face numerous trials and tribulations during the British rule and yet again in 1947 when it was uprooted from its home.

In the decades past, The Tribune has fearlessly safeguarded its professional integrity and unfailingly discharged its acclaimed role as the Voice of the People. Notwithstanding the recurring ups and downs, The Tribune has continued to enjoy the pre-eminent position among the newspaper readers in the whole of North India.

Today, on the 140th anniversary of our Founding Day, the Trustees of the Tribune Trust, all functionaries of The Tribune Group of newspapers and teachers, students and staff of the Tribune School pay respectful homage to our farsighted founder, Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, and rededicate ourselves to devotedly carrying forward his noble mission. A 16-page supplement is being published along with today's edition of The Tribune to mark the 140th Foundation Day.

NEW VOHRA,  
President  
The Tribune Trust

## Big push for healthcare, infra

Govt plans to hike borrowings, monetise assets to heal economy hit by pandemic

- No relief for middle class, income tax slabs unchanged
- Interest on employee’s PF share above ₹2.5 lakh to be taxed
- Filing income tax return not must for pensioners above 75
- FDI cap for insurance sector hiked to 74% from 49%

### KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE UNION BUDGET 2021-22

₹ 35,000 cr  
for Covid vaccine

₹ 20,000 cr  
for recap of public sector banks

One-year tax holiday for affordable housing projects

Tax exemption for notified rental housing projects

New economic corridors to boost road infrastructure

Disinvestment Policy approved:

Bare minimum CPSEs to be retained and the rest will be privatised

Pre-filling of returns will also cover capital gains from listed securities, dividend, interest income from PO, banks

Additional deduction of ₹1.5 lakh shall be available for loans taken up till March 31, 2022, for purchase of affordable house

Defence: 19% hike in capital outlay amid LAC standoff

Agriculture Infrastructure and Development Cess on small number of items

NRIIs will be able to float one-person companies



Govt to amend law to ensure depositors of troubled banks can withdraw up to ₹5 lakh

Seven mega textile parks to be launched in three years

Serious tax offences of concealment of income of over ₹50 lakh can be reopened after 10 years

Exemption from tax audit limit doubled to ₹10 crore turnover for companies doing most of their business through digital modes

### NATIONAL RAIL PLAN

Aims at developing adequate rail infra by 2030 to cater to the projected traffic requirements up to 2050

The objective is to increase the modal share of rail in freight from the current level of 27% to 45%

### WHO: BUDGET REFLECTS INDIA’S COMMITMENT

“The thrust and focus to health in India’s Budget announcement for 2021 is a testimony to the country’s commitment to build a stronger and resilient health system.”

— DR PONAM K SINGH, WHO REGIONAL DIRECTOR

## 137% hike in healthcare outlay

SANDEEP DIKSHIT  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

Despite a huge deficit due to Covid-induced lockdown and a carried-over drag on demand, the government kept intact its push for capital expenditure by a higher-than-expected borrowing plan and an ambitious sale of government assets ranging from ports, airports, cricket stadia and warehouses to insurance companies.

Unveiling the first paperless Budget, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced record capital expenditure of Rs 5.54 lakh crore to finance over 11,000-km highways and metros, rapid rail transport projects for 27 cities, mega textile parks besides continuing with the thrust on existing Bharatmala projects.

With farmers gathered around Delhi, the government has proposed an agriculture cess, which will make coal, apple, electronics and cotton goods more expensive. The imposition of cess is aimed at ensuring dedicated resources for infrastructure development in rural areas. The Finance Minister also

pointed out how the Centre had not only been purchasing more farm produce, but also expanding the ambit to more states and crops.

The Budget also proposes to plug the gaps in health infrastructure by effecting 137% hike in allocation as

### Agri cess for rural development

compared with the current year figure. However, a regulatory body to check capriciousness of private hospitals, as suggested by the Economic Survey, remained elusive. A sum of Rs 37,000 crore has been allocated for Covid vaccines in the next fiscal with a promise of more, if required. Those above 75 years of age will no longer be required to file income tax returns, if their income is from pension and interest only.

The Budget also provides for cutting the time period for retro-inspection of income tax returns and stepping up the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

EDIT: BUDGET OF TOUGH CALLS

### UNION BUDGET 2021-22

**COSTLIER:** Refrigerators | airconditioners | LED lights | mobile phone chargers | printed circuit boards | solar inverters | solar lanterns | raw silk | imported automobile parts | synthetic stones | leather products | cotton | pulses | apples | alcoholic beverages

**CHEAPER:** Gold and silver | imported nylon fibre and yarn | medical devices | imported by international organisation and diplomatic missions

### SECTOR-WISE ALLOCATION (₹ CRORE)

DEFENCE	₹ 4,78,196
EDUCATION	₹ 93,224
RAILWAYS	₹ 1,10,055
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE	₹ 73,932
ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS	₹ 1,18,101
AGRI & FARMERS' WELFARE	₹ 1,31,531
HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS	₹ 54,581
RURAL DEVELOPMENT	₹ 1,33,690
HOME AFFAIRS	₹ 1,66,547
CONSUMER AFFAIRS	₹ 2,56,948

Sensex skyrockets  
**2,315**  
POINTS

Second-biggest single day jump  
**CLOSES AT 48,600.61**

- The benchmarks propelled by across-the-board buying
- slipped 6 paise to settle at 73.02 against the US dollar
- Nifty rises 646.60 points to 14,281.20



## At 18K cr, MEA allocation highest-ever

NEW DELHI: The proposed budgetary allocation of the Ministry of External Affairs is the highest-ever at Rs 18,154.73 cr, roughly 5% higher than the budgetary estimates of Rs 17,346.71 crore and 21% higher than revised estimates of Rs 15,000 crore.

At least 42% funds are meant for the development partnership portfolio. As part of Neighbourhood First policy, the largest share of aid is for Covid. The allocation pattern reflects deep development partnership engagement with Nepal, Myanmar, IOR, Eurasian and Africa. — TNS

## ₹2.27L cr booster for poll-bound states

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

### HIGHWAY PROJECTS

STATE	LENGTH	COST
West Bengal	675 km	₹ 25,000 cr
Kerala	1,100 km	₹ 65,000 cr
Tamil Nadu	3,500 km	₹ 1.03 lakh cr
Assam	—	₹ 53,000 cr



steered clear of financial aid to major states, including the cash-strapped Punjab, but offered a bonanza for the above four, attracting the Opposition’s ire. West Ben-

gal CM Mamata Banerjee went on to say her state did not require such funds to build roads and the money should be given to farmers.

The FM announced several

projects, including a national highway covering 3,500 km in Tamil Nadu at an investment of Rs 1.03 lakh crore, 1,100-km national highway for Kerala and Rs 25,000-crore highway among other projects for Bengal.

The government said advanced traffic management system with speed radars, variable message signboards and GPS-enabled recovery vans would be installed on all new highways.

## Repeal farm laws, demands Oppn; TMC most vociferous

ADITI TANDON  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

Going digital, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman read out the Budget from a tablet even as the Shiromani Akali Dal and Rashtriya Loktantrik Party, former constituents of the ruling NDA, walked out of the Lok Sabha in solidarity with the agitating farmers.

AKALI DAL’S Sukhbir Singh Badal and Harsimrat Kaur, RLP’s Hanuman Beniwal

and AAP’s Bhagwant Mann flashed posters in the House demanding the repeal of the farm laws and stood in the aisle sloganising in favour of the farmers.

Five minutes into the two-hour Budget presentation, attended by PM Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and the rest of the BJP top brass, Badals and Beniwal walked out.

As the FM commenced her speech, it was a ‘Jai Shri

Ram’ versus ‘Jai Jawan’ contest between the Treasury and Opposition benches. Congress MPs from Punjab Gurjeet Aujla and Ravneet Bittu carried placards around their neck that read: ‘Repeal farm laws that are killing farmers.’

The Opposition benches wore a thin look with Congress president Sonia Gandhi absent. Rahul Gandhi was seated in the second row. National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah was present.

Samajwadi Party’s Mulayam Singh Yadav marked a brief presence.

Trinamool Congress was the most aggressive with MPs Saugata Roy and Kalyan Banerjee frequently taunting the FM each time she made an announcement on record MSP procurement, proposed disinvestment and private management of ports ‘Adani, Adani’ chants resonated on the Opposition side when Sitharaman said the government would permit private

players to manage ports.

Throughout the speech, the Opposition MPs kept demanding restoration of MPLADs, currently suspended due to Covid.

Modi frequently applauded the FM, giving a cue to his colleagues, who reciprocated heartily even as Opposition MPs were heard asking, ‘What’s there to clap?’ With the news of markets surging arriving within an hour of the speech, the PM greeted her for a ‘good’ Budget of the decade.

MASSIVE BKU RALLY IN BATHINDA

PARTAP BAJWA, DULLO MEET SHAH

CONCRETE BARRICADE AT SINGHU

NET SERVICES FURTHER SUSPENDED INSIDE

Military stages coup in Myanmar

NAYPYITAW: Myanmar’s military staged a coup on Monday and detained senior politicians, including Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, in a sharp reversal of the significant, if uneven, progress toward democracy the Southeast Asian nation has made following five decades of military rule. An announcement read on military-owned Myawaddy TV said Commander-in-Chief Senior Gen Min Aung Hlaing would be in charge of the country for one year. It said the seizure was necessary because the government had not acted on the military’s claims of fraud in November’s elections. INSIDE

# UNION BUDGET 2021-22

**MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH:** The government proposes to amend the Apprenticeship Act for post-education apprenticeship, training of graduates and diploma holders in engineering. Over ₹3,000 crore will be set aside for the purpose

02



## LEADER SPEAK



The all-inclusive Budget will pave the way for an Atmanirbhar Bharat, making India a \$5 trillion economy and doubling farmers' income. PM Modi has been devoted to the welfare of farmers

— AMIT SHAH, UNION HOME MINISTER



The allocation of ₹35,000 crore for vaccines and the commitment to provide further support will help end the pandemic and expedite economic recovery. The focus will be on preventive health and well-being

— HARSH VARDHAN, UNION HEALTH MINISTER



A forward-looking Budget. Multiple pluses: Increased govt spending in major sectors like infrastructure, agriculture and healthcare; opportunities for investments

— JYOTIRADITYA SCINDIA, BJP LEADER



The people of the country had high hopes from this Budget that came amid pandemic, but it has led to a lot of disappointment. No provision has been made to provide relief to the common man. Years-old announcements have been repeated

— KAMAL NATH, MP CONGRESS CHIEF



This BJP reminds me of the garage mechanic who told his client, 'I couldn't fix your brakes, so I made your horn louder'. The Budget has failed in treating the ills affecting the nation

— SHASHI THAROOR, SENIOR CONGRESS LEADER

## QUICK NOTES

### ₹73,000 cr allocated for rural job plan

The Centre's push for rural development has not found reflection in proposal for fund allocation for the Department of Rural Development. It proposes an allocation of ₹1,31,519.08 crore against Rs 1,20,147.19 crore last year. The allocation for the MGNREGS appears to be the biggest among the sectoral heads for the department. Against last year's allocation of Rs 61,500 crore, it got Rs 73,000 crore this year. TNS



### Loan limit for debt recovery lowered to ₹20L

The government announced lowering the loan amount eligible under the SARFAESI Act for recovery to ₹20 lakh from ₹50 lakh for certain NBFCs, a move, the industry players said, would help strengthen the sector and recover dues. This will not only bring credit discipline but will also protect the interest of small borrowers, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said while presenting the Budget. PTI

### Duty hike on compressors negligible: CEAMA

Increase in customs duty on imported compressors for refrigerators and air conditioners and parts of electronic appliances will increase the prices in the short term, but will boost local manufacturing in future, Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA) said. PTI

### Special resolution framework for MSMEs

As India's insolvency regime grows and evolves, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) are set to come under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a special framework for resolution of bankrupt MSMEs. She said to ensure faster resolution of cases, the NCLT framework would be strengthened, the e-court system should be implemented and alternative methods of debt resolution would be introduced. PTI

### ₹5.5 CR FOR CIC & RTI, DOWN 44%

The government has provisioned ₹5.50 crore for the Central Information Commission and RTI, a drop of over 44 per cent from 2020-21. In addition, the CIC has been provisioned a portion of ₹31.25 crore under a separate head of 'CIC and PESB', which has seen a small increase from previous Budget allocation of ₹31.24 crore. PTI

### I&B MINISTRY GETS ₹4,071 CR

An outlay of ₹4071.23 crore was announced for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for 2021-22, a decrease of ₹303 crore from last year. The allocation to Prasar Bharati has been reduced to ₹2,640.11 crore from ₹2,889.36 crore allotted to it in the last fiscal. However, the budget for Press Council of India and Films and Television Institute of India went up. PTI

### MISSION POSHAN 2.0 LAUNCHED

The supplementary nutrition programme and the Poshan Abhiyan under the Women and Child Development Ministry has been merged to launch Mission Poshan 2.0 to strengthen nutritional content, delivery, outreach, and outcome. Women and Child Development Minister Smriti Irani said the mission would focus on overall health-wellbeing of the beneficiaries. PTI

# Emphasis on Swasth Bharat

Huge spike in funding | Scheme to improve primary healthcare unveiled | More labs on cards

ADITI TANDON  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

Wellness took centre stage in the first Budget of the Covid era with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman clubbing various heads to announce a record 137 per cent hike in allocation and opening up the insurance sector to benefit consumers.

Listing health and wellness as the first among six pillars of the Budget, the FM said the outlay for health and wellbeing was Rs 2,23,846 crore for 2021-22 as against Rs 4,452 crore in 2020-21 — a 137 per cent hike.

Though the government has taken a wider view of health, which experts have welcomed, the Health Ministry's standalone allocations remain modest, witnessing a 10 per cent rise over 2020 — from Rs 67,112 crore to Rs 73,932 crore. This raise is 62 per cent if Covid vaccine allocation of Rs 35,000 crore is factored in.

The majority allocation of Rs 64,180 crore has gone to a new scheme — PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana. Spanning over six years, this scheme will inject funding to improve primary healthcare, new and emerging disease detection, emergency response and virology lab network.

Major thrust areas will be support for 17,788 rural and

Majority funds (₹64,180 crore) have gone to PM Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana. Spanning over six years, the scheme will inject funding to improve primary healthcare, emerging disease detection, emergency response and virology lab network



₹2,23,846 cr

TOTAL OUTLAY

THE BREAK-UP

₹73,932 cr

HEALTH MINISTRY

₹2,970 cr

AYUSH MINISTRY

₹2,700 cr

NUTRITION

₹36,022 cr

GRANT FOR WATER &

SANITATION

₹13,192 cr

GRANT FOR HEALTH

### MUCH-NEEDED FILLIP TO SECTOR: EXPERTS

Healthcare providers have hailed the Budget, saying it provides the much-needed fillip to the health sector and is a testimony to India's commitment to not just fight back the pandemic, but also to build a stronger and resilient health system.

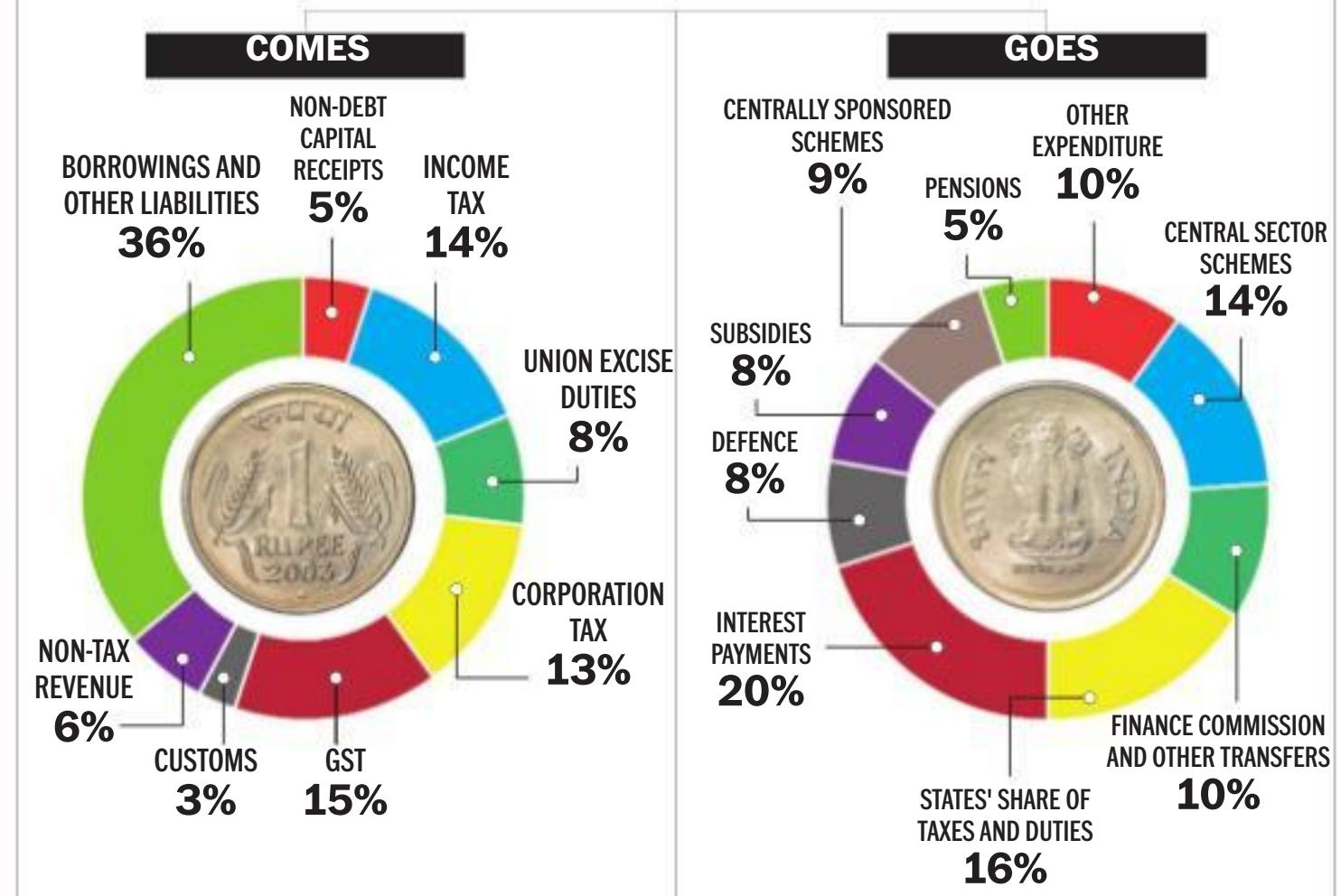
11,024 urban health and wellness centres under Ayushman Bharat Mission; new integrated public health labs in all districts and 3,382 new block public health units in 11 states; critical care hospital blocks in 602 districts and 12 central institutions; boost to apex disease detection lab National Centre for Disease Control, and linkage of all public health labs across states.

Starting 17 new public health units and strengthening 33 existing units at points of entry at 32 airports, 11 seaports and seven land crossings will also be undertaken. A significant announcement is about setting up National Institution for One Health, nine bio-safety level III laboratories and four regional national institutes of virology.

Two made in India Covid vaccines have received Rs 35,000 crore allocations for 2021-22 with the promise to deliver more when needed. An announcement was also made for rollout of made in India pneumococcal vaccine Pneumosil, manufactured by Serum Institute of India.

vaccines have received Rs 35,000 crore allocations for 2021-22 with the promise to deliver more when needed. An announcement was also made for rollout of made in India pneumococcal vaccine Pneumosil, manufactured by Serum Institute of India.

## RUPEE CYCLE



SHUBHADEEP CHOUDHURY  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday announced an allocation of Rs 5.54 lakh crore — an increase of 34.5 per cent over the previous year — as capital expenditure for infrastructure projects for 2021-22.

Sitharaman said Rs 44,000 crore of the Rs 5.54 lakh crore would be kept aside for projects or departments that show good progress on capital expenditure and were in need of further funds.

Sitharaman said Rs 2 lakh crore in addition would be provided to states and autonomous bodies for capital expenditure. The Finance Ministry would also work out specific mechanisms to nudge states to spend more of their funds on infrastructure.

Sitharaman said the huge outlay on capital expenditure would help in realising the goal of the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP), announced in 2019.

She said the NIP was a specific target which the government was committed to achieve. Launched with 6,835 projects, the project pipeline has now expanded to 7,400. Around 217 projects under

FM unveils ₹1.5K-cr scheme to promote digital payments

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

To boost digital financial transactions, the government has allocated Rs 1,500 crore for a scheme that will provide financial incentive to promote digital modes of payment. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman informed the House that there had been manifold increase in digital payments in the recent past and there was a need to take steps to carry forward this momentum.

The industry believes that the move will drive adoption of e-payments in smaller cities and spur innovation by fintech firms.

Payments Council of India chairman Vishwas Patel said the announcement would incentivise digital payments. "Hopefully, it will be used to reimburse losses suffered by payment service providers for processing RuPay debit cards and UPI transactions for free in 2020 as well as top up the Rs 500 crore fund set up by the RBI as part PIDF," he said.

## Spend on infra projects, states to be nudged



### TARGET: 11,000 KM OF NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

■ The government plans to boost road infrastructure across the country and aims to complete 11,000 km of national highway infrastructure in 2021

■ Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said this would be in addition to over 13,000 km roadwork awarded under the Centrally sponsored Bharatmala Pariyojana project

NIP worth Rs 1.10 lakh crore under some key infrastructure ministries have already been completed.

Two more initiatives announced by Sitharaman to achieve the target set by NIP were setting up institutional structures for debt financing and by monetising assets.

Regarding the creation of institutional structure for debt financing, Sitharaman proposed setting up a professionally managed development financial institution "to act as a provider, enabler and catalyst for infrastructure financing".

The institution would start with an initial corpus of nearly Rs 20,000 crore.

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

To boost the indigenous leather industry, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday proposed to withdraw exemption of import duty on certain kinds of leathers.

"These are domestically produced in good quantity and quality," Sitharaman said.

also included increasing duty from 10 per cent to 15 per cent on imported steel screws and plastic builder wares. On prawn feed import duty was increased from 5 per cent to 15 per cent. Sitharaman also announced rationalising exemption of import duty on garments to give a boost to the local garment industry.

## Import duty on leather back

Domestic industry set to benefit

The Finance Minister also announced raising customs duty on finished synthetic gem stones to encourage their domestic processing.

Steps proposed by the Finance Minister on Monday to benefit MSMEs

# UNION BUDGET 2021-22

**FM INVOKES TAGORE:** "Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman quoted Tagore's lines while mentioning about the fight against Covid-19.

03



## LEADER SPEAK



The Budget will do justice to farmers, generate more employment opportunities and will be beneficial for every section of society.

— PRAKASH JAVADEKAR, UNION MINISTER



FM could have been brave but chose to be timid. The nation needs more direct transfers to the weaker sections to revive demand, restart job creation.

— ANAND SHARMA, CONG LEADER



Crores of poor people, farmers and working class of the country are tired of attractive promises and hollow claims. The policies must be implemented. Will the Budget be able to deal with poverty, unemployment and inflation?

— MAYAWATI, BSP CHIEF



Maharashtra is not seen in this Budget. Funds have been allocated for metro projects in Nashik and Nagpur, but who will talk about the metro car shed project blocked by the Centre in Kanjur Marg (in Mumbai). — SANJAY RAUT, SHIV SENA MP

## BOOST TO REAL ESTATE

The government on Monday extended the additional tax deduction of Rs 1.5 lakh on interest paid on housing loan for purchase of affordable homes by one more year to March 31, 2022, a move aimed at boosting demand in the sluggish real estate sector. The additional deduction of Rs 1.5 lakh over and above Rs 2 lakh was introduced in the 2019 Budget. IANS

## MEGA TEXTILE PARKS

The government proposed a scheme for setting up mega textile parks in the country to enable India's textile industry to become globally competitive, attract large investments and boost employment generation. The parks can be aligned with environmental, social and governance goals to attract international buyers as well as investors. Seven parks will be set up. PTI

## VEHICLE SCRAPPAGE POLICY

The Finance Minister announced the much-awaited voluntary vehicle scrappage policy to phase out old and polluting vehicles. Under the voluntary vehicle scrappage policy, personal vehicles will undergo fitness test after 20 years, while commercial vehicles will require it after completion of 15 years. The policy will cover 51 lakh light motor vehicles. PTI

# More ammo to fire up defence

1.35 lakh cr allocation | Amid LAC standoff, 19% hike in military capital expenditure

AJAY BANERJEE  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

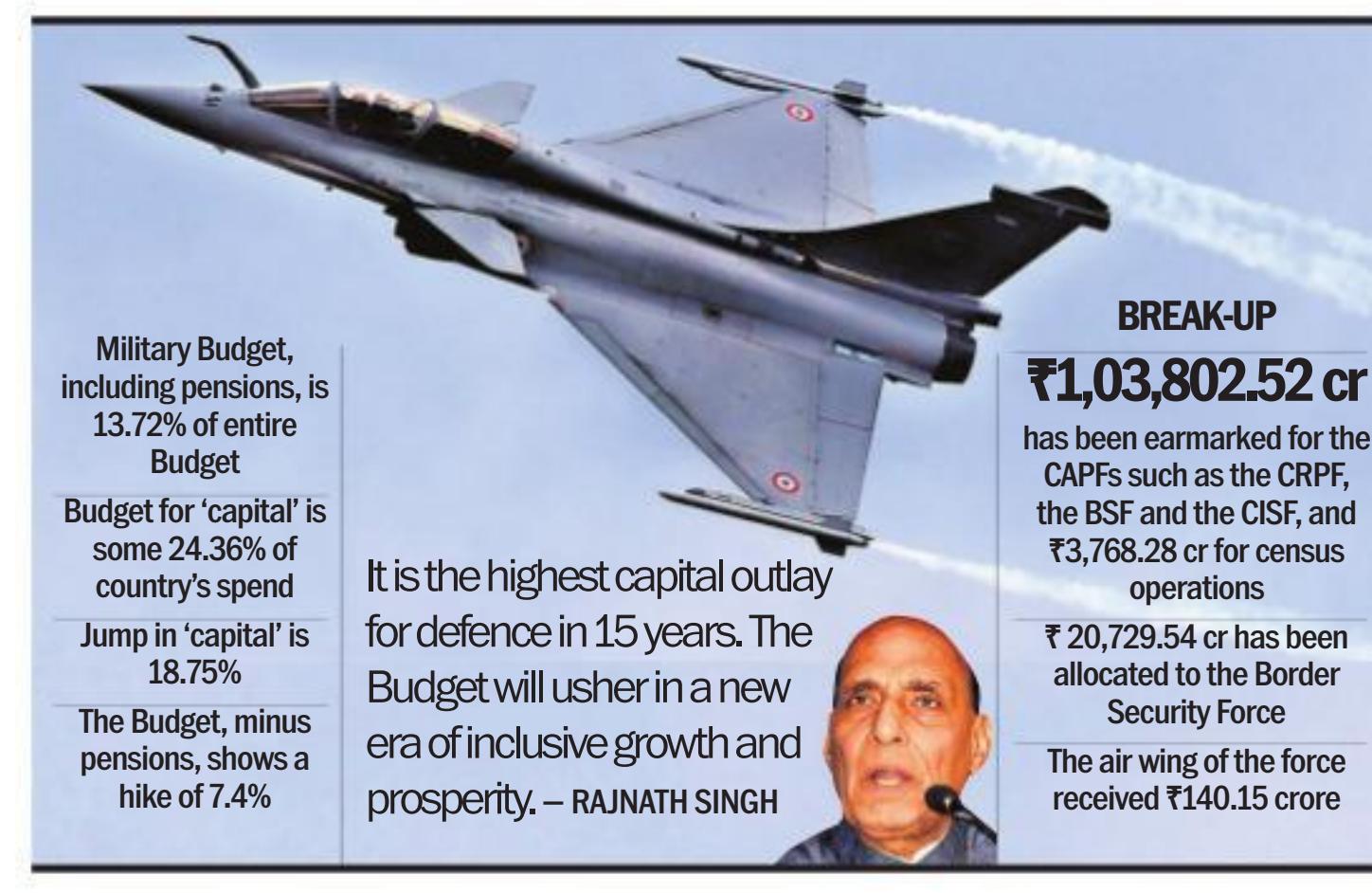
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

With Indian and Chinese forces locked in a military standoff for more than nine months now, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Monday announced an 18.72 per cent hike in military capital Budget meant to buy new weapons, planes, warships, guns, UAVs and material.

'Capital Budget', meant for new equipment and infrastructure, is pegged at Rs 1,35,060 crore (approx \$18 billion) for the Ministry of Defence (MoD). This is up by 18.72 per cent from the allocation of Rs 1,13,734 under 'capital' head for the ongoing fiscal ending March 31, 2021. In rupee terms the hike is an additional Rs 21,326 crore.

Also, the allocation is 24.36 per cent of the entire country's spend on 'capital', which means almost one-fourth of new development will be through the MoD.

Overall, the military Budget, minus pensions, is pegged at Rs 3,62,345 crore, which is 7.4 per cent more than the Budget for FY20-21. If pensions are added, the military Budget will touch Rs 4,78,195 crore.



Military Budget, including pensions, is 13.72% of entire Budget

Budget for 'capital' is some 24.36% of country's spend

Jump in 'capital' is 18.75%

The Budget, minus pensions, shows a hike of 7.4%

**BREAK-UP**

**₹1,03,802.52 cr**

has been earmarked for the CAPFs such as the CRPF, the BSF and the CISF, and ₹3,768.28 cr for census operations

₹ 20,729.54 cr has been allocated to the Border Security Force

The air wing of the force received ₹140.15 crore

Large chunk goes to forces guarding border

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

With the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) getting a substantial chunk with over Rs 1.66 lakh crore allocated to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), particularly the border guarding one, the Finance Minister has provided over Rs 3,700 crore for census-related activities, which is going to be a digital exercise for the first time.

According to the Budget proposals, the amount allocated for the year 2021-22 to the MHA is Rs.17,160 crore more than the amount of Rs 14,938 crore given last financial year.

Of the total, Rs 1,03,802.52 crore has been earmarked for the CAPFs such as the CRPF, the BSF and the CISF and Rs 3,768.28 crore for census operations. The work for the census 2021 has been postponed due to the pandemic. The ITBP, which guards 3,488 km long Sino-Indian border, received Rs 6,567.17 crore in comparison to Rs 6,150.15 crore last Budget, an increase of 6.78 percent. The CRPF, which is deployed in Jammu and Kashmir, received Rs 26,197.90 crore in comparison to Rs 24,788.28 crore in 2020-21, an increase of 5.6 percent. The SSB got Rs 6,479.74 crore.—TNS

## Social security net for gig workers

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while presenting Union Budget 2021-22 in Parliament today, said the four Labour Codes would be implemented, signalling the Centre's resolve to go ahead with the labour law reforms.

Sitharaman said minimum wages would apply to all categories of workers and they would all be covered by the Employees State Insurance Corporation. Women would be allowed to work in all categories and also in the night shifts with adequate protection.

She proposed to launch a portal that would collect relevant information on gig, building and construction workers to help formulate health, housing, skill, insurance, credit, and food schemes for them. The Budget proposes allocation of Rs 13,30,650 crore for fiscal year 2021-22. —TNS

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Canada/ USA Visa and PR for Indian Men no advance. Prema Consultancy, Lin. No. PART/1000/+5/9213/2016 203, Manovi City Centre, Kalyan (W) Mumbai 421301, +919321784787, +918652654584. (CL20089321)

**MEDICAL/SURGICAL**  
New Lifeline Hospital Zirakpur announces extra corporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) facility. Emco is the ultimate life support system for heart, lung and liver failure patients. Many precious lives can be saved both in adults and children. 98141-04203. (CL20091770)

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**  
Mohali: 10 marla, Sector 69. Facing one kanal, 25% built. Contact: 93161-12756. (CL20091782)

**PUBLIC NOTICES**  
I, Abhaydeep s/o Raj Kumar r/o Ganv Raipura Majra, Abub Shahar, Tehsil Mandi Dabwali, District Sirsa, Haryana - 125104 have changed my name to Abhaydeep Kambaj. (CL20091682)

We, Narendar Kumar s/o Mangal Dass and Geeta Sharma w/o Narendar Kumar r/o Master Colony, Jakhia Mandi, Tehsil Tohana, District Fatehabad, have disown my son Rajesh Kumar, his wife Renuka Joshi alias Puneet Bala, his son Mukul Joshi and his daughter Disha Joshi, from all moveable immovable properties. Because all these are out of our control, the person dealing with them will be responsible. (CL20091688)

I, Balwan Singh s/o Jai Kumar, resident of 161, New Darshan Bagh, Mani Majra, Chandigarh, changed my name to Balwan Verma. (CL20091709)

I, Ranjita Chhetri w/o NO. 13774297N L/NK Arpan Limbu C/O 56 APAN declare that in my husband service record my name wrongly entered i.e. Arpan Limbu instead of Arpan Mukhia. my correct name is Ranjita Chhetri. my correct name is Ranjita Chhetri. (CL20091743)

I, Arpan Mukhia w/o NO. 13774299Y L/NK Arpan Limbu C/O 56 APAN declare that in my husband service record my name wrongly entered i.e. Arpan Limbu instead of Arpan Mukhia. my correct name is Arpan Mukhia. (CL20091749)

I, Hitherto known as Madhu Bishnoi alias Mandeept Kaur w/o Raghubir Mohan doing house wife, residing at Dotaranwali, Tehsil Abohar, Distt. Fazilka, Punjab, India, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Madhu Bishnoi. (CL20091763)

I, hitherto known as Raghubir Mohan alias Sher Jang s/o Ram Narayan doing agriculture, residing at Dotaranwali, Tehsil Abohar, Distt. Fazilka, Punjab, India, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Raghubir Mohan. (CL20091764)

I, Smt. Sukhwinder Kaur wd/o Late No. 1572666N, Ex-Spr. Malkit Singh r/o Village Malo Daud, Tehsil Payal (Ludhiana), have changed my name Smt. Sukhwinder Kaur to Smt. Shamsher Kaur. (CL20091769)

**DISCLAIMER**  
The Tribune Trust does not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements (Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting thereupon.

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**MAT(M)**

**JAT SIKH**  
Jat Sikh boy 29, 5'9", +2, in Australia since last 6 years. Caste no bar. 78892-35812, 98155-19144. (CL20091746)

**RENT/LEASE**  
For rent 14 marla Kathi No. 682, Sec-16, Panchkula. Mob: 98761-10410, 98784-00410. (CL20091703)

**LOST & FOUND**

It is notified for the information that my original qualifying Examination Certificate of Main Senior Secondary Examination of year 2019 and Roll No. 2801507 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Mehat Garg, 1205, Sector 15-B, Chandigarh. 160015. 98156-41200. (CL20091687)

I, Manjinder Singh S/o Pritpal Singh R/o Village Moriwalla (Sirs) declares that old sale Deeds No. 652 and 1480 of my home has been lost at Sirsa on 22.01.2021. If found please contact: 85728-42248. (CL20091744)

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

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**COURT NOTICES**

In the Court of Sh. Amrinder Singh Shergill, Principal Judge, Family Court, Batala. CNR No.

PBGDF-20002812020

Next Date: 19.02.2021

Vijay Luxmi Versus General Public

Notice to: General Public

In above titled petition the respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 24.02.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=jalandhar

Dated, this day of 22.12.2020.

Sd/-

Judicial Magistrate First Class-5, CL20091721 Jalandhar.

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)**

(Under Guardian and Ward Act)

In the Court of Sh. Prem Kumar, Principal Judge Family Court, Gurdaspur.

Manjot Kaur Versus General Public

CNR No.

PBGD01-007923-2019

Next Date: 19.02.2021

Application Under Section 8 of Guardianship Act, 1956 for seeking permission to sell the property of the minors Rupali Saini and Kashish Ds/o Manjit Singh (Deceased) R/o Village Ladhpur, Teh. and District Gurdaspur.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 22.02.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=amritsar

Dated, this day of 12.01.2021.

Sd/- Additional Principal Judge Family Court, CL20091732 Amritsar.

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)**

In the Court of Ms. Radhika Likhii Civil Judge, Junior Division-4, Moga.

Jasvir Singh Versus Inderjeet Singh Suit for Declaration CNR No.:

PBMO02-001122-2019

Next Date: 18.02.2021

Publication issued to:

1. Inderjeet Singh s/o Harnam Singh s/o Bachittar Singh r/o Village Khosa Randh, Tehsil Kot Is Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

2. Karam Singh s/o Bachittar Singh s/o Munder Singh r/o Village Khosa Randh, Tehsil Kot Is Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

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

4. Balwinder Singh s/o Gurnam Singh s/o Bachittar Singh r/o Village Khosa Randh, Tehsil Kot Is Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

5. Manmohan Singh s/o Gurnam Singh s/o Bachittar Singh r/o Village Khosa Randh, Tehsil Kot Is Khan, District Dharamkot, District Moga.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 18.02.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 27.01.2021.

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

CNR No.

CL20091769

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 27.10.2020.

Sd/-

Amrinder Singh Shergill, Principal Judge, Family Camp Court, CL20091698 Batala.

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)**

(Under Guardian and Ward Act)

In the Court of Sh. Prem Kumar, Principal Judge Family Court, Gurdaspur.

Manjot Kaur Versus General Public

CNR No.

PBGD01-007923-2019

Next Date: 19.02.2021

Application Under Section 8 of Guardianship Act, 1956 for seeking permission to sell the property of the minors Rupali Saini and Kashish Ds/o Manjit Singh (Deceased) R/o Village Ladhpur, Teh. and District Gurdaspur.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 22.02.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=gurdaspur

Dated, this day of 6.1.2021.

Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, Gurdaspur.

CL20091699

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 27.10.2020.

Sd/-

Amrinder Singh Shergill, Principal Judge, Family Camp Court, CL20091698 Batala.

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)**

(Under Guardian and Ward Act)

In the Court of Sh. Prem Kumar, Principal Judge Family Court, Gurdaspur.

Manjot Kaur Versus General Public

CNR No.

PBGD01-007923-2019

Next Date: 19.02.2021

Application Under Section 8 of Guardianship Act, 1956 for seeking permission to sell the property of the minors Rupali Saini and Kashish Ds/o Manjit Singh (Deceased) R/o Village Ladhpur, Teh. and District Gurdaspur.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 22.02.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=gurdaspur

Dated, this day of 6.1.2021.

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

CNR No.

CL20091780

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 27.01.2021.

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

CNR No.

CL20091781

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 27.01.2021.

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

CNR No.

CL20091782

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 27.01.2021.

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

CNR No.

## Message



Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa  
Cooperation Minister,  
Punjab

THE 140th Foundation Day of The Tribune Group of Publications indeed reminds us of its glorious legacy of giving new dimensions to journalism. Undoubtedly, it is a proud moment for the organisation which has left an indelible mark during its eventful long journey, in adhering to the lofty ideals of professionalism with utmost dedication and commitment.

The Tribune as a great institution has relentlessly strived to sustain and firmly uphold the highest standards of journalism. Its outstanding con-

## Message



Balbir Singh Sidhu  
Health Minister, Punjab

ITS gives me immense pleasure to know that The Tribune is celebrating its 140th foundation anniversary on February 2, 2021.

With probity and professional dedication, The Tribune has been highlight-

ing the public issues and

plight, making it the first choice of readers in Punjab, where it has always been the most reliable tool of communication to highlight the common man's voice. The prominent newspaper has emerged as a significant platform between the people and the government, effectively highlighting the grievances of the former to ensure their timely resolution.

On this special day, I once again convey my best wishes to the Tribune Trust for upholding the ethos of the freedom of Press, and championing the cause of the underprivileged sections of society in particular, to stand firm in its leadership position as a votary of the fourth pillar of democracy.

The honey processing plant

of Markfed boasts of fully automated honey processing plant with temperature controlled facilities. The honey being processed at this plant, conforms to international standards including FSSAI norms. The capacity of the plant is to process 3000 MTs of honey per annum.

The raw honey is purchased directly from bee keepers through societies. Honey is collected in food grade plastic buckets to avoid any contaminations with heavy metals. The bee keepers are imparted regular training regarding healthy practices of bee keeping in order to avoid the presence of antibiotics, heavy metals, sugar and chemicals in raw honey.

Markfed takes pride in being a pioneer in introducing 100% traceability for the purchase of raw honey from bee keepers. Each identified bucket is tested and sealed by using temperature proof barcodes. The system enables Markfed to gather information about the farmer from whom raw honey has been procured.

Markfed has earned the trust of its valuable consumers as honey being produced by Markfed, has passed all the tests conducted recently by Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi successfully.

Markfed has introduced breakfast cereals like instant Kesar Daliya, no added Sugar Daliya and Honey Grits which boast not only of a complete meal but are enriched with minerals, proteins and vitamins. These products are an instant meal and can be readied for consumption in a minute. Markfed has also opened Markfed Bazaar in different cities of Punjab.

Participants can download the applications/questionnaires from website: [www.peda.gov.in](http://www.peda.gov.in). For more information kindly contact: 0172-2663328, 98156-04399 & 8146245315 or visit website.

**Extended date for submission of application along with filled in questionnaires**

**15th February, 2021**

## PUNJAB ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Plot No. 1 & 2, Sector 33-D, Chandigarh. Ph.: 0172-2663328, 2663382, Fax: 0172-2662865

Website : [www.peda.gov.in](http://www.peda.gov.in), Email : [peda.ec@gmail.com](mailto:peda.ec@gmail.com)

PEDA: WORKING TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUTURE

## A symbol of Trust, Purity & Quality - Markfed's Sohna



Markfed products are now available on e-commerce portal Amazon, Big Basket, Swiggy, Zomato and Bhejo app. Customers across the country can also now order products conveniently with a click through [swadesidukan.com](http://swadesidukan.com)

THE Punjab State Co-operative Supply & Marketing Federation popularly known as Punjab MARKFED is an apex Co-operative organisation at the state level with direct linkages with the Primary Agriculture Co-operative Societies. Since its inception in 1954 with a humble beginning, Markfed has come a long way and is now one of the largest Marketing Cooperative in Asia. At present it has more than 3000 primary agricultural Cooperative Societies as its members. Markfed is engaged in procurement of Foodgrains, distribution of agricultural inputs like fertilizer and agro-chemicals, marketing of agri-produce in the form of processed fruits and vegetables, Ready-to-Eat products, Vanaspati and Refined Oils, marketing of Jam, Pickles, Honey, Spices, Basmati Rice, Atta, Salt, Tea, Masala, Gur, Shakkar and lot more. These products are being sold under the brand name SOHNA.

In order to promote Bee-keeping in the State, Markfed has set up a modern honey processing unit at village Chuharwali, Jalandhar, involving capital outlay of Rs. 15.50 crore, as part of State Government's Farmers welfare program. The plant also has an in house chemical testing facility to carry out various tests required to ensure quality. The emphasis is on the welfare of Bee-keepers and in supplying the best quality honey to the consumer at the most economical prices. Markfed has become first organisation in the country to implement bar-coding technology at the level of backward integration for procurement of honey.

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of Markfed boasts of fully automated honey processing plant with temperature controlled facilities. The honey being processed at this plant, conforms to international standards including FSSAI norms. The capacity of the plant is to process 3000 MTs of honey per annum.

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## PEDA

### INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR STATE LEVEL ENERGY CONSERVATION AWARDS



The Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA) is the State Designated Agency (SDA) to implement the Energy Conservation Act-2001. It is pleased to invite applications along with duly filled questionnaires for the State Level Energy Conservation Awards from the consumers / utilities / units of the following categories who have taken extra efforts for efficient utilization, management and conservation of energy during the last two years 2018-19 & 2019-20 for the state of Punjab.

CATEGORY	AWARDS
<b>Energy Intensive Industries</b> (Designated Consumers)	<b>1st Prize</b> <b>2nd Prize</b>
• Thermal Power Plant	Rs. 50,000      Rs. 30,000
• Textile	Rs. 50,000      Rs. 30,000
• Pulp & Paper	Rs. 50,000      Rs. 30,000
<b>Manufacturing Enterprises</b>	
• Small Scale	Rs. 50,000
• Medium Scale	Rs. 50,000
<b>Commercial Buildings</b>	
• Offices – Government & Private Buildings	Rs. 50,000
• Educational Institutions–Govt. & Pvt. Buildings	Rs. 50,000
• Hotel Buildings	Rs. 50,000
• Hospital Buildings	Rs. 50,000
• Malls & Shopping Complex Buildings	Rs. 50,000

Participants can download the applications/questionnaires from website: [www.peda.gov.in](http://www.peda.gov.in). For more information kindly contact: 0172-2663328, 98156-04399 & 8146245315 or visit website.

**Extended date for submission of application along with filled in questionnaires**

**15th February, 2021**

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100% Natural and Premium Quality "Fateh Sugar" & "Fateh Jaggery" (Desi Gur/Shakkar of Punjab) a household name in the region, manufactured by the Cooperative Sugar Mill, Budhewal.

This year, Premium Quality 'Gur' and 'Shakkar' would also be exported to USA, Canada and the Gulf countries.

The process has been set in motion to transform the cooperative sugar mills into the sugar complexes such as:

### Rejuvenation of Cooperative Sugar Industry in the State



- New Sugar Mill Project 3000 TCD with 15 MW Cogeneration set up at Bhogpur.
- State of Art Sugar Complexes comprising Cogeneration & Distillery for Production of Ethanol are being set up at Gurdaspur & Batala.
- Bio-CNG Projects are being set up in Cooperative Sugar Mills in PPP Mode to generate additional revenue.
- State of Art Gur/Jaggery Manufacturing Project is being set up at Budhewal Coop. Sugar Mill.
- Indian Oil Retail Outlets are being set up in all the Cooperative Sugar Mills with all the investments to be made by the IOC.
- 300 ton per day Bio-CNG project from Paddy Straw (Pralli) is being setup at closed Sugar Cooperative Sugar Mill at Rakhra (Patiala) in collaboration with Indian Oil Corporation Limited.



- Guru Nanak Dev Sugarcane Research & Development Institute has been set up at Kalanaur (Gurdaspur) for the purpose of providing training & pure seed of high yielding varieties of sugarcane to farmers in order to increase their income.

### SUGARFED PUNJAB

Plot No. 53, Phase-2, Opp. Bassi Cinema, Mohali - 160 055

e-mail: [sugaredpunjab@gmail.com](mailto:sugaredpunjab@gmail.com)

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*Sohne Punjab da Sohna swaad*

**SOHNA**

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Available at Markfed & Verka Booths and leading retailers

[www.markfedpunjab.com](http://www.markfedpunjab.com)



## Bajwa, Dullo meet Shah over missing Delhi protesters

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 1  
Raja Sabha MPs Partap Singh Bajwa and Shamsher Singh Dullo today met Union Home Minister Amit Shah over missing farmers from Punjab during the Republic Day incidents.

The MPs, in a representation submitted to the Home Minister, sought details of the missing farmers detained by

**Hold all-party meet in Delhi: Bajwa to Capt**

the Delhi Police and requested for their early release. The two MPs were informed that the police would publish the details of over 100 farmers on their website. Furthermore, both the MPs have also offered help in tracing the missing persons.

Congress MP Manish Tewari and ministers Sukhjinder Randhawa and Sukhbinder Singh Sarkaria also met Shah. —TNS

# 120 held during farmers' stir, lodged at Tihar jail: Lawyers

JALANDHAR, FEBRUARY 1

As many as 120 persons have been arrested in connection with the farmers' agitation and have been kept at the Tihar jail, claims a list released by the Lawyers For Farmers, the formal standing counsel for the farmers.

The Delhi Police, meanwhile, said 44 FIRs had been registered and 122 persons arrested till now, whose details were available on their website.

As many as 300 advocates have formed a group to fight for the persons who have been arrested, illegally detained or have been missing during the farmers' protest at Delhi.

Of the 120 arrested persons — 39 have been booked at the Uttam Bagar police station, five at the Mundka Outer District police station and three each at Seemapuri and Baba Haridas Nagar police stations. Veteran advocates HS Phoolka and Navkiran



Sikh bodies in Bathinda protest the arrest of farmers. PAWAN SHARMA

### CANCEL CASES, RELEASE LEADERS: OUTFITS

**Bathinda:** Various Sikh organisations on Monday took out a protest march in Bathinda and demanded the cancellation of the cases registered by the Delhi Police against farmers and their leaders over the Republic Day violence. They also demanded their immediate release. TNS

Najafgarh police station, six at the Uttam Bagar police station, five at the Mundka Outer District police station and three each at Seemapuri and Baba Haridas Nagar police stations. Veteran advocates HS Phoolka and Navkiran

Singh are part of the legal team representing farmers.

A separate team of lawyers from the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee is also fighting the farmers' cases. Both Lawyers for Farmers and DSGMC president Man-

jinder Singh Sirsa have appealed to missing persons' relatives to approach them. The Lawyers for Farmers, which has set up a desk at Singhu, today filed a writ in the Punjab and Haryana High Court, questioning the suspension of internet in many Haryana districts.

"We have so far received calls from at least 300 families. However, the number of persons traced so far is 120. We are trying to ascertain how many are exactly missing. At least 120 persons have been lodged at the Tihar jail," said advocate Hakam Singh, a member of the Farmers for Lawyer.

"We are going to file a petition in the Delhi High Court on Tuesday regarding the life and liberty of peaceful protesters. We are also working to file petitions to demand a medical board for a thorough check-up of the arrested," he said. —TNS

## Capt launches helpline to trace the missing

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 1

Amid growing concerns over the persons from Punjab reportedly missing in the Delhi-Haryana region since the Republic Day tractor rally, CM Capt Amarinder Singh on Monday announced helpline number 112 to report all such instances, even as 70 lawyers were appointed by state Advocate General Atul Nanda on

**Says will take up matter with MHA**

his directive to provide free legal aid to farmers facing cases in the national capital.

Assuring all possible help, the CM said his Cabinet colleagues had met the Union Home Minister on the issue and he would personally take up the cases of such missing persons or farmers with the Ministry of Home Affairs. "We will do everything possible to locate those who are missing," he said. —TNS

# Massive rally to drum up support in Bathinda

BATHINDA, FEBRUARY 1

Farmers under the banner of BKU (Sidhpur) today held a massive gathering to mobilise support from the region at Gurdwara Hazri Rattan. The farmers from eight districts in the region participated in the meeting, which was headed by BKU (Sidhpur) senior vice-president Kaka Singh Kotra.

Lashing out at the central government for the Red Fort incident on January 26, all speakers claimed the conspiracies hatched by it to defame the farmers stood exposed as the agitation had regained the momentum at Tikri, Singhu and Ghazipur borders.

"I am heading the BKU (Sidhpur) protest at Tikri and came here yesterday only to organise the meeting. We wanted to dispel rumours and make people in the region aware of the ground situation of the ongoing protest," said Kotra.

He said attempts had been made to clear the Ghazipur

### DON'T IMPOSE FINES, COUNSEL THEM: BKU

**Moga:** BKU (Ekti) general secretary Sukhdev Singh Kokri has urged panchayats not to impose fines on families not joining ongoing protests in Delhi. "Instead, they should be counselled about the consequences of the laws and the need to protest," he said. TNS

protest site, but BKU spokesperson Rakesh Tikait handled the situation well. Since then, the gathering has been swelling as people from Uttar Pradesh and Haryana have reached there in droves.

He appealed to people to reach Delhi protest sites in large numbers to strengthen the farmers' cause and thwart the nefarious plans of defaming the struggle. "We are calm and firm to continue our protest until the three farm laws are repealed," said Kotra. —TNS

## HC Bar seeks CJ's transfer

SAURABH MALIK

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 1  
The crisis in the Punjab and Haryana High Court, brought about by shortage of judges and pendency of cases, has worsened. The relationship between its Bar and the Bench today took a direct hit with the lawyers' association not only seeking Chief Justice Ravi Shanker Jha's transfer, but also deciding to boycott his court for non-resumption of physical hearing of cases.

Rift also surfaced between the HC Bar Association and the Bar Council over the issue of removing Punjab Advocate-General Atul Nanda from the association's membership.

In an out-of-the-ordinary move, the Bar Association's general house decided to

**Removes AG from membership, Council stays move**

ported the resumption of physical working.

The council also referred to Nanda's letter dated January 30 giving his consent for appearance of law officers of the State of Punjab during physical hearing of cases. Nanda's approval is significant as consent of both parties is required for hearing a matter physically. Nanda refused to comment on the issue. But a senior functionary in the AG office said Nanda was in favour of physical hearing.

Bar president GBS Dhillon, meanwhile, made it clear the resolution passed during the general house meeting this afternoon on Chief Justice's transfer and boycott would remain in force until complete opening of physical courts or his transfer.

## Relief for slain cop's kin



Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh hands over a cheque for ₹1 crore to the family of Moga Constable Jagmohan Singh who was killed in a firing incident last year. Jagmohan had also served in the Army. TNS

## Six killed as trucks collide

FEROZEPUR, FEBRUARY 1

Six labourers were killed and nine others injured following a head-on collision between two trucks on the Makhu-Jalandhar National Highway-703 here this morning.

As per information, the incident took place around 7.30 am when a group of labourers belonging to Malanwala and Makhu were going towards Kartarpur on a mini-truck. —OC

## No tax hike in excise policy

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 1

With no increase in excise and other levies, the prices of country liquor are set to remain unchanged in the "Excise Policy 2021-22" approved by the state Cabinet today. The price of the Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) may, however, see marginal increase depending upon the brand.

In the policy, the Excise Department has projected to mop up Rs 7,002 crore as excise revenue, as against current year's Rs 5,794 crore, showing an increase of 20%. Overall, the policy largely focuses on providing relief to retail licencees and to keep buoyancy in the liquor trade.

The additional revenue will come through increase in the quota (minimum quantity to be sold by a

for bar and hotels by 30%. The fee on the consumption of liquor (assessed fee) has also been reduced. The annual licence fee for marriage palaces has further been reduced by 20%.

The policy aims at renewal of the existing vends, subject to lifting of additional liquor by the licences, ensuring a minimum revenue growth of 12% during 2020-21. The current year's revenue is expected to be Rs 5,794 crore as against Rs 5,027 crore in the previous year, showing an increase of 15%.

Further, the wholesale trade of liquor will be monitored online, replacing the present L-13 wholesale licencees. The conversion quota has been increased from 15% to 20%. —TNS

### UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

(A Power Distribution & Retail Supply Utility Govt. of Haryana)

Regd. Office: C-16, Vidyan Sadan, Sector-6,

Panchkula - 134109, Haryana.

Office of CE/Admin. (GA Section), UHBVNL, Panchkula.

Ph. No. 0172-3019180, 172-3019132, Fax-0172-301919

E-mail: usga@uhbvnl.org.in, Website: www.uhbvnl.org.in

CIN: U40109HR1999SC034166

### EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited invites application from retired officers of State/Central/Govt./PSUs for the post of Superintending Engineer (Civil) in UHBVNL on contract basis. For eligibility criteria and pay & perks etc. may please visit on [www.uhbvnl.org.in](http://www.uhbvnl.org.in). The application may be submitted within 21 days from the date of this publication.

**Chief Engineer/Administration, UHBVNL, Panchkula.**

### GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB PWD B&R BRANCH NOTICE INVITING ON-LINE BIDS

DATED 01-02-2021

TENDER NOTICE NO. 12  
On behalf of Governor of Punjab, Executive Engineer, Construction Division, PWD (B&R), Nabha invites bids from eligible bidders enlisted under "All road works" category with PWD (B&R) for the works regarding Widening/ Strengthening of Patiala Nabha Road to (MDR-32) to Patiala Bhudson Road (ODR-55) via Villages namely Rakhra, Mandour, Kishangarh and Simbro Length-9.60 km under the jurisdiction of Market Committee, Bhudson under Head-8443. Last date and time for the submission of bids for the works is 23-02-2021 (Time- 05:00 PM)

**Note:-**  
1. For detailed terms and conditions please refer to website <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>  
2. Corrigendum, if any will be issued on website only.

Sd/- Er. Bankesh Sharma,  
Executive Engineer,  
Construction Division, PWD (B&R), Nabha.  
E. mail: -xennabha@gmail.com  
Tel. Ph. No-01765-220135

DPR/PB/1218

### PUNJAB STATE ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Plot No.3, Block-B, Sector-18A, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh (UT)

Ph. 0172-2645164-66, Fax 0172-2664758

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Inviting Suggestions and Objections of the Public and Stakeholders

On proposed amendments in Supply Code, 2014  
The Commission proposes to amend certain provisions of Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (Electricity Supply Code & Related Matters) Regulations, 2014. Draft Notification and Explanatory Memorandum are available on the website of the Commission [www.pscr.gov.in](http://www.pscr.gov.in). Comments/suggestions/objections from all stakeholders are invited on the proposed amendments in Supply Code, 2014 Under sub-Section (3) of section 181 of the Electricity Act, 2003 Read with Rule 3 of the Electricity (Procedure for Previous Publication) Rules, 2005. The Comments/suggestions/objections must reach the undersigned on or before 22.02.2021 in person or by post or through e-mail at [secretarypsc@cchd@gmail.com](mailto:secretarypsc@cchd@gmail.com). The commission will hold a Public Hearing in this connection on 24.02.2021 at 11.00 a.m. in the office of the Commission. Persons/organizations interested in presenting their views in the matter before the Commission are invited to participate.

Sd/- Secretary

DPR/Pb/1215

### Government of Punjab NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS (B&R Works)

NIT No. 163/SE(TIC), dated 01.02.2021

The department of Municipal Corporation Ludhiana (B&R) invites online Double Bids for 1 No. work as per schedule given below:-

Last Date of online Submission of Bidding Document	Opening of Bidding Documents
Technical Bid	Financial Bid
15.02.2021 up to 05:00 p.m.	16.02.2021 at 11:00 a.m. in the Office of SE (TIC), Zone A, MCL

For details log on to:- [eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in)

**Note:-** Detail of works, other terms & conditions & tender documents any corrigendum/addendum to the tender notice shall be published on above website only.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (TIC)  
Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana

DPR/Pb/1213

### GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT NATIONAL HYDROLOGY PROJECT (WORLD BANK AIDED)

NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS

Bid No. 102 Date 29.01.2021

Reference No. - NHP-2020-2021-PB-546620

On behalf of Governor of Punjab, Executive Engineer, Surface Hydrology Division-I, Water Resources Bhawan, Sector-68, S.A.S. Nagar, Punjab, 160062 invites bids from eligible bidders for the work detailed in the following table:-

Sr. No.	Description of Item	Bid Security (Rs.)	Cost of Bid document (Rs.)	Period of Completion of Service
1.	AMC of the 70 DRG installed under Hydrology Project Phase-2	60,000/-	1,000/- + GST	31.03.2024

### Important dates are as under:

i. Period of availability of Tender online shall be: From 03.02.2021, 10:00 a.m. to 05.03.2021, 11:00 a.m.



Debendra Dalai, IFS  
Chief Conservator of  
Forests-cum-Director  
Environment  
Chandigarh Administration

### Carbon Emissions

Carbon-a chemical element symbolC-atomic no. 6. This Carbon is everywhere. From the air we breathe to the products we buy, from the crops we grow to the food we eat, from the diamonds we wear to the pencil we write, from the organic matter in the soil to the rocks, it is stored in the surprising place: the oceanand guess what? We all are made up of carbon as well! Out of 96.2% of the mass of the human body 18.5% is Carbon.

Carbon is literally the basis for life. By the end of this read, you'll gain some knowledge on carbon emissions, how individual

is contributing towards these emissions, how these are harmful and finally how to reduce your own carbon footprint. The information about carbon emissions will make you aware and better equipped to make a positive difference.

Carbon Emissions are one type of greenhouse gas emission that happens when carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) enters the air after a human activity such as industrial processes, deforestation and burning of fossil fuels, as well as natural processes such as respiration and volcanic eruptions. CO<sub>2</sub>

is meteorologically very important gas as it is transparent to the incoming solar radiation but opaque to the outgoing terrestrial radiation and is largely responsible for Greenhouse Effect.

Greenhouse gases are the gases that form the blanket over the Earth's atmosphere and trap heat.

Human activities such as industrial processes, deforestation, burning of fossil fuels, agriculture and land clearing are increasing

## CARBON WATCH- Are We Carbon Neutral ?

ing the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere. This is trapping more and more heat causing increase in Earth's temperature leading to Global Warming and further Climate Change. CO<sub>2</sub> alone accounts for 60% of the total Global warming.

A recent report says that India is the third largest emitter in the world. India produced around 2.61 billion metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2019. Its per capita emission. However, are much lower and the country is ranked 140th in the world. The lockdown period due to COVID 19 pandemic placed a temporary hold on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, with India witnessing a reduction of nearly 200 million tonnes, an 8.0 per cent reduction from 2019.

### Source of Carbon Emissions

So, when we say Carbon Emissions, we're talking specifically about Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). There are both natural and anthropogenic sources of Carbon dioxide emissions. Naturally, CO<sub>2</sub> releases into the atmosphere in number of ways. The largest source of natural Carbon Emissions is from the exchange of carbon dioxide between the oceans and the atmosphere. Animals and plants also emit CO<sub>2</sub> through the process of respiration and decomposition.

Carbon dioxide also gets released into the atmosphere from the different human activities such as driving a vehicle, the agricultural industry, cement production, deforestation, burning of fossil fuel like coal, oil and natural gas. But burning other biological materials (solid waste, trees etc.) also releases carbon dioxide. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lists the six main sources of greenhouse gases as transportation, electricity production, industry, commercial and residential, agriculture, and land use and forestry. According to the Inventory of the U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks, a report by the EPA, transportation accounted for 28.9 % of all 2017 greenhouse gas emissions, the biggest culprit of all the categories. We all produce carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), directly or indirectly, when we use products that are manufactured using fossil fuels. To cite few examples; we directly produce carbon dioxide when we drive a car or take a flight. We also indirectly produce carbon dioxide when we eat food that has been produced with artificial fertilizers and pesticides (which are made from oil).

might thrive and overtake others. Not to mention that if certain animal species extinct, land and crop yield destroyed, humans will also see the repercussions. Also, Carbon Emissions directly affect humans causing more respiratory diseases from an increase of smog and air pollution.

### Nature's Balance: Human's Imbalance

NATURE, as nature tends to do, keep most of these emissions in balance. Carbon is exchanged among five spheres of the Earth, carbon (C) sinks: the biosphere, pedosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere. The main natural carbon sinks are plants, the ocean and soil. Plants absorb CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere to use in photosynthesis, some of this carbon is transferred to soil as plants die and decompose. Oceans also absorb as much carbon dioxide as they release.

Humans don't play by the same rules that nature does. When we extract, refine, transport, and burn fossil fuels like coal, natural gas, and oil, we release extra carbon and other greenhouse gasses into the atmosphere. We also cut down trees to make way for agriculture, industrialization and new developments, or collect wood to create new products. By removing forests, we are also removing the natural sink of carbon.

When we add additional CO<sub>2</sub> in the system, nature can't always pick up the slack.

### Remedial Action

Lowering the levels of atmospheric carbon is what we all have to do. In short, we have to be Carbon-Neutral. Carbon Neutrality refers to achieving net zero Carbon dioxide emissions by balancing carbon. For example, for an individual to be carbon neutral, any emissions they create must be offset by planting a tree or some other initiatives that negate the Carbon that's being emitted.

As with most of the problems in life, there are mainly two different ways to fix them. The best and the safest way is to avoid the situation that causes it in the first place. The second is to retrogress what's already been done. When you apply this to the Carbon Emissions, it means you can either lower your carbon footprint, or offset it. While there are many ways to do this, the following are the simplest and easiest changes you can make.

### Avoid CO<sub>2</sub>

- Bike more, drive less
- Buy electric vehicle
- Learn the 5R's: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Rot, Recycle.
- Use more Green Energy: Solar Photovoltaic System
- Buy less stuff, Buy recycled clothing. Don't buy fast fashion.
- Conserve water
- Eat seasonally, locally, and more plants. Reduce your food waste & Compost your food waste.

● Reduce energy use, Switch lights off when not in use, Change incandescent light bulbs to LED's.

by an individual, organization, event or product, expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e). In short, the amount of carbon dioxide you produce is your Carbon Footprint. While it seems like a lot of work to figure out your carbon footprint, but it is actually easier than you think.

In few minutes, using carbon footprint calculator, you can estimate your Carbon Emissions. The Department of Environment, Chandigarh Administration is in the process of developing a mobile application namely "Carbon Watch" for the residents of Chandigarh to assess their Carbon Footprint and steps to reduce it in order to make them Climate Smart Citizens. This app will be

launched shortly in a couple of days, so that the public can be benefitted in estimating their carbon footprint and further to offset the same.

If the humans don't interfere, the planet is really good in taking great care of itself. We all have witnessed the same during LOCKDOWN period. Clean rivers, Clean Sky, Natural habitat at its best. But, when we overload the EARTH with too much of any one thing, it starts losing its balance. Now, by taking few important steps to reduce our own carbon footprints, we can allow the EARTH to find that balance again, so that we (and our future generations) can continue to enjoy and appreciate its beauty for years to come.



## UNLEASH THE POWER OF THE SUN

THROUGH SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM



As per Chandigarh Administration Building By-laws, the Installation of Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant is mandatory for existing residential and non-residential buildings in Chandigarh and last date is 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021

### HOW TO GO SOLAR PV

- CREST has empanelled vendors for installation of Solar PV Plant. The contact details of all vendors are uploaded on [www.solarchandigarh.com](http://www.solarchandigarh.com)
- MNRE, Govt. of India is Providing Subsidy as amended from time to time.

To avail Subsidy get your installation done from empanelled vendors only.

### HOW TO AVAIL SUBSIDY

- An online website [www.solarchandigarh.com](http://www.solarchandigarh.com) has been launched wherein people shall be able to obtain all regulatory clearance from Electricity Deptt.
- Upfront Subsidy is available for Residential Sectors Only. The Beneficiary will make the payment after deduction of subsidy amount.

Issued in Public Interest by CREST

## CHANDIGARH RENEWABLE ENERGY AND SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PROMOTION SOCIETY (CREST)

1st Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, Madhya Marg, Sector 19-B, Chandigarh.  
Ph: 0172-2771919. Email: [crestchandigarh@gmail.com](mailto:crestchandigarh@gmail.com)

The Power of Sun, Clean Energy for the Long Run!

# "Child Adoption is a Legal Process....."

**Register yourself on Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance System (CARINGS) via [www.cara.nic.in](http://www.cara.nic.in) for adopting a child legally Know your eligibility for Child Adoption:**

1. Adopting parents should be physically, mentally and emotionally stable, Financially capable and shall not have any life threatening disease.
2. Couple should be having at least 2 years of stable marital relationship.
3. The minimum age difference between the child and either of the Prospective Adoptive Parents shall not be less than 25 years.
4. Single male can adopt a male child whereas Single female can adopt a male/female child.



### Punishment for Illegal Adoption:

As per Section-80 & 81 of Juvenile Justice (care & protection of children) Act 2015:

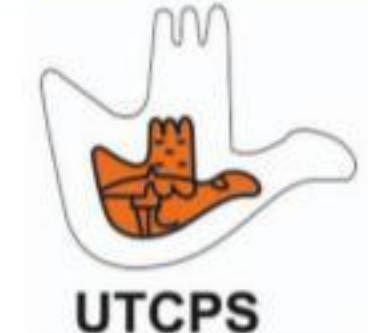
- Imprisonment of a term which may extend up to 3 years, or with fine of Rs. 1 Lakh, or both
- Imprisonment of a term which may extend up to 5 years with fine of Rs. 1 Lakh

**Report Illegal Adoptions at:**

1. Police (100/112)
2. Women & Child Helpline, Chandigarh (181)
3. Child Line (1098)



**State Adoption Resource Agency (SARA)**  
under the aegis of Department of Social Welfare, Women and Child Development,  
Sector 19 B U.T. Chandigarh, 0172-2548000



# The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

## Budget of tough calls

Disinvestment is welcome, but risks of cronyism cloud optimism

**U**NARGUABLY, the Modi government faced its toughest Budget since 2014. Instead of unveiling a toolbox of defensive measures, it has opted to keep intact its undampened ambitions of infrastructure development and welfare measures. The Rs 5.54 lakh crore direct capital expenditure will have considerable knock-on effect on real estate and its supporting sectors while broadly maintaining outlays for food, fertiliser and petroleum subsidies and social sector programmes aim to cater to the farm sector and the bottom half of the pyramid. It has rightly heeded to the need for capacity building in health as well as allowed states to borrow more for capital expenditure. The record joblessness also deserved attention, even as the government has put its faith in growth leading to employment.

These government liabilities will be met through an unparalleled sale of PSUs and borrowings from the market. The PSU sale policy, not yet fully unveiled, promises to be more radical than the glimpse offered by Nirmala Sitharaman last year. Alongside, the stage is set for selling off nationalised banks and insurance companies. The pitfalls of rules being nudged or massaged have never before been starker as the government rushes to monetise existing public assets to live up to its outsized ambitions. And this demand on funds only partially accounts for the hardening of geostrategic circumstances along the border with China.

The government has its own explanation for a particular corporate house bagging a marquee Sri Lankan project or a bunch of airports. But the hazard of a cowboy approach to the country's crown jewels — the financial and strategic sectors — will be more profound. The government must be fair in selections but also construct a firewall against concentration of resources, especially because the ongoing farm agitation has heightened the perception of New Delhi's fondness for a particular set of entrepreneurs. The pressure to raise money in quick time is immense. Fiscal deficit this year is nearly thrice than budgeted and must be pared as soon as possible. Already, interest rates for Indian bonds have started hardening. Keeping up a brave front is half the battle. The remaining begins now.

## Transgender rights

Search for identity should not lead to disability

**T**HE order of the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights asking the state government to ban medically unnecessary sex change surgeries on intersex infants and ensure their bodily integrity is a reminder of the physical and psychological impairment that the quest for gender identity can lead to. In most cases, the children are too young to give their view, which only increases the risk to their physical and mental integrity. Rights activists have said there are instances where intersex people were treated as disabled and the gender reassignment interventions proved to be irreversible, resulting in long-term complications and disability which can cause wastage of human life. It has also been claimed that most of these surgeries are conducted without prior approval.

The Supreme Court had some years back observed that no one should be forced to undergo medical procedures, including sex reassignment surgeries, sterilisations and hormonal therapy as a requirement for legal recognition of their gender right. The UN Committee for the Rights of Persons with Disability had also observed that governments should take measures to prevent sex normalising surgeries to secure the wellbeing of such people. While the Delhi government has constituted a committee to look at the issue, it will also need the attention of the medical regulatory bodies.

The question of gender equality has been raised from time to time with varied responses. People without a hetero-normal sexual orientation have faced discrimination, abuse and stigma causing immense suffering. In 2018, the Supreme Court had struck down Section 377 of the IPC on same-sex relations. Efforts have been made, like at Panjab University, where a column for the third gender was introduced in the admission form, besides providing other facilities for them. But there have been unsavoury controversies like in the case of athlete Pinki Pramanik. Biological aberrations invite social reactions which can complicate matters. Individual choices apart, attempts should be made to ensure the social and economic wellbeing of such people, and most importantly, ensure their acceptance.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The budget should be balanced not by more taxes, but by reduction of follies. — **Herbert Hoover**

### ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

# The Tribune.

LAHORE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1921

### THE TILAK SWARAJ FUND.

WE have already published the appeal which has been issued over the signatures of the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Secretaries of the Punjab Provincial Congress Committee, calling upon the people of this Province to subscribe to the above fund. As our readers are aware, the fund has been started under the auspices of the country's greatest national organisation, and in pursuance of a resolution adopted at its last session. Its one object, as the signatories state in their appeal, is the attainment of Swaraj, and the bulk of its proceeds will, as they indicate, be devoted to the creation of "the new organisations that are to be spread like a network over the whole province and to maintaining them in working order." The supreme necessity of these organisations is self-evident. The drawback of the Congress is that although theoretically it is a national assembly, in practice and by its composition, it is only the mouthpiece of what has been called the intelligentsia. This was its chief strength in the days gone by, when its principal function was to advise the bureaucracy in India and British statesmanship in England. This is its chief weakness to-day, when the Congress has altered its character and from having been nothing politically has become something and is trying to be everything. If the Congress is to realise its present aspiration, it must obviously be something more than the mere organ of an intelligentsia, or, what is the same thing, of the most self-conscious section of it. It must be able to speak not only in the name but on the authority of the body of the people, not merely the moral authority which is derived from its own consciousness that it is the true champion of the people's interests, but the positive authority which is derived from the knowledge that the people are actually behind it.

# Adieu to fiscal fundamentalism

The FM has decided to take the disinvestment route again



AUNINDYO CHAKRAVARTY

SENIOR ECONOMIC ANALYST

**N**IRMALA Sitharaman had the toughest task that any Finance Minister has faced, at least in the past three decades. She knew the government had to spend more to ensure the economy recovers. The FM also knew that there was no way that her tax revenues would reach even close to what she had estimated last year. So, she had to bid goodbye to the fiscal fundamentalism that the Modi government has practised all these years and reset India's path to lowering the Centre's fiscal deficit. The second, some would say obvious, route that the FM was bound to take, was to raise money by selling public assets, what we call disinvestment.

The government's revenues are set to fall by nearly Rs 2 lakh crore, or about 1 per cent of GDP. Out of this,



HEAVY LOAD: Allocation for the flagship PM-Kisan is down by 13%. PTI

The FM announced that there would be a significant increase in expenditure on health, but the budget of the Ministry of Health has gone up by just 10%.

ment. In 2019-20, it had set a target of raising Rs 65,000 crore by selling government companies and assets, but the actual receipts were just about Rs 50,000 crore. Last year, the target was a humongous Rs 2.1 lakh crore, almost 1 per cent of GDP. Covid meant that all that was achieved was a measly Rs 32,000 crore. Interestingly, even though this year's disinvestment target has been set at a stiff Rs 1.75 lakh crore, it is still 17 per cent lower than what the FM set last year. Some of this is likely to be the sale of PSUs that were already meant to go on the block last year. Along with this, Sitharaman has announced that government land, airports, stadiums, highways will be disinvested to raise money.

When it comes to expenditure, the government is planning to spend an additional Rs 4.4 lakh crore compared to what it had planned last year. This is a significant increase when seen in relation to our GDP. The Centre's budgetary expenditure has consistently hovered around 13-14 per cent of GDP. This shot up in 2020-21, thanks to the stimulus packages that were announced to deal with the coronavirus pandemic.

Actual expenditure was 13 per cent more than what was budgeted last year, while India's GDP ended up being 13 per cent lower than what was estimated in the Budget. The net impact was that expenditure shot up to almost 18 per cent of GDP. This year, the government's expenditure will be 14.5 per cent higher than what was estimated last year, while our GDP will still be lower than last year's estimates. Therefore, the Centre's expenditure will end up being about 16 per cent of GDP in 2021-22.

Yet, this increased expenditure will have limited impact. That is because 28 per cent of the extra spending will go to finance Food Corporation of India's (FCI) crop purchases. Over the past few years, the cost of procurement has been entirely borne by FCI's borrowings. As of March 2020, FCI's debt was nearly Rs 3.3 lakh crore. The FM has announced in her Budget speech this time that FCI's purchases will now be funded directly from the Budget. So, the allocation to FCI has gone up from about Rs 78,000 crore in last year's Budget to over Rs 2 lakh crore this year. Interestingly, despite the low allocation

to health, the government's expenditure will have limited impact. That is because 28 per cent of the extra spending will go to finance Food Corporation of India's (FCI) crop purchases. Over the past few years, the cost of procurement has been entirely borne by FCI's borrowings. As of March 2020, FCI's debt was nearly Rs 3.3 lakh crore. The FM has announced in her Budget speech this time that FCI's purchases will now be funded directly from the Budget. So, the allocation to FCI has gone up from about Rs 78,000 crore in last year's Budget to over Rs 2 lakh crore this year. Interestingly, despite the low allocation

## A whole set of new excuses

ALKA KASHYAP

**O**NE of the biggest casualties of the stay-at-home era was the flood of excuses that we made to get away from people, situations, et al. My uncle used to say that if you have an excuse, it had better be a good one. A good excuse was like the fall guy who would save our skin in all ticklish situations. 'Saheb bathroom mein hain' was a common explanation that made things easier for *saheb*. But after the lockdown, how long could he supposedly be in the bathroom?

Without getting into the intelligence quotient of these justifications, even the lame ones did a pretty good job. How often had we heard another

shirk line, 'Saheb phone ghar par bhol gaye hain.' Even if you were not gullible enough to believe that a house help had access to his master's phone, he still got away with it.

With the drastic turn of events, we literally had no place to hide, and all the excuses to avoid someone flew out of the window, because home was where we were supposed to be. All the bluff masters had their bluff called, and were made to do some concrete work. Work-from-home blues had struck my glib colleague, who would often fib about a sick family member, and take frequent leave.

But now, he could not complain as he could attend to his family and also be in office simultaneously.

The children, too, could no longer make a puppy face and tell their mothers that they were not hungry while eyeing a goodie from outside. And all the excuses of the little souls for not going to school had vanished into thin air. They could not escape the online classes, even when they had a real stomach ache, for the virtual world had invaded the comfort of their bedrooms too.

Gone are the days when we as college students would bat our eyelids and come up with ingenious excuses to melt our teacher's heart, and earn that attendance, without attending her class. Bunking was always preceded by a solid excuse, and it often saved us from next day's embarrassment.

The sports girls were usually the object of our envy, as they would merrily roam around the campus, on the pretext of sports practice.

So, while we were struggling to keep pace with the new normal, we were looking for new reasons that would bail us out in the altered work situations, without much ado. Old habits die hard and the fresh crop of excuses was quickly taking shape. They were equally interesting as the earlier ones.

'Network is not working', 'server is down', 'called you many times but could not connect', 'don't have a laptop'. And yet again, somebody comes up with a masterpiece saying, 'My wife sat on the mobile, that's why I couldn't hear your call.'

### Budget for vitality

The implications of the economic crisis in 2020 have put the Budget session in the spotlight. While many wait to see economic recovery and defence expenditure, a major chunk anticipates the allocation of funds in the health sector. In the past, the public spending in the health sector covered around 1% of the GDP. Coronavirus taught the country the impeccable and ardent necessity to skillfully improve the standards of the health sector. It's high time the government focuses on healthcare.

ANKITA SHARMA, PANCHKULA

### Can't bargain now

Refer to 'Free protesters before talks: Unions'; following Republic Day violence, the tables have turned upside down. Farmers' leaders are putting up a brave face and are desperate for a face-saving resolution, even as the Centre is going hammer and tongs against the protesters by registering FIRs. As the farmers have abjectly lost bargaining power, it is a distant possibility to expect any more concessions from the government. Malicious campaign against farm leaders is abuzz in social media. The PM has assured that the government is ready for a dialogue, however it ought to walk the talk.

DEEPAK SINGHAL, NOIDA

### Set own house in order

Apropos of 'India offering solutions to world's problems', the PM says India has solutions to problems faced by the world; ironically, the country cannot sort out its own issues. Farmers are agitating, but no tangible solution is in sight. If MSP is given legal protection, India can show the way to the world regarding addressing farmers' concerns. If we can't find solutions that are acceptable to our aggrieved population, we must not make boastful claims. Don't empower farmers by making them traders or exporters, but give them an assured price for their produce.

Can the government thrust arbitrary laws on industrialists, transporters and traders? Why should farmers adopt a particular way of earning which they don't want to?

CAPT AMAR JEET (RETD), BY MAIL

### PM removed from reality

Refer to the ongoing farmers' protest, while the PM bats for reforms and reaffirms his commitment to modernising the farming sector, he showed his disdain by saying that the nation is pained by the Tricolour insult! He is disconnected because the reported insult to the flag was not the intent of the farmers, who, in fact, had been carrying it honourably atop their vehicles. Still,

he is just a call away to talk with the farmers. To talk what?

BALVINDER, BY MAIL

### Country first

Apropos of 'Nation saddened by Tricolour insult', the farmers and various political parties must introspect how anti-national forces were able to embarrass the entire country. The episode lays bare the lack of intelligence inputs. Both sides must try hard to restore the country's glory.

RS KISHTWARA, PALAMPUR

### Restore Net services

Since January 26, the Haryana Government has suspended mobile Internet services. On the one hand, the ruling dispensation boasts of digital India, and on the other, it is denying Internet services to the common man. No doubt for security reasons this service can be suspended, but not for a long period, as in the age of information technology,

Internet services are essential for life like water and air. Without it, many sections of society are suffering, like students, employees working from home, online business, online payments, etc. It is a kind of partial lockdown that is adversely affecting the life of people.

VINAY K MALHOTRA, AMBALA CANTT

### Govt-farmer synergy

We all have social responsibilities. Teachers teach as per the syllabus, soldiers fight for the country, civil servants work as per government guidelines. We all work for the nation. Similarly, the government can tell the farmers to grow the crops which are most needed. Sometimes, the government has to import pulses and onions, and export wheat and rice. Rotting of crops is common in godowns. What apathy really! The government can guide and tell farmers to grow the required crops to be purchased at a pre-set fixed price, restoring the concept of MSP. If farmers are responsible to farmers, the government is also responsible for them.

NPS SOHAL, CHANDIGARH

### Fake degrees

It is unfortunate that fake degrees were issued to more than 36,000 persons (*The Tribune*, Jan 31) by MBU, Solan. This is the worst form of corruption as some persons throughout the year have done serious study and hard labour to gain knowledge and degree, as opposed to these thousands of youths without any hard work and knowledge have managed a degree. A thorough inquiry should be carried out through the CBI and the culprits must be prosecuted.

SHANKAR CHATTERJEE, HYDERABAD

# Catering to a pandemic-battered economy



SUSHMA RAMACHANDRAN

SENIOR FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

direct transfers into bank accounts of the poorest of the poor through the well-organised digital banking systems that are in place now for quite some time. This has been a plea made by many economists and observers ever since the lockdown in March.

The arguments against this proposal have been on the grounds of insufficient resources and also the assumption that this would not translate into higher consumption since such bank accounts have remained intact over this period. But this is largely due to the insecurity of the account holders, many of whom have lost livelihoods over this period and are facing perilous times. Besides, this would have been an immediate support to millions, while the rest of the proposals are likely to have medium — or long-term outcomes.

The two most welcome areas of the Budget proposals, however, are the hike in spending on infrastructure and the expansion of investments on health and well-being. Infrastructure spending will give the push in 2021-22 that is needed to achieve the target of 11.5 per cent growth.

As far as health is concerned, it is a relief that the infirmities of this sector revealed during the Covid crisis have been sought to be removed as soon as possible. The 137 per cent increase in health expenditure should hopefully raise the existing dismal level of 1.5 per cent of GDP on this sector.

It must be stressed that this kind of upgrade needs to be matched by state governments as health is a state subject. Its neglect is mainly due to the fact that



WELCOME PROPOSALS: Spending on infrastructure and health has seen a hike. PTI

healthcare is simply not a political issue during elections and is thus sidelined till a medical tragedy hits the headlines.

In the banking arena, a series of major reforms has been announced, giving the stock markets another reason to cheer. First, the creation of an asset reconstruction and management company is an idea whose time has finally come. The need for a bad bank to handle stressed assets has been discussed for quite some time, given the growing burden of NPAs on the banking sector after the pandemic.

Second, the setting up of a new development finance institution is now on the cards. There are those

who feel this is a concept that has not worked in the past. But much depends on implementation of the plan to set up the institution.

Third is the capital infusion of Rs 20,000 crore in the banking sector which may not be enough but is adequate in these Covid-straitened times. And finally, there is a move to privatise two public sector banks and one insurance company which gives a hint for future movement in this direction. It looks as if there is finally an acceptance that some inefficient elements of the public sector banking industry may have to be privatised.

The other much-awaited reform is in the same area of public sector disinvestment. The Budget proposals lay down a clear roadmap for disinvestment in the next fiscal as well as detailed plans for monetisation of public sector assets. These include toll roads and gas pipelines. The amount sought to be raised through disinvestment is a huge Rs 1.75 lakh crore.

But one will have to wait for the actual implementation as big disinvestment targets have been set for the past few years, but none of these have been achieved. At least this year, advantage should be taken of the bullish market trends to offload equity in several blue chip companies while moving ahead

quickly to sell loss-making entities.

In the backdrop of the farmers' protests, the Finance Minister did not lose an opportunity to highlight the enormous amounts being shelled out to the agricultural community on account of the minimum support prices on wheat, paddy, pulses and cotton.

She also made a commitment to upgrade the development of the mandi infrastructure by utilising a Rs 1 lakh crore infrastructure fund for this purpose. Whether this is sufficient to appease farmers who feel the mandi system is being threatened by the new farm laws is yet to be seen.

As for the fiscal deficit, much debate over the past 10 months has been over the government's reluctance to raise spending and allow the deficit to widen as these are extraordinary times. Comparisons have also been made with other countries which have had large deficits owing to the Covid crisis.

Ultimately, it is abundantly clear that the government has been listening to these discussions. The fiscal deficit for 2019-20 is at 9.5 per cent while the projected deficit for 2020-21 is 6.8 per cent. This is a far cry from the deficit of 3.5 per cent projected originally for the current fiscal.

It is clear that a huge leap is being made to revive the economy by a massive spending surge. With revenues at the lowest ebb in 2019-20, this is the boldest move so far since the pandemic began to rage in March last year. The Budget proposals may thus not be the best in all respects but are possibly the most efficient that could be conjured up in these worst of times.

**UNION BUDGET 2021-22**

**T**HIS may not be the best-ever Budget, but it is certainly tailored to meet the needs of a pandemic-battered economy. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has not pulled rabbits out of a hat, but framed a workmanlike product with broad strokes to push the country on the road to recovery. The big-bang areas are the rise of 34.5 per cent in capital expenditure, the steep boost in health spending, the clear-cut moves towards privatisation of the public

sector, raising foreign equity limits in insurance and a spate of banking reforms — all this without raising taxes, barring a cess for agriculture infrastructure and development. It goes straight on to petrol and diesel, but consumers are spared by a matching cut in other petroleum tariffs.

The big disappointment is on one front. The Finance Minister could have taken the opportunity to make

connections with the international community, particularly India, to ensure that the world recognises the challenges faced by the Indian economy and the steps being taken to address them. This would have helped in securing better terms for India's trade negotiations with the World Trade Organization.

Overall, the Budget is a positive step forward, though it could have been more ambitious in its approach to addressing the long-term challenges facing the Indian economy.

— Sushma Ramachandran



MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RETD)

MILITARY COMMENTATOR

The Myanmar Constitution does not give the army chief the right to stage a coup. Article 40C grants sovereign power to the army chief during an emergency. But only the President can declare an emergency after consulting the National Defence Security Council. It also provides the military permanent representation in parliament without being elected. Clearly, General Hlaing has violated the Constitution, without scrapping it.

**A**FTER the military's flip-flop on a takeover, Commander-in-Chief (C-in-C) and five-star Senior General Aung Hlaing declared a state of emergency for one year to 'restore the Union' on February 1, the day the new parliament was to convene.

Rumours and speculation late last month of a 'threatened coup' did not suddenly erupt in Myanmar, which has been under direct military rule for 49 years (1962 to 2011) and indirect rule since 2011. Tanks and armoured personnel carriers appeared on the streets in Yangon and roads to the new capital, Naypyidaw, were blocked.

The bone of contention is the alleged fraud during the elections on November 8 last year in which the ruling National League for Democracy (NLD) scored a landslide victory and the military-backed Union Solidarity Democratic Party (USDP) was humbled. The NLD won 396 of the 476 elected seats in the two Houses of parliament while the USDP won just 33 seats.

As many as 25 per cent of the seats (166) are reserved for the military in both Houses. The electoral victory does not change the balance of power, weighted heavily in favour of the military.

The military put out a statement that the C-in-C is in power for the duration of the emergency and Vice-President Myint Swe has been elevated as Acting President while detaining President Win Myint and NLD's Aung San Suu Kyi. It attributed the emergency to the government and the Union Election Commission failing to clarify 10 million voting irregularities.

It justified its actions under Sections 417 and 418 of the constitution. All TV channels, phone lines and internet



TRIGGER: Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy had defeated the military-backed USDP in the November 2020 elections. REUTERS

connections were cut.

The US and other countries, besides the UN, have criticised attempts to alter the outcome of the elections and impede the democratic process. India has expressed 'deep concern' over the coup and the detention of top political leaders, and said the rule of law and the democratic process must be upheld in Myanmar. The last coup occurred in 1988 when Suu Kyi won the elections with a massive majority.

The military gave mixed hints of its intentions of a takeover. Last February, Aung San Suu Kyi attempted to change the 2008 military-drafted Constitution, but failed as she could not get the numbers.

Senior General Hlaing, whose term expires in three months, has been hobnobbing with political opposition leaders and he has even expressed political ambitions to be vice-president, making him the first General to do so openly.

A combination of these factors had led to the coup threat being taken seriously, though Suu Kyi did not react to military utterances. Charges of political misconduct have been made against President Win Myint, Aung San Suu Kyi and Union Election Commissioner U Hla Thein. The Election Commission was asked to explain before February 1 (postponed to February 2 due to the coup rumours) when parliament was to open.

Rewind to January 26. Military spokesperson Maj Gen Zaw Min Tun told the *Military True News Agency* that he could neither deny nor confirm that Tatmadaw (military) would seize power, adding: 'what we can say is we will follow existing laws and the constitution.' The next day, Senior Gen Hlaing said: 'Revoking 2008 constitution could be necessary under certain circumstances.' His remarks created a storm in dozens of countries and UN Secretary General Antonio

Guterrez asked the military 'to adhere to democratic norms.'

On January 30, the military released a statement that General Hlaing had been misunderstood: Tatmadaw will abide by the current Constitution and will perform within the law by defending it. The international community, Myanmarese and State Sangha Mahanayaka resumed breathing normally even as Suu Kyi called it 'a suitable explanation.'

The electoral row goes back to early November when General Hlaing accused the government of unacceptable mistakes in the management of elections and 'as guardian of country, military was watching preparations closely.' He accused UEC Thein of mishandling the elections as he had expected free and fair polling.

The President's office reported that the military chief's remarks violated law under Article 26 (A) which calls for the military to be free from politics. A stinging rebuke followed when the military warned the President of impeachment which was rejected by his office.

On November 8, while casting his vote though, General Hlaing declared that the military would accept the voting as it is. It is reported that on January 12, General Hlaing even complained to visiting Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and on January 20, asked the UEC to provide proof that the elections were free. This ultimatum and proof of fairness of elections had to be provided before the parliament inauguration.

So why did the military renege on its chief's words on January 26 and then have to eat its words again, saying: 'Gen Hlaing was misunderstood?'

Myanmar has been under absolute military rule since General Ne Win's coup in 1962. The 1974 Constitution

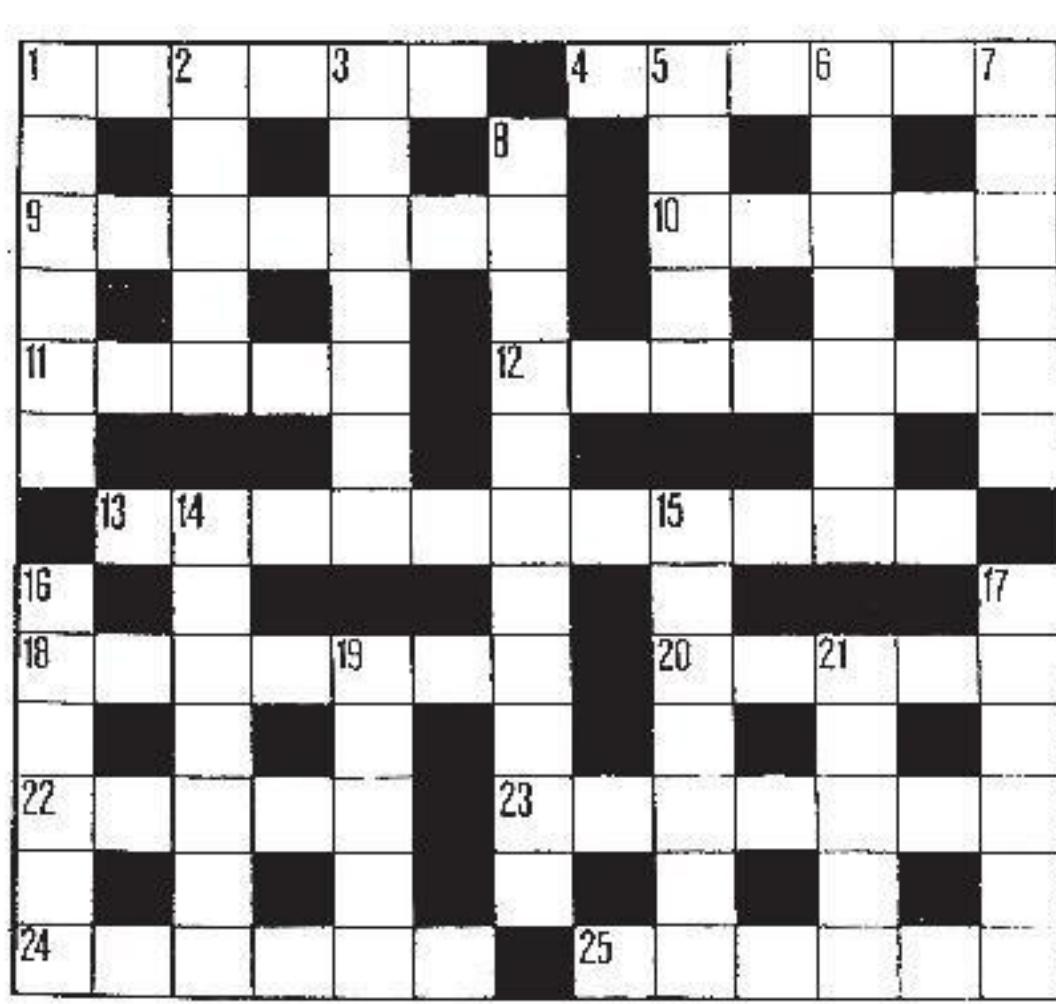
was scrapped in 1988 after a massive win for the NLD. Besides political reservation for the military, it enjoys ownership of internal, defence and border affairs ministries. It controls the wealth of the nation and the clergy and is the final arbiter in Myanmar despite the Army Chief figuring fifth in the warrant of precedence. The NLD's attempt to tinker with the constitution failed as the Constitution is impeccably change-proof.

Analysts in Yangon are mulling over the army chief's flip-flop and then the coup. The comments on a military takeover made by Major General Tun were not off the cuff even though the Constitution provides the military with more powers and privileges than are guaranteed to any other military in the world. But the Constitution does not give the army chief the right to stage a coup. Article 40C grants sovereign power to the army chief during an emergency. But only the President can declare an emergency after consulting the National Defence Security Council (Chapter 11 of the Constitution). It also provides the military permanent representation in parliament without being elected.

Clearly, General Hlaing has violated the Constitution, without scrapping it. His political ambition, no doubt backed by China, has undermined Myanmar's national interest and will lead to the dark unknown, but definitely sanctioning of the military.

Abrogation of the Constitution is the military signing its own death warrant. During the military uprising, Suu Kyi behaved with characteristic cool, saying on January 27 that there was no problem with the Covishield vaccine donated by India. Myanmar requires a vaccine against military rule.

## QUICK CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

- 1 Slight (6)
- 4 As one pleases (2,4)
- 9 Sad (7)
- 10 Deduce (5)
- 11 Be aware of (5)
- 12 Impair efficiency of (7)
- 13 Prearranged (3,3,5)
- 18 Italian operatic composer (7)
- 20 Large marine mammal (5)
- 22 Previously unknown (5)
- 23 Carry into effect (7)
- 24 Cowardly (6)
- 25 Speaking easily and well (6)

### DOWN

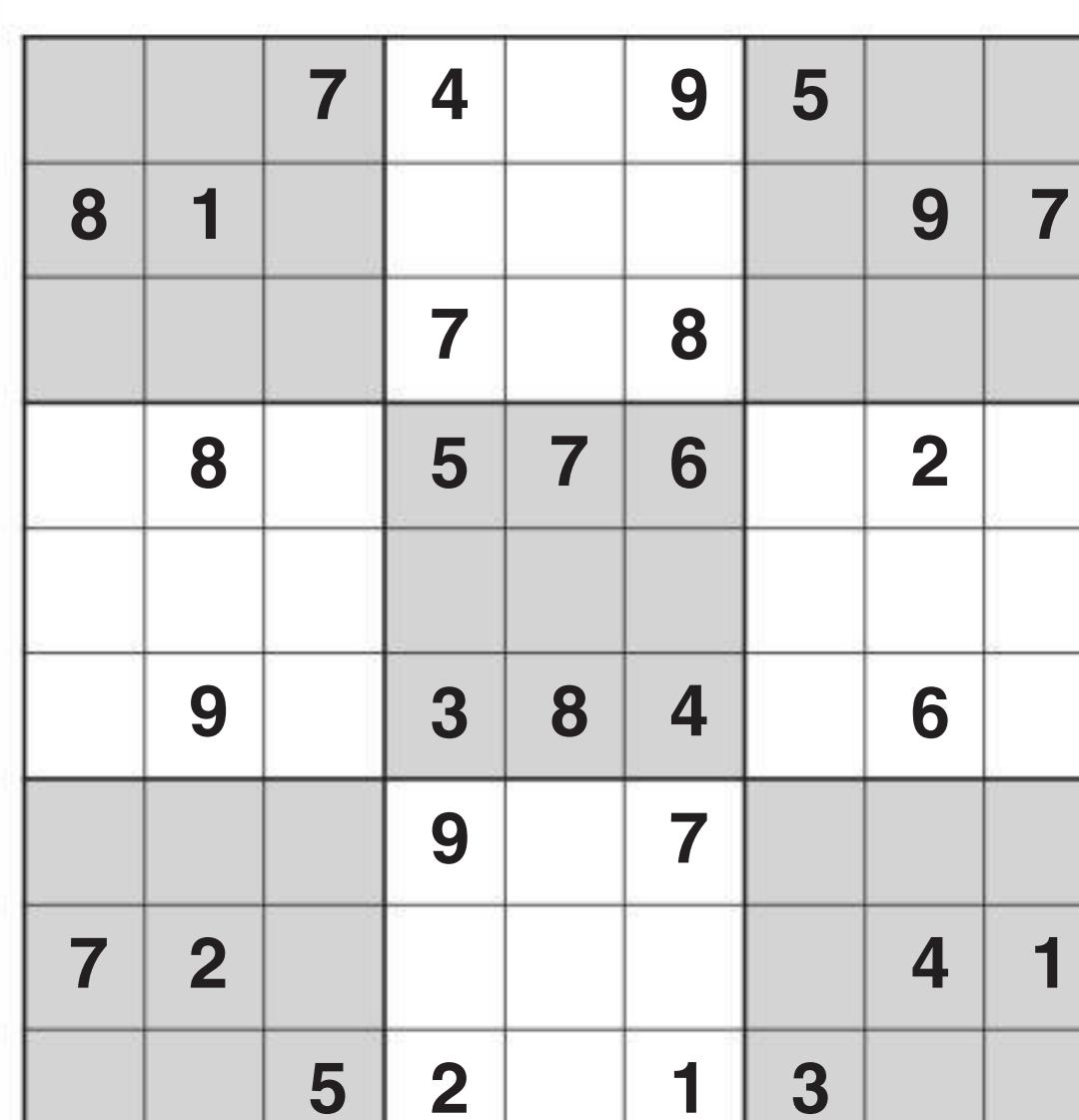
- 1 A salad vegetable (6)
- 2 Italian city (5)
- 3 Fine lustrous silken fabric (7)
- 5 Unexpected development (5)
- 6 Aggregate (7)
- 7 Pantry (6)
- 8 Harsh taskmaster (5-6)
- 14 Ill-mannered (7)
- 15 Unfair treatment (3,4)
- 16 In public (6)
- 17 A shortcoming (6)
- 19 Snow dwelling (5)
- 21 Keenly perceptive (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

Across: 1 Interim, 5 Basic, 8 Overstatement, 9 Yield, 10 Repulse, 11 Drivel, 12 Heyday, 15 Retrace, 17 Press, 19 Apple-pie order, 20 Tryst, 21 Overdue.

Down: 1 Ivory, 2 The devil to pay, 3 Residue, 4 Meagre, 5 Bleep, 6 Swelled-headed, 7 Cutlery, 11 Dormant, 13 Explode, 14 Mexico, 16 Alert, 18 Serve.

## SU DO KU



EASY

## CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2, 2021, TUESDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat	2077
■ Shaka Samvat	1942
■ Magh Shaka	13
■ Magh Parvishtha	20
■ Hijri	1442
■ Krishna Paksha Tithi 5, up to 4.20 pm	
■ Dhriti Yoga up to 3.56 am	
■ Hast Nakshatra up to 10.32 pm	
■ Moon in Virgo sign	

### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

## FORECAST

SUNSET: TUESDAY 18:00 HRS

SUNRISE: WEDNESDAY 07:13 HRS



CITY MAX MIN

Chandigarh	23	07





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**BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LTD.**  
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

O/o Pr. GMTD BSNL Jalandhar, CTO Complex, NG Road Jalandhar. Enrolment as TIPs for providing Bharat Air Fibre (High Speed Wireless Broadband) connections.

Applications are invited from interested parties to work as 'Telecom Infrastructure Providers (TIPs)' for Marketing, Provisioning and Maintenance of Bharat Air Fibre (High Speed Wireless Broadband) Connections, as partners, as per BSNL policy, in select areas on BSNL towers in Jalandhar, Kapurthala and SBS Nagar(except Balachaur tehsil) districts. Firms working as Cable TV Operators, Telecom infrastructure providers, BSNL Franchisees, Builders, Cluster Partners, BSNL DSAs, Retired BSNL / DOT employees, MSME will be eligible. Details can be had by sending an email to [ebsection.jal@gmail.com](mailto:ebsection.jal@gmail.com) or calling Mr. Tarun Soni (Mob: 9417890772) during office hours.

All rights regarding enrolling as a TIP are reserved with Pr. GMTD BSNL Jalandhar, in accordance with BSNL policy.

AGM (EB)  
O/o Pr. GMTD BSNL Jalandhar

**EX-SERVICEMEN CONTRIBUTORY HEALTH SCHEME (ECHS)**
**EMPLOYMENT NOTICE**

1. With the objective of providing medical facilities to the beneficiaries of Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) the Central Organisation ECHS, GOI, MoD New Delhi, on behalf of the President of India, through Stn HQ Udhampur (J&K), invites applications to engage following staff on contractual basis at ECHS Polyclinics Udhampur and Nagrota Gujroo (Tehsil - Ramkot), J&K for period up to 31 Mar 2022, renewable on stipulated conditions :-

- (a) **ECHS Polyclinic Type 'C' Udhampur, (J&K)**
- |                          |      |                         |      |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|
| (i) Medical Officer      | - 03 | (ii) Lab Asst           | - 01 |
| (iii) Lab Tech           | - 01 | (iv) Nursing Asst       | - 01 |
| (v) Physiotherapist      | - 01 | (vi) Pharmacist         | - 02 |
| (vii) Dental Asst        | - 01 | (viii) Female Attendant | - 01 |
| (ix) Data Entry Operator | - 01 | (x) Clerk               | - 01 |
| (xi) Safaiwala           | - 01 |                         |      |
- (b) **ECHS Polyclinics Type 'D' Nagrota Gujroo (Tehsil Ramkot), J&K**
- |                                 |      |                       |      |
|---------------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| (i) Officer Incharge Polyclinic | - 01 | (ii) Medical Officer  | - 01 |
| (iii) Lab Tech                  | - 01 | (iv) Pharmacist       | - 01 |
| (v) Clerk                       | - 01 | (vi) Female Attendant | - 01 |
| (vii) Safaiwala                 | - 01 |                       |      |

2. For terms & conditions, application form, remuneration kindly visit our website [www.echs.gov.in](http://www.echs.gov.in). For further details please contact Stn HQ ECHS Cell, Udhampur at Tele No 3026 (Mil) & 01992-243239 (Civ). Last date of receipt of application is 15 Feb 2021. Interviews will be conducted from 1000h onwards on 22 to 24 feb 2021 at ECHS Station Cell Near Krimchi More (Supply More) Udhampur (J&K). Candidates will bring original certificates/degree, photocopy of testimonials/ experience, as applicable and two passport size photographs at the time of interview.

**Haryana Staff Selection Commission**  
**Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula — 134154**  
**([www.hssc.gov.in](http://www.hssc.gov.in))**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Final Result (Remaining) for the post of PGT Mathematics (Mewat) of School Education Department, Haryana Against Advt. No. 4/2015, Cat No. 26.

Chief Secretary to Government of Haryana vide Memo No. 22/149/2015-1 GS-III dated 5th March, 2019, has informed that the State Government has decided that in respect of all advertisements where result of SBC has been put on hold due to Court Orders, the Haryana Staff Selection Commission shall treat the SBC posts to be under the Unreserved/General Category.

Therefore, in continuation of earlier notice dated 20.11.2018 and on the basis of Written Examination, Scrutiny of Documents and interview-Viva/Voce for the post of PGT Mathematics (Mewat), School Education Department, Haryana Against Advt. No. 04/2015, Category No. 26, the Commission has finalised and declared the result. The result has been shown Roll No. wise and category wise and the marks secured by the last selected candidate in each category have been shown in the bracket.

Advt. No. 04/2015, Cat. No. 26, PGT Mathematics (MWT)

(Total 54 Posts)

General (22 Posts + 02 SBC Earlier = 24 Posts)

26100195 26100439 (114)

General Waiting

26100134 26100261 (112)

**CRITERIA ADOPTED FOR SELECTION**

- 1.) WRITTEN EXAMINATION.....160-MARKS  
2.) VIVA-VOCE.....24-MARKS  
3.) EXP MARKS.....16-MARKS

TOTAL:- 200-MARKS

Note:- This result is further subject to pending litigation before any Court of Law including SLP (C) Nos. 25184-25214/2018 titled as Haryana Staff Selection Commission etc. V/s Priyanka & Others.

2. While every care has been taken in preparing and uploading the result, possibility of inadvertent/technical errors cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves the right to rectify the same later on.

3. The result is also available on the website of HSSC i.e. [www.hssc.gov.in](http://www.hssc.gov.in).

Sd/- (Secretary).

Haryana Staff Selection Commission.

Dated:- 29.01.2021

PRDH/1159/13/16/2021/1622/31/4

**HARYANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**  
**BAYS NO. 1-10, BLOCK-B, SECTOR 4, PANCHKULA**

**RESULT**

The Haryana Public Service Commission has finalized the result for recommendation of the candidates for the posts of Assistant Engineer (Civil) in Public Health Engineering Department, Haryana against Advertisement No. 5 of 2015 published on 17.11.2015 in various newspapers. The Roll Numbers shown below are, in ascending order and not in order of merit.

**Category: General (No. of posts - 12)**

13157 13180 13187 13267 13284 13326 13400 13403

13420 13545 13563

Note: One post kept vacant in lieu of LPA No. 1516 of 2017 in CWP No. 16750 of 2017.

**Category: SC of Haryana (No. of posts - 02)**  
(Only 01 candidate is available)

13228

**Category: BCA of Haryana (No. of posts - 06)**  
(Only 05 candidate is available)

13138 13183 13341 13372 13591

**Category: BCB of Haryana (No. of posts - 01)**  
(No candidate is available)

**Category: EBP (Gen.) of Haryana (No. of posts - 03)**  
(Only 01 candidate is available)

13526

**Category: ESM/DESM of Haryana (No. of Posts - 03)**  
(No Candidate is available)

**NOTE:-**

- While preparing the result, due care has been taken. However, any inadvertent error cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves its right to rectify any error at a later stage.
- As per Haryana Government instructions No. 22/10/2013-1GSII Dated 01.06.2018, the final result of the Economical Backward Persons (General Category) candidates of Haryana will be subject to the final outcome of CWP No. 18514 of 2016 and other connected writ petitions filed in Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court & Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- The above result is further subject to outcome of LPA No. 1516 of 2017 in CWP No. 16750 of 2017.
- This result is also available on Commission's website i.e. <http://hpsc.gov.in>

Sd/- Secretary

Haryana Public Commission,  
Panchkula.  
Dated: 01.02.2021

epapertribuneindia.com


**LEADER SPEAK**


It will create jobs, uplift education, improve health services, revive agriculture and strengthen infrastructure. It will lay the foundation of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.  
— DUSHYANT CHAUTALA, DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER



I thank Sitharaman for increasing the allocation to the health sector by 137 per cent. The Budget focuses on strengthening the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' plan.  
— ANIL VIJ, HEALTH MINISTER



There is nothing for protesting farmers in the Budget. The allocation for the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi has been reduced from ₹75,000 crore to ₹65,000 crore.  
— KUMARI SELJA, STATE CONGRESS CHIEF



The Centre should have said in clear terms that it was going to present a Budget in favour of capitalists so that common man would not have pinned hopes on it.  
— ABHAY CHAUTALA, INLD LEADER

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**PWD B&R BRANCH**  
**NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS**  
**TENDER NOTICE NO. 23 DATED: 01.02.2021**

On behalf of Governor of Punjab invites Executive Engineer, Construction Division No. 1, PWD B&R Br., SAS Nagar (Mohali) re-invites bid from eligible bidders enlisted under Appropriates Category & Class with Panjab PWD (B&R) for the following works:

Bid No.	Name of work	Approx. Amt.
23	CONSTRUCTION OF H.L BRIDGE 4' Span 20.00m (Normal) and 20.44m (Skew) Each Effective Span on Patiala Ki Ra Crossing Khuda Lahora Karor Road to Singh Devi Road in Distt. SAS Nagar under Head NABARD-XXV scheme	LUMP-SUM

For detailed terms and conditions of notice inviting bids, refer to website <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> w.e.f. 02.02.2021. Correspondingly, if any, will be issued on website/Office Notice Board only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
Constn. Divn. No. 1,  
PWD B&R Br., SAS Nagar.

### हरियाणा विद्यालय शिक्षा बोर्ड, भिवानी

### हरियाणा अध्यापक पात्रता परीक्षा 2020

#### सार्वजनिक सूचना

सभी संबंधित को सूचित किया जाता है कि बोर्ड कार्यालय द्वारा हरियाणा अध्यापक पात्रता परीक्षा 2020 से संबंधित IRIS Biometric Verification करवाने के लिए दिनांक 18.01.2021 से 21.01.2021 तक अवसर दिया गया था। जिन परीक्षार्थियों में यह प्रक्रिया पूर्ण नहीं करवाई गई, उन परीक्षार्थियों को अध्यापक भवन, हरियाणा विद्यालय शिक्षा बोर्ड, भिवानी में IRIS Biometric Verification पूर्ण करने का एक और अवसर दिनांक 09.02.2021 से 12.02.2021 प्रातः 9:00 बजे से सायं 05.00 बजे तक दिया जाता है। परीक्षार्थी हारा अपना एक पहचान पत्र एवं प्रमेश पत्र लेकर आना अनिवार्य है। जिन परीक्षार्थियों की बायोमैट्रिक वैरिफिकेशन होनी है, सूची बोर्ड वेबसाइट [www.bseh.org.in](http://www.bseh.org.in) पर उपलब्ध है। केवल सूची में दिए गए अनुक्रमांकों की यह प्रक्रिया पूर्ण की जानी है। सूची में वर्णित अनुक्रमांकों के पंजीकृत मोबाइल फोन पर भी संदेश भेजे गये हैं। सूची में दर्शाए गए परीक्षार्थी यदि उनकी परीक्षा यह प्रक्रिया पूर्ण नहीं करते हैं, का परीक्षा परिणाम घोषित नहीं किया जाएगा।

हस्ता.- सचिव

**Haryana Staff Selection Commission**  
**Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula — 134154**  
**([www.hssc.gov.in](http://www.hssc.gov.in))**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Final Result (Remaining) for the post of TGT Physical Education (Mewat) of School Education Department, Haryana Against Advt. No. 3/2015, Cat No. 08.

Chief Secretary to Government of Haryana vide Memo No. 22/149/2015-1 GS-III dated 5th March, 2019, has informed that the State Government has decided that in respect of all advertisements where result of SBC has been put on hold due to Court Orders, the Haryana Staff Selection Commission shall treat the SBC posts to be under the Unreserved/General Category.

Therefore, in continuation of earlier notice dated 28.11.2018 and on the basis of Written Examination, Scrutiny of Documents and interview-Viva/Voce for the post of TGT Physical Education (Mewat), School Education Department, Haryana Against Advt. No. 03/2015, Category No. 08, the Commission has finalised and declared the result. The result has been shown Roll No. wise and category wise and the marks secured by the last selected candidate in each category have been shown in the bracket.

Advt. No. 03/2015, Cat. No. 08, TGT PHYSICAL EDUCATION (MWT)

(Total 18 Posts)

General (05 Posts + 02 SBC Earlier = 07 Posts)

15380248 15380561 (Male 128)

BCA (02 Posts)

15380402 (118)

**CRITERIA ADOPTED FOR SELECTION**

- 1.) WRITTEN EXAMINATION.....160-MARKS

- 2.) VIVA-VOCE.....24-MARKS

- 3.) EXP MARKS.....16-MARKS

TOTAL:- 200-MARKS

Note:- This result is further subject to pending litigation before any Court of Law including SLP (C) Nos. 25184-25214/2018 titled as Haryana Staff Selection Commission etc. V/s Priyanka & Others.

2. While every care has been taken in preparing and uploading the result, possibility of inadvertent/technical errors cannot be ruled out. The Commission reserves the right to rectify the same later on.

3. The result is also available on the website of HSSC i.e. [www.hssc.gov.in](http://www.hssc.gov.in).

Sd/- (Secretary),

Haryana Staff Selection Commission.

Dated:- 29.01.2021

PRDH/1159/13/16/2021/1621/31/4

## Respond to PIL on data protection: SC to WhatsApp

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1  
The Supreme Court on Monday asked WhatsApp to respond to a PIL seeking a direction to the RBI and the National Payments Corpora-

tion of India (NPCI) to ensure that data collected on Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platforms wasn't shared with their parent companies or third parties.

If WhatsApp doesn't respond, the averment made in the petition by petitioner Rajya Sabha MP Binoy Viswam would be taken as accepted, a Bench headed by Chief Justice

of India SA Bobde said.  
The RBI has already responded that it had no responsibility to conduct an audit of members of UPI ecosystem. — TNS

## Govt expects ₹18,000 crore investment in electronics

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1  
The government has set the target of around Rs 18,000 crore investment in the electronics manufacturing segment by 2021-22. The Finance Ministry has allocated Rs 2,631.32 crore for various schemes to boost electronic manufacturing in the country, including the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (MSIPS), Electronics Manufacturing Cluster (EMC)

₹1,000-crore target set for mobile firms under PLI scheme

scheme and electronic development fund.

The government has set a target of "incremental investment by mobile companies and electronics manufacturing units approved under the PLI scheme" of Rs 1,000 crore and expects one lakh people to be employed by the approved companies till FY 2021-22. A sales target of Rs 10,000 crore for mobile sector PLI companies has been set for 2021-22 alone.

Separately, the government has set a target to get capital investment of Rs 5,000 crore from electronics manufacturing companies that have qualified for MSIPS and create employment for 25,000 people in the next fiscal. — PTI



### BOLLYWOOD FACILITATION CELL

#### Promoting Cinematic Tourism



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To download the permission form, undertaking & SOP's, visit :- [www.chandigarhtourism.gov.in](http://www.chandigarhtourism.gov.in)

Duly filled up form, undertaking and a copy of valid identity proof of the application may be submitted in any of the following ways:

May send the email on: [chdfilmfacilitation@gmail.com](mailto:chdfilmfacilitation@gmail.com)  
or

May Whatsapp on +91 98721-30001  
or

May be dropped in the drop box (Bollywood Facilitation Cell) placed near the entry gate at Paryavaran Bhawan, Sector 19-B, Madhya Marg, Chandigarh between 09:00 a.m. to 05:00 p.m. (Monday to Friday) except Gazetted Holidays.

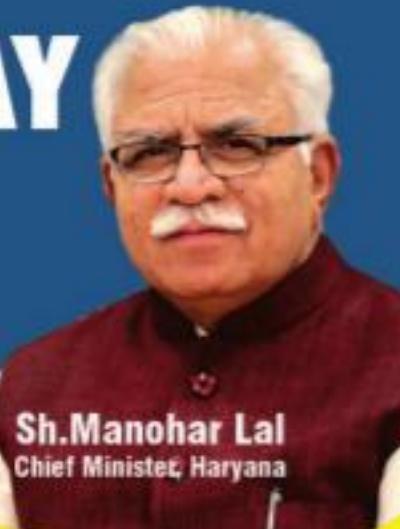
For any queries/grievances, please contact Director Tourism, Chandigarh Administration on 0172-2743860 or email [sspersonnelut@gmail.com](mailto:sspersonnelut@gmail.com)

TOLL FREE HELPLINE NO. 1800 180 2116



## WORLD WETLANDS DAY

2 February, 2021



Sh. Manohar Lal  
Chief Minister, Haryana

## Wetlands are hidden treasure Let us join hands to conserve them



Inseparable co-existence of fresh water and saline Wetlands are vital to life and nature. These are important to our social and economic development.



## Environment & Climate Change Department, Haryana

SCO 1-3, Sector-17D, Chandigarh. Telephone : 0172-2701628, 2709462

Website: [www.harenvironment.gov.in](http://www.harenvironment.gov.in) | e-Mail ID: [environment@hry.nic.in](mailto:environment@hry.nic.in)



## स्वर्णिम हिमाचल शिखर की ओर

### जनमंच से हो रहा जन समस्याओं का मौके पर समाधान

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पोर्टल पर सुशाश्वत दीजिए और

प्रदेश के विकास में भागीदार बनिए [www.himachal.mygov.in](http://www.himachal.mygov.in)

#### युवाओं को स्वरोज़गार व रोज़गार

मुख्यमंत्री स्वाक्षरण योजना के अंतर्गत युवाओं को मिल रही उद्योग लगाने के लिए 25 प्रतिशत और महिलाओं को 30 प्रतिशत सविस्तरी

#### हिमाचल गृहिणी सुविधा तथा उज्ज्वला योजना

सभी पात्र परिवारों को मुफ्त गैस कनेक्शन देकर प्रदेश ने रचा इतिहास, हर घर को मिली धुएँ से लिजात

#### सामाजिक सुरक्षा से बढ़ा सम्मान

विना आय सीमा वृद्धावस्था पेंशन की आय सीमा को 80 वर्ष से 70 वर्ष किया। 5.69 लाख पात्र व्यक्तियों को मिल रही सामाजिक सुरक्षा पेंशन

#### सहारा योजना

गजबीर बीमारी से पीड़ित लोगों के लिए संजीवनी बनी सहारा योजना प्रतिमाह 2000 रुपये सहायता राशि को बढ़ाकर प्रतिमाह 3000 किया

#### मुख्यमंत्री सेवा संकल्प हेल्पलाइन 1100

समस्याओं के शीघ्र समाधान के लिए मुख्यमंत्री सेवा संकल्प हेल्पलाइन 1100 पर कॉल करें

#### नशे के खिलाफ अभियान

आइये एकजुट हो जाएं देवभूमि को नशे से बचाएं



## KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA NO. 4, MAMUN CANTT., PATHANKOT

Applications are invited at Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 4, Mamun Cantt., Pathankot on prescribed Proforma available on [kv4pathankot.org](http://kv4pathankot.org) for the Preparation of Panel of Teachers on Purely PART-TIME CONTRACTUAL BASIS against likely vacancies for the session 2021-22. The last date for receipt of applications is 28.02.2021 till 2.00 by Hand OR by Post. For further details please visit [www.no4pathankot.kvs.ac.in](http://www.no4pathankot.kvs.ac.in)

DI-19472 Principal

### PUNJAB RURAL WATER & SANITATION SECTOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT WORLD BANK FUNDED

#### Request for Quotation through Shopping Procedure

1. The Chairman, GPSCs invites bids (to be submitted in the e-Procurement Portal) for the construction of following works:

Sr. No.	Name of works	i) Amount	ii) EMD	Availability of bidding documents on website from	Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bid
1.	Improved Access to water through household connections in Existing Water Supply Village i) Rs. 7.34 Lac ii) Rs. 14700/- Under PRWSSIP 2A(ii)	Rs. 7.34 Lac	Rs. 14700/-	03.02.2021 at 10:00 a.m.	16.02.2021 17:00 Hour	17.02.2021 11:30 Hour
2.	Improved Access to water through household connections in Existing Water Supply Village Dug i) Rs. 6.22 Lac ii) Rs. 12500/- & Toor Block Chogawan, and District Amritsar. Under PRWSSIP 2A(ii)	Rs. 6.22 Lac	Rs. 12500/-	03.02.2021 at 10:00 a.m.	16.02.2021 17:00 Hour	17.02.2021 12:00 Hour
3.	Improved Access to water through household connections in Existing Water Supply Village ii) Rs. 15000/- Kakkar, Block Chogawan, and District Amritsar. Under PRWSSIP 2A(ii)	Rs. 7.47 Lac	Rs. 15000/-	03.02.2021 at 10:00 a.m.	16.02.2021 17:00 Hour	17.02.2021 12:30 Hour

2. Detailed invitation for Bid which includes instructions for submission of bids and all other relevant information is available on <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>. Bidding Documents are also available online at this website for downloading.

3. Bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in the bidding documents. Interested bidders may participate in the bidding process as per instructions given in the bidding documents. Corrigendum/Amendment shall be published in the above said website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
W/S & S Div-1, Amritsar.  
Telephone: 0183-2530413  
e-mail: [xenrws\\_1asr@yahoo.com](mailto:xenrws_1asr@yahoo.com)

DPR/Pb/1203

### ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL, DAGSHAI-173210 DISTT-SOLAN (H.P) Ph No. 01792-266651, 266147 E-mail - [apsdagshai86@gmail.com](mailto:apsdagshai86@gmail.com)

1. Army Public School, Dagshai (A Co-educational, Residential, English Medium, CBSE Affiliated Sr Sec School of Repute and a Member of IPSC) requires the following staff against existing/anticipated vacancies on Fixed Term basis/Adhoc for the academic session 2021-22.

Sr. No.	Name of post	Vacancy	Educational Qualifications
(a)	PGT Mathematics	01	M.A/M Sc (Mathematics) and B.Ed with minimum 50% marks.
(b)	TGT Science	01	B.Sc & B.Ed with minimum 50% marks from a recognized university. CTET/TET qualified with 60% marks. Should have passed Online Screening Exam conducted by AWES and should be in possession of a valid Score card.
(c)	TGT Social Science	01	BA & B.Ed with minimum 50% marks from a recognized university. MA History will be given preference. CTET/TET qualified with 60% marks. Should have passed Online Screening Exam conducted by AWES and should be in possession of a valid Score card.
(d)	TGT Political Science	01	MA (Political Science) & B.Ed with minimum 50% marks in each from a recognized university. CTET/TET qualified with 60% marks. Should have passed Online Screening Exam conducted by AWES and should be in possession of a valid Score card.
(e)	TGT Special Educator	01	Graduation with B.Ed (Special Education) or B.Ed General with one year Diploma in Special Education
(f)	TGT Computer Science	01	B.Tech in Computer Science/B.Sc. in Computer Science/B.Sc with one year Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Science from University or recognized institutions.
(g)	TGT Music	01	MA (Music - Vocal) with minimum 50% marks preferably with knowledge of instrumental.
(h)	TGT Dance	01	MA (Indian Classical Dance) from a recognized university.
(i)	Matron	01	Graduate, fluent in English and proficiency in games. Administrative desirable.
(k)	Resident Nurse (Paramedics)	01	10+2 and diploma in nursing with minimum five years of experience. A female Paramedic should be given preference.
(l)	Warden	02	Graduate, fluent in English & proficiency in games. Administrative desirable. Preference will be given to NIS candidate.
(m)	Accountant	01	* Commerce Graduate or fifteen years' service as a clerk in Defence Services. * Basic Computer Application Course of Army/Diploma in Computer Application of not less than one-year duration. Knowledge of double entry system of accounting, excel sheet and accounting software. * Minimum 5 years experience as an Accounts Clerk in Defence Service/reputed organization.
(n)	LDC/LDC (Accts)	02	* Graduate or ten years of service as a Clerk (for Ex-servicemen). Computer literate. * Knowledge of Computer MS Office (Speed 12000 key depression per hour). * Basic knowledge of accounting.

Note - Ser No. 1 (j) to (n) - Preference would be given to ex-servicemen.

2. Pay & Allowances. As per school rules + accommodation, electricity & water in the school campus at highly subsidized rates. Free Messing for self (except for office staff) and free education to two wards till in service only.

3. Last date for receipt of application form: within 15 days of publishing of this advertisement.

4. Fresh candidates below the age of 40 years and experienced candidates (minimum 05 years of teaching experience in the last 10 years) below the age of 57 years (including Ex-service personnel).

5. Please apply on format given on school's website ([www.apsdagshai.org](http://www.apsdagshai.org)) along with copies of certificates and processing fee in demand draft of Rs.100/- in favour of "Principal APS Dagshai" payable at Solan is required to be submitted to school office by hand/registered post. Incomplete application and not as per format, will not be considered.

6. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview by e-mail/ telephonically, intimating the date and time of interview.

7. Fluency in English and computer literacy are mandatory.

Principal

### Himachal Pradesh Forest Department

#### Tender Notice e- Procurement Notice INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Dated 2021.

1. The Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nalagarh Forest Division, Nalagarh, Distt. Solan, H.P. on behalf of Governor of HP invites online bids on item rate, in e-tendering system, in 2 cover system for the under mentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms.

Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender
1	Construction of Water Harvesting Structure at DPF Mamla in Kot Kahi Beat of Ramsheher Block of Ramsheher Forest Range of Nalagarh Forest Division (H.P.)	Rs. 3,65,106/- As Per HPSR 2009	8,000/-	500/-

Time Allowed: One Month

2. Availability of bid document and mode of submission: The Bid Document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website <http://hptenders.gov.in>. Bidder would be required to register in the website, which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder required to have digital signature certificate from one of the authorized certifying Authorities.

3. Key Dates:-

Sr. No.	Activity	Date & Time
I	Date of online publication	From 30.01.2021 at 5:00 p.m.
II	Downloading of e-tender Document	From 30.01.21, 5:00 p.m. to 07.02.21 up to 5:00 p.m.
III	Date of submission of e-tendering	From 30.01.2021, 5:00 p.m. to 07.02.2021 up to 5:00 p.m.
IV	Physical submission of cover & documents	Up to 05:00 p.m. on 08.02.2021
V	Date of Bid opening	11:30 a.m. on 09.02.2021

4. Tender Details:-

The e-tender documents shall be uploaded online in 2 (two) covers:-

i) Cover-1 shall contain scanned copies of "Eligibility document/Eligible information".

ii) Cover-2 shall contain "BOQ/Financial Bid" where contractors will quote his offer for each item.

5. Cover-1 shall contain Scanned copies of following "eligibility information" (Scanned copies to be uploaded).

i) The earnest money only in the shape of small saving instruments, or fixed deposit (FDR), duly pledged in favour of Dy. Conservator of Forests, Nalagarh.

ii) The cost of tender form only in the shape of demand draft only in favour of Dy. Conservator of Forests, Nalagarh.

iii) Certificate of registration with HPPWD/CPWD in appropriate class and discipline.

iv) Latest Income Tax certificate/ITR thereof.

v) Work done certificate of competent authority.

vi) Copy of EPF.

vii) Copy of GST.

6. Cover-2 shall contain BOQ where contractor will quote his offer for each item.

7. The tenders of the contractors/firms who fails to fulfill the eligibility information (as per Cover-I) will be summarily rejected.

8. Submission of original document:- The bidders are required to submit:

i) Original demand draft towards the cost of bid document.

ii) Original bid security/EMD in the favour of Dy. Conservator of Forests, Nalagarh Forest Division and other technical document as mentioned in point No. 5, in the O/o Dy. Conservator of Forest, Nalagarh, Distt. Solan (HP) as specified in key dates as mentioned in point No 3, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.

9. Bid opening Details: The bids shall be opened 09.02.2021 in the O/o Dy. Conservator of Forest, Nalagarh Forest Division, Distt. Solan (HP) by the authorized officer. In their own interest the bidder(s) are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders.

10. If it happens to be holiday on the date of opening of bid as specified, the bid will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue and no separate notice will be given in this regards.

11. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 20 days after the dead line for bid submission.

12. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The Office inviting tenders shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even through the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the employers shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidder's responsibility to verify the website for the information related to the tender.

13. The competent authority on behalf of Governor of HP reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason.

14. Registration of HP Sales Tax/GST is essential: Other details can be seen in Bid document.

Dy. Conservator of Forests,  
Nalagarh Forest Division, Nalagarh,  
Distt. Solan, (HP).



### LEADER SPEAK



The Budget shows India as a modern and independent country in which everyone will be provided opportunities of development and growth. The youth will get employment and self-employment opportunities.

— JAI RAM THAKUR, CHIEF MINISTER



Himachal has been totally ignored even in the Railway Budget, as there is no provision for the expansion of the rail network in the state. It is totally directionless with no mention of means to generate job avenues.

— VIRBHADRA SINGH, FORMER CHIEF MINISTER



The Budget is a step towards self-reliant India. The increase in the health Budget is an indication of government's concern for the health sector and people of the country.

The allocation of ₹75,000 crore for the agriculture sector will help farmers.

— PK DHUMAL, FORMER CHIEF MINISTER



The Budget is historic as it caters all sections of society. The government is committed to the welfare of farmers and a provision has been made to give 150 % of the cost as the MSP for agriculture produce.

— SURESH KASHYAP, STATE BJP CHIEF

# Budget inclusive, to benefit all: CM

Says will ensure infrastructure development

### UNION BUDGET 2021-22

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, FEBRUARY 1

Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur today termed the Union Budget as all inclusive and ambitious but disappointment was evident considering that the state was expecting more with Anurag Thakur being the Union Minister of State for Finance.

The Chief Minister said the Budget is inclusive, complete and ambitious even during the pandemic. He said the Budget rests on six pillars, which are health and well-being, physical and financial capital and infrastructure, inclusive development for aspirational India,

reinvigorating human capital, innovation and research and development and minimum government and maximum governance.

"All sectors in Himachal will be benefited for which allocations have been made. It is not possible to name benefits extended to a state name wise," he said when asked about schemes specific to the hill state.

### Caters to all sections of society, says BJP

SHIMLA, FEBRUARY 1

# Gas pipeline for J&K, varsity for Ladakh

Allocations to two UTs to help bridge internal resources gap

## UNION BUDGET 2021-22

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

With having far-reaching ramifications, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman today announced a gas pipeline project for Jammu & Kashmir and a Central University in Ladakh, as the two newly carved-out Union territories (UTs) have received unchanged allocations of Rs 30,757 crore and Rs 5,958 crore, respectively, for financial year 2021-2022.

In her Budget speech, the Finance Minister said, "Our government has kept fuel supplies running across the country without interruption even during the Covid-19 lockdown period."

Noting that the govern-



**CRUCIAL NATURE OF ENERGY SECTOR**

“The government understands the crucial nature of the energy sector in people's lives. I announce a gas pipeline project in J&K. For accessible higher education in Ladakh, I propose to set up a Central University in Leh. Nirmala Sitharaman, UNION FINANCE MINISTER

ment understands the “crucial nature” of the energy sector in people's lives, Sitharaman said she was announcing a gas pipeline project in the UT of J&K, which would be taken up

this year. Experts believe that the project will have a far-reaching impact on environment-sensitive Himalayan territory and lives of people. Once the

project is implemented and gas is provided, wood burning in households would become a matter of past, they added.

Intending to provide accessibility to higher education in Ladakh, which has a very difficult terrain and also has borders with China, Sitharaman has proposed that the UT will have a Central University in Leh. “For accessible higher education in Ladakh, I propose to set up a Central University in Leh,” said Sitharaman while presenting the Budget in Parliament.

The budgetary allocations to the two UTs in the form of Central assistance are broadly meant to help them meet their own internal resource gap. This will also have provisions for payment of subsidy for operating helicopter services in the administrations' effort to provide connectivity to remote areas.

# Reserved seats for DDC chiefs allotted

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

The Election Commission of J&K today notified reservation of seats for SC, ST and women chairpersons to the maiden District Development Councils (DDCs).

Sources said the decision was taken and notified after overruling objections in this regard, which were considered devoid of merit. “It was found that none of the objections/representation so received had any merit. No infirmity, leave alone irregularity, was brought out in the draft notification for reservation.

J&K Election Commission

objections in this regard.

Accordingly, the SEC has allotted the reserved seats of DDC chairpersons to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women in J&K in terms of the provisions of the J&K DDC (Reservation of Offices of Chairpersons) Rules 2021 and subject to the outcome of any writ petition in the J&K High Court in this regard, the order said.

The results of the maiden DDC elections were announced on December 22, following which the J&K State Election Commission (SEC) notified draft reservation for the said posts under the J&K DDC (Reservation of Offices of Chairpersons) Rules 2021 and also invited

## NO MERIT IN OBJECTIONS

“It was found that none of the objections/representation so received had any merit. No infirmity, leave alone irregularity, was brought out in the draft notification for reservation.

**BIRD FLU**  
Two Srinagar areas declared alert zones

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 1  
The authorities on Monday declared two areas of Srinagar city as alert zones after samples lifted from dead crows in these areas tested positive for H5N8 strain of avian influenza.

Officials said the samples lifted from dead crows at Athwajan and Peerbagh tested positive for H5N8 strain of bird flu as per the report from the ICAR-National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases (ICAR-NIHSAD), Bhopal.

“Now in accordance with the stipulated guidelines, a 10-km radius area around each of the said locations has been declared as alert zone,” the officials said.

They said among other measures, surveillance and sampling would be conducted in these areas to prevent the spread of the disease. — PTI

# Schools reopen in Jammu

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 1

Government and private schools reopened for Classes IX to XII on Monday in the summer zone of the Jammu region amid strict Covid-19 protocol, over 10 months after remaining closed due to the Covid pandemic.

The J&K Administration had on Friday last ordered the reopening of all government and recognised private schools for senior classes in the summer zone of the Jammu division from February 1.

Educational institutions across the Jammu region reopened on Monday amid the strict implementation of the Covid-19 standard operating



Students pray inside their classroom on the first day of their school after Covid lockdown in Jammu on Monday. PTI

procedure (SOP), officials said.

Students were enthusiastic as classes resumed in schools. “We are happy to rejoin our classes, see our teachers and friends. There were strict

SOPs. Our fever was checked and we were asked to maintain social distancing and hand and mouth hygiene,” a student of a Kendra Vidhyalya said. — PTI

## Minimum temp rises in two UTs

Srinagar, FEBRUARY 1

Light snowfall and a nightlong cloud cover on Monday resulted in improvement in the minimum temperatures in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh with the Meteorological Department forecasting inclement weather till February 4.

“The minimum temperature though continues to remain below the freezing point in the Kashmir valley and Ladakh,” an official of the Met Department said.

“Weather is likely to remain wet till February 4 although there would be further improvement in the minimum temperatures,” he added.

Extreme cold lashed the Valley on Sunday and the minimum temperature was -8.8°C in Srinagar, the lowest in last 30 years, and the maximum was only 0.6°C.

Srinagar had -3.1°C, Pahalgam -6.1°C and Gulmarg -8.2°C as the minimum temperature today.

Leh town of Ladakh had -8.5°C, Kargil -18.4°C and Drass -18.7°C as the night's lowest temperature.

Jammu city had 7.8°C, Katra 8.2°C, Batote 5°C, Banniwal 0.8°C and Bhaderwah 0.7°C as the minimum temperature. — IANS

## Pakshells LoC posts in Poonch

JAMMU, FEBRUARY 1

The Pakistan army on Monday violated the ceasefire and shelled forward posts along the LoC in Poonch district, officials said. The Indian Army retaliated befittingly, they said. “At

about 5.45 pm today, the Pakistan army initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and intense shelling with mortars in the Mankote sector,” a Defence spokesman said. — PTI

**U.P. RAJKIYA NIRMAN NIGAM LTD.**  
(ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company)  
Visheshwarai Bhawan Gomtingar, Lucknow

General Manager, (Varanasi Zone) invites on behalf of the MD, UPRNNL, online item rate /percentage rate composite bids on two bid system from eligible, registered contractors in any central or state departments of governments/government undertakings for building works. The detailed document is available on U.P. Government e-tender portal <http://www.e-tender.up.nic.in> and UPRNNL website <http://www.uprnnl.in>.

Construction of Rajkiya Allopathic Medical College, Siddiquepur at District- Jaunpur, U.P.

Sl. No. & Location	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (excluding GST)	Estimated Money	Cost of Tender	Stipulated period of completion	Last date & Time of Submission of online bid	Time & date of opening of technical bid
1.	Main Hospital Building	4885.88 Lacs	58.86 Lacs	Rs. 10,000	06 Months	Up to 5.00 PM Hrs. on date 19.02.2021	At 12.00 PM on date 20.02.2021
2.	Admin Amenities and Hostel Buildings	4540.33 Lacs	55.41 Lacs			Up to 5.00 PM Hrs. on date 22.02.2021	At 12.00 PM on date 23.02.2021
3.	Academic and Residential Buildings	4976.94 Lacs	59.77 Lacs			Up to 5.00 PM Hrs. on date 20.02.2021	At 12.00 PM on date 22.02.2021

General Manager (Varanasi Zone)

## GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY AMRITSAR

Advertisement No.01/2021

### WALK-IN-INTERVIEW

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for appointment of Sports Coaches (Past Champion Athletes) at Khelo India Centre, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar under Khelo India Scheme of Sports Authority of India (SAI), purely on contract basis. For Walk-in-Interview schedule and further details visit [www.gndu.ac.in](http://www.gndu.ac.in).

01.02.2021

REGISTRAR

## PT. B.D. SHARMA UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, ROHTAK ADMISSION NOTICE

No. UHSR/Acad/A-1/2021/1076

Dated:- 30.01.2021

Online applications are invited for Common Entrance Test for admission to B.Sc. (N), Post Basic B.Sc. (N), M.Sc. (N), NPCC, BP and Paramedical Courses in Govt./Private institutions for the session 2020-21 as per following schedule:-

Online availability of Prospectus, Online Registration and Deposition of Registration-cum-counseling fee	01.02.2021
Last date of submission of online application forms	07.02.2021 (up to 11:59 P.M.)

Note:

1. Prospectus containing eligibility conditions, list of participating institutions with No. of sanctioned seats, more information and other instructions can be seen/downloaded from website [www.uhsr.ac.in](http://www.uhsr.ac.in) and <https://uhsrcounselling.nopaperforms.com/>

Dean Academic Affairs-cum-Chairman, Admission Committee.

PRDH/1241/11/4/2021/1624/31/4

## RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

Central Vista, Sector - 17, Chandigarh - 160017

[www.rbi.org.in](http://www.rbi.org.in)

### Tender Notice

Reserve Bank of India, Chandigarh invites e-Tenders for supply of sufficient number of fully covered, closed cash vans/ closed vehicles for transportation of coins. The tendering would be done through the e-tendering portal of MSTC Ltd. (<https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprocurement/rbi>). All interested commercial firms / institutions / individuals must have registered themselves with MSTC to participate in the tendering process.

The detailed notice inviting tender is also available at <https://www.rbi.org.in>.

e-Tender Schedule	Schedule Date
e-Tender view date at MSTC website	02.02.2021 (Tuesday) onwards
Pre Bid Meeting	11.02.2021 (Thursday, 12.00 hrs)
Last date of submission of e-Tender	23.02.2021 (Tuesday, 14.00 hrs)
Date of opening Part-I	23.02.2021 (Tuesday, 16.00 hrs)

The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Chandigarh February 02, 2021

Regional Director

## RESERVE BANK OF INDIA

Central Vista, Sector - 17, Chandigarh - 160017

[www.rbi.org.in](http://www.rbi.org.in)

### Tender Notice

Reserve Bank of India, Chandigarh Regional Office invites e-Tenders under Two-Bid system (Technical & Price Bid) in Part-I & Part-II on MSTC website for Supply of Mazdoors (Labourers) from reputed and experienced Labour Contractors (with atleast 3 years' experience) for the period April 01, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

The tendering would be done through the e-tendering portal of MSTC Ltd. (<https://www.mstccommerce.com/eprocurement/rbi>). All interested commercial firms / institutions / individuals must have registered themselves with MSTC to participate in the tendering process.

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The Bank reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Chandigarh February 02, 2021

Regional Director

E-Tenders are invited on or before 15.02.2021 for Rate Contract of Security Guard and Supervisor for State Medical Institutions in Patiala and Amritsar as per terms & 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 websites referred above on regular basis. No separate advertisement shall be published in newspaper.

DPR/Pb/1214 Sd/- Director, Research and Medical Education, Punjab.

**PRESS NOTICE ON SHORT TERM BASIS FOR E-TENDERING**

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division No. II, Kullu at Bhunter invites offline tenders on short time basis on behalf of Government of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following works:-

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD Cost of Tender	Time of completion (months)	Cost of form
01	Providing LIs Pirdi in Tehsil Bhunter, Distt. Kullu H.P. (SH:- C/o Intake structure)	318080	6362	Six	250

Last date sale of tender forms:- **05.02.2021 up to 5:00 P.M.** and opened on **06.02.2021 up to 12:30 P.M.**

The tender forms/NIT and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website [www.hppih.org](http://www.hppih.org) or from office of the Executive Engineer up to date specified above.

(Er. Ravinder Kumar Sharma), Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division No. II, Kullu at Bhunter.

DPR/HP/5472 HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

**HP JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The Executive Engineer, IPH Division, Sunder Nagar invites tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following work(s) through offline process.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender Form	Time
1.	A/R & MO residential building at Sunder Nagar Distt Mandi SH Repair of store building near STP Chandpur Sunder Nagar.	282972	5660	250	3 Months
2.	Improvement of LWSS Paboo Chour Balag Tehsil Nihiri Distt Mandi SH C/O RCC storage tank 15000 liters capacity at Village Paboo BASP.	189117	3790	250	3 Months
3.	Restoration of rain damages WSS Majehli in GP Balag Tehsil Nihiri Distt Mandi SH C/O 3 Nos intake chamber at Panchyat Nallah Patog Nallah Ghu Nallah.	157274	3150	250	3 Months
4.	Restoration of rain damages to LWSS Paboo Chour Balag in GP Balag Tehsil Nihiri Distt Mandi SH C/O Retaining wall for the protection of filter bed at fist stage.	154387	3100	250	3 Months
5.	A/R & MO Scheme to Sunder Nagar Tehsil Sunder Nagar Distt Mandi SH C/O 18 Nos RCC manhole chamber in Village Kharari or existing laid pipe line.	356114	7170	250	3 Months

Last Date of Submission of Tender **11.2.2021 3:00 p.m.**  
Last Date of Sale of Tender Form **Divisional Office 10.2.2021 1:30 a.m.**  
Date of Opening of Tender **11.2.2021 3:30 p.m.**

DPR/HP-5473 HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

**OFFICE OF SUB DIVISIONAL MAGISTRATE AJNALA, DISTRICT AMRITSAR**

Corrigendum will be uploaded on [sdmofficeajnala@gmail.com](mailto:sdmofficeajnala@gmail.com) only

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is informed to general and special person through this publication that Village Chhidan Hadbast No. 333, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar in the area Gardens, Research and Education (PGIHE). The institution establishment of Post Graduate, the land to be acquired, their Khasra numbers are given as under.

Village Chhidan, Hadbast No. 333, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar

No. Khasra	Type of Land	Area K-M-S	Hectares
50/11	Chai	7-12	0.3845000
20/1	Chai	4-0	0.2024000
20/2	Chai	4-0	0.2023000
21/1	Chai	6-8	0.3237000
21/2	Chai	1-12	0.0809000
51/14/1	Chai	6-2	0.3086000
14/2	Chai	0-10	0.0253000
15/1	Chai	7-5	0.8944000
51/15/2	Chai	0-11	0.0278000
16	Chai	8-0	0.4046000
17	Chai	7-8	0.3743000
24/1	Chai	1-10	0.0759000
24/2	Chai	3-14	0.1872000
25/1	Chai	7-16	0.3946000
25/2	Chai	0-4	0.0101000
27	Chai	2-0	0.1012000
57/4	Chai	7-19	0.4022000
5/1	Chai	5-0	0.2529000
5/2	Chai	3-0	0.1518000
6/1	Chai	3-0	0.1518000
6/2	Chai	5-0	0.2530000
7	Chai	8-0	0.4046000
14/1	Chai	2-4	0.1113000
15/1	Chai	5-0	0.2529000
15/2	Chai	3-0	0.1518000
16/1/1	Chai	3-0	0.1518000
16/1/2	Chai	1-0	0.0506000
16/2	Chai 3-15 G.M. 0-5	4-0	0.2023000
17	Chai 7-15 G.M. 0-5	8-0	0.4046000
18	Chai	8-0	0.4046000
23/2/1/1	Chai	0-9	0.0228000
23/1/1/1	Chai	1-14	0.0860000
23/1/1/2	Chai	1-16	0.0911000
23/2/1/2	Chai	0-18	0.0455000
23/2/2/1	Chai	0-3	0.0075000
24/2	Chai	0-16	0.0405000
25/1	Chai	5-0	0.2530000
25/2	Chai	3-0	0.1518000
23/1/1/3	Chai	0-3	0.0075000
23/1/2	Chai	1-7	0.0683000
57/23/2/2/2	Chai	1-10	0.0759000
24/1	Chai	7-4	0.3642000
58/1	Chai	8-0	0.4047000
2	Chai	7-11	0.3819000
3	Chai	7-0	0.3541000
10	Chai	8-0	0.4047000
11	Chai	8-0	0.4047000
9/1	Chai	3-13	0.1846000
67/2/2/2	Chai	3-0	0.1518000
3/1/2	Chai	0-8	0.0202000
3/1/1	Chai	2-12	0.1315000
3/2	Chai	4-12	0.2327000
4/1	Chai	2-0	0.1012000
4/2/1	Chai	5-4	0.2630000
4/2/2	Chai	0-16	0.0405000
5	Chai	8-0	0.4047000
6/1	Chai	3-10	0.1770000
6/2	Chai	2-6	0.1163000
7/1	Chai	0-12	0.0304000
7/2	Chai	6-4	0.3136000
8/1	Chai	3-8	0.1720000
8/2	Chai	4-1	0.2049000
9/1/1	Chai	5-11	0.2808000
84	GM	1-1	0.0531000
		260	13.1522 Hect.

Total Area Land to be acquired 32 Acre 4 Kanal 0 Marla.

Name of Village	Kanal	Area Marla	Sarsai	Area in Hectares	Remarks
Village Chhidan, Hadbast No. 333, Tehsil Ajnala, District Amritsar	260	0	0	13.1522	

# Myanmar army seizes power, detains Suu Kyi

One-year emergency declared; military removes 24 ministers and deputies, names 11 replacements

NAYPYITAW, FEBRUARY 1

Myanmar's military seized power on Monday in a coup against the democratically elected government of Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, who was detained along with other leaders of her National League for Democracy (NLD) party in early morning raids. Announcing a purge of the government, the military authorities removed 24 ministers and deputies and named 11 replacements in its new administration. The army said it had carried out the detentions in response to "election fraud", handing power to military chief General Min Aung Hlaing and imposing a state of emergency for one year, according to a statement on a military-owned television station.

Suu Kyi's party said she had called on people to protest against the military takeover, quoting comments it said had been written in anticipation of a coup. The coup derails years of Western-backed efforts to establish democracy in Myanmar, where neighbouring China has a powerful influence.



## CIVILIAN LEADERS MUST BE RELEASED

The Myanmar developments are a serious blow to democratic reforms. All leaders should refrain from violence and respect human rights.

Antonio Guterres, UN SECRETARY-GENERAL

The US opposes any attempt to alter the outcome of the recent elections and will take action against those responsible if these steps are not reversed.

Jen Psaki, WHITE HOUSE SPOKESWOMAN

I condemn the coup and unlawful imprisonment of civilians, including Aung San Suu Kyi. The vote of the people must be respected and civilian leaders released.

Boris Johnson, UK PM

## UNEASE, ANGER SIMMER OVER MILITARY ACTION

The mood in several cities was laced with fear, anger and frustration. Activists said it was a setback to the country. "I feel angry. I don't want more military rule," said Zizawah, a 32-year-old who works as a commercial director. Suu Kyi is hugely popular in Myanmar. "They took power by force," activist Maung Saengkha said. "Everyone is angry and upset," he added. REUTERS

better election viewed as a referendum on Suu Kyi's fledgling democratic rule.

Phone and internet connections in the capital, Naypyitaw, and the main commercial centre Yangon were disrupted and state television went off air after the National League for Democracy leaders were detained.

Summarising a meeting of the new junta, the military said Min Aung Hlaing had pledged to practice a "genuine discipline-flourishing multiparty democratic system". He promised a free and fair election and a handover of power to the winning party, it said, without giving a timeframe.

The United Nations led condemnation of the coup and calls for the release of detainees and restoration of democracy largely echoed by Australia, Britain, the European Union, India, Japan and the United States. — Reuters

**1**

DUBAI, FEBRUARY 1

The Pakistan Supreme Court on Monday rejected the government's request to suspend the order to release British-born al-Qaeda terrorist Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh and his three aides in the brutal murder of American journalist Daniel Pearl, days after it announced to formally join the review proceedings against the accused amid mounting international pressure.

The court, however, extended the interim detention order of main accused Sheikh and his aides — Fahad Naseem, Sheikh Adil

and Salman Saqib — by one day to hear the government's position on the case.

During the hearing, the Attorney General of Pakistan unsuccessfully requested the Supreme Court to suspend the decision to release the accused so that he could argue the case in detail. — PTI

and Salman Saqib — by one

# Sports takes ₹230.78 cr cut, SAI budget increased

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1

The allocation for sports in the Union Budget, presented in Parliament today, fell by 8.16 per cent as compared to last year's figure, from Rs 2,826.92 to Rs 2,596.14 crore now.

However, last year's budget had been revised to Rs 1,800.15 crore due to the lack of sporting activity caused by the Covid pandemic.

The Sports Ministry bears the cost of all foreign training and competition, including participation in

the Olympics.

"Initially, sports was allocated Rs 2,826.92 in last year's budget which was later revised to Rs 1,800.15 after all sporting events across the world came to a halt because of the Covid-19 pandemic," Sports Ministry official said, suggesting why a comparison should not be made with last year's revised budget.

"There was hardly any activity last year as most of the national camps were closed because of the lockdown," he added.



Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju during the Budget Session of Parliament in New Delhi on Monday. PTI

## More for SAI

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been allocated Rs 660.41 crore, an increase from the Rs 500 crore that was allocated in the last budget.

The Sports Ministry's flagship Khelo India games, on the other hand, had its allocation slashed to Rs 657.71 crore from Rs 890.42 crore allocated in the 2020-21 budget.

Assistance to the National Sports Federations, however, has been increased by Rs 35 crore. This year's budget for that is Rs 280

crore while last year's figure was Rs 245 crore.

The budget allocated for renovation and maintenance of the 2010 Commonwealth Games stadia has been reduced by Rs 66 crore to Rs 30 crore for the next financial year.

As far as incentives for sportspersons are concerned, the budget has proposed to further slash the amount from Rs 70 crore to Rs 53 crore.

The budget for the National Sports Development Fund has also been

halved to Rs 25 crore.

The National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons will continue to get the same amount of Rs 2 crore as earlier. There was also no change in the allocation for the enhancement of sports facilities in Jammu and Kashmir, and the figure stays at Rs 50 crore.

The Laxmi Bai National Institute of Physical Education will continue to get Rs 55 crore, while the contribution to the World Anti-Doping Agency has been increased from Rs 2 crore to Rs 2.5 crore. —TNS, agencies

# 50% crowd for 2nd Test vs England

ECB officials wanted matches behind closed doors

CHENNAI, FEBRUARY 1

The Indian cricket board (BCCI) and the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) have decided to allow 50 per cent spectator occupancy for the second Test between India and England, to be held at the MA Chidambaram stadium here from February 13.

The first Test will be held at the same venue from February 5, but spectators won't be allowed in for it.

The issue was discussed by the TNCA members after fresh Covid-19 guidelines on easing of public movement and entry of spectators into sporting venues were issued. The move was cleared in a meeting between TNCA and BCCI officials.

"We discussed the issue of allowing spectators for the second India vs England Test following fresh Covid-19 guidelines by the Central Government permitting crowds at sporting venues and also the state government's SOPs given on Sunday," a TNCA official said on the condition of anonymity. "It has been decided by the BCCI and TNCA to allow 50 per cent spectators for the second Test by following all safety protocols," he added.

# UNION BUDGET 2021-22

**GOVT DEPTS TO ADD OVER 1.4L JOBS:** Over 1.4 lakh jobs are estimated to be created between March 2019 and March 2021 in various central government departments, according to the Union Budget presented on Monday.



## LEADER SPEAK



The FM has deceived the people of India, especially the poor, working class, migrants, farmers, the industrial units that had been closed down permanently

— P CHIDAMBARAM, CONGRESS LEADER



It is a welcome Budget given the Covid pandemic and constraints on revenue collection. I congratulate the Centre for presenting a balanced Budget

— NITISH KUMAR, BIHAR CHIEF MINISTER



The Budget is neither for the people nor for the much publicised V-shaped revival of the economy, but for a K-shaped rich becoming richer, poor poorer.

— SITARAM YECHURY, CPM GENERAL SECRETARY



The Union Budget is anti-people. They are selling PSUs. We do not need money for roads. We can build our own roads. Give this money to farmers.

— MAMATA BANERJEE, WEST BENGAL CHIEF MINISTER



Priority has been given to doubling farmers' income by focusing on making available higher farm credit and post-harvest infrastructure in rural areas.

— NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR, AGRICULTURE MINISTER

## QUICK NOTES

### Tourism Ministry funding slashed by 19%

The budgetary allocation for the Ministry of Tourism has been slashed from ₹2,500 crore in 2020-21 to ₹2,026.77 crore this year, in a blow to the tourism industry which is reeling from huge losses due to the Covid crisis. With the coronavirus crisis restricting not just foreign tourist footfalls into the country but also keeping domestic tourists at bay, the budget has focused on pushing funds for promotion and publicity to help woo tourists back. Out of the ₹668.72 crore allocated towards promotion and publicity, ₹524.02 crore is for the overseas market and ₹144.70 crore has been kept for domestic tourists. PTI



### Ujjwala scheme to cover 1 crore more

The government said the Ujjwala scheme, which provides free cooking gas LPG, will be extended to one crore more beneficiaries. The FM said city gas distribution network of providing CNG to automobiles and piped cooking gas to households will be expanded to 100 more districts. She also announced a transport system operator for regulating common carrier capacity in gas pipelines to boost gas-based economy. PTI

**Framework to choose power service provider**  
The government will soon put in place a framework to allow electricity consumers choose service providers or discoms. "Discoms are monopolies. There is a need to provide a choice to customers to choose service provider (distribution company). A framework will be put in place to provide an alternative," said Sitharaman in her Budget speech in the Lok Sabha. At present, a large number of discoms across the country are state-owned and are unable to ensure 24-hour 'power for all', as envisaged by the government, because they are cash strapped.

## BAHI KHATA PAVES WAY FOR TABLET

For the first time, the Budget went paperless and MPs were provided soft copies of Finance Minister's speech and documents. The FM continued with the practice of carrying the red-coloured *bahi khata*, only that this time round the tablet replaced papers in the red bag. Her 107-minute speech was shorter compared to 160 minutes in 2020, which had to be cut short after the minister felt unwell. PTI

## 36% MORE FOR TRIBAL MINISTRY

The government has set aside ₹7,524 cr for the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in the Union Budget for 2021-22, an increase of 36% over the last fiscal year. A sum of ₹7,411 crore was allocated to the ministry in 2020-21, which was later revised to ₹5,508 crore. Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda said it was the "best budget so far", as it was prepared under unprecedented circumstances. PTI

## 45% NOT SATISFIED: SURVEY

The Union Budget for 2021-22 has not enthused the common man who feels that prices will rise, as per the IANS C-Voter Budget Insta Poll. The poll included a sample size of 1,200 people selected randomly. Forty-five per cent of the respondents said they were not satisfied with the Budget, while 35.8 per cent said they are satisfied with it. IANS

# ₹11,000-cr cut for agri schemes

Sanyukt Kisan Morcha slams reduced allocation, farm policy experts unimpressed too

VIBHA SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1**  
Asserting that the government was committed towards farmers' welfare, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman today proposed 10 per cent hike in the farm loan disbursal target to Rs 16.5 lakh crore and introduced an agri-infra and development cess of up to 100 per cent to create post-harvest infrastructure for improving farmers' income. "We will ensure increased credit flows to animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries," said Sitharaman.

The budget estimate (BE) for the Agriculture Ministry is Rs 1,31,531.19 crore—Rs 1,23,017.57 crore for flagship schemes (Rs 11,382 crore lesser than last time) and Rs 8,513.62 crore for research and education. In the last Budget, Rs 1,34,399.77 crore was allocated for various schemes, though the revised estimate stood at Rs 1,16,757.92 crore. The allocation for research and education is higher than Rs 8,362.58 crore last year.

The Sanyukt Kisan Morcha, which is leading the farmers' agitation against the three central laws, slammed the government for "reducing" allocation.

"Given the circumstances, one expected the FM will pay special attention to the farmers. But the government has reduced allocation for the sector. Is this the kind of support to



### CONNECTING TO SELLERS VIA e-NAM

- The MSP regime, says govt, has undergone a change to ensure the price farmers get is 1.5 times the cost of production
- Around 43.36 lakh wheat growing farmers benefited from the govt pro-
- The government raised the agriculture credit target by 10% to ₹16.5 lakh crore
- The MSP regime, says govt, has undergone a change to ensure the price farmers get is 1.5 times the cost of production
- Around 43.36 lakh wheat growing farmers benefited from the govt pro-
- The government raised the agriculture credit target by 10% to ₹16.5 lakh crore

agriculture that the PM speaks of? Is this how farmers' income will be doubled? It's treachery, a joke," said Morcha leader Yogendra Yadav.

Farm policy expert Sudhir Panwar alleged the government resolve to double farm-

ers' income lacked budgetary allocations and required policy shift. "The government has slashed allocation for all flagship schemes, including PMKSY, PMBFY and fertiliser subsidy... Increase of Rs 1.5 lakh crore

### TOTAL ALLOCATION

**₹1,31,531.19 CR**

#### FLAGSHIP SCHEMES

FY21	₹1,23,017.57 cr	RESEARCH, EDU	₹8,513.62 cr
FY22	₹1,34,399.77 cr		₹8,362.58 cr



in credit flow is customary and hardly matches the needs of the Covid-stressed farm economy," he said.

Sitharaman said there had been steady increase in the procurement of wheat, rice and pulses. The MSP regime had

undergone a change, which ensured the price was at least 1.5 times the cost of production across all commodities, she said. She proposed extending Swamitva scheme to all states and integrating 1,000 more APMCs with e-NAM.

## 100 new Sainik Schools to come up

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

### STRENGTHENING EDUCATION SYSTEM

- The Education Ministry gets ₹93,224.31 cr this year
- Legislation to set up a Higher Education Commission of India
- Central University to come up in Leh
- Board exam reforms from 2022-23 session

the BE 2020-21, the allocation is lower.

Officials say the allocation last year (BE 2020-21 of Rs 59,845 crore) was rationalised to Rs 52,189.07 crore in RE 2020-21 post-Covid-19 situation and has now been increased to Rs 54,873 crore—an overall increase of Rs 2,684.59 crore (5.14%) for Department of School Education and Literacy from RE 2020-21 of Rs 52,189.07 and Rs 32,900 crore, respectively.

However, as compared to

crore allocated this year, scheme allocation is Rs 43,648.66 crore and non-scheme allocation Rs 11,225 crore. The scheme allocation has been increased by Rs 1,895.08 crore and non-scheme by Rs 789.51 crore as compared to RE 2020-21, they say.

Meanwhile, Sitharaman said the government would introduce a legislation this year to set up the Higher Education Commission of India,

an umbrella body having four separate vehicles for standard setting, accreditation, regulation, and funding, she announced in the last Budget.

She also announced a Central University in Leh for accessible higher education in Ladakh and qualitative strengthening of more than 15,000 schools with all components of the National Education Policy to enable them to emerge as exemplar schools in their regions.

She proposed 100 new Sainik Schools in partnership with NGOs/private schools/states. Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' lauded the Budget for providing "a major boost to education".

### NIP EXPANDED TO COVER 7,400 PROJECTS

National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) is a group of social and economic infrastructure projects aimed to shore up growth



## Nothing pushed under carpet: FM

**NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 1**  
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday said the government had come out with an open and transparent Budget and had not made any attempt to hide anything under the carpet. She said the focus of the Budget 2021-22 was on spending big on infrastructure and attending to the needs of the healthcare sector for reviving the economy, which was expected to contract by 7.7 per cent in the current fiscal ending March, hit by the Covid-19 crisis.

Sitharaman said the government had not lost the opportunity to clean up its own book. "I had started in July 2019, continued it in February 2020 and even now we have made accounts more transparent. Nothing is pushed under the carpet. We are showing clearly where money is going. Money given to the FCI is also brought on board. So accounting of govt expenditure and revenue statements are now a lot more transparent



Money given to the FCI is also brought on board. So accounting of govt expenditure and revenue

statements are now a lot more transparent

— NIRMALA SITHARAMAN, FM

## FDI in insurance hiked to 74%

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

### FPI LIMIT IN CORPORATE BONDS RAISED

- Budget proposes to increase foreign portfolio investments (FPI) in corporate bonds to 15% from 9%
- Proposes to set the stage for the eventual sale of nationalised banks, a charter for investors, regulated gold exchanges

tor to 74% but majority of board directors and key management personnel must be Indians, with at least 50% of directors being independent directors, and specified percentage of profits to be retained as general reserve.

The Budget also proposed hiking FDI in insurance sec-

tion has finally been permitted to increase deposit insurance coverage to Rs 5 lakh per depositor from Rs 1 lakh.

The Budget also proposes to increase foreign portfolio investments in corporate bonds to 15% from 9%, open up certain government securities for NRIs and domestic investors. The government has asked to work on the next list of PSUs for strategic disinvestment. States are being encouraged to sell PSUs with a revised mechanism for fast-tracking the closure of loss-making PSUs and an incentive package.—TNS

increased capital expenditure for the current fiscal and for the coming financial year to push demand in the economy hit by Covid-19 pandemic, she said. "As a result, the borrowing increased and our fiscal deficit which started at 3.5 per cent during February 2020 has gone to 9.5 per cent of GDP. So, we have spent ... otherwise the fiscal deficit would not have reached this number," she said. — PTI



### FPI LIMIT IN CORPORATE BONDS RAISED

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SARDAR DYAL SINGH MAJITHIA 1849-1898

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SARDAR DYAL SINGH MAJITHIA 1849-1898

# The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

# 140 YEARS

Established in 1881

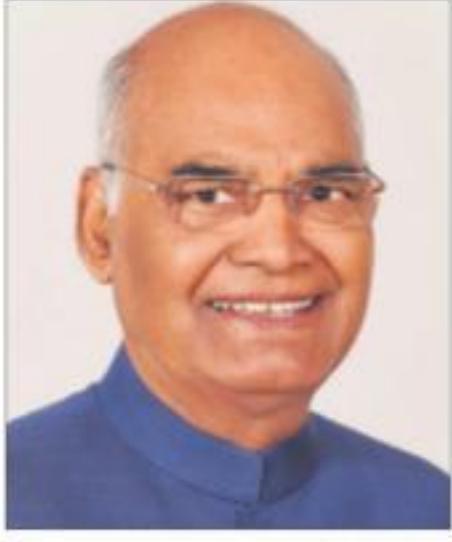
CHANDIGARH | TUESDAY | 2 FEBRUARY 2021

## PRESIDENT OF INDIA

RAM NATH KOVIND

## Staying true to its credo

I congratulate *The Tribune*, a leading English newspaper of North India and one of the oldest in the country, on its 140th anniversary. *The Tribune* has always stood for freedom and fairness. It was a chronicler as well as an essential part of the national movement, inspiring generations of freedom fighters. Philanthropist Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia founded it on February 2, 1881, with the aim of working for the public weal. It has remained true to this credo for 140 years.



and has distinguished itself as the voice of the people. Before Independence, *The Tribune* fearlessly criticised the colonial government's excesses. Legendary Editor Kalinath Ray's editorials during March-April 1919 were a scathing indictment of Lieutenant Governor Michael O'Dwyer's policies, which led to the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. Ray was jailed and the publication of the newspaper was suspended, but such repressive measures made *The Tribune* emerge even stronger, with Mahatma Gandhi

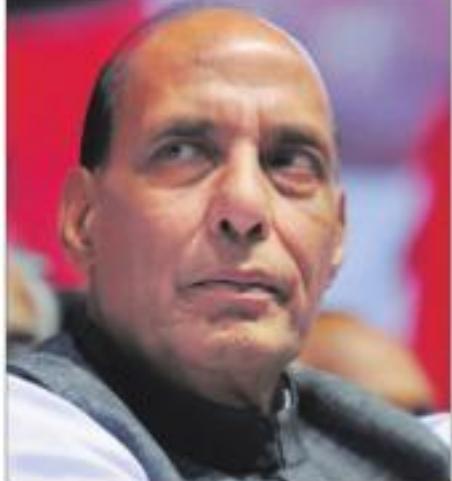
demanding justice for the newspaper and its Editor. It is commendable that *The Tribune* continues to be inspired by the great ideals of Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, who insisted that it should be run by a Trust comprising eminent public personalities. I'm confident that *The Tribune* will scale even greater heights in the years to come as a torchbearer of free and fair journalism.

## DEFENCE MINISTER

RAJNATH SINGH

## Shaping India's tomorrow

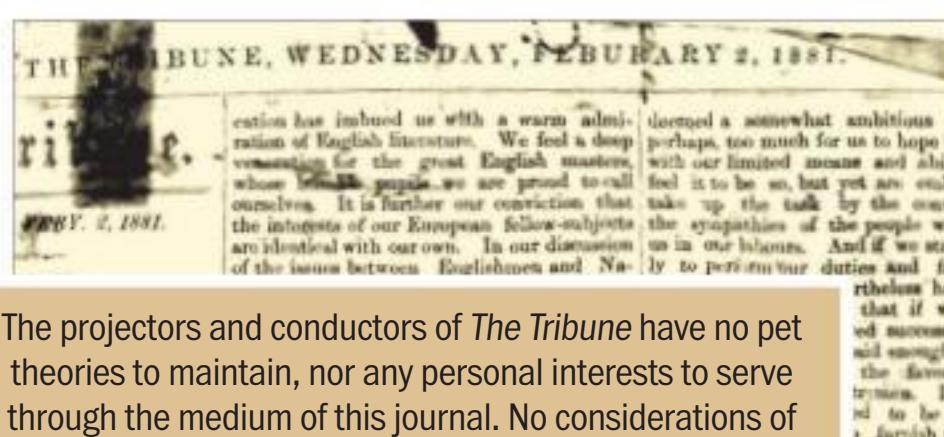
I am happy to know that *The Tribune* is celebrating its 140th anniversary. It is a moment of great pride for not only the newspaper but also for the media fraternity in this country. Since its inception, *The Tribune* has been playing a pivotal role in shaping India's tomorrow through its fair, transparent and bold journalistic approach. *The Tribune*, for more than a century, has played an instrumental role in giving an honest and true expression of the people's mind, which is highly applaudable and admirable.



Newspapers like *The Tribune* have an important role in strengthening our democracy. I congratulate *The Tribune* for achieving this significant milestone and upholding the glorious legacy of the media as an institution. I wish the Tribune Group of Publications success in its future endeavours.

## FIRST EDITORIAL ABOUT OURSELVES

FEBRUARY 2, 1881



The projectors and conductors of *The Tribune* have no pet theories to maintain, nor any personal interests to serve through the medium of this journal. No considerations of pecuniary gain have incited them to this enterprise. They profess simply to act for the public weal.

As the mouthpiece of the people, *The Tribune* will be conducted on broad and catholic principles. Our sympathies will be comprehensive. We shall not be identified with any particular race, class or creed, nor seek to give prominence to the views of any particular party.

But our paper, as the champion of the people, will not scruple to speak plainly against class interests nor shrink from boldly assailing them whenever they should happen to clash with the welfare of the masses. We will make known to the government the people's grievances, hopes and aspirations. At the same time, our loyalty shall not

be incompatible with a free but temperate and respectable criticism of measures and actions when they call for such criticism. It shall be our duty to echo the real feelings of the community. The paper would do its utmost to articulate, instruct and educate the mute voices of the masses, especially of those living in Upper India. In religious matters, we shall maintain a strictly neutral position. On social topics, our sympathies will be with a gentle and cautious course of reforms.

## PRIME MINISTER

NARENDRA MODI

## A memorable journey

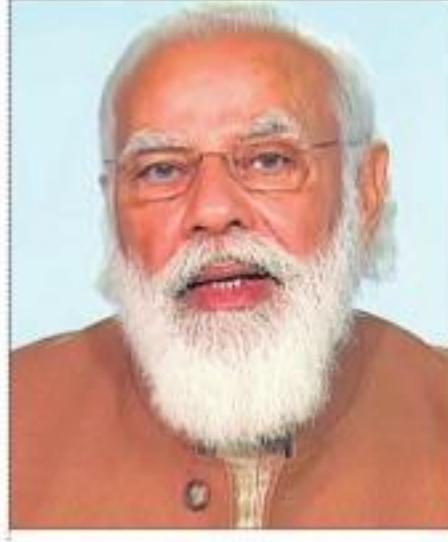
I am pleased to learn that *The Tribune* is celebrating its 140th anniversary. The occasion marks a significant landmark in the memorable journey of the newspaper.

From igniting the spark of patriotism among the masses against colonialism to inspiring generations with news and views of responsibility and socio-cultural sensitivity, the contribution of the media house has been remarkable.

The media today is an equal partner in the quest for nation-building. Technology has fast-paced the shaping of public opinion on various issues. In such a set-up, the role of newspapers assumes even greater relevance in the context of maintaining accuracy and sincerity. It is equally crucial to highlight the extraordinary efforts and achievements of ordinary people that can inspire millions. The positive transformation in the lives of the people and the resolute efforts of the masses towards achieving our national goals merit due visibility.

We are unflinching in our commitment to build a self-reliant and self-sufficient India, fulfilling the dreams and aspirations of the people. As a force multiplier, the role of the media towards this resolve is of critical importance.

Heartiest congratulations to the entire team of *The Tribune* and its readers. I convey my best wishes to everyone associated with the publication for future endeavours.



## TIBETAN SPIRITUAL LEADER

THE DALAI LAMA

## Valuable contributor to society

On the 140th anniversary of the founding of *The Tribune*, I am glad to have this opportunity to share some of my thoughts with your readers. I am pleased to learn that the newspaper was established because its founder understood the importance of educating the Indian community and saw the role that education could play in sustaining a sense of national identity when India was under British rule.

I generally say that the media plays an important part in ensuring that people can see every development in society from a broader perspective. I have even jokingly said on occasion that those in the media should have long noses like elephants, so that they can smell, and then expose, both the good and the bad.

Yet, while doing its job, the media should always be honest and fair, and remain unbiased in its news reporting. The fact that this newspaper has been in existence since 1881 is an indication that it is making a valuable contribution to society.

As the longest staying guest of India, I have been able to observe developments in this country quite closely. It is admirable that India has, in general, been able to maintain her robust democratic stability since Independence.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## PRESIDENT, THE TRIBUNE TRUST NN VOHRA

# Remembering our Founder

**S**ARDAR Dyal Singh Majithia was the scion of a notable family of Punjab. His grandfather, S. Desa Singh, was the Governor of Doaba and Majha and his father, S. Lehna Singh, was the chief of the Khalsa Army and the Governor of Majha, Amritsar and the Golden Temple. Born in 1849 (there is some ambiguity about the year of birth), young Dyal had inherited more than enough wealth to live a lordly life, full of fun and leisure. However, he chose otherwise. The truly monumental contributions made by the great Sardar, in a rather short life of 49 years, would be far better appreciated if we look back, even fleetingly, at the very difficult time in which he achieved so

much despite the highly restrictive policies of the imperial masters.

Majithia was born in the year when

Punjab was annexed.

By the time he was in his

early twenties, the

British were enforce-

ing a very oppres-

sive regime which

focused on a ruth-

less exploitation of India's economic

resources. The recurring famines,

especially that in 1877,

had caused endless

deaths, widespread

distress, growing

anger and discontent,

and incipient calls

for the establishment

of self-governing

institutions. But the British were very

clear about their objectives.

Because of its

borders with Afghanistan and Russia,

Punjab was of strategic importance and

could not be allowed, under any circum-

stances, to get infected by slogans of

nationalism which were already being

raised in Bengal. The British had decided

to effectively control Punjab by the might

of its military strength, come what may.

The young Majithia was a serious stu-

dent and had acquired good knowledge

of Persian, Urdu and English. To

acquaint himself with western thought,

he had assiduously read the classics of

English literature, particularly Stuart

Mill, Macaulay, Burke, Milton and oth-

ers, and developed great interest in the

propagation of secular belief and liberal

thought. Keen to gain wider scientific

knowledge, he travelled to England, despite very strong opposition, stayed for two years, had meetings and discussions with many notable personalities and returned home with a better informed world view. A versatile person, he would engage himself in debates on Vedanta and other philosophies and, being fond of Persian poetry, often recite the verses of Sufi seers.

To remain in touch with educated people, he decided to live in Lahore, which provided opportunities for social and intellectual activities. Having realised that his people could not achieve any kind of progress unless ignorance, superstition, prejudice and religious bigotry were totally eradicated, he decided to spend the rest of his life in promoting the education of his people and the reform of society. Towards this end, he decided to visit Calcutta, having heard much about the transformation underway in Bengal.

This visit led to Majithia being deeply impressed by the societal reforms achieved by the Brahmo Samaj movement and the nationalistic fervour triggered by the Arya Samaj. Deeply interested in the speedy advancement of his people, he had interactions with Swami Vivekananda and Swami Dayanand and was greatly influenced by the notable thinkers and leaders of that time, particularly Dadabhai Naoroji, RC Dutt, Madhav Ranade and Raja Rammohun Roy. After his Calcutta visit, he became an active worker of the Brahmo Samaj in Punjab and, for encouraging progressive thinking, he became the President of the Indian Association and set up the Union Academy at Lahore. Around this time, he realised that his efforts to educate the people and reform society would gain ground if there was a native newspaper to spread information and voice the grievances and aspirations of his people. The two newspapers at that time, *The Civil & Military Gazette* and the *Pioneer*, were focused entirely on serving British interests. The visionary Sardar's interest in starting a newspaper in English got crystallised when, in 1878, Surendranath Banerjee (one of the founders of the Indian National Congress) toured Punjab. The two had many serious discussions and the Sardar accepted Banerjee's offer to procure a

printing press from Calcutta and, later, to also find the first Editor. Consequently, *The Tribune* was established at Lahore. The first issue of this 12-page weekly, priced at 4 annas, was published on February 2, 1881. This weekly, later published as a daily paper, soon acquired great popularity for its independence and for its endeavours to bring about national awakening.

Today, *The Tribune* is 140 years old and it can be claimed, with enormous pride and satisfaction, that through the course of the 66 years in which it appeared from Lahore, it fearlessly reported on the British Raj and on the course of our prolonged struggle for national freedom. For its uncompromising reporting of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in 1919, our Editor, Kalinath Ray, who ran the paper for 27 years, was arrested and *The Tribune* was closed. After facing many difficulties, Ray was released and our paper was back in the stalls, sought-after much more than ever before.

After Independence, in the past 74 years till today, *The Tribune* has closely watched and objectively reported on the tumultuous period after Partition, the trials and tribulations of nation-building, the wars with Pakistan and the conflict with China, the evolution of policies for the growth and development of free India, the achievements and failures of each of the organs of our Constitution, the imposition of Emergency et al. Notwithstanding transitory problems, some of which arose from the political upheavals of that time, *The Tribune* has stood by its name and has not failed in continuing to serve as the Voice of the People of the entire Northern Region.

The Sardar had, in his last Will and Testimony, recorded in 1895, set up a Committee of Trustees, comprising three well-respected persons, to efficiently maintain the printing press and the newspaper, ensure the liberal policy of the paper, plough back the arising revenue surpluses and place *The Tribune* on a permanent footing.

On this happy occasion, the 140th anniversary of our Founding Day, the Trustees of the Tribune Trust salute Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia — a visionary patriot, educationist, social reformer and great philanthropist.



The projectors and conductors of *The Tribune* have no pet theories to maintain, nor any personal interests to serve through the medium of this journal. No considerations of pecuniary gain have incited them to this enterprise. They profess simply to act for the public weal.

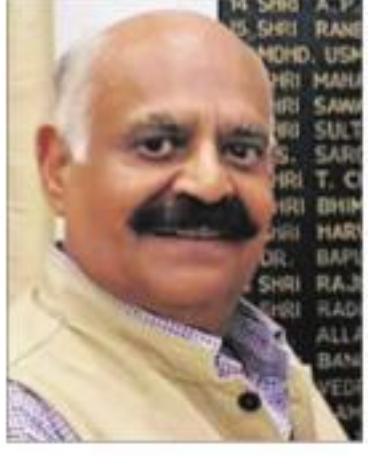
## PUNJAB GOVERNOR &amp; UT ADMINISTRATOR

VP SINGH BADNORE

**Balanced, impartial**

**T**HE *Tribune* is truly the voice of the people in the region as over the past 140 years it has witnessed and chronicled the evolution of India as a sovereign state. The British rule and its atrocities, the daring of the freedom fighters, the pain of Partition, the emergence of hope with Independence, the making of a new India and its growth into a global force — this paper has experienced all of it first-hand.

*The Tribune* upholds the formidable legacy of its visionary founder Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, following the journalistic values and maintaining a balanced, objective and impartial coverage of events. No wonder this paper is among the most respected in the region. As a reader of *The Tribune* for the past 10 years, I can vouch for the high standard of journalism maintained in its unbiased stance, restraint and temperance. It is amazing that this Grand Old Lady of Punjab has been a trusted news source of five generations in the region.



My congratulations to the team of *The Tribune* on the 140th anniversary. With its ethos of service to the masses, I am confident that it will achieve many more milestones over the next several years while being a torch-bearer of free, fair and fearless journalism.

## PUNJAB CM

CAPT AMARINDER SINGH

**A model of integrity**

**M**Y heartfelt congratulations to the entire team of *The Tribune* on its 140th Foundation Day. The occasion marks another milestone in the glorious legacy of a media organisation that has played a remarkable and exemplary role in upholding the spirit and ethos of free, fair and fearless journalism in the pre- and post-Independence eras. Once described by Mahatma Gandhi as the 'best newspaper in India', *The Tribune*, along with its sister publications *Punjabi Tribune* and *Dainik Tribune*, has been instrumental in powering our nation's progress through the years.



With the media's role in the complex, new India becoming more challenging, I see the Tribune Group evolving further to lead the next level of change and progress of the nation with its traditional integrity and professionalism. I extend my best wishes to the team so that under the dynamic leadership of a visionary management, they can continue to heed and raise the voice of the people for years to come.

**T**ODAY marks 140 years of existence of one of India's most celebrated news dailies, *The Tribune*. It has, without an ounce of doubt, evolved and emerged during this course of time as the daily staple, as indeed a record-keeping sentinel of the northern states and UTs, as also of the nation itself. I am happy to say that it is 'my Morning Paper' — has been for the longest time, and will continue to be.



MANMOHAN SINGH

FORMER PRIME MINISTER

This great journal's journey through 140 years is a journey of India — our evolution as an independent sovereign country and thereafter nation-building. It is a remarkable testimony to the vision of its founder Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia. Imbued with liberal values and committed to fight obscurantism and superstition, Sardar Majithia wanted a means of reforming society. He was an enlightened and visionary patriot who believed that the salvation of the country lay in imparting all-round, systematic and modern education. To fulfil his great purpose, he allocated a substantial part of his assets for establishing three trusts, each responsible for setting up an institution that would endure the test of time. Thus, an English newspaper, a public library and a college came into existence. Of these, *The Tribune*, founded in February 1881, has proven to be the most popular and by far the most influential.

At its very inception, the pioneers who launched *The Tribune* had put out a statement of their objectives in words that stand true even today. The statement titled 'About Ourselves', audaciously declared, "The projectors and conductors of *The Tribune* have no pet theories to maintain, nor any personal interests to serve through the medium of this journal. No considerations of pecuniary gain have incited them to this enterprise. They profess simply to act for the public weal, and they are conscious that the public weal is more advanced by charity and moderation than by rancour and harsh words." *The Tribune* hoped "to advocate the cause of the mute masses fairly and temperately." It wanted to represent public opinion and to create and educate such opinion. It steered itself clear of any particular class, creed or party line and championed the cause of the people and resolved to speak against class interests in case they clashed with the welfare of the masses. It thus stood for the people and made journalism an instrument of service to the people.

Its coverage connected the masses to the national/international events as they unfolded. As it went

*The Tribune* began its fascinating journey from Lahore in February 1881.

**R**estraint and temperance, rather than partisanship, are the hallmarks of this institution. It has followed an independent policy and has tried steadfastly to promote a liberal and secular outlook among its readers.

along, crossing one milestone after another, *The Tribune* reported the ups and downs of India's freedom struggle, what India went through under the British Raj, two World Wars, the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, the passing of the Independence Resolution on the banks of the Ravi river in Lahore, from where *The Tribune* was then published, Partition of the country, the birth of a free India, the adoption of the Constitution and the evolution of Parliament, an independent judiciary, the freedom of the Press and much more. *The Tribune* has been witness to and an impartial informant of India's epoch-making journey. It can further be stated that *The Tribune* played a significant role in spreading the doctrine of Indian nationalism and bringing about unity in a society that was afflicted by differences on questions of religion, caste, language and region.

I have been a daily reader of *The Tribune*, and I feel that it is one of the few papers that publish news and views without any bias or prejudice. Restraint and temperance, rather than partisanship, are the hallmarks of this institution. It has followed an independent policy and has tried steadfastly to promote

a liberal and secular outlook among its readers, in accordance with the wishes of its founder.

There have been innumerable instances wherein I have interacted with *The Tribune* and have shared my opinions on various topics, as have been a recipient of good word and harsh criticism by them. When my name was suggested by Sonia ji for Prime Ministership, *The Tribune*, on May 20, 2004, had carried a special editorial titled 'The nation is in safe hands'. It said: "Despite all its shortcomings, the nation has the wisdom and resilience to throw up a Prime Minister who can be trusted to provide the kind of leadership it needs at this time... After some dilly-dallying, the country has found the man who can understand the pain of the poor; the loneliest and the lost and at the same time pursue the vision to build a strong economy meant for the twenty-first century India." Less than a month later, on June 12, 2004, under the headline, 'Criminals in the House: The danger is collective, so is the solution', *The Tribune* wrote: "Whatever the political compulsions, Dr Manmohan Singh and the Congress Party should not have agreed to share power with the kind of members who have no business to be in Parliament and least of all in the government."

I have always maintained that credibility is currency when it comes to media/journalism and this fine paper with its vintage and heritage has stood the test of time and maintained its credibility with the masses for 140 long years of selfless service to a very large extent. As I pen these thoughts, I am reminded of William Shakespeare's saying, "Things won are done, joy's soul lies in the doing." I congratulate the Editor, the journalists, the entire staff and management of *The Tribune* on achieving this huge milestone. And I exhort them to keep doing what they have been so wonderfully doing for the past 140 years, with joy!

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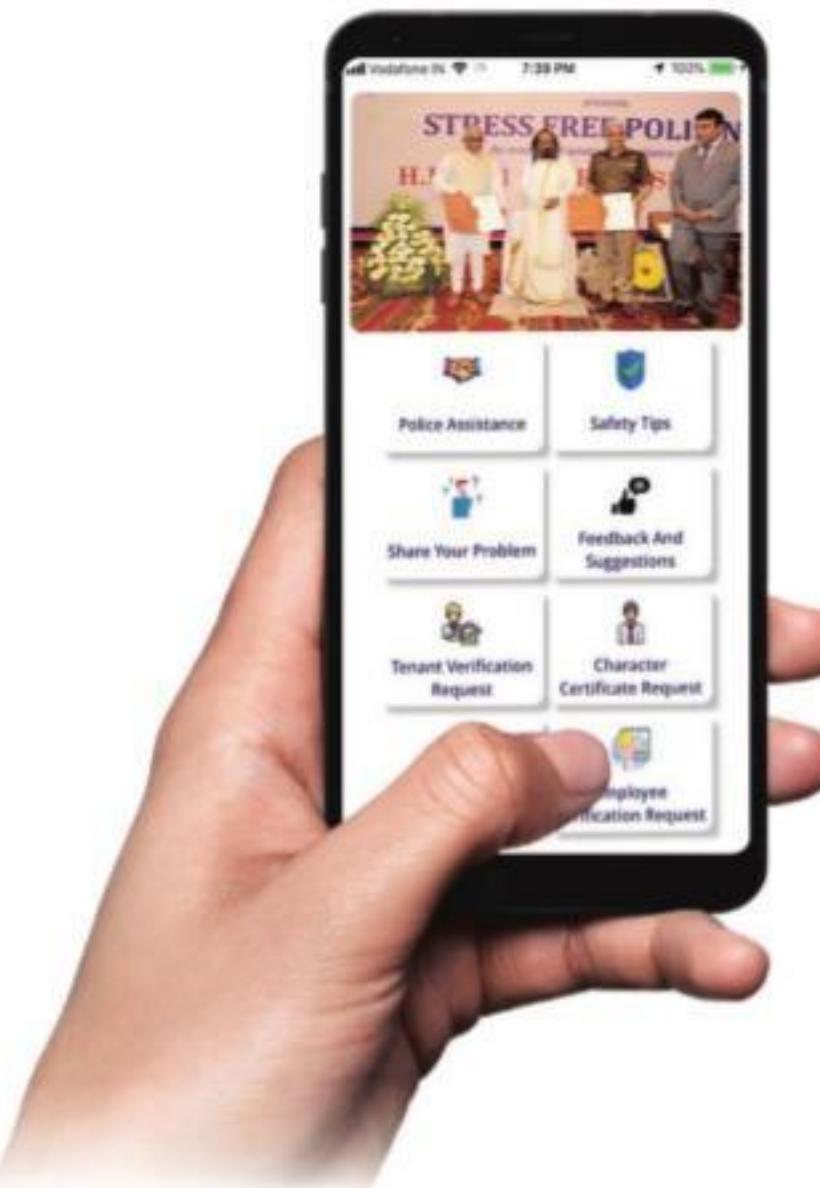
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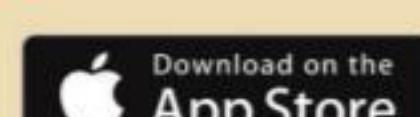
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## THE TRIBUNE EDITORIAL ON THE Rowlatt Bills

MARCH 21, 1919

# A Colossal Blunder

**I**T is done. The bureaucracy has taken the fatal plunge. The blunder which the country had for weeks been asking it through myriad voices to avoid is all but an accomplished fact. The worse and more important of the two Rowlatt Bills has passed through all its stages in the Legislative Council and only awaits the Vice-regal assent to become the law of the land. With the passing of this Bill, the already attenuated liberties of the people cease to have any meaning and any reality in the English sense, and the paramountcy of the executive becomes complete. The most fundamental of the rights of the people, the right which, in the absence of representative institutions, is the chief security for all their other rights, the right of open and regular trial by ordinary courts and on the basis of lawful and adequate evidence before a hair of one's head is touched by way of punishment, comes automatically to an end. The reign of law under which public life has grown to its present state of efficiency and power is now superseded by the region of discretion. Public men and public movements may, and we have no doubt will, still exist but they will exist not by their own right, not on a footing of legal security, but on one of two conditions, as a matter of sufferance on the part of the executive or of readiness on the part of the people themselves to make whatever sacrifice may be needed to maintain their God-given liberties and to exercise their inalienable rights both as human beings and as citizens of no mean country.

It is not for any of these things, however, that we regard the Government's action as extraordinarily unwise. These and similar things would make that action arbitrary, illiberal, autocratic and even intolerable. What makes it a blunder of colossal magnitude is the

fact that the action is a challenge to the people in their most vital part, a challenge which no self-respecting people can be slow to take up, that it not only reopens but widens the gulf between the bureaucracy and the people which many of us had been fondly hoping had been partially bridged by the announcement of August 20, and is the starting point of a constitutional struggle, infinitely larger, more intense, perhaps also more bitter than any that has been known so far, between irresponsible power and popular liberty, a struggle which may go through many stages and be attended by Heaven only knows how much suffering before it ends, but which can end in only one way. It is always a bad thing for men in power to provoke such a contest. It is the height of unwisdom and the negation of statesmanship to provoke it at the very time when a great world war has given a tremendous impetus to the principle of liberty and when the clang of the break-

ing cord is being heard in every quarter of the globe. It was from this point of view and no other that Mr. B.N. Sharma described the action of the official majority as marking the beginning of the end, and assuredly no wiser thing was said in the courses of the historic debate even on the non-official side.

There is one consolation and only one left to us in this awful hour when we stand literally at the parting of ways. Whoever else may have failed in his duty, our representatives in the Council have not. One has only to recall the several stages of the controversy which has culminated in the passing of the measure to realise that throughout they have acted as men and patriots. From first to last, they have opposed the Bill in language, function of unpromising strength and unequivocal import. It was thus that they opposed the introduction of the measure. It was thus that they opposed its passage through the select committee.

SIR Michael O'Dwyer has crowned a fairly long list of indiscreet utterances by a speech as extraordinarily unwise and unstatesman-like as any speech could well be. Salient extracts from this speech will be found on another page, and they will show that it was on a line and had all the characteristics of the famous Simla speech, with the difference that while that speech was made in a Council in which 'plain-speaking' could be, as it naturally was, met by 'plain-speaking', in the present case, both because Sir Michael was the president of the Council and also because of the composition of the Council itself, no such thing was possible. There is another difference. At the time when the Simla speech was made, Sir Michael had a part of his administration still before him. When he spoke on Monday last, he was, on the other hand, on the very eve of his retirement. The threats and

warnings in which he so freely indulged were, therefore, very much in the nature of an unpleasant legacy left to his successor and this legacy would only be rendered worse if His Honour were to utilise the remaining few days of his term of office for translating the threats and the warnings into action. It is one thing for a man to live consistently up to his reputation as a strong ruler when he faces all the consequences of his measures himself; it is quite another for him to sow the wind and then leave it to someone else to reap the whirlwind. The position in this case is not different because the feeling which must be the inevitable outcome of unwise and unsympathetic measures will never seek or find any but legitimate, peaceful and absolutely constitutional outlet and will never be directed against the Government as such, but solely against the measures themselves. Let us examine in the cool light of reason some of the character-

istic passages in his Honour's speech. "I must make it clear," he said, after referring to the action taken by his Government by way of relaxing restrictions imposed during the war, "that if conditions should recur threatening the public peace, the Government will not delay to use all the means at its disposal to repress disorder." Again:

"The Government of this province is, and will remain, determined that public order which was maintained so successfully during the time of war shall not be disturbed in time of peace."

Sir Michael O'Dwyer confounds merely alleged intemperate language as such with criminal activity, with the promotion of disorder.

As to the language of threat repeatedly used by Sir Michael, we have just a word to say. His Honour could not have been at the helm of affairs in this Province for six long years without making the political agitators realise what they have to expect from him. The warning, therefore, was absolutely superfluous.

## THE EDITORIAL THAT SENT EDITOR KALINATH RAY TO JAIL

APRIL 10, 1919

# Blazing Indiscretion



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THE TRIBUNE, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1919

OUR LONDON LETTER

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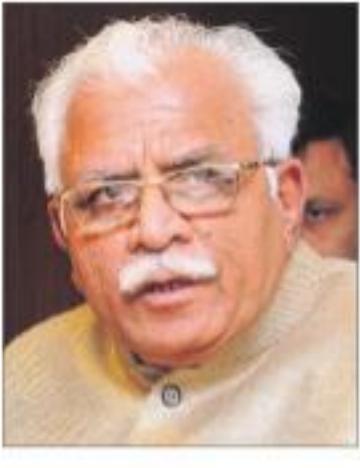
THE TR

**HARYANA CM**

MANOHAR LAL KHATTAR

## Maintaining ethics of journalism

**I**T gives me immense pleasure to know that *The Tribune* is bringing out a special issue to celebrate the 140th anniversary of its eventful journey in the media world. I congratulate the management and entire staff of *The Tribune* not only for the 140th anniversary, but also for maintaining high standards and ethics of journalism and gaining the trust of its readers during all these years.



*The Tribune*, which is one of the oldest newspapers of the region, has over the years created a new awakening and confidence among the masses and become a household name. It carries reports and features concerning not only the City Beautiful, but also of the areas around this capital of the two states of Haryana and Punjab.

I am sure with its objective, impartial and fair reporting, *The Tribune* will continue to grow as an authentic source of feedback and keep expanding its readership.

**F**OR as long as I can remember, *The Tribune* has been there as a permanent symbol of the aspirations of the people of this region, especially the people of Punjab. The story goes a long way back — well before anyone I know had heard of mainstream journalism as an effective vehicle of popular will. Started mainly as a voice of protest against the then colonial regime of the British, *The Tribune* gradually became a personification of a fighter for India's Independence.

Those were times when no one in the country thought of the freedom of expression as a sacred tenet of civilised social life. India was then a British colony and to think of freedom of expression — especially the freedom of expression for political thought and beliefs was simply to court persecution at the hands of the colonial rulers. Humble scribes in *The Tribune* fought to change all that.

Five years before *The Tribune* was founded by Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, Queen Victoria had been anointed the Empress of India, putting a seal of permanence on the British empire in South Asia. From the British point of view, India was truly the most shining jewel in the Queen's Crown. The British had been in Punjab for only 30-odd years after the Khalsa Raj withered away following the demise of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Punjabis had never really felt reconciled to the status of slavery which the British presence on Punjab's soil had come to symbolise. The fight for freedom of the country began almost immediately after Punjab was made a part of the British India. Movements had begun to sprout both within Punjab and abroad devoted to the cause of Independence of India as a subcontinent. But what these movements lacked was a common platform from where to articulate the sentiment for freedom. Enterprising as the Punjabis have always been, they were always thinking of a vehicle which would not only be a common and independent spokesperson of their political aspirations but which would also get the ear of the international community. For that, the vehicle had to use the language of the colonial powers — English.

*The Tribune* had humble beginnings, as they say. But courage, commitment and perseverance of its founders and of the scribes who became a part of it saw it become one of the main mediums of the freedom movement. It goes to the credit of the founders of *The Tribune* and their successors that the newspaper began to be loved, feared and respected at the same time. That unique feature is

still the hallmark of this paper.

The paper has traversed a span of history that has witnessed some of the most momentous events in world history, including the two World Wars, the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy, Jaito Morcha, the birth of the Shiromani Akali Dal and the formation of the SGPC — which Mahatma Gandhi had described as the first victory in the struggle for Independence — the Bengal famine, the Communist Revolution, the rise of the People's Republic of China, India's Independence and the simultaneous trauma of Partition, the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, to name just a few.

*The Tribune* has not merely been a reporter of history as it is lived out on a day-to-day basis but also for the most part, it has been a part of and an active participant in that history — especially before 1947.

In almost my entire eventful political career, *The Tribune* has remained the main yardstick by which we used to measure the public mood and evaluate the worth and the merit of our own actions. We saw the people's struggles for justice to Punjab reflected honestly in the columns of this newspaper. Some of the epochal events like the struggle for a state based on the linguistic identity of the people of Punjab, the relentless crusades in the form of morchas, especially the Dharamyudh Morcha against injustice done to the state by successive governments at the Centre — we saw *The Tribune* as an objective but active player as history unfolded before our eyes.

As Chief Minister, I used to begin my day with a reading of all the leading newspapers of the region in which *The Tribune* always occupied a

special place. Whenever I read a report critical of the performance of the government which I headed, or saw a report highlighting any instance of misgovernance, injustice, governmental neglect or corruption, I would never question the report. Often I would call the journalist concerned for details which he might have left out of his report. Then, I would make a call to the official or officials concerned or to the people's representative of the area concerned and ask them to remove the causes that led to the negative report. I always made it a point to tell my people never to offer alibis like 'baseless or exaggerated report' etc. The media has always played a huge part not only in the making of my career as a public figure but also in helping me improve the quality of service I was supposed to render to my people. Consequently, the media was always my best 'intelligence' officer, my guide and even my conscience-keeper. In this, *The Tribune* has always featured very highly on my list of priorities.

A moral stature of a society can be judged by the freedom it allows its journalists to perform his or her job with pride in his or her honesty and integrity. A nation that respects the integrity of its journalists has only one way to go: up.

I am really happy to say that the journalists from *The Tribune* have generally defied all kinds of pressures, temptations and material distractions and even fought the iron hand of dictatorial regimes to serve the people with pride in his or her integrity, commitment and level of competence. The story must be carried forward. Democracy is always a developing story.

## Steadfast in uncovering the truth

**T**HE Tribune has completed 140 years. Congratulations on a terrific journey of truth and trust. I would like to reflect on this major milestone and highlight my experience along its transformative journey.

*The Tribune* has been a part of my informative appetite ever since I took to reading newspapers, or rather much before that when I just used to glance through its sports page during my early student days at Bishop Cotton School, Shimla. This dates back to the 1940s. I recollect that the newspaper was even brought out from Shimla for a few months immediately after Independence. *The Tribune* has stayed with me all these years without a miss.

In 1962, at the age of 28, I was asked by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to contest the Lok Sabha elections, which laid the foundation for my political journey. Over the years, I have held several positions of public service at the state and national level including Honorary Captain in the Indian Army as ADC to the first President of India, six-time Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Cabinet positions at the Centre, as well as former member of Indian delegation to the General Assembly of the United Nations. I am associated with several cultural and social organisations like Indo-Soviet Friendship Society, Friends of Soviet Union, President, Sanskriti Sahitya Sammelan etc. Being an avid reader and a public figure, I congratulate *The Tribune* on being an essential enabler in today's democracy by empowering the masses with not just meaningful, but also balanced information.

In March 2007, I launched the Himachal edition of *The Tribune* along with Justice RS Pathak, the then Presi-

dent, *The Tribune* Trust, and HK Dua, the then Editor-in-Chief, with the belief that the bond between the newspaper and residents of Himachal Pradesh would get further strengthened with this initiative. Since then, I reminisce numerous early mornings on the lawns at Holly Lodge, reading a crisp hard copy *The Tribune* daily fresh off the press along with a cup of *chai*. While the lawns may have shifted (from Holly Lodge to Oak Over to Jantar Mantar, Delhi) with change in positions, what remained unchanged is the crispness and relevance of *The Tribune*'s reporting.

Even while on international travel, I have relied heavily on the online edition of *The Tribune* to get an up-to-date, neutral perspective on national and local happenings in Himachal Pradesh.

The importance of unbiased information can never be overemphasised and that is exactly what *The Tribune* has always delivered. Irrespective of whether it highlighted my government's apt policy-making or identified opportunities for improvement, it provided an additional means for me to connect with the masses, something I've relished throughout my career. Even while in the Opposition, upholding the best interests of the people of Himachal Pradesh remains my top priority and *The Tribune* offers an unparalleled means to communicate my views on any inefficiencies in the government's policy-making and for holding it accountable.

I have always valued being answerable to the public directly and through the media. I had the opportunity to interact with the Editors and correspondents of *The Tribune* over the past six decades. The interactions on social and political matters always left me with an impression that *The Tribune* staff is not merely a purveyor of information, but also an effective promoter of the interests of the masses. The level of maturity, accuracy and wisdom shown by the staff at *The Tribune* has been consistent and undeniably thorough, along with a steadfast determination to uncover the truth.

Before my political career even started,



*The Tribune* is an effective promoter of the interests of the masses.

as a young boy growing up in Rampur Bushahr and ready to 'take on the world', I used to hear tales that showcased fearless, free and skilled journalism. Stories like that of *The Tribune* Editor Kalinath Ray being arrested in 1919 for writhing against British atrocities left an indelible impression on my mind about the courage, grit and fairness of the people who practised the profession with such

piousness and respect. While we have come a long way since Kalinath Ray's days, our collective struggles to overcome a plethora of challenges, agony, sacrifices and accomplishments of our journey as a nation must be meaningfully depicted. From Independence, the nationalisation of the railway network, hosting the first Asian Games, the Green Revolution, the Simla Agreement, the grant of statehood

I have always valued being answerable to the public directly and through the media. I had the opportunity to interact with Editors and correspondents of *The Tribune* over the past six decades. Their level of maturity and accuracy has been consistent.

to Himachal Pradesh and winning the cricket World Cup to the Covid-19 pandemic and the recent farmers' protests. These are all important aspects of our journey that must be reported with utmost accuracy and responsibility, without bias and prejudice. Peace, progress and harmony are of paramount importance to the country. Every care must be taken to see that these principles are not disturbed or dented by irresponsible and overambitious reporting. This, along with acquainting the readers with the dynamism of India's foreign relations, is a job that *The Tribune* has masterfully done.

These values have helped shape *The Tribune*'s legacy and built it into the largest selling daily in North India and one of the leading independent media outlets for Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh.

I congratulate *The Tribune* on continuing to deliver hard-hitting, impactful and unprejudiced information to its readers. As we look forward to witness profound and unprecedented changes in the coming decades, here's wishing *The Tribune* and its staff an ever-continuing journey of responsible reporting and success, trust and glory.

## Valuable contributor to society

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It is also wonderful that the country, despite many challenges, is growing at a rapid rate. There is, however, one area in which I would like, if I may, to offer some encouragement. That is in reviving interest in India's ancient wisdom, especially in relation to such principles as *ahimsa* and *karuna*, non-violence and compassion. If we can develop such values, we can make a tremendous contribution not just to India but also to the entire world.

We Tibetans — and I personally — are profoundly grateful to India for not only coming to our aid during our current crisis, but also for providing us with spiritual knowledge that has benefited our people greatly over several centuries. I am convinced that the rich ancient Indian understanding of the workings of the mind and emotions, as well as Indian techniques of mental training, such as meditation, are of great relevance to today's world.

To share and sustain this great Indian tradition is my essential commitment, along with the promotion of human values, the promotion of religious harmony and the preservation of Tibetan culture.

Today, I invite my Indian brothers and sisters to join me in this effort. Since India has a long history of logic and reasoning, I am confident that its ancient knowledge, viewed from a secular perspective, can be combined with modern education. India is, in fact, unusually well-placed to promote this combination of ancient and modern forms of knowledge so that a more integrated and ethically grounded way of being in the world can be cultivated in the twenty-first century. In essence, there is the need for education of the brain as well as for the development of warm-heartedness.

After Buddhism came to Tibet in the seventh century, we were able to preserve it even while it was declining in India. The religious aspects of Buddhism may be of relevance only to Buddhists, but I really feel that Buddhist science—including the science of mind—and Buddhist culture (based around compassion and non-violence) can be of great importance to the whole world, and even to those who do not practise Buddhism or follow any religion.

When we arrived here in 1959, the Indian govern-

ment generously provided us with the space in which to train Tibetan students of all ages, and also several thousand Tibetan monks. Through them we have kept alive what is essentially ancient Indian wisdom and continued a tradition that is more than a thousand years old.

These principles not only make logical sense, but are also of immediate practical benefit, whether you are a religious person or not. I have no doubt that if people paid more attention to compassion and non-violence in their day-to-day lives, the world would be a better place.

Just as many of us work to protect our physical hygiene, I believe we need to cultivate emotional hygiene. We must learn how to deal with anger, anxiety and fear and reduce them all. The key is learning how to cultivate peace of mind.

Ultimately, the source of peace and happiness is warm-heartedness. That is something within us. We cannot buy it or find it in a machine. We have to cultivate it inside ourselves. We must combine our intelligence with warm-heartedness. In that way, we can find happiness, for ourselves and for those around us.

I truly believe that India is the only country that can combine modern education with the ancient Indian

understanding of the workings of the mind, and that the whole world urgently needs this. If we all work together, we can make a fresh Indian contribution to the welfare of the entire planet.

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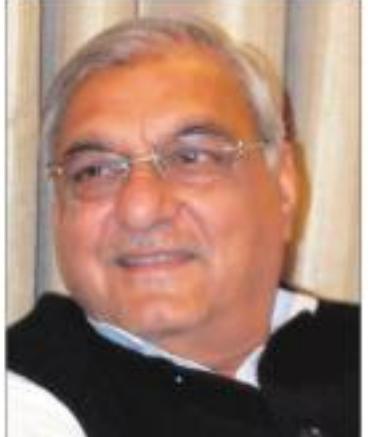
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# Credible chronicler of momentous events

**A** newspaper, essentially, serves as a recorder of change. Few newspapers in India have captured the passage of history with the objectivity and sincerity than *The Tribune*. The paper remains the most credible chronicler of political, social, cultural, and developmental events in India, particularly in the northern region of India, since its inception in 1881.

It was founded by a great patriot and enlightened philanthropist, Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, with his firm belief that 'the salvation of the country lay in imparting all-round, systematic and modern education to its citizens'. It is one of the few newspapers that have remained true to the values and vision of its founders.



BHUPINDER  
SINGH HOODA

FORMER HARYANA CM

Therefore, *The Tribune* never wavered from its glorious objectives even in the most traumatic times, marching majestically through the annals of history. It is essentially a regional newspaper with a national outlook. *The Tribune* has been the most popular, independent, informative and influential newspaper of North India.

It has been witness to several momentous events in history like the two World Wars, the great Indian freedom struggle, the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy, the martyrdom of Bhagat Singh and his revolutionary comrades, Independence and Partition of the country, and the framing and adoption of the Constitution.

After Independence, the well-informed reportage of this newspaper about the building process of a new nation i.e. construction of the Bhakra and other dams; the modern capital city of Chandigarh; the founding of agricultural and other universities; the consequent Green Revolution; the establishment and working of democratic institutions; and the formation of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh as states had impacted the opinion of the

people of this region.

The English-knowing educated gentry of this region have been faithful readers of this newspaper. They depended on *The Tribune* to find jobs; once they found employment, it helped them find a life partner. It served them as a window to the world. It has contributed immensely to shaping the progressive and scientific world view of many such generations. It is a laudable fact that this newspaper has always maintained neutrality, impartiality and dignity in its reporting.

I have been spending my morning with *The Tribune* for almost six decades. Since July 1947, my father Ch Ranbir Singh, who was a freedom fighter and a member of the Constituent Assembly (Legislative), the Provisional Parliament, the first and second Lok Sabhas, remained in Delhi. Thereafter, he shifted to Chandigarh in 1962 as a member of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha and a minister in Sardar Partap Singh Kairon's cabinet. He was an avid and regular reader of *The Tribune*. I picked up this habit from my father.

However, the association of my family with this esteemed newspaper goes back to a century and four generations i.e. my grandfather Choudhary Matu Ram, father Choudhary Ranbir Singh, myself, and my son Deepender Singh Hooda, who is presently a Member of Parliament. He, like many of his generation, base their understanding of public affairs on the reportage of the newspaper and see it as unbiased and progressive.

*The Tribune* dated February 19, 1921, recorded and reported Mahatma Gandhi's visit to Punjab where he addressed the Haryana Rural Conference at Bhiwani, Kalanaur and Rohtak. He was accompanied by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and Lala Lajpat Rai. "The party then went to the Conference. The same resolutions which were passed at Bhiwani were passed unanimously; and the meeting was addressed by all the leaders. More than 25,000 people attended. Choudhary Matu Ram presided." It gives me a sense of pride that Choudhary Matu Ram, a leading freedom fighter, educationist and social reformer of the region, was my grandfather.

I have seen that *The Tribune* profiles political leaders or private individuals in



*The Tribune* has been the most popular, independent, informative and influential newspaper of North India.

The association of my family with this esteemed newspaper goes back to a century and four generations i.e. my grandfather Ch Matu Ram, father Ch Ranbir Singh, myself, and my son Deepender. My father was an avid and regular reader of *The Tribune*. I picked up this habit from him.

public life in a balanced way. It praises profusely but criticises charitably, in kind and mild words. For instance, when I became the Haryana CM in 2005, *The Tribune* published my profile in a benevolent tone, describing me as a 'giant-killer' and attributing my popularity and progress in politics to my 'instinct to help others'.

In my profile, the paper also carried an extract of a letter of Indira Gandhi, which she wrote in February 1957 to her father Pt Jawaharlal Nehru about her tour of Punjab. She wrote, 'Punjab was strenuous but exhilarating. I had one lakh people in Rohtak, just for me — imagine! Choudhary Ranbir Singh looked after me as if he was my grandmother.'

I have never seen this newspaper indulging in character assassination or unleashing malicious propaganda against any individual or institution. In religious and social matters, this news-

paper invariably has taken a strictly secular and neutral position and its approach on such issues have been rational and reformist.

We observe nowadays that controversy is the professional diet for some newspapers or television channels. But *The Tribune* has remained unaffected by such negative trends and upheld ethical and professional values with elan.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that in the prevalent political scenario in the country, *The Tribune* has not compromised with its avowed principles of independence and neutrality in its reporting under any threat, coercion, or allurement. A *Tribune* reader trusts that it cannot be 'managed' or manipulated by the 'media managers' of any political party, business house or influential individual.

May *The Tribune* remain the mouthpiece of the masses and the voice of the voiceless, as ever.

## Eye on the larger picture

**T**HE ongoing farmers' protests have reignited frequent evocation of a name inseparable from North India's agricultural history — that of 'Deenbandhu' Sir Chhotu Ram. As the architect of Punjab's first agricultural produce markets and the driving force behind several empowering legislations, Sir Chhotu Ram's contribution to the uplift of the farming community is routinely highlighted by present-day media.

Yet, it is surprising to note that when his influence and popularity were at their pinnacle, the contemporary vernacular media was far from being favourably disposed towards him. He faced much criticism and was subjected to uncharitable coverage, despite his sincere attempts to better the lives of the downtrodden — which would go on to be remembered as watershed moments for the people of Haryana and Punjab.

Sir Chhotu Ram and *The Tribune* were both born in 1881. The then young newspaper and the great farmers' leader developed a unique relationship, for *The Tribune* enthusiastically hailed him with its frequent and prominent coverage at a time when most newspapers thought little of his reforms. *The Tribune* provided a medium of expression to Sir Chhotu Ram that allowed his views to resonate across the massive pre-Partition Punjab and beyond.

His columns on a wide variety of themes, including communalism, peasant welfare, irrigation, law and order, and corruption found a place in *The Tribune*'s editorial section. 'The Punjab and Depressed Classes', a piece written by him for the paper in 1932, was a first of its kind. It challenged several beliefs regarding the relations between peasants of the 'lower' classes and landlords. He even presented evidence to suggest that the untouchables were, in fact, treated with consideration by landowners in Haryana. Through the paper, Sir Chhotu Ram would also issue statements of importance, such

"CONGRESSMEN ARE ACTING IN INTERESTS OF URBAN CAPITALISTS"  
SIR CHHOTU RAM HOLDS FORTH FOR TWO HOURS  
SIR SIKANDAR ASKS PEASANTS TO BEWARE OF "DOUBLE FACE D" SYMPATHISERS

Khanewal, Dec. 12. masses because the Punjab was the only province where political Sir Chhotu Ram, the architect of Punjab's first agricultural produce markets, and The Tribune were both born in 1881. They developed a unique relationship.

as the memorable piece in defence of Sikander Hayat Khan after the Sikander-Jinnah Pact of 1937.

Not only columns, but also speeches delivered by him found a place in *The Tribune*. His speech delineating his goal of a 'zamindar government' or a government of agriculturalists at the Centre was published in *The Tribune* in December 1938. An editorial from 1937 contained a scathing criticism of the Congress. This was in sharp contrast to his works from the early 1910s, wherein he wrote in favour of the party — the transformation of his political

beliefs as he went on to co-found the Unionist Party in 1923 can thus be mapped through his association with *The Tribune*. By 1933, he was speaking about the necessity of strong opposition parties to effectively uphold the rights and interests of the minorities, and landmark speeches such as these were conveyed to the masses by *The Tribune*.

The paper continues to pay homage to him — an article titled 'Sir Chhotu Ram — A Man of Integrity' was published as recently as 2018.

My relationship with *The Tribune* has been less personal yet more extensive over the years. Upon my refusal to join Bhajan Lal's government in 1981, the first editorial dedicated exclusively to my political career was published in *The Tribune*. Ever since, *The Tribune*

has covered almost every facet of the lengthy course of my public life. On December 10, 1995, a rally that publicly raised crucial questions about the assassination of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was organised by Congressmen, including myself. The rally was covered with a front-page headline by *The Tribune*, and the aims and events of the gathering, the numbers in attendance, and its significance were all comprehensively reported. Due importance was given by the newspaper to my views as expressed in my addresses at public gatherings as legislator and minister alike, especially later on in my career. My long-held thoughts regarding rural transformation, employment-oriented education, and economic empowerment have time and again been given voice in the paper.

In a lighter vein, I recall myself chuckling at the famous 'Tau Bolya' cartoons in *Dainik Tribune* wherein I have often been at the receiving end of biting satire. My sketches in these cartoons too have evolved over time in their depiction — they have aged with me!

*The Tribune* has always been held especially highly in regard by the educated classes of Punjab and Haryana, and this continues till date. It is one of the rare newspapers which has never lost perspective of the larger picture, and has artfully distanced itself from rumour and hearsay. That it doesn't reduce itself to parochial newspapers by publishing pullouts evidences this, along with, of course, the quality of unbiased reporting. Perhaps, that is why it continues to command such trust across North India, 140 years on.

सरकारी कार्यालयों के बाहर अब कतार में खड़े होने से मिली निजात, ई-डिस्ट्रीक्ट पोर्टल के माध्यम से घर बैठे बनवाएं आवश्यक दस्तावेज

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पोर्टल के माध्यम से बोनाफाईड हिमाचली प्रमाण पत्र, चरित्र, आमदानी, कृषक, बीपीएल, विवाह पंजीकरण इत्यादि प्रमाण पत्र बनाए जा सकेंगे।

हिमाचल सरकार द्वारा थुले की गई जनकल्याणकारी योजनाओं का लाभ उठाने के लिए भी इस पोर्टल के माध्यम से आवेदन करवा सकेंगे। कुछ ही दिनों में संबंधित प्रमाणपत्र आपके द्वारा दर्शाए गए पते पर आएंगे।

स्मार्ट फोन व कम्प्यूटर न होने पर आप नजदीकी लोकमित्र केंद्र में आवेदन करवा सकेंगे। कुछ ही दिनों में संबंधित प्रमाणपत्र आपके द्वारा दर्शाए गए पते पर आएंगे।

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# Fair and truthful

**I**T is a matter of great pleasure that *The Tribune* is celebrating its 140th anniversary. *The Tribune*, which started its journey with the dedicated efforts of a philanthropist from Punjab, Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, on February 2, 1881, from Lahore, had to restart its publication firstly from Shimla and a few months later from Ambala as a consequence of Partition of the subcontinent in 1947. The paper has since then been continuously keeping the people abreast of the latest information about the events taking place locally as well as globally very truly. It is the oldest and most trusted newspaper of North India and is presently being published from Chandigarh, Gurugram and other centres. It is also a matter of pride and satisfaction for the management of this newspaper that since its inception it has lived up to the best expectations of the people at large and has, as such, carved for itself a unique position among the distinguished centenarian newspapers of the country.



**FAROOQ  
ABDULLAH**

FORMER J&K CM

under stress. Human values, love for each other and religious tolerance are greatly strained. With all these things around us and the pressure of the government, to maintain a free Press is a very difficult task. *The Tribune* has maintained a special relationship with Kashmir and has contributed greatly to information coming out of the state. In the pre-Independence period, the paper had the largest circulation in Kashmir. It continues to take keen interest in the events and affairs of Jammu & Kashmir by reporting these at length. The paper serves as a source of information about Jammu & Kashmir for various sections of the people in the northern region.

Ours being a huge country with a composite culture and religio-ethnic diversity, coupled with low economic and literacy levels, the Press is burdened with a stupendous responsibility. It has a crucial role to play, particularly under the present circumstances, in cementing the bonds that knit the nation without any discrimination on

the basis of religion, region or caste, creating an atmosphere of brotherhood and harmony among various communities living in the country and raising the level of consciousness among the people for socio-economic betterment.

*The Tribune*, I hope and pray, will continue to uphold freedom of the Press and will report as honestly as it has been doing before. Under the prevailing circumstances in the country, the nation can only survive if the dignity and honour of the Constitution and its Preamble are respected and acted upon. Human rights are vital for any nation to progress. Human dignity is essential, which, I am glad to see, *The Tribune* has upheld. On the 140th anniversary of this great newspaper, I send my warm good wishes for its future and for the future of this nation. I also would like to congratulate the Trust that has been managing this prestigious paper and its Editors for their fair, fearless and truthful policy and writings. May we all see a bright future for the entire world.

It continues to hold the value of free, honest and dedicated journalism. In today's world, where the freedom of the Press is under threat from various quarters, to be able to report freely is a very difficult task. India is going through a massive change in every sector. On top of it, the coronavirus has added difficulties not only in India, but all over the world. Economic conditions have taken a beating, resulting in a loss of job opportunities. The education sector is suffering and the health sector continues to be

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# Steeped in a rich tradition

I firmly believe that the Trust-run *The Tribune* is a great institution, now of 140-year standing. It has been a long and arduous march for the organisation — from Lahore to Shimla, Ambala and Chandigarh — during those turbulent years, facing tough challenges. It not only survived the bloody period of Partition but also geared up its set-up and successfully met every problem.

*The Tribune's* a unique set-up. It has a distinct personality of its own. It is deeply rooted in tradition and known to be forward-looking in the pursuit of correct information. It has invariably reflected the hopes and aspirations of its readers.

*The Tribune* has valued its silken bonds with the readers and discharged its duty and responsibility as a custodian of the people's trust. It has never treated the newspaper as a product. For the Trust and its Editors, *The Tribune* has been a live medium of communication and social commitment. It has followed high standards of independent and fearless journalism.

It was on February 2, 1881, that the seeds of *The Tribune* were sown by Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, a great visionary. Since then, the institution has been taken forward by the Trust which has always had persons of eminence wedded to high principles of liberalism and value-based secularism.

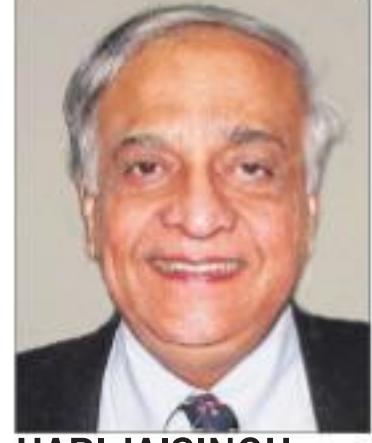
The Tribune Trust is not influenced by any political or business interests. This has made all the difference in forging an enduring trust of the institution with its readers.

*The Tribune* has always acted as a watchdog of public interests. It believes that democracy flourishes best when the thinking class, journalists included, leads the people by pursuing right information and putting truth — unbiased truth — before the nation.

Democracy and the people's right to information is an edifice founded on values, morality and ethics. *The Tribune's* strength is its credibility and its endeavour is to live up to the reputation built over the decades as a liberal, fair, fearless and independent newspaper.

*The Tribune* has grown from strength to strength not because of any marketing strategy but because of its credibility in the presentation of news and views. Its sister publications — *Punjabi Tribune* and *Dainik Tribune* — have also been a major source of its strength.

The Tribune Group has been clear about its goals and commitments. Its sole purpose has been to provide its readers with objective and credible reports backed by a rich fare in news and views. Here, I wish to recall one critical issue



HARI JAISINGH

FORMER EDITOR OF THE TRIBUNE



The Tribune extensively covered the trial and execution of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev.

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It believes that democracy flourishes best when the thinking class, journalists included, leads the people by pursuing right information and putting truth — unbiased truth — before the nation.

which came before the Trust at various points in time and also during my tenure. BK Nehru, the then President of the Trust, during my meeting with him at Kasauli, told me about a proposal from the business side to have an overarching control of the editorial. I told

Nehru sahib: "I honestly believe that such a move goes against the will of the Founder and the age-old tradition of the Trust."

*The Tribune* is supposed to be an Editor-oriented institution. So, I told Nehru sahib that, with the Trustees being at the helm, such a step would send wrong signals to the readers, which would ultimately affect the credibility of the paper. "I understand this," BK Nehru seemed to appreciate my point.

That was the class of Trustees I admired most. They lived up to the great tradition of the organisation which makes the Tribune Trust uniquely different from other media set-ups. I believe that *The Tribune* needs to continue to promote the Founder's vision and the philosophy espoused by the Trustees known for their eminence and stature as well as their total commitment to serve society through this great media institution.

Finally, I must say that *The Tribune* as an institution has been able to serve the people in tune with the will of the Founding Father. Some of its great Trustees always carried a 'lamp within' and acted as a beacon of light for the Editor and lakhs of *The Tribune's* readers.

# The nation's voice, free and fearless

THE Tribune has a date with history. In 140 years of ups and downs, and a brush with momentous events, the newspaper has become a respected national daily.

On return from London, Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia wanted to play a role in the freedom struggle, which was still in its nascent years. He was particularly concerned about the British newspaper, *The Civil and Military Gazette*, which was brainwashing the people with official propaganda. Majithia thought that there had to be an answer to it. He gave away some of his personal wealth to start the newspaper, called *The Tribune*, to spread the idea of an India free from the clutches of the British.

Over the years, it became a paper of its own kind. Majithia, though young, had foresight and took a major decision — that *The Tribune* would be run by a Board of Trustees and not by him, or his family or any commercial interest. The Will left behind him remains the Trustees' Charter.

*The Tribune* has gone through the tumultuous times of India's history. It vigorously reported on the ferment in Punjab over the Rowlatt Act, the horror of Jallianwala Bagh, the vigour of the Civil Disobedience Movement as well as the Non-cooperation Movement, Bhagat Singh's martyrdom, Partition of the sub-continent, and the largest migration of people the world has seen. It has not only lived up to the expectations but has also become the Voice of the People. The nation's challenges were also those of *The Tribune*.

*The Tribune* itself became a refugee in 1947, when it had to leave Lahore for beginning its new life in a free India. It rose again amid an immediate war in Kashmir, the resettlement of refugees, making of the Constitution, evolving of

a democratic set-up, and economic development of the country. When freedom came, *The Tribune* had become a part of the Indian dream.

However, those who led *The Tribune* did not give up its right to free expression. It supported what was good for the people and criticised what was not in public interest.

The paper and its legendary Editor, Kalinath Ray, before Independence, and Editors like Prem Bhatia afterwards, have done this job and some others who followed them have been a part of the efforts to enlighten *The Tribune's* readers of their rights and responsibilities in a democratic India.

I had the privilege to serve *The Tribune* for seven long years and become a part of the mission to ensure that the paper would always be the Voice of the People — a slogan dear to me. These seven years were a rewarding experience for me.

The idea was to awaken the minds of

the paper's readers. The paper campaigned against the widespread tendency in Punjab and Haryana of female foeticide (we called it the killing of the unborn daughter), the spreading drug menace, criminalisation of politics, and spreading of cancer in the region and many other issues of social and political import.

*The Tribune* has always been there for upholding the right of the people to dissent and the paper's creed that it has to defend whatever is in public interest.

It has not always been an easy task for *The Tribune*. Corporates have resources and enormous money to spend on newspapers. *The Tribune* cannot generate such resources. Besides, the paper has to meet challenges from new technologies, which is a costly affair.

Often the authorities may not like criticism a newspaper may voice, but it's not worth its name if it doesn't stand up for its commitment to public interest.

Fifteen years ago, I had the privilege to be the Editor-in-Chief of the paper, which completed 125 years in 2006. The anniversary celebrations were inaugurated by Dr Manmohan Singh, the then Prime Minister, in Chandigarh in September 2005.

I enjoyed my editorship of the paper because I could carry forward *The Tribune's* mission and stick to the paper's ethos. The Trustees were supportive.

We came out with two supplements, including *Chandigarh 50* that celebrated the city's 50 years. Top architects and town planners of the country wrote on pluses and minuses of Le Corbusier's Dream City. Also, top scientists wrote for a special supplement on the Science Policy. Our idea was to spread scientific temper among the readers and make a contribution to the evolution of a forward-looking nation.

Diversity of opinion was encouraged and writers like jurists Fali Nariman and

PP Rao; strategic thinkers like K Subramanian; and the father of the Green Revolution, Dr MS Swaminathan, wrote for *The Tribune*, as also Prof VN Datta, who wrote regularly for the paper. Prof Datta, who passed away recently, wrote a volume, *The Tribune: 130 Years, A Witness to History*, at our request.

To celebrate its 125th anniversary, *The Tribune* brought out a collection of the paper's editorials written since its inception, compiled by Pran Neville. A short biography of Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia was also published. The Department of Posts celebrated the occasion by coming out with a special commemorative stamp, released by the then Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee in New Delhi in November 2006.

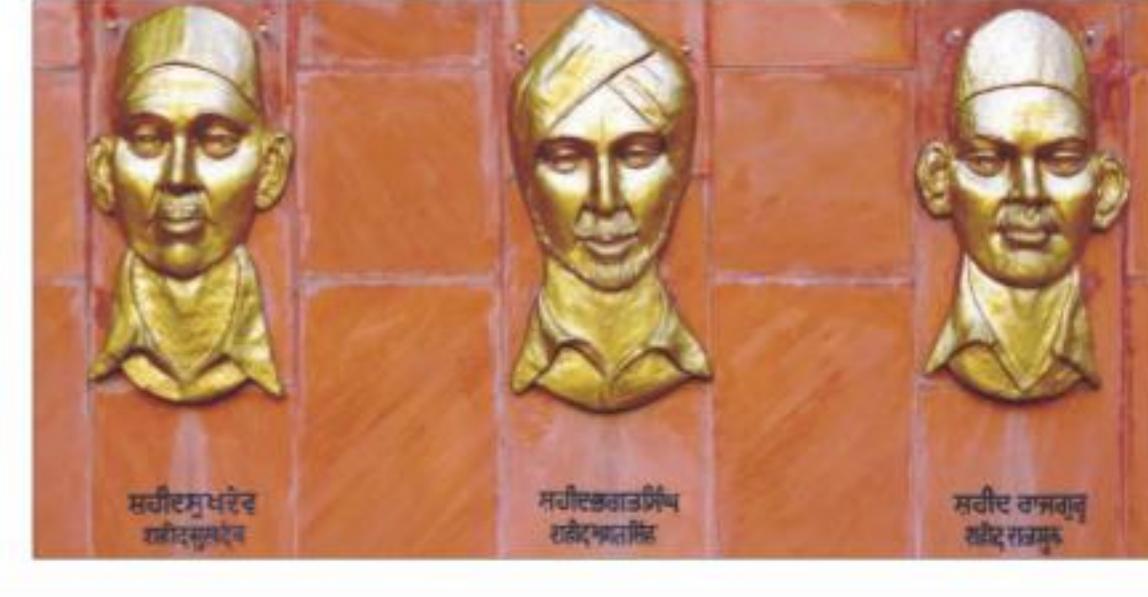
The paper is likely to face many challenges. How it negotiates its way through remains to be seen. I am sure *The Tribune* will live up to its ethos and values it is known for.

MARCH 26, 1931

EDITORIAL

## Executions and After

FEW mistakes made by the British Government in India in recent years are comparable either in their magnitude or their seriousness with its failure to commute the death sentences of Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev. No criminal case within living memory had made such a tremendous sensation in the country, and in no previous case had so strong and universal a demand been made for the commutation of death sentences. The Sholapur case affords the nearest parallel, but while the demand for the commutation of the sentences of the Sholapur prisoners was confined chiefly to the intelligentsia in one Province, the agitation in the present case was nationwide and was participated in by hundreds of thousands of people in the Punjab and by a very large number of people in other Provinces. The reason is not far to seek. The circumstances of the case, the succession of hunger strikes, the martyrdom of Jatinlal Das, the protracted and more or less farcical proceedings in the Special Magistrate's court, the part played by the Police and the Executive in those proceedings, the Ordinance, the ex parte proceedings before the Special Tribunal constituted under it and one or two extremely regrettable incidents in that court, and all the rest of them, not excluding the well-known fact that the three prisoners had to the last refused to make any petition for mercy, had invested the case with a peculiar character; and as we said yesterday, had in the popular imagination disengaged the prisoners from the crime of which they had been found guilty as the result of a trial in which they took no part and which in its later stages was held in their absence, and had made them the symbol of the most arresting of all ideas in a subject country, the idea of freedom. It was thus that the name of Bhagat Singh, of which no one outside his immediate neighbourhood had heard before he emerged into prominence in the Assembly Bomb Case, became a household word all over the Province and over a large part of the country, and for many months *Bhagat Singh Zindabad* became as common a cry in the mouth of tens of thousands of people, including even small children who had just stepped out of the cradle. Any wise Government would in these circumstances have realised that not only the demands of justice and humanity, but those of expediency and statesmanship as well made it imperative to commute the death sentences in the case. Never was a Government confronted by a situation in which the path of justice was more clearly or more indisputably also the path of self-interest. Never did a Government fail more signally to follow the right path.



The Tribune has always been there for upholding the right of the people to dissent and defending whatever is in public interest. TRIBUNE PHOTO: RAVI KUMAR



HK DUA

FORMER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE TRIBUNE

Photo: RAVI KUMAR

# Owes its success to credibility

**T**HE publication of *The Tribune* began in 1881, thanks to the initiative, zeal and financial support of Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia. It was a huge thing for Indian citizens to have a newspaper that raised India's voice in their own country. The valiant efforts of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev during the freedom struggle, their trial and subsequent execution were covered extensively by *The Tribune*.

I remember the time when the results of Panjab University's exams used to reach readers only through *The Tribune*. In Amritsar, the students' family members and friends used to reach Hall Bazaar, where they would wait anxiously for the paper to arrive. The moment it was announced that *The Tribune* had landed, people would jostle to be the first to grab a copy. In the 1950s, it was a big thing to pass the matriculation exams, especially for girls. It was through the scramble for seeing the results that I got introduced to *The Tribune*. During my college education, it was a matter of pride to read this newspaper in campus and public libraries. In my college days, I was given the task of going through the newspaper and writing passages on the blackboard. Though there were Hindi newspapers such as *Navbharat Times* and *Hindustan*, students gave due attention to *The Tribune* so as to sharpen their English language skills. *The Tribune* also had a wide variety of national and regional news that was not found in newspapers published from New Delhi.

After Independence, the newspaper faced many challenges, particularly during the Emergency and the era of militancy in Punjab. There was a perception that it was not easy for the common man to meet *The Tribune*'s Editors, but once when I accompanied women from terror-hit families for a meeting with the then Editor-in-Chief VN Narayanan in Chandigarh, I found his compassion and sensitivity exemplary. We were told that he would be available only for a few minutes, but he patiently listened to the women for more than an hour. Their ordeal was also highlighted in the newspaper. I say it with immense pleasure that a couple of my important articles were translated and published by *The Tribune*. These articles pertained to the terror-affected women and the kidney racket.

It took a while for *The Tribune* to reach Hindi readers, but finally it did. I developed an enduring bond with *Dainik Tribune* through its then Editor Radhey Shyam Sharma. Many of my special articles and satirical pieces were carried by this publication. *The Tribune* has been through many crests and troughs. Credit goes to the newspaper's founder, Editors, employees and readers for ensuring that it commands the same respect that it did when it was launched. The credibility of *The Tribune* is the secret of its success.



LAXMI KANTA CHAWLA

FORMER BIP MINISTER

I never thought my place of birth — Ferozepur — would be an advantage till I joined *The Tribune* in March 2010. In the 1980s, when Punjab was in turmoil and terrorist attacks were frequent, I would invariably be stopped at the immigration counter when they saw my passport and security personnel would tell me to step aside for a more detailed scrutiny. Ferozepur was then considered a hotbed for militants, so even my baggage would be offloaded and searched thoroughly. What

added to their suspicion was that my surname had a distinct Southern ancestry and they would ask how I came to be born in a Northern extremity of the country. I had to explain to them that my father, who served in the Army, was posted there, when my mother gave birth to me.

Frankly, I had no recollection of Ferozepur as my father had been transferred out when I was four years old. What remained with me was a fondness to eat *paranthas* for breakfast instead of the South Indian fare of *idli* or *dosa*. So, among my first trips when I came aboard *The Tribune* was to visit Ferozepur along with my son. We went to the armed forces hospital where I was born and I called my mother, who was alive then and lived in Bengaluru, to inform her. She didn't remember much about the hospital and its looks but it was a moment that would remain etched in my memory. I wrote about my experience in *The Tribune* and among those who read it was the then Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal. He immediately called and spoke to me in chaste Punjabi on the assumption that my place of birth would have endowed me with the ability to understand and speak the language. Alas, it had not and we quickly switched to speaking in English. Another leader who had taken note of my article was the then Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh and when I met him a few weeks later he talked to me about his experiences of the city when he was young.

What my birthplace did give was an almost instant acceptance among the readers of my stewardship of a newspaper they felt truly belonged to them. I was Punjabi by birth and

# A Punjabi Editor by birth



RAJ CHENGAPPA

FORMER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE TRIBUNE



The Tribune is a vibrant entity that will always remain vital to the lives of the people of the region.

*The Tribune* occupies a unique place in Indian journalism because it is one of the few newspapers run by a non-profit Trust that is committed to the freedom of the Press and not to the financial balance sheet.

that was good enough. *The Tribune* readers, I soon found, did not just respect the newspaper for its independence and integrity but also loved it as they would do a member of their family. Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh told me that their morning did not begin or was not complete unless they read *The Tribune*. Badal even told me that he ensured that every news item that pertained to governance in Punjab was cut out and sent to his officers for comments and action. Many bureaucrats in the region showed me old clippings of the newspaper which had chronicled their achievements when they were young, including winning a sporting event or topping competitive examinations. Such was the faith in the newspaper's power that on many occasions I would receive calls at midnight to report a theft or an accident. Whatever the hour, I always made it a point to answer them patiently and assure them that a *Tribune* correspondent would be in touch with them soon to get the details. To me the trust they reposed in *The Tribune* was sacred and I would do all that was in my power to honour it.

*The Tribune* has not only lived up to its motto of being the true 'voice of the people' but also ensured that they were always heard loud and clear. On many occasions, the newspaper columns brought significant

change or prevented a wrongdoing from happening. I recall that when a major private building construction company sought to erect a cluster of high-rise housing apartments near the Sukhna Lake in Chandigarh in violation of the rules laid down, *The Tribune*'s team of reporters (along with a graphic artist) did a series of stories exposing their plans. It was a long-drawn battle that moved from the High Court to the Supreme Court for justice to finally prevail and the project to be stopped. Right through the battle, the Trustees of *The Tribune* stood by the editorial decision to expose the truth resisting pressures from many powerful quarters to do otherwise. *The Tribune* occupies a unique place in Indian journalism because it is one of the few newspapers run by a non-profit Trust that is committed to the freedom of the Press and not to the financial balance sheet. The newspaper prides itself for its fair, balanced and honest coverage of news, apart from being unafraid to speak truth to power. For me, it was a great privilege to serve *The Tribune* and its readers for the five years that I was at the helm. Now in its 140th year, it is more than just an institution, it is a vibrant entity that will always remain vital to the lives of the people of the region and their well-being.

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# Affirmation of readers' loyalty

**M**Y romance with newspapers started 80 years ago when I was about nine years old. We were living in Peshawar, now in Pakistan. The medium of instruction in my school was Urdu, even as Hindi was among the subjects taught. English was taught only from Class VI. So, I read various Urdu and Hindi papers regularly in the public reading room. *The Tribune* was then published only in English.

After Partition, we migrated along with others to what was then called East Punjab. *The Tribune* shifted from Lahore to India. I joined college at Jullundur (Jalandhar) in 1948 where I started reading *The Tribune*. Ever since then, reading *The Tribune* daily has become a sort of addiction. I have been reading it regularly except during brief periods when living outside Punjab. I have subscribed to four daily English papers, but *The Tribune* is the first paper I read thoroughly for its unmatched coverage of news from Punjab, Haryana and other states in the region.

BB MAHAJAN

FORMER UNION FOOD SECRETARY

A major advantage with *The Tribune* is that it is run by a Trust and is not owned by any business or industrial house. It can, therefore, present news and views without being influenced by the interests of its owners. It has always had eminent persons from public life among its trustees. It has also the tradition of publishing news only after proper verification. You can, therefore, depend on it for authenticity of its news. It presents the news in a sober, balanced manner and is not given to sensational headlines. It also presents them in a reader-friendly way by grouping those pertaining to Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K and those relating to national affairs, world affairs, sports, arts etc. on separate pages. Its language is simple, easily understandable by the common reader. It has a secular, liberal and democratic outlook and scrupulously avoids encouraging violent or sectarian activities.

The paper, like most others, is also published online. In this format, it is particularly useful while staying outside Punjab and it is quite popular with Punjabis living abroad. I recall during late 1999, when we were in Switzerland for a short stay, I looked forward to reading the online edition of the paper every day to get the latest developments of the Kargil war.

Since the paper has a high circulation among English newspapers in Punjab and Chandigarh, it has been the obvious choice for giving advertisements both for personal purposes and for an NGO of which I have been the Chairman or Member Director for the past 18 years. Those have always received good response. A few articles which I wrote for the paper have also been well received. The paper is read regularly by most public men and officers in the region. The news and views published in it, therefore, exercise considerable influence on policy-making at the state level in the region and the grievances or shortcomings pointed out by it receive prompt attention from the authorities.

The fact that the paper is celebrating its 140th anniversary is testimony to the steadfast loyalty of its readers. I wish the paper a bright future in the service of its readers.

# A fairy tale going strong

**J**OURNALISTS more often than not wear their politics, opinion and attitude on their sleeves or as badges of identity to be displayed for entry into the ring of pugilistic propaganda. The more extremely distasteful the view, the greater its traction — that seems to be the motto. Worse, this hate speech in turn is packaged and leveraged for commercial success and wealth creation. What better illustrative example of these ugly performers than some of our contemporary news television anchors who hold kangaroo courts every evening to dish out character assassination fatwas or to drum up religious bigotry to turn neighbours against each other. It is in this social and political context the story of *The Tribune* needs to be retold and cherished. This is a newspaper that grew braving colonial repression, military trials, life-threatening mob violence, loss of all possessions and displacement; yet, it made decency, moderation and sobriety its credo and the bedrock of its journalism.

Even 100 years later, *The Tribune's* greatest Editor Kalinath Ray's writings done during the worst of times stand testimony to a newspaper's ingenuity to inspire and not incite the reader. When the devil and the angel in us wrestle, it is always an external agency with some social or intellectual legitimacy that tilts the balance. This newspaper always weighed in favour of a rule-based society, decorum in public conduct and generosity in political transactions. But that does not mean that it never called to arms the righteous forces of correction or to account the rulers, past and present. Even while questioning the worst governors, the language was that of reforms and not reaction, and every chargesheet was delivered with copious courtesy and abundance of respect for the adversary even where it wasn't strictly due.

At the height of imperialist hubris, when the Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab province was wrathfully punishing the people for asserting their rights, *The Tribune* termed his actions foolish or unwise without calling him names, or rather with all the honorifics due to his inflamed sense of self: "Our strongest objection is to the spirit and temper which Sir Michael O'Dwyer brings to the discussion. His Honour knows, as we all do, that the atmosphere is highly charged that the public mind is in a state of unusual excitement. At such a time, a wise ruler would do all he could to allay the public feeling to utter the soft word that turneth away wrath. If there is bitterness, he increases it immensely."



Even while dissecting the govt's decisions, Ray was analytical, rational and impartial.

Kalinath Ray's writings stand testimony to a newspaper's ingenuity to inspire and not incite the reader.

This editorial, titled 'Blazing Indiscretion', which appeared on April 10, 1919, earned Ray rigorous imprisonment for four months, with the rest of the two-year term suspended.

But his crusade to seek justice for those fallen at Jallianwala Bagh on April 13, 1919, and all those illegally imprisoned and inhumanly treated by the martial law administration continued relentlessly; yet, with no rancour or personal vendetta. Even while dissecting the government's decisions, Ray was analytical, rational and above all impartial to the core. The injustice meted out to him did not affect his response to the administration. He was in his writings the very personification of the Gandhian principle of rejecting the evil deed without hating the doer. Gandhi was for Ray, "the most saintly of Indian leaders... in whom Indian humanity has reached its perfection." But that did not stop Ray from critiquing Gandhi's Khilafat and non-cooperative movements, particularly the consequences of the boycotting of educational institutions.

Reading Ray is like re-inventing oneself as a journalist and a human being; a unique lesson in the possibility of self-effacing work resulting in a grand project. Ray, in fact, represents that generation of fearless minds, which fought for the country's freedom in the drudgery of their daily grind. And it gives one immense satisfaction to have refreshed the memory of the role of *The Tribune* and Ray during the commemoration of the centenary of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre in 2019.

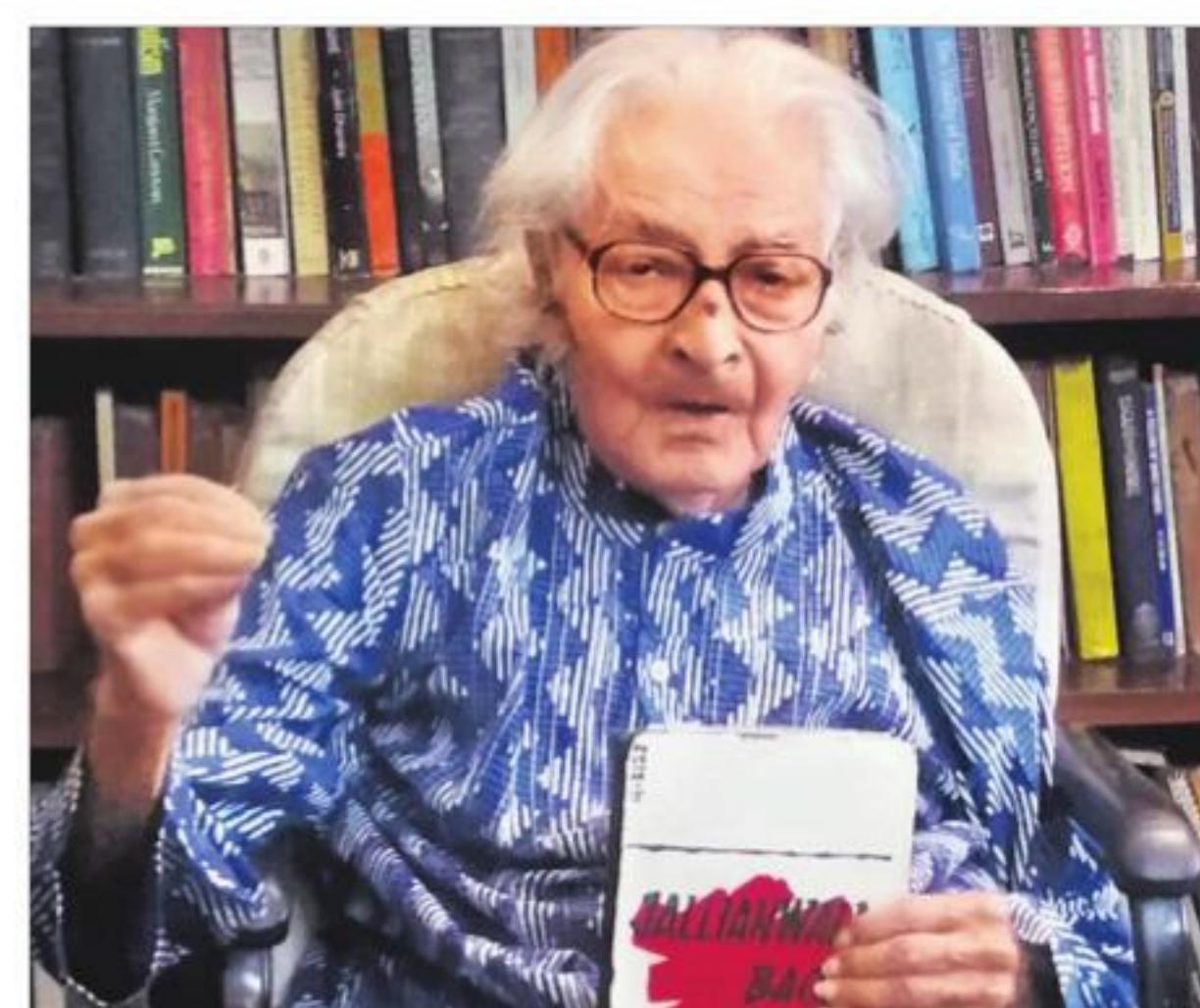
Equally inspiring is the story of the grit of *The Tribune* staff that fled Lahore at the peak of the Partition riots like millions of other refugees to restart the newspaper from scratch. "The Tribune carried only the name of the paper with it," wrote Prakash Ananda in *A History of The Tribune*. Every single article of material possession (but for bank deposits and government bonds) was lost; in that sense, *The Tribune*'s is the story of every hardworking, honest refugee who recreated his or her life all over again. From a single-sheet two-page newspaper in Shimla in September 1947 to a rebirth in Ambala within months and to cross the grand milestones of one lakh copies in circulation and Rs 1 crore in revenue within a couple of decades sounds like a fairy tale. It indeed was one made possible by formidable people. A fairy tale that gets longer as it is retold.

# Legacy of Jallianwala Bagh tragedy

**T**HE year 1919 changed the direction of Indian politics. The Jallianwala Bagh incident in Amritsar, a most horrific massacre, was not only an act of utmost imperial brutality but triggered a new type of confrontation between the British government and the Indian people. What is often forgotten is that the massacre invoked different perspectives that shaped the contested idea of modern India. Never before had any incident, except for 1857, invoked such a visceral response to the British atrocity as did Jallianwala Bagh. We should call it mass murder, as indeed it was. The massacre shaped a new consciousness of anti-colonial resistance, which henceforth legitimised a violent stance in nationalist protest. Paradoxically, at the same time, Gandhi launched his influential non-violent movement after Jallianwala Bagh. However anachronistic this may sound, the tide towards a more vigorous nationalist upsurge would not have happened without *The Tribune*. The history of 1919, as many would not know, was fashioned by *The Tribune*, which shaped the ground for a robust mass mobilisation in Punjab. Significantly, never before had print journalism presented such a critical narrative, which so fundamentally influenced both the strands of the national movement, the militant and the non-violent. Doubtless, *The Tribune* exemplified an extraordinary spirit of independent journalism following this tumultuous year of unprecedented tragedy, when General Dyer's 1,650 gunshots killed 700 innocents (estimate by historian VN Datta).

Many strands lie buried in the sands of history of 1919. One such forgotten narrative is that of Kalinath Ray, the indomitable Editor of *The Tribune*. Ray was born in 1878 at Jessore and educated at Scottish Church College in Kolkata. He began his career working for a Bengali magazine edited by Surendranath Banerjee. In 1911, he joined *The Punjabee*, a Lahore newspaper known for its radical political views, founded by Lala Lajpat Rai. Surendranath Banerjee persuaded Kali babu to join *The Tribune*, which he did, in 1917, as Editor. Soon Ray assumed centre stage with his anti-colonial perspective on the rule of tyranny in Punjab. This he achieved through his bold editorials that crafted a powerful critique of imperial rule. Ray's critical intervention, in response to the Rowlatt Bills as 'Black Acts', underscored press freedom, critiqued detention without trial and arrest without warrant. In one of his trenchant pieces, 'A Colossal Blunder', he exposed the enormity of colonial bureaucratic atrocity resulting in the usurping of fundamental rights of people. Ray had to pay a heavy price. His powerful writing had an enduring impact on Punjab. After Jallianwala Bagh, Ray's defiant pen didn't stop.

Ray's 'seditious' editorials in *The Tribune* constituted a new language of liberty that offered a rigorous line of dissent from imperial rule. The confrontation between imperial power and the Punjabis became the benchmark for resistance. This was a far cry from Punjab being the bulwark of the British Empire. *The Tribune* thus assumed the role of a leading commentator and supporter of every aspect of the freedom struggle. There was no turning back. This courageous newspaper struck at the roots of empire. In 1919, there were 1,500 newspapers in India reaching perhaps two million readers. *The Tribune*, owing to Ray, became representative of Indian public opinion, and one of the only three anti-colonial newspapers. As the clash between *The Tribune* and the tyrant O'Dwyer, Lieutenant Governor of Punjab, became virulent, Ray became the hero of the youth of Punjab. Eminent litterateur Mulk Raj Anand, who studied at Khalsa College, Amritsar, said about his meeting with the 'redditable' Ray in 1923, "I came to



It was *The Tribune*, particularly the writings of Editor Kalinath Ray, that turned VN Datta (1926-2020) into a historian of Jallianwala Bagh. PHOTO BY THE AUTHOR

you because I have been reading your editorial everyday... I want to be like you... I hope I learn enough English to join *The Tribune* one day..."

Ray's inflammatory editorials were anathema to the British, much more than Gandhi's satyagraha. His fearless writings targeted O'Dwyer, whose administration, he described, in his most powerful editorial as 'Blazing Indiscretion'. The British felt seriously threatened by his writings. So, Ray was convicted by the Martial Law Commission and imprisoned.

In his monumental history of the newspaper, *The Tribune: 130 Years, A Witness to History* (2011), Amritsar-born historian VN Datta, who was emboldened by Ray's writings in his young days, writes: "As the main guide in his young days, Kalinath Ray gave to *The Tribune* dignity of independence. He proved radical in shedding the former moderate tone of

*The Tribune* in the discussion of national issues." Indeed, the efforts of *The Tribune* paid off. Gandhi built upon the persecution of *The Tribune* and made it an issue of national importance. The result was momentous for all-India politics. The Amritsar Congress session held in December 1919 was in the words of his protégé, Jawaharlal Lal Nehru, the first 'Gandhi Congress'.

Indeed, it was *The Tribune* that turned Vishwanath Datta into a historian of Jallianwala Bagh. He started writing for the revolutionary newspaper as early as 1946, as a student at Government College, Lahore. Datta crafted his major essay covering Jallianwala Bagh, in 1969, on the 50th anniversary of the massacre. This appeared in *The Tribune* and led to his pioneering book on the subject in the same year.

Datta picked up from where Ray left. Among other themes, he highlighted

the parting of ways between ruler and ruled. He laid bare the contradictions and ambiguities of 1919. For him, the legacy of Jallianwala Bagh acted as a muse to national politics. As an inheritor of Ray's prose of resistance, Datta juxtaposed the revolutionary and non-violent strands of nationalism. He demonstrated that 1919 eventually became a blueprint for a new way of relating to India's freedom struggle. In Datta's perspicuous words, 'Jallianwala Bagh changed the idiom of Indian nationalism.'

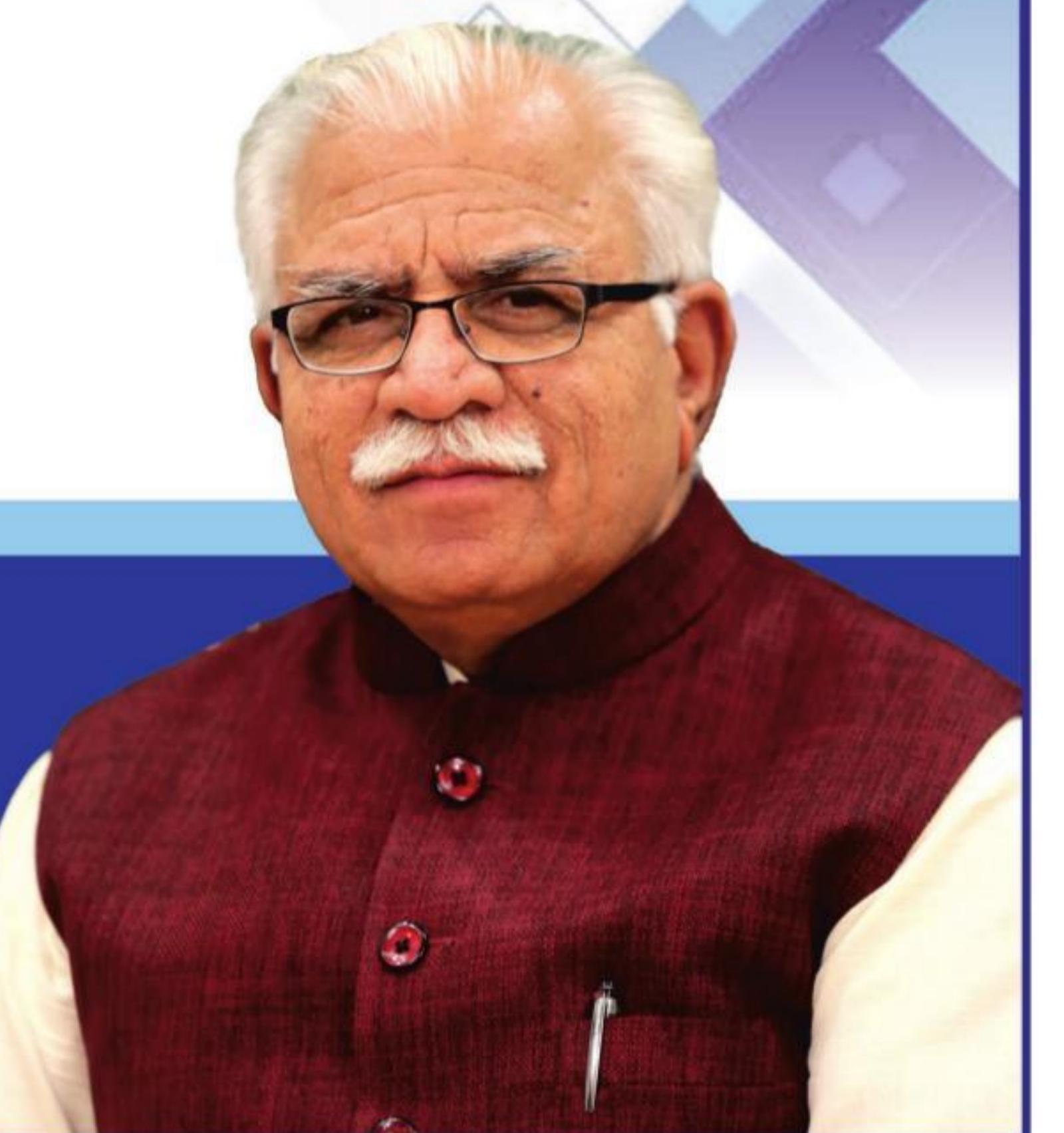
If Ray became a symbol of free journalism in India, free from the diktat of the colonial government, VN Datta's landmark history of Jallianwala Bagh continues to serve as a beacon light for future generations, encapsulating the complex strands of compromise, collaboration, resistance and dissent in India's freedom struggle. Datta's lifelong engagement with Jallianwala Bagh brings out many ironies. The legacy of Jallianwala, argues Datta, was even more decisive than the event of the massacre itself.

Jallianwala Bagh marked a 'turning point' in the history of Punjab. There would have been no Bhagat Singh and no Udham Singh had there been no Jallianwala Bagh massacre. Their radical voice of resistance left the empire destabilised. Punjab was thereafter witness to different forms of violence and political resistance. Indeed, Punjab became the empire's nemesis. Revolutionary 'terrorism' became a weapon of the Punjabis. The wounds of Jallianwala Bagh still fester in the 21st century. People's fury and anguish know no bounds. The turbulence and crisis that continue to disturb post-Partition Punjab are the legacies of Jallianwala Bagh and imperial violence. And the resistance, true to the spirit of Punjab, continues. Indeed, the present farmers' heroic protest is rooted in the long tradition of resistance, rage and revolution nurtured by Jallianwala Bagh. Long live resurgent Punjab. Long live independent journalism.

The spirit of Kalinath Ray, an activist journalist, lives on. So does the passion of historian VN Datta.



Govt. of Haryana



# Haryana Enterprises and Employment Policy 2020\*

**Focus - Building a strong economy on the basis of Inclusive Industrial Development**

**Objective - To generate 5 lakh jobs, attract investments over Rs.1 lakh crore and double the exports to Rs.2 lakh crore**

I am hopeful that the 'Haryana Enterprises and Employment Policy-2020' will set new dimensions for progress and growth of the State. During the corona pandemic, this policy will encourage entrepreneurs & investors and will also create new opportunities of employment for the youth.

- Dushyant Chautala  
Deputy Chief Minister, Haryana



## Other Innovative Steps

For balanced regional growth, the entire State has been classified into A, B, C and D categories of blocks with provision of different scale of incentives.

The Policy has identified 08 thrust Sectors for which enhanced incentives have been offered.

New Initiatives to promote enterprises engaged in import substitution, essential goods, entrepreneurship development, research & innovation and start-up ecosystem development and rural industrial growth.

\* Refer to the policy document at <https://haryanaindustries.gov.in/> for detailed provisions

“ The Government has launched the 'Haryana Enterprises and Employment Policy -2020'. We are fully optimistic that this policy will boost the opportunities of employment with balanced regional development and will establish Haryana as a competitive and most preferred investment sector.”

- **Manohar Lal**  
Chief Minister, Haryana

## Major Regulatory And Procedural Reforms

- **Mega and Ultra-mega projects** shall be exempted from the purview of all labour laws except Minimum Wages Act for a period of 3 years, subject to the fulfillment of certain conditions
- Enhanced FAR from **75% to up to 200%**
- **Auto provision for transfer** of HSIIDC plots
- **Increased FAR up to 250%** for Flatted Factories
- **Increased FAR up to 250%** for Industrial plots for Labour Housing
- HSIIDC will **offer Land on Lease basis**
- Authority for estate management to **industrial park developer**
- Provisions of **Auto CLU for land area** up to 1 acre
- All business **clearances for MSMEs within 15 days** and thereafter deemed clearance on HEPC portal

## Major Fiscal Incentives For MSMEs, Large & Mega Enterprises

- Investment Subsidy in lieu of **Net SGST upto 100%** for 8-10 years with cap up to 150% of FCI
- Investment Subsidy up to 5% of FCI for 8 years, maximum Rs. 5 Crore per year for mega projects in case of inverted duties and if Net SGST deposited is less than 5% of FCI in a year
- **Employment Generation Subsidy** up to Rs. 48,000/- per employee per year for up to 10 years
- **Stamp duty refund** up to 100%
- Electricity duty **exemption up to 20 years**
- Provision of Special Package of Incentives for **Mega and Ultra-Mega Enterprises**

## Micro & Small Enterprises Specific Incentives

- **Interest Subsidy for Micro & Small Enterprises** 5-7% on term loan with a cap of Rs. 20 lakh per year for 7 years
- **Subsidy for Environment Compliance** up to 75%, up to Rs. 1 crore
- Under **Haryana Gramin Udyogik Vikas Yojna** 15% capital Subsidy with maximum of Rs. 20 lakh, 7% Interest subsidy with maximum of Rs. 8.00 lakh per year for 7 years and 50% subsidy on DG Set cost
- 50% subsidy up to Rs. 20 Lakh per year for the **purchase of testing equipments**
- **Energy & water conservation subsidy** @50%, maximum up to Rs. 20 Lakh
- **Collateral free credit guarantee scheme** for bank loan for the period of 5 years
- Special provisions for **Start-Ups-Interest subsidy** of 8%, maximum up to Rs. 20 lakh per year for 5 years, Seed Grant up to Rs.10 lakh per start-up, 100% Net SGST Reimbursement for 7 years with cap of 150% FCI

## Special Provision For Import Substitution, R&D, Bio Energy And Waste Management

- **Concession for Import Substitution Enterprises** in HSIIDC Industrial plots up to 25% in 'B' blocks and up to 50% in 'C' and 'D' blocks for Mega and Ultra Mega units
- Provision for **subsidy of up to Rs. 5 crore** for Research & Development
- **Bio energy from agricultural residue** will be treated as "Industry" and provision of capital subsidy up to Rs. 2.5 Crore
- Subsidy @50% of total project cost maximum up to Rs. 50 crore for setting up of **Electronic Waste Management Projects**

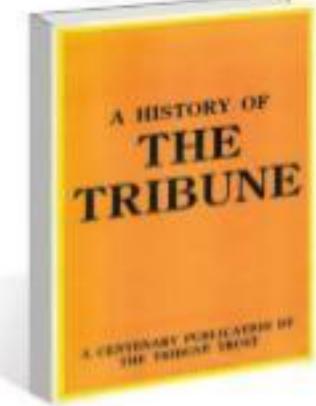


## EDITORS

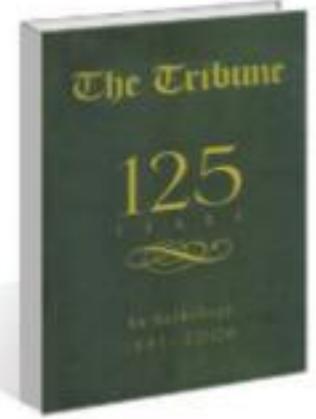
- Sitala Kanta Chatterjee
- JC Bose
- Bepin Chander Pal
- NN Gupta
- Alfred Nundy
- SC Bhatia
- Kalinath Ray
- M Subramanyam
- PT Chandra
- Rana Jang Bahadur Singh
- J Natarajan
- Prem Bhatia
- Pandit Amolak Ram
- R Madhavan Nair
- Prem Bhatia
- VN Narayanan
- Hari Jaisingh
- HK Dua
- Raj Chengappa
- Harish Khare
- Rajesh Ramachandran

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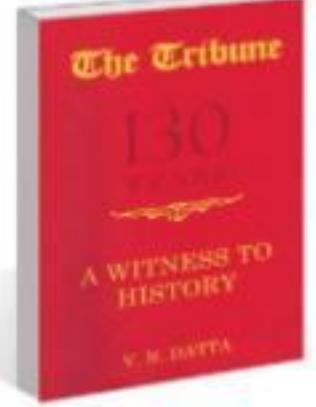
- Lala Ram Chand
- Malik Arjan Das
- PL Sondhi
- Vir Sen Chopra
- PL Sondhi
- RR Sharma
- SD Bhambri
- RN Gupta
- Sanjay Hazari
- Vinay Verma



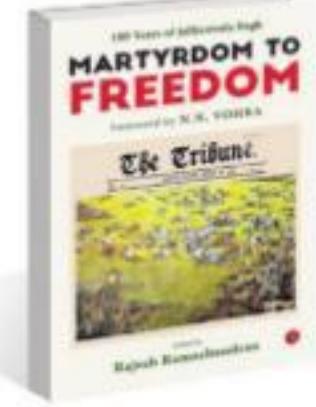
Written by  
Prakash  
Ananda,  
The Tribune  
Trust, 1986



Compiled by  
Pran Neville,  
Hay House,  
2008



Written by  
VN Datta,  
Hay House,  
2011



Edited by  
Rajesh  
Ramachandran,  
Rupa, 2019

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## SARDAR DYAL SINGH MAJITHIA



Bust sculpted by Latika Katt, unveiled in 2015.

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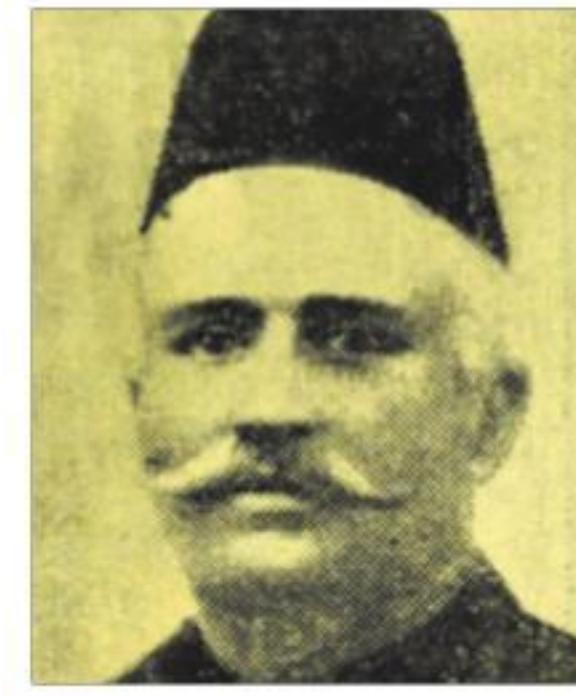
LALA HARKISHAN LAL

1898-1913, 1932-36



CHARLES GOLAK NATH

1898-1911



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## NN VOHRA



Padma Vibhushan; formerly:  
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Remembrancer to the Punjab  
Government; Registrar, Punjab  
and Haryana High Court.

## LT GEN SS MEHTA (RETD)



Formerly: GoC-in-C, Western  
Command; GoC-in-C, Army Training  
Command, Shimla; Deputy Chief of Army  
Staff (Planning & Systems); recipient of  
Param Vishisht Seva Medal, Ati Vishisht  
Seva Medal and Bar and Vishisht Seva  
Medal; Mentioned-in-Dispatches 1971  
War; Member, National Security  
Advisory Board; Director General of CII.

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Service Commission; DGP, Jammu  
and Kashmir; Director General,  
Border Security Force; recipient  
of President's Police Medal for  
Distinguished Service and Indian  
Police Medal for Meritorious Service;  
Special Duty Medal (Punjab and J&K).

# A deeply concerned voice, firm but not shrill

**Tribune:** An officer of ancient Rome elected by the plebeians to protect their rights from arbitrary acts of the patrician magistrates; also, a dais or rostrum.

—Merriam Webster Dictionary

**I**t has been close to a century and a half since *The Tribune* was founded and I wonder sometimes what kind of discussions must have been held, what cogitations must have gone on, when a decision was taken by an enlightened group of citizens, under the leadership of Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, to start a newspaper in British India. What name should be given to it, for instance? What should be the focus of the newspaper's first issue? What promises should it hold out to its readers? How should it position itself vis-à-vis the ruling British establishment? A few of the many questions that must have kept the founders in the air above the heads of the founders.

There are no records of these discussions; at least none that I have been able to locate or access. But about the name one

can make a fair guess. There were many newspapers that must have been known to bear this title, not in India but elsewhere: in the United States, or Europe, for instance. As long ago as in the days of the French Revolution, in 1792 to be precise, Desmoulins, a highly influential and activist journalist, had founded a new journal called *La Tribune des Patriotes*; in the United States, there were newspapers like the *New York Tribune* founded in 1841, and the *New York Daily Tribune* in 1842, which were circulating. In their names, those papers, among others, must almost certainly have sought to evoke memories of the Tribunes of ancient Rome, in the centuries before Christ when it was still a Republic, whose task it was to stand up and defend the rights of people, especially commoners referred to as plebeians, against those who exercised influence and wielded authority: the patricians. The decision to name the newspaper at Lahore as *The Tribune* might therefore not have been difficult, for at least one compelling thought

The decision to name the paper as *The Tribune* might not have been difficult, for at least one compelling thought behind its founding was to give voice to the people: become their mouthpiece.

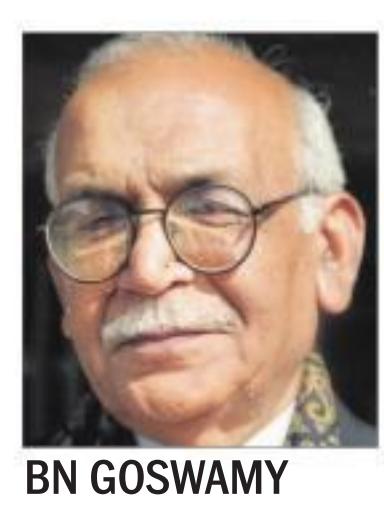
behind its founding was to give voice to the people: become their mouthpiece. The other possible questions facing the founders — the positioning, the promises — they decided to answer on the front page of the newspaper itself when its very first issue was published: Wednesday, the 2nd of February, 1881. There was first a statement of loyalty — almost certainly an obligation then, perhaps even a pre-condition for the licence to publish being granted — towards the 'masters'. 'Towards the rulers of the country,' the statement ran, 'our conduct will be marked by staunch and unswerving loyalty.' Before

one begins to wonder about this submissive tone, the next passage, closely following on the same page, needs to be noted, and absorbed. To cite it in full: 'At the same time,' it declares, 'our loyalty shall not be incompatible with free, but temperate and respectful criticism of those measures and actions when they call for such criticism. For it is our belief that true loyalty consists, not in passive and unbroken silence at all times and under all circumstances, or in unquestioning and hypocritical approval of all that emanates from authority but in an intelligent appreciation of their merits and a respectful representation of their demerits...'

The tone of this 'declaration of intent' is clear and firm, and one would not be surprised if it came from Surendranath Banerjee, the brilliant and often defiant nationalist leader — the British used to call him 'Surrender not Banerjee' — who had greatly influenced Sardar Dyal Singh, perhaps even led him to decide about founding an English newspaper in the Punjab. At the same time, other averments were made, other promises held out to the prospective readers of the paper. Thus, for instance: "... *The Tribune* will be conducted on broad and catholic principles. Our sympathies will be comprehensive." Again: "*The Tribune* will

further aim at uniting the various nationalities and races of India (engaged in) the great work of national regeneration." There was also — clearly in view of the insidious British game of dividing the country along communal lines and ruling, the promise: "In religious matters we shall maintain a strictly neutral position."

For most newspapers, or other media now — unless of course they have been 'bought' or sponsored, which is not uncommon the case — there is always a thin line to walk on. But, as one looks over one's shoulder at the past one hundred and forty years of *The Tribune*, one gets a celebratory sense. There are bound to be highs and lows; the challenge of vicissitude is built into the history of any institution. But this newspaper, one can say, has remained true to its initial promises, its declared creed: 'temperate and respectful criticism'; no 'unquestioning and hypocritical approval of all that emanates from authority'; the belief that 'public weal is more advanced by charity and moderation than by rancour and hard words'; a 'strictly neutral position in religious matters'. One is bound to respect a voice that is firm but not shrill; occasionally gives advice but does not pontificate; speaks in a tongue that is clear and singular, not forked.



BN GOSWAMY

ART HISTORIAN

# An enduring bond with the paper

In 1960, I came to Chandigarh from Calcutta (now Kolkata) for setting up a factory with German collaboration. Coming from a metropolis with a long history to an absolutely brand-new city with a population of 75,000 was somewhat daunting. However, business takes us anywhere. Chandigarh had only one cinema house, one proper restaurant and one major hotel. To stay on the air map of India, there was only one commercial flight once a week. Thus, it was not surprising that there was only one English newspaper, *The Tribune*. It was the solitary source of local, national or international news. It was also the search engine. Whenever I and my wife were looking for a house on rent, we scrolled the *The Tribune's* classified advertisement columns. *The Tribune* had become a companion with the morning cup of tea.

*The Tribune* was headquartered at Ambala before it shifted to Chandigarh. It did not matter to the readers since it made its presence felt in the City Beautiful. It gave details of the 1962 Indo-China war, the 1965 Indo-Pak war, and also the 1971 Bangladesh war, although national radio would give updates of the events.

I recall an episode during the Emergency. R Madhavan Nair was the Editor of *The Tribune* and he was fairly independent and sensible, not crossing the line in the coverage of news or airing of his views. He did not follow the dictates of the then Chief Minister of Haryana Bansi Lal. The latter wanted to get Nair arrested and asked NP Mathur, the then Chief Commissioner of UT Chandigarh, to take immediate action. In a conversation with me, Mathur mentioned that he politely refused the demand for arrest and told the Editor, "Mr Nair, as long as you are within the UT boundaries, you are in no danger of arrest, but if you take one step out of its limits, I will not be able to help." *The Tribune's* stock in the estimation of the people went up.

The then Editor-in-Chief VN Narayanan became a family friend. When I was chosen to be World President of Rotary International, I requested him to write an article on me for publication in the official magazine, *The Rotarian*, circulated worldwide. Nor-



RK SABOO  
EX-PRESIDENT, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



Partition forced *The Tribune* to shift first to Shimla and then to Ambala.

mally, a staff member of Rotary would be assigned that task, but I felt more comfortable with VN. When I returned in early July 1992 from Rotary world headquarters after completing my two-year stay, Punjab and Chandigarh were in the throes of militancy. VN received death threats, but he did not shirk his duty and always travelled to office or wherever he had to. I told him not to act like a daredevil. His answer was, "I have left it to God and have prepared Radha to accept it if I do not return alive." He shifted to Bangalore as Chief Editor of *Bhavan's Journal*, but our relationship sustained.

My affinity with the paper was constant as was the connection with Editors and Editors-in-Chief. All of them left an indelible mark on the paper, even as they had their individual perspective and ideology. The paper did face crests and troughs just as we experience in life. The ship may have rocked sometimes, but it floated steadily, thanks to the philosophy of its founding father. The paper never became a commercial and business proposition. Thus, it remained independent and continued to be respected by society.

Reading *The Tribune* became a habit, a sort of addiction. When I was in the US for two years (1991-92), the fastest mode of written communication was fax. I used to get copies of *The Tribune* airmailed twice a week. If I was travelling, my secretary in India would fax the important local and national news, and articles. *The Tribune* had given me the luxury of feeling at home. As time progressed and technology developed, the most significant development was the arrival of the Internet. Be it in the US or any other part of the world, even Africa, which I visited frequently on service projects, *The Tribune* was with me through the Internet. I got the newspaper as if I had the real daily in my hands, scrolling and reading local, regional and national news. I suppose *The Tribune* was among the first in India to come up with a web edition. Even during the pandemic, *The Tribune* has retained its premier status and for many, it is read first, and then the others. The celebration of its 140th anniversary is its crowning glory.

*The Tribune* has continuously extended and expanded. I asked Prem Bhatia, when he was the Editor-in-Chief, "With such a vast expanse, why don't you make it a national daily?" His answer was quick, "We like to be number one instead of one among many." One could not dispute that.

## At home in Himachal

THE Tribune has always been a part of our household in Shimla. Picked up early in the morning from the doorstep, its pages were something taken for granted and were a part of the daily routine. The paper first reached my father who, with a cup of tea, would read in bed and when something of particular interest came up, he would read that item aloud to my mother. At times, then, they would discuss it at length. After that, the paper would move on to the dining room for all others to read before breakfast — or after, as sometimes it could be delayed on account of the weather. My father was born and grew up in Lahore and the two papers, I was told, that came to the house were the long-defunct *The Civil and Military Gazette* and *The Tribune*. The former catered substantially to the Anglophilic and the latter balanced the journalistic scales and was avowedly, but maturely, nationalistic.

When we were young, we wanted papers with comic strips and in our eyes, their rating was established correspondingly. *The Tribune* did not cater to such whims and as such, for several years, was dismissively relegated as something that only 'grown-ups' read.

After school, with a horde of other boys from Himachal Pradesh, I joined Government College in Chandigarh. Somewhere along the line, I ended up editing the college magazine. We would have so many discussions of what to put on its pages and the one idea that took root was to connect this college's roots to the parent one in Lahore. To give it shape, we set out to collect stories from people who belonged to Lahore and were now settled in Chandigarh. One of these persons — and of considerable eminence — was Prem Bhatia, the then Editor-



RAAJA BASIN  
AUTHOR

In Spiti, a discarded bit of newspaper was being used to wipe snow off a jacket. Someone picked it up to learn what was happening on the other side of the snowbound hill.

in-Chief of *The Tribune*. With my good friend, the editor of the college magazine's English section (and now, also my brother-in-law), off we went to *The Tribune's* office. My father, who knew Prem Bhatia — they were from the same college, though years apart — had warned us, "Be punctual, be polite and be precise." We ticked off the three 'Ps' and had a very pleasant half an hour with this multi-faceted man and a legendary journalist.

Years later, now back in the hills that I love, I began writing the odd piece for the paper. These were small articles that were first written in longhand and then handed over to a very fine and capable gentleman to type. With a covering note, these were mailed to the paper and its anonymous decision-makers. Many were published; those that weren't became the source of considerable soul-searching, "What was wrong with it? Was the subject inappropriate? Was it badly written?"

The enjoyable thing about writing is its unpredictability. From a column on interiors and design, I was jumping to hotels and travel writing, to poetry and fiction and brushing with history and academia. At the same time, whenever I was travelling across Himachal, I began to notice the respect that *The Tribune* had gar-

nered. Sitting in a small *dhaba* on the road to Chail, there was a piece of paper being used to hold *pakoras*; despite the oil stains, someone was reading it slowly, carefully, mouthing the words. Up in Spiti, a discarded bit of paper was being used to wipe snow off a jacket and again, someone picked it up to learn what was happening on the other side of the snowbound hill.

When I resumed writing for *The Tribune* after a gap that had been taken up by books, columns elsewhere, television and family, it was a homecoming of sorts. And well, why not? After all, the first home that the paper had had after Partition was a couple of hundred yards away from mine. Bantony, in Shimla and now, under restoration, was where *The Tribune* was published till it moved to Ambala.

This may sound rhetorical, even pompous, but what makes a newspaper stand out? Many have become machines where business compulsions and monetary opportunities have overtaken editorial and journalistic content. *The Tribune* is handled by a Board of Trustees and not a board of directors who, by the very nature of things, are compelled to turn to the balance sheet to assess success or failure. One reason why I think *The Tribune* remains highly respected in Himachal Pradesh is due to the high rate of literacy in the state and correspondingly a somewhat more discerning — and demanding — readership. Even if the paper has sometimes been called stodgy, its non-partisan and authentic reporting have given it credibility. This, in great measure, has come from its ethical and capable correspondents and journalists who have covered the state. Again, it is a way-side anecdote that marks the standing *The Tribune* has in Himachal. Not so long back, there was a matter that had triggered controversy, and one overheard this matter-of-fact statement that settled the issue, "Tribune mein tha, to theek hi hogा" (It was in *The Tribune*, so it must be correct).

During the days of militancy in Punjab,

Editor-in-Chief VN Narayanan received death threats, but he did not shirk his duty.

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# Taking on Kairon's censors

**G**REETINGS to *The Tribune* and its readers on its 140th Foundation Day. *The Tribune* was established in 1881 by Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia. He was a philanthropist and a great reformist. He wanted *The Tribune* to be independent and not aligned to any dogma or political party. Pre-Independence history of *The Tribune* is full of patriotism and nationalism. It waged a relentless war against the British rule. It faced numerous turbulent events arising from the freedom struggle. The Jallianwala Bagh massacre in Amritsar shocked the country. The newspaper courageously challenged the brutal action, and for its bold and fearless stand, it won the admiration of Mahatma Gandhi.

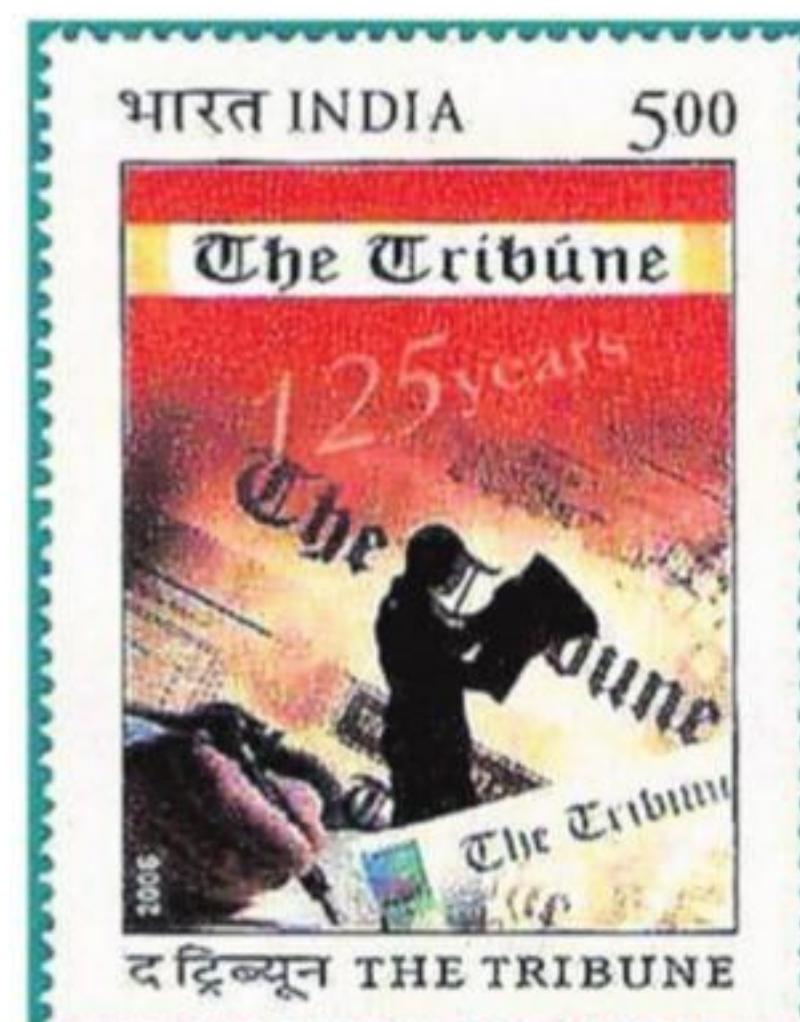
*The Tribune* became a victim of Partition in 1947 and had to shift out of Lahore. Partition was the most abrupt and tragic transfer of population in human history.

Punjab was the worst affected and there was turmoil all over. In a situation like that, it was extremely difficult for any displaced institution to re-establish itself the way it was done by *The Tribune*. It was sheer resilience on the part of *The Tribune* to resume publication from Shimla within 40 days of its closing at Lahore. From Shimla, it shifted to Ambala in 1948 and finally it found a permanent home at Chandigarh.

The book titled *The Tribune: 130 Years, A Witness to History* by VN Datta was released in 2012 by Dr Manmohan Singh, the then Prime Minister. Here is a quote from his speech, "While glancing through the pages of *A Witness to History*, I was struck by the words of an avid *Tribune* reader who wrote to the newspaper on September 25, 1947, the day *The Tribune* resumed publication from Shimla... the reader wrote: 'The heart of Punjab has begun to beat again, though the pulse is yet faint.' The contents of the letter show the popularity of *The Tribune* and its passionate link with the readers.

*The Tribune* is maintaining its bold and independent character and is living up to its founder's vision. During the Punjabi Suba agitation, the Partap Singh Kairon government (1956-64) put a blanket ban on the publication of all reports about the agitation. Kairon ordered that all news reports relating to the agitation must be subjected to pre-censorship. *The Tribune* resisted the ban, opposed it and pleaded for its modification, but the government refused to relent. The reporting by *The Tribune* was bold and fearless. It required plenty of courage to oppose and come in conflict with a powerful Chief Minister who would not tolerate criticism.

In its edition dated November 18, 2010, *The Tribune* published a sensational news wherein it



reported that a 19-tower housing project of the Tatas would irreparably damage Chandigarh's pristine skyline as it would soar above the Sukhna Lake. The news disclosed that as many as 129 politicians — MLAs and MPs (both serving and former representatives) — made a killing by investing Rs 15 lakh each and getting a return of Rs 2.62 crore (each flat worth Rs 1.82 crore and Rs 82.5 lakh in cash) in less than a decade. It was indeed very bold reporting by the paper. It is not easy to take *panga* with powerful politicians, especially when they were benefiting to the tune of crores of rupees. The Chandigarhians took the matter to the court. Finally, the case was won in the Supreme Court and the project was declared illegal — cheers to *The Tribune*.

My association with *The Tribune* goes back to 1948, when I passed my matric exam and started reading the paper to update my knowledge. Since then, I have continuously been reading *The Tribune*. In 1952, I joined a law course at Jalandhar and was lodged in the hostel. I would go to the hostel library almost every day to read the paper as soon it was placed on the reading board. During my four years' stay in London as a student, it was not possible to read *The Tribune* every day. However, I used to visit India House once a week to read the newspaper. I was enrolled as an advocate in November 1959 at Chandigarh and since then, there is hardly a day when I have missed the morning date with *The Tribune*.

While enjoying the glorious phase of my life, I have two fascinating addictions — *The Tribune* in the morning and a drink in the evening.



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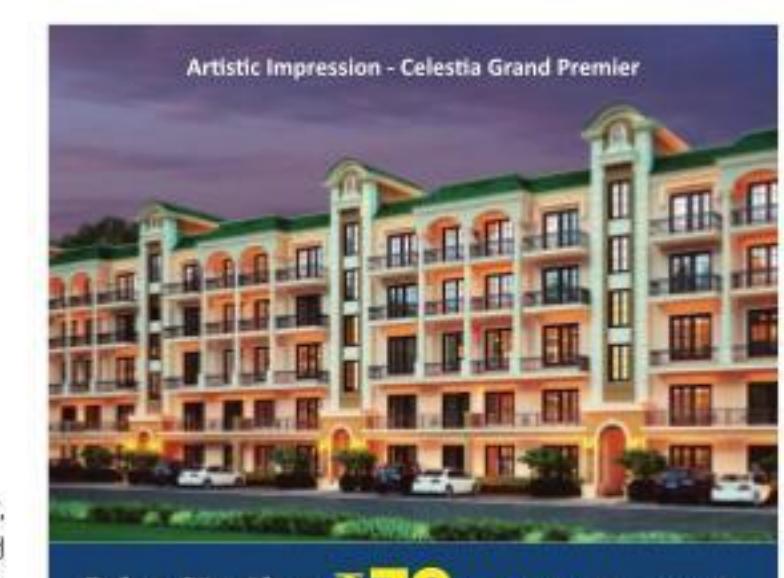
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