

The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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MAMATA MANIFESTO PROMISES
INCOME FOR ALL NATION

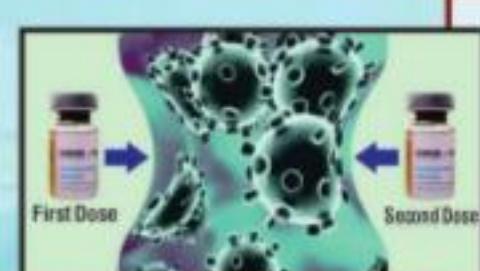
FRANKLIN TEMPLETON'S SIX CLOSED
SCHEMES GENERATE ₹15,272 CR BUSINESS

PEACE TO GIVE INDIA CENTRAL
ASIA ACCESS: IMRAN WORLD



THURSDAY | 18 MARCH 2021

Fight Corona: Be aware and Participate in Vaccination Campaign



Both the corona vaccines are safe



Vaccination awareness for people of 45 years age (with comorbidities) and over 60 years of age



One ASHA & Aanganwadi worker for 200 households for vaccination awareness

Vaccination campaign started on large scale

Stay Alert, Stay Safe

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



Quick steps must to halt 2nd peak: PM

Daily cases near 29K, highest in 3 months | 5 Pb, 8 Hry districts among worst-hit

TREND NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17
With India recording the highest daily Covid cases at 28,903 in the last 94 days, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said states and UTs must take "quick and decisive" steps to stop the emerging "second peak" of the pandemic.

In a virtual interaction with chief ministers and L-Gs, the PM called for enhanced RT-PCR tests, besides ensuring Covid-appropriate behaviour, earmarking micro-containment zones and expanding the vaccination drive.

"Many hitherto unaffected districts are witnessing cases with some reporting over 150 per cent rise in two weeks. If we don't stem the surge now, we can face a national outbreak," cautioned the PM, urging states to ensure at

IT, ED teams raid Hry MLA's premises

PANIPAT, MARCH 17
Joint teams of the Income Tax Department and Enforcement Directorate on Wednesday raided several premises belonging to Congress MLA from Samalkha Dharam Singh Chhokkar and his family members.

House of Chhokkar's aide searched too

The premises included his residence, a petrol pump and some business establishments in Samalkha, Faridabad, Rohtak, Gurugram, Hisar, Chandigarh and other places.

Sources said the officials arrived in Samalkha in the early hours and conducted parallel raids at the MLA's house, the petrol pump at Sai

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

IN BRIEF

SC: Scrapping of 3 cr ration cards serious

NEW DELHI: Terming the cancellation of 3 crore ration cards due to non-linking with holders' Aadhaar as "too serious", the SC issued notices to the Centre and states asking them to spell out their stand. —TNS

6 Asians among 8 die in US shootings

ATLANTA: Eight persons, six of them women of Asian descent, were shot in a string of suspected racist attacks at day spas in and around Atlanta. A suspect was arrested in southern Georgia, police said. **WORLD**

Crew help deliver baby on IndiGo flight

NEW DELHI: A baby girl was born on board IndiGo's 6E 469 Bengaluru-Jaipur flight mid-air on Wednesday with the help of cabin crew and a doctor, the airline said in a statement. —PTI

epaper.tribuneindia.com

Shared climate vision on agenda with Modi: Boris

LONDON, MARCH 17
PM Boris Johnson today hailed his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi for his "fantastic leadership" in the global fight against climate change and said the UK and India's shared vision for a sustainable future would be among the issues on the agenda for talks with the "friend" during his upcoming visit to New Delhi next month.

Addressing a virtual International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure inaugurated by Modi, Johnson said: "We have a shared vision for a sustainable future for our nations and I look forward to discussing this and many other issues with PM Modi." —PTI

The premises included his residence, a petrol pump and some business establishments in Samalkha, Faridabad, Rohtak, Gurugram, Hisar, Chandigarh and other places.

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GLOBAL COOPERATION MUST ON DISASTER: PM

Many infra systems cover the world and the effect of disaster in one part can spread quickly. Cooperation is must to ensure resilience of global system.
Narendra Modi, PRIME MINISTER

Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran, Hitendra Sharma, Bahadurgarh SDM, said the administration had earlier appealed to the farmers not to indulge in such illegal acts.

Despite that, some people were found digging a borewell near Najafgarh flyover and constructing a structure on the road dividing Sectors 10

Mumbai top cop shunted out

TREND NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17
Facing flak over the alleged mishandling of the bomb scare outside billionaire Mukesh Ambani's residence, the Maharashtra Government today replaced Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh with senior IPS officer Hemant Nagrare.

State Home Minister Anil Deshmukh announced this following daylong meetings with CM Uddhav Thackeray and other senior leaders.

The developments came after a massive tug-of-war between the ruling Maha Vikas Aghadi allies (Shiv

AMBANI SECURITY SCARE

Maha Government is under fire over handling of bomb scare outside Mukesh Ambani's house. On Monday, CM Uddhav Thackeray met NCP chief Sharad Pawar amid reports that arrested cop Sachin Waze stage-managed it on instructions from Param Bir Singh

Sena, Nationalist Congress Party and Congress) in the past over two weeks after an SUV with explosives was found abandoned outside

Antilia, Ambani's home.

The situation turned grim with the subsequent death of Thane businessman Mansukh Hirani, the owner of the SUV, and the arrest and suspension of controversial cop Sachin Waze.

Terming Waze and Param Bir Singh "small players", former CM Devendra Fadnavis alleged those "issuing directions" to Waze are still sitting in the government. "Who will investigate them? This is not the failure of the police, but the government," he said.

Claiming "deeper links" between Waze and the Shiv Sena, Fadnavis claimed during

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

BJP's Mandi MP found dead at Delhi residence

TREND NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17
BJP's two-time MP from Mandi Ram Swaroop Sharma was found hanging from the ceiling of his official residence at North Avenue here this morning. No suicide note was, however, found from the spot.

Sharma (62) was taken to a local government hospital where he was declared dead.

Sharma was first elected to the 16th Lok Sabha and then re-elected on the BJP ticket from the same segment in the 2019 General Election. He was hailed as a giant killer for defeating then Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh's wife Pratibha Singh in 2014.

The police said prima facie it was a case of death by suicide, but the exact cause of death would only be known after a thorough investigation.

Meanwhile, the Lok Sabha proceedings were adjourned till 1 pm after an obituary reference to Ram Swaroop Sharma. The BJP cancelled its parliamentary party meet-



NO SUICIDE NOTE

Ram Swaroop Sharma, two-time MP from Mandi, found hanging from the ceiling at his official residence in Delhi. No suicide note found

Sharma is the second Lok Sabha member to die under mysterious circumstances in less than a month

ing and postponed a joining at the party headquarters.

Sharma is the second Lok Sabha member to die under mysterious circumstances in less than a month.

Dadra and Nagar Haveli MP Mohan Delkar, a seven-term Lok Sabha member, was found hanging in a Mumbai hotel on February 22.

PM Modi has expressed grief at the death of Sharma and former minister Dilip Gandhi.

Rooms, borewell at Tikri, farmers booked

RAVINDER SAINI
TREND NEWS SERVICE

JHAKJAR, MARCH 17

The Bahadurgarh police have registered two cases against farmers for illegally constructing concrete structures and digging borewells at Tikri. The action was taken on complaints by West Haryana Highways Projects Private Ltd and Haryana

Bid to scuttle protest, allege union leaders



Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran, Hitendra Sharma, Bahadurgarh SDM, said the administration had earlier appealed to the farmers not to indulge in such illegal acts.

Despite that, some people were found digging a borewell near Najafgarh flyover and constructing a structure on the road dividing Sectors 10

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Pilot dies in MiG crash

A group of people standing around a crashed aircraft. Group Captain A Gupta of the IAF was killed in an accident involving a MiG-21 Bison jet in Gwalior. A court of inquiry has been ordered. —PTI

Ganapathy NSG DG, Kuldip to head CRPF

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17

Senior IPS officers MA Ganapathy and Kuldip Singh have been appointed Director Generals (DGs) of the National Security Guard (NSG) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), respectively.

Ganapathy, a 1986-batch IPS officer of the Uttarakhand cadre, is currently the DG, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security. He has been appointed the DG (NSG) from the date of joining and

Both 1986 batch IPS officers

up to February 29, 2024, date of his superannuation). Singh, a 1986-batch IPS officer of West Bengal cadre, will replace AP Maheshwari, who is due to retire on February 28. His new posting will be up to September 30, 2022, an order said. —TNS

Another 6,700-km roads to come up along LAC

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17

Besides the ongoing project to construct 3,323-km roads along the boundary with China, the Ministry of Defence is working on additional 104 roads (around 6,700 km) along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh.

The ongoing projects, called the India-China Border Roads (ICBRs), have been classified as "strategically important". Connectivity has been achieved on 59 roads



104 NEW STRETCHES PLANNED

■ Besides 3,323-km road stretches under construction, another 104 roads will be laid along the LAC

■ The Ministry of Defence has set up an "empowered committee" to avoid delays in the execution of projects

resolve the issues pertaining to delays faced by the BRO.

The states of Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand are part of the committee.

Difficult terrain, limited working season, difficulty in obtaining construction material, delay in forest/wildlife clearance and land acquisition are the main issues that lead to delay in the construction of roads here. The empowered committee will work to sort out these issues. —TNS

MC polls also led to Covid spike: Govt

NITIN JAIN
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LUDHIANA, MARCH 17
The recently held civic elections also led to a sudden spike in the Covid cases in Punjab, which was among five states that contributed 84 per cent, and among three states that accounted for 71 per cent of the total caseload in the country during the past 24 hours, the government has said.

An analysis has revealed that the positivity rate in the municipal areas that had gone to the polls on February 14 had more than doubled as compared to non-election towns in the state, the Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Hussan Lal, said here.

According to the comparative data prepared by the state government, the positivity rate in the urban areas of more than doubled from 1.6 per cent between February 1 and 14 to 3.4 per cent between February 15 and March 8.

The comparison of the positivity rate between MC towns that had gone to the elections and urban areas where no election was held showed that it climbed up from 1.8 per cent between February 1 and 14 to 3.7 per cent between February 15 and March 8 in the MC election areas while it



2,039 fresh cases, 35 deaths in past 24 hrs

remained 1.7 per cent between February 15 and March 8 in non-election areas.

The district-wise analysis of election areas between February 15 and March 8 revealed that the positivity rate in Ludhiana shot up from 2.9 to 4.5 per cent, Amritsar 1 to 2.8 per cent, Fatehgarh Sahib 1.4 to 3.7 per cent, Gurdaspur 0.5 to 2.3 per cent, Jalandhar 1.1 to 3.4 per cent, Kapurthala 1.6 to 4.5 per cent, Moga 1.2 to 6.5 per cent, Pathankot 0.2 to 1.7 per cent, Patiala 1.8 to 4 per cent, Mohali 4 to 6.9 percent, Sangrur 0.2 to 0.4 per cent, Nawanshahr 2.9 to 7.2 percent, and Tarn Taran 0.1 to 1.8 per cent.

Review strategy, vaccinate all in sensitive areas: CM to Centre

Seeks occupation-based immunisation to check super-spreaders

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 17

As active Covid cases in the state surged to 12,616, with daily rate climbing to over 5 per cent, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh today urged the Centre to review its immunisation strategy to vaccinate all age groups in selected areas and announce a stricter policy to deal with the problem.

The CM also called for occupation-based immunisation for school and college students and teachers, judges, bus drivers and conductors, panches/sarpanches, mayors/municipal committee presidents, counsellors, MLAs, MPs etc. to pave the way for normalisation of crucial activities and check super-spreaders. He advocated early opening of the courts to end the wait for justice for citizens, and also of schools and colleges to bridge the gap between poor and affluent families in terms of education.

Apart from covering the entire population in selected areas, certain co-morbidity situations among those below 45 years, such as kidney and



CM Capt Amarinder Singh during PM Narendra Modi's virtual interaction on Covid. TRIBUNE PHOTO

SANCTION ₹200 CR: PRENEET IN LS

Patiala MP Preneet Kaur on Wednesday said in the Lok Sabha that Punjab was facing the second surge of Covid-19 and demanded from the Centre a sum of ₹200 crore for management of the infection in the state

liver diseases, should also be covered across the state, the CM recommended, as the state continued to grapple with its second peak, which started from mid-February.

With the role of virus mutation still unclear, the CM underlined the need to strengthen viral sequencing, particularly in Punjab, "as

es now were below 40 years of age and there was an urgent need to assess whether this was due to any variant."

The state, he said, had sent a large number of samples for genome sequencing but few results had been received of which two indicated presence of variant.

Listing out the measures taken by his government to

POLICE GET TOUGH ON VIOLATORS

The Punjab Police have intensified campaign for taking action against people not following Covid protocol and a large number of challans have been issued and defaulters have been booked

battle the ongoing second wave, the CM revealed that the state had imposed restrictions on social gatherings — maximum of 100 for indoor events and 200 for outdoor events. Nine districts have imposed night curfew from 11 pm to 5 am, while other districts have been asked to assess the situation and take action accordingly.

Former CM Parkash Singh Badal negative



dence, too, today underwent the Covid test and was found negative. Dr Manju Bansal, SMO, Civil Hospital, Badal, said: "Three workers at the former CM's residence have tested Covid positive. They have isolated themselves at their own residences. The former CM is tested Covid negative."

Notably, Bathinda MP Harsimrat Kaur Badal is already in Delhi and the family was reportedly planning to quarantine the former CM at Delhi as a precautionary measure. In August last year, a large number of people, including security personnel, deployed at the Badals' residence were tested Covid positive.

1,318 engineers to be recruited

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 17

The state government has initiated the process of hiring 1,318 engineers for various government departments under Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh's flagship "Ghar Ghar Rozgar and Karobar Mission".

This will give an opportunity to unemployed engineering graduates who have been waiting for government jobs since 2010 when the state government had last recruited 216 engineers.

Chief Secretary Vini Mahajan said the requisition for engineering posts had been sent to Punjab Public Service Commission, which had started the recruitment drive. —TNS

90-yr-old walks alone to hospital for jab

RAJ SADOSH

ABOHAL, MARCH 17

A 90-year-old woman today walked alone from her house to the Subdivisional Civil Hospital and requested the staff to give her first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine.

Senior Medical Officer Dr Gagandeep Singh said she had emerged as a source of inspiration for other senior citizens. Earlier, four retired school heads had come to the hospital for vaccination. Legislator Arun Narang was also among the beneficiaries.

Lajwanti lives alone at Street-7, Circular Road, here. As soon as she came to know about the elderly getting vac-



Lajwanti gets the Covid-19 vaccine in Abohal. TRIBUNE PHOTO

cinated, she got herself registered and today walked from her home for the first dose.

"I want to give the message to all senior citizens that they should not fall prey to misconceptions

being spread about the vaccine and take the advantage of it without any delay. When I chose to get registered and walk alone, why can't others do the same?" Lajwanti asked.

21 STUDENTS AMONG 282 CASES IN LDH

Ludhiana: As many as 282 fresh infections and six more deaths due to Covid were reported in Ludhiana during the past 24 hours. The new cases included 21 students and six teachers.

8 OF GOVT RAJINDRA COLLEGE STAFF + VE

Bathinda: The Covid situation here is turning alarming as the district recorded 54 positive cases on Wednesday. Of the 54 cases, eight were staff members of Government Rajindra College here.

This 'late fees' being charged was a result of a software glitch on PSEB's online portal. As per norms, all class 8 students studying in govern-

PSEB portal glitch hinders students

RAVI DHALIWAL

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

GURDASPUR, MARCH 17

A few days ago when Ramesh Lal, principal of Government Senior Secondary School, Dharamkot Randhawa, falling in the jurisdiction of Dera Baba Nanak educational block, was informed by Punjab School Education Board (PSEB) officials that a fine of Rs 2,500 had been imposed on each of the 56 students of his school who were scheduled to take the middle class examination, he was rattled.

This 'late fees' being charged was a result of a software glitch on PSEB's online portal. As per norms, all class 8 students studying in govern-



Cancel late fee order: Edu Secy to board

ment and PSEB-affiliated schools have to upload details of their chosen optional subjects on the portal before the exams. There are three optional subjects, the most sought-after being 'arts and craft' while the others are Sanskrit and agriculture.

However, much to the chagrin of the staff, 'arts and craft' did

not appear on the portal following which the staff could not upload the data.

The PSEB, without getting to the bottom of the matter, asked every student who was slated to take the examinations to cough up the 'late fees'. The decision has affected students across Punjab who will be appearing in the annual examinations, set to commence from March 22.

Cabinet Minister and local MLA Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa got in touch with Education Minister Vijay Inder Singh. "I have learnt that Secretary (Education) Krishan Kumar has asked the PSEB to withdraw the decision," Randhawa said.

Will target corporates' godowns if farm laws not repealed: Tikait

OUR CORRESPONDENT

ABOHAL/SRIGANGANAGAR, MARCH 17

BKU spokesman Rakesh Tikait today warned the central government in unambiguous terms that if the three farm laws were not withdrawn, the next action of the ongoing agitation would be to demolish godowns of some private companies.

At a 'Kisan Mahapanchayat' held today on the call of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) in Sriganganagar, 40 km from Abohal, Tikait said a few private companies had constructed huge godowns and started storing grains even when the new farm laws were in abeyance. The BJP-led NDA government was planning to sell banks, insurance companies and other government enterprises to private players.

The government was going to bring laws that milk, electricity, fertilisers, seeds and motor vehicles marketing will go into the hands of a few corporates.

He exhorted the youth to take charge of the farmers' movement and turn to fields and create jobs for themselves. Tikait said the media was not carrying news of the farmer movements in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country, but we would reach people through social media. In Orissa and Madhya Pradesh, the MSP procurement movement was going to start in the next 15-20 days.

DELHI GHRAO SOON

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha will soon give a call to gherao Delhi from all sides. Millions of people will reach there. Rakesh Tikait, BKU SPOKESMAN

movement and turn to fields and create jobs for themselves. Tikait said the media was not carrying news of the farmer movements in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country, but we would reach people through social media. In Orissa and Madhya Pradesh, the MSP procurement movement was going to start in the next 15-20 days.

Morcha leader Yudhveer Singh said: "Modi bhagao, desh bachao" call has to be given. Hardeep Singh Dibbi, chairman, Rajasthan Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee (ad hoc) said a youth rally will leave Moga on March 25 for the Singh border.



BKU spokesman Rakesh Tikait and other farmer leaders at a mahapanchayat in Sriganganagar on Wednesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Centre indifferent, punishing state for farm protest: Ashu

RUCHIKI M KHANNA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 17
Food and Supplies Minister Bharat Bhushan Ashu today accused the Centre of indifferent attitude, saying: "In retaliation against the farmers' protest, the Centre is simply choosing to ignore the concerns raised by the state ahead of the crucial wheat procurement season."

Talking to *The Tribune*, Ashu said each step was being taken to bleed the state economically, as punishment for the biggest farmers' protest ever spearheaded by Punjab farmers.

"Now, when the state government is seeking time to resolve all issues that are likely to create problems in wheat procurement, the Centre is not giving us time. For two days, I have been seeking time from the Union Minister of Food and Public Distribution, but no one has responded," he said.

With the Union Minister of State for Food and Public Distribution Raosaheb Danve clarifying in the Lok Sabha yesterday that they would not be able to release the two per cent Rural Development Fund to Punjab, withheld since October last year, Punjab will suffer a loss of Rs 1,600 crore per annum (Rs 800 crore each for wheat and paddy cycle). "Our rules for use of RDF were made in 1987. How can the Centre frame new rules in 2020, overriding the state rules on use

At Abohal, protesters vow to keep stir going

OUR CORRESPONDENT

ABOHAL, MARCH 17

At the Kisan Mahapanchayat organised under the banner of Samyukt Kisan Morcha at the New Grain Market here, farmers said their struggle would continue until the Modi government at the Centre repealed the three contentious farm laws.

Farmer leaders Buta Singh Burjgil, Harnek Singh Mehma, Harish Neda, Manjit Singh Dhaner and Bhupinder Singh Kamalwala said the Modi government would not be allowed to mortgage farming sector's interests to a few corporate houses. "Let



Farmers attend a mahapanchayat in Abohal. TRIBUNE PHOTO

of funds, without even seeking our consent or even discussing with us," Ashu said.

He said ever since the farmers' agitation against the three farm laws started, every few days a new rule was thrown at the state, putting the agrarian state on tenterhooks.

"Suddenly, the FCI decided that it will accept only fortified rice from Punjab, without the state millers having the blenders or know-how of fortification of rice. The new gunny bags for rice delivery are not available and the Centre will not decide the price of buying old-used gunny bags.

Now, the specifications for the foodgrain procurement are being changed," he said. The minister also said direct payment to farmers had been made mandatory and the land records regarding ownership were to be first uploaded by the farmers. "Why would the Centre try and destabilise a well-developed mandi system?" he asked.

Oppose commissioner court camp in Bathinda

Advocates take out protest march in Faridkot

Faridkot, MARCH 17

Advocates in Faridkot have been protesting for the last one week since they learnt that the state government "intends to establish a Faridkot Commissioner Court camp in Bathinda".

Opposing the move, the advocates organised a protest march here and urged the state government to reconsider its move. Other than the move causing extensive loss to the district, it will also put an extra burden on the state exchequer over the new office, staff, infrastructure and security, said Vinod Maini, president of the Faridkot Bar Association. —TNS

Be empathetic to farmers, Ashwani urges PM Modi

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 17
People of the country, including farmers, have every right to expect empathy, sensitivity and accommodation from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is the "first servant" of the nation, said former Rajya Sabha MP Ashwani Kumar here on Wednesday.

Talking to *The Tribune*, Ashwani, while referring to the farmers' agitation, said actions of the Prime Minister should be consistent with the democratic philosophy and principles of the nation as people have many expectations from him. "It is time that the Centre must come to the assistance of farmers and keep everyone united and cohesive, rather than indulging in a divisive and step-motherly treat-

ment," he said, adding that the Centre's approach would sound the death knell for federalism in the country.

Hitting out at the Centre for seeking details of land records ahead of the wheat procurement season, he alleged it was an inherently oppressive burden on farmers who were bound to suffer distress and anxiety because of the timing of the move. —TNS

Cong govt cheated farmers: BJP

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 17
The Congress government in the state had completed four years in power. However, it had given nothing to people and cheated every section of society, especially farmers, former state secretary of the BJP, Vineet Joshi, said in a press release here today.

He charged CM Capt Amarinder Singh with first "fuelling" the farmers' agitation and later projecting himself as their messiah. "Were the families of 1,232 farmers who died by suicide in your four-year rule given a compensation of Rs 10 lakh and a government job? Was a compensation of Rs 20,000 per acre given for the loss caused by natural calamities? Was the farmer pension scheme implemented?" Joshi asked. —TNS

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COURT NOTICE

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of

Ravipal Singh

Civil Judge Junior Division-1,

Phagwara.

Charan Singh aged 65 years, s/o S. Gurbachan Singh, resident of Village Chahera, Tehsil Phagwara, Distt. Kapurthala and others.

CNR No.

PBKPA0-000413-2018

Publication issued to:

2. Sukhdeep Singh, s/o Charan Singh, s/o Gurbachan Singh; 4. Dalip Singh s/o Lehna Singh- Died - through LRs. 4(a). Santok Singh s/o Late Dalip Singh; 4(b) Manjot Singh s/o Late Dalip Singh; 5. Tarsem Singh s/o Nasib Singh; 6. Sohan Singh s/o Nasib Singh; 7. Mohan Singh s/o Nasib Singh; 8. Budhu s/o Nasib Singh s/o Natha Singh; 9. Kartar @ Tari s/o Nasib Singh s/o Natha Singh - Died - through LRs: 9(a) Nazar Singh s/o Kartara @ Tari 9(b) Kulvir Singh s/o Kartara @ Tari 9(c) Kulwant Kaur daughter of Kartara @ Tari 10. Mohinder Singh s/o Nasib Singh s/o Natha Singh; 12. Jaskinder Singh s/o Tarlochan Singh; all residents of Village Chahera, Tehsil Phagwara, Distt. Kapurthala.

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 02.04.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to

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Dated, this day of 9.3.2021

Sd/- Ravipal Singh

Civil Judge Junior Division-1,

Phagwara.

Publication issued to:

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For details logon to

https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=kapurthala

Dated, this day of 9.3.2021

Sd/- Ravipal Singh

Civil Judge Junior Division-1,

Phagwara.

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Dated, this day of 9.3.2021



Nawan Naroa **PUNJAB**



**Reforming Education Sector
for a brighter Punjab**



“

I believe that the only real investment in the future lies in Education. My government remains committed to nurturing Punjab's future by providing every youngster access to affordable world-class education, backed by best-in-class teaching systems and processes amid world-class infrastructure across schools, colleges and universities.

”

Capt. Amarinder Singh
Chief Minister, Punjab

Government Schools

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Free Text Books for all

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Pre-primary classes in 12,820 schools, 3,30,505 students

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Jagat Guru Nanak Dev Punjab State Open University, Patiala

Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur State University of Law, Tarn Taran

Maharaja Bhupinder Singh Punjab Sports University, Patiala

Sardar Beant Singh State University, Gurdaspur

Shaheed Bhagat Singh State University, Ferozepur

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16 New Degree Colleges & 19 New ITIs

Chief Minister Scholarship Scheme

State plans curbs on visitors from Punjab

CM will talk to Capt | Cabinet can take call tomorrow

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MARCH 17

Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur today said he would take up the issue of maintaining vigil on the inter-state border with his counterpart Capt Amarinder Singh in view of the rising Covid cases in Punjab.

Talking to mediapersons here, Thakur said he would speak to his Punjab counterpart so that there was some check on people from Punjab, who entered Himachal, especially pilgrims. He said SOPs would be strictly followed during the celebration of fairs and other events.

"The government is also keeping an eye on the situation and steps are being taken accordingly," he said. The possibility of Himachal imposing curbs could not be ruled out as most pilgrims visiting the

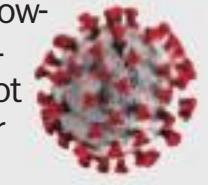
OVER 1.78 LAKH PEOPLE INOCULATED

- Over 1.78 lakh people have been given the vaccine, which is about 2.60 per cent of the population
- Its wastage in the state is the lowest in the country at a mere 1.6 per cent



COVID CASE TALLY CROSSES 60K-MARK

With 167 positive cases, the Covid tally crossed 60,000-mark in the state on Wednesday. The fatality figure however remained 998 with no death in the last 24 hours. The number of active cases has also shot up to 935 with the continuous surge in number of cases over the last one week



shrines come from Punjab. The Cabinet at its meeting on March 19 could take a call on it.

The CM said the Prime Minister had asked all states to increase testing and ensure the strict implementation of SOPs. "Over 1.78 lakh people have been given vaccine, which was about 2.60 per cent of the population," he said. Its wastage

the lowest in the country at a mere 1.6 per cent.

Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan made a presentation on Covid cases. He said about 3.51 crore people had been administered the vaccine in the country.

Health Minister Rajiv Saizal, Chief Secretary Anil Khachi and Secretary, Health, Amitabh Awasthi were present.

Iranian apple 'smuggling' worries local growers

SUBHASH RAJTA

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MARCH 17

Apple growers of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand have joined hands to fight the alleged smuggling of Iranian apple into Indian markets. "Iranian apple is being brought into India through Afghanistan without paying import duty. Not only the Union Government is losing import duty but also local apple growers are being adversely affected.



BEING BROUGHT WITHOUT PAYING IMPORT DUTY

Iranian apple is being brought into India through Afghanistan without paying import duty. Not only the Union Government is losing import duty but also local apple growers are being adversely affected.

Harish Chauhan, STATE FRUITS, VEGETABLES & FLOWERS GROWERS ASSOCIATION PRES

Government as well as our state governments," said Chauhan.

According to the apple growers, the Afghanistan route is being used to bring in Iranian apple because there's no import duty on trade between countries falling in the South Asian Free Trade Area, namely India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. "Using this route, the Iranian apple is reaching Delhi at the cost of Rs 40 to Rs 50 kg. It's impossible for our growers to compete at this rate, given the high cost of apple production in our states," said Praveen

Sharma, an apple grower from Uttarakhand.

Besides, what if China, too, starts dumping its apple in our markets through Nepal and Sri Lanka? If this happens, our apple industry will be destroyed. So, we have come together to raise the issue and put an end to this illegal practice," said Sharma. He added that this practice, if left unchecked, would discourage apple growers from planting new orchards.

The apple growers got the wind of this 'illegal' trade when imports from Afghanistan started increasing significantly over the past few years.

House adjourned after paying tributes to MP



SHIMLA, MARCH 17

Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha was today adjourned after members paid condolences on the demise of two-time MP from Mandi Lok Sabha seat Ram Swaroop Sharma. The proceedings for the day started with Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur expressing grief at the demise of Sharma in the Vidhan Sabha.

"There is utter disbelief at the unfortunate demise of Sharma which had left the party shocked and shattered," said Thakur. He said Sharma's biggest strengths were his easy accessibility and humility. The Chief Minister said the MP held the record of winning by the highest-ever margin of 4.05 lakh from



Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur and others express grief over the death of Mandi MP Ram Swaroop Sharma, in Shimla on Wednesday.

the Mandi Lok Sabha seat by any candidate. He said the cause of the death would be known only after the post-mortem.

The Chief Minister said Sharma had also remained vice chairman of State Civil Supplies Corporation and contested the Lok Sabha poll for the first time in 2014, where he defeated Pratibha Singh, wife of former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh. Later in 2019, he repeated the feat by winning the Mandi seat by

a record margin, he added. Offering condolences to the bereaved family, Leader of Opposition Mukesh Agnihotri said the death of the MP had sent shock waves across the state. He said Sharma was a very polite and soft-spoken man. Ministers and legislators, cutting across party lines, expressed grief and shock on the death of the Lok Sabha MP. The Speaker adjourned the house after obituaries. — TNS

Shock in Mandi over MP's demise

MANDI, MARCH 17

The sudden demise of Ram Swaroop Sharma, BJP MP from Mandi parliamentary constituency, has sent shock waves in his home constituency Mandi from where he was elected MP twice.

Sharma was found dead at his residence in Delhi today. He is survived by his wife and three sons.

Sharma's family members are in utter disbelief. His son Aanand Swaroop Sharma said, "I cannot believe that my father has left for the heavenly abode. Yesterday, he conversed with my mother and elder brother and he was fine."

Aanand ruled out any symptoms of depression in his father. He said, "My father was suffering from heart disease and he was taking precautions for it. About rumours that my father has committed suicide, I am not sure about it. We are waiting for the post-mortem examination report." — TNS



RAM SWAROOP SHARMA

Guv condoles his death

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MARCH 17

Governor Bandaru Dattatreya has expressed grief over the demise of Member of Parliament Ram Swaroop Sharma. The Governor in his condolence message said his demise was a great loss and his contribution to society would always be remembered. He prayed for peace to the departed soul and expressed sympathies with the bereaved family members.

State BJP president Suresh Kashyap said it was a big loss to the party. He said Sharma was a great personality, down to earth and soft spoken.

PUNJAB PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BARADARI GARDEN, PATIALA – 147001

Website <http://ppsc.gov.in>

ADVERTISEMENT NO. 05

The Punjab Public Service Commission invites Online Application Forms from eligible candidates for recruitment to the 50 POSTS OF SUB DIVISIONAL ENGINEERS in the Department of Water Supply and Sanitation, Punjab.

1.0 Note : This Advertisement is being published as per the requisition received from the Department of Water Supply and Sanitation, Punjab Government of Punjab vide letter No. 1/7/2019-B&R-II/1624796/1 dated 17/02/2020 and letter No. 1/7/2019-6-B&R II/55 dated 09/03/2020 and letter No. WSSD-BR/20178/2020-6-B&R-II/09 dated 14/01/2021

2.0 RESERVATION OF THE POSTS:-

Category Code	Name of Post/Category	Total No. of Posts	Out of Total posts, posts reserved for Women
71	General	29	06
72/73	Ex-Serviceman/LDESM, Punjab	09	02
75	Sports Persons, Punjab	01	-
76	Persons with Disability Deaf and Hard of Hearing (76 B) Locomotive Disability (76C) (One Leg/One Arm disability only)	02	01
77	Scheduled Castes Others, Punjab	05	02
78/79	Scheduled Castes (Others) ESM/LDESM, Punjab	01	-
81	Balmiki Mazbi Sikh, Punjab	05	02
82/83	Balmiki - Mazbi - Sikh - ESM/LDESM, Punjab	02	-
84	Balmiki - Mazbi - Sikh - Sports Persons, Punjab	01	-
86/87	Backward Classes ESM/LDESM, Punjab	01	-
92	Economically Weaker Section, Punjab	05	02
Total		50	15

Note 1: The number of posts may be increased or decreased by the Govt. at any time before the selection process is complete without giving any prior notice to the candidates.

Note 2: The Punjab Civil Services (Reservation for women) Rules 2020 issued by the Department of Social Security that provides for 33% reservation for women is attached as Annexure-V with General Information for candidates.

3.0 PAY SCALE: 47600/- Initial Pay.

The minimum pay admissible for the ibid posts shall be as per the notification of finance department dated 12/01/2021(Annexure A) and as per Notification No. 7/204/2012-4FP/1/66, Dated 15/01/2016 Govt of Punjab, Department of Finance (Finance Personnel-I Branch) Chandigarh, and Notification No. 1/62016-4P.P.1/834680/1 dated 07/09/2016 Govt. of Punjab Department of Personnel PP-I Branch Chandigarh, fixed emolument equal to Minimum Pay without any allowance will be paid during the probation period of 3 years.

4.0 ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS :-

- 4.1 Degree in Engineering in Civil or Mechanical from a recognized University or Institution.
- 4.2 Punjabi of Matric or its equivalent Standard.

Important Note: The candidates MUST possess the requisite qualification before or by 30/04/2021.

5.0 AGE

Candidates should not be below 18 years and above 37 years of age as on 01.01.2021 (See detail in General Information for candidates).

6.0 COMPETITIVE WRITTEN EXAMINATION:

The Commission shall hold Competitive Examination for recruitment to these posts tentatively in May, 2021 details of which can be seen in the General information for the candidates available on the website <http://ppsc.gov.in>.

7.0 The candidates must refer to 'General Information for the candidates' available on PPSC website particularly Para-10 before filling up the application form. The candidate can only apply by filling online application form from a link which is available on the website of Punjab Public Service Commission <http://ppsc.gov.in>. The candidates are NOT REQUIRED to send the Hard Copy of the Online Application Form to the office of Punjab Public Service Commission.

- (a) However, candidates applying under the Sports Category need to submit a hard copy of 'Online Application Form' along with Sports Gradation Certificate and other certificates related to sports to establish his eligibility under the sports category at the reception counter of PPSC by 15.04.2021.
- (b) Also, Persons with disabilities must submit the hardcopies of Online Application Form along with Disability Certificate and request for scribe, if any, and other eligibility documents at the reception counter of PPSC by 15.04.2021. For any assistance Persons with disabilities may contact Superintendent Examination: 0175- 5014825/29/31/32

Last date for filling Online Application Form: 07.04.2021

Last date for depositing Online Application Fee: 15.04.2021

Date : 17/03/2021

Sd/- Navreet Kaur Sekhon, PCS
Secretary (Examinations)

PUNJAB PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BARADARI GARDEN, PATIALA – 147001

Advertisement No. 07

Advertisement No. 7

The Punjab Public Service Commission invites Online Application Forms from eligible candidates for recruitment to the 13 POSTS OF JUNIOR ENGINEER (MECHANICAL) in the Punjab Water Resource Management and Development Corporation.

1.0 This Advertisement is being published as per the requisition received from the Department of Water Resource, Government of Punjab vide letter No. 10/23/2020-2IP3/3899 dated 24/12/2020, letter No. 10/23/2020-2IP3/3962 dated 31/12/2020, letter No. 10/23/2020-2IP3/3962 dated 01/01/2021 and letter no. 10/23/2020-2IP3/393 dated 24/02/2021

2.0 RESERVATION OF THE POSTS:-

Category Code	Category	No. of Posts	Out of Total posts, posts reserved for Women
71	General	05	01
72/73	Ex-Serviceman/LDESM, Punjab	01	—
74	Freedom Fighters of Punjab	01	—
77	Scheduled Casters (Others), Punjab	02	01
78/79	SC Ex-Serviceman/LDESM, Punjab	01	—
81	Balmiki/Mazbi Sikhs, Punjab	01	—
85	Backward Classes, Punjab	01	—
88	Economically Weaker Section, Punjab	01	—
Total		13	02

Note 1: The number of posts may be increased or decreased by the Govt. at any time before the selection process is complete without giving any prior notice to the candidates.

Note 2: The Punjab Civil Services (Reservation for women) Rules 2020 issued by the Department of Social Security that provides for 33% reservation for women is attached as Annexure-V with General Information for candidates.

3.0 PAY SCALE: Rs. 35400/- Initial Pay

The minimum pay admissible for the ibid posts shall be as per the notification of finance department dated 29

The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Common electoral rolls

'One nation, one election' shouldn't impede democratic process

ELECTIONS are a perennial affair in India, an enormous exercise in terms of money, time and energy expended. The frequent imposition of the model code of conduct cripples governance and impedes development. In view of this virtually interminable dance of democracy, it makes sense to club the elections to the Lok Sabha, state Assemblies and local bodies. The parliamentary standing committee on law and justice has stated that holding simultaneous polls will reduce the burden on the exchequer as well as the expenditure of political parties and ensure that human resources are utilised optimally, besides rekindling voters' interest in the electoral process. All that sounds good, but giving shape to 'one nation, one election' is a tall order. It requires developing consensus among various stakeholders and bringing about requisite amendments to the law.

The BJP-led NDA government strongly favours simultaneous elections, having registered resounding wins in successive parliamentary polls, but the fragmented Opposition is not so enthusiastic about it. The collapse of the governments in Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Puducherry in the past year and a half underlines how difficult it would be to synchronise Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections. It was the dissolution of some Legislative Assemblies in the late 1960s and the Lok Sabha in 1970 that had ended the post-Independence practice of conducting simultaneous polls. Any move to curtail or extend the tenure of some Legislative Assemblies has to be well thought-out in the face of constitutional hurdles. In the short run, the focus should be on reducing the frequency of elections. In its report tabled in the Lok Sabha in December 2015, the parliamentary standing committee on law and justice had said that holding polls on fewer occasions would provide relief to the people as well as the government machinery.

The current parliamentary panel has also made a pitch for common electoral rolls. This is an implementable idea that can curb irregularities and minimise duplication in voters' lists. No political party should have an objection to such a reform. It's here that a start can be made right away.

Most noxious

Delhi's pollution tag betrays laxity in enforcing green norms

THE fact that Delhi remains the most polluted capital city in the world flies in the face of the many exhortations and plans made by the authorities concerned to tackle with the noxious situation. Though, as per the World Air Quality Report, 2020, Delhi's air quality improved by around 15 per cent between 2019 and 2020, there is not much to cheer about. For, the breather is largely attributable to the pandemic-induced lockdown when most poisonous fumes-emitting activities — resulting in industrial discharge, vehicular emission and construction dust — came to a halt. As these buzzed back to life gradually, so did the smog start engulfing the city. Incidentally, going by the number of premature deaths due to air pollution (seven million per year), it is more hazardous to health than Covid-19. In Delhi alone, particle pollution claimed nearly 54,000 lives in 2020. The concern is compounded as reports suggest that 7-33 per cent of the Covid deaths are linked to exposure to polluted air. Surely, it necessitates action on a war footing.

Green laws have been toughened over the years amid grand declarations and designs to deal with the alarming problem. But the continued poor ambience, unfortunately, reflects a lack of honest and steely determination to make Delhi free of the impurities. Notwithstanding the frequent warnings, raps and rebukes by both the high court and the Supreme Court, as also the green tribunals in the matter, the system has betrayed a stubborn impunity while implementing the rules framed for reducing air impurities.

Aggravating the malaise is the choking reality that not just Delhi, but large tracts of the country, especially urban areas, are also in the strangling grip of air pollution. With little to show by way of taming the monstrosity, not only is public health criminally compromised but also economy is drastically hit. Green and sustainable solutions are aplenty. They must be executed forthwith to a T. Any further laxity is fraught with the danger of reaching a point of no return.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Rivalry is the life of trade and the death of the trader. — Elbert Hubbard

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

LAHORE, FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1921

The Crucial Test.

HAPPILY neither Lord Reading nor India will have to wait long for an opportunity which will enable them to know each other better. Two outstanding problems have now for months been crying for solution and are as insistent to-day as they were about this time last year. To one of these, Aga Khan, who presided at the Savoy Hotel dinner, made a pointed reference in his speech. The treatment of Turkey, he said, would be regarded as a test whether or not India in full sense was to be regarded as a partner in the Empire. One may think what one likes of the decision that made the revision of the Turkish treaty a plank in the Indian nationalist's platform but the decision has been made. "India has asked unitedly for a full revision of the Treaty of Sevres. There can be no greater augury of success", Aga Khan added, "of the application of Lord Reading's great qualities of mind and heart towards India than a revision of the Turkish peace treaty on lines acceptable to Indian sentiment which would be the first united attempt of Britain and India to apply to the great imperial problem the principle of the Swaraj which is now universally acknowledged to be India's goal." An even more crucial test, so far as the Government of India is concerned, would be the treatment of the Punjab question, for that question is solely within its own jurisdiction. One of the very first questions which Lord Reading must be prepared to answer is whether justice according to equity and irrespective of racial distinction does not require a substantial overhauling of the policy followed by the Government of India so far both as regards offending officials and martial law prisoners. On the answer to this question will depend the attitude which India will almost immediately take up in regard to his Viceroyalty.

China-Pak nexus in Ladakh

The past year would hopefully have sent out a message that India is no pushover



G PARTHASARATHY

CHANCELLOR, JAMMU CENTRAL UNIVERSITY & FORMER HIGH COMMISSIONER TO PAKISTAN

WHILE India has confronted difficult security challenges in J&K in the past, it has never faced a security situation when it was confronted by tensions across its borders in Ladakh and J&K with both Pakistan and China. The past year has seen the usual tensions, infiltration and exchanges and fire across the International Border and the LoC in J&K. But what really shook the world was the massive and well-planned Chinese incursion from Tibet into the UT of Ladakh from across the Dapsang Plains. If left unchallenged, this incursion would have cleared the way for a Chinese move northwards towards India's strategic air base of Daulat Beg Oldie. This air base is adjacent to China's Aksai Chin region, which India regards as its territory.

If the Chinese chose to thereafter proceed further northwards, they would reach the strategic Karakoram Pass, while also moving closer to the Siachen region claimed by Pakistan. Pakistan, however, had found that Indian forces had taken control of the Siachen Glacier in the 1980s. India and Pakistan had agreed in 1949 that beyond the Shyok river and Khor, the LoC proceeds 'north to the glaciers'. While the Chinese have agreed to withdraw eastwards from the Pangong Tso, they have refused to withdraw from positions they occupied in 2020 in the Dapsang Plains, where they blocked the area to entry by Indian forces. Control of the Dapsang Plains provides China with an open road to the Daulat Beg Oldie airfield. It secures access to the Karakoram Pass that links Ladakh to the Aksai Chin region.

Pakistan is, however, very generous



CLOSE WATCH: Developments in Ladakh have set the stage for an even closer collaboration between China and Pakistan in undermining India's security. REUTERS

China must learn that undermining India's ties with its South Asian neighbours can hardly work in the long term.

when it comes to the delineation of its border with China. The Shaksgam Valley in J&K was ceded to China by Pakistan in 1963, when they signed a boundary agreement to give an entirely new shape to their northern borders. Article 6 of the Boundary Agreement avers that 'the two parties have agreed that after the settlement of the Kashmir dispute between Pakistan and India, the sovereign authority concerned will reopen negotiations with the Government of the People's Republic of China, on the boundary, as described in Article 2 of the present agreement, so as to sign a formal border agreement.' The agreement laid the foundation for constructing the Karakoram highway, built by Chinese and Pakistani engineers, in the 1970s. This highway links China's Xinjiang province with PoK. It constitutes the basis for China to co-opt Pakistan militarily in its dealings with India.

Half a century later, one finds a growing Chinese economic and military presence alongside the Karakoram highway. The way is being cleared for a Chinese military presence across the PoK for transportation of Chinese goods, services and personnel across

Pakistan, to the Arabian Sea Port of Gwadar in Balochistan, which has been built by China. It is only a matter of time before China takes control of the port from a bankrupt Pakistan, which is unable to repay its debts. This would not be different from how China has taken control of the Hambantota Port in Sri Lanka. Pakistan's military, obsessed with seizing Indian territory, cannot be expected to look beyond its territorial ambitions in India.

China's experiences in Ladakh over the past year would hopefully have persuaded Beijing that India is not a pushover, militarily. Foreign Minister Wang Yi's statement averring: 'The two sides need to help each other to succeed, instead of undercutting each other. We should intensify cooperation instead of harbouring suspicions', sounded reassuring. It was, however, hardly credible. Chinese sincerity will, however, be tested and called into question, unless it moves back to positions it occupied before April 2020. Given past Chinese behaviour, India can expect very little movement by China on this score.

China will also hopefully learn that undermining India's close relations

with its South Asian neighbours by cultivating, financing and favouring political leaders and political parties known to be anti-India, can hardly work over the long term. Despite its efforts, China has been snubbed by Sri Lanka's political leadership that has seen through its crude efforts to deny India a role in developing port facilities, whether in Jaffna or in Colombo. Taking over Hambantota Port by drawing Sri Lanka into a debt trap, China has sent a signal across the shores of the Indian Ocean that its interests are anything but altruistic. Astute analysts in Pakistan are also evaluating the implications of the growing debt they are accumulating, because of Chinese infrastructure projects for CPEC. Given Pakistan's constant shortage of foreign exchange, it is not in a position to import defence equipment from the US, Europe or even Russia. China, will, therefore, inevitably remain the almost exclusive supplier of arms to Pakistan.

Developments in Ladakh have now set the stage for an even closer collaboration between China and Pakistan in undermining India's security. Pakistan's recent offer of a ceasefire in J&K is a welcome development, as long as infiltration across the LoC effectively ends. It does not, however, mean that China and Pakistan are not colluding in fulfilling their territorial ambitions. India would be well advised to keep track of how China and Pakistan are proceeding in fulfilling their territorial ambitions.

China's experiences in Ladakh over the past year would hopefully have persuaded Beijing that India is not a pushover, militarily. The highly regarded president of the US Council on Foreign Relations, Richard Haass, recently noted: 'China is bordered by 14 countries, four of which are nuclear armed and five of which harbour unresolved territorial disputes with Beijing. These include an aging, but wealthy Japan, a rising and nationalistic India, a revanchist Russia, a technologically powerful South Korea, and a dynamic and determined Vietnam. All these countries have national identities that resist subordination to China, or its interests. And the United States maintains a constant forward-deployed military presence in the region'.

When all one did was play cricket

NJ RAVI CHANDER

CRICKET, with its myriad delights and glorious uncertainties, has always fascinated me. During the holidays, my teen friends and I would scamper to various 'maidans' and watch teams lock horns in the state association's tournaments. The humble bicycle was our salvation those days as so few sources of pastime or recreation were available to us. The distance was no inhibition and we wheeled to faraway grounds to watch the action. It was magical to watch EAS Prasanna, BS Chandrasekhar, GR Viswanath and SMH Kirmani excel in their craft.

The Indian Gymkhana and St Aloysius School grounds, a stone's throw away from our house, were our

favourite hunting grounds. We learned the ropes of the game there and dreamt of representing our school, college or organisation some day. Some even harboured thoughts of wearing the India cap.

We forayed into the game by playing with a tennis or cork ball. A granite block or the trunk of a tree served as a wicket. We used a bat to measure the crease's length, carved into the ground with the willow's toe-end. As many of the players hailed from impoverished families, we seldom donned cricketing gear save for a pair of gloves. Though this was hazardous, we played on, unmindful of the consequences.

Being given the responsibility to lead a band of neighbourhood boys in obscure tournaments, I had my

task cut out. Weekends would see me hop on to my bicycle and go around imploring players to make it for the matches. Despite their promises, a few would play truant or arrive late. Luckily, interested spectators wishing to have a go would fill in for the absent players should the need arise.

Cricket, often called a gentleman's game, would see a batsman 'walk' if he knew he was out without waiting for the umpire to raise the dreaded finger. But we were far from being gracious, picking up arguments with umpires and our adversaries and fudging score-sheets — which often was a page from a used notebook. Fudging scores was possible only during friendly matches as the official matches would see authorised scor-

ers do the job impeccably.

Being regaled by cricket commentary made so much difference to our humdrum lives then, and the radio did an incredible job of bringing the action into our drawing rooms. Once a senior bank colleague and a diehard cricket fan had his ears glued firmly to the transistor, unware of his boss hovering around him. When asked what's going on, he responded in the blink of an eye, 'Seven down.' You will not listen to the commentary henceforth,' the manager growled, before turning away.

In another hilarious episode, when a bus conductor came around asking for tickets, a passenger lost in the running commentary, replied, '100 for two.' Cricket today is not only a game, but a religion that transcends boundaries.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BJP's message

It has taken long for Delhi to acquire the status of a UT, with a promise of full statehood ('The Delhi Bill'). But with the Centre now introducing the Government of NCT of Delhi Bill, it will be tantamount to asking the Delhi Government to stop governing. With this proposed law, the Centre will be arrogating all powers to itself, which will undermine Delhi's elected government. Implications of the proposed law extend beyond the AAP vs BJP political conflict. By making it mandatory for an elected government to route its files through the Lt Governor, it threatens to take away the autonomy that any elected government requires for governance. Does the BJP-led Centre want to send out the message that it will support greater autonomy for Delhi Government only if a BJP government rules Delhi? It is a mockery of the votes cast in favour of a party. The Congress and other opposition parties should provide full support to Delhi's AAP government in this matter. Though Delhi is not yet a full state, it does have a legislative Assembly which shouldn't be rendered meaningless.

SK SINGH, AMRITSAR

Vengeful act

Apropos of 'The Delhi Bill', the Central government with its

vicious agenda never misses an opportunity to scuttle the powers of a duly elected popular non-BJP government. The undue haste is obviously a vengeful act, being the absolute rejection of the BJP in the MCD bypoll. In consonance with the spirit of federalism, as enshrined in the Constitution, ideally the Centre should accord full statehood to Delhi to strengthen the well-performing government.

BAKSHI GURPRIT SINGH, JALANDHAR

Army selection system

The involvement of certain Army officers in the recruitment/selection scam has brought the selection process into disrepute. There is a need to put the incident in a correct perspective, lest people regard the selection system as compromised. The selection of officers is done by the Service Selection Board (SSB). It is a multi-tier system comprising 12-13 assessors. The board is presided over by an officer of the rank of a Brigadier or a Major General. All of them give their opinions independent of one another and evaluate the suitability of candidates using a standardised protocol of evaluation system which constitutes personality, intelligence, psychology tests and interviews. Psychology sheets of a candidate are

never destroyed and are preserved in the library of the Defence Institute of Psychological Research. It is a five-day evaluation process. The present instance relates to allegedly declaring candidates 'fit' during a review medical board. Candidates recommended by the SSB are medically examined by a board. The candidates found unfit are straightforwardly rejected. But those with minor medical conditions are declared 'temporarily unfit'. Such candidates invariably treat their ailments, get cured and appear before a review medical board. There is no element of corruption here. It is the people's propensity to bribe which is exploited by unscrupulous elements in society. Even though money might have exchanged hands in the ibid case, there was no 'quid pro quo'. Our selection system is above board.

LT COL GS BEDI (RETD), MOHALI

Farming and industry

Both the Centre and farmers' unions should work out a modus vivendi to diversify by keeping farm laws at abeyance and bringing in reforms in a consultative manner. The sustainable growth of agriculture hinges on improving infrastructure, enhancing research and development, besides the close knitting of linkage between agriculture and industry. The income of

farmers, in the long run, cannot go up substantially unless non-farm activities, including rural and agro-based industries, are developed.

KB SINGH, LUDHIANA

Low allocation

The Haryana Government has proposed an outlay of Rs 18,410 crore for education in the total budget of Rs 1,55,645 crore for 2021-22. This allocation for education comes to 8.45% of the total proposed budget. This total share for education includes Rs 14,913 crore for school education, which gets merely 1.04% of the total budget. It does not seem possible to implement most of the components of the National Education Policy (NEP). The NEP has proposed to spend 6% of GDP on education. It was earlier said by the Education Commission (1964-66). This factor does not seem to have been considered. The allocation falls short of the needs of the NEP. Factors like teachers' professional preparedness and school leadership do not seem to have been given enough importance. Hopefully, the government will try to allocate some more amount during revised estimates so that the important issues are not left behind.

SK KUMAR, PANCHKULA

Walking a tightrope on foreign policy



YOGENDRA YADAV

PRESIDENT, SWARAJ INDIA

and make it look as if it is some kind of global exercise."

Now, Jaishankar must know some basic logical fallacies that any intelligent argument must avoid. Usually, at the top of that list is ad hominem, Latin for "against the man". This happens when someone replaces logical argumentation with criticism based on personal characteristics, background or other features irrelevant to the argument at issue. One variety of ad hominem is called "Tu quoque", Latin for "you too". It distracts from the argument by pointing out hypocrisy in the opponent. This is a logical fallacy and does not prove anything simply because even hypocrites can tell the truth. When an otherwise intelligent and educated person uses this type of argumentation, you know he is really short on logic and facts.

This is not to dispute Jaishankar's charge of hypocrisy. Of course, Europe or North America is nobody to distribute certificates of democracy. Not just because their certificates

are inevitably linked to their foreign policy and economic interests, but also because their own democracy is deeply flawed. The list of autocracies that the US has spawned and supported is too long to be enumerated. Besides, Freedom House and V-Dem are no gold standards of democracy rating. Actually, there is no gold standard in this field. Any quantitative measurement or categorisation of democracy is inevitably a subjective exercise, open to challenge. All rating agencies invite experts who inevitably bring their own values. There is no way to have a completely objective rating of democracy. But subjective is not arbitrary and values are not necessarily biases. If long literary essays can



IN A SPOT: External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is having to defend the government even when it has not much to write home about on foreign policy. PTI

be evaluated in terms of quantitative marks in an examination, the same holds true for democracy.

Jaishankar would know that Freedom House and V-Dem have not invented democracy ratings or categorisations to damn his government. They have been publishing annual democracy ratings for most countries of the world for a fairly long time. He would also know that besides these two, there are other ratings such as Democracy Index by *The Economist*. There is also Press Freedom Index. Besides, there are reports by Amnesty International and UN Rapporteur on Human Rights. He would surely know that of late, India has consistently fallen in each and every rating of democracy and has been severely indicted in human rights reports. These reports happen to have given a number and a name to what anyone who knows anything about India knows so well.

No doubt, each of these ratings is from a Western liberal understanding of what is a democracy. Yet it would stretch one's credulity too far to suggest that all of them are into a grand conspiracy against India. It was rich of Jaishankar to claim that India was not looking for approval from the West. Facts suggest otherwise. No Prime Minister before Narendra Modi has held *melas* outside India to promote his image. No head of the government was

No government has made such a song and dance about

a routine Ease of Doing Business Index as this one did, a ranking that landed in a manipulation controversy.

Never have Indian government officials preferred International Monetary Fund data over India's own statistics as during this government's tenure. No one in the world has tried to claim credit for a high score on the severity of lockdown index as this government's enthusiasts did.

as keen to please an American president as Modi was to Donald Trump. No government has made such a song and dance about a routine Ease of Doing Business Index as this one did, a ranking that landed in a manipulation controversy.

Never have Indian government officials preferred International Monetary Fund (IMF) data over India's own statistics as during this government's tenure. No one in the world has tried to claim credit for a high score on the severity of lockdown index as this government's enthusiasts did. Ever since gaining Independence from colonial rule, no Indian government has been as craven in its need for Western certificates as this one is.

The only honest and intelligent way of questioning such ratings would be to counter them with facts. Jaishankar had only one fact to offer: that in India, everyone, including the defeated parties, accepts the election results. But he forgot that the main target of this much-needed punch was Trump, who was recommended to the American electorate by PM Modi himself. Besides, this fact only proves the fairness of counting and at best the electoral process. It does not disprove widespread anxiety about the worsening state of civil liberties, capture of democratic institutions, erosion in the freedom of media, judiciary and other watchdogs, attack on political opponents and criminalisation of dissent in today's India. In fact, the whole point of calling India an "electoral autocracy" is this: elections happen more or less fairly, but the country is non-democratic in between two elections. Unwittingly, Jaishankar has conceded this point.

The only other option would be to come up with an alternative way of measuring democracy. A news report says that the MEA might support an independent Indian think tank to do an alternative global rating of democracies. At any other time, this should have been welcomed as an instance of the kind of intellectual ambition non-Western democracies must show. In today's context, it is more likely to be another version of Colonel Gaddafi's *The Green Book* that sought to challenge the hegemony of Western political philosophy through some verbiage.

Jaishankar's attempt to clothe up the current state of Indian democracy is stark: The Emperor is naked. And no amount of words can dress it up.

Views are personal

Defence ties with US not without challenges



GROUP CAPTAIN MURLI MENON (RETD)

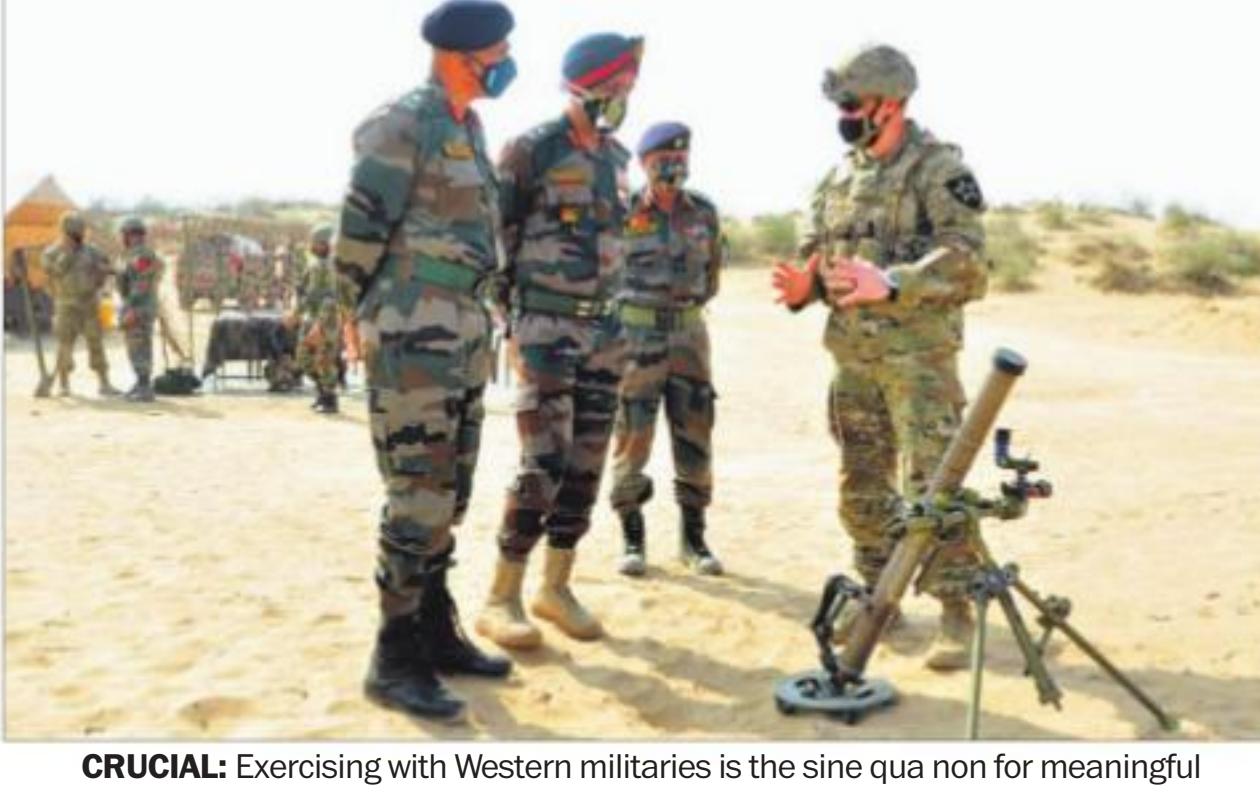
DEFENCE ANALYST

We are on the fringes of some dramatic defence cooperation agreements playing out. India would need to weigh in smartly on new arrangements such as the Quad, and its ability to contribute meaningfully to it, whilst arriving at an optimal path that protects our overall interests as an emerging world player. The upcoming visit by US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin to India needs to be seen in this light.

A cursory look at the progress of military affiliation between India and the US, from the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) signed in 2002 to the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) signed last October during the 2+2 Indo-US talks, does show an impressive upgrade in defence ties.

With the inclusion of the Logistic Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) of 2016 and the Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) of 2018, the spectrum of engagement between the militaries encompasses defence cooperation aspects from informational compatibility to logistics exchange. These are indeed foundational agreements, signalling the pathway to cutting-edge weapons technology and encrypted state-of-the-art communications on offer from the world's leading military entity.

Notwithstanding this, one can't but wish for some caution on how things could play out going forward. The historical backdrop to our military engagement has been worrisome during the Cold War era. The exasperation of our air wing staff at the Washington embassy caused by the dilly-dallying over the F-16 XL platform (then key to our LCA "control law" requirements) comes to mind. Indeed that is why several of the subsequent defence programmes such as the Advanced Jet Trainer (AJT) had serious riders on technology traps inherent in such high value deals. Another factor that weighs in on such key defence



CRUCIAL: Exercising with Western militaries is the sine qua non for meaningful international defence capabilities. PTI

agreements are of course the local political ambit, such as the *Aatmanirbharta* for India vis-a-vis the challenges faced by the F-16 production facilities in the US. Be that as it may, we are on the fringes of some dramatic defence cooperation agreements playing out. India would need to weigh in smartly on new arrangements such as the Quad, and its ability to contribute meaningfully to it, whilst arriving at an optimal flight path that protects our overall interests as an emerging world player.

The upcoming visit by the US Secretary of Defence, Gen Lloyd Austin (retd), to India needs to be seen in this light. We need to see "what's in it for me" in all such defence cooperation agenda, realising the limitations of

geopolitics. For instance, it would be naïve for us to expect that some of the existing agreements would entirely serve to counter threats from an assertive China, or indeed that we would get all our wish lists with respect to terrorism and threats emanating from Pakistan. During his confirmatory arraignment before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in January this year, General Austin is reported to have expressed his desire to improve defence cooperation with Pakistan, seeing it as an inevitable ally in dealing with the Taliban in Afghanistan.

But the fact remains that the culprits of the Mumbai terror attack are yet to be brought to book and Hafiz Saeed still roams free in that country, despite

a \$10-million bounty offered on him by the US itself. We need to establish for ourselves whether any of the new agreements on intelligence and communication sharing would translate into real-time hard-kill on our enemies of state across the borders. Whilst doing so, we need to exercise practicality on how countries tend to prioritise international terror threats, like for instance did the just-concluded *Yudh Abhyas* series exercise. Exercising with Western militaries is the sine qua non for meaningful international defence capabilities. Exercise Red Flag, Malabar, *Yudh Abhyas* and their ilk need to be pursued incrementally no doubt, but with more attention to our national military objectives.

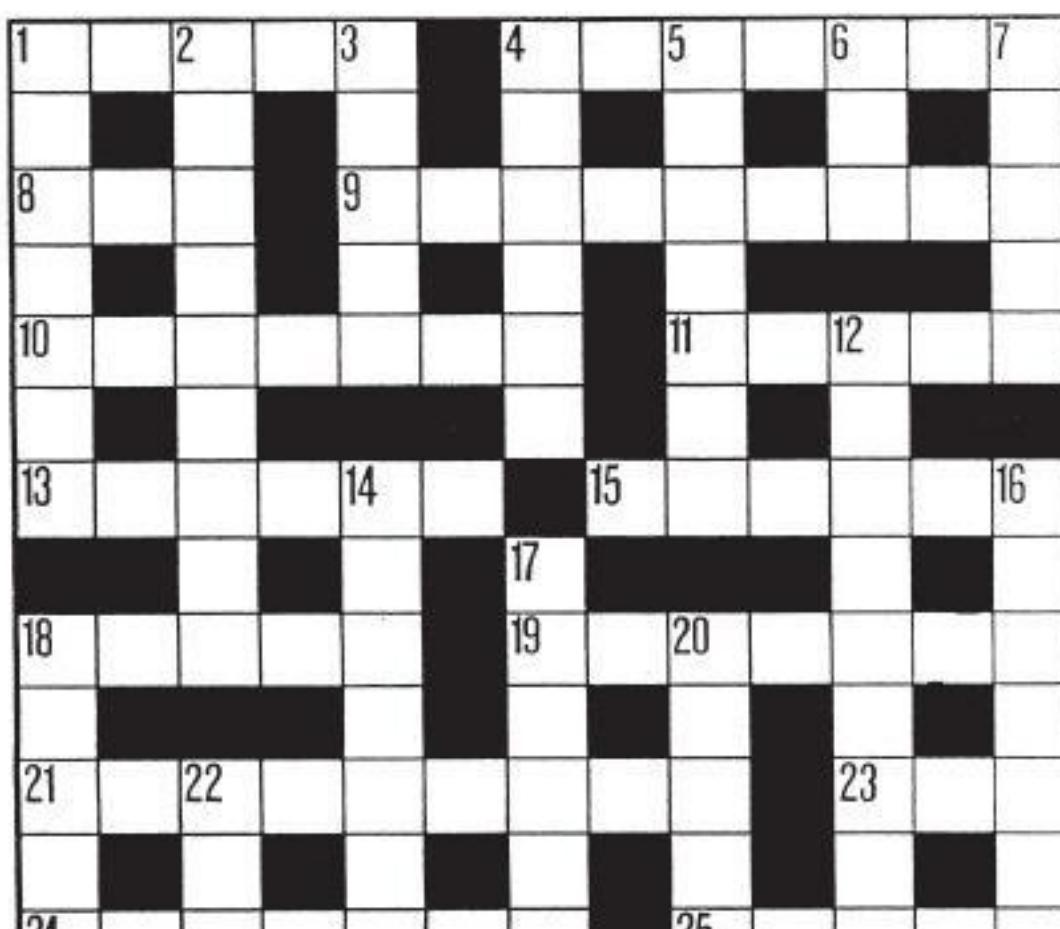
The other aspect in Indo-US military ties is of US weapon systems coming our way as part of the 126 MMRCA contracts (rumours abound about likely F-21/F-15/F-18 deals), space and satellite capabilities and the like. The Balakot experience would have taught us the need for indigenous military satellite capabilities, a la the Keyhole series of the Americans. India no longer has the luxury of not spending adequately on defence. The minimum requirement is to double our defence spending to 3 per cent of the GDP, to address all the key force structural and infrastructural shortfalls. The Americans have been traditionally chary about our strategic linkages to Russia and Iran. Whilst the old fears of technology being diverted from India to Iran may have abated over years of

fruitful military co-operation, apprehensions exist on our deals with Russia. The S-400 deal and the likelihood of American sanctions therefrom is a definite bugbear alright. Are the Americans going to play ball on it or would there be a quid pro quo with respect to some American-made anti-missile system of the Patriot PAC-1 class? We need to work with our American friends to find a modus vivendi in such sticky issues. So far, we appear to be balancing our Russian and American baskets carefully.

The Quad would be an important arena to buttress Indo-US defence cooperation. But once again, we would need to weigh our maritime options carefully. Special forces' training and cooperation and hard-kill UAV deals of the Predator/Reaper/Sea Guardian class are the other areas for mutually beneficial integration between our defence forces.

With Pakistan running afoul with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and its lack of will to enforce the UN-mandated anti-terror strictures, the US needs to work with India to achieve our goals in this arena. General Austin, along with USAF Chief General Charles Brown, is two senior black functionaries in the Biden administration and they would have their own compunctions in the post-Floyd anti-racist era still playing out in the US of A. Like the apparent glitches in the trade arena between our two countries, defence too would offer some challenges.

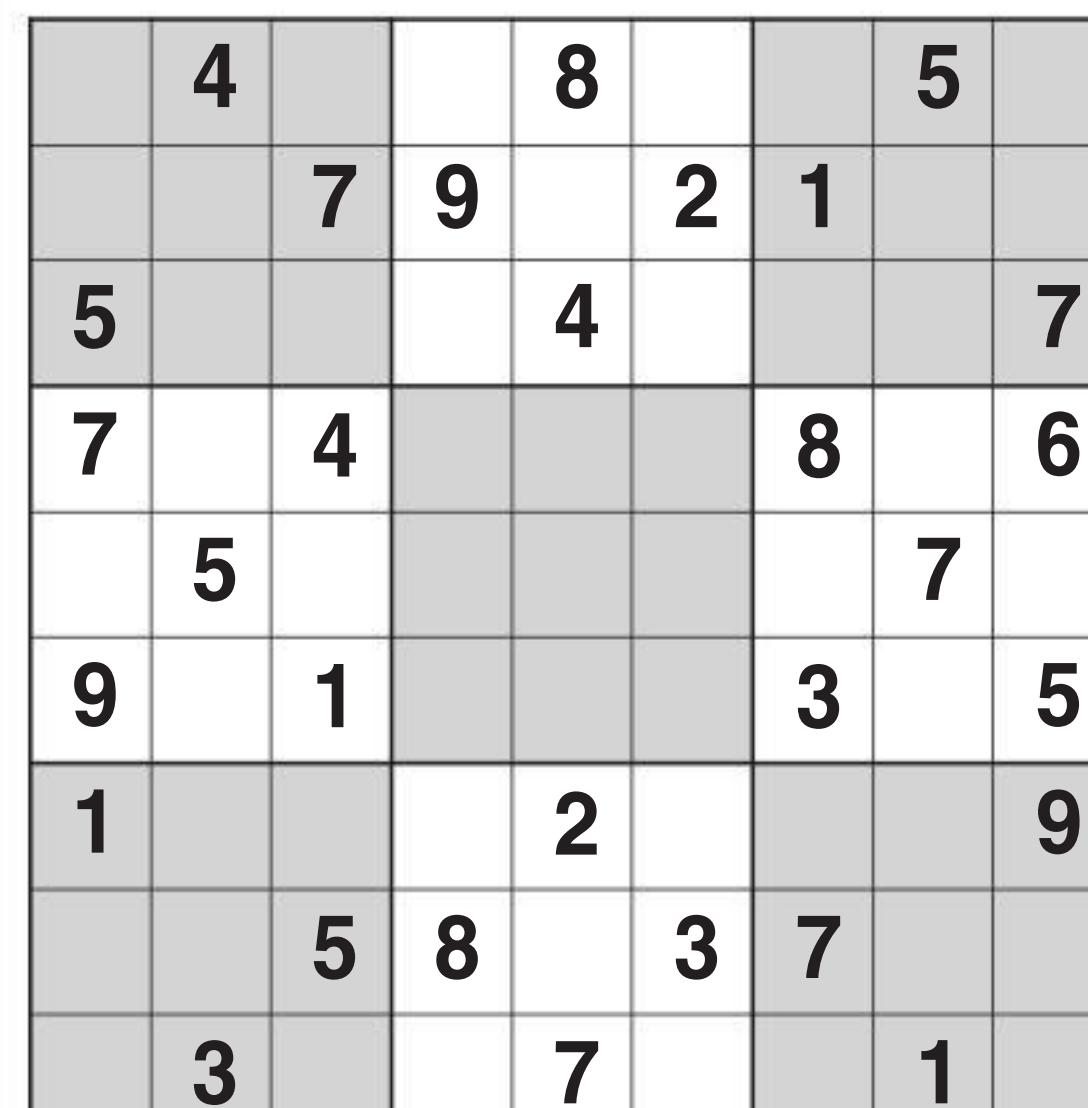
QUICK CROSSWORD



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

Across: 1 Tenderfoot, 8 Dying, 9 Clement, 10 Wrestle, 11 Add up, 12 Attain, 14 Flashy, 17 Hoist, 19 Radiant, 21 Even now, 22 End up, 23 Toe the line.
Down: 2 Evident, 3 Digit, 4 Racket, 5 Overall, 6 Iread, 7 Step by step, 8 Down at heel, 13 Intense, 15 Stand-in, 16 Growth, 18 Inept, 20 Dwell.

SU DO KU



MEDIUM

CALENDAR

MARCH 18, 2021, THURSDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat	2077
■ Shaka Samvat	1942
■ Phalgun Shaka	27
■ Chaitra Parvishtha	5
■ Hijri	1442
■ Shukla Paksha Tithi 5, up to 2.10 am	
■ Vadhruti Yoga up to 9.56 am	
■ Bharni Nakshatra up to 10.35 am	
■ Moon enters Taurus sign 5.22 pm	

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

FORECAST

SUNSET: THURSDAY 18:32 HRS
SUNRISE: FRIDAY 06:27 HRS

CITY	MAX	MIN
Chandigarh	32	16
New Delhi	34	18
Amritsar	30	15
Bathinda	31	14
Jalandhar	30	15
Ludhiana	32	16
Bhiwani	32	17
Hisar	33	15
Sirsia	32	16
Dharamsala	23	10
Manali	20	06
Shimla	21	11
Srinagar	17	05
Jammu	29	15
Kargil	04	-04
Leh	01	-07
Dehradun	32	15
Mussorie	20	10

TEMPERATURE IN °C

Tender/RFP for Services like AMC, housekeeping etc.**Government of Punjab**

Tender/RFP Reference No. 11 of 2021 Dt. 17.03.2021

The Department of Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board invites online Bids for:-

Sr. No. Name of Work

1. O&M of 6 MLD STP at Nawanshahr Town for the year 2021-26.

2. O&M of 3 MLD STP at Banga Town for the year 2021-26.

Closing Date & Time : 08.04.2021 up to 4:30 P.M.

For details logon to : <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

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

Sd/- E.E. PWSSD,

Hoshiarpur.

DPR/Pb/2700

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.

(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall,

Patiala — 147001)

Corporate Identity No. U40109PB2010SGC033813

Website: www.pspcl.in (Contact No. 9646122296)

E-Tender Enquiry No. 10/RE/MPP/2020-21 Dated 12.03.2021

Resident Engineer, MHP Division, PSPCL, Talwara, invites e-tender for Overhauling of 5 Nos. Trash Rack Cleaning Machines (TRCM) for Power House No. 1, 2, 3 & 4 of Mukerian Hydel Project, PSPCL, Talwara. For detail NIT & Tender specification, please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 16/03/2021 onwards.Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any, will be published in online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> C117/21 DPR/Pb/2688**H.P. STATE HANDICRAFTS & HANDBOOM CORPORATION LIMITED**

(A H.P State Govt. Undertaking)

D-2, SOA Commercial Complex, Kasumti, Shimla-171009

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SUPPLY OF MUFFLERS & STOLESHimachal Pradesh State Handicrafts and Handloom Corporation hereby invites EOI (Expression of Interest) for the supply of handloom made Mufflers and Stoles to cater bulk demand of various organizations for the year 2021-22. Individual Manufacturers/ Primary -Co-operative Societies/ Apex-Co-Operative Societies/ SHG's/ NGOs/ Individual Sellers engaged in manufacturing or trading of handloom products of Himachal Pradesh, having manufacturing unit or sale office in Himachal Pradesh are eligible for participation in EOI and empanelment for supply of these items subject to fulfillment of conditions of EOI. The detailed EOI notice can be viewed or downloaded from [https://www.himcrafts.com](http://www.himcrafts.com).

The last date of submission of EOI is 01.04.2021 up to 03.00 PM in the Corporate office of Corporation at Shimla. The Managing Director reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOI's without assigning any reason.

Managing Director

**INDIAN RAILWAYS
DIESEL LOCO MODERNISATION WORKS
PATIALA - 147003**

Tel: 2396000, 2396001 Fax: 91-0175-2306413

NOTICE INVITING ELECTRONIC TENDERS

On behalf of President of India Principal Chief Materials Manager/DMW/Patiala invites tenders in electronic form for following items:

A) e-Tender Notice No. 41 ET/2020-21

S.N.	Tender No.	Description	Qty.	Tender Closing date.
1	21211143	Terminal Bar	194 Nos.	16.04.2021
2	20221084	Traction Engine and Electrics for DETC	25 Sets	15.04.2021
3	202211459	Supply and commissioning of CCTV system	82 Sets	08.04.2021

B) e- Reverse Auction Notice No. 11 e-RA/2020-21

1	21211023	Cylindrical Roller Bearing	699 Sets	10.05.2021*
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Tender Closing Time (A&B): 15.00 Hrs.

item marked with * is reserved for procurement from RDSO approved Firms. The prospective tenderers are advised to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> or <http://www.dmw.indianrailways.gov.in> for detailed description of items & other terms and conditions of tender document. Please note that tenderers can submit their quotations only through <http://www.ireps.gov.in>.

Corrigendum to Tender Notice No. 09 e-RA/2020-21

Closing date against e-RA tender no. 20211041 published at SN. 1 may be read as 25.03.2021 instead of 22.03.2021

609/21

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED****See Section 82 Cr. P.C.**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused Gagan Deep Singh S/o Sh. Sushil, R/o H.No. 2544, Sector-24, Chandigarh has Committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case FIR No. 205/2020, u/s 420/406 IPC has been registered at P.S. Pahar Ganj, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Gagan Deep Singh cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Gagan Deep Singh has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant).

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Gagan Deep Singh of FIR No. 205/2020, u/s 420/406 IPC at P.S. Pahar Ganj, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before 01.05.2021.

By order

Sh. Chander Mohan
ACMM-01, Central District
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB
TENDER NOTICE REFERENCE NO. 24**

The Department of Public Works (Building & Roads) invites online bids for following:-

Sr. No.	Item	Quantity
1	Up-gradation of road from Gandhi Chowk Chakri Bazar road to Batala Bye Pass road via Bank Colony along Hansali Drain in Batala City District Gurdaspur under Head 4202-Capital Outlay on Education, Sports, Art and Culture 04-Art and Culture-800 Other Expenditure-03- Infrastructure Development-01-550th years celebration of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji-53-Major Works.	1

App. Cost:- Rs. 114.35 Lacs

Earnest Money:- Rs. 2.29 Lacs

Time Limit:- Four Months

Tender Fee Rs. 1000/-

Closing date & Time:- 31.03.2021 up to 5.00 P.M.

For details logon to:- <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

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

Sd/- (Er. Rajiv Kumar)

Executive Engineer,
Construction Division,
PWD B&R Br., Batala.
eecdatalapwdp@gmail.com
Mob: 98146-52153**NORTHERN RAILWAY****E-Tender Notice**

In continuation to E-Tender Notice for allotment of parking contract at Ambala Cantt (A-1) Railway Station published in News papers dated 11.03.2021 the details may please be read as under:

S. No.	Station (station category)	Detail of work	Parking area in Sq. Mtrs.	Reserve price for first years (excluding GST & other Taxes)	Tender No.	Tender closing Date/Time
1.	Ambala Cantt (A-1)	Contract for Light Vehicles (Car, Jeep etc.) parking at Ambala Cantt Railway Station.	2443.78 Sq. Mtrs.	Rs. 20,73,200/-	UMB-parking-T-UMB-69-2021	06.04.2021 /15.00 Hrs.

604/2021

Serving Customers with a Smile**Haryana Staff Selection Commission**

Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula — 134154

(www.hssc.gov.in)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Final Result for the post of Junior Software Developer of (UHBVNL), Haryana Against Advt. No. 11/2019, Cat No. 23.

On the basis of Written Examination, Scrutiny of Documents and Socio-economic criteria for the post of Junior Software Developer of UHBVNL, Haryana against Advt. No. 11/2019, Category No. 23, 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. 11/2019, Cat. No. 23, Junior Software Developer (02 Posts)

General (02 Posts)

1192301753 1192303721 (87)

General Waiting

1192300769 1192301241 (74)

CRITERIA ADOPTED FOR SELECTION

1.) WRITTEN EXAMINATION.....90-MARKS

2.) SOCIO ECONOMIC CRITERIA.....10-MARKS

TOTAL:- 100-MARKS

NOTE:- 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.

2. The result is also available on the website of HSSC i.e. www.hssc.gov.in.

Sd/- Secretary

Haryana Staff Selection Commission

Dated:- 16.03.2021

PRDH/1159/13/57/2021/2221/31/4

Sr.DEN-I/FZ/R acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date 07.04.2021 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored.Information regarding this tender is available on website www.ireps.gov.in & can be seen/downloaded. The Tenderers/Bidders will have to make payment towards tender document cost and Earnest Money against this tender through online payment modes like net banking/Debit/Credit Cards etc. available on IREPS portal. Manual/ offline mode of payment through Demand Draft, Banker's cheque, cash deposit receipts etc, are not permitted.

Name of Work Extension of shed and flooring with EOT crane track provision in wagon shop SRE end and in C&B/Bogie section.

Tender Type Open

Tender sale Closing Date 09.04.2021 at 15:30 hrs.

Pre-Bid Required No Pre-Bid query till date Not Applicable

Advertised Value Rs.49,41,764/- Including all taxes GST etc Tendering Section Tender & Works/Electrical branch Jagadhri Workshop

Earnest Money NIL (as per Ry. Bd's L.N. 20/2002-CE-II/CT/3E/GCC/Policy Dt. 30.12.2020)

Validity of Offer 45 days

Tender Doc. Cost Rs. 3,000/- Period of Completion 90 days

Bidding Start Date 15 days before opening of tender as per IREPS provisions.

Bidding end date 09.04.2021 upto 15:30 hrs.

Tender opening date & time At any time thereafter 15.35 hrs on dt.09.04.2021.

The tenderers are not required to be present during the opening. Railway reserve the right to open the tender at any time after closing of tender.

No. 56-W/Elect-20/21/T/02/EOT Crane (RT) DL 16.03.2021 601/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile

Haryana Staff Selection Commission

Bays No. 67-70, Sector-2, Panchkula — 134154

(www.hssc.gov.in)

ANNOUNCEMENT

Final Result for the post of Store Assistant of (HVPNL), Haryana Against Advt. No. 11/2019, Cat No. 07.

On the basis of Written Examination, Scrutiny of Documents and Socio-economic criteria for the post of Store Assistant of (HVPNL), Haryana against Advt. No. 11/2019, Category No. 07, 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.

Adv. No. 11/2019, Cat. No. 07, Store Assistant (08 Posts)

General (04 Posts)

1197000597 1197000741 1197000867 1197003959 (94)

General Waiting

1197003733 1

Didi releases TMC manifesto, promises monthly wages for all

ASSEMBLY POLLS 2021

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17
West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday released the election manifesto of the party promising a minimum monthly income to every household if voted to power.

Banerjee announced that woman guardian of every family (general category) would get Rs 500 every month. The amount would be Rs 1,000 for SC/ST and OBC families.

"The dole is for everyone," Mamata clarified. "There will be no discrimination. Women guardian will get the amount as part of our women empowerment programme," she said.

The manifesto gave assurance of generation of five lakh jobs annually and promised a student credit card of Rs 10 lakh at four per cent interest only with the state government as the guarantor.

"This is to give relief to parents from worrying about the higher education of their children," the Chief Minister said.

The manifesto also promised that the government would build 25 lakh low-cost affordable homes for members of the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) community under the Bangla Abhaas Yojana.

IN PARLIAMENT



Committee formed for criminal law reform

The government has set up a committee for criminal law reforms, including sedition law, under the Vice-Chancellor of National Law University, Minister of State for Home Affairs G Kishan Reddy told the Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. TNS

Parl panel for raising retirement age of HC judges

In the backdrop of a large number of vacancies of judges in High Courts and pendency of cases, a parliamentary panel has recommended raising the age of retirement of judges from 62 years to 65 years for uniformity in the Supreme Court and High Courts. IANS

Tewari raises question mark over vax drive

Congress MP Manish Tewari on Wednesday claimed that the Covid vaccination drive was not going on properly. Initiating the debate on Demand for Grants for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, he also accused the Modi government of mismanagement during the lockdown. BJP ally JD-U's Rajiv Ranjan Singh, who praised PM Modi for "managing the pandemic well", accused Tewari of "trying to scare people". TNS

Plan to induct JS, directors through lateral entry

The government on Wednesday informed the Lok Sabha that it planned to induct three joint secretaries, 27 directors and 13 deputy secretaries in the central ministries and departments through lateral entry, which means roping in specialists from among the private individuals. TNS

Lok Sabha clears Appropriation Bill

The Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed the Appropriation Bill 2021-22 to authorise the government for drawing Rs 117.16 lakh crore from the Consolidated Fund of India for ministry works. With this, two-thirds of the exercise for the Union Budget 2021-22 approval was concluded. TNS

Govt working to increase ethanol content in petrol

Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Wednesday said in the Rajya Sabha that the government was planning to blend up to 20 per cent of ethanol with petrol by 2025. "We want to build an ethanol economy in the country of the size of Rs one lakh crore by 2025," Pradhan said, adding that factories and other infrastructure for ethanol were being set up. TNS

Demarcate role of amicus curiae, apex court urged

EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLINGS

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17
Requesting the Supreme Court to demarcate the role of the amicus curiae in the Manipur extra-judicial killings case, the Centre on Wednesday asserted that she could not monitor investigating agencies such as the CBI. "I request Your Lordships to demarcate the lines up to which the court can be assisted by amicus. We've been seeing this for decades... I am not imputing

motives to any individual. But the ambit of their assistance needs to be decided by court. They can't be running the government," Solicitor General for India Tushar Mehta told a Bench led by Justice NV Ramana. Mehta's request came at the very outset of the hearing when the Bench took up application for discharge of Senior Superintendent of Police Mahesh Bhardwaj from the SIT probing fake encounters as he had been promoted to the rank of the DIG, Police. —TNS



HIGHLIGHTS

- Woman guardian of every family (general category) will get ₹500 every month. The amount will be ₹1,000 for SC/ST and OBC families
- Generation of five lakh jobs annually and student credit card of ₹10 lakh at four per cent interest only with state govt as guarantor
- 25 lakh low-cost affordable homes for SC and ST community under Bangla Abhaas Yojana
- Annual cash incentive of ₹10,000 to around 68 lakh small and marginal farmers in Bengal under Krishak Bandhu scheme

West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee releases the TMC manifesto ahead of the Assembly elections in Kolkata on Wednesday. PTI

Widow pension would also be provided to eligible members (18 years and above) of all castes and religious communities, she said.

The manifesto also promised an annual cash incentive of Rs 10,000 to around 68 lakh small and marginal farmers in Bengal under the Krishak Bandhu scheme. It is aimed at countering the Centre's PM Kisan Samman Needhi scheme, which provides Rs 6,000 a year to small and marginal farmers.

To provide free ration to eligible households at doorstep, Mamata promised the "Duare Sarkar" pro-

gramme. "Duare Sarkar programme will be held four months a year. Free ration will be provided at doorstep," she added.

The state would offer subsidised meals in 50 cities across Bengal at a rate of Rs 5 per meal, the manifesto stated.

The manifesto further promised that an additional 10 lakh medium and small and micro enterprises (MSMEs) would be added every year to increase the total number of functional MSME units to 1.5 crore.

The manifesto also promised ST status to people of "Kishan Jati" living in the

Malda area. It added that recommendation would be made to the central government for according ST status to people of "Mahato" community.

Mamata also promised setting up a special task force to accord the status of OBC to certain castes, who were listed as OBC in the Mandal Commission Report, but do not figure in the list of OBCs in West Bengal.

Claiming that the BJP will not allow people to chant "Jai Siya Ram", Banerjee said Lord Rama worshipped Goddess Durga as she is much superior to him.

The manifesto also promised free ration to eligible households at



UP CM Yogi Adityanath during a rally ahead of the Assam elections at Rangia in Kamrup district. PTI

Congress responsible for lack of development in N-E: Yogi

HOJAI (ASSAM), MARCH 17

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday held the Congress responsible for lack of development and illegal influx in the North-East and rise of militancy in Kashmir in its quest for power.

Addressing a poll campaign rally here, the senior BJP leader

accused the Congress, the main opposition party in Assam, of ignoring the people's welfare and progress of the region or the country's unity or welfare of the people, but only to grab power. This forced the people here to endure its misrule for a long time and the problem of illegal migration in the area," he said. — PTI

"Congress never worked for development and progress of the region or the country's unity or welfare of the people, but only to grab power. This forced the people here to endure its misrule for a long time and the problem of illegal migration in the area," he said. — PTI

PM to address rallies in Bengal, Assam

NEW DELHI: A day before addressing rallies in West Bengal and Assam, PM Narendra Modi said on Wednesday that there was a desire for change in Bengal with the BJP's agenda of good governance striking a chord with the people. "Glad to be getting the opportunity to be among my sisters and brothers of West Bengal tomorrow (March 18). I will be addressing a rally in Purulia. Across West Bengal, there is a desire for change," he tweeted. PTI

121 candidates file papers in Puducherry

PUDUCHERRY: As many as 121 candidates belonging to different political parties and Independents on Wednesday filed nominations for the April 6 poll in Puducherry, raising the total number of those who have filed papers so far to 162. Among those who filed the papers were founder-leader of AINRC and Leader of the Opposition in the outgoing territorial Assembly N Rangasamy. PTI

Election to 3 Kerala RS seats on April 12

NEW DELHI: The Election Commission on Wednesday announced that polling for three Rajya Sabha seats from Kerala falling vacant next month would take place on April 12 and the results would be declared on the same day. Abdul Wahab of the IUML, KK Ragesh of the CPI-M and Vayalar Ravi of the Congress are retiring on April 21, the EC said in an official communication. The notification for the biennial elections will be issued on March 24. TNS

EC: ₹331-cr seizures in poll-bound states, UT

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17

The Election Commission on Wednesday said its officials have made record seizures worth Rs 331 crore so far in the four poll-bound states and the union territory of Puducherry as part of the expenditure monitoring process.

According to an official

EC statement, the seizures have already surpassed the total seizures made in assembly elections to these states and the UT in 2016. A maximum of Rs 127.64 crore worth seizures have been made in Tamil Nadu, while Rs 112.59 crore worth cash and other items seized in West Bengal. — TNS

Rationalise cancellation charges on air ticket: Panel

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17

A parliamentary panel in its report has expressed anguish over lack of uniform norms for cancellation charges levied by airlines, and said there was a need to prescribe an upper limit to it.

The department-related standing committee on transport, tourism and culture in its report, which was tabled in the Rajya Sabha today, said, "Time and again, the committee's attention has been drawn towards the high cancellation charges levied by the private airlines operating in the country."

It further said, "The committee underlines the need for rationalising the cancellation charges and prescribing an upper limit of cancellation charges that can be collected from the passengers."

Reiterating its earlier recommendation, the panel said the airlines are required to restrict on this count and there should not be more than 50 per cent of the base fare as cancellation charges. — TNS

No decision on nationwide NRC yet, govt tells RS

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Register of Indian Citizens.

The minister said the Supreme Court on February 28, 2012, had directed that foreign nationals, who completed their sentence, should be released from jail immediately and be kept in an appropriate place with restricted movement pending their deportation or repatriation.

Following the directive, Rai said the Ministry of Home Affairs issued instructions on March 7, 2012, to state governments and UT administrations to comply with the directions of the Supreme Court.

Responding to a specific query in the question, the minister said detention centres had been set up by the state governments and UT administrations as per their local requirements to keep illegal immigrants and foreigners as their deportation might be pending for want of proper travel documents.

'Vaccine Maitri' raised India's standing, says Jaishankar in RS

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar speaks in the Rajya Sabha during the Budget Session in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

Oppn asks govt to acknowledge policy continuity that made the country pharmacy of the world

Ramesh, Anand Sharma (both Congress) and Binoy Vishwanath also acknowledged the contribution of past policies that made India the pharmacy of the world.

"Success has many fathers. I am delighted to see so many fathers claiming success. They really want to praise Vaccine Maitri, but are going about in roundabout way... it is a great affirmation of the made-in-India programme which I pursued so strongly," he said.

Jaishankar, however, overlooked Jairam Ramesh's suggestion to acknowledge the continuity in the policies of the past decades that "led to a situation we take legitimate pride in".

Ramesh pointed out India's unique Patents Act of 1970, the dilution of equity stake of MNCs due to FERA and huge public investments in science and technology that led to the emergence of Indian companies such as Bharat Biotech and Serum Institute.

Jaishankar, however, overlooked Jairam Ramesh's suggestion to acknowledge the continuity in the policies of the past decades that "led to a situation we take legitimate pride in".

It further said, "The committee underlines the need for rationalising the cancellation charges and prescribing an upper limit of cancellation charges that can be collected from the passengers."

Reiterating its earlier recommendation, the panel said the airlines are required to restrict on this count and there should not be more than 50 per cent of the base fare as cancellation charges. — TNS

Replying to another question, Rai said there was no provision of detention centres under the Citizenship Act, 1955, and the National

SC refuses to entertain PIL on guidelines for resolution of agitations

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17

The Supreme Court on Wednesday refused to entertain a PIL seeking directions to the government to frame uniform guidelines for resolution of public agitations through dialogue in a time-bound manner to promote democracy.

A Bench led by Chief Justice of India SA Bobde dismissed the PIL filed by Bharat Bhoomi Bachao Sangharsh Sami (BBBS), which also demanded equal opportunity of dialogue from government for resolution of farmers' issues relating to forcible land acquisition.

Petitioner's counsel MC Dhingra requested the court to at least consider the petitioner's prayer for formation of a high-powered committee.



"We have been peaceful in our demonstration," Dhingra said. "We aren't casting any aspersions. You remain peaceful... Dismissed," the CJI told Dhingra. Comparing the issue raised in the PIL with those in the farmers' agitation, the PIL submitted that while the government offered to form a high-powered committee for negotiations with farmers, the same has not been done in the case of petitioner's agitation with regard to agricultural sector. — TNS

Borewell, rooms at Tikri border, farmers booked

and 12 on Wednesday, forcing the authorities to file two separate cases against unidentified persons. Sources said a team of administrative officials, which had gone to inspect the site near the flyover, had to face the wrath of farmers, who raised slogans against them and forced them to return. Criticising the police action, farmers' leaders allege that the government was trying to suppress their voice.

Virendra Hooda of the BKU (Kisan Sarkar) said such actions won't affect their enthusiasm in any manner and they would continue the protest till the farm laws were repealed.



Mumbai top cop...

2004 in connection with the murder and destruction of evidence in the case related to the custodial death of Khwaja Yunus, a bomb blast accused arrested in 2002.

He joined the Shiv Sena in 2008. Vaze was reinstated last year "due to staff shortage amid the Covid-19 pandemic".

Vaze was suspended in

Vax wastage 6.5%, ensure optimal usage, states told

I urge states to aim for zero

vaccine wastage targets. The more we save, the more eligible people will get both doses," he said as India remained second only to the US in vaccine coverage. The US, which started vaccination on December 14, has so far delivered 10 crore doses. Since January 16, India has delivered 3,64,67,744 doses as of today (14,03,208 doses were delivered today). The UK, which began vaccinating much before the US, has only given 2.60 crore doses.

IT, ED teams raid Hry MLA's premises

Enclave and his office at the local grain market.

A large number of police personnel accompanied the raiding teams. The officials reportedly seized documents, keys of vehicles and mobile phones of the family members. They also raided the house of a close associate of the MLA.

The sources said the raids were conducted as the authorities were suspicious of Chhokkar's undisclosed sources of income.

Chhokkar was elected MLA for the first time in 2009 on the Haryana Janhit Congress ticket, but later switched to the Congress. He then lost the elections in 2014, but again elected to the state Assembly on the Congress ticket from Samalkha in 2019. He is a loyalist of former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

Shooters ready to take first steps towards Tokyo

But new Covid spike leaves a cloud over schedule before Olympics

VINAYAK PADMADEO

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 17

Even as New Delhi's Tughlakabad shooting range gears up for the ISSF World Cup for all shooting disciplines, the fear is that Indian shooters could head to the Tokyo Olympics short of match sharpness due to a fresh spike in Covid-19 cases.

After the New Delhi World Cup, which starts on Friday, Indian shooters may not get enough competitions. The combined World Cup, scheduled to be held in Changwon in South Korea from April 16, has already been postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions. Besides, there is no guarantee that the Olympics Test event scheduled in Tokyo from April 25 would be held at all.

That leaves only the shot-

gun World Cup in Lonata (Italy, from May 5) and combined World Cup in Baku in Azerbaijan (from 21 May) as the only two competitions for them to compete in before the Indian contingent heads for Tokyo.

Uncertainty

The uncertainty regarding the competitions is starting to dawn on the shooters. Pistol ace Manu Bhaker, one of the top prospects, said she would make her plans after the World Cup.

"I have no idea (what will happen). Post-World Cup I will definitely sit down and chalk out a plan," Bhaker said. "We will be shooting after a very long time, not just us but the entire shooting community. I hope that I will be able to deliver whatever I have learned

through this lockdown period. Let's hope for the best."

Senior shooter Sanjeev Rajput said he was worried about ammunition. "My plan is to go out and test for ammo so that I have five batches ready for the Games. Don't know when that will happen," he said.

The fluid situation has forced the National Rifle Association of India's (NRAI) hand. NRAI president Raninder Singh said the body would allow shooters to get their equipment fixed and they would be allowed to shoot in local competitions to be match-ready. The NRAI last year had decided to stop Indian shooters from training abroad in the run-up to the Games.

"We will be allowing them. That decision was prior to the Olympics last

year. Now we have a bigger gap to the Olympics. They can shoot a few competitions as well," Singh said on Wednesday. "These boys (skeet shooters) are supposed to go to Italy to get their stocks fixed. Now I got to know that Italy is going into a lockdown."

Tokyo team after World Cup

Singh said the Indian team for the Tokyo Olympics would be announced shortly after completion of the New Delhi World Cup. "We have a prior selection policy but we have to see how everybody is performing after such a long lay-off. We just cannot take a big risk ahead of the Olympics. However, it (performance) is not an issue because everyone seems to be doing very well," he added. TNS

Surviving in the bio-bubble was hard: Manu

NEW DELHI: The Indian shooting team had a hard time adapting to life in the bio-bubble. Now they say they have accepted it as norm.

Speaking about her experience, Manu Bhaker said the team had to follow strict regulations when the first national camp was held last year. "It was very difficult in the beginning but now we have all adapted to it. We were not allowed to go outside or leave our rooms," Bhaker said. "We were not allowed to step out of the bus. We stayed alone in our rooms. We had to deal with too many regulations at one go. But now it is all OK."

Sanjeev Rajput said that the first phase in the lockdown was perhaps the most difficult. "It was a difficult time for all of us. In June we started training again and by July I started to work on my physical fitness," Rajput said.

"Thankfully the ministry and our federation organised a few national camps, which was a big thing for us. The work done is showing now and many of us have bettered the national records. I have improved a lot too and shot very nice scores," he added. TNS



It was very difficult in the beginning but now we have all adapted to it. We were not allowed to go outside or leave our rooms. We had to deal with too many regulations at one go. But now it is all OK! Manu Bhaker

Chopra, Toor win gold

CHANDIGARH: Asian Games gold medallist Neeraj Chopra registered another big throw as he won his second gold medal in a fortnight. After his record-breaking throw of 88.07 metres at the Indian Grand Prix-3 earlier this month, the 23-year-old hurled the javelin to 87.80 metres to win gold at the National Federation Cup Senior Athletics Championships in Patiala today.

Haryana's Yashvir Singh (79.31m) and Uttar Pradesh's Rohit Yadav (78.88m) finished second and third, respectively. Meanwhile, it was a Punjab sweep in the men's shot put event as Asian Games gold medallist Tajinderpal Singh Toor exhibited his dominance by taking the gold in style. Toor produced four throws of over 20 metres, his best being 20.58m. Karanveer Singh finished second with a best of 18.98m, while Devinder Singh (18.04m) was third. TNS

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*Editor for purpose of P.R.B Act, 1867

DPR/Pb/2687

HP JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG NOTICE FOR e-TENDERING

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Solan invites e-tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors/firms for the following work through e-tendering process:

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money	Time of Completion
1.	Providing LWSS Sheet and adjoining villages in GP Top Ki Ber Tehsil and Distt: Solan H.P. (Sh:- C/o Raw water sump well cap. 6500 litres, Sedimentation tank cap 101000 litres, Filter bed, Sump well cap 101000, Main storage tank cap. 101000, Sector storage tank cap. 27500 litres, Pump house, Pumping machinery, Rising main, Distribution system and protection work).	1,28,97,837/-	1,62,000/-	Two years

Tender ID: 2021_HPIPH_45487_1

Cost of Form: 150/-

Last date of filing/uploading the tender through e-tendering up to: 23.03.2021 up to 11:00 a.m.

The tenders forms and other detailed can be obtained from website <http://htenders.gov.in>

Executive Engineer,

Jal Shakti Division, Solan, DPR/HP/6544

PUNJAB PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Baradari Gardens, Patiala — 147001

Website: <http://ppsc.gov.in>

Short Term Notice Inviting Tender

It is for the information of all the concerned that Punjab Public Service Commission, Patiala requires 12 (approx.) videographers with camera (with stand) for carrying out the work of videography at Patiala from 01.04.2021 to 03.04.2021 and from 05.04.2021 to 08.04.2021 (tentatively) (07 days).

Any agency/person interested in the above mentioned assignment may submit quotations in sealed envelopes addressed to "Secretary, Punjab Public Service Commission, Baradari Gardens, Patiala" along with bank demand draft of Rs. 30,000/- in favour of "Secretary, Punjab Public Service Commission" payable at Patiala as security (refundable). The quotations should reach the office latest by 25.03.2021 by 05:00 pm. The firm should have the previous experience (specially regarding exams videography) of working with any Government office/Department/Autonomous Body. (Proof of experience must be send along with quotations.) The firm should have valid G.S.T & Income Tax Registrations.

Dated: 17.03.2021

Sd/- Secretary

DPR/Pb/2687 Punjab Public Service Commission, Patiala.

PUNJAB PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION BARADARI GARDEN, PATIALA-147001

Advertisement No. 04

The Punjab Public Service Commission invites Online Application Forms for eligible candidates for recruitment to 02 POSTS OF JUNIOR ENGINEER (MECHANICAL) in Department of Local Government (Municipal Council/Nagar Panchayat) Government of Punjab.

1. Note: This Advertisement is being published as per the requisition received from Department of Local Government Bodies, Government of Punjab vide letter No. Rect. Cell-DSS-2021/72 dated 25.02.2021 and Letter No. Rect. Cell-DSS-2021/84 dated 08.03.2021.

2. RESERVATION OF THE POSTS:-

Category Code	Category	No. of Posts	Out of Total Posts Reserved for Women
71	General	01	01
76-B	Deaf and Hard of Hearing	01	--
Total		02	01

Note 1: The number of posts may be increased or decreased by the Govt. at any time before the selection process is complete without giving any prior notice to the candidates.

Note 2: The Punjab Civil Services (Reservation for Women) Rules 2020 issued by the Department of Social Security that provides for 33% reservation for women is attached as Annexure-V with General Information for candidates.

3. PAY SCALE: Rs. 35400/- Initial Pay.

The minimum pay admissible for the ibid posts shall be as per the notification of Finance Department dated 29.10.2020 and as per Notification No. 7/2012-4FP/166, Dated 15.01.2015 Govt. of Punjab, Department of Finance (Finance Personnel-I Branch) Chandigarh, and Notification No 1/2016-4PP.1/834680/1 dated 07.09.2016 Govt. of Punjab, Department of Personnel PP-I Branch Chandigarh, fixed emoluments equal to Minimum Pay without any allowance will be paid during the probation period of 3 years.

4.0 ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS:-

4.1 (i) Should possess Diploma in Mechanical Engineering/Technology from a Government recognized University or Institution/Board.

4.2 (ii) Punjabi of Matric or its equivalent Standard.

Important Note: The Candidates MUST possess the requisite qualification before or by 30.04.2021.

5.0 AGE:

Candidates should not be below 18 years and above 37 years of age as on 01.01.2021 (See detail in General Information for candidates).

6.0 COMPETITIVE WRITTEN EXAMINATION: The Commission shall hold Competitive Examination for recruitment to these posts tentatively in end of April, 2021 details of which can be seen in the General information for the candidates available on the website <http://ppsc.gov.in>

7.0 The candidates must refer to 'General Information for the candidates' available on PPSC website particularly Para-10 before filling up the application form. The candidate can only apply by filling online application from a link available on the website of Punjab Public Service Commission <http://ppsc.gov.in>. The candidates are NOT REQUIRED to send the Hard Copy of the Online Application Form to the office of Punjab Public Service Commission.

(a) However, candidates applying under the Sports Category need to submit a hard copy of 'Online Application Form' along with Sports Graduation Certificate and other certificates related to sports to establish his eligibility under the sports category at to reception counter of PPSC by 15.04.2021.

(b) Also, Persons with disabilities must submit the hardcopies of Online Application Form along with Disability Certificate and request for scribe, if any and other eligibility documents at the reception counter of PPSC by 15.04.2021. For any assistance Persons with disabilities may contact Superintendent Scrutiny: 0175- 5014825/29/31

Last Date for filling Online Application Form : 07.04.2021

Last Date for Depositing Online Application Fee: 15.04.2021

Dated: 17.03.2021

Sd/- Navreet Kaur Sekhon, PCS Secretary (Examinations)

BRIEFLY

ACAPULCO

Bopanna-Qureshi lose first match after reunion

Rohan Bopanna and Aisam ul Haq Qureshi lost their first match after re-joining forces, bowing out of the ATP 500 event here today. Up against second seeds Bruno Soares and Jamie Murray, the unseeded Indo-Pak team lost 7-6(4) 2-6 1-10 in the opening round.

GURUGRAM

Chikkarangappa rises to top

with 65, Sandhu T-4

Defending champion S Chikkarangappa of Bengaluru carded a 7-under 65, the day's joint best score, to emerge as the halfway leader with a total of 9-under 135 at the Delhi-NCR Open Golf Championship here today. Gurugram's Tapy Ghai (67) and Chandigarh's Harendra Gupta (70) were in joint second place, a shot behind. Chandigarh's Ajeeet Sandhu, the first-round joint leader, slipped to tied-fourth at 6-under after a round of 72. Agencies

TODAY ON TV

FOURTH T20I

INDIA VS ENGLAND

STAR SPORTS 7PM

EUROPA LEAGUE

ARSENAL VS OLYMPIACOS

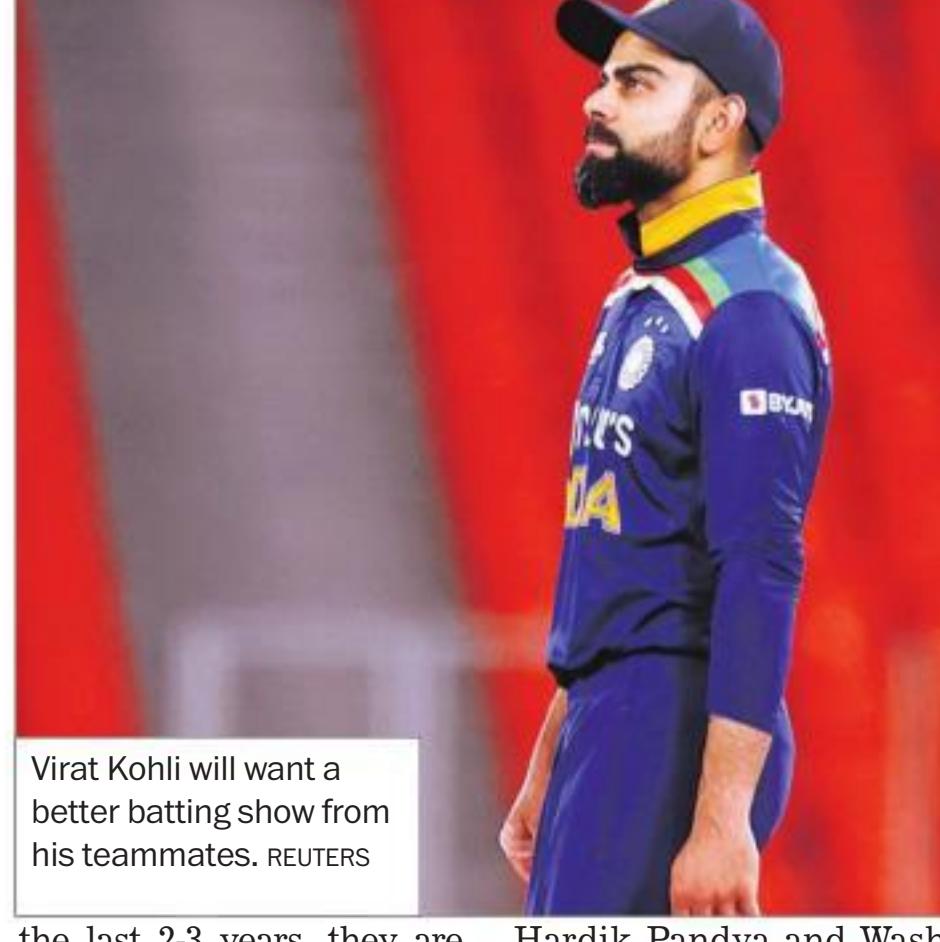
DINAMO VS TOTTENHAM 11:30PM

MILAN VS MAN UNITED 1:30AM (FRIDAY)

SONY TEN

Must-win game

India aim to bounce back and level series



Virat Kohli will want a better batting show from his teammates. REUTERS

the last 2-3 years, they are probably better than anyone in T20. He will continue to be one of our main batters along with Rohit at the top of the order. We don't have any concerns there," said Kohli.

The express pace of Mark Wood and Jofra Archer has also made life tough for the Indians in the first six overs. They have been able to extract disconcerting bounce from the surface, putting the batsmen in two minds.

Going by Kohli's words after the third game, a third all-rounder alongside

Hardik Pandya and Washington Sundar can be drafted into the side with the choice between uncapped Rahul Tewatia and Axar Patel.

Unlike the first game, Kohli's sublime 77 ensured India did have some runs to defend but the bowlers hardly troubled the opposition batsman with Jos Buttler running away with the contest. The team's number one spinner Yuzvendra Chahal has leaked runs both times India

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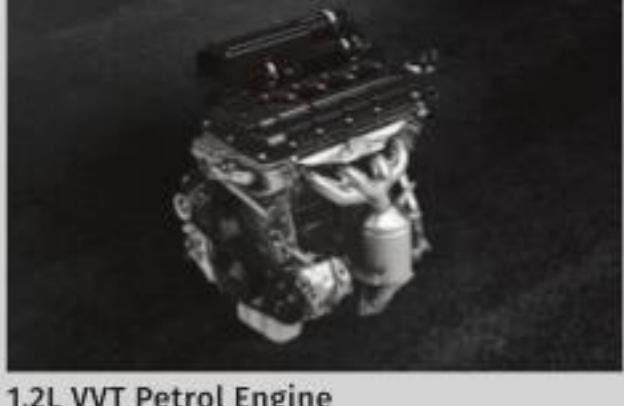
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