



# The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

CHANDIGARH | GURUGRAM | JALANDHAR | BATHINDA | VOL. 141 NO. 136 | 12 PAGES | ₹5.00 | REGD. NO. CHD/0006/2021-2023 ESTABLISHED IN 1881

**BLINKEN: WORKING TO END ISRAEL-GAZA CONFLICT** **WORLD**

**WHOLESALE INFLATION SPIKES TO 10.49% IN APRIL** **BUSINESS**

**RAJNATH REVIEWS PREPARATIONS FOR CYCLONE RELIEF** **BACK PAGE**



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TUESDAY | 18 MAY 2021

## Daily cases below 3L after 26 days

244 dists still with over 20% positivity rate | ICMR to scale up testing to cover villages


TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 17

In sustained signs of a retreating second wave of Covid-19, daily infections fell below 3 lakh for the first time in 26 days while weekly positivity rate dropped from 22.61 per cent on May 10 to 18.17 today.

The country saw 2,81,386 new cases today, revealing consistent trends of an average decline in daily cases since May 9. The weekly decline in positivity rate was seen after 15,73,515 tests in the last 24 hours.

Chairing the 26th meeting



The wailing relatives of a Covid victim in Delhi. MUKESH AGGARWAL

**2,81,386 FRESH CASES**

**TOTAL DEATHS 2,74,390**

**ACTIVE CASES 35,16,997**

**4,106 DEATHS IN 24 HOURS**

**INDIA EXPLORES IMPORT OF ANTI-BLACK FUNGUS DRUG**

Production of black fungus drug Amphotericin-B is being scaled up and avenues for import are being actively explored, top official said.

**INDIA DROPS PLASMA THERAPY FROM COVID TREATMENT PROTOCOL**

of the Group of Ministers on Covid today, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan noted the decline in new cases and hailed Covid warriors for their

services. "India's Covid-19 new cases have dropped to less than 3 lakh for the first

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

EDIT: CAUTIOUS RELIEF

## 23K adverse events post vaccination: Govt

NEW DELHI, MAY 17

The national expert committee monitoring adverse events following Covid immunisation (AEFIs) on Monday said the rate of vaccine side-effects in India was negligible and the risk of clotting after the administration of Covishield shots was "miniscule but definitive".

The committee, in a report to the government, said since vaccinations began on January 16, over 23,000 adverse events had been reported

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## Didi leads protests against CBI arrests

SHUBHADEEP CHOUDHURY

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KOLKATA, MAY 17

Protests erupted in West Bengal after three Trinamool Congress (TMC) leaders, including two Cabinet ministers and an MLA, and a former minister were arrested this morning by the CBI in connection with the Narada sting case.

In a dramatic move, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee landed in the CBI office at Nizam Palace here, where her arrested colleagues were kept, and offered to court arrest protesting the detention.

Mamata argued that the permission of the Assembly Speaker should have been taken before arresting the TMC leaders. She spent nearly six hours at Nizam Palace

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



CM Mamata Banerjee leaves the CBI office in Kolkata. PTI

**CM HOLDS 6-HOUR DHARNA, ASKS: 'WHY NO SPEAKER'S NOD'**

**WB GOVERNOR JUSTIFIES APPROVAL FOR PROSECUTION**

**CBI COURT GIVES BAIL TO ALL 4, HIGH COURT ORDERS STAY**

## 213 lives at stake as Tauktae hits barge

AJAY BANERJEE

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 17

More than 200 persons may be missing with a barge, used for engineering and cargo purposes, "fast sinking" near the Bombay High oil-rig in the Arabian Sea late Monday night. The barge was ravaged during Cyclone Tauktae.

Naval warship INS Kochi and offshore support vessel Energy Star had rescued 60 persons till 11 pm. In all,

there were 273 on board.

The operations will continue through the night for the remaining members of the crew. The Bombay High is 70 km west off Mumbai.

The barge was deployed by a consortium led by Afcons Infrastructure Ltd, a part of the Shapoorji Pallonji Group, to undertake a contract for the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC). The barge was being used as an accommodation base mid-sea for the workers on the project.

## Dhindsa, Brahmpura float SAD (Sanyukt)

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

Ranjit Singh Brahmpura and Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa today announced to launch a new political party—Shiromani Akali Dal (Sanyukt).

The outfit was formed after the dissolution of SAD (Taksali), formed by Brahmpura, and the SAD (Democratic), launched by Dhindsa.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## In Himachal, over 30% positivity rate in 6 dists

PRATIBHA CHAUHAN

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 17

The Covid situation in Himachal Pradesh seems to be getting from bad to worse as the positivity rate in six of the state's 12 districts has crossed the alarming level of 30 per cent.

The overall positivity rate has risen to 28.9 per cent from 26.3 per cent a fortnight ago while the fatality rate has gone up from 1.42 per cent to

ALARMING COUNT		
DIST	POSITIVITY RATE	FATALITY RATE
Kangra	38.1	1.73
Sirmaur	37.2	1.17
Solan	33	1.75
Mandi	31.9	1.38
Hamirpur	31.5	1.46
Shimla	30.5	2.61

(FIGURES FROM MAY 10-16)

1.52 per cent in a week. As many as 439 deaths were reported between May 10

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## Was threatened by CM's political secretary: Pargat

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

The ongoing tussle between Capt Amarinder Singh and his baiters over delay in justice in the sacrilege and subsequent police firing cases spilled out in the open today with Jalandhar Cant MLA Pargat Singh alleging he was threatened with a police case by the CM's political secretary.

In another development, the Punjab Women Commission Chairperson has asked the Chief Secretary to submit a



Pargat Singh Charanjit Channi

**REPORT SOUGHT IN HARASSMENT CASE INVOLVING MINISTER CHANNI**

status report in an old case of alleged harassment of a Punjab-cadre woman IAS officer by minister Charanjit Singh Channi, another member of the camp that has opened a front against the CM. **INSIDE**

## 46 isolation centres in Rohtak without facilities

RAVINDER SAINI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, MAY 17

Isolation centres have been set up in 46 villages in Rohtak district, but not a single Covid patient has reported there over the past three days.

Villagers avoid coming to these centres citing non-availability of proper facilities. The



A vacant isolation centre at Rohtak's Bainsi village. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## COVIDCARE BREAKDOWN

authorities, however, say the centres are meant for providing isolation space to those who can't do so at home. "How can patients move to isolation

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



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# Border village parries infection, battles skin ailment

ANIRUDH GUPTA

FEROZEPUR, MAY 17

Sandwiched between the Sutlej on the one side and the hostile Pakistan on the other, it's like a blessing in disguise for the remote Kaluwala village situated along the zero line that to date, no Covid case has been reported here.

Notably, the village is surrounded by the Sutlej from three sides with a barbed wire fencing separating it from Pakistan on the fourth. Even after more than seven decades post Independence, the only mode of transportation available in the village is a wooden "bera", which ferries residents to the town.



A Kaluwala villager on a barge on the Sutlej bank. TRIBUNE PHOTO

"Owing to its location, not many relatives or friends visit us here," said Harbans Singh, sarpanch, adding that the fact had come to their advantage

during the pandemic times. Situated in proximity to Pakistan, the relatives feel there is always a lurking danger of war which prevents them from vis-

## SOCIAL DISTANCING HAPPENS NATURALLY

“We have to often wade through the Sutlej, which is polluted due to toxic discharge from tanneries. Due to the contaminated water, several villagers suffer from skin ailment, forcing them to maintain social distancing.

Mangal Singh, KALUWALA VILLAGE RESIDENT

iting the village. "Na koi rishtedaar na hi koi afsar ithe aaunda hai (no relative or official visits us)," said resident Kala Singh, adding that no

one even from the Health Department had come here in the recent past.

Talking about social distancing, nambardar Mangal Singh said the villagers remained naturally isolated. "We have to often wade through the Sutlej which has been polluted due to discharge of toxic effluents from leather tanneries situated in nearby Kasur district. Due to this contaminated water, several villagers suffer from skin problems forcing them to maintain social distancing in homes," he said.

Another resident Swaran Singh said though they had been saved from Covid till now, no medical facility was available to them. When

asked by *The Tribune* team, the villagers were not aware about any instructions like wearing of mask or social distancing. The adverse circumstances under which they live day in and day out have, however, saved them from the pandemic.

Living on the edge, there is already a lot to worry about apart from Covid for these border villagers. From education of their children to matrimonial blues, to making both ends meet, they have a whole lot of issues to deal with. However, they do not have any remorse of staying in the hamlet. And the pandemic has only added to their belief of staying in their nondescript village.



Cops keep a vigil at Bhundar village in Muktsar. TRIBUNE PHOTO

# 116 test +ve in a day at Muktsar village

ARCHIT WATTS

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, MAY 17

Setting the alarm bells ringing, 116 persons tested positive for Covid at Bhundar village in Muktsar district today, taking the village caseload to 178. Unfortunately, some children, including a month-old baby, too, have tested positive.

District Magistrate MK Aravind Kumar has declared the village a macro-containment zone. The village has a population of 4,000 persons, of whom nearly 700 have undergone the test and some reports are pending. Asked whether farmers returning from the Delhi protest are being tested positive, Dr Ranju Singla, Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Muktsar, said: "We have not got any such data."

Meanwhile, Sahib Singh Bhundar, chairman, Cooperative Bank, Muktsar, a resident of the village, said, "The reports of nearly 170 are pending. A high number of positive cases has worried all of us. We have now decided to paste the Covid status of all outside their houses." "The village doesn't have any healthcare facility. Four health workers, who visited the village daily, have also tested positive. Two village residents succumbed to the virus yesterday," he said.

Bhundar sarpanch Sukhdev

## SCHOOL TO BE MADE LEVEL-1 HOSPITAL

“After seeing such a high number of Covid cases, we are working to establish a Covid Level-1 hospital at a school in the village. Now, all villagers will be tested.

Dr Ranju Singla, MUKTSAR CMO

## COVID METER

Cases	6,947
Critical	419
Active	73,616
Deaths	194

## WORST-AFFECTED DISTRICTS

DISTRICT	CASES	DEATHS
SAS Nagar	889	11
Ludhiana	851	20
Muktsar	619	9
Jalandhar	586	13
Bathinda	521	19

Singh said: "The police have already sealed the village. Residents are cooperating with the police and civil administration. The District Magistrate declared Kuraiwala village, too, a macro containment zone after 22 residents tested positive. In the past 24 hours, 619 persons, including 400 villagers, have tested positive for Covid in the district.

## Barnala admn forms panel for better treatment

BARNALA, MAY 17

The Barnala administration has formed a Pendu Sanjeevani Committee (PSC) for timely medical treatment of Covid patients in Chananwal village. The committee consists of RMPs, health workers, a patwari and other volunteers. The administration

## Will encourage villagers for testing

plans to form such committees in more villages.

The committee members have been given training by the administration and they will categorise all patients in the village in level-1 and level-2 stages. They identified 16 sick patients with Covid symptoms on May 15. Of these, 11 got their Covid test done after being motivated by the PSC. Deputy Commissioner TPS Phoolka said the purpose of the committees was early detection of sick patients in the village and facilitating their testing. — TNS

# Vax drive slackens amid shortage, Covid fight hit

VISHAV BHARTI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

When the state is struggling with high Covid mortality, the vaccination drive has seen a steep dip. Last week between May 9 and May 15, just 2.69 lakh doses of the vaccine could be administered. Earlier weeks' average remained between 5 and 6 lakh doses. Till mid April, on an average the state was administering between 6 and 7 lakh doses. But due to the shortage of vaccine, it started to decline over the next five weeks.

As per the data of the state Health Department, in the last two weeks, the situation was such that between May 2 and May 8, the state administered just 3.38 lakh doses and in the next week it came down further to 2.69 lakh in the last week. The



An elderly man gets vaccinated against Covid in Jalandhar. FILE

LOSING STEAM			
Week	Doses		
April 4 to 10	6.60 lakh		
April 11 to 17	6.55 lakh		
April 18 to 24	5.60 lakh		
April 25 to May 1	5.18 lakh		
May 2 to May 8	3.38 lakh		
May 9 to May 15	2.69 lakh		

41.48 LAKH DOSES ADMINISTERED	Healthcare workers administered 2.81 lakh jabs Frontline workers given 7.82 lakh doses	30.32 lakh shots given to above 45-year population	0.95 lakh doses administered to 18-44 age group
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situation is such that on Sunday just 39,000 doses of vaccine could be administered in the entire day. In March, the state had announced to administer

1.5 lakh doses of vaccine everyday, but for the past one-and-a-half month due to the shortage of supply by the Centre, the drive witnessed a steep decline.

So far the state has administered 41.48 lakh doses to various groups, including healthcare workers, frontline workers and people above the age of 18.

# 'Fateh' kits in short supply, MLA comes out with own

RAVI DHALIWAL

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QADIAN (GURDASPUR), MAY 17

Staring at a shortage of 'Fateh kits' in his Assembly seat of Qadian, Congress MLA Fateh Jung Singh Bajwa has hit upon a novel idea by packing the contents of the kit in packets named under his charitable organisation — Satbachan Welfare Foundation — and distributing the same among his constituents.

The MLA, who has made Qadian his base ever since the advent of the second wave, rubbished claims of his detractors who insisted that he is using Covid as a double-edged sword. "By distributing these kits he is just fortifying his vote bank ahead of the Assembly polls," said a SAD leader.

"The polls are the last

## NGO deutes 10 ambulances for Covid care



An ambulance of the Satbachan Welfare Foundation.

thing on my mind. My priority is to ensure my people do not catch the virus. Everybody knows how difficult it is to convince villagers to get inoculated because of their mental block. These psychological barriers are being knocked down following which things have become different in Qadian. People

themselves are willing to get tested and also vaccinated," said the MLA's son Arjun Partap Bajwa who incidentally is the nodal officer. "In every village I have selected five 'Covid Warriors'. These youngsters are guiding the elderly on how and where to get vaccinated," he said.

## Missing oximeters: Kits to be checked before delivery

SANGRUR, MAY 17

The Civil Surgeon (CS) has made it mandatory for staff to open 'Fateh kits' and ensure presence of all items before handing these over to patients. This comes after *The Tribune* highlighted that pulse oximeters were missing from some kits given to Covid-19 patients in the district.

The CS has directed officials to ensure any of the items not present in the kits are made available to patients. "I have directed my staff to ensure availability of all items in the kits. Though our officers are working hard to ensure the supply, they will be more cautious in the future," said Dr Anjana Gupta, Sangrur CS.

The kit includes a pulse oximeter, digital thermometer, steamer, hand sanitiser, gilyo tablets, vitamin C

## OPEN IN FRONT OF KIN

“I have directed senior medical officers to ensure our rapid response teams examine kits in the presence of relatives of patients.” Dr Anjana Gupta, SANGRUR CS

## The Tribune IMPACT

tablets, vitamin D3 tablets, zinc tablets, topcid, amunity plus liquid, Doxycylin tablets, Ivermectin tablets, Dolo tablets, multivitamin tablets, cough syrup, Betadine gargle, Levo Cetirizine tablets, face masks and a large balloon. Patients are also advised to use fresh tulsi leaves.

"I have directed senior medical officers to ensure our rapid response teams examine the kits in the presence of relatives of patients," she said. — TNS

## Green corridor facilitates O2 transport near Abohar

ABOHAR/SRIGANGANAGAR, MAY 17

A foolproof VIP-level security and a green corridor were offered to an oxygen tanker that left Bhiwadi at 1.35 am and reached Sriganganagar at 12 noon. The Transport Department and the state police escorted the vehicle that covered a distance of 442 km on the national highway. Cops were deployed at all terminals on the route.

As Sriganganagar is located around 40-km from Abohar, Covid patients here prefer to avail facilities in Sriganganagar instead of travelling 98-km to

## Tanker covers 442 km without any halt

Faridkot where the number of available beds was insufficient. A private lab in Sriganganagar gives Covid reports on the same day while reports from Faridkot state lab are received here after four to five days. The tanker was taken directly to a private medical oxygen refilling plant at Rico Udyog Vihar on Hanumangarh Road. The tanker was not allowed to stop anywhere. — OC

# GK moves Akal Takht over Big B's donation to DSGMC

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, MAY 17

Former president of the Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (DSGMC) Manjit Singh GK today filed a complaint to the Akal Takht against the current committee for accepting financial aid from actor Amitabh Bachchan.

Hours later, the DSGMC legal cell appealed to Akal Takht officiating Jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh to take action against GK for maligning the image of DSGMC for political gains.

DSGMC cell chairperson Jagdeep Singh Kahlon stated that GK, during his stint as DSGMC president never spared a thought about 1984 anti-Sikh riot victims or spoke about Bachchan's involvement in it.

Bachchan had recently extended a sum of Rs 2 crore to the DSGMC for Sri Guru TeghBahadur Covid Care Facility for patients at Gurudwara Rakabganj, New Delhi.

GK claimed that a total of Rs 12 crore was accepted from Bachchan, as on earlier



DSGMC ex-president Manjit Singh GK in Amritsar. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## SIKHS WANT MONEY RETURNED

■ DSGMC former president Manjit Singh GK has urged the Takht to take a call on whether the money from Amitabh Bachchan, who allegedly incited the 1984 riots, should be accepted or not

■ He said the Sikhs never accepted the Centre's proposal to rebuild the dilapidated Akal Takht after Operation Bluestar. Riot victims' kin and Sikhs want the money to be returned

occasion Rs 10 crore was given for MRI machines at Gurudwara Bangla Sahib too. The issue gained attention when Sirsa glorified Bachchan's move on social media.

GK said when Sirsa inaugurated the diagnostic centre on March 11, it was told that the machines were

served by one Chawla and Juneja families. However, on May 10, when Bachchan claimed in his blog that he had given all expenses of the diagnostic centre, the DSGMC said the machines were procured with the assistance from Harivansh Rai Bachchan Trust.



# Health officials fear spike as labourers arrive in villages

Regular Covid testing camps to keep tabs on paddy workers

AMAN SOOD  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**PATIALA, MAY 17**  
Amid rising number of Covid cases in rural Punjab, the return of migrant labourers has added to the concerns of the government. While farmers are eager to welcome the migrant paddy labour, experts warn of testing and vaccination.

Twenty-five villages in the state have already been declared containment or micro-containment zones.

The health department claims that regular check-up camps and tests would be conducted to keep tabs on labourers returning from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, but only if reported.

Experts suggest that any laxity on part of the farmers could be a threat to villagers. “Testing is the key and minimum 10-day isolation should be mandatory for those entering villages,” they say.

Migrants have started contacting farmers and have reportedly assured them of returning to Punjab before the paddy season begins. “They are urging me to ensure their ration and stay even if lockdown is extended after the paddy



## MIGRANTS WANT FOOD, STAY IF CRISIS DEEPENS

- Migrants are urging farmers to ensure ration and stay if lockdown is extended after the paddy season is over
- “They have also asked me to arrange for their safe return if crisis deepens,” says Jasdeep Garcha, a farmer
- “The only fear is that thousands of these migrants will enter Punjab, but won't be isolating themselves. They won't even carry the mandatory Covid-negative report,” says a top health official

season is over. They have also asked me to arrange for their safe return if crisis deepens,” said Jasdeep Singh Garcha, who own over 40 acres in Punjab and 20 acres in Uttar Pradesh.

Bade Lal, a paddy labour contractor, said: “For the past three generations, my family has been involved in arranging labourers for paddy transplantation. While lakhs of migrants returned to their villages amid lockdown, I have arranged nearly 150 workers from my village in UP. They will be brought in

buses next week.” When asked if they will carry Covid-negative reports, he said he did not want to put such conditions, otherwise the labourers would get scared. “Let them reach and we will see,” he said.

What worries health officials is that majority of the labourers entering Punjab have refused vaccination in their native state and are even entering Punjab without getting themselves tested. “The only fear is that thousands of these migrants will enter Punjab, as they do every sea-

son, but will not be isolating themselves. They won't even be carrying mandatory Covid-negative report,” said a top health official.

Patiala DC Kumar Amit said as per the government directives, it had been decided “to sensitise the rural masses” regarding the seriousness of the spread of pandemic in villages. “There will be sub-divisional and village-level committees to act swiftly to sensitise the rural masses about Covid symptoms and testing, besides vaccination,” he added.

## So far, 804 MT O2 received

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

Punjab has received 804.26 metric ton liquid medical oxygen (LMO) to date by operating 30 flights with assistance of the Indian Air Force since April 17.

A spokesperson for the state Covid control room said due to the long journey involved in taking trucks to and from Bokaro, Jharkhand, and Hazira, Gujarat, from where Punjab gets its LMO quota, the state decided to airlift the oxygen tankers to the two plants from the Chandigarh air base and bring these back by road.

## 30 IAF flights to Bokaro, Hazira since Apr 17

The decision turned the situation in state's favour as it was able to obtain adequate oxygen supplies.

The control room (02) officials said they were in touch with oxygen generation plants across the country giving supplies to Punjab. The government was closely monitoring and ensuring timely movement of trucks carrying LMO.

“The movement of trucks was being monitored by the state Covid control room and a police constable was accompanying each truck to check delays. Besides, two ‘Oxygen Express’ trains have been sent to Bokaro and Hazira,” said the spokesperson. — TNS

# Pandemic-induced stress ‘on rise’

MANAV MANDER  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LUDHIANA, MAY 17

The ongoing pandemic is triggering stress in a large number of people. The category of patients includes students, especially from Class XII and young professionals. Hospital OPDs in Ludhiana are receiving at least 10 such patients every day. On World Hypertension Day today, the load of patients with high BP and stress has increased manifold.

People are losing jobs, facing financial crisis and students are having a tough time. Dr Bishav Mohan, senior cardiologist,

## STUDENTS SEEK HELP

“Students are visiting doctors more often than earlier. Those in Class XII are stressed as they are not aware of their exam schedule... They are treated through counselling, Dr Sandeep Chopra, additional director, Fortis Hospital

DMCH, said the pandemic had increased the number of people suffering from hypertension.

“Many students are coming to the OPD these days. They are mostly those studying in Class XII. Since the board has yet not

announced anything about their exam schedule, it is causing panic among them. Professionals are facing tough times due to the ongoing pandemic as some lost their jobs, others are facing salary cuts and thus becoming prone to hypertension,” he said.

He said such patients were reassured that everything would become fine with time and were told to do breathing exercises. Not medicines but counselling helps such patients to recover. Dr Sandeep Chopra, additional director, cardiology, Fortis Hospital, said he was getting eight-10 patients with stress issues in his OPD every day.

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**Initiative of Government of Punjab for fighting COVID**

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	OXYGEN BEDS		ICU BEDS (Without Ventilator)		ICU BEDS (With Ventilator)	
	Total	Available	Total	Available	Total	Available
Government Hospitals	4154	1835	510	89	370	64
Private Hospitals	6478	1454	1441	185	1032	117
<b>Total (Govt. + Pvt.)</b>	<b>10632</b>	<b>3289</b>	<b>1951</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>1402</b>	<b>181</b>

*Figures as on 17.05.2021 5:00 pm*

**Issued by:**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, PUNJAB



# 24-yr-old dies of Covid, mom says wasn't given O2 for 3 days

Second such case within days at Jalandhar hospital

AJAY JOSHI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JALANDHAR, MAY 17

Two days after a woman blamed the Punjab Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) for not supplying oxygen to her ailing mother, who later died while being shifted to another hospital, another woman today accused the hospital of not providing enough oxygen to her 24-year-old son, who also succumbed to the virus today.

Gursevak Singh, 24, a resident of Nawanshahr, reportedly died of Covid-19 today. After his health deteriorated a few days ago, his mother admitted him to the PIMS. But after he died, his mother Kamaljit Kaur accused the PIMS authorities of negligence.

Sharing a screenshot of the WhatsApp chat with her son, Kamaljit claimed that her son texted her that the he wasn't given oxygen for three days. “In the chat, my son has clear-

## CHARGES BASELESS

“The youth's saturation level had already lowered to 45% when he was admitted to the hospital on May 13. He was on constant oxygen support. Due to peripheral hypoxia, he wasn't sure of what he was saying. Amit Singh, OFFICIAL, PUNJAB INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

ly said that despite being at the hospital, he believes that he would die. Nobody was even giving water to him. Even after facing difficulty in breathing, he was without oxygen support for three days. My young son has died due to the negligence of the hospital staff,” she said.

After doctors in Nawanshahr referred Gursewak to the PIMS, he was declared Covid-positive and also diagnosed with pneumonia.

In a similar incident, Jyoti, a

resident of Jaimal Nagar, had also accused the hospital authorities of carelessness. She said her mother Radha Rani, 54, died after the hospital failed to provide her oxygen. He husband also claimed that despite low oxygen saturation level of the patient, an empty cylinder was attached with the oxygen pipe. It was also brought to the notice that the PIMS administration demanded Rs 98,000 from the kin of the patient before admission, flouting the price cap fixed by state government.

Amit Singh, administrative authority at PIMS, denied the charges, saying Gursevak was admitted to the hospital on May 13 and his saturation level had already lowered to 45 per cent, owing to which he was on constant oxygen support. “Due to peripheral hypoxia, he didn't know what he was saying and in that condition he must have told his mother about insufficient oxygen provided to him.”

## Covid patients treated for free

ABOHAR/SRIGANGANAGAR, MAY 17

While complaints suggested that many private hospitals and labs were fleecing Covid patients in different states, Rajasthan CM's Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme is proving to be a boon for the patients at Covid centre that was recently set up at the Jan Sewa Hospital in Sriganganagar, 40 km from Abohar.

In the Bikaner division, a maximum number of Covid patients were being given the benefit of the scheme in this hospital. According to Dr Mohit Tanti, director of the hospital, the scheme had ensured full benefits to eligible patients. Chief Administrative Officer Baljit Singh Kuldiya said a separate help desk had been set up for the convenience of patients and their families and counters were installed to give information on the availability of beds under the scheme.

Free treatment of Covid-19 is given to patients according to the prescribed package and procedure. If due to emergency a family is unable to submit the prescribed documents, 15 hours relaxation is provided to ascertain the eligibility under the scheme. — OC



An oxygen plant installed in Hanumangarh near Abohar. TRIBUNE PHOTO

# Oxygen plant started, two more sanctioned


## OUR CORRESPONDENT

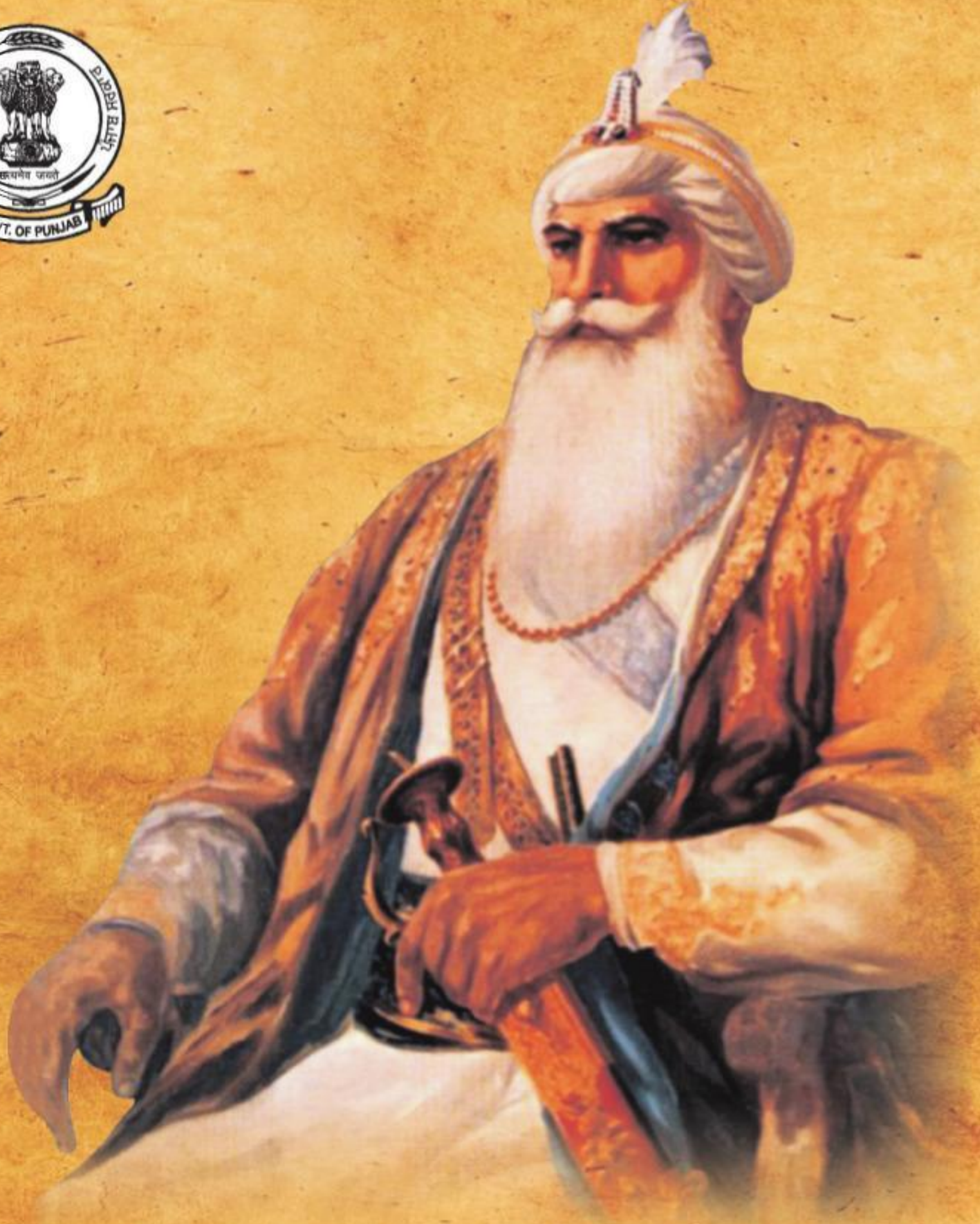
ABOHAR/SRIGANGANAGAR, MAY 17

The Rajasthan Government has announced installation of medical oxygen plants in Sriganganagar and Hanumangarh over the next 60 days to tackle the second wave of the pandemic.


Each plant will provide piped supply to 86 beds in district-level hospitals, which also accommodate patients from Abohar and Fazilka. The company installing the plants will maintain these for two years.

Another 20 ton plant, installed by a businessman, Harshit Grover, at a cost of Rs





**Punjab Government**  
*led by*  
**Chief Minister**  
**Capt. Amarinder Singh**  
**greet the people on the**  
**303<sup>rd</sup> Birth Anniversary of**  
*Sultan-ul-Qaum*  
**NAWAB JASSA SINGH**  
**AHLUWALIA**  
**the Legendary Sikh General and**  
**Supreme Leader of Dal Khalsa**



**Department of Information & Public Relations, Punjab**



CLASSIFIEDS

SITUATION VACANT

Required a Project Engineer to set up HDPE (High Density Polyethylene) plant. 98155-10004. (CL21014540)

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Covid beds with Ventilator and ECMO facility available. New Lifeline Hospital, Zirakpur. 98141-04203. (CL21014626)

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Mohali: 100 sq yds. plot A-road, corner residential, Sectot 66A. Contact: 93161-12756. (CL21014585)

Eco City 2 Mullanpur one kanal plot facing park, facing East, Registry. 93161-12756. (CL21014587)

COURT NOTICES

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Harreet Kaur Kaleka Additional Principal Judge Family Court-I, Jalandhar

Gurinderjeet Singh aged 25 years S/o Pargat Singh R/o Village Jande Sarai P.O. Boparai Tehsil and District Jalandhar at present R/o 6773-152 Street Surrey B.C. Canada through Attorney Sh. Pargat Singh S/o Santokh Singh R/o Village Jande Sarai P.O. Boparai Tehsil and District Jalandhar.

Versus Helena Tuteru Mauala W/o Gurinderjeet Singh Daughter of Etuate Vakalahi Mauala R/o Village Ram Nagar Dhaha District Hoshiarpur at present R/o 29 Farrington Street Glen Innes Auckland 1072 New Zealand.

Petition Under Section 13 of Hindu Marriage Act for dissolution of Marriage by a decree of divorce.

CNR No. PBJL01-016961-2019

Next Date:- 02.07.2021

Publication issued to: Helena Tuteru Mauala Spouse:- Gurinderjeet Singh Daughter of Etuate Vakalahi Mauala R/o Village Ram Nagar Dhaha District Hoshiarpur at present R/o 29 Farrington Street Glen Innes Auckland 1072 New Zealand.

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 02.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Sd/- Additional Principal Judge Family Court-I, Jalandhar. CL21014611

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Sh. Deepak Kumar Choudhary, Additional Principal Judge Family Court, Amritsar.

Simardeep Singh S/o Satpal Singh R/o 90-A, A-Block, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar.

Versus Harpreet Kaur CNR No. PBAS01-008855-2020

Next Date: 02.07.2021

Petition Under Section 13 Hindu Marriage Act

Publication issued to: Harpreet Kaur, Spouse: Simardeep Singh D/o Pritpal Singh, Village Pandori Rajputtan, PO Tehsil Bholath, Kapurthala, Punjab now at Woodville RD Guildford NSW 2161, Australia.

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 02.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 23.03.2021.

Sd/- Additional Principal Judge Family Court, Amritsar.

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COURT NOTICES

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Preeti Sahni Principal Judge, Family Court, Camp Court at Phillaur.

Navjot Saroye S/o Ram Lubhaya S/o Lachhman Ram R/o Village Talwan, Tehsil Phillaur, District Jalandhar.

Versus Sandeep Kaur D/o Jit Ram S/o Mihan Ram R/o Village Dhanda, Tehsil Phillaur, District Jalandhar.

Petition Under Section 13 of Hindu Marriage Act for dissolution of Marriage by a decree of divorce.

CNR No. PBJL01-011612-2020

Next Date:- 02.07.2021

Publication issued to: Sandeep Kaur D/o Jit Ram S/o Mihan Ram R/o Village Dhanda Tehsil Phillaur, District Jalandhar.

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 02.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 17.03.2021.

Sd/- Principal Judge, Family Court, Camp Court at Phillaur. CL21014617

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Sh. Ranjit Kumar Jain Principal Judge, Family Court, Hoshiarpur.

Tripta Kumar age 29 years w/o Dharminder Kumar son of Siri Ram r/o Village Kitna, PS Mahilpur, Tehsil Garshankar, District Hoshiarpur at present resident with her father Buta Singh son of Darshan Ram r/o Vill. Haveli, PS Mahilpur, Tehsil Garshankar, District Hoshiarpur.

Versus Dharminder Kumar son of Siri Ram Village Kitna, P.S. Mahilpur, Tehsil Garshankar, District Hoshiarpur at present resident of 4309 Delta Fair Blvd Antioch Ca 9409 America.

....Respondent

Petition U/S 13 HMA CNR No.: PBHO01-0161-2019

Next Date: 07.07.2021

Publication issued to: Dharminder Kumar son of Siri Ram Village Kitna, P.S. Mahilpur, Tehsil Garshankar, District Hoshiarpur at present resident of 4309 Delta Fair Blvd Antioch Ca 9409 America.

In the above titled case, the respondent could not be served. It is ordered that respondent should appear in person or through counsel on 07.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 24.03.2021.

Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, Hoshiarpur. CL21014618

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Ms. Shilpi Gupta Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Kharar.

Ujjaagar Singh Versus Amrik Singh Suit for the declaration of CNR No. PBSAA0-000924-2020

Next Date:- 02.07.2021

Publication issued to: 3. Kartar Singh 4. Upkar Singh both S/o Satnam Singh S/o Surjan Singh All R/o 744 Sector 69, SAS Nagar, Mohali.

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 02.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details login to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=sas nagar

Dated, this day of 20.04.2021.

Sd/- Ms. Shilpi Gupta Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Kharar. CL21014619

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Poonam R Joshi, Principal Judge Family Court, Jalandhar.

Rajinder Singh S/o Kabal Singh, Address: Village Dalla VPO Bhogpur, Jalandhar.

Versus Sonia Minakshi Parmar, Address 152 GIPSY LANE LEICESTER UK LE4 6 RG.

CNR No. PBJL01-013159-2019

Next Date: 07.07.2021

Petition Under Section 13 of Hindu Marriage Act for dissolution of marriage by a decree of divorce.

Publication issued to: Sonia Minakshi Parmar, Spouse: Address 152 GIPSY LANE LEICESTER UK LE4 6 RG.

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 07.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 19.04.2021.

Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, Jalandhar. CL21014622

# Improvement Trust case: 20 yrs on, HC raps state for inaction

SAURABH MALIK  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

Two decades after an FIR was registered following alleged fraud by a former Chairman, officials and officers of the Ludhiana Improvement Trust along with office-bearers of a house building society, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has rapped the state of Punjab for inaction after expressing its anguish.

Taking up a petition by the Ludhiana Improvement Trust and another petitioner against Shaheed Bhagat Singh Coop House Building Society Ltd and others respondents, Justice Anil Kshetarpal made it clear that a special investigation team looking into the matter would conclude the probe positively within three months before filing a report. The Ludhiana Commissioner of Police was also directed to furnish his own affidavit disclosing the detail of steps from the FIR registration till report submission.

Justice Kshetarpal asserted



## THE RULING

- The Improvement Trust's then management acted in a manner detrimental to its own interest
- The officials appointed to protect the corporate body's interest assumed roles of encroachers and perpetrator in defeating its interest
- The plots were allotted without payment, which was impermissible as per the rules

it was clearly established that the allotment of the plot procured by the respondent-society was a result of fraud carried out in connivance with the officials/officers of the Trust. “The government after having registered the FIR in 2001 did not take any action for 20 years. It is a sad reflection of the state officials, who miserably failed to discharge their duties. The prosecution swung into

action only after this fact was pointed out to the state's counsel and Punjab Principal Secretary, Local Government, was requested to appear,” Justice Kshetarpal asserted. The Bench was told that the respondent-society claimed itself to be the owner of 16,800 sq yards in Dugri village of Ludhiana district. The Trust proposed a scheme for planned development of approximately 400 acres as

## No Vigilance probe against any Cong leader: Jakhar

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

PPCC chief Sunil Jakhar today trashed the rumours of a Vigilance probe against party leaders and asserted there was no truth in it.

Describing party MLA and veteran sports star Pargat Singh as a role model for the youth, he said the party respects his sentiments. The main agenda of the party at present was to save the people from the Covid resurgence and to punish the perpetrators of sacrilege incidents that happened in the previous regime, he added.

Jakhar said the Congress never indulged in vendetta politics. It was the principle of the party not to use constitutional institutions for personal interests or to settle scores and it was unthinkable to do so against its own MLA. — TNS

## RAWAT INTERVENES

Congress Punjab affairs in charge Harish Rawat called up Sukhjinder Randhawa and Charanjit Singh Channi on Monday, expressing concern over the sequence of events. He advised them not to escalate the issue as the high command was intervening in the matter. In light of Rawat's intervention, the proposed briefing by the ministers and MLAs against the government action is likely to be postponed.



# Tussle within Congress on sacrilege probe spills over

RAJMEET SINGH  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

The ongoing tussle between Capt Amarinder camp and his baiters over delay in justice in the sacrilege and subsequent police firing cases spilled out in the open today with Jalandhar Cantt MLA Pargat Singh alleging he was threatened with a police case by the political secretary to Chief Minister and the Punjab Women Commission Chairperson asking the Chief Secretary to submit a status report in a two-and-a-half-year-old case of alleged harassment of a Punjab-cadre woman IAS officer by minister Charanjit Singh Channi.

Questioning the timing of both incidents, PPCC chief Sunil Jakhar and Rajya Sabha MP Partap Bajwa expressed serious concern over the turn of events and their impact on the party. While neither the CM nor his office reacted to the events, Jakhar claimed no Vigilance probe had been launched against any party leader.

Both Channi and Pargat, besides minister Sukhjinder Randhawa and other MLAs, have been holding meetings to press upon the CM to act fast in the sacrilege and police firing cases. Channi and Randhawa had recently joined ranks with Congress leader Navjot Singh Sidhu and MP Partap



## BID TO SAVE BIG FISH

“If the Vigilance has to act, it should take the multi-crore irrigation scam involving an XEN to a logical conclusion. But efforts are being made to save big fish.

Pargat Singh, CONGRESS MLA



## WHY BADALS SPARED

“It would have been better had the Vigilance knocked at the doors of Badals for their acts of omission and commission. The action against Sidhu and Pargat is ill-advised.

Partap Bajwa, CONGRESS MP

Bajwa, a move being seen as an act of defiance by the CM's camp. The CM's baiters are expected to announce their next line of action tomorrow.

Earlier in the day, Pargat Singh at a press briefing pointed out political secretary to the CM Sandeep Sandhu called him up last Thursday and told him he was conveying CM's message that he should be ready to face action. Sandhu did not respond for comment.

“Being a former captain of the Indian hockey team, I was shocked to have got such a message. But if speaking truth on sacrilege and police firing cases, mining, liquor and transport mafia was not acceptable to

them, let them do whatever they want. I am ready to face any probe, provided they send an officer who can stand with the truth,” said the MLA. Coming out in Sidhu's support, he said other MLAs and ministers too were being arm-twisted as senior adviser to CM BIS Chahal was the de facto DGP (Vigilance).

While Channi refused to comment on the harassment case, Women Commission Chairperson Manisha Gulati said though there was no complaint against the minister, a lobby of IAS officers was questioning her over inaction against Channi, forcing her to seek status report after two-and-a-half years.

## DDPObooked, patwari held on graft charge

SANGRUR, MAY 17

The Vigilance Bureau has registered a case under the Prevention of Corruption Act against the District Development and Panchayat Officer (DDPO), Sangrur, and a patwari.

The Vigilance arrested the patwari red-handed while allegedly accepting Rs 25,000 in bribe, while the DDPO had joined the investigation.

Investigation officer Sudarshan Saini said complainant Jagbir Singh from Gobindgarh Jejiya had taken a panchayat pond on lease for 10 years for fish farming. But in September last year, Gurpreet Singh and Shingara Singh of his village lodged a case against him at the DDPO's office, alleging it would cause drainage problems in the village. While both sides later reached a compromise, the DDPO did not quash the case. “When Jagbir Singh, he sought Rs 25,000 through patwari Jagbir Singh to quash the case,” said Saini. The patwari was arrested red-handed while accepting the bribe, while the DDPO had joined the investigation. A case had been filed against the two, he added. — TNS

## SADseeksspecial Assembly session

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) today demanded a special session of the Vidhan Sabha to be convened to discuss the alleged manner in which ministers and legislators were being first encouraged to engage in corruption and then blackmailed to prevent them from speaking against the government.

Reacting to the statements of Congress legislator Pargat Singh, former SAD minister Dr Daljit Singh Cheema claimed it was shocking that the Congress legislator had laid bare the fact that the government was creating files against its own legisla-

## Says govt blackmailing MLAs to silence criticism

tors to prevent them from raising their voice against the Chief Minister. “This is a clear case of breach of privilege and the Vidhan Sabha should deliberate on this to ascertain who patronised the acts of corruption, who created the files of the said acts and who was blackmailing the legislators to buy their silence”.

He said all legislators irrespective of their party affiliations should condemn any move to use corruption as a weapon to purchase the loyalty of the MLAs. “This is against the very grain of democratic functioning. Those doing so should be booked and due action should be taken against them,” he added. — TNS

# 4-day police remand for six dera followers

FARIDKOT, MAY 17

The new special investigation team (SIT) of the Punjab Police today produced the six Dera Sacha Sauda followers, who were arrested yesterday in connection with a sacrilege case, in a local court, which remanded them in four-day police custody.

Earlier, counsels for the dera followers — Sukhjinder Singh Sunny, Shakti Singh, Ranjit Singh, Baljeet Singh, Nishan Singh and Pardeep Singh — opposed their remand, saying the SIT had no fresh evidence against them and that they had already been granted bail in one of the three sacrilege cases of 2015.

The new SIT, headed by IGP Surinder Singh Parmar, is investigating three FIRs pertaining to the sacrilege

## Sacrilege case: No fresh evidence against suspects, say defence counsels

incidents of 2015 at Burj Jawahar Singh Wala and Bargari villages in Faridkot, which had led to protests and subsequent police firing at Kotkapura and Behbal Kalan in October 2015.

The SIT was constituted following the January 4 orders of the Punjab and Haryana High Court after one of the accused, Sunny, accused the head of the earlier SIT, Ranbir Singh Khatri, of bias. In June 2018, Sunny was arrested by the Moga police, which claimed he had confessed to his and other suspects' role in the sacrilege incidents. — TNS



# 50 Sonapat villages declared hotspots, dist admn on toes

700 cases reported in 10 days | Quarantine wards being set up

PARVEEN ARORA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**KARNAL, MAY 17**  
With around 700 Covid cases in 10 days, 50 villages of Sonapat have been declared hotspots of the district, prompting the authorities to set up isolation centres there.

Besides, of eight Community Health Centres (CHC) and one urban dispensary, four health centres having 29 oxygen beds have been turned into Covid hospitals. Apart from it, a massive sampling and vaccination drive had also been launched in these villages.

“Each of the 50 villages have reported, 10 to 15 cases. We have started the process to establish village-level isolation centres,” said Shyam Lal Poonia, Sonapat Deputy Commissioner.

“We have constituted 50 coordination teams comprising principal or headmaster of the village, secretary, ANM, Asha worker, Anganwari worker, ex-sarpanch and numberdar to screen all residents. If anyone is found to be asymptomatic, they will be shifted to a village-level isolation centre and if any patient requires oxygen support, they will be referred to the CHC,” the DC added.



## DRIVE-THROUGH INOCULATION IN RAI

“A drive-through vaccination centre has been started at the HSIIDC, Rai, with the help of the Health Department and Wian Industry. The move is aimed at maintaining social distancing and avoiding rush at these centres.”

Shyam Lal Poonia, SONEPAT DC

### CONTROL ROOM SET UP

■ The Sonapat administration has established a control room, where patients or their attendants can call round the clock for any help or query

■ Three helpline numbers — 1950, 2221500, and 7494871950 — reserved for the public



### ‘TESTING FACILITY MUST IN VILLAGES’

■ State Congress spokesman Krishan Murti Hooda has demanded Covid test facility in every village of the state

■ He also demanded that doctors and nurses be deployed at health facilities, while isolation centres be equipped with oxygen

■ “The BJP-JJP government has left people at the mercy of God. People in villages are dying due to non-availability of facilities,” said Hooda

For further treatment, the patients will be shifted to the ICU facility at the Bhagat Phool Singh Government Medical College, Khanpur, and the Sonapat district hospital. “The village isolation centre and timely screening of the patient will help reduce the burden on the tertiary care health centre,” he said.

Apart from it, the Sonapat

administration has also started the teleconsultation facility for the home-isolated patients. “We have roped in 120 interns and PG students to reach out to the home-quarantined. These students have been divided into 30 teams, who have been monitoring the health of these patients. If they feel any patient needs to be shifted to

a hospital, the department will do so,” the DC added.

Meanwhile, Sonapat SP Jashandeep Singh Randhawa said 10 Innovas, received for the ‘Dial 112’ service, have also been roped in as ambulances to ferry the patients. Four buses of the Haryana Roadways have also been converted into ambulances, he added.

## Weekly cases decline

SUSHIL MANAV  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

Even as the Covid curve shown a downward trend during the week that ended on Sunday, the number of deaths in the past seven days remained almost close to the mortalities of the preceding week in Haryana.

According to the state’s weekly status report on Covid-19, 78,530 persons tested positive between May 10 and 16. As many as 1,01,009 cases were reported in the preceding week from May 3 to 9. The weekly cases were 90,569 from April 26 to May 2 and 67,348 from April 19 to 25.

It is for the first time since cases started showing an upward trend from February 8 that the new infections in a week are lesser than the previous one.

However, apprehensions are being raised over the official figures as the testing remains “poor” in rural areas.

On the other hand, there is little respite as far as the number of deaths is concerned. At least 1,080 persons succumbed to the virus in the past seven days against 1,119 deaths reported in the preceding week.

The R-Naught value, also known as reproduction rate or transmission rate, which determines how many healthy persons a Covid patient is infecting, has dipped to 1.22 from 1.40 reported during the first

7,488	
FRESH CASES	
114 DEATHS	
IN 24 HOURS	
ACTIVE CASES	83,161
WORST-AFFECTED DISTRICTS	
DISTRICT	+VE DEATHS
Gurugram	1,176 13
Hisar	830 7
Faridabad	506 7

week of this month.

Doctors say a corresponding dip in the number of deaths is expected to be witnessed in the next seven to 14 days as the critical patients of the past two weeks are still under treatment in hospitals and ICUs.

The second wave of Covid-19 has seen the maximum number of deaths in the state. Of the 6,685 persons who died in Haryana since the outbreak of the pandemic in March last year, almost half (3,270) have lost their lives in the past four weeks (from April 19 to May 16).

“This is a welcome trend, but let us wait for another week before we can say with surety that the peak is over,” said Rajeev Arora, Additional Chief Secretary, Health and Family Welfare, Haryana.

“More than 15,000 rapid antigen tests have been conducted in the rural areas and the positivity rate is 4.57 per cent,” added Arora.

## SKM mourns death of senior farm activist

SONEPAT, MAY 17

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) has expressed grief over the death of Major Khan, an ex-serviceman and farm activist. Khan, who belonged to Jhandi village of Patiala district, passed away on Monday.

In a joint statement, SKM leaders, Balbir Singh Rajewal, Dr Darshan Pal, Gurnam Singh Charuni, Hannan Molah, Jagjit Singh Dallewal, Joginder Singh Ugrahan, Yudhvir Singh, Yogendra Yadav and, Abhimanyu Kohar, said Khan was actively involved in the mobilisation of farmers. “Major Khan was an invaluable asset to the movement. He had been camping at Singhu since November 26,” they added. — TNS

## BKU activist Pankaj released from K’shetra jail

KURUKSHETRA, MAY 17

BKU (Charuni) activist Pankaj Habana, who was arrested in connection with a case registered under various charges, including using criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of duty, voluntarily causing hurt, rioting and violating Covid norms, was released from the Kurukshetra jail on Monday.

Pankaj said, “We opposed the JJP Shahabad MLA Ramkaran Kala during his visit to Yari village, following which a case was registered and I was arrested.”

After his arrest while Pankaj was sent to judicial custody, the BKU activists had gheraoed the Shahabad police station on Saturday and started a dharna. — TNS

## Diaspora donates O<sub>2</sub> concentrators

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

The Association of Haryanis in Australia (AHA) has donated 110 oxygen concentrators (OC), 3,000 pulse oximeters and 2,500 thermal scanners for Haryana and NCR under the ‘Operation Sanjeevani’ campaign.

According to a government spokesperson, these medical devices have been sent to India in two phases. The PGIMS-Rohtak received the first consignment of 10 oxygen concentrators on May 13, while 1,000 oximeters were delivered to the Haryana Government and GIEO Geeta Sansthan.

## State to procure DRDO medicine

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 17

Health Minister Anil Vij today said that the state government would purchase the drug 2DG prepared by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the treatment of Corona patients.

The Health Minister said the drug was expected to provide speedy recovery to corona patients and would reduce the need of extra oxygen for the patients.

Vij said the administration of the Covid-19 vaccine to people in the state was going on vigorously. So far, about 49 lakh persons had been vaccinated.

## In Karnal, woman dies of black fungus

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, MAY 17

A 65-year-old woman has died of black fungus at Kalpana Chawla Government Medical College (KCGMC) here, the first such case in the district since the Covid breakout.

Dr Jagdish Dureja, Director, KCGMC, has confirmed this.

The deceased has been identified as Rajwanti (65), a city resident. She was admitted to the hospital on May 2 after she complained of fever for 12 days and worsening breathlessness for two days.

Her Covid test report came out positive. She passed away on May 14 and her report for black fungus came

### 40 CASES REPORTED IN GURUGRAM

■ About 40 cases of black fungus have been reported in Gurugram, the health authorities have said. Sources, however, put the number at 49.

■ Gurugram and Faridabad districts account for 70 per cent of black fungus cases in the state.

■ A majority of the patients are from NCR districts and Delhi, which lack treatment for the disease.

■ “There are 40 cases of black fungus in Gurugram. The health authorities have asked all hospitals to share data regularly,” said Dr Virender Yadav, CMO.

### FOUR-TIME COUNCILLOR DIES

**Karnal:** Four time councillor Sudarshan Kalra (61) reportedly died of Covid pneumonia at a private hospital in Mohali on Monday. Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar expressed his condolences on Kalra’s demise. TNS

out positive the next day.

“The report confirmed she had black fungus, acute respiratory problem and pneumonia,” said Dr Dureja.

Another patient of black fungus, Sanjay (39) of Bal Pabana village in Assandh, is admitted to the KCGMC. He was admitted on April 20.

# 3 weeks on, CM’s promise to add 650 more beds at PGIMS only on paper

SUNIT DHAWAN

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, MAY 17

Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar had announced during a media interaction here on April 26 that the number of beds for Covid patients at the PGIMS would be increased from 350 to 1,000 soon.

However, more than three weeks after the announce-

### Critical patients denied admission



Residents queue up for the Covid test at the PGIMS, Rohtak.

### TATA HOSPITAL SENDS 98 O<sub>2</sub> CONCENTRATORS

Tata Memorial Cancer Hospital, Mumbai, has sent a consignment of 98 oxygen concentrators and 25,000 N95 masks to the Rohtak-PGIMS. Prof (Dr) Dhruva Chaudhry, state nodal officer for Covid-19 and head of the department of pulmonary and critical care medicine at PGIMS, has expressed gratitude towards PGIMS alumnus Dr Ashish Gulia and Tata Memorial Centre Director Dr Rajendra Badwe for the goodwill gesture.

ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਸੰਯੁਕਤ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਸਭਾਵਾਂ, ਫ਼ਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ ਮੰਡਲ, ਫ਼ਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ

ਦੀ ਫ਼ਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਖੰਡ ਮਿਲਜ਼ ਲਿਮ. ਦੇ ਬੋਰਡ ਆਫ ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟਰਜ਼ ਦੀ ਮਿਆਦ ਖ਼ਤਮ ਹੋਣ ਉਪਰੰਤ ਮੁੱਖ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਦੀਆਂ ਹਦਾਇਤਾਂ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਨਵੇਂ ਬੋਰਡ ਆਫ ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟਰਜ਼ ਦੀ ਚੋਣ ਲਈ ਜਨਰਲ ਮੈਨੇਜਰ ਦੀ ਫ਼ਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਖੰਡ ਮਿਲਜ਼ ਲਿਮ. ਵੱਲੋਂ ਹਲਕਾਬੰਦੀ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਜ਼ੋਨ ਤਿਆਰ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ, ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਸਭਾਵਾਂ, ਫ਼ਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰ. 1260, ਮਿਤੀ 13.05.2021 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਨਿਮਨਹਸਤਾਖ਼ਰੀ ਦੇ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਗੀ ਲਈ ਭੇਜੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਹਲਕਾਬੰਦੀ/ਜ਼ੋਨ ਦੀਆਂ ਕਾਪੀਆਂ ਇਸ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ, ਉਪ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ, ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਸਭਾਵਾਂ, ਫ਼ਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ, ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਮੁਕਤਸਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ, ਸਹਾਇਕ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ, ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਸਭਾਵਾਂ, ਫ਼ਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ, ਅਬੋਹਰ, ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਮੁਕਤਸਰ ਸਾਹਿਬ, ਜਲਾਲਾਬਾਦ, ਮਲੋਟ, ਗਿੱਦੜਬਾਗ਼ ਅਤੇ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਜਨਰਲ ਮੈਨੇਜਰ ਦੀ ਫ਼ਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਖੰਡ ਮਿਲਜ਼ ਲਿਮ. ਦੇ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਬੋਰਡਾਂ 'ਤੇ ਲਗਾ ਦਿੱਤੀਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਹਨ।

ਦੀ ਫ਼ਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਖੰਡ ਮਿਲਜ਼ ਲਿਮ. ਦੇ ਸਮੂਹ ਮੈਂਬਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜੇਕਰ ਦੀ ਫ਼ਾਜ਼ਿਲਕਾ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਖੰਡ ਮਿਲਜ਼ ਲਿਮ. ਦੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਮੈਂਬਰ/ਸ਼ੇਅਰ ਹੋਲਡਰ/ਮੈਂਬਰ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਸਭਾਵਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਹਲਕਾਬੰਦੀ/ਜ਼ੋਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਬਣਤਰ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਕਿਸਮ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ ਹੋਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ ਆਪਣਾ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ ਲਿਖਤੀ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਇਸ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਦੇ ਅਖ਼ਬਾਰ ਵਿਚ ਛਪਣ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ ਤੋਂ ਪੰਦਰਾਂ ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ-ਅੰਦਰ ਨਿਮਨਹਸਤਾਖ਼ਰੀ ਦੇ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਵਿਚ ਨਿੱਜੀ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਹਾਜ਼ਰ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਦਾਖ਼ਲ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਦਾਖ਼ਲ ਹੋਏ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੁਣਵਾਈ ਮਿਤੀ 02.06.2021 ਨੂੰ ਸਵੇਰੇ 10.00 ਵਜੇ ਨਿਮਨਹਸਤਾਖ਼ਰੀ (ਸੰਯੁਕਤ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ, ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਸਭਾਵਾਂ, ਫ਼ਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ ਮੰਡਲ, ਫ਼ਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ) ਦੇ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ ਦਾਖ਼ਲ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲਾ ਮੈਂਬਰ ਸੁਣਵਾਈ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ (02.06.2021) 'ਤੇ ਖ਼ੁਦ ਹਾਜ਼ਰ ਆਵੇਗਾ। ਉਸ ਨੂੰ ਵੱਖਰੇ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਕੋਈ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਨਹੀਂ ਭੇਜਿਆ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ ਅਤੇ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਸੁਣਨ ਉਪਰੰਤ ਫ਼ੈਸਲਾ ਮਿਤੀ 02.06.2021 ਨੂੰ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ, ਅੰਤਿਮ ਜ਼ੋਨਲ ਨਿਸ਼ਾਨਾਂ ਘੋਸ਼ਿਤ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤੀਆਂ ਜਾਣਗੀਆਂ। ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਇਤਰਾਜ਼ ਨਾ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋਣ ਦੀ ਸੂਰਤ ਵਿਚ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋਏ ਜ਼ੋਨ ਉਸੇ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਹੀ (ਜਿਸ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਇਸ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋਏ ਸੀ) ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤੇ ਜਾਣਗੇ।

ਸਹੀ/- ਸੰਯੁਕਤ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਾਰ, ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਸਭਾਵਾਂ, ਫ਼ਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ ਮੰਡਲ, ਫ਼ਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ।

ਮਿਤੀ: 17.05.2021  
ਸਥਾਨ: ਫ਼ਿਰੋਜ਼ਪੁਰ DI-2865

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED**

Whereas complaint bearing No. 463 of 2018 titled as Sukhminder Singh V/s M/s Sanskriti Golden Oak Real Estates Pvt. Ltd., made before State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, U.T., Chandigarh, was allowed vide order dated 13.01.2020. In that consumer Complaint, as Execution Application bearing No. 133 of 2020 was filed and since the order passed by the State Commission was not complied with, this Commission has issued warrants of arrest on numerous occasions and when the raids were conducted. Ravi Garg S/o Ishwar Chand, R/o Flat No. 405, Tower No. 18, Royal Estate, Zirakpur Director, M/s Sanskriti Golden Oak Real Estate Pvt. Ltd. was not found present at the given addresses.

Whereas on 24.03.2021, none has been appeared on behalf of Opposite parties/judgment debtors, opposite parties/judgment debtors has shown his inability, on the ground that he has been declared Proclaimed Offender in Execution Application bearing No. 133 of 2020 titled as “Sukhminder Singh V/s M/s Sanskriti Golden Oak Real Estate Pvt. Ltd.” and if he is produced before this Commission, he can be arrested.

In view, of above, this Commission is satisfied that Sh. Ravi Garg S/o Ishwar Chand, Director of M/s Sanskriti Golden Oak Real Estate Pvt. Ltd. cannot be arrested through warrants of arrest. Therefore, this Commission has no reason to disbelieve that Sh. Ravi Garg S/o Ishwar Chand, Director of M/s Sanskriti Golden Oak Real Estate Pvt. Ltd. has absconded or is concealing himself so that warrant cannot be executed.

In these circumstances, there is no other alternative with this Commission but to proceed under the provision of Section 82 and 83 of Code of Criminal Procedure 1973.

Proclamation is hereby made that the said Sh. Ravi Garg S/o Ishwar Chand, Director of M/s Sanskriti Golden Oak Real Estate Pvt. Ltd. is required to appear before the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, U.T., Chandigarh on 12.07.2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Dated, this 31.03.2021

Sd/- President, State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission U.T., Chandigarh.

Govt. of Haryana

## Haryana Government's objective

### Protection of Rural Areas from COVID

Sh. Manohar Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana

## Door to Door screening for COVID of everyone in Rural Areas

### Strict adherence of Test, Track and Treat Strategy

Test. Track. Treat.

### Teams will identify COVID patients after screening

### Patients with mild, moderate symptoms will be given 'Home Isolation Kit' and patients with severe symptoms will get immediate medical attention in nearby medical centres

### Such multi-disciplinary teams will include Trainee Doctors, Asha / Anganwadi Workers etc.

### Village Dharamshalas, Government schools & AYUSH centres etc. will be set up as isolation centres where oximeters, steam machines, thermometers and other essential medicines will be arranged

### Helpline

# 8558893911

for Entire State & 1075 (Except Gurugram & Faridabad)

Information, Public Relations & Languages Department, Haryana

www.pharyana.gov.in @Cmohry @DiprHaryana



# The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

## Cautious relief

Let Covid-appropriate behaviour be a way of life

CAUTIOUS relief should mark the apparent retreat of the second surge of the coronavirus that brought the country to its knees since it began wreaking havoc. Hope for better days floats as the national daily Covid cases dipped by 25 per cent in 10 days, with Monday seeing less than three lakh new patients after the peak of 4.14 lakh on May 7 and daily recoveries continued to exceed daily cases for the sixth day. While the falling Covid curve in the past one week is encouraging, it only reinforces the importance of being continuously on alert, prepared and following pandemic-appropriate norms. Utmost care needs to be taken to ensure that the guard is not lowered. The gains of the restrictive measures imposed by most states over this period to check the onslaught of the ferocious contagion have begun to be visible and they must not be frittered away with the recklessness that marked the end of the first wave. For, even as we are still grappling with a huge caseload, the lull, expected soon, comes under the dark shadow of an ominous third wave.

Coronavirus has been seen to resurge repeatedly the world over. The unprecedented misery unleashed during the March-May period holds crucial lessons learnt the hard way. Given the constraints of our economic and medical infrastructure, a public health crisis is riddled with huge human and humanitarian costs — a fact sadly laid bare in the ongoing second Covid wave.

The only way to avoid a repeat is to keep potential super-spreader events locked down for an indefinite time. Mass religious, political and social gatherings should be a complete no-no. For the few numbers — 10 or so — allowed for these activities, a Covid-negative RT-PCR test should be mandatory. Government and private offices as also marketplaces need to work out staff/space decongestion plans for a long term. Meanwhile, even as the authorities strive to ramp up medical and vaccination infrastructures, the public must strictly follow the hand hygiene-mask-distancing regimen. Such measures should become a way of life for our own good.

## Death in the villages

Testing can help in treatment and recovery

THAT the importance of testing to prevent Covid-related deaths cannot be underestimated is evident from the over 110 fatalities that have occurred in just four villages of Haryana. Of these, 35 have taken place in the native village of Chief Minister Khattar. In the absence of a proper Covid test result, the cause of death cannot be ascertained with finality in these cases, but the high mortality figures are enough to ring alarm bells and call for preventive measures since the deaths raise question marks over the healthcare system and its adequacy. While the villagers have not been forthcoming in getting tested despite door-to-door surveys by the health department, they have made a start by getting vaccinated. The state should make similar efforts to inspire confidence and encourage the villagers to get tested for timely detection and treatment. A surveillance of every village has been ordered to detect influenza-like symptoms, but it is equally important for the residents to report symptoms or signs of discomfort so that curative measures can be taken early on.

The rapid spread of the virus in rural areas has gone unchecked, particularly in UP. The panchayat polls and reverse migration of people from the cities because of the loss of livelihood caused by the extended lockdown enhanced the danger of the virus spreading among the local population, besides the violation of Covid-appropriate protocol. Cases not getting reported also increase the risk. Already, there have been apprehensions over the Covid fatality rate being higher in the rural areas.

The government has made recommendations like setting up Covid care centres in the villages to handle both symptomatic and asymptomatic cases but their functioning remains in doubt because of the lack of doctors and other healthcare staff, besides the required wherewithal like oxygen or medicines. While the steps may help in giving healthcare facilities a boost in the rural areas and upgrade them, the situation calls for pragmatic measures to prevent an outbreak, check mortality and improve chances of recovery.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all. — Aristotle

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

## The Tribune.

LAHORE, WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1921

### EUROPEANS IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

IN its issue of May 13, the "Pioneer" has once again taken up the cause of "The European in Government Service." In the course of an article, the journal expatiates on what it is pleased to regard as the grievances of Europeans in Government employ. The European is depicted as the injured party and the people of India are somehow to blame for it. The complaint is that there is a general feeling of hostility against European officers among the people and in many places they are exposed to actual hardship through boycotting of their servants and are made to feel that they are not wanted in India. Our contemporary admits that the great majority of Indians, both educated and uneducated, desire that the services of a certain proportion of Europeans are necessary for India in the present stage of transition, but there are a few who make the position of Europeans irksome and the remedy suggested is the repudiation of this hostile attitude by the leaders of the people. In this country, the position of Indians in the various services of Government has been far enviable. In those rare cases in which Indians established their claims by dint of seniority and ability in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles, to some of the highest posts in the executive branch of the services, these claims were brushed aside more or less on racial grounds inspite of the declaration regarding equality of treatment between subject and subject embodied in the Gracious Proclamation of Victoria the Great. Take the case of Sir (then Mr.) K.G. Gupta, who was the senior most member of the Bengal Civil Service and had behind him a record of service of which the most brilliant of Lieutenant-Governors might very well be proud. The Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal fell vacant but Sir Gupta was superseded apparently because he was Indian.

# Redefine learning as we know it

Visit Tagore, Jiddu Krishnamurti, once more, for inspiration



AVIJIT PATHAK  
SOCIOLOGIST

EVEN amid the pandemic and associated darkness all around, our sacred longing for life-affirming and emancipatory visions refuses to wither away. It was in May that this land gave birth to two great souls — Rabindranath Tagore (May 7, 1861) and Jiddu Krishnamurti (May 11, 1895). And today, even though in May 2021 we are all broken and wounded, it is still refreshing to invoke them, feel the light of illumination, and rethink what goes on in the name of standardised and mainstream education. Well, in this age corrupted by the market-driven notion of 'productivity', 'utility' and 'efficiency', not many may be willing to walk with a poet and a wanderer. Yet, those who see the discontents of the prevalent form of education — oppressive schooling, utilitarian coaching centres, rote learning, exam obsession, hyper-competitiveness and spiritual dumbness, ought to converse with Tagore and Krishnamurti, strive for emancipatory education, and raise a dissenting voice — even if the Establishment and its techno-managers as policy makers devalue it as utopian.

Let us reflect on what modern schooling with its regimentation and techniques of discipline and surveillance has done to our children. It has created artificial armours, restrained spontaneity and creative flow of life energy, and denaturalised their existence. Huge walls, CCTV cameras, the tyranny of the clock time with the dissemination of discrete and fragmented knowledge capsules (physics at 9.30 am; poetry at 10.15 am, and clay modelling at 11 am) and the contin-



**IN SILOS:** We want our children to be smart strategists, exam warriors, or potential toppers. Success now is the thrill of defeating others. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Modern education has killed the spirit of a seeker transcending the boundaries of the mind, and evolving through a ceaseless process of learning and unlearning.

ual pressure to perform: schools are like prisons. Is it that this sort of schooling eventually transforms one into an alienated worker, or a reckless consumer? And now imagine Tagore's poetic wisdom, his critique of regimentation, his urge to dismantle these prison-like structures, create a modern '*tapovan*', and nurture a learning community in which children and their mentors evolve together through a deep communion with the abundance of nature. Nature heals; and the ways of seeing and relating to the whisper of trees, the play of monsoon clouds and the radiant moon give a new meaning to education. It is not like reading Keats ('A thing of beauty is a joy forever') in a closed classroom within the stipulated time period; it is like becoming a poem itself. In other words, it creates the ground for the creation of an aesthetically enriched and ecologically sensitive relational self. This, as the poet felt, is the real substance of education. It is sad that in a prosaic world, seldom do our headmasters see beyond

English grammar and algebra.

Second, see the way the prevalent form of education has killed the spirit of being a wanderer, or a seeker continually transcending the boundaries of the conditioned mind, and evolving through a ceaseless process of learning and unlearning. These days, we want our children to be smart strategists, exam warriors, or potential toppers. And their schooled consciousness is conditioned to believe that knowledge is nothing but the official curriculum (or, for an IIT aspirant, physics is nothing but FIIT-JEE physics; or maths is essentially what coaching centres offer at Kota — the town in Rajasthan known for all that is black and ugly about our education system); it is a product to be consumed. For Krishnamurti, this conditioning limits the growth of consciousness; it makes one incapable of learning and unlearning from the rhythm of life — its freshness, its unpredictability and uncertainty. Truth, Krishnamurti reminded us, is a 'pathless land'. However, our edu-

cation makes us one-dimensional. No wonder, a conditioned mind of this kind is always fearful. It can't take risks; it can't see beyond the established pattern; it cannot walk through what Robert Frost would have regarded as 'the path less travelled'. Furthermore, as the ritualisation of examinations is based on comparison, it activates the fear of failure, the fear of lagging behind, or the fear of being stigmatised. Through his life-long conversations with teachers, educators and children, Krishnamurti was urging us to see the worth of education as awakened intelligence, self-discovery, sensitivity to life, or a quest.

Think of the world we have created. Religion is a dogma; nationalism is some sort of hyper-masculine aggression; 'good living' is centred on the pleasure principle that seductive consumerism cultivates; nature is an obstacle to be conquered through techno-science; social Darwinism is the cherished mantra; and success is the thrill of defeating others. And what goes on in the name of education cannot take us beyond this ugly world. In fact, this education further reproduces this culture of violence. The ugliness of this sort of education manifests itself once again at the time of the pandemic. The academic bureaucracy refuses to be reflexive; it cannot imagine anything beyond 'online teaching', covering the official syllabus, conducting exams and grading students. Even at this moment of psychic and existential crisis, it wants teachers to be just data providers — supplying the required information to the higher authorities: students' attendance and grades. There is hardly any serious reflection on the hollowness of this sort of approach to education when the taken-for-granted world has crumbled.

Yet, there ought to be people amongst us who dare to think differently. And as a teacher, I believe that they would contemplate, converse with Tagore and Krishnamurti, and reimagine a kind of education that teaches us to live and die intensely, gracefully and meaningfully.

# As good an actor as soldier

COL HP SINGH (RETD)

HHEY Harry boy, how are you? It was a pleasant surprise to get a call from him. My senior in boarding school and subsequently in the Army, Bizz Bizz, as he was popularly called, was now an established actor. He spoke enthusiastically about the movie he was planning on Siachen glacier that would give an insight into the challenges our soldiers face at the world's highest battlefield. Little did I know that this would be my last conversation with him; he succumbed to Covid-19 a fortnight later.

'Send him to Sanawar and make a man of him.' This oft-quoted phrase from Rudyard Kipling's book, *Kim*, had been the justification our seniors

offered while 'toughening' us up in school. Bizz, with his compassionate attitude, was different; he preferred to role play an elder brother instead of a bullying senior.

Acting and soldiering were his passions. Undoubtedly, he was at his best on stage during school shows, as also on the parade ground for the annual ceremony of trooping of King's Colours awarded to our school. His joining the Hodson's Horse, as a second-generation officer, came as no surprise. Call it providence, this cavalier's death coincided with the Raising Day of the Tank Corps he belonged to.

A great sense of humour and jovial nature, accentuated with excellent command over the Queen's English, made him popular wherever he was

posted. I remember his motorcycle was often borrowed by budding teenagers for joyrides, as was his collection of cassettes of soft country music. Many of them joined the forces following him as a role model.

After giving the prime of his youth to the Army, he took premature retirement and found his forte in acting. He started with television serials and soon muscled his way through stiff competition in Bollywood. He played character roles in movies like *Page 3*, *Hijack*, *Murder 2*, *Corporate*, *Rocket Singh*, *Shauurya* and *Tuo States*, to name a few. The combatant in him was always alive as he played a soldier's role in many movies.

I last met him at the Military Literature Festival at Chandigarh, wear-

ing medals on his blazer and posing for selfies. He appeared interested in the school insignia on my coat, enquiring from where he could get one. I read his mind and gifted it to him. He was overwhelmed and his tight hug had all the warmth on that cold December morning.

Destiny has little regard for plans of men; it was not written in the tablet of his fate to get any further on this movie. His untimely death is a tragic reminder of the fickleness of fortune. He has gone to his rest and now only the memory of him remains. My penning a tribute to Major Bikramjit Kanwarpal is one definite way of achieving a catharsis of emotions. As the saying goes, 'Soldiers never die, they just fade away'. His movies will keep him alive in our hearts.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Get cracking

Apropos of 'The emperor's new clothes' (*The Sunday Tribune*), the entire defence establishment has been on its toes, which itself shows that the government is in fire-fighting mode. The lack of planning and focus is visible, as the international aid has been lying unutilised. Retired healthcare workers should be called in and more funds made available. Corona awareness campaigns should be strengthened and social security measures announced for unemployed youth so that they do not resort to crime.

ANIL OBEROI, MOHALI

#### Time for a lesson

Reference to 'The emperor's new clothes'; the writer has aptly echoed the pain and anger of the common man. The people of Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala have already given their verdict on the failure of Modi's style of working. The apex court has also remarked about the failure of the Indian state. Where lies the remedy? We should take a leaf out of the recent American elections where the people, the Opposition and the media taught a befitting lesson to haughty Trump. Indian media and the Opposition parties will have to get organised to awaken the public

about their rights.

JASPAL SINGH, LUDHIANA

#### Have had enough

The UP Government's shameful act of hiding the corpses is utterly reprehensible ('Hiding corpses in UP'). The manner in which the pandemic triggered the toll is rising and is penetrating the rural hinterland. The irony is that the government is putting up a brave face and is in denial mode. It believes that the catastrophe of even such a scale shall blow over time as the raging pandemic is not of its making. However, mismanagement of Covid-19 squarely lies on its shoulders. Voters are taken for granted as usual, but this time around, they have been shattered to the core by the loss of their loved ones and income. Now no dose of nationalism, hermit attire and polarisation tactics shall work to the BJP's advantage.

DEEPAK SINGHAL, NOIDA

#### RSS' timely warning

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat has pulled up the Modi government for complacency in dealing with the pandemic, which has since become even more acute. Both the RSS and the Left were known to put institutional discipline above individuals. In 1997, the Left did not allow its

leading light, Jyoti Basu, to become the PM, despite an active consensus in the coalition. The BJP, on the other hand, in its avid pursuit of power is seen to be compromising on the RSS ethos and tenets, and shedding accountability. Given the context, the warning from the RSS to its political understudy, the BJP, is, indeed, timely. If neglected, the BJP, too, could face estrangement from people, much like the fate of the Left today.

R NARAYANAN, NAVI MUMBAI

#### Rural Covid wave

Now that the Covid-19 virus has entered rural areas in a big way, there is a need for remedial action on a war footing before this wave turns into a tsunami. The main requirement is to stop the spread of the virus through contact with positive cases. As our village population is living in congested households, it is not possible for them to arrange home isolation. It is imperative that makeshift isolation centres be put up by the panchayats, which can serve clusters of villages. All suspected Covid cases should be moved to these centres immediately on detection and be given medical aid. These centres can be financed by village temples/gurdwaras/masjids and other donors under the stewardship of local MLAs/MPs on the pat-

tern of many gurdwaras. These can be manned by nurses of PHCs and assisted by family members of the patients who can also bring food for them.

BRIG WS CHOUDHARY (RETD), PANCHKULA

#### Israel-Palestine conflict

The controversial Israel-Palestine conflict has escalated recently. Hundreds of missiles were fired from both sides, killing dozens. Both Israel and Hamas have given various excuses for their actions. Sadly, this is what extremist leaders do globally: they justify violence and communal conflict. The world outside stood divided, too — some fuelled with outrage and others with triumph. While the majority of them have no real knowledge about their complex history, they are quick enough to pass judgements and trend hashtags on social media, like 'India stands with Israel/Palestine'. Passing provocative comments serve no purpose; it only deepens the abyss between the two factions and their supporters. World leaders should also put aside their political and religious ambitions and focus on saving lives by pushing for a ceasefire, as the deaths of today will only become grief and 'excuses' for tomorrow.

PRIYA DHIMAN, BY MAIL







NORTHERN RAILWAY

NOTICE

Sh. Gurvinder Singh S/o Sh. Karan Singh Designation Sr. Pharmacist/HU/Ludhiana remained unauthorized absent from duty from 29.08.2019 to till date. He should join duty within 15 days of the date of publication of this notice otherwise it will be concluded that he is not willing to continue his service in Railway and D&AR proceedings initiated against him will be finalized.

1045/2021

Serving Customers With A Smile

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, ZIRAKPUR BRANCH

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender Reference No. ....

The Department of Local Government of Punjab invites online bids for <Civil & other works>

Closing Date and Time

: Technical Bid 02.06.2021 05:00 p.m.

Financial Bid 02.06.2021 05:00 p.m.

For Details log onto

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

**Note:** Any corrigendum(s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only.

The line “**Note:** Any corrigendum(s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> only”.

Sd/- Executive Officer,

Municipal Council, Zirakpur.

DPR/Pb/4598

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS (B&R Works)

NIT No. 21/SE(TIC), dated 17.05.2021

The department of Municipal Corporation Ludhiana (B&R) invites online double bids for 01 No. work (under PUEIP) as per schedule given below:-

Pre Bid Meeting	Last Date of online submission of Bidding document	Opening of bidding Documents
31-05-2021 at 11:00 AM in the Office of SE(TIC), Zone-A MCL	03-06-2021 upto 5:00pm	Technical Bid 04-06-2021 at 11:00 am in the Office of SE(TIC), Zone A, MCL
		Financial Bid Will be Intimated later on

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

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

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (TIC),

Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.

DPR/Pb/4599

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

E-TENDER NOTICE No. PWSSD/MOGA/2021/07 Dated 17.05.2021

[www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in)

On behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Chandigarh, Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Division, Moga invites bids from eligible bidders for the works detailed below:-

Sr. No.	Name of work
1	Providing and Laying Lateral Sewer, Domestic House Connections and Reconditioning of Road (Balance Work) at various locations Faridkot Distt. Faridkot (within MC Limit Area) Part-A.
2	Providing and Laying Lateral Sewer, Domestic House Connections and Reconditioning of Road (Balance Work) at various locations Faridkot Distt. Faridkot (within MC Limit Area) Part-B.

Last date and time for online submission of bid shall be: 08.06.2021, 4:30 p.m.

\*For detailed terms and conditions refer to website [www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in)

Corrigendum will be published on department's website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,

Pb. W/S & Sew. Division, Moga.

DPR/Pb/4603

No. S.E. (B&R)/NIT-919

Dt. 17.05.2021

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, JALANDHAR LOCAL GOVT. DEPTT. PUNJAB

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS (CIVIL WORKS)

[eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in)

E-tender No. MCJ/(B&R) 2021-22/08

Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar invites e-tenders on Two Bid System, for the Civil/Horticulture/Building/Road works mentioned at [www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in) from the contractors enlisted with Municipal Corporation Jalandhar and Co-Op. L/C Societies (Registered in Punjab State). Time to time instructions issued by Govt./CVO will be followed for bidding as well as execution of works. All the bidders should comply with the latest instructions issued side notification No. 76/52/79-C.1(5)/8856 Dt. 04.11.2019 and 5/82/2018-2lg-4/1892 Dt. 02.08.2018 and 5/82/2018 and 5/82/2018-2lg-4/702 Dt. 01.04.20.

Date and Time Schedule for L/C Societies (14 Days Notice)

Sr. No.	Last Date of online submission of Bidding Document	Opening of Technical Bid	Opening of Financial Bid
1	03.06.2021 up to 14.00 Hrs.	04.06.2021 up to 10.00 Hrs.	04.06.2021 up to 11.00 Hrs.

Date and Time Schedule for the works more than Rs. 60.00 Lac and for which tenders not matured on Dt. 04.06.2021.

Sr. No.	Last Date of online submission of Bidding Document	Opening of Technical Bid	Opening of Financial Bid
1	05.06.2021 up to 17.00 Hrs.	07.06.2021 up to 10.00 Hrs.	07.06.2021 up to 11.00 Hrs.

Other terms and conditions can be seen at E-tender website: [eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in)

Sd/- Superintending Engineer.

DPR/Pb/4600

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED

(A State Government Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Domestic Competitive Bidding (e-mode)

(Selection of Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units (BBPOUs) for electricity bill payment through Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS)

Online tenders are invited, on the prescribed format from eligible bidder for the Selection of Bharat Bill payment Operating Units (BBPOUs) for electricity bill payment through Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS). The bidders are requested to visit website [www.hpseb.in](http://www.hpseb.in) and <https://www.hptenders.gov.in> for more details. The detail of schedule of sale of tender document is as below:-

Tender No.	Estimated Cost Value (Rs.)	EMD (Rs.)	Tender Doc cost (with GST)	Date of online publication	Date of pre-bid meeting	Start date & time of bid submission	End date & time of bid submission	Opening date of part-I of bid
HPSEBL/CE(Comm)/e-Payment/Vol-VI/Part-A/2021	3,00,00,000/-	3,00,000/-	5,000/-	20.05.2021	04.06.2021	10.06.2021	23.06.2021	30.06.2021

Sd/- Chief Engineer, (Commercial),

HPSEB Ltd, Vidyt Bhawan, Shimla-171004

Follow COVID-19 Protocol

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/ CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1	HARYANA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORP.	PLANNING, DESIGNING, CONST, INSTALLING, TESTING COMM. OF 0.20 MLD STP BASED ON MBRR TECHNOLOGY COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECT WITH O & M AT NADA SAHIB GURUDWARA PANCHKULA	17.05.2021 07.06.2021	39 LACS	<a href="http://haryanatourism.gov.in">haryanatourism.gov.in</a>	9216400440 <a href="mailto:haryanatourism@gmail.com">haryanatourism@gmail.com</a>
2	HARYANA TOURISM DEVELOPMENT CORP.	PLANNING, DESIGNING, CONST, INSTALLING, TESTING, COMM OF 0.50 MLD STP BASED ON MBRR TECHNOLOGY COMPLETE IN ALL RESPECTS O/M AT MANSI DEVI, PANCHKULA	17.05.2021 07.06.2021	76.60 LACS	<a href="http://haryanatourism.gov.in">haryanatourism.gov.in</a>	9216400440 <a href="mailto:haryanatourism@gmail.com">haryanatourism@gmail.com</a>
3	UHBVN	CONSTRUCTION OF 4'-6" HEIGHT B/WALL AT 33KV S/STN. RAI	CLOSING DATE 27.05.2021	3.59 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9991480086 <a href="mailto:xenciviluhbvnrohtak@gmail.com">xenciviluhbvnrohtak@gmail.com</a>
4	UHBVN	PROVIDING AND LAYING OF INTERLOCKING PAVER BLOCK AT 33KV S/STN. RAI (SONEPAT)	CLOSING DATE 27.05.2021	4.26 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9991480086 <a href="mailto:xenciviluhbvnrohtak@gmail.com">xenciviluhbvnrohtak@gmail.com</a>
5	MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE DHARUHERA	A/MTC. OF EXISTING 20/25/4550/72/90 WATT LED STREET LIGHT IN ALL WARDS OF MC AREA (EXCLUDING SECTOR 4 AND 6 AREA) MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE DHARUHERA	CLOSING DATE 24.05.2021	14.95 LACS	<a href="http://etenders.hry.nic.in">etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	Municipal Engineer
6	THE BALLAGARH COOP MILK PRODUCERS UNION LTD	E-TENDER NOTICE FOR DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF DIFFUSED AERATION SYSTEM IN ETP	17.05.2021 08.06.2021	20000/-	<a href="http://www.vitaindia.org.in">www.vitaindia.org.in</a>	9968604725 <a href="mailto:vitalb@gmail.com">vitalb@gmail.com</a>
7	MUNICIPAL COUNCIL PALWAL	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST" (EOI) (ART/MURAL WORK FOR BEAUTIFICATION OF VARIOUS PUBLIC PLACES & PARKS AT PALWAL)	13.05.2021 25.05.2021	1 LAKH	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9728025011
8	HPGCL	SUPPLY OF BATTERIES MAKE EXIDE OR AMARON OR MICROTEK FOR PTIPS, PANIPAT AND RGTPP, HISAR	10.05.2021 09.06.2021	7.19 LACS	<a href="http://www.hpgcl.org.in">www.hpgcl.org.in</a>	0180-2566015 <a href="mailto:xenmp1.ptips@hpgcl.org.in">xenmp1.ptips@hpgcl.org.in</a>
9	MC SONIPAT	RENOVATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF DOG HOSPITAL AT MURTHAL ROAD WARD NO 6 MCS + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 03.06.2021	48.64 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	<a href="mailto:cemcsonapat@gmail.com">cemcsonapat@gmail.com</a>
10	HPGCL	SUPPLY OF IDLERS AND SELF ALIGNED FRAM (BRACKET) FOR CHP TO RGTPP, KHEDAR, HISAR	04.05.2021 03.06.2021	12.68 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	9315164637 <a href="mailto:mm1.rgtp@hpgcl.org.in">mm1.rgtp@hpgcl.org.in</a>
11	MC SONIPAT	CATCHING AND CAPTURING MONKEYS IN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION AREA.	CLOSING DATE 03.06.2021	NIL	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	<a href="mailto:semcsonapat@gmail.com">semcsonapat@gmail.com</a>
12	KARNAL SMART CITY	CONSTRUCTION OF SLAB OVER EXISTING GHAT FOR WJC CANAL FRONT DEVELOPMENT UNDER SMART CITY MISSION + 1 OTHER WORK	16.05.2021 24.05.2021	-	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>	<a href="mailto:smartcitykarnal@gmail.com">smartcitykarnal@gmail.com</a>
13	HARYANA AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LIMITED	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM PROCESSORS/SUPPLIERS FOR SUPPLY OF ESSENTIAL FMCG PRODUCTS (PULSES, SPICES, SUGAR, DRY FRUITS, RICE, CEREALS & CEREAL PRODUCTS, FLOUR & FLOUR MIXES ETC.) TO HAICL SPECIFIED DELIVERY POINTS WITHIN THE STATE OF HARYANA	11.05.2021 21.05.2021	5% OF CONTRACT VALUE	<a href="http://www.haic.co.in">www.haic.co.in</a>	0172-2561305 <a href="mailto:haicpk@gmail.com">haicpk@gmail.com</a>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in)

PRDH/13/2022/260/29531/31/4

## 3,546 fresh cases, 58 deaths in state

SHIMLA, MAY 17 The wife of Governor Bandaru Dattatreya has tested positive for Covid and has been admitted to a special ward in the IGMC here. “At the moment, she doesn’t need oxygen support or an ICU bed. If required, she will be shifted to the Covid ward,” said IGMC Principal Dr Rajnish Pathania. Meanwhile, 3,546 Covid cases were reported in the state today, taking the tally to 163,786. Besides, 58 persons died of the virus, including highest 24 in Kangra. The highest 1,210 cases were reported in Kangra, followed by 429 in Mandi, 389 in Sirmaur, 344 in Hamirpur, 300 in Shimla, 242 in Bilaspur, 200 in Chamba, 99 in Kullu, and 79 in Solan. — TNS

COVID METER		
Samples tested	17,47,264	
Recovered	124,750	
Active cases	36,633	
Positive cases	163,786	
Deaths	2,369	
DISTRICT-WISE COUNT		
DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Una	10,621	178
Solan	19,085	209
Kangra	36,159	686
Chamba	8,118	90
Hamirpur	11,601	146
Sirmaur	12,671	126
Mandi	22,313	267
Bilaspur	10,198	41
Shimla	20,860	470
Kullu	7,396	112
Kinnaur	2,388	30
Lahaul & Spiti	2,388	14
Total	163,786	2,369

## Covid fatalities rise, CM says better patient mgmt must

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 17 Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur today expressed concern over the rise in Covid-related deaths in the state. He directed the Health Department to evolve a more effective mechanism to provide the best possible treatment and life-support equipment to patients. He presided over a meeting with the senior government officers and Principals of the IGMC, Shimla, Dr Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College, Tanda, and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Government Medical College, Ner Chowk in Mandi

### ‘REGULAR MONITORING NEEDED’

“A better patient management mechanism must be evolved in the Covid wards to ensure that there is regular monitoring of all other conditions of the patients. Doctors and other paramedical staff must regularly visit patients and ward sisters and ward boys must also constantly examine their health parameters.” Jai Ram Thakur, CHIEF MINISTER

through video-conferencing from here.

Thakur said that a better patient management mechanism must be evolved in the Covid wards to ensure that there was regular monitoring of all other conditions of the patients. He added that doctors and other paramedical staff must regularly visit patients and

ward sisters and ward boys should constantly examine the health parameters of the patients.

He said if the condition of patients deteriorates, it should be immediately brought to the notice of the doctors so that timely treatment could be provided to them.

Thakur said that in order to ensure adequate supply of oxygen to the medical col-

leges, 20 MT each additional storage capacity would be created at the medical colleges in Shimla, Tanda and Mandi. He said that similar efforts should be made to establish PSA plants at various health institutions.

He said that at present there were 49 functional ventilators in Tanda Medical College and 19 more ventilators would be provided. He said that 35 more ventilators would be provided to Ner Chowk Medical College. He said that the state government had urged the Government of India to provide 200 additional ventilators to the state from PM CARES Fund.

## Thakur launches vax drive for 18+

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 17 Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur launched a vaccination drive for the people of 18-44 year age group from Government Senior Secondary School, Chhota Shimla, today. The Chief Minister said 213 centres had been set up. Urging the people to come to the vaccination centres as per schedule, he said 21,090 persons had booked their slots. “The next date of vaccination is May 20 and sessions will appear on the CoWin portal on May 18. Other sessions will be held on May 24, 27 and 31,” said the Chief Minister.

The state had emerged as the frontrunner by providing vaccine to 31 per cent of its population. “A total of 21,50,353 doses have been administered. People are coming in large numbers to vaccinate themselves against Covid-19,” he said.

He said 386 cold chain points had been established through which these vaccines were being distributed. He said these points were being monitored on the Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network (eVIN) basis.



**SEEKING IMMUNITY:** People over 18 years of age in queue to get their first dose of Covid vaccine outside a centre in Shimla; and (below) a boy gets a jab in Dharamsala on Monday. PHOTOS: AMIT KANWAR/KAMALIJI

213 centres set up,  
21,090 persons  
booked their slots

### NEXT DATE MAY 20

“The next date of vaccination is May 20 and sessions will appear on the CoWin portal on May 18. Other sessions will be held on May 24, 27 and 31. — Jai Ram Thakur, CM



## Beopar Mandal threatens to open shops from tomorrow

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, MAY 17 Traders in the state have threatened to open their shops from 9 am to 1 pm from May 19 if the state government does not find a viable solution to their problems.

State president of the Himachal Beopar Mandal SK Sharma said that it seemed that the lockdown had been imposed only for traders and shopkeepers. He added that the government should understand the practical problems of the traders and shopkeepers and address them. Otherwise, they would open their shops from 9 am to 1 pm from Wednesday.

If any shopkeeper is booked for the violation of the prohibitory orders, traders from all over the state would take to roads, he said.

Sharma said the government was not understanding



their practical problems. He added that the traders and shopkeepers had stocked summer material as fans, ACs and coolers just before the start of summer season. Now, their shops had been closed. If the summer season passes and traders could not sell their stocks, they would not be able to sell these the entire year and suffer huge losses. He said while the shopkeepers were not being allowed to sell their stocks, people were ordering material online that is being delivered on their doorsteps. Besides, the factories

have been allowed to operate. Due to it, the traders, who have agencies of various products, are getting regular supplies of products from factories.

As per the general practice the traders give advance cheques to factory owners with the expectation that they would be able to sell the stocks and pay back to factory owners. However, now the factories are sending them material and shopkeepers are able to sell. If it continues it would result in a debt trap, Sharma said.

## Doctors wear black badges

MANDI, MAY 17

Members of the Resident Doctors Association (RDA) of Nerchowk Medical College today wore black badges to protest the government's decision to end the quarantine period for health workers after Covid duties. They said the government should withdraw the decision.

RDA president Dr Vishal Jamwal and general secretary Dr Roshan Thakur said even after two doses of vaccination, many doctors were getting infected. They said if doctors were not quarantined after Covid duty, the safety of their families would be endangered. They said if doctors go

straight from the Covid duties to OPDs, they could infect patients. The resident doctor associations of medical colleges in the state are united on this matter. The Medical Officers Association and other associations of doctors, too, are protesting against the government over the matter. —TNS



# 92 inmates test Covid positive in two prisons

## All asymptomatic, shifted to separate barracks

JAMMU, MAY 17  
Ninety-two inmates have tested positive for Covid in two prisons of J&K, officials said on Monday. All of them are asymptomatic and have been isolated in separate barracks.

The latest detection in Udhampur and Kupwara district jails through special rapid antigen test (RAT) screening pushed the active cases among inmates to 115 out of a total of over 4,570 prisoners in all the jails. The special drive in the two jails was carried out nearly two weeks after a prominent separatist leader and chairman of Tehreek-e-Hurriyat Moham-mad Ashraf Sehrai, who was lodged in Udhampur district jail under Public Safety Act, died of Covid at a government hospital on May 5.

Officials said 72 prisoners and seven staff members tested positive in Udhampur district jail. A total of 479 inmates were subjected to RAT testing and 20 inmates tested positive



Passengers wait for Covid test at the Jammu railway station. PTI

**119 NEW CASES, 122 RECOVERIES IN LADAKH**

Leh: Ladakh recorded 119 fresh cases that took the infection tally to 16,452 while 122 people were discharged from hospitals after recovering from the disease, pushing the total number of recoveries to 14,471. No fresh death was reported. PTI

among 272 prisoners in Kupwara district jail.

Last year, two elderly prisoners, one each in Rajouri jail and Bhaderwah sub-jail, succumbed to the virus, while the rest of the 540 infected prisoners recovered after suc-

## Daily cases below 3L...

FROM PAGE 1  
time after 26 days. Also, a net decline of 1,01,461 cases has been recorded in the active caseload in the last 24 hours,” Vardhan said.

Although the pandemic wave appears to be ebbing, challenges loom in the form of 244 districts showing over 20% positivity rate and 479 districts showing more than 10% positivity rate. The WHO advises nations to continue to ramp up testing till positivity rate drops below 5%. Karnataka has 27 districts — the maximum — with over 20 per cent positivity rate while Madhya Pradesh has the most (38) districts with over 10 per cent rate.

The GoM took note of the virus moving village wards with the ICMR announcing plans to scale up testing by 80% over the coming days to cover rural India.

Balaram Bhargava, ICMR DG, informed the GoM of innovative changes in testing policy that would widen its scope of application and help in mass screening.

The ICMR will also provide home isolation guidelines in Hindi and other languages.

# 23,000 adverse events post vaccination: Govt

through the CoWIN platform from 684 of India's 753 districts and of these, 700 cases (9.3 cases per million doses administered) were reported to be serious in nature.

“The AEFI committee has completed an in-depth case review of 498 serious and severe events, of which 26 cases have been reported to be potential thromboembolic (formation of a clot in a blood vessel that might also break loose and carried by the blood stream to plug another vessel) events following the administration of Covishield vaccine with a reporting rate of 0.61 cases per million doses,” said experts after alerts issued in some countries on post-vacci-

REPORT SYMPTOMS

■ Vaccine beneficiaries have been told to report symptoms of clotting on CoWIN within 20 days of vaccination

■ The rate of such cases in India is less than those in UK and Germany

cases per million reported by UK's regulator Medical and Health Regulatory Authority. Germany has reported 10 events per million doses.”

Experts said the risk is almost 70% less in persons of South and South East Asian descent in comparison to those from European descent.

The government has, meanwhile, issued advisories to healthcare workers and vaccine beneficiaries to encourage people to be aware of suspected clotting symptoms occurring within 20 days after receiving any Covid vaccine (particularly Covishield).

Beneficiaries have been told to report any of the fol-

lowing symptoms on CoWIN within 20 days of vaccination — breathlessness, chest pain, pain in limbs, on pressing limbs or swelling in limbs (arm or calf), multiple, pin-head size red spots or bruising of skin in an area beyond the injection site, persistent abdominal pain with or without vomiting, seizures in the absence of previous history of seizures with or without vomiting, severe and persistent headache with or without vomiting (in the absence of previous history of migraine or chronic headache), weakness or paralysis of limbs or any particular side or part of the body (including face), etc. — TNS

## Didi leads...

before leaving for a Cabinet meeting. Defying lockdown norms, a large number of TMC supporters gathered and threw stones at the central forces deployed there. TMC supporters also held demonstrations outside the Raj Bhawan and at several other place.

The arrested leaders — Rural Development Minister Subrata Mukherjee, Transport Minister Firhad Hakim, TMC MLA Madan Mitra, and Sobhan Chatterjee, former TMC minister who switched over to the BJP but later severed connection with it too after he was denied ticket in the recent Assembly elections — were later given bail by the Special CBI Court here. The bail order was however stayed by the high court late in the evening.

The CBI also filed a chargesheet in the court in connection with the Narada sting case. All four were named in the document. The sting operation carried out in 2014 allegedly showed a number of TMC leaders, including the four arrested, accepting bribe from journalist Mathew Samuel, posing as a businessman.

Meanwhile, Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar justified his consent for the prosecution, saying that as the appointing authority he had the right to approve their prosecution. The Calcutta HC had in 2016 ordered the CBI probe.

## 46 isolation...

centres that don't have doctors, support staff, medicines etc. Patients need at least attendants to give them water, food and medicines etc. on time, but there is no such arrangement. Hence, staying at home is better than shifting to these centres,” said an ailing resident of Bainsi village.

Bainsi Sarpanch Krishan Chhabra said many villagers were running fever, but in the absence of Covid testing they were not shifting to these isolation centres. “A 10-bed isolation centre was set up in the village three days ago, but it has no doctor, nurse or medicines. I have written to the Civil Surgeon to arrange necessary facilities there,” he said. Around 25 villagers had died in a month, he added. Similar is the situation at CM Manohar Lal Khattar's Nindana village where over 20 persons are suffering from Covid, but none of them has gone to the isolation centre.

Mahesh Kumar, CEO (DRDA)-cum-nodal officer for isolation centres, confirmed that not a single patient had come to any of the 46 centres in the district so far. He, however, said, “Basic facilities like beds, drinking water, conveniences, medicines etc. have been made available at these centres and a health official will also visit these centres daily for examining patients. Those developing complications will be shifted to a hospital immediately.”

## In HP, over 30% positivity...

and May 16, the highest in a week during the pandemic.

Kangra, Solan, Sirmour, Shimla, Mandi and Hamirpur districts have registered a transmission rate higher than 30 per cent. The fatality rate in Shimla was at an all-time high of 2.61 per cent, followed by 2.10 per cent in Una.

In Kangra, the positivity

rate has shot up by 10 per cent to 38.1 per cent within a week. Of the 2,369 deaths since the outbreak of the pandemic, the highest 686 have been reported in Kangra.

“Active cases, which were a little over 200 in February, have mounted to 36,633,” said Nipun Jindal, National Health Mission Director.

## 2 Al-Badr terrorists killed

NEW DELHI, MAY 17  
A joint team of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the police killed at least two terrorists in an encounter that took place this morning in the Khan-moh area of Srinagar.

Officials in the security establishment said a combing operation was launched to ensure that no other terrorist was hiding at the encounter site or had taken shelter at any nearby place.

According to a senior police official, the slain terrorists were affiliated with the Al-Badr terror outfit. A joint team of the police and the CRPF conducted a cor-

don and search operation. “The security agencies received info about two terrorists hiding in Khanmoh last night. With the help of the Army and the CRPF, the security forces cordoned off the area. They appealed to terrorists to surrender, but to no avail. An encounter started today. Two terrorists associated with Al-Badr terror outfit were killed,” Inspector-General of Police (IGP) Vijay Kumar said.

On Sunday, an improvised explosive device (IED) was neutralised between Sugan and Turkhwangam by security forces in the Shopian district of the UT.

**PUNJAB STATE WAREHOUSING CORPORATION, CHANDIGARH**  
**SCO 74-75, BANK SQUARE, SECTOR 17-B, CHANDIGARH**  
E-mail: [ctopswc@punjab.gov.in](mailto:ctopswc@punjab.gov.in)  
**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**  
**TENDER NO.: PSWC/CTO/2020-21/03**

Punjab State Warehousing Corporation invites online bids for Comprehensive Centrally Monitored Electronic Surveillance System for PSWC Warehouse locations.

**Closing date and time**                      **04.06.2021 at 12.00 noon**

**For details log on to**                              **<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>**

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

**Managing Director**

DPR/Pb/4592

**“ਘਰ-ਘਰ ਰੁਜ਼ਗਾਰ”**  
**ਭਾਇਕੋਟਰ, ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਭਰਤੀ ਭਾਇਕੋਟੋਰੇਟ, ਪੰਜਾਬ**  
**ਸਰਕਾਰੀ (ਮਾਡਲ) ਸੀਨੀਅਰ ਸੈਕੰਡਰੀ ਸਕੂਲ, (ਮਾਈਕਰੋਸਟਾਫ ਬਿਲਡਿੰਗ)**  
**ਫੇਜ਼-3ਬੀ-1, ਮੁਹਾਲੀ**  
**(ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ [www.educationrecruitmentboard.com](http://www.educationrecruitmentboard.com))**

**ਨੰ:** 06/02-2021/ਭਭ(11)/2021157050                      **ਮਿਤੀ:** 17.05.2021

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਮਾਸਟਰ ਕਾਡਰ ਦੀ (ਬਾਰਡਰ ਏਰੀਆ) ਦੀਆਂ ਦਿਵਿਆਂਗ ਕੋਟਾਗਿਰੀ (ਆਰਥੋ) ਦੀਆਂ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਇੰਗਲਿਸ਼, ਮੈਥ ਅਤੇ ਸਾਇੰਸ ਬੋਕਲਾਗ ਅਸਾਮੀਆਂ ਦੀ ਭਰਤੀ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਯੋਗ ਉਮੀਦਵਾਰਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ [www.educationrecruitmentboard.com](http://www.educationrecruitmentboard.com) 'ਤੇ ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਦਰਖਾਸਤਾਂ ਦੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਅਸਾਮੀਆਂ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ/ਬਾਨਾਂ (Terms and Conditions) ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹਨ।

ਜਰਨਲ ਸਿੰਘ  
ਸਹਾਇਕ ਭਾਇਕੋਟਰ,  
ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਭਰਤੀ ਭਾਇਕੋਟੋਰੇਟ, ਪੰਜਾਬ।  
ਮੋਬਾਈਲ ਨੰ: 83603-13874

**ਸਹੀ/- ਸਹਾਇਕ ਭਾਇਕੋਟਰ,**  
**ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਭਰਤੀ ਭਾਇਕੋਟੋਰੇਟ, ਪੰਜਾਬ।**  
DPR/Pb/4591

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**TENDER NOTICE REFERENCE NO. 39 Dated 13.05.2021**  
The Department of Pb. W/S & Sew. Division, Sangrur reinvites online bids for the following:

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (Rs. in Lakh)	Approx. Value of the Work (Rs. in Lakh)
1.	Providing installing, Testing & commissioning of 1 No. T/W size 300mm X 200mm dia with reverse rotary Rig up to 200 mtr. (650') deep complete in all respect, Construction of Pump Chamber, providing & installing pump set & Stringing DIK7 pipe of 150mm i/d connection line at Khanauri, Distt. Sangrur as per DNIT.	0.39	19.02

Closing Date & Time : Up to 24.06.2021 at 5.00 p.m.

For details logon to : [www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in)

**Note:-** Any corrigendum(s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**  
**Punjab W/S & Sew. Division,**  
**Sangrur.**

DPR/Pb/4588

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATS**  
**OFFICE OF JOINT DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER**  
**Sec- 62, Vikas Bhawan, SAS Nagar,**  
**0175-5020582.**

**RECRUITMENT NOTICE**  
Applications are invited for the post of Director (Social Audit), purely on Contract Basis. Tenure of Director is three years. The last date of submit the application in the office of Joint Development Commissioner, 3rd Floor, Vikas Bhawan, Sec-62, SAS Nagar, Punjab, PIN 160062 is 04-06-2021 till 4 pm. The application format, education qualification, work experience, address for submission of application and other terms and conditions are available on website <https://sites.google.com/view/rdpbb> in case there is any amendment in this regard it will be uploaded on the above referred website.

**Sd/- Joint Development Commissioner**

DPR/Pb/4585

**COMMERCIAL SITE (TAXI STAND) ON RENT FOR 03 YEARS AT ISBT-17, CHANDIGARH**  
**No. 3433/CT/CTU/2021**  
**Dated: 17.5.2021**

Chandigarh Transport Undertaking invites e-tenders (online tenders) from the individuals/Companies/Firms/Contractor/Agency/Joint Venture/Consortium for the allotment of Taxi Stand at ISBT, Sector 17, Chandigarh. The interested parties can apply for the bidding on or before **07.06.2021** up to 14.00 hrs. The terms and conditions of the bidding can be seen on the website of Chandigarh i.e. <http://etenders.chd.nic/nicgep/app> or <http://chandigarh.gov.in> or <http://chdctu.gov.in>

**Sd/- Assistant Controller (F&A)**  
**For Divisional Manager CTU & Director Transport,**  
**U.T., Chandigarh.**

**SHIMLA JAL PRABHANDAN NIGAM LIMITED**  
**NOTICE INVITING E-PROCUREMENT TENDER**

Online bids on Item Rate basis are invited by the Additional General Manager Sewerage SJPNL, Shimla – 171001, Himachal Pradesh on the behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system in two covers for the undermentioned work from authorized dealer of original manufacturer.

Sr. No.	Description of work	Estimated Cost Rs.	Earnest Money Rs.	Time Months	Cost of Form Rs.
1.	Sewerage Scheme for Shimla Town (SH- Providing and laying sewer line and manhole construction works for Beolia, Gussan and IT Bhawan (HBC) Mehli to STP Panthaghati)	10,43,07,852/- only	10,75,580/- only	Twelve	5,000/- only

**KEY DATES WILL BE AS UNDER:**

a	Date of online Publication	From 14.05.2021 5:00 P.M.
b	Downloading of e-tender documents	From 14.05.2021 5:00 P.M. up to 28.05.2021 11.00 A.M.
c	Date of submission of e- tender	From 14.05.2021 5:00 P.M. up to 28.05.2021 11.00 A.M.
d	Physical submission of EMD, cost of tender form through Registered Post only or in case of online Submission of EMD, cost of tender form the amount should be deposited at Indusind Bank Ltd. The Mail Shimla, A/C No. 151772650690 and IFSC INDB0000165 (proof of payment is to be provided through by hand or by post within 7 days to this office) and eligibility documents.	Up to 11:00 A.M. on 28.05.2021
e	Date of opening of bids:	
Cover-1 Eligibility Criteria		28.05.2021 at 11:30 A.M.
Cover-2 Financial Bid		Shall be intimated separately
f	Site Visit	-

The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website <http://hptenders.gov.in>

**Additional General Manager,**  
**Sewerage Division, SJPNL US Club, Shimla – 171001.**  
No. JPNL-SD-Tender/2021-22-                      DPR/HP/74

**HIMACHAL PRADESH HORTICULTURAL PRODUCE MARKETING AND PROCESSING CORPORATION LTD.**  
**(A State Government Undertaking)**  
**Head Office: Nigam Vihar, Shimla-171002 (HP)**  
**Ph-0177-2623832,35.36.82, Fax: 0177-2623834- E-mail [hpmcshimla@live.com](mailto:hpmcshimla@live.com)**

Ref: No. HPMC/Mkt/Cartons/Trays/2020-21-4782                      **Dated-17.05.2021**

**CORRIGENDUM**

HPMC has floated EOI/Tender for the purchase of Cartons, Trays and Other Allied items to ensure providing of quality packaging material to the fruit growers of the State. The last date for opening of EOI was mentioned 20th May, 2021 But keeping in view the imposition of COVID Curfew in Himachal Pradesh & its adjoining States & due to some administrative reason the **last date for opening of EOI has been further extended upto 1st June, 2021.** All the interested parties can offer their best rates up to 1st June, 2021 till 1.00 P.M. and the offers after scrutiny shall be opened on the same date at 3.00 P.M. It is also pertinent to mention here that the EMD of those parties to whom the certificate of deposited amount has been issued by HPMC need not to deposit fresh EMD.

**Managing Director**  
**HPMC Shimla 171002 (HP)**

## Dhindsa, Brahmputra float SAD (Sanyukt)

FROM PAGE 1  
“We have decided to launch the Shiromani Akali Dal (Sanyukt) today. The organising structure of the party will be set up soon,” said Dhindsa and Brahmputra in a joint statement after a meeting in Chandigarh. Dhindsa is the president of the new party, while Brahmputra will be its patron. Coming down heavily on SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal, the two leaders sought a clarification on accepting dona-

tions from those “responsible” for the Sikh “genocide”.  
“The SGPC and the DSGMC should release a white paper giving details who donated how much to them during the Covid-19 pandemic and farmers’ protest. It has come to light that the DSGMC received around Rs 2 crore from Amitabh Bachchan who was responsible for instigating attacks on innocent Sikhs after Indira Gandhi’s assassination,” said Dhindsa and Brahmputra. — TNS

**GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH**  
**JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG**  
**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

Online bids on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Pragpur on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system in two covers for the under mentioned work from the contractor/firms of appropriate class enlisted with Himachal Pradesh, Jal Shakti Vibhag.

Sr. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of tender form	Time Limit
1.	Providing FHCT to various WSS under GP Aloh Punani Tikkar Bharoli, Kurna Garli and Nahan Nagrota under JJM in Distt Kangra HP (SH- Construction of reinforced cement concrete infiltration gallery 35.00 metre long in Punani Khad)	1748993/-	33780	400/-	Three Months

1. Tender documents and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed.

2. Online from the portal <http://hptenders.gov.in>, by the interested bidders/firms/individuals registered on the website which is free of cost.

3. Competitive Bidding will be conducted in accordance with “Single Stage Two Envelope” Bidding Procedure. Bid security, and eligibility documents as per eligibility information and criteria and Financial bid should be put in separate envelope and all two separate envelopes should be put together in a single envelope. The bids shall be submitted online electronically.

4. Bid evaluation of criteria-Technically Qualified lowest evaluated bidder (L1) will be considered as a successful bidder. However, the acceptance of the proposal will rest with the JSV Department who does not bind itself to accept the lowest proposal, and reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the proposals received without assigning any reason.

5. As the bids are to be submitted online and are required to be encrypted and digitally signed, the bidders are advised to obtain Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from suitable vendors or from any authorized agency at the earliest.

6. **KEY DATES WILL BE AS UNDER:-**

a	Date of Online publication	13.05.2021 at 05:00 p.m.
b	Downloading of e-tender Documents	From 13.05.2021 at 05:00 p.m. to 21.05.2021 at 11:00 a.m.
c	Date of submission of e-tendering.	From 13.05.2021 at 05:00 p.m. to 21.05.2021 at 11:00 a.m.
d	Physical submission of eligibility criteria, prequalification documents, earnest money deposit and cost of tender documents (in original)	Up to 11:00 a.m. on 21.05.2021
e	Date of opening bid	
i)	Cover-1 Eligibility Information and Criteria	<b>On 21.05.2021 at 11:30 a.m.</b>
ii)	Cover-2 Financial Bid	Shall be intimated separately

7. **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-**

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

- Cover-1** shall contain Scanned copies of “Eligibility Information and Criteria”.
- Cover-2** shall contain the “Financial bid” on the prescribed format.

(2) **Cover-1** shall contain Scanned copies of following “eligibility information and criteria” (Scanned copies to be uploaded):

In case of Exemption of EMD the tenderer shall have to submit an affidavit and list of works where he has used the exemption, in order to ascertain the amount exempted, mandatorily.

(i) The Earnest Money (**unless Exempted**) should be deposited (**through online (e-payment) & offline mode**) duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Pragpur in the shape of National Saving Certificate in any Post Office in H.P. or Time Deposit Receipt/FDR of any Scheduled/ Nationalized Bank, having its branch at Dehra or Pragpur and should reach the Office of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Vibhag Division Pragpur on or before the date and time of opening the technical bid (mandatorily).

(ii) The cost of tender form **through online (e-payment) & offline mode** as shown above in shape of Demand Draft, only drawn in favour of Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Pragpur payable at Pragpur.

(iii) Copy of Certificate of registration with I&PH Department (Now JSV) in appropriate class and latest renewal thereof.

(iv) Income Tax, PAN No. (Permanent Account No.), GST registration, EPF registration and latest clearance certificate thereof, are to be submitted with the eligibility criteria.

(v) Copy of similar Work done/Experience Certificates.

(vi) The authorization letter regarding digital signature certificate (DSC) of the person authorized by the registered tenderer to upload the bid, be uploaded along with the other documents online.

(vii) A scanned copy of undertaking that I have carefully studied all the terms and conditions Stipulated in the contract document before quoting the rates.

4. **Cover-2** shall contain “Financial Bid” which will be opened at a later date to be notified separately & shall be opened only of those contractors/Firms whose documents as per Eligibility Information “Cover-1” are found in order. The Financial Bids shall contain only Financial Bid/ Offer on departmental schedule of quantity/BOQ where contractor/firms will quote his /their offer for each item.

7. Earnest money of L1, L2 and L3 shall be retained for a period of 120 days.

8. No subcontracting of work by the contractor is permissible.

9. In case, opening day is a holiday, the tenders shall be opened on next working day.

10. The offer of the tender shall be kept open for 120 days.

11. Ambiguous/telegraphic/ Conditional tenders or tenders by Fax/E-mail shall not be entertained/considered in any case.

12. Conditional bids are liable to be rejected without assigning any reason(s).

13. The Executive Engineer, reserves the right to reject/cancel any or all the tenders/bids without assigning any reason(s).

14. Any enquiry/clarification regarding tender can be obtained on e-mail of the divisional office under e-mail address i.e. [xeniphpragpur@gmail.com](mailto:xeniphpragpur@gmail.com) and office telephone No. 01970-245045.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer,**  
**Jal Shakti Division,**  
**Pragpur.**

Dated: 13.05.2021  
No.EE/JAL SHAKTI/Pragpur/Tender/NIT/2021:- 1593-1692                      DPR/HP/733







# Friction at meeting on Olympics preparedness

Irked by Batra’s comment, Rijiju exits meeting

**VINAYAK PADMADEO**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, MAY 17  
Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju is known to keep his wits under difficult circumstances, at least publicly. Monday was perhaps one of the few times when Rijiju

lost his cool and walked out of a high-level meeting that was being conducted online to review India’s preparedness for the Tokyo Olympics. According to a source, the reason was a simple misunderstanding with Indian Olympic Association president Narinder Batra. Ban on flights originating from India due to the Covid-19 situation in the country has forced Indian athletes to sit out of qualifying tournaments,

and this was the sticking point in the meeting. In the last month, India could not participate in the World Relays, the Pro-League hockey matches between India and Great Britain were postponed, and the Malaysian Open and Singapore Open badminton tournaments were postponed due to the pandemic. This denied several Indian athletes a shot at qualification for the Olympic Games.

This was brought up in the discussion today and Rijiju pointed that National Sports Federations should also pressurise the International Olympic Committee (IOC) because the travel ban was detrimental to Indian athletes. The minister is learnt to have said at the meeting: “Federations and SAI have to be well coordinated so that IOA is given requisite information.”

IOA president Batra did not like the statement and objected to it, saying: “I take offence sir. I am directly in touch with all federations.” According to a source, at this, Rijiju tried to clarify his position and said that his statement was being misconstrued, and all he wants is what is best for Indian athletes. Batra then apologised but the minister quit the meeting in a huff, according to a source.

Batra was unavailable for comments. Besides Rijiju and Batra, those who attended the meeting included sports secretary Ravi Mittal and SAI director Sandip Pradhan, Athletics Federation of India president Adille Sumariwalla, joint secretary sports LS Singh, a Ministry of External Affairs representative, and shooter Gagan Narang.

# India Tests vs England, Australia not fixed: ICC

A TV documentary had made the allegation in 2018

**DUBAI, MAY 17**  
The International Cricket Council (ICC) has said it found no evidence of wrongdoing after investigating claims made by news channel *Al Jazeera* that two Test matches involving India — against England (2016) and Australia (2017) — were fixed. In an statement today, the ICC said that the passages of play identified as fixed by *Al Jazeera* were entirely predictable, and therefore “implausible as a fix”. In a documentary in 2018, *Al Jazeera* had claimed that India’s Tests against England in Chennai in 2016 and against Australia in 2017 in Ranchi were fixed. The ICC also cleared five people — filmed by the channel — of any wrongdoing, saying even as they behaved in a questionable manner, there was no credible evidence against them to bring charges. In the documentary, an

alleged bookie — Aneel Munnawar — was seen making claims about his dubious connections and history of fixing matches, including two Tests involving India. The ICC then launched an investigation into the claims. **4 specialists** “The programme alleged that two matches were fixed: India v England in Chennai in 2016 and India v Australia in Ranchi in 2017. To assess whether the passages of play highlighted in the programme were unusual in any way, the ICC engaged four independent betting and cricketing specialists to analyse the claims,” the ICC said today, saying its investigation is over. The ICC did not name the people exonerated but sources said former Pakistan cricketer Hasan Raza, Sri Lanka’s Tharanga Indika and Tharindu Mendis were among them. They had joined the investigation. Mumbai First-Class cricketer Robin Morris was also filmed, but he didn’t join the investigation. — TNS, agencies

# Rome won, Paris beckons Rafa

**ROME, MAY 17**  
After warming up for the French Open in style by beating world No. 1 Novak Djokovic in the Rome Masters final on Sunday, Rafa Nadal said he is heading to the French Open with confidence and a clear mind in search of a 21st Grand Slam title. Nadal, 34, beat the Serb 7-5 1-6 6-3 to claim a record-extending 10th ATP Masters 1000 title in Rome and felt his game improved through the week. Nadal, who suffered quarterfinal exits at Masters 1000 events in Monte Carlo and Madrid, said he would rest for a couple of days back home before heading to Paris for his title defence. “I think I can work in a couple of things that I can do a little bit better or I can keep confirming that I am on the way,” he told reporters. “I think I have been improving this week, but I need to keep going with that improvement, because when you improve and you’re able to do it every day for longer time, then you feel more confident and more safe. “So I just need to keep going. I know what I need to

Tenth win in Rome shows clay king is ready for French Open



Most titles at single event (ATP and Majors)		
TITLES	TOURNAMENT	PLAYER
13	French Open (Grand Slam)	Rafael Nadal
12	Barcelona Open (ATP 500)	Rafael Nadal
11	Monte Carlo Masters (ATP 1000)	Rafael Nadal
10	Rome Masters (ATP 1000)	Rafael Nadal
10	Halle (ATP 500)	Roger Federer
10	Basel (ATP 500)	Roger Federer
9	Australian Open (Grand Slam)	Novak Djokovic

work (on) for the next couple of weeks, and I (am) going to do it,” Nadal added. Victory in Rome saw

Nadal equal Djokovic’s tally of 36 ATP Masters 1000 trophies but it was not all plain sailing, the Spaniard

**La Decima**  
Remarkably, Rafael Nadal won a fourth different tournament for the tenth time to complete his latest ‘La Decima’ — ‘the tenth’ — and all of them are on clay. “The 10th, I really wanted this 10th here in Rome. It was one of the first important titles that I won in my career,” Nadal said about his 10th win in Rome. “After achieving 10 in Roland Garros, 10 in Monte Carlo, 10 in Barcelona, I really wanted this one.” Nadal is one of only two male players to have titles in double digits at a single event, the other being Roger Federer, who has won 10 titles each in Halle (grass) and Basel (hardcourt). Martina Navratilova is the only woman to achieve this feat. **Active players with most clay titles** ■ Nadal: 62 ■ Djokovic+Federer+Robredo+Thiem+Fognini+Wawrinka: 62

having to save two match points against Canadian Denis Shapovalov in the third round. — Reuters

# Comeback man Federer thinks he’ll be in top tier

‘I’m excited to be back, am not focusing on Rafa-Novak’



Roger Federer during a training session in Geneva. REUTERS

**GENEVA, MAY 17**  
Roger Federer has said his focus is to be at the top level once again, not to match the standards of Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic. After last year’s two surgeries on his right knee, Federer renews his comeback here tomorrow — he did play in Qatar Open in March this year — and will go on to several tournaments, including the French Open, Halle, Wimbledon and then the Tokyo Olympics. “I’m just concerned about where my game is at. The guys on tour are all in a good rhythm. The level that everybody is producing in great. I want to achieve that as well again,” Federer said. His old rivals Djokovic and Nadal played out a two-hour 49-minute final in Rome on Sunday, with Nadal winning 7-5 1-6 6-3 victory to match Djokovic’s record of 36 Masters 1000 series titles. “I’m excited about the comeback, that’s what my focus needs to be on and not about trying to be at the same level as Rafa and Novak right now,” Federer said. But the 20-time Grand Slam title winner, who turns 40 in August, added:

“I believe I will be part of the top tier.” Federer, however, said that younger players such as Stefanos Tsitsipas, Andrey Rublev, Alexander Zverev, Daniil Medvedev and Dominic Thiem would all prove a much tougher challenge to him now. “One thing is for sure, I would expect that the generation of Tsitsipas, Zverev, Rublev, Medvedev have all again gotten better naturally because they have more experience,” he said. “Dominic won a Slam in the meantime. Rafa, Novak are still where they are. You would think that the game has improved again. For me, that’s going to be an extra challenge, extra hard for me to find that level.”

**Clay no problem**  
Federer said he has never faced problems in switching from claycourts to grass and hopes his decision to play on his least favourite surface at the French Open will prove beneficial to his Wimbledon bid. Federer has not competed at Roland Garros in four of the last five years due to injuries and scheduling preference. — Agencies

**BRIEFLY**  
**NEW DELHI**  
**₹1 lakh reward for info on Sushil Kumar: Delhi Police**  
The Delhi Police today said that it has announced a reward of Rs 1 lakh for information leading to the arrest of two-time Olympics medalist Sushil Kumar and Rs 50,000 for his associate Ajay Kumar in connection with the Chhatrasal Stadium brawl that led to the death of another wrestler. Last week, a Delhi court had issued non-bailable warrants against Sushil and six others in connection with the Chhatrasal Stadium brawl. TNS

**NEW DELHI**  
**NZ refuses to visit India for hockey Pro League**  
The Indian men’s hockey team lost an opportunity to test its competitive skills after its FIH Hockey Pro League matches against New Zealand, scheduled for late this month, were postponed as the opponents refused to visit India due to the raging Covid-19 pandemic here. The two matches were to be held on May 29 and 30 in Bhubaneswar.

**GOTHENBURG**  
**Barcelona rout Chelsea 4-0 to win WCL final for 1st time**  
Barcelona came out firing against Chelsea, scoring after just 32 seconds en route to a 4-0 victory and their first Women’s Champions League title. Barca are the first side from Spain to win the WCL.

**PARMA**  
**Serena posts first victory in more than 3 months**  
Serena Williams earned her first victory in more than three months by beating 17-year-old qualifier Lisa Pigato 6-3 6-2 in the first round of the Emilia-Romagna Open. AGENCIES

**TODAY ON TV**  
EPL  
MAN UNITED VS FULHAM 10:30PM  
BRIGHTON VS MAN CITY 11:30PM  
CHELSEA VS LEICESTER 00:45AM  
(WEDNESDAY)  
STAR SPORTS

**CA reaches out to Bancroft over ball-tampering revelation**  
MELBOURNE: Cricket Australia (CA) has asked batsman Cameron Bancroft if he has new information on the 2018 Cape Town ball-tampering scandal in the wake of his suggestion that the team’s bowlers were aware of the wrongdoing. The former Test opener was banned for nine months for his role in the incident, dubbed “Sandpapergate”, while then-captain Steve Smith and his deputy David Warner were stripped of their leadership positions and suspended for a year. A CA investigation at the time cleared the rest of the team and support staff of wrongdoing or knowledge of the plan to alter the condition of the ball, but Bancroft suggested that was not the case in interview on Friday. **No surprises: Clarke**  
SYDNEY: Former Australian captain Michael Clarke won’t be surprised if it comes to light that more players were aware of the ball-tampering plot. Clarke has accused CA of sweeping the issue under the carpet. “If you are playing sport at the highest level you

know your tools that good it’s not funny. Can you imagine that ball being thrown back to the bowler and the bowler not knowing about it? Please,” Clarke told a radio channel today. “I love how the articles in the paper are, ‘It is such a big surprise that Bancroft has made a...’ Actually, if you read his quotes, it is not what he did say as what he didn’t say in regards to other people knowing about Sandpapergate,” Clarke said. **IPL’s Aussies arrive in Sydney**  
SYDNEY: The Australian players, coaches and commentary staff who were part of the suspended IPL arrived here today from the Maldives and will be in quarantine for 14 days. The cricketers had gone from India to the Maldives after the suspension of the tournament as the Australian government had imposed a travel ban on travellers from India due to the Covid-19 situation in the country. On arrival here today, the group was escorted by police to quarantine hotels across Sydney, according to reports. Former Australia batsman Mike Hussey, who had tested positive for the virus, was expected to arrive here later today in a flight from Qatar. AGENCIES

# Cricket club sheltering Indian students in Israel

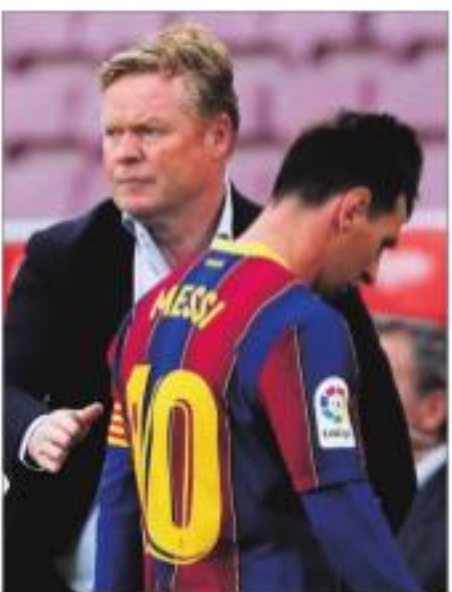
**BEERSHEBA (ISRAEL), MAY 17**  
A cricket club in the southern Israeli city of Beersheba has come to the rescue of several Indian researchers of the Ben-Gurion University in the Negev region after they had been struggling for proper shelter during the surge in hostilities in the region over the past one week. The Beersheba Cricket Club building, a two-storey structure close to the university which is actually a shelter house with an underground floor, opened its doors for the local residents immediately after rockets launched by Palestinian militants started to fall on Israel’s southern areas. The club extended the gesture to Indian researchers at the university who were looking for protection. “Some of the Indian researchers also play for the cricket club and are like part of our family. But we told them that anybody looking for a safe shelter is welcome

to use our facility,” said Naor Gudker, chairman of Beersheba Cricket Club. “There are several Indian researchers staying with us during the past week, both boys and girls, and we have tried to make things as comfortable as possible, extending them all possible help,” he said. “Some of them are not fully aware of the safety regulations and me and my colleagues have tried to make them aware of all the precautions to be taken to keep them safe.” The Indian doctoral and post-doctoral fellows who have taken refuge at the club expressed their gratitude for the generosity. “The club has not only made Indian students feel secure but, in a way, has been pampering them. They have access to snacks, tea and coffee and can use the gym and the entertainment system... It helps distract us from the ongoing misery,” said Ankit Chauhan, a doctoral student. — PTI

# Barcelona in shambles

Can finish third at best in La Liga

**MADRID, MAY 17**  
Defeat by Celta Vigo at Camp Nou on Sunday condemned Barcelona to a seventh loss of the season — their most since 2007-08 — meaning they can finish third at best in La Liga. Having won eight of the past 12 league titles coming into this campaign, where has it gone so wrong for Barca? Lionel Messi has 30 Liga goals to his name, and coach Ronald Koeman said after the Celta defeat: “If he’s not at the club, who is going to score the goals for us?”. Barca’s second-highest scorer in the league is Antoine Griezmann, with 12 goals, five of which have come in the last 10 games. Barca allowed Luis Suarez to join Atletico Madrid last summer for a nominal sum, and the Uruguayan’s 20 goals have shot them to the brink of the title. On Sunday, Suarez scored an 88th-minute winner in a 2-1 victory against Osasuna. Messi’s contract expires



Barcelona’s Lionel Messi and coach Ronald Koeman after the loss to Celta Vigo. REUTERS

next month. Should Barca fail to retain him, they could find themselves in a battle for Champions League next term, rather than a push for the title.

**Defensive woes**  
Koeman has often lamented the fact that sides have been clinical against Barca, but that reflects the quality of the chances his side offer up. They are still as reliant as ever on 34-year-old Gerard Pique and neither Clement Lenglet nor Samuel Umtiti has looked capable of part-

nering him. However, the habit of relying on Pique was ruthlessly exposed by Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League. The image of Kylian Mbappe sprinting away from Pique in their 4-1 Camp Nou win has turned into an internet meme. A reliable partner for, and successor to, the centre-back are required.

**Wrong appointment**  
Barca’s decision to sack Ernesto Valverde, who had won back-to-back titles, while top of the league in January 2020 has never seemed as miscalculated. His replacement, Quique Setien, was fired that summer and replaced by Koeman. While a club legend as a player, Koeman’s coaching record at club level made him a gamble that seems to have backfired. Barca won the Copa del Rey — the Dutchman’s first trophy since 2009 — but their big game record has suffered. Local media reports suggest he is on the brink of exiting, with another club legend, Xavi Hernandez, in the frame to replace him. — Reuters

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE				
SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP/ AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT / EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES
1	HSIIDC	OUTSOURCING OF VARIOUS SERVICES ACTIVITIES IN HSIIDC	17.05.2021 07.06.2021	10 LACS
WEBSITE OF THE BOARD/CORP/AUTH: www.hsiidc.org.in				
NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/E-MAIL: 9780605941 manojpal.singh@hsiidc.org.in				
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in PRDH-13/2022/40/2949/13/14				

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE	
Chief Workshop Manager, N. Rly. C&W workshop, Jagadhri Workshop/ Yamuna Nagar for & on behalf of the President of India, invites E- tender for the following work.	
1. Name of work	Renovation of trimming shop A and B section inside JUDW in the section of SSW II JUDW under DEN JUDW
2. Location	Northern Railway Carriage and wagon repair workshop JAGADHRI WORKSHOP Yamuna Nagar
3. Tender Cost / Estimated Cost	Rs. 4646409/-
4. Quantity	As per scope of work
5. Cost of E-Tender form	0
6. Earnest Money	0
7. Completion period of the work	4 Months
8. Date & Time for submission of tender form	18.06.2021 till 15:30 hrs.
9. Date & time of opening	18.06.2021 just after 15.30 hrs.E- tenders are opened after closing date and time of submission online bids on website <a href="http://www.irops.gov.in">www.irops.gov.in</a> through Digital Signature Certificate/Encryption Certificate of concern Authorized Officer of Railways on specified date and time. However, if date of tender opening is declared as Holiday, the tender will be opened at the same time on next working day.
10. Website particulars	<a href="http://www.irops.gov.in">www.irops.gov.in</a>
Tender No: 16-DEN/JUDW/21-22 Dated: 17.05.2021 1049/21	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

पुलिस कमिशनरेट, पंचकूला	जिला पंचकूला
आपको सूचित किया जाता है दिनांक 06 मई, 2021 को सेक्टर-16 पार्क के पास एक बुजुर्ग व्यक्ति बीमार हालत में मिला जो ना कुछ बोल पा रहा था जिसको पुलिस चौकी, सेक्टर-16 में इलाज के लिए नागरिक अस्पताल, सेक्टर-6, पंचकूला में भर्ती करवा दिया गया था जिसकी इलाज के दौरान दिनांक 15 मई, 2021 को मौत हो गई जिसके बारे कुछ नामपता नहीं चल सका। जो लाश को शिनाख्त के लिए मोर्चरी रूप, नागरिक अस्पताल, सेक्टर-6, पंचकूला में रखा गया है। जो लावारिस लाश बारे डी.डी. नं. 21, दिनांक 15.05.2021 पुलिस चौकी, सेक्टर-16, पंचकूला में दर्ज है। जो उपरोक्त लाश बारे अखबार में शिनाख्त हेतु समाचारपत्रों में विज्ञापन दिया जाये ताकि इस लाश की शिनाख्त की जा सके। इस बारे किसी को भी पता चले इस बारे ईंचार्ज, पुलिस चौकी, सेक्टर-6, पंचकूला के मोबाइल नं. 8146630065, 9416429973 प्रबंधक पुलिस थाना, सेक्टर-14, पंचकूला, 81466-30016 तथा पुलिस कन्ट्रोल रूम 0172-2582100 पर सूचित करें। हुलिया मृतक पुरुष : रंग गूँहेआ, बुजुर्ग व्यक्ति जिसकी उम्र लगभग 52 साल, जिसने डब्बी चैक कमीज पहना हुआ है गोल चेहरा, मुँह पर सफेद मूँछ दाढ़ी है। लावारिस लाश फोटो साथ संलग्न है।	
पुलिस जनसंपर्क अधिकारी, कार्यालय, पुलिस उपायुक्त, पंचकूला	
PRDH/1084/11/125/2022/2951/31/4	

HARYANA IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT			
Notice Inviting Emergent Sealed Quotations for preparedness of Flood Works			
Sr. No.	Name of Work	Approximate Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lac)	Last Date of receipt of tender
Pundri Water Services Division, Kaithal			
1.	Sealed quotation for supplying of Pocklane machine, JCB machine and tractor trolley and shifting charges etc. on hourly basis for internal clearance of various drains/channels under the jurisdiction of Pundri W/S Division Kaithal in Kaithal Distt.	On actual basis	24.05.2021 up to 11:00 hrs.
2.	Sealed quotation for supplying of one No. JCB Machine in working condition which should be available for 24 hours, (One day) in the jurisdiction of Pundri W/S Division, Kaithal which will be provided at once on demand during the rainy season.	On actual basis	24.05.2021 up to 11:00 hrs.
<b>Note: 1.</b> Sealed quotations should be accompanied Earnest Money Rs. 2.00 Lac for each work. <b>Note: 2.</b> The agency will have to provide Registration Certificate of machinery and meter of machinery should be in working condition. <b>Note: 3.</b> The agencies are requested to give information that how many type of machinery they can provide. Sd/- <b>Executive Engineer, Pundri W/S Division, Kaithal.</b> Email ID: <a href="mailto:xenwspdi@gmail.com">xenwspdi@gmail.com</a>			
PRDH/1069/11/15/2022/2952/31/4			



# Tauktae makes landfall in Guj

Power cut in several areas | Heavy rain, winds lash Maha, 6 dead

**MUMBAI, MAY 17** More than 2,00,000 persons were evacuated from their homes in Gujarat and the authorities shut ports and major airports as a very severe cyclonic storm with winds gusting up to 185 km per hour made landfall in the state late on Monday.

Rain intensified and several incidents of power outages were reported in the state. Electricity pylons and trees were uprooted and buildings were damaged in coastal areas of Gujarat, the state authorities said.

The storm is expected to last for several hours after slamming into the state's coast.

Earlier, the cyclone lashed Mumbai, forcing the authorities to suspend operations at the city's airport and to close some main roads due to flooding. Tracks on Mumbai's urban rail system were also flooded.

Meanwhile, six persons were killed in Maharashtra's Konkan region in separate incidents related to the severe cyclonic storm and three sailors remained missing after two boats sank in the sea, officials said.

Two boats with seven sailors on board, anchored in the



Waterlogging at Bhendi Bazaar due to heavy rain and strong winds triggered by Cyclone Tauktae in Mumbai on Monday. PTI

185	KM PER HOUR WIND SPEED	2	LAKH EVACUATED IN GUJARAT
17	COVID PATIENTS IN PORBANDAR CIVIL HOSPITAL SHIFTED	55	FLIGHTS CANCELLED AT MUMBAI AIRPORT

Anandwadi harbour in Sindhudurg district capsized, an official statement said.

As the cyclone moved past the Maharashtra coast in the morning, Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport initially announced the suspension of operations from 11 am to 2 pm and later decided to keep all operations shut till 10 pm.

Flight operations at the Mumbai airport eventually resumed on Monday night after being suspended for 11 hours due to the cyclone.

The Centre has offered all help to Gujarat to deal with the cyclone and asked the Army, Navy and the Air Force to remain on standby to assist the administration if the need arises, the Gujarat Government said. At least 17 Covid-19 patients on ventilator support in the Porbandar Civil Hospital's ICU were shifted to other facilities on Monday as a precautionary measure because of Cyclone Tauktae. Winds blew at 114 kmph in Mumbai on Monday afternoon as the cyclonic storm passed close to the Mumbai coast, civic officials said. Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray on Monday took stock of the situation in Mumbai. — Agencies

# Rajnath reviews preparations by armed forces for relief work

Asks 3 services to provide assistance to civil admns

**NEW DELHI, MAY 17**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Monday directed the three services to provide all possible assistance to the civil administrations in the coastal states of Maharashtra and Gujarat in tackling the situation arising out of Cyclone Tauktae.

Singh issued the instruction after reviewing the preparedness of the armed forces to deal with the fallout of the cyclone.

"The Defence Minister directed the three services to provide all possible assistance to the civil administration to deal with the emerging situation," the Defence Ministry said.

Singh carried out the review at a video-conference, which was attended by Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat, Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar, Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria and Army Chief Gen MM Naravane among others.

The ministry said three ships of the Indian Navy have been put on standby with aid and relief materials for providing immediate



People move a fishing boat to a safer place along the shore ahead of Cyclone Tauktae in Gujarat on Monday. REUTERS

## FOUR SAVED BY NAVY HELICOPTERS

Four persons were saved by helicopters of the Indian Navy in the Arabian Sea west of Mangalore on Monday morning. A tugboat they were travelling got flooded leaving them with no propulsion or power. The four crew members were winched up in the copter and handed on the deck of Coast Guard ship nearby.

## 121 VILLAGES AFFECTED IN K'TAKA, 8 DEAD

Eight persons have lost their lives in the Cyclone Tauktae-hit coastal and surrounding malnad districts of Karnataka, officials said on Monday. According to the officials, till this evening, 121 villages in seven districts of Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Kodagu, Chikkamagaluru, Hassan and Belagavi have been affected by the cyclone. PTI

assistance to affected areas if required.

Several other ships on the

Western seaboard are also being kept ready for any deployment. — PTI

## IN BRIEF

### Political leaders can't hoard Covid drugs: HC

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court on Monday said political leaders have no business to "hoard" stocks of Covid-19 medicines already in shortage and the drugs must be surrendered, as it expressed dissatisfaction over the inquiry by the Delhi Police on allegations against politicians on this issue, terming the report "vague and whitewashed". — PTI

### IGI airport shuts ops at Terminal-2

**NEW DELHI:** The Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport operator DIAL on Monday said it would shut operations at T2 terminal from Monday midnight as there had been a significant reduction in flight operations due to the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic. — TNS

### Pvt hospital 'hides' 65 deaths in U'khand

**DEHRADUN:** A private hospital in Haridwar allegedly withheld information about deaths of 65 Covid patients from the health authorities for over a fortnight in violation of the norms, officials said on Monday. — PTI

# Tested +ve, boy isolates self on treetop to protect family

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**HYDERABAD, MAY 17**

Ramawat Shiva Naik, an 18-year-old engineering student from Hyderabad, spent 11 days on a tree to isolate himself after he tested Covid-19 positive.

Since he did not have enough space in his house for "self-isolation" and did not want to pass on the virus to his parents, he isolated himself on a treetop near his home at Kothanandikonda village in Telangana.

Shiva was with his parents when he developed symptoms and got himself tested. Since colleges are closed, he could not return to his hostel.

From a not so well-to-do family, he was financially helping his family by working as a porter at a paddy procurement centre where he picked up the infection. After he developed fever, he travelled to the primary health centre,



A medic administers vaccine to a woman in Noida. MANAS RANJAN BHUI

## PRAGYA SAYS COW URINE PROTECTS FROM COVID

**Bhopal:** Bhopal BJP MP Pragya Singh Thakur has said a cow urine extract offered protection against lung infections and Covid. "Gaurmutra ark' (cow urine extract) of a desi cow keeps us away from lung infection. I am in a lot of trouble (health issues) but take the 'gaurmutra ark' every day," she said at a function. PTI

## ANOTHER AMU PROF DIES OF COVID, TOLL 39

**Aligarh:** Another senior professor of AMU succumbed to Covid at the university's Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, according to officials, pushing the number of serving and retired faculty members who have died due to Covid to at least 39. PTI

5 km away, to get himself tested and was found positive.

The doctors advised him home isolation. With a single washroom at home, isolation was not possible. He said since he had heard the virus dipped oxygen levels, the tree-

top was an obvious choice

He made his cot with bamboo sticks and ropes on a tree. His parents kept meals, water and other requirements in a bucket that he would pull up. Later, the authorities shifted him to an isolation centre.

# Bizman sets up firewood bank in UP

**GHAZIYAPUR, MAY 17**

Gujarat-based businessman Sanjay Rai has set up a firewood bank at the cremation grounds on the banks of the Ganga to help poor people perform the last rites of their kin, instead of dumping the

bodies in the river.

Rai, who is a native of Sherpur village in Ghaziipur district of UP and now residing in Gujarat, decided to start the facility after dozens of bodies were washed up on the banks of

the river last week.

The bodies were apparently immersed in water after the relatives could not afford the cost of cremation. Rai was in his village when the bodies washed up, and decided to help out the poor. — IANS

# DCGI: Don't use O<sub>2</sub> concentrators with under 5L/min flow at home

**NEW DELHI, MAY 17**

The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) on Monday issued an advisory saying Covid infected in home care should not use oxygen concentrators with flow of less than 5 litre a minute.

At present, various models of oxygen concentrators, having different capacities of continuous flow (1 to 10 litre a minute) and widely varying concentration of oxygen, are being marketed.

The drug regulator said those in home isolation should use concentrators with a minimum flow of up to 5 litre a minute or more. "The advice is to use concen-

trators that contain oxygen monitors to verify concentration; digital or analogue metres that display cumulative hours of device operation. It is advised that oxygen concentrators of less than 5 litres per minute capacity may not be sold under the misleading label of home-based Covid care. It is further advised that oxygen concentrators must be purchased with consumables required to operate it and user care instructions and protocols, including guidance for replacement of accessories and consumables and safe decontamination of reusable parts, indicating if they are generic or brand related," it said. — TNS

# Govt ramps up Remdesivir production

**NEW DELHI, MAY 17**

The Union Chemical Ministry on Monday said country's Remdesivir production capacity has increased from 38 lakh vials per month to nearly 119 lakh vials per month.

"With the efforts of the Centre and the manufacturing companies, the production capacity of the licensed manufacturers has increased unprecedentedly," the Department of Pharmaceuticals of the Ministry said.

Remdesivir is a patented drug, manufactured in India under voluntary licences granted by Gilead Life Sciences USA, the patent holder, to seven Indian pharmaceutical companies (Cipla, Dr Reddy's Lab, Hetero, Jubilant Pharma, Mylan, Syn-gene and Zydus Cadila).

To augment the domestic production capacity, all seven domestic licensed manufacturers of Remdesivir were asked to ramp up production quickly. — TNS

# WhatsApp privacy policy violates IT laws: Centre to HC

**NEW DELHI, MAY 17**

The Centre on Monday told the Delhi High Court that it views the new privacy policy of WhatsApp as a violation of the Indian Information Technology (IT) law and rules, and sought directions to the social media platform to make it clear whether it was confirm-

ing to the same.

The Central government's claim was made before a Bench of Chief Justice DN Patel and Justice Jyoti Singh during hearing of several pleas challenging WhatsApp's new privacy policy, which according to the platform has come into



effect from May 15 and has not been deferred.

WhatsApp told the Bench that while its new privacy policy has come into effect from May 15, it would not start deleting accounts of those users who have not accepted it and

would try to encourage them to get on board.

The platform said there was no universal or uniform time limit after which it would start to delete accounts as each user would be dealt with it on case-to-case basis.

The Bench issued notice to the Centre, Facebook and

WhatsApp and sought their stand on one of the pleas by a lawyer who has claimed that the new policy violated users' right to privacy under the Constitution.

During the hearing, the Centre said according to it the policy was in violation of Indian IT laws and rules. — PTI

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE						
Sr. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/ EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/ CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	DISTRICT ADMIN. JIND	SUPPLY OF PULSE OXIMETERS (FINGER TIP)/PROLUX EXTRA CARE (BIG PUS) WITH ONE YEAR GUARANTEE FOR COVID-19 HOME ISOLATED PATIENTS IN DISTRICT JIND	13.05.2021 19.05.2021	EMD 50000/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	7015928340 ctmjnd@hry.nic.in
2.	IRRIGATION PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF 855 NOS. OF PIEZOMETERS WITH PLATFORM AND OTHER CIVIL WORKS IN HARYANA UNDER ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA FOR GROUND WATER MONITORING	13.05.2021 04.06.2021	EMD 60 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01722560080 xen.ataljal@gmail.com
3.	IRRIGATION PANCHKULA	CONSTRUCTION OF 814 NOS. PIEZOMETERS WITH PLATFORM AND OTHER CIVIL WORKS IN HARYANA UNDER ATAL BHUJAL YOJANA FOR GROUND WATER MONITORING.	13.05.2021 04.06.2021	EMD 57 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01722560080 xen.ataljal@gmail.com
4.	FOREST DEPARTMENT SIRSA	NEW PLANTATION & MAINTENANCE OF PLANTS, NURSERY WORKS AND DEMARCATION WORKS	CLOSING DATE 20.05.2021	12.89 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01666-243307 forest_sirsa@yahoo.com
5.	FOREST PANIPAT	MAINT OF PLANTS FOR PAUDHAGIRI/JSA/FREE SUPPLY 155000 NOS + 4 OTHER WORK	15.05.2021 24.05.2021	18.09 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0180-2650331 dfopanipat04@yahoo.co.in
6.	HEALTH KAITHAL	E-RICKSHAW TENDER	15.05.2021 24.05.2021	EMD 20000/-	dhs.csktl@hry.nic.in	9991134904 drugstorek8l@gmail.com
7.	FOREST HISAR	NEW PLANTATION+ 13 OTHER	12.05.2021 24.05.2021	6.02 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-259232 dfonhsar.t@gmail.com
8.	IRRIGATION ROHTAK	INTERNAL CLEARANCE OF KCB DRAIN RD 74000 TO 99000 AND OTHER 1 WORK	CLOSING DATE 19.05.2021	12.01 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9896410404 xensampla@gmail.com
9.	PWD (B&R) FATEHABAD	CONSTG. A ROAD FROM TOHANA-HISAR ROAD TO SAMAIN-NARWANA ROAD ALONG SAMAIN MINOR IN FATEHABAD DISTRICT KM 0 TO 0.80 IN FATEHABAD DISTT. (RE- INVITED)	11.05.2021 01.06.2021	79.45 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01667220120 pwd-eeep-fatehabad@hry.nic.in
10.	PWD (B&R) BAHADURGARH	ESTABLISHMENT OF ICU & HDU AT TRAUMA CENTER FIRST FLOOR IN CIVIL HOSPITAL, BAHADURGARH IN JHAJJAR DISTRICT.	14.05.2021 21.05.2021	58.32 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	8901333000 pwd-eeepd-bahadurgarh@hry.nic.in
11.	PANCHAYATS NILOKHERI, KARNAL	2 WORKS CONST. OF HALL IN GURU BRAHMANAND & CONST. OF COMMUNITY CENTRE AND 17 OTHER WORKS	10.05.2021 20.05.2021	179.02 LACS	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	8813910040 bdpo.nilokheri@hry.nic.in
12.	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING HANSI	1. BADALA AND DHANI MAHABIR - FUNCTIONAL HOUSEHOLD TAP CONNECTION AND LAYING OF DI PIPE LINE WITH UNDER JIM + 1 OTHER WORKS	14.05.2021 20.05.2021	20.68 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	8607010117 eehansi@gmail.com
13.	PANCHAYATI RAJ KARNAL	20 WORKS CONST. AND MANAGEMENT OF GREY WATER PROJECT AND 3 OTHER WORKS	13.05.2021 22.05.2021	792.75 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416191639 prexeeng.krl@hry.nic.in
14.	IRRIGATION ROHTAK	INTERNAL CLEARANCE OF GANDHARA DRAIN FROM RD 0 TO 51500	CLOSING DATE 20.05.2021	5.98 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9896410404 xenwsdnrtk@gmail.com
15.	PWD (B&R) HISAR	PDG: CENTRAL OXYGEN PIPELINE IN CHC AT BARWALA IN DISTT. HISAR. RECALL + 7 SIMILAR TENDERS	18.05.2021 27.05.2021	2.26 CRORE	etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-225651 pwd-eeed-hissar@hry.nic.in
16.	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING SIRSA	AUG. OF WATER WORKS, REPAIR OF EXISTING STRUCTURES AND BOOSTING STATION, FHT CONNECTION AT VILLAGE KHEREKAN, DISTT. SIRSA (UNDER JIM) "PROV. AND LAYING OF 300MM I/D RCC PIPE CHANNEL = 91 MTRS., CONST. OF 1 NO. S/S TANK OF SIZE 39.63X39.63X3.66 MTRS. 2 NO. RCC HLT OF SIZE 8.63X5.79 MTRS. PIPELINE AT HEAD WORK, AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO"	15.05.2021 21.05.2021	82.52 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01666-221925 ee2sirsa@phedharyana.gov.in
17.	PWD (B&R) HISAR	PDG CENTRAL OXYGEN PIPELINE IN SUB DISTT. HOSPITAL AT TOSHAM IN DISTT. BHIWANI +8 SIMILAR WORKS	18.05.2021 27.05.2021	1.56 CRORE	etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-225651 pwd-eeed-hissar@hry.nic.in
18.	PWD (B&R) HISAR	PDG: CENTRAL OXYGEN PIPELINE IN CIVIL HOSPITAL AT DABWALI IN DISTT. SIRSA + 8 OTHER SIMILAR WORKS	18.05.2021 27.05.2021	2.51 CRORE	etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-225651 pwd-eeed-hissar@hry.nic.in
19.	PWD (B&R) HISAR	PDG: CENTRAL OXYGEN PIPELINE IN CHC AT JAKHAL IN DISTT. FATEHABAD + 4 SIMILAR WORKS	18.05.2021 27.05.2021	1.26 CRORE	etenders.hry.nic.in	01662-225651 pwd-eeed-hissar@hry.nic.in
20.	PANCHAYATI RAJ AMBALA	CONST OF INTERLOCKING STREET FROM CULVERT NEAR GUGA MARRI TO PH TUBEWELL NEAR MAIN ROAD AT VILLAGE JANSUI BLOCK AMBALA-I	12.05.2021 26.05.2021	26.27 LACS	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	0171-2551368 prexeeng.amb@hry.nic.in
21.	DIRECTORATE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH HARYANA PANCHKULA	COMPLETE PLANNING, DESIGNING, EXECUTION/ CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS AND ESTATE SERVICES, FURNITURE, EQUIPMENTS, IT (NETWORKING) COMMISSIONING INCLUDING MAINTENANCE (DURING DEFECT LIABILITY PERIOD) ETC. UNDER EPC CONTRACT MODE AS PER SCOPE OF WORK GIVEN IN THE TENDER DOCUMENTS FOR THE ABOVE MENTIONED PROJECTS.	18.05.2021 08.06.2021	1500 CRORE	http://www.dmerharyana.org.etenders.hry.nic.in	dmer-hry@nic.in
22.	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING KAITHAL	AMTC OF WATER SUPPLY SCHEME SANTOKH MAJRA, THIEH BAHRI AND BIR BANGRA "JOB WORK FOR UPKEEPING OF WATER WORKS & WATER SUPPLY, WATCH AND WARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH ASSETS OF VARIOUS WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES UNDER P.H. ENGG. SUB DIVISION NO.4 KAITHAL (FOR TEN MONTHS) + 38 OTHER WORKS	15.05.2021 24.05.2021	271.19 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01746-222348 ee2kaithal@gmail.com
23.	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING KURUKSHETRA	ANNUAL MAINTENANCE OF RURAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME OF PHE SUB DIVISION SHAHBAD KURUKSHETRA FOR THE YEAR 2021-22 (FAILLING UNDER PHED KURUKSHETRA) "REPAIR OF PUMPING MACHINERY OF EXISTING 28 NOS. TUBEWELLS AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO." (FOR ONE YEAR) + 4 OTHER WORK	05.05.2021 19.05.2021	42.10 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0172-2583005 eeecord@phedharyana.gov.in
24.	IRRIGATION HISAR	CONSTRUCTION OF VR BRIDGE AT RD 3100 BHOJRAJ MINOR (3 NOS. OTHER WORK)	CLOSING DATE 24.05.2021	3.61 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01662237870 xenhwsdnhr@gmail.com
25.	PWD (B&R) SIRSA	WIDENING AND STRENGTHENING OF CONNECTING LINK TO PWD ROAD AT CHAUTALA (VT) (ROAD ID 10758) KM. 0.00 TO 2.94 IN SIRSA DISTRICT	14.05.2021 28.05.2021	99.26 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	pwd-eeepd1-sirsa@hry.nic.in
26.	PANCHAYATI RAJ JHAJJAR	CONST. OF 6 NOS. ANGANWARI CENTRE AND 2 NO. COMMUNITY CENTRE, 1 NO. BIOGAS PLANT (RE-TENDER)	18.05.2021 28.05.2021	182.76 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01251-254118 prexeeng.jjr@hry.nic.in
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaaprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in						PRDH/11/2022/520/2954/11/31/4