

The Eribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

CHITKARA

DIDI: WASN'T ALLOWED TO SPEAK AT COVID MEET BACK PAGE

FRIDAY 21 MAY 2021

CHANDIGARH | GURUGRAM | JALANDHAR | BATHINDA | VOL. 141 NO. 139 | 12 PAGES | ₹5.00 | REGD. NO. CHD/0006/2021-2023 ESTABLISHED IN 1881

THETRIBUNECHD THETRIBUNECHD WWW.TRIBUNEINDIA.COM

Black fungus epidemic building up, 500 cases in Gujarat alone

Declare mucormycosis notifiable disease, Centre tells states

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

Hit by an alarming surge in cases of black fungus (mucormycosis) during and after Covid-19 treatment, the government today asked states to notify the lethal disease, mandating every public and private health facility

Doctors across India have begun calling mucormycosis an "epidemic within a pandemic" with the disease causing maining, loss of vision and brain infection.

to report all suspected and

confirmed cases.

Harvana and Rajasthan were the first to make the disease notifiable.

Delhi's Ganga Ram Hospital alone has 51 patients of black fungus, 75 per cent of them are diabetic. The disease is mostly being seen among



A doctor studies a scan of a patient to detect black fungus in Jabalpur. PTI

HP's HAMIRPUR SEES 1ST CASE OF INFECTION

A native of Khagar in Hamirpur district, admitted to the IGMC, has been diagnosed with black fungus infection, doctors said. It is the first such case in HP.

patients on steroid therapy. The Health Ministry's letter to states says, "This fun-

2 WHITE FUNGUS CASES AT HISAR HOSPITAL

Two cases of white fungus were reported in Hisar on Thursday. A doctor said white fungus, also known as candidiasis, is not of serious nature.

longed morbidity and mortality among Covid-19 patients. The treatment requires muldiabetic Covid gal infection is leading to pro-tidisciplinary approach con-

GOVT TO IMPORT 6L VIALS OF AMPHOTERICIN-B Doctors across India have

- begun calling mucormycosis an 'epidemic within a pandemic'
- It is mostly seen in diabetic Covid-19 patients on steroids
- It affects face, nose, eyes and brain, can cause blindness and even removal of jaw bone besides affecting lungs

SYMPTOMS Headache, nose secretions, bleeding from the nose, blood in cough, lack of sensation in

- the face, swelling on one side of the face PRECAUTIONS
- Diabetics must control their blood sugar levels
- No steroid therapy for mild Covid patients

sisting of eye surgeons, ENT specialists, general surgeons, neurosurgeons, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

IN BRIEF

Membership of Kalka legislator restored

CHANDIGARH: Four months after Kalka MLA Pardeep Chaudhary was disqualified following his conviction in a rioting case, his membership was restored on Thursday.—TNS

Kejri may face action under Singapore law

NEW DELHI: The Centre has hinted that it might not come to defence of the Delhi CM who may face action under a Singapore law for linking a Covid strain to the country. BACK PAGE

No salary, it's hard times for Hry aided college staffers

GEETANJALI GAYATRI TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

With no salary since February, Satpal Sharma (49), a non-teaching staff member at a government-aided college in Kurukshetra, was forced to sell his wife's jewellery to fund his treatment for Covid and ensure provisions for his family. Though

3K employees haven't been paid since Feb

he himself has recovered, his wife is now down with flulike symptoms and is showing no improvement.

With no money to afford the expenses of a hospital stay, his dilemma is whether he should wait a couple of days before getting her tested for Covid or take her to hospital. "I have no other source of income. My salary for the last three months has not come in. If my wife tests positive, CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

UNDER 4K DEATHS AFTER 8 DAYS

As the 24-hour toll fell below 4,000 after a gap of eight days, the Health Ministry stressed over 70% of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities



2,76,110 FRESH CASES 3,874 DEATHS IN 24 HOURS 45 LAKH 16-20 LAKH

tests daily by

AEROSOLCANTRAVEL 10 MTRS FROM INFECTED PERSON

une-end govt aim daily currently

tests being done

Aerosol can travel up to 10 metres from an infected person through air, becoming key mode of transmission, says PM's principal scientific adviser

STATES SHOWING DIP IN CASES Maha, R'sthan, UP, Hry, Gujarat, C'garh, Bihar, MP, Delhi & Jharkhand



A home-based rapid antigen testing kit

by Mylab Discovery Solutions Ltd, Pune ICMR said kits by three more firms are in



Tamil Nadu, Meghalaya Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, Mizoram

RAPID HOME TESTING KITS IN 4 DAYS

approved by ICMR is set to hit markets in 4 days Priced at ₹250, the kit has been manufactured

pipeline and likely to get approval within a week



Barge death toll 49, 26 still missing

Ajay Banerjee TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

Forty-nine bodies have been found so far in the Arabian Sea near the spot where the ill-fated barge 'P305' sunk on the intervening night of May 17 and 18 as Cyclone Tauktae ravaged past the country's western coast.

ELEVEN ABOARD TUG-SHIP MISSING TOO, TWO SAVED

After more than three days of search by the Navy and Coast Guard, 26 persons are still missing at sea. Hopes of finding any more survivors are slim, but the search will continue as the sea is known to throw up miraculous survivors even after accidents,

sources in the Navy said. Legally, those missing cannot be presumed dead till there is evidence to support it. Such a search at sea is normally not

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

2 Baijnath villages Covid hotspots

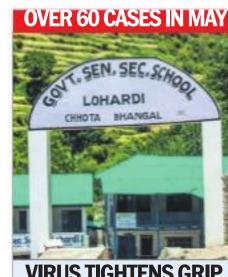
RAVINDER SOOD

PALAMPUR, MAY 20 Residents of Lohardi village of Chhota Bhanghal in Baij-

nath subdivision of Kangra district have been confined to their homes for the past 15 days. The village nestled amid Dhauladhar ranges has reported two Covid deaths and 35 positive cases so far.

Nearby Shuru village is also badly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Every third person here is Covid positive. Today, 30 fresh cases were reported in the village.

Lohardi reported its first Covid-19 case in the first week of May. The patient had



VIRUS TIGHTENS GRIP Lohardi village has reported

- two Covid deaths and 35 infections so far
- Shuru village reported 30 fresh cases on Thursday with every third person testing positive for Covid-19

returned home from another state just before the lockdown. By May 12, the case count in the village had reached 30. The hamlet has been declared a containment zone and mass testing is being undertaken, said Palampur SDM Dharmesh Ramotra.

In fact, hundreds of samples have already been collected and sent for testing. "It has been an extremely taxing month for the administration, but our team shall continue working tirelessly," the SDM said.

The Lohardi Sarpanch blamed the spurt in cases on people's casual approach **CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

83% Pb victims had comorbidities

Vishav Bharti

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE **CHANDIGARH, MAY 20**

Punjab seems to be paying a heavy price for being among states with a high load of population suffering from comorbidities. Of the over 3,500 people who died of Covid in the last 20 days, a majority had comorbid conditions.

Health experts say the state's 2.4 per cent Covid fatality rate, the highest in the country, is because of the high load of patients with non-communicable diseases, including hypertension and diabetes.

epaper.tribuneindia.com

HIGHEST FATALITY RATE IN COUNTRY

- At 2.4%, Punjab has the highest Covid fatality rate in the country ■ The count stood at 2.95%
- during the first wave ■ 91% of victims in first wave had comorbidities, including hypertension, diabetes and heart disease
- Over 12,500 have succumbed to virus since March last year

A government analysis of the second wave has found that 83 per cent of the over 6,000 victims were suffering from comorbidities.



Dr JS Thakur. Professor. School of Public Health, PGIMER, Chandigarh, said a global study had put Punjab CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

No Covid deaths at Singhu, claim farmers' unions

SONEPAT, MAY 20 The leaders of 32 groups of

protesting farmer unions from Punjab on Thursday said that no farmer had died of Covid at Singhu border. The government was trying to defame the farmers' protest by spreading lies that a farmer had died of Covid, they alleged.

Balbir Singh of Patiala district had died due to a diabetes attack, while another farmer died due to cardiac arrest, they claimed. **INSIDE**



Overwhelmed with bodies, crematoria feel the heat

Demand for wood goes up | Shortage of PPE kits for patients' kin

AJAY JOSHI

JALANDHAR, MAY 20

With an increasing number of cremations taking place in the district during the second wave of Covid-19, the demand for wood has increased at the cremation grounds. To add to the problem, there isn't any electrical cremation system in the region.

Operators at the cremation grounds said it took 3-4 quintals of wood to cremate a body. Besides, Raj Kumar Mago, president, Baba Dadamal Shamshanbhumi Sudhar Sabha, Maqsudan, said: "From 20 to 25 cremations a month, the average has increased to 40-50 a day."

Gurdayal Bhatti and Harbans Lal, in charges at a cremation ground, said though they weren't facing any shortage right now, considering the increasing wood consumption due to more deaths, the possibility looms



large. "Last week, we cremated five to six bodies, including that of Covid patients, every day," said Harbans Lal.

Amid information on inflated cremation rates, it was discovered that Rs 2,800-3,500 is being charged for cremating a body at present. Shaym Lal,

Haranamdas Pura Cremation Ground, said: Last Friday, they cremated 20 bodies a day, against the daily average of three to six.

Besides, the attendance at funerals is beyond the permissible limit, with 50-80 persons thronging the cremation grounds, increasing the fear of infection. "Due to the unavailability of health staff or any administration official, a large number of people participate in the cremation," said Harbans Lal.

With the surge in Covid fatalities, the pressure to han-

NGO PITCHES IN

Aakhri Umeed Welfare Society, a Jalandhar-based NGO, is cremating persons who die of Covid for free. A team of 15-20 volunteers not only performs the last rites of the Covid patients, but also provides PPE kits to the families. Society founder Jatinder Singh said they were cremating eight to 10 Covid bodies a day at different cremation grounds.

dle the dead has also gone up. Dr Kamraj, in charge, Civil Hospital morgue, said: "We have to increase the staff strength. The bodies need to be sanitised completely and packed in two layers before cremation. Before handing over the bodies, PPE kits are also given to the family members as per protocol." Due to shortage of PPE Kits, only two family members are being given the kits.

Lockers full, ashes kept in open at Muktsar grounds

ARCHIT WATTS TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, MAY 20

As a large number of people are dying daily due to Covid, the lockers to keep ashes at the cremation ground have gone full to their capacity. In such a situation, the bags of ashes are now being kept in the open.

Shammi Tehria, president, Shiv Dhaam Management Committee, Jalalabad Road, here, said, "We have lockers to keep ashes of 20 bodies. However, more than 50 bags of ashes are lying in the cremation ground. We have even appealed to residents to take the ashes. Now, we are going to make a public announcement that if the ashes are not collected within a short time, we will immerse these in the holy Ganga."

He said, "Basically, people are worried due to Covid so they not coming to get the ashes. Further, a number of trains to Haridwar have been suspended. As a result, the ashes are lying unclaimed here. Usually people come to collect ashes on

Fearing Covid, kin reluctant to collect these



Bags containing ashes hang on the wall as lockers are full at a cremation ground in Muktsar town. TRIBUNE PHOTO

the fourth day, but nowadays, a number of people are not even coming after 15 days."

Notably, last year too, a similar situation had occurred and some alert residents had immersed the ashes of their loved ones in the nearby canals or buried it in the soil. Even Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal had

buried the ashes of his parents

sapling there. In the past one week, 81 people have died due to Covid in Muktsar district. In the past 24 hours, 417 people were found positive, which included 301 villagers. Meanwhile, the Muktsar police started providing free ration and food to needy today. SSP Sudarvizhi appealed to people to call on 112 or 181 for help.

in the soil and planted a

SAD flags oxygen 'shortage' at **Bathinda AIIMS**

BATHINDA, MAY 20

Bathinda MP Harsimrat Kaur Badal today flagged the issue of oxygen shortage at AIIMS-Bathinda, and the high price of the cylinders.

Harsimrat raised the issue by posting on social media. She wrote, "AIIMS-Bathinda has only a day's supply of O2 left for 70 critical Covid patients. With the highest death rate in Bathinda, oxygen is crucial to save their lives."

However, Bathinda Deputy Commissioner B Srinivasan said, "Adequate oxygen is been given to AIIMS and there is no issue pertaining to it." — TNS

COVID METER

		100				
Cases		5,566				
Critical		407				
Active		67,041				
Deaths		193				
VORST-AFFECTED DISTRICTS						
ISTRICT	CASES	DEATHS				
udhiana	784	26				
athinda	604	21				
AS Nagar	467	20				
l uktsar	417	5				
lalandhar	382	7				

A huge rush at a Covid vaccination centre in Jalandhar, MALKIAT SING

Capt for floating global vax tender

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20 Minister Capt Chief Amarinder Singh on Thursday directed the Health Department to explore possibilities of floating a global tender for the procurement of vaccines from all possible sources to ensure early inoculation in the state.

The state government will also reach out directly to all vaccine manufacturers for direct purchase of various Covid vaccines, including Sputnik V, Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson, he announced.

Punjab has storage space for 35 lakh Sputnik V vaccines, which require storage temperature of minus 18 degrees Celsius. The Chief Minister said all efforts would be made for procurement of vaccines to meet the acute shortage in the state, which had received fewer than 44 lakh vaccine doses so far from the Government of India, of which only one lakh is currently available for use and which will also be exhausted within a day.

The state government was forced to stop vaccination for Phase 1 & 2 categories in the last three days because of the non-availability, pointed out the Chief Minister, directing all departments concerned to continue pursuing the matter of supply aggressively



ONLY 1.3 LAKH DOSES LEFT FOR 18+ GROUP

As per Gol allocation for Phase 3 (18-44 age group), the state government has been able to buy only 3.6 lakh vaccine doses. CM Capt Amarinder Singh said a total of 2.3 lakh doses have already been administered, leaving only 1.3 lakh for use as of now

with the Centre.

Pointing out that almost one lakh unregistered construction workers and their family members had so far come forward for getting vaccinated in line with the state government's prioritisation of vaccination for 18-44 category, the Chief Minister asked the Labour Department to ensure the registration of these workers on priority.

During the Covid review meeting, Covid expert group head Dr KK Talwar noted that the existing vaccines had been found to be effective against the new variants/mutants so far.

Amid fear of third wave's impact on children, CM for specialised training to doctors

₹1.5K pension for kids orphaned due to Covid

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

Beginning July 1, the Punjab Government will provide Rs 1,500 per month as social security pension, along with free education up to graduation for all those children who were orphaned in the Covid pandemic, as well as families that have lost their breadwinner. Terming it the state's duty

to become the foster parents of the children who have lost both their parents in the unprecedented pandemic, Minister Capt Amarinder Singh said his government would ensure free education in government institutions for such children as well as children belonging to families that have lost their breadwinner to Covid.

Affected persons would also be eligible for a grant of Rs 51,000 under Ashirwaad Scheme w.e.f. July 1, and would be entitled to free ration

Similar aid for families losing breadwinner



and coverage under the Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana. The state government would also assist the affected family members to find a suitable job under Ghar Ghar Rozgaar Karobaar Mission, said the Chief Minister, chairing a highlevel Covid review meeting.

The relief measures will be provided to orphans until they attain the age of 21 years. In the case of families whose breadwinner has died, these would be provided for an initial period of three years, after which their situation will be reassessed, and where the vulnerability continues to exist, the period may be appropriately increased.

Meanwhile, amid projections of a possible third wave

TAKE STRICT ACTION AGAINST HOSPITALS

The CM directed the officials concerned to take strict action against private hospitals overcharging Covid patients and said they should also be made to refund the payment received. He asked DCs to track all such complaints. The private hospitals should be asked to display the official rate prominently, he said.

and its impact on children, the Chief Minister ordered the Health Department to go into a mission mode with preparation, which will include specialised training of all doctors by the Juneend. Reviewing the Covid situation in the state, he directed the state expert group head Dr KK Talwar to look into all aspects and get

for the Health Department. Expressing concern over

the spread of Covid in rural areas, the Chief Minister directed that teams of health and other departments immediately start house-to-house surveillance in every village. The teams should be equipped to give basic medicines without delay, and RAT testing of symptomatic persons must be got done at the earliest, he said. He also directed that some CHCs in each district be prepared as L2 facilities, with oxygen concentrators and doctors with proper treatment protocols.

Captain Amarinder expressed satisfaction at the measures taken by the control room for oxygen and directed the health department to continuously pursue with the Centre the issue of oxygen shortfall, which stands at 700 MT, as well as tankers.

Audit panel to cut oxygenwastage in Faridkot hospital

FARIDKOT, MAY 20

In the wake of shortage of medical oxygen and to ensure that the hospital does not face any problem with regard to its supply, Guru Gobind Singh Medical College and Hospital in Faridkot has constituted an oxygen audit committee. Besides constantly moni-

toring the stock and its consumption, the committee has been tasked to carry out daily stock of receipts, consumption and balance stock. The committee members are visiting Covid wards and working on optimum utilisation and preventing wastage of the life-saving gas. "By adopting these measures, the hospital has been able to reduce oxygen wastage and decrease overall consumption," said Dr Ruhi Dugg, registrar, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences. Medical college is a constitute institution of

the BFUHS. — TNS

Learn from Delhi Govt: Mann to CM

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

State AAP president and MP Bhagwant Mann said Capt Amarinder Singh and other Congress leaders were busy twisting each other's arms instead of supporting the people during the Covid crisis.

He said in Delhi, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had made efforts to save lives and announced cash and pension for the wellbeing of Covid victims' families. Addressing mediapersons, Mann said the Delhi Government had decided to give Rs 2,500 to children up to the age of 25 who were helpless due to the Covid pandemic, and the same amount as pension on the death of a family member with Covid. — TNS

Farmers' clash with RSS workers averted at Ropar

ROPAR, MAY 20

A clash between RSS volunteers and farmers was averted when the former tried to organise a blood donation camp at Nurpur Bedi, near here today.

The cops had a tough time to control the situation as the protesting farmers barged into the venue and threw the furniture and other articles into adjoining fields.

The local farmers belonging to Kirti Kisan Morcha and Samyukt Kisan Morcha had issued warnings to the organisers yesterday against said such camps would not be allowed by the BJP or RSS till the three controversial central agricultural laws were not repealed.

Around 10 am today, even



Cops block farmers at an RSS blood camp in Nurpur Bedi.

before the camp was started nearly 300 protesters reached the venue where heavy police force was deployed and barriorganising the camp. They cades were set up. For some time they raised slogans against the RSS and the BJP. Outnumbering cops, the protesting farmers jumped the barricades and barged into the venue. — TNS

Chatbottohelp home-isolated

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20 As part of Mission Fateh, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Thursday launched a Punjab Covid Care WhatsApp chatbot for self-care during home isolation, information on bed availability and vaccine centres, etc.

Patients in home isolation will be required to input their

Will give expert advice on treatment

vitals and their condition would be monitored by experts who will advise them on the course of treatment. The service will be available in three languages – English, Punjabi and Hindi. The announcement was made after a high-level virtual Covid review meeting chaired by Chief Minister. — TNS



Physically disabled after submitting a letter to authorities in Malerkotla

Out of job, disabled feel pandemic pinch

PARVESH SHARMA

SANGRUR, MAY 20 Having lost temporary jobs during the pandemic, many physically challenged residents are living in penury in the absence of financial aid from the government.

The meagre government monthly pension of Rs 750 is of little help to them in these trying times when the inflation has risen sharply.

"Before Covid, I used to make Rs 350-400 daily and it was enough to make ends meet. After the pandemic, my earnings have dropped to Rs 100-150. At the same time, the prices of essential commodities have skyrocketed. The state government should come to our rescue," says Mohd Anwar, a tailor

with wife Karmjit Kaur is 80 per cent disabled, says he has

been without work for the past one-and-a-half months as his employer has shut the small factory where he worked.

"Though we get Rs 750 each as monthly pension, it isn't enough even to purchase grocery items. I have two children and we need money to continue their studies. The state government is making big announcements for all sections, but they have completely forgotten us," he says.

While some had received help, including ration and vegetables, during the first wave, they had been left out in the open during the second wave.

year is missing. The administration, NGOs and social workers had provided essential commodities to all, but this year no one has approached us," laments Kuljeet Singh, another resident with special needs.

"The help we received last

Fruits of labour wilt as govt schools shut BALWANT GARG **NO CARE AMID COVID**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE **FARIDKOT, MAY 20**

The pandemic has disrupted a novel experiment started by the Education Department in government primary and upper primary schools across the state in March at a cost of Rs 5.40 crore.

In a bid to imbibe practical knowledge and encourage children to lead a healthier life, the department had started kitchen gardens in schools wherein vegetables and herbal plants were grown. The produce from kitchen gardens was

epaper.tribuneindia.com



But before the plants could start bearing fruit, the schools were closed down in the wake of the pandemic. Now, teachers are faced with the problem of how to use the veggies

when there is no cooking of mid-day meal (MDM).

The department had allocated Rs 3,000 to each primary and upper-primary government school to grow veggies. In a letter to General Manager,

■ In March, kitchen gardens

were started in govt schools. The produce was to be used in mid-day meals

With schools closed, the authorities plan to distribute these among students living nearby and teachers

MDM Cell. Punjab, Deputy District Education Officer (Primary) Maninder Kaur has sought an opinion of the higher authorities on how to utilise these vegetables in the absence of MDM.

College staff unpaid, kids write 'blood' letter to CM **OUR CORRESPONDENT**

FEROZEPUR, MAY 20

ed to a university.

Over a dozen children whose parents are working in staterun Shaheed Bhagat Singh State Technical Campus (SBSSTC) have written an open "letter in blood" to Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh demanding immediate release of salaries to their parents, who have been unpaid for the past six months. The college was recently upgradfund crunch

Faces Covid-induced

The children, in the letter, said their parents had been under stress for the past several months. "We don't ask for anything from our parents these days. I know my father has no money. They have been protesting for the past several months but their voices have fallen on deaf ears," says Rohan.

from Malerkotla. Harvinder Singh, who along

Ensure antifungal drugs at all govt facilities: CM

BLACK FUNGUS Infection notified under Epidemic Act

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20 A day after the state government notified mucormycosis (black fungus) under the Epidemic Diseases Act, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh today directed the Health Department to ensure that necessary medicines to treat the infection

those in rural areas. He also asked the department to depute doctors at the Primary Health Centres in villages to ensure early detection and treatment of black fungus in the rural areas.

are made available at all gov-

ernment hospitals, including

Stressing that early detection of the disease could prevent it from being fatal, the CM asked the Covid expert team headed by Dr KK Talwar to ensure that doctors in the L3 facilities of all government hospitals were directed on proper treatment of Covid patients to check irrational use of steroids, which had been identified as the main cause of this disease.

Excessive use of steroids in

Waive power bills: SAD

Ferozepur: SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal has demanded

waiver of power bills for both domestic and industrial con-

sumers for six months to help

the trade and industry as well

as the poor and middle class

to tide over the crisis due to

ongoing lockdown. He said

relief should also be given in water bills and other taxes. oc

4 more die in Abohar

Abohar: With four more deaths

due to Covid, the toll this

month has reached 60. The

Narayan Sewa Samiti volun-

Roshan Lal Narang (82),

teers were Rotary Club ex-chief

Lajwanti (91), Sukhdev Singh

(84) and Rajinder Arora (45). oc

Actor helps woman

woman infected with black fun-

gus in Sriganganagar, actor and

emerged as a saviour. The fami-

ly of Manjit Kaur, who is battling

for life in a hospital, contacted

many people on social media

about her condition. Sood deliv-

ganagar in no time due to which

Manjit is now out of danger. oc

who further informed Sood

ered the injections at Srigan-

Abohar/Sriganganagar: For a

philanthropist Sonu Sood

victims who were cremated by health workers and Nar Sewa



DOCS TOLD TO CHECK USE OF STEROIDS

- The Chief Minister has said that early detection of the disease can prevent it from being fatal
- He has asked the Covid expert team headed by Dr KK Talwar to ensure that doctors in the L3 facilities of all government hospitals are directed to check irrational use of steroids
- Use of steroids to treat Covid has been identified as the main cause of black fungus, especially among diabetic patients

Covid treatment was causing problems, Dr Talwar told the Covid review meeting chaired by the CM. He said the doctors were being guided to use substitutes and the expert group was trying to finalise a line of treatment with substitutes and alternatives.

The CM also asked Dr Talwar and his team to analyse why patients were returning to hospitals even after recovering from Covid. In the first phase, the state did not report

any black fungus case, even though many were reported from several other states. The Chief Minister, however, made it clear that this should not be taken as a precedence and the situation could change any moment, which necessitated strict preventive measures.

He said this was the reason his government had yesterday notified the disease under the Epidemic Act, even though no such guidelines had been issued by the Centre then.

Medicine to cost **₹1,425 per vial**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LUDHIANA, MAY 20

The Punjab Government has decided to provide Amphotericin B injection from the government stock at Rs 1,424.82 (excluding 5 per cent GST) per vial. All districts in the state have been informed in this regard by the Department of Health and Family Welfare.

The injection is used for management of Covid-19 patients. Cases of mucormycosis (black fungus) among survivors and those undergoing treatment have come to the fore in the state, following which there is an acute shortage of the injection.

As the demand was minimal earlier, the injection was not produced in bulk. But a sudden spike in demand has led to its shortage.

According to a notification issued by the Department of Health and Family Welfare, the state government has decided to allocate supplies received by the government at the central store to all districts for further supply to

Amphotericin B to be made available from govt stock

government Covid care centres and private centres/ chemists located inside private centres.

The payment for the injections supplied to private centres/chemists would be made to a separate bank account of the Punjab Health Systems Corporation (PHSC).

The prices to be charged from private centres/chemists would be the same as the rate at which it has been procured by the National Health Mission, said Kumar Rahul, Secretary, Health-cum-Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration.

Other states too are facing the shortage of the injection and patients are running struggling to procure it. Nearly 30 injections are administered to a single patient. The state government has procured a few hundred vials and is in the process of procuring more from the Centre.

Asr sees 17 cases, all in pvt hospitals

As many as 17 cases of black fungus were reported from the district on Thursday. Civil Surgeon Dr Charanjit Singh said all patients infected with black fungus had been reported from private hospitals. "None of the government hospitals have reported any such case," he said.

The health official when asked about the severity of the cases said the department was still collecting data about such patients. "The first case of black fungus was reported two days ago. We are still verifying the facts and collecting data," he said. Dr Singh said

Data being collected, says Civil Surgeon

all patients were under treatment and the department was in regular touch with the hospitals from where these cases had been reported. "This disease existed prior to Covid pandemic but the chances of positive patients catching it due to weak immunity are high," he said, adding that the health department had been informed about the development and they were constantly monitoring the situation. — TNS



Initiative of Government

of Punjab for fighting COVID **COVID-19 BED**

AVAILABILITY IN

OR CALL 104

USE COVA APP

MEDICAL HELPLINE

For queries regarding

latest Bed Availability

GOVERNMENT & PRIVATE HOSPITALS

	OXYGEN BEDS			BEDS at Ventilator)	(With Ventilator)		
	Total	Available Total Available		Available	Total	Available	
Government Hospitals	4210	2038	503	40	376	162	
Private Hospitals	6691	2015	1431	222	1066	147	
Total (Govt.+Pvt.)	10901	4053	1934	262	1442	309	
			Figure	s as on 20	.05.202	1 5.00 pm	

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, PUNJAB



AUCTION

CONCLUDES

21.06.2021

at 01:00 PM

AUCTION BEGINS 10.06.2021 at 9:00 AM

announces

e-auction

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL & CHUNK SITES

JALANDHAR, KAPURTHALA, HOSHIARPUR, PHAGWARA & MUKERIAN

Balance payment in easy

installments at interest rate

9.5% PA.

Possession on



starting from

₹ 8.70



(Booths-19, SCO-7, SCS-5, Shops-5, Convenient Shops-5, DSS-2, SCF-2 & Khokha-1) starting from

CHUNK

₹ 11.73 Crore

₹ 10.74 Lac

visit www.puda.e-auctions.in for details



JALANDHAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

SCO-41, Ladowali Road, PUDA Complex, Jalandhar

Staff back from Patiala, AIIMS forms probe panel

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, MAY 20

The management of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here today constituted a threemember committee to probe the incident of nursing staff being sent back to the parent institution by Government Rajindra Hospital, Patiala, after they alleged poor accommodation and food.

AIIMS Director Dr DK Singh said: "The nursing staff raised the issue of poor food and accommodation provided to them, which can be sorted out within a day or two. But we have learnt they refused to go to work, which is wrong. We have constituted a committee of three doctors to look into this and submit a report."

He said the recruitment of nursing staff had been pending as the building was under construction. "So we don't require more staff, but owing to the pandemic, we had hired 500 nursing staff and sent them to the government hospitals to provide them manpower during the crisis," he said.

epaper.tribuneindia.com

WRONG TO STRIKE WORK: DIRECTOR

- The AllMS, Bathinda, management has constituted a three-member committee to probe the incident
- The nursing staff were sent back to the parent institution by Rajindra Hospital, Patiala, after they alleged poor accommodation and food
- "We have learnt the staff refused to go to work, which is wrong. We have formed a committee to look into this and submit a report," said Bathinda AllMS Director Dr DK Singh

The newly hired nursing staff were given recruitment letters a day before they were sent to Patiala and Mohali for duty.

Around 50 male nurses from AIIMS, Bathinda, deployed at the isolation wing of Rajindra hospital, were relieved by the Medical Superintendent of the hospital on Wednesday after they staged a protest over poor boarding and lodging facilities. They stayed at the Covid ward for only two days.



Haryana Government to Protect Every **Urban & Rural Area** From Covid-19





DURING HOME ISOLATION

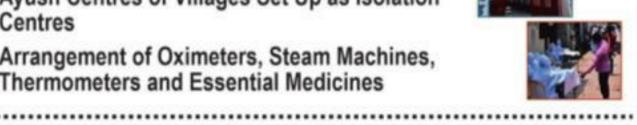
- Maintain Distance with Family Members and Use Mask
- Wash Hands Frequently with Soap And Water or Use Sanitizer
- Regularly Monitor Your Body Temperature and Oxygen Level
- Keep in Touch with Your Doctor and Take Medicines as Prescribed
- Follow Respiratory Etiquettes
- Dispose off Tissue Paper etc. Properly After Use
- Contact Doctor Immediately if you have Difficulty in Breathing, High Grade Fever or Severe Cough for More Than Five Days



- एं पर बंदे पूर्व

For prevention of corona in Rural areas

- For the Test of Covid-19, Door to Door Screening and Testing of Everyone by **Multidisciplinary Teams**
- Home Isolation Kits to Patients with Mild and Moderate Symptoms, Immediate Treatment to Patients with Severe Symptoms in Nearby **Medical Centres**
- Dharamshalas, Government Schools and Ayush Centres of Villages Set Up as Isolation Centres
- Arrangement of Oximeters, Steam Machines, Thermometers and Essential Medicines



Helpline For Assistance Regarding Covid-19 8558893911 (for Entire State) 1075 (Except Gurugram & Faridabad)

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

S •- Social Distancing

CLASSIFIEDS

PLOT FOR SALE

Eco City 2, one kanal facing East

also plots in Eco City 1. 93161-12756

PUBLIC NOTICES

Surender Pal Singh s/o late

Gurdev Singh R/o B-4A/9 GF, Rana

Partap Bagh, Delhi-7 declare that my

name in school, college, service record

and other documents is wrongly

mentioned as Surinder Pal Singh @

Surinder Pal @ SP Singh @ S P Singh

etc. All concerned may note that my

acutal/correct name is Surender Pal

I, Sumit Kumar Goyal s/o Mangat

Rai Goyal r/o H. No. B-XII/566,

Khatrian Wali Street, Barnala, have

changed my name from Sumit

Kumar to Sumit Kumar Goyal.

I, Number 3991561Y, Unit 16

Dogra, Rank ex- naik Shamsher

name in my Army record has

wrongly entered Sourabh Singh

Pathania whereas his correct name is

Sourabh Pathania. Concerned note.

COURT NOTICES

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of

Ms. Kiran Bala

Additional Principal Judge

Family Court, Dasuya.

2. Amarjit Singh S/o Jiwan

Neha Kaur W/o Amarjit

Singh both resident of Kunj

Gali Ward No. 7 Urmur

Tehsil Dasuya District

Versus

Jatinder Kumar S/o Rattan

Chand R/o Village Jandiala

Guru Tehsil and District

CNR No.

PBHOF2-000865-2019

Next Date: - 03.08.2021

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

For details logon to

https://highcourtchd.gov.in/

?trs=district notice&district=

hoshiarpur

Dated, this day of 20.04.2021

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of

Paramjit Kaur

Additional Principal Judge

Family Court-I, Jalandhar.

Versus

CNR No.:

PBJL01-006575-2020

Next Date: 23.07.2021

dissolution of marriage by a

Sandeep Singh Father: - Sohan

In above titled case, the

defendant(s)/respondent(s) could

not be served. It is ordered that

should appear in person or

through counsel on 23.07.2021 at

For details logon to

https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?

trs=district notice&district=

jalandhar

Dated, this day of 16.04.2021.

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of

Poonam R Joshi

Jalandhar.

Sd/- Additional Principal Judge

respondent(s)

Family Court-I,

Jalandhar.

Lal Daulowal Tehsil and District

Hindu Marriage Act

Publication issued to:

decree of divorce.

Hoshiarpur.

defendant(s)/

10.00 a.m.

CL21014811

Petition Under section 13 of

Sd/- Additional Principal

Judge Family Court,

Dasuya.

03.08.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

son of Sukhdial Singh,

PO

that

Minjgrah,

my son's

District Kangra

Singh. (CL21015014)

(CL21015031)

Village Banoli,

(CL21015167)

Singh.

Hoshiarpur.

Amritsar.

General Public

CL21014809

Jalandhar.

Hoshiarpur.

2. General Public

Publication issued to:

(HP),

Jawali,

declare

(CL21015141)

SITUATION VACANT

Diploma Mechanical or ITI (Fitter), salary 10000- 15000 Rs., location-Mohali. 87278-80300. (CL21014974) Soori Hospital, Bhadi Road, Balachaur, SBS Nagar, requires immediately hospitaly experienced staff, good salary. Immediate contact Dr. Bhupinder Singh Soori, MBBS (Radiologist) 98031-84007. (CL21015166)

MEDICAL/SURGICAL

Covid Beds with ventilator and ECMO facility available. New Lifeline Hospital, Zirakpur. 98141-04203. (CL21015142)

COURT NOTICES

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Paramjit Kaur Additional Principal Judge Family Court-1, Jalandhar, Camp Court at Nakodar. Daljit Kaur

Petition U/s 6 and 13 of HMA

Kulvir Singh Nahal

and GW Act read with Section 7 of the GW Act 1890 for granting custody of minor child Harekam Singh Nahal (DOB 06.11.2013) minor son of the petitioner for all intends and purposes.

CNR No. PBJL01-006548-2020 Next Date: - 28.07.2021 Publication issued to: Kulvir Singh Nahal

Father: Gian Singh R/o Village Jandiali, P.O- Jamsher Khas District Jalandhar at present residing at 5826, 175-A, Street Surrey BC V3S4B5, Canada.

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 28.07.2021 at 10:00

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs= district notice&district=jalandhar Dated, this day of 06.04.2021. Sd/- Additional Principal Judge Family Court-1, Jalandhar, Camp Court at Nakodar.

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

0172-2670319, 2670250, 2670442 E-mail at

circulation@tribunemail.com **Advertisement:** Classified: 0172-2670257, 2670338 E-mail at

classified@tribunemail.com **Display:** 0172-2670256, 2670342 E-mail at advt@tribunemail.com

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of

Ms. Jagdeep Kaur Virk, Principal Judge Family Court, Moga. Sahib Singh Versus Kamaljit Kaur

CNR No. PBMO01-003053-2020 Next Date: 28.07.2021 issued Publication

Kamaljit Kaur, Father: Malkeet Singh R/o Roopa Patti, Village Rode, Tehsil Baghapurana, Distt. Moga. Moga, Punjab. 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 28.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

this day Dated, 30.04.2021.

Principal Judge Family Court, CL21011847

Moga. (U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC) (Under Guardian and Ward Act)

CNR No.:

PBJL01-011619-2020

Next Date: 06.08.2021

Wards Act

Notice to:

at 10.00 a.m.

1. General Public

District Jalandhar.

Petition Under Guardian and

2. Kulwinder Singh s/o Piara

Singh resident of Village

Talhan, Tehsil Phillaur,

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 06.08.2021

For details logon to

https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?

trs=district notice&district=

jalandhar

Dated, this day of 04.05.2021.

Family Court Camp Court at

Sd/- Principal Judge,

Principal Judge, Family Court, In the Court of Poonam R Joshi Lakhwinder Singh s/o Harbans Principal Judge, Family Court, Singh Address: Village Gobindpur Camp Court at Phillaur. PO Nijiran, Distt. Jalandhar.

Kulwinder Kaur d/o Surinder Versus Singh r/o Village Rajowal, Socorro Blanco w/o Lakhwinder Phillaur, District Tehsil Singh d/o Leaned Blanco Address: Jalandhar. Versus 1. General Public and Others

VPO Kohala, Distt. Jalandhar presently at 1011 N Rose ST Escondido CA 92027 California CNR No.: PBJL01-010849-2020

Next Date: 10.08.2021 Petition Under Section 13 of Hindu Marriage Act for dissolution of marriage by a decree of divorce. Publication issued to:

Socorro Blanco Spouse:-Lakhwinder Singh d/o Leaned Blanco VPO Kohala, Distt. Jalandhar presently at 1011 N Rose Escondido CA 92027

California USA. 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 10.08.2021 at 10.00

details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs= district notice&district= jalandhar Dated, this day of 28.04.2021.

Sd/- Principal Judge, Family Court, ep@pel014602buneindPaillaom | CL21014812 Jalandhar.

Granthiseeks release of dera chief, arrested

BATHINDA, MAY 20

A priest at a gurdwara in Bir Talab village in Bathinda district "offered prayers" for the release of Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim. In a video gone viral on social media platforms, the granthi can be seen doing an 'ardas' for a Dalit chief minister in the state and release of the jailed dera chief.

After a complaint was given by advocate Harpal Singh Khara and other lawyers to the Bathinda SSP against the priest for making a "politically-motivated ardas" which could vitiate the atmosphere in the state, the police arrested the priest.

SSP Bhupinderjit Singh Virk said, "After getting a complaint, we have arrested the priest and booked him under Section 295A of the IPC. We are investigating the matter and further action will be taken based on our findings. There are certain unscrupulous elements who are trying to disturb peace. Their role is being probed thoroughly." Meanwhile, a letter issued by Kaushal Kumar, Director, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, has sought an action taken report in the matter. The commission has decided to investigate the matter under powers conferred upon it under Article 338 of the Constitution. — TNS

Denial of protection to live-in couple travesty of justice: HC

Says such relations may not be acceptable to all, but they aren't illegal

SAURABH MALIK

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20 Clearing the air on the contentious issue of providing protection to a couple living together without tying the knot, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has made it clear that livein relationships may not be acceptable to all, but could not be termed illegal. The Bench also made it clear that denial of protection to a live-in couple would be a mockery of justice and it was not for the courts to judge

Justice Jaishree Thakur also ruled that even the family could not raise an objection and cause a hindrance in peaceful existence, if a major chose a partner. It was for the state to ensure their protection and personal liberty.

them on their decision.

The judgment comes less than a week after another Bench rejected a live-in couple's protection plea as such a step could potentially "disturb the social fabric". Justice Thakur added living together without marriage could not be said



equal protection of laws as any other citizen of the country. Justice Sudhir Mittal also ruled that an individual had the right to formalise a relationship through marriage or adopt a non-formal approach of a live-in relationship. Justice Mittal said social acceptance for live-in-relationships was on the rise. In law, such a relationship was not prohibited and did not amount to commission of any offence.

to constitute an offence. "If the petitioners have not committed any offence, this court sees no reason why their prayer for protection cannot be acceded to. With due respect to judgments rendered by the coordinate Benches, who have denied protection to couples in live in relationship, this court is unable to adopt the same view."

judgments, Justice Violence Act, a woman in a

Thakur asserted the court in the past and also recently allowed protection to runaway couples in a live-in relationship. Protection was also provided where marriage was invalid. Different High Courts, too, had allowed protection to unmarried runaway couples. Justice Thakur added

even under the Protection Quoting a plethora of of Women from Domestic

'domestic relationship' was provided protection and maintenance. The word 'wife' had not been used under the Act. As such, Parliament accorded adequate protection to women livein-partners and the children of live-in-couples. Justice Thakur further

added one could not lose sight

of honour killings prevalent

in northern India, particular-

ly in parts of Punjab,

Haryana, Rajasthan and

Uttar Pradesh. It was a result

of people marrying without family acceptance, at times outside their caste or religion. Justice Thakur observed: "It would be a travesty of justice in case protection is denied to persons opting to reside together without the sanctity of marriage, and such persons have to face dire consequences at the hands of persons from whom protection is sought. In case such a course is adopted and protection denied, the courts would also be failing in their duty to provide citizens a right to their life and liberty as enshrined under Article 21

of the Constitution of and to

Rahul to hear out MLAs amid crisis

uphold to the rule of law."



The Tribune

Four cops hurt in clash during raid on smugglers

PATIALA, MAY 20

On a visit to check liquor smuggling, four police personnel were injured after being allegedly attacked by a few locals using firearms at Jagatpura village of the district today. Three villagers, too, were

injured in the attack. While a head constable and a villager sustained a bullet injury, the police have registered two FIRs in the case. The police said the raid was

initially carried out on Wednesday night, but a family of smugglers, against whom over a dozen FIRs were pending, overpowered them. Patiala SP (Investigation) Harmeet Singh Hundal said the police team fired into the air in self-defence as some villagers had attacked them with rods and even opened fire on them. "Head Constable Raja Singh sustained a bullet injury in his thigh, while three other cops were injured after they were attacked with rods," Hundal said. — TNS

DISCLAIMER The Tribune Trust does

not take responsibility for the contents of the advertisements

(Display/ Classified) carried in this newspaper. The paper

does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the contents on their own before acting there upon.'

CLASSIFIEDS

COURT NOTICES

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Paramjit Kaur Additional Principal Judge

Family Court-1, Jalandhar.

Diksha aged about 23 years w/o Himanshu Salwan aged about 33 Sandeep Singh d/o Kulwinder years S/o Vinod Salwan R/o 28/29 Kumar r/o Village Dhadha P.O. Dada Colony Jalandhar also at Via Hazara, Tehsil and District Cannetalli N 50 Mentana RM Italy through his attorney Vinod Salwan S/o Late Sh. Muni Lal R/o 28/29 Sandeep Singh s/o Sohan Lal r/o Dada Colony Jalandhar Daulowal, Tehsil and District

Versus Punita Punita W/o Himanshu Salwan D/o Rakesh R/o-2135, Mondiga AVE, Sanjose CA95122

Petition Under Section 13 of Hindu Marriage Act for dissolution

of Marriage by a decree of divorce. CNR No. PBJL01-000161-2019 Next:- 09.08.2021

Publication issued to:

Spouse:- Himanshu Salwan D/o Rakesh R/o 2135, Mondiga AVE Sanjose CA95122 USA.

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 09.08.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs= district notice&district=jalandhar Dated, this day of 06.05.2021.

Additional Principal Judge Family Court-1 CL21014814 Jalandhar

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC) In the Court of Sh. Deepak Kumar Choudhary Additional Principal Judge

Family Court,

Amaritsar. Paramjit Kaur aged about 44 years wife of Mohinderjit Singh Rakalla, daughter of Tarlok Singh resident of House No. 368 Green Field, Majitha Road, Amritsar, Punjab India now at present House No. 243, Akash Avenue, FGC Road, Amritsar.

Mohinderjit Singh Rakalla CNR No. PBAS01-008635-2020

Next Date: 12.08.2021 Petition under Section 13 of Hindu Marriage Act 1955 (Act No. 25 of 1955) for Dissolution of Marriage between the parties on the ground cruelty and desertion by way of decree of Divorce as amended upto date.

Publication issued to: Mohinderjit Singh Rakalla Father: Pritam Singh, r/o at present Apartment 3129, Box 130 2500 Washington AVE Sansom Park

TX46114 USA, Mobile No. 1(630)8789833 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

12.08.2021 at 10.00 am. For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs= district notice&district=amritsar. Dated, this day of 13.04.2021.

Additional Principal Judge Family Court, CL21014816

Top brass watching troublemakers: Jakhar

PPCC president

Sunil Jakhar today cautioned "a few self-styled" party leaders who were trying to inflame dissidence by questioning Capt Amarinder Singh over delay in justice to the families of police firing victims, saying the party high command was keeping a close watch on them. The state government and

the Congress high command were serious about it and justice would be assured in the case, he said. "In these challenging times due to Covid-19 and the adverse High Court judgment over the Kotkapura police firing case, a few leaders are trying to hijack



the core issue and fulfil their hidden political ambitions," he observed. Referring to the May 18 meeting at Charanjit Channi's residence, Jakhar said: "By giving false figures of the people reportedly attending their meetings, some leaders are creating the illusion of leading a campaign that is a figment of their own imagination."—TNS

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20 The intervention of the Congress high command to end the crisis in the Punjab Congress will begin with party's former president Rahul Gandhi holding one-on-ones with state ministers, MLAs and MPs over the next few days.

A senior party leader privy to the development said Gandhi is expected to meet 10 to 15 state Congress leaders a day.

The initial plan of the high command to send an emissary to Punjab to interact with party leaders has not materialised. Before the meeting with Gandhi, state affairs in charge and AICC general secretary Harish

Will hold one-on-ones with Cong leaders over next few days

MUST SPEAK UP

66 In 2019, I began & ended my poll campaign seeking justice for sacrilege of Guru Granth Sahib... Now, our MLAs and party workers must go to Delhi and speak the truth to our high command, asl regularly

Apart from interacting with the Chief Minister, party president Sonia Gandhi is in touch with a few state leaders. "The party high command is listening to leaders of the Chief Minister's camp and those who were questioning the CM over the delay in giving justice to the families of the police firing incidents. The adverse high court judgment on the Kotkapura police firing cases had created a crisis in the party. The party high command is working out a formula to make the CM take on the perpetrators of sacrilege and police firing cases,"

said a senior leader.

Rawat will visiting the state

to meet the dissident leaders.

Agri officers strike work

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

Hundreds of senior officers of the Agriculture Department, including agriculture development officers, deputy directors and joint directors, started a two-day strike today to protest the failure of the state government in filling vacancies of technocrats at the top level by promoting junior eligible officers.

The officers shunned official work, though they continued to provide farmers with extension services. They raised slogans outside district offices and blamed the government for not being sympathetic to their demands.

An official press release by the Agriculture Technocrats Action Committee

Guarantor(s)

(Guarantor)

60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Protest govt 'failure' in filling vacant posts

said though technocrats were the main force behind Green Revolution and increasing crop production in the state, the government had failed to acknowledge their contribution in making the state among the top foodgrain producers in the country.

"While eligible candidates are awaiting promotion, the services provided by the department to farmers are adversely hit as each officer was forced to look after two to three districts as vacancies remained unfilled," said the release. — TNS

[Rule-8(1)] Possession Notice (For Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised officer of the State Bank Of India, under the Securitisation

and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (No. 3 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement)

Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice to borrower(s)/guarantor(s), on the date mentioned hereunder, calling

upon the borrower(s) / guarantor(s), to repay the amount mentioned in the respective demand notice, within

The borrower(s) / guarantor(s) having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower (s)

guarantor(s) and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **possession** of the properties

Khaira dares Sukhbir to debate

JALANDHAR, MAY 20

Bholath MLA and former Leader of Opposition Sukhpal Singh Khaira today challenged former Deputy CM Sukhbir Badal for an open debate on the sacrilege issue at a



time and place of his choice. Khaira alleged incidents of sacrilege and sub-

sequent killing of two persons at Behbal Kalan on October 14, 2015, would not have occurred had there been no theatrics to please the Dera Sacha Sauda head for cheap electoral gains at the cost of antagonising of the Sikh sentiments. Khaira listed out 10 posers for Sukhbir on the issue. — TNS

BRANCH OFFICE: Nehru Gate Batala,District

Date of Notice

Norms changed, rice millers cry foul

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

do! Navjot Singh

Sidhu, cong leader

Rice millers in Punjab have criticised the state government for changing the Custom Milling Rice (CMR) Policy, whereby a part of the security deposited for milling of rice has been made non-refundable.

The policy for 2020-21 has made it mandatory for all mills in the state to give a security of Rs 10 lakh, before they get the paddy for milling. Of this, Rs 5 lakh is non-refundable security.

Claiming that the decision was taken arbitrarily by the Food and Supply Department last year, millers said it had led to their working capital fund getting blocked. Denying the charge, the department said the decision was taken after due consultations with the millers.

Taking to The Tribune, Prem Goel, a Sunam-based rice miller, said the government had been increasing the security each year Part of security deposit



since 2018-19. "In the CMR policy 2018-19, the security was Rs 5 lakh, which was increased to Rs 7.25 lakh next year and to Rs 10 lakh in 2020-21. The Food and Supply Department made Rs 5 lakh non-refundable security, which is against the principles of business. This decision should be withdrawn," he said.

Food and Supply minister Bharat Bhushan Ashu said the millers had themselves agreed to the policy. "However, if millers have a problem, it can be discussed in the next few months, when the new policy is to be formulated," he said. — TNS

ANTIM ARDAS

With profound grief we inform you of the sad passing away of Senior Advocate S. Jagmohan Singh Chaudhary on 7th May. Antim Ardas for the peace of the departed soul will be held on 23 May at 12 pm. We respectfully suggest that you pray from your homes to observe safety during this Covid pandemic or virtually attend via Zoom at https://bit.ly/3f0RGhr (Meeting ID: 894 5514 0942 Passcode 134431).

Grief Stricken:-Kuldeep Chaudhary (88474-82134) Ajaypal & Jasreet Dhanoa (98150-02002)

Col. Gurpal Dhanoa (98783-58841)

described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under sub section (4) of section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on the date mentioned against The borrower(s) / guarantor(s) in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property / properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of the

State Bank of India, Nehru Gate Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur for an amount of being less amount of recovery made, if any other charges / expenses, costs, thereon. The borrower's/ Guarantors attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Property

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Amount **Description of the** Date of Date of **Outstanding the** Borrower(s)/ **Demand** Possession

Notice

Notice

(1) Jagir Singh s / o Sh. Gyan A Suburban triple storey 17.03.2021 19.05.2021 Rs.05,61,629/- as or Singh resident of H. no .196, residential building, #196 Uttam Nagar, Model town 17.03.2021 plus future Uttam Nagar , Model Town Chowk , Batala Plot measuring 5 marla Interest and other Chowk, Batala.(2) Sh.Sukhdev (with 5.5' Karam) bearing khasra no.10//22/1/1:,15// charges Singh S/o Sh.Ajit Singh resident 1/2 situated at Kutbi Nangal Tehsil Batala District Gurdaspur registered vide of H.no.10 ,V.P.O Dulan Nangal vasika no.1371 , bahi.no.1 , jild.no.3130 page.no.31 dated: 18/06/2002 ir Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur the name of Sh. Jagir Singh and bounded as under: East: Street, West:

Date:21.05.2021 Place:BATALA **Authorised Officer**

Street, North: Street, South: Kuljeet Kaur.

CHANDIGARH | FRIDAY | 21 MAY 2021

Govt: 9,896 O₂ cylinders delivered on doorstep

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

The Haryana Government today claimed to have almost overcome the problem of oxygen supplies by ensuring the timely delivery of the gas cylinders at the doorstep of the homeisolated patients.

The entire administrative machinery, under Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, has been on its toes to ensure that oxygen was available adequately enough to meet the needs of patients in hospitals and home alike, said an official spokesperson.

As of today, a provision of 13,949 oxygen beds has been made in the state, besides the provision of 5,350 ventilators/ICU beds.

In addition, a total of 9,896 oxygen cylinders have been delivered in the state against the request for 15,396. Officials, however, found that 5,473 requests for the oxygen cylinders were not in order.

A state-level control room has been in operation in



The state receives around 240 MT of oxygen daily. FILE

RAMPING UP INFRASTRUCTURE

13,949 5,350 ventilators oxygen beds



Chandigarh round the clock to keep a watch on the supplies and requirements of oxygen coming from the districts, while the Chief Minister has directed the officials to make sure that oxygen was available at the doorstep of the needy persons.

At present, in Haryana around 240 MT of oxygen is coming daily from seven

different locations in the country and nodal officers have been appointed to ensure that the tankers are evacuated timely and oxygen supplies reach the decided destination.

For the treatment of Covid patients in rural areas, five to 20 D-type oxygen gas cylinders are being arranged at each community health centre.

G'gram, F'bad & Sirsa witness maximum black fungus cases

BHARTESH SINGH THAKUR

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

As the Centre today asked the states to notify black fungus (mucormycosis) as an epidemic, such cases have started rising in Haryana, affecting patients who have recently recovered from Covid.

Gurugram, Faridabad and Sirsa are leading in reporting this rare fungal infection.

Total 268 cases have been detected in the state till today. The highest number of cases have been reported from Gurugram at 109, followed by 40 from Faridabad, 24 from Sirsa, 23 from Hisar, 20 from Rohtak, 11 from Karnal, 10 from Bhiwani, eight from Panipat, seven from Ambala, five from Fatehabad, four from Panchkula, three from Rewari, two from Jind and one each from Sonepat and Palwal.

Though not contagious, it can be fatal if not detected early. So far, eight deaths have been confirmed — four from Sirsa, three from Gurugram and one from Sonepat. Black fungus has its blackening characteristic, with the invasive fungal infection affecting nose, ears, mouth and brain.

Experts say mucormycosis is caused by steroid therapy in Covid patients. "Haryana was the first state that declared mucormycosis as a notified disease. It makes it mandatory for a government or private hospital to report any case of this rare infection to the CMO of the district," said Health Minister Anil Vij.

Gurugram	109	Ambala	7
Faridabad	40	Fatehabad	5
Sirsa	24	Panchkula	4
Hisar	23	Rewari	3
Rohtak	20	Jind	2
Karnal	11	Palwal	1
Bhiwani	10	Sonepat	1
Panipat	8	Total	268
	Sirsa Hisar Rohtak Karnal Bhiwani	Sirsa 24 Hisar 23 Rohtak 20 Karnal 11 Bhiwani 10	Sirsa 24 Panchkula Hisar 23 Rewari Rohtak 20 Jind Karnal 11 Palwal Bhiwani 10 Sonepat

Linking 5G with virus to invite action

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MAY 20

The state government today told DCs and SPs to take "strict, coercive and immediate" action against those spreading rumours regarding 5G testing being responsible for the spread of the Covid pandemic.

Chief Secretary Vijay Vardhan today wrote to the DCs and SPs, saying that misinformation about telecom towers being responsible for deaths prompted some miscreants to damage the telecom infrastructure.

"The WHO has already clarified that all rumours concerning the 5G testing are misplaced as virus cannot travel on radio waves or mobile network," he said.

The Department of Telecommunication has also clarified that linking 5G network to the Covid pandemic has no scientific basis.

Telecom operators had clarified the rumours were spreading at a time when 5G testing had not even started in the country and the government had only given permission in this regard

Rates of Covid tests capped

KARNAL, MAY 20

Taking note of the complaints of overcharging for tests related to Covid diagnosis and treatment, the District Magistrate (DM) capped the prices for private laboratories and hospitals in the district.

"It has come to my notice that private labs/hospitals are charging high prices from residents for conducting the tests related to Covid, which is an additional financial burden on the patients and their family members. Therefore, we have fixed the rates of testing and scans," said Nishant Kumar Yadav, DM. — TNS



Dated: 14.05.2021

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AWANTIPORA. KASHMIR

Tele: 01933-247954/247955 Website: www.iust.ac.in **Appointment of Vice Chancellor**

Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) has been established by Act No. XVIII of 2005 of the Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir. The "Search Committee" constituted by the Hon'ble Chancellor of the University (Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K) is seeking applications/nominations for the position of Vice Chancellor, IUST. Last date for submission of application forms is 15-06-2021 Detailed advertisement notice is available on University website www.iust.ac.in No: IUST/Reg/Adm/21/E/171 Sd/- Prof. Naseer Iqbal (Registrar)



BABA FARID UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES SADIQ ROAD, FARIDKOT (PUNJAB) - 151203 Ph.: 01639 - 256232, 256236

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE E-tenders are invited by Baba Farid University of Health Sciences on behalf of Dept. of Medical Education & Research, Govt. of Punjab for supply and Installation of Deep/ Ultra Freezer -80° C for COVID-19 testing labs (COVID-LAB) at various Institutes/ places situated in Punjab upto 26.05.2021.

Other terms & conditions can be downloaded from http://eproc.punjab.gov.in. The tenders will be accepted in e-tender mode only. Bidder can also download tender notification and document from university website:- www.bfuhs.ac.in REGISTRAR

FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA REGIONAL OFFICE (PUNJAB)
BAY NO. 34-38, SECTOR-31-A, Chandigarh No.J.1(5)/OSW/OMSS(D)/BC/2020-21/Guard Dated: 20.05.2021 Sale of Wheat under OMSS (D) through E-AUCTION during May & June-2021

Scheme 1: S	ale of Wheat to Bulk	Buyers/Pvt. Traders
Following are the dates of events for a	above schemes of E-a	uctions.
Tender Uploading Date & Starting Date for Deposition of EMD	Last Date for Depositing EMD	Starting and Ending Date and Time for Online Bidding
21.05.2021	25.05.2021	27.05.2021 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM
28.05.2021	01.06.2021	02.06.2021 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM
04.06.2021	08.06.2021	09.06.2021 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM
11.06.2021	15.06.2021	16.06.2021 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM
18.06.2021	22.06.2021	23.06.2021 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM
25.06.2021	29.06.2021	30.06.2021 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM

50 lakh towards sale of food grain under OMSS(D) (but excludes the sale of food grains to State Government/Central Government) For any query M/s Metal Junction Services Ltd. may be contacted in helpline at 18001027136, E-Mail ID-

Tax collection at Source (TCS) @ 0.1% needs to be collected from buyer on the sale consideration exceeding Rs.

fcihelpdesk@mjunction.in/www.valuejunction.in/fci and fci.gov.in. and Regional Office (Punjab) Chandigarh at agmcomlpb.fci@gov.in, Phone No- 0172-2638048. Asstt Genl Manager (Comml) for General Manager (Region) epaper.tribuneindia.com

No death due to Covid at Singhu: Farm leaders

MUKESH TANDON

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE **SONEPAT, MAY 20**

Farm leaders of 32 groups of the protesting unions of Punjab on Thursday said that no farmer had died due to Covid at the Singhu border.

They alleged that the government was making a conspiracy to defame their protest by spreading lies about the death of a farmer due to coronavirus.

Farmer leaders Harender Singh Lakhowal and Kulwinder Singh Sandhu, after a meeting of 32 protesting farmer unions held in Kisan Andolan office in Kundli on Thursday, said no farmer had died due to Covid at the Singhu border.

Farmer Balbir Singh of Shankarpur village of Patiala district died due to diabetes as his sugar dipped all of a sudden, while another farmer died due to cardiac arrest.

They also said that if the farmer had died due to Covid, why had the Health Department conducted his postmortem? As per the WHO

REASONS: HEART ATTACK, DIABETES

66 Farmer Balbir Singh of Patiala district died due to diabetes as his sugar level dipped all of a sudden, while another farmer died of cardiac arrest. FARM LEADERS

guidelines, postmortem could not be conducted of a Covid positive patient.

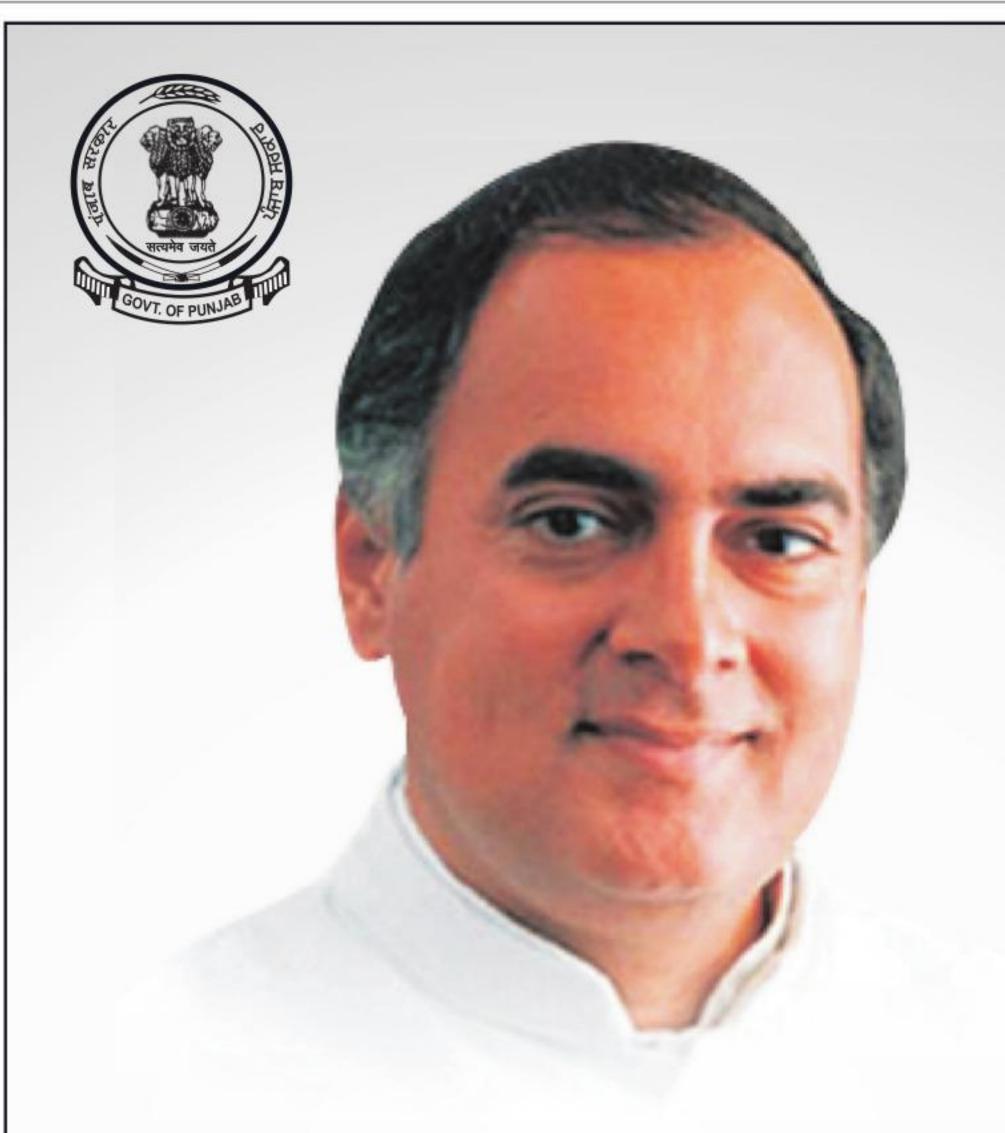
Sandhu said the farmer

unions were concerned about the spread of Covid and to curb this, they had been giving immunity boosters to the protesting farmers regularly.

Sources said the farmers had made a strategy to burn an effigy of the Central Government in all villages and cities across the country on May 26 on the completion of six months of farmers' protest at Delhi borders against the three farm laws and on the completion of seven years of the Central government on the same day.

Meanwhile, the farmer leaders have decided to increase the number of protesters at Delhi borders to intensify the agitation. Besides, the farmer leaders discussed to launch a campaign against the BJP in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand in view of the upcoming Assembly elections.

Sandhu said they had discussed several points at the meeting, but the final decision would be taken at the Samyukt Kisan Morcha meeting which is scheduled for Friday.



Remembering

Sh. Rajiv Gandhi

on his

30th Death Anniversary

'We are on the threshold of a mighty revolution... it is a revolution that will bring democracy to the doorsteps of crores of Indians.'

66 With these words late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had ushered in the Panchayati Raj revolution in the country back in 1989, empowering millions of our people in villages. Today, as we pay tributes to him, we pledge to harness the power of the Panchayats in Punjab to fight the Covid pandemic that is fast spreading in our villages. That would be the most befitting tribute to the great leader, whose vision for India continues to steer our values and goals. 99

> Capt. Amarinder Singh Chief Minister, Punjab



Department of Information & Public Relations, Punjab

The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Strain storm

Kejriwal's Singapore rant a case of skewed priorities

Nill-informed tweet by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal about a 'new' coronavirus strain triggered a war of words between the Central and state governments, besides impacting diplomatic relations between India and Singapore. Kejriwal had on Tuesday claimed that a new variant originating in Singapore, said to be very dangerous for children, could reach Delhi in the form of the third wave. He had urged the Centre to snap the air link with that country and work on vaccine alternatives for children on priority. Singapore's vehement denial showed the CM in a poor light. The island city-state's health ministry made it clear that the strain prevalent in many of the Covid-19 cases reported there in recent weeks was the B.1.617.2 variant, which had originated in India.

The scaremongering, which was entirely avoidable, left the Indian government red-faced, prompting External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to clarify that the Delhi CM did not 'speak for India'. In another damage-control exercise, the Indian High Commissioner rightly told the Singapore government that Kejriwal had 'no competence' to comment on Covid variants. The Centre simply could not afford to let the situation spin out of control, considering that Singapore is a trusted ally which recently came to India's aid by providing much-needed medical oxygen.

Boasting a robust healthcare system, Singapore has handled Covid-19 pretty well so far, reporting just 30-odd deaths since early last year. However, a fresh superspreading cluster has made the Southeast Asian country proactively impose tighter restrictions, including the closure of schools. With such a track record, it's natural for Singapore to get upset when somebody casts aspersions on it without rhyme or reason. Kejriwal should have done a thorough fact-check before taking to social media and triggering a needless controversy. In his overzealousness to make Delhi future-ready, he should not lose sight of the immediate priorities — to ensure that the Capital has adequate oxygen, ICU beds, medicines, crematoria and vaccines during the ongoing second wave. He will also be well advised not to meddle in bilateral affairs, which are the exclusive domain of the Centre.

Protecting privacy

WhatsApp should ensure risk-free data sharing

OCIAL media platform WhatsApp continues to be at loggerheads with the government over its controversial revised privacy policy, with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology saying it is unfair for the company to impose discriminatory conditions to strengthen its position in the Indian market. The company, in turn, has clarified that the new privacy policy was needed to make business accounts function better. But there have been reservations over the company's decision to withdraw or restrict some of the functions of the app, as the same conditions do not apply to many other countries. There have also been question marks over transparency, as users question the platform's need to collect so much of data in the guise of protecting commercial interests.

WhatsApp had been at the receiving end earlier also when it was alleged that the platform was being used to forward messages whose authenticity could not be verified, leading to proliferation of fake news. It had led the platform to effect changes in its features to prevent this. There have also been reports of data mined from social media platforms being used to influence the electoral prospects of candidates. In times of the pandemic, with most work and even political functioning switching over to the digital form, the need for privacy and checking intrusion will be felt even more. While the company claims its messages are end-to-end encrypted and can neither be read nor stored, its need for sharing of data calls for more scrutiny.

Concerns over storage and privacy of data have been there even in the case of Aadhaar and the Aarogya Setu app with chances of a possible leakage and misuse. With every detail of a person available at the click of a mouse, privacy concerns are justified. While the government as well as the company may have a point in storing data to streamline their functioning, remove hassles and benefit the people, the hazards too are for real. India badly needs a national privacy policy to ensure uniform management and regulation of data.



Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance. — **Samuel Johnson**

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

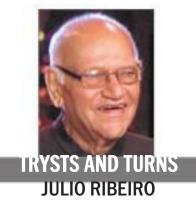
LAHORE, SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1921

THE SIMLA INTERVIEWS.

PEOPLE all over India are naturally anxious to know if any good will come out of the long interviews which Lord Reading is reported to have granted to non-co-operation leaders and other prominent men in the country. Mr. Gandhi is reported to have had long talks with His Excellency on three different occasions and Lala Lajpat Rai and Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya have also discussed the present situation with the Viceroy. At a speech at Simla, Mr. Gandhi himself declared that he "could not say either one way or the other about the success of this interview." He added that it might both be called as successful and unsuccessful. It is obvious that he has gained some of his objects by his discussion with His Excellency and has failed in others. He, however, assured his countrymen that as long as they stood by non-violence and the spirit of sacrifice for the cause of justice to their country, no power on earth could check them from the attainment of Swarajya within this year. Thus, he has once again reiterated his belief that Swaraj would be gained in a year's time, which is also nearing its end and which has heightened the expectations of some and the curiosity of others. On the speculative danger of a supposed Afghan invasion, he declared that as long as he lived he could not tolerate any part of his country under foreign domination. It is inferable from this that Mr. Gandhi enjoins on his countrymen once more that Swaraj is attainable very soon by pursuing non-co-operation and maintaining strict non-violence and a spirit of sacrifice for the country. He, therefore, disowns those who resort to violence and incitement to crime as well as those who would tolerate or perhaps welcome Afghan invasion of India for certain purposes.

Two bright stars amid gloom

Municipal Commissioner and Collector show how to fight Covid



HIS is a tale of two IAS officers from Maharashtra. One is Iqbal Singh Chahal, hailing from Punjab, the son of a former Armoured Corps officer, Lt Col MS Chahal, and the son-in-law of Ajit Singh Chatha, a former Chief Secretary of Punjab.

The other, Dr Rajendra Bharud, a tribal from the Bhil community, the son of a single mother who toiled in the fields of landowners to feed and educate her three children. He is presently Collector and District Magistrate of Nandurbar, a tribal-dominated district of Maharashtra, bordering Gujarat and MP. The Bhil community predominates in the triangle that comprises contiguous land traversing the three states.

But let me begin with Maharashtra's CM, Uddhav Thackeray, whose positive leadership qualities enabled these officers to demonstrate theirs. When he installed Chahal as Municipal Commissioner of Mumbai, a post much coveted by the state's senior bureaucrats, he told the officer that in the case of success in combating Covid, he (Chahal) should take all credit and feel free to speak to the media without looking over his shoulder for the CM's approval. If, however, success eluded him, then the CM would take the rap and speak to the media. These are words and thoughts of a good leader. It is the duty of the political leadership to select the proper man for the right job and then leave the execution of the task to the one selected.

Chahal came with the reputation of cutting corners, at times, but getting the work done. Covid presented an opportunity to officers to prove their worth. People facing possible death want to know what you are going to do



COMMUNITY HEROES: Iqbal Singh Chahal (L) and Dr Rajendra Bharud are ready for the third wave, should it strike. TWITTER & FACEBOOK

Determination and planning allowed them to improvise and mobilise resources to minimise Covid fatalities.

to give them hope and succour.

And that hope Chahal provided in ample measure. He assumed the mantle of the city's Municipal Commissioner on May 8 and hit the ground running. He began with a mammoth meeting of his 24 ward officers and their seniors, many of them from the IAS, that very evening. The meeting lasted several hours, enabling the new MC to acquaint himself with the problems and the men and women who would be assisting him in the task of solving those problems.

He has emerged triumphant. The citizens of Mumbai have declared him a hero. Hard work, common sense and his father's Army background all contributed to the success of his mission. The Control Room in his office was relieved of the thankless task of allotting beds. Twenty-four 'war rooms' were established in every municipal ward. Each of the wards had to keep track of the beds available on a daily basis and allocate them to patients in relation to the severity of each individual case. ICU beds with ventilators were assigned to the really bad cases and oxygen-hooked beds to those whose oxygen saturation level

was below 92. Doctors were on duty in three shifts, their number having been supplemented by hiring 1,100 recently qualified medical graduates, each on a salary of Rs 50,000 per month. These young boys and girls are on an eight-hour shift in ambulances, 10 of which are on call in each war room at any one time. Nearly 800 Innovas were requisitioned and converted temporarily into ambulances. As the first point of contact in homes, these young doctors were to decide whether the patient required hospitalisation or whether he or she could be treated while at quarantine at home.

In short, Chahal restructured the entire Covid response mechanism and made it function as clockwork. He was ably assisted by a newly motivated staff. He is preparing for a third wave. Seven jumbo hospitals with a thousand beds each have been set up. Equipment, personnel, medicines, oxygen, etc., have been taken into account. The management of these hospitals will be entrusted to nearby private hospitals with established reputations. The idea is to associate the name of the well-known hospital with the new centre. All in all, a great job by a great son of India, and of

Punjab! More power to his elbow. The dedication to a task displayed by Chahal has found an echo in the achievements of Dr Bharud, a medical graduate selected for the IAS in 2012. This 33-year-old officer had to contend with primitive medical facilities and a population of 16 lakh, mostly illiterate or poorly educated, living in far-off villages and hamlets and lacking even simple mobile phones. He had to adapt to a system of communication that relied on physical contact through messengers. The villagers were reluctant to take the vaccination jabs and that was another job he was compelled to undertake—to educate his own people on the need for protection from the dreaded disease. He improvised, planned, and motivated his juniors and his mighthave-been fraternity, the local doctors' community, to rise to the occasion.

His exemplary work was brought to my notice by my friend and fellow activist, Shailesh Gandhi, who spent a few fruitful years with the Central government as a Central Information Commissioner appointed from the ranks of RTI activists. Shailesh intends to honour Dr Bharud in a virtual meeting later this month, where he has invited me to participate. It is important for citizens to acknowledge any exemplary work done by our public servants in order to motivate others of their ilk to work for the public good.

Dr Bharud's district now has five oxygen plants installed in-house in the five hospitals spread over the district. It cost Rs 85 lakh to install each plant and it took just 10 days to construct each. The funds were available with the District Planning and Development Council. He recruited 200 doctors/nurses/ancillary staff to man the 2,000 extra beds he had added in the hospitals between the first wave and the second. He is ready for the third, should it strike.

Like I saluted Chahal, let me salute Bharud, another great son of a great country. While Chahal came with a small silver spoon in his mouth, Bharud is a shining example of what education and perseverance can do to lift the poor and the dispossessed out of the morass in which they are born.

Saving lives at the cost of their own

RK Saboo

Doctor'. It is a noble profession and doctors are bound by the professional oath of honesty, integrity, transparency, confidentiality, respectfulness and lawfulness. In the present pandemic, the doctors are in the frontline, serving tirelessly at risk to their lives. Some have become martyrs. They deserve our salutation and gratitude.

Even outside the pandemic, doctors go beyond their duty, facing tremendous challenges. I have witnessed, time and again, the extraordinary competence, commitment and courage of our doctors. Starting from Uganda in 1998, the numerous medical missions to over 20 countries in Africa and in India, they have worked against all odds. When our

team of surgeons and volunteers arrived at Kampala, there were threats of bomb blasts. Yet two surgeons, Dr SPS Grewal and Dr Uma Pradhan, flew on a small plane to Gulu, the epicentre of insurgency. They performed cataract surgeries for five days, giving vision to over 250 people. We went to Nigeria in 2000. There were constant threats. There was so much need that we went there thrice. Kidnapping had become a norm. In Abuja, there was constant fear of Boko Haram. Our team was given security by the Nigerian government. Our doctors performed miracles, giving vision, mobility and life to many. I wish I could name all these heroes. However, some names deserve mentioning — Dr GS Kochhar, Dr RS Parmar, Dr PS Chari, Dr Rajiv Pradhan and Dr Madhav Borate. We have gone to over 25 countries in Africa and elsewhere. The fatal danger was also the exposure to HIV/AIDS. These doctors rose above their professional commitment and treated the needy, often using double gloves and other protection. In Lesotho, our surgeons Dr Parmar and Dr Taposhi Patnaik got needle pricks while operating upon an HIV/AIDS patient. They had to take antiretroviral therapy.

Our medical missions within India started in 2006. The locations were determined on the basis of local needs. In 2007, the team went to Baripada, Odisha, an active centre of Maoists. Our team worked at Jagdalpur, Chhattisgarh, the home of Naxals. The doctors performed their tasks courageously and with commitment.

In Dimapur, Nagaland, a critical surgery was being performed by their local

surgeon. They requested our doctors' assistance, but unfortunately, the patient died. Although the consent form was signed by the patient, the relatives created a ruckus and were prepared to kill them. Thankfully, the matter was resolved by the District Magistrate.

For the doctors working in hospitals for Covid patients, the challenges are immense and life threatening. Yet, they are working against all odds for the sake of humanity. The great German medical missionary who worked in Africa, Dr Albert Schweitzer, had said, 'I do not know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve.' This is the spirit of our doctors. Let us bow to them and their families.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How did that happen?

Reference to 'Karnal oxygen plant installed under PM Cares Fund stops working'; such a worrisome scenario calls for carrying out an urgent audit by an independent agency to reveal the truth behind such an unsavoury development. How could such a vital plant go out of order in such a short span of time? There may not be many buyers of the authorities' reported claim that the engineers of the agency hired by the Centre had got stranded in Mumbai, and later in Delhi due to lockdown since it is learnt that there are no restrictions on interstate movement of individuals in Haryana, provided they carry all valid documents. The plant should be put back into immediate operation.

VINAYAK G, PANCHKULA

Adamant villagers

Refer to 'Health officials visit villages under police cover'; it is unfortunate that villagers are reluctant to take vaccination or get tested for Covid. They are not cooperating with the health teams and try to block their entry to the village. To spur the vaccination drive, the Punjab CM has announced Rs 10 lakh grant for those villages who get fully immunised. Grant or no grant, all villagers should get vaccinated. Similar adamant and non-cooperative attitude of their

brethren at Delhi borders is not allowing an early resolution of the matter. They can register their protest by wearing black badges, which is a better, more peaceful and a well-accepted option of protest.

WG CDR CL SEHGAL (RETD), JALANDHAR

Farmers' protest

Farmers' agitation has continued for many months now. Every effort to satisfy them has proved futile. To protest against the government is our constitutional right, but to create anarchy is unconstitutional. It creates many problems for the general public. The farmers protested when the Haryana CM was inaugurating a Covid hospital in Hisar. Their demands may be justified but to oppose the inauguration of a hospital is not justified. In this pandemic when even poor people are serving patients as per their capabilities, these farmers are hampering government efforts. This will hit their credibility.

NARENDER K SHARMA, JOGINDER NAGAR

Stand by doctors

Though even fully vaccinated, wellinformed and those who have been religiously following all Covid protocols have succumbed to the disease, and but this doesn't mean that we should undermine the need and usefulness of the vaccines ('Save the life-savers'). The death of a senior cardiologist, Dr KK Aggarwal, is indeed a bolt from the blue. So that his death may not demoralise many, especially doctors, the government should assure all members of the medical fraternity that it stands by them in these testing times.

SUNIL CHOPRA, LUDHIANA

Dealing with black fungus

The recent spurt in cases of mucormycosis, or black fungus, should ring alarm bells among the authorities and the medical fraternity alike. Since this deadly infection warrants specialised treatment quickly, Haryana has done well to notify its medical colleges for urgent care and cure. Only concerted efforts can help. The union government should declare it a notified disease, making it imperative that the government authorities be informed about each case. Experts claim that the overuse of steroids in treating Covid is the culprit. To curb indiscriminate use/misuse of steroids, manufacturers should be mandated to specify steroid content in all formulations with a caution in bold letters that steroids may be injurious to health. Such medicines should be sold only on prescription by an MD specialist.

LALIT BHARADWAJ, PANCHKULA

Covid in rural India

Rural India has been devastated by the second wave of Covid-19. There is a lack of infrastructure due to which severe patients are referred to city hospitals. In Bihar, 37 people of a village died in just 27 days due to Covid, which shows the impact of the virus in rural areas. There is a lack of testing infrastructure and medical staff in the rural areas. In rural areas of Gujarat, patients are treated in open fields. The government must devise a strategy at the rural level to fight such pandemics.

Bengal violence

This refers to 'Didi announces Rs 2 lakh for post-poll violence victims'. Mamata Banerjee says that the BJP must accept the people's mandate. It is rather the reverse: Mamata must accept the presence of opposition parties in West Bengal. In fact, it is she who is unable to digest that a major opposition party has won 78 seats in her state in the recent polls. She is indirectly initiating, inspiring and supporting the hooligans in creating a post-election terror in the minds of those who still think that 'opposition party' in a democratic setup is a part of the government itself.

ROHTASH GUPTA, KURUKSHETRA

Letters to the Editor, typed in double space, should not exceed the 200-word limit. These should be cogently written and can be sent by **e-mail to: Letters@tribunemail.com**

How India frittered away vaccine gains



DINESH C SHARMA SCIENCE COMMENTATOR

black-and-white image of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Health Minister in Nehru's Cabinet, receiving a box of penicillin at the Palam Airport surfaced on WhatsApp groups in February this year. The consignment was a gift from the Canadian Red Cross to fight infectious diseases. The picture was juxtaposed with the news of Canada seeking the Covid-19 vaccine from India in 2021. The allusion was that while India was dependent on western countries for medicines in 1947, those very donors are now depending on India for vaccines.

But, within a few weeks, there was a dramatic role reversal. The Ministry of External Affairs started sharing pictures of planeloads of medical supplies coming from dozens of countries. The shipments were rushed to distant locations straight from the airport, reminding one of the 'ship-to-mouth years' of food

imports in the 1950s and 1960s. How did a country which declared in the United Nations not long ago that it had exported more Covid-19 vaccines to countries across the globe than it had administered to its own people, turn into a vaccine-deficient country so rapidly? The answer is simple due to lack of planning, along with too much bravado and politics.

Indian companies joined the

Covid-19 vaccine race early on, drawing from their experience with developing a 'pandemic-scale' vaccine during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. Using the seed strain supplied by the WHO, the Serum Institute of India, Bharat Biotech and Panacea Biotec developed H1N1 vaccines within 12 months. The Health Ministry supported them with Advance Market Commitments (AMCs) even though the spread of H1N1 in India was not alarming. The companies were also given Emergency Use Authorisation (EUA) from the national regulator.

All this incentivised vaccine production, helping India build a stockpile for a potential surge. Advance purchase commitment was critical in covering the risk of private companies.

In the interim, 1.5 million doses were imported from Sanofi-Pasteur to vaccinate healthcare workers in the worst-hit city of Pune.

The need and mechanism for creating a stockpile of vaccines in case of emergencies were reinforced in the National Vaccine Policy adopted in 2011.

For reasons best known to the Health Ministry, the pandemic template of 2009 was not immediately activated in 2020. The SII and Bharat Biotech, which contributed to the stockpiling exercise in 2009, anticipated advance purchase commitment this time too as the task at hand was more challenging than that at the time of H1N1.

In contrast, governments in the western world were pumping billions of dollars into vaccine development and helping companies through AMCs. They are now reaping the benefits with the bulk of their populations vaccinated and have been successful



OPPORTUNITY LOST: Early leads of 2020, when SII and Bharat Biotech announced vaccines, could have helped India become vaccine-sufficient. TRIBUNE PHOTO

in bending the pandemic curve.

Even after Bharat Biotech announced its vaccine on June 29, 2020 and the SII signed up with AstraZeneca on June 4, 2020 to supply one billion doses to the global markets, the policymakers showed no alacrity to explore options like the AMCs and the need to mop up available production capacities.

Instead, the PM went on a solo three-city 'vaccine tour'. Firm orders were placed only in early 2021, by which time the SII and Bharat Biotech had made commercial commitments to other countries. No efforts were made to expand the capacity of the two manufacturers or book spare capacity with other vaccine manufacturers (that were con-

tracted by Russia to produce Sputnik V) or license Covaxin (jointly developed by Bharat Biotech and the ICMR) to public sector vaccine manufacturers.

The first meeting of the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for Covid-19, tasked with all aspects of vaccine delivery, including financing and licensing, took place on August 12, 2020. This was three months after the SII had signed up with international buyers. All that the expert group decided was that 'India will leverage domestic vaccine manufacturing capacity and will also engage with all international players for early delivery of vaccines not only in India but also in low-and middleincome countries.'

Vaccine export was on the agenda even before the government had booked a single dose for Indians. The bravado continued as long as January 2021 when the vaccination drive began for healthcare workers. On January 28, the PM spoke of 'saving the lives of citizens of many countries by sending Covid vaccines there'. Also, the government could never make up its mind on vaccinating all citizens.

Vaccine export was on the agenda even before the government had booked a single dose for the Indians. It was a classic case of misplaced priorities. The bravado continued as long as January 2021 when the vaccination drive began for healthcare workers. The Prime Minister spoke of 'saving the lives of citizens of many countries by sending Covid vaccines there' in his speech to the World Economic Forum (WEF) on January 28, 2021.

In addition, the government could never make up its mind on the vaccination rollout plan. Three days after the first meeting of the expert group (on August 15, 2020), Prime Minister Modi announced that the government had prepared 'an outline to ramp up production of the vaccines and to

make it available to each and every person in the shortest possible time.'

Was it the recommendation of the expert group to vaccinate all Indians, and did it prepare a plan between August 12 and 15 to procure two billion doses for 'each and every' Indian? Apparently not. Because soon thereafter, Health Minister Harsh Vardhan spoke of getting 400-500 million doses available by mid-2021, implying that all Indians would not be covered. On December 1, Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan further contradicted the Prime Minister by stating that the government never spoke of vaccinating the entire population.

Between June 2020 — when it became clear that the two vaccines would be available in India — and April 2021, vaccine-related policymaking was in limbo.

Meanwhile, the ruling party politicised Bharat Biotech's Covaxin by dubbing it a 'swadeshi' vaccine and projecting it as a personal achievement of the Prime Minister (BJP leaders in Delhi launched the Modi Tujhe Salaam campaign when the vaccination started). Free vaccines were promised in election campaigns and the MEA launched an extensive 'Vaccine Maitri' drive.

As shortages became apparent and public anger mounted with the second wave surging, several hurried steps were announced: schedules for different age groups, separate procurement by states, dual pricing for private and public sectors, increase in the gap between two doses to suit reduced availability etc.

Early leads of 2020 that could have helped India become vaccine-sufficient were frittered away, reducing the world's vaccine capital to a mess.

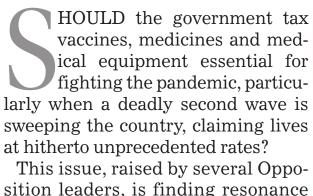
Make tax concessions viable for Covid drugs, vax



SUBIR ROY SENIOR ECONOMIC ANALYST

Instead of giving a tax waiver on the final product, what can be done is to waive taxes on the entire supply chain that goes into the making of the vaccine or the medicine. Another option is to make the vaccines and medicines 'zero rated supply', which is making the supply chargeable at nil rate with refund of input tax credit. Or a nominal 0.1% GST can be levied on Covid items to enable manufacturers to

claim input tax credit.



sition leaders, is finding resonance in the public discourse. Former chief economic adviser Arvind Subramanian has sought the suspension of GST and import duties on all goods and services related to fighting the pandemic. This has lent credibility to the demand for tax waiver.

The government's answer, put out through Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, to the demand is that if the 5 per cent GST on vaccines and the 12 per cent GST on medicines were to be removed, the consumer would end up paying more. Since the manufacturers would then be denied input tax credit (ITC), they would pass it on to the consumers, who would thereby be paying more than what they are doing now.

GST or 'goods and services tax' which combines the earlier excise duty levied by the Central government and sales tax levied by the states — has been introduced with the support of all (both the states and the Centre) to avoid what is called the 'cascading effect'.

Earlier, a manufacturer paid excise duty to the Centre when the product left the factory. And then when the product was sold by the seller, he had



ON THE ANVIL: Some states intend to seek GST exemption for all Covid-related supplies and raw material by making the applicable rate zero. PTI

to collect sales tax levied by the relevant state government on the postexcise duty paid value. So, sales tax was levied on the excise duty also.

Now, when the manufacturer sells the product, he pays neither the excise duty nor sales tax but a single GST at the rate levied for the particular product, with the collections shared by the Centre and the states.

The big change is that before depositing the GST that the manufacturer has collected, he deducts the GST that he has paid on the inputs that he has purchased. This is the ITC he gets. If there is no GST to be paid, then he cannot recover the GST he has paid on purchased inputs and so has to pass on the burden to the consumer. So, no matter how well intentioned the move to abolish the GST on vaccines and medicines can be, it is counterproductive because as a result, at the end of the day, the consumer ends up paying more.

Sitharaman's argument is based on the above premise. It implies that Opposition leaders, by asking for the removal of GST, are ending up playing to the gallery without actually benefiting the consumer.

But tax experts say that there are ways in which you can serve the purpose of abolishing GST without hurting the consumer.

One solution they have suggested is that instead of giving a tax waiver on

buys, what can be done is to waive taxes on the entire supply chain that goes into the making of the vaccine or the medicine. If the manufacturer has paid no GST on inputs, the absence of ITC for GST paid on supplies bought by him does not arise.

the final product that the consumer

Another way out is to make the vaccines and medicines 'zero rated supply', which is making the supply chargeable at nil rate with refund of ITC. If this were done, the manufacturer would be able to get input tax refund on all the GST he has paid.

This facility is currently available to the exporters as also to the suppliers to special economic zones. As the exporter does not have to pay GST and so does not bill the importer GST, he gets a refund on the GST he has paid on inputs.

Different state ministers, who represent their states on the GST Council (the interstate body that is the final authority on GST), concur with this move. Some of them have said that they would move a proposal before the council to exempt all Covid-related supplies and raw material from GST by making the applicable rate zero.

If this looks like a major concession with serious revenue implications, then it can be undertaken on the understanding that it would be a temporary measure to tide over the period of the pandemic.

There is an obvious incipient danger in undertaking such a move. It would set a precedent. It could prompt state governments in the future to seek exemptions on other items of high public interest by using this route.

But one can hardly decide to not do something simply because it can set a precedent which can create trouble later. In fact, there is already a precedent. When the GST first came, it was levied at 12 per cent on sanitary napkins. Then after vociferous protests by women's rights organisations, it was removed the next year and the NGOs have not complained of a price rise as a result.

There is yet another way out. It involves levying a nominal 0.1 per cent GST on Covid-related items, which would enable the manufacturers to claim ITC.

This is also, in fact, already being done when exports are undertaken by merchant exporters, that it is not the manufacturer but an entity which only does the exporting. The manufacturer pays taxes on inputs and input services, sells the goods to a merchant exporter at 0.1 per cent GST, and then gets a refund of ITC. The merchant exporter can get ITC on the 0.1 per cent GST he has paid and export the goods.

As things stand, those asking for the abolition of GST on Covid-19 related vaccines and medicines seem to be winning the argument. If the Centre wants to go on collecting GST on this account, to carry credibility, it has to come up with better arguments than it has done so far.

23 25

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

epaper.tribuneindia.com

Across: 1 Polished, 5 Edge, 9 Meter, 10 Crevice, 11 Praiseworthy, 13 Filthy, 14 Stigma, 17 Life-and death, 20 Extract, 21 Elver, 22 Toll, 23 Criteria. **Down:** 1 Pump, 2 Literal, 3 Straight away, 4 Eschew, 6 Drift, 7 Everyday, 8 Below the belt, 12 Affluent, 15 Get over, 16 Editor, 18 Fatal, 19 Area.

ACROSS

- Infectious viral disease (7)
- Damp (5) Without hesitation (4,1,4)
- 9 Impose as a task (3) 10 Elegantly simple in form (4) 12 Abundantly productive (8)
- 14 State of supreme bliss (6) 15 A long way (3,3)
- 17 Difficult to fathom (8)
- 18 Splendid display (4) 21 Charge for a service (3)
- 22 Rules of polite
- behaviour (9) 24 Entrance hall (5) 25 Sweetly flattering (7)

DOWN

- Sweet pulpy fruit (5) Invite (3)
- To incline (4) The largest desert (6)
- Fictitious (8)
- Thereby (4,5)
- Utterly (7) 11 In a state of decline (2,1,3,3)
- 13 Convalescence (8) 14 Promising (7)
- 16 Make wealthy (6) 19 To offer in excuse (5)
- 20 To bankrupt (4) 23 To trifle (3)

8 3 9 8 5 9 5 6 HARD

MAY 21, 2021, FRIDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat 2078								
■ Sha	aka S	Samv	at				194	13
■Vai	sakh	Shal	ka				3	31
Jye	shth	a Par	visht	е				8
∎ Hija	ari						144	12
∎Shi	ukla	Paksl	ha Tit	hi 9,	up to	11.1	1 pm	
∎Ha	rshaı	na Yo	ga up	to S	9:08	am		
Pu	vaph	algur	ni Nak	sha	tra u _l	to 3	.22 p	m
■Mo	on e	nters	Virgo	sigı	า 9:0	7 pm		
	Υ	ESTF	RDA	y's	SOI	UTIC	ON	
								_
6	2	4	7	3	8	1	5	9
7	3	1	2	9	5	4	6	8
9	8	5	1	6	4	7	2	3
3	5	8	6	7	9	2	1	4
1	9	2	5	4	3	8	7	6
4	7	6	8	2	1	3	9	5
			9	5	2	6	3	1
8	4	7	9	٦	5 - 3			
8	1	9	3	8	6	5	4	7

SUNSET: FRIDAY 19:13 HRS 05:25 HRS **SUNRISE:** SATURDAY **Partly Cloudy** Foggy CITY MIN MAX Chandigarh 36 22 0 35 21 New Delhi 0 34 23 Amritsar 0 35 21 0 Bathinda 34 22 0 Jalandhar 33 22 0 Ludhiana 21 Bhiwani 34 0 36 21 0 Hisar 22 Sirsa 36 Dharamsala 28 16 0 Manali 22 12 0 Shimla 24 14 Srinagar 25 13 38 22 Jammu 0 0 12 05 Kargil 09 02 Leh 19 Dehradun 30 23 21 10 0 Mussoorie TEMPERATURE IN ^OC

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD E-Tender Notice No. 26/PWSSB D-1/BTI Date 19.05.2021 On behalf of CEO, PWSSB, Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sewerage Divn. No. 1, Bathinda invites bids from eligible bidders for the project details in the following table.

The bidders may submit bids for the following project.							
Sr. No.	Name of the Work	Bid Security/ Earnest Money (Rs.)	Cost of Document/ Tender Fees (Rs.)	of Comp-	Value		
1	Construction & commissioning of 5 MLD STP at Raman Mandi, Distt. Bathinda based on any suitable, sustainable & proven technology basis including O&M for a period of 60 months after stabilization (As per DNIT).	900000/-	1000/-	1 Year	Lump Sump		

Processing fees:- As applicable 3rd attempt Last date and time for online submission of bid | 03.06.2021 up to 3.00 p.n Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid Pre-Bid Meeting (O/o SE PWSSC Bathinda) 26.05.2021 at 11.00 a.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn. No. 1, Bathinda DPR/Pb/4707

For details logon to http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG *NOTICE INVITING TENDER*

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Anni, District Kullu (H.P.

nvites tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approve eligible contractors for the following work through offline process:-Estimated Earnest Time Form Money Limit Cost Interlinking of Additional Source to 423985.00 8480.00 250/-WSS Tharwa Sikan Nigadi in GP Nore Months in Nirmand Block, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Working Estimate for Providing and Laying HDPE pipe 32 mm dia = 5000 Rmts.) A/R & M/O WSS Bagi Bala Zehra in 122876.00 2458.00 Anni Block, Distt. Kullu (H.P.) (S.H: C/o RCC Storage tank 10000 Ltrs. Cap.). A/R & M/O various WSS under JSV -Section Bagipul in Nirmand Block, Months Distt. Kullu (H.P.) (Providing and laying RCC, base conc. and plastering inner side of various storage tanks) A/R & M/O various WSS under JSV -48044.00 2961.00 250/-Section Bagipul in Nirmand Block, Distt. Kullu (H.P.) (SH: RCC Jacketing 3 Nos. of Storage Tank for 1. WSS to Sarahan PH-I = 34000 ltr cap. 2. WSS to Daman Tharla Jaon = 32500 ltr cap. & 3. WSS to LOH Rahnoo Ph-IInd = Aug. of various WSS under GP Chail, Sarahan, Nore & Rahanoo in Nirmand Block, Tehsil Anni, Distt. Kullu, H.P.

Bishladhar in Anni Block, District Kullu (H.P.) (SH: Providing and fixing cast steel sluice valve & reflux valve of 125mm dia and Tee 125x100mm dia for 1st & 2nd stage)

6 Augmentation of LWSS Karshaigad, 358372/- 7167/-

(SH: Providing and fixing cast steel

sluice valve & reflux valve of 100mm

Dagerh in C.V. Karshaigad and

dia and Tee 100x100mm dia).

opened on same day 3:30 P.M. Last Date of Sale of Tender Form Divisional Office:- 24.05.2021 up to

The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website www.hpiph.org or from office of above Executive Engineer, up to

HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

DPR/HP/92

Last Date of Submission of Tender:- 25.05.2021 up to 3:00 P.M. and

Snow in tribal areas, rain at Reckong Peo

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 20 Tribal and high altitude areas experienced another mild spell of snow while intermittent rains lashed parts of Himachal. The local Met office has predicted wet spell in the region till May 23.

Hansa village in Spiti received 10 cm of snow. Light to moderate rains lashed parts of Kinnaur, Shimla, Sirmaur and Solan districts. Kalpa was the wettest with 64 mm of rain followed by Reckong Peo 63 mm, Pooh 44 mm, Rohru 28 mm, Wangtoo 27 mm, Kotkhai 25 mm, Sarahan and Moorang 23 mm each, Nahan 21 mm, Paonta Sahib-17, Sangrah-16, Rampur 13 mm, Narkanda and Khadrala 11mm each, Rajgarh 10 mm, Pachhad and



relaxation in Shimla. AMIT KANWAR Palampur 7 mm each, Kufri

and Solan 6 mm each. The maximum temperature rose by 2 to 3 degree but was still 5 to 6 degrees below normal. Una was hottest in the day with a high of 34 degree C. There was no appreciable change in the minimum temperatures and Kalpa in tribal Kinnaur district was coldest at night with a low of 3 degree C.

Tender/RFP Reference No. 1309

The Department of Municipal Council Sirhind-Fatehgarh Sahib invites online bids for

Civil Works of Amount: 165.36 Lac. Please refer DNIT for details of above works. Closing Date for Works:- 04.06.2021 & Time: 17.00 hrs. For details log onto: http://eproc.punjab.gov.in/nicgep/app **Note:** Any corrigendum(s) to the tender/RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.

> Sd/- Executive Officer, M.C. Sirhind-FGS

DPR/Pb/4718 Government of Punjab

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS (B&R Works) NIT No. 29/SE (TIC), Dated: 20.05.2021 The Department of Municipal Corporation Ludhiana (B&R) invites online Double Bids for 5 Nos. works as per schedule given below:-

Last Date & Time for online Submission of **Financial Bid** 30.05.2021 31.05.2021 at 11:00 A.M. in the Will be Intimated up to 5:00 p.m. Office of SE (TIC), Zone-A, MCL For details logon to:- eproc.punjab.gov.in Note:- Detail of works, other terms & conditions & tender documents any

above website only Sd/- Superintending Engineer (TIC), Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana. DPR/Pb/4712

corrigendum/addendum to the tender notice shall be published on

Restrict delivery by e-com firms, say traders

NURPUR, MAY 20

The Jassur Beopar Mandal at Nurpur has urged Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur to restrict delivery of goods by e-commerce companies during the curfew.

Rajiv Raju, acting president of the mandal, and Chander Mahajan, chairman of the Market Welfare Committee, Jassur, said that while 80 per cent shops dealing with nonessential commodities were closed in the state since May 7, all e-commerce companies are delivering goods on the doorsteps of people.

They said that either the gov-

ernment should ban the delivery of goods by e-commerce companies or allow all shops to open under strict Covid norms so that traders could also earn their livelihood. "Consumers are not going to wait for shops to open to buy non-essential commodities and they are purchasing these articles from online e-commerce companies. The risk is that delivery boys can also spread Covid," they claimed. — OC

1st blackfungus case in HP, Hamirpur woman infected

Had tested Covid +ve on May 4; admitted to IGMC

DINESH KANWAR

HAMIRPUR, MAY 20

Himachal registered its first case of mucormycosis (black fungus) today. A 52year old woman from Hamirpur was diagnosed with the disease at the Indira Gandhi Medical College and Hospital (IGMC), Shimla.

According to Medical Superintendent Dr Janak Raj, she had tested positive for Covid on May 4 and was referred to the Nerchowk hospital on May 8 with the complaint of breathlessness. The woman was referred to the IGMC yesterday. "Her condition is stable," he said.

While the news has sent shock waves across the district, Dr Anil Verma, Covid nodal officer, said the treatment for the disease was available and

SYMPTOMS

The symptoms of black fungus include pain and redness around eyes or nose, fever, headache, coughing, shortness of breath, bloody vomits

PRECAUTIONS

- Blood sugar levels should be controlled and steroids should not be used indiscriminately for the purpose of Covid treatment
- ■Caution should be taken while wearing medical/surgical/N-95 or cotton masks multiple times

■ Masks get wet due to humidity in our breathing. If these are used for multiple days without changing or washing, a perfect atmosphere is created for the growth of fungus. So masks should be washed daily, dried in sunlight and ironed

people need not panic. Meanwhile, a govern-

ment spokesperson said the state had already issued advisory regarding the prevention and management of the black fungus disease in hospitals. "The Director, Health, has been asked to take stock of anti-fungal drugs

amphotericin B in their institutions," he said.

As per the evidence-based advisory issued by the ICMR, uncontrolled diabetes, immune suppression by steroids, a prolonged ICU stay, co-morbidities post transplant/malignancy are the predisposing factors for the disease.

Docs to move HC over quarantine

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 20

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD

RE-TENDER NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS

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

Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn., Ferozepur invites bids from eligible

On behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Board, Chandigarh

Earnest

2815/-

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

SHORT PRESS NOTICE FOR E-TENDERING

of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following work(s

HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK

The Executive Engineer, JSV Division, Jubbal invites tenders on behalf of Governo

If any corrigendum issued will be loaded & seen at website

Bid No. 32/PWSSD FEROZEPUR

bidders for the works detailed below:-

Description of Work

Supply of Driver for Office Car No.

CHO1G1-1079 by trained driver having valid license form 1.6.2021

to 31.03.2022 (10 Months)

2. Important dates are as under:-

Last Date & Time for online

submission of bid shall be

http://eproc.punjab.gov.in

iii) Date & Time of opening of

online shall be

Technical Bid

through e-tendering process:

Outsourcing for water testing service at water testing laboratory in JSV

Division building at Jubbal in Tehsil

Jubbal, Distt. Shimla, HP for one year

Providing LWSS/GWSS to various

habitation in G.P. Kathasu, Mandhol

Kot-Kaina, Sari, Brall and Dhar to

cover FHTC of leftout household under

Jal Shakti Sub-Division Jubbal, Tehsil

Jubbal, Distt. Shimla (H.P.) (SH: Site

development, Construction of RCC

Intake chamber as per design

10000 ltrs cap. = 1 No., Construction

of filter bed of 21.00 sqm. = 1 No.

Construction of sump well of 50000 ltrs cap. = 1 No., Construction of RCC

slab over existing delivery tank

providing & laying of rising main etc).

DPR/Pb/4711

Period of availability of tender

The Himachal Medical Officers' Association has decided to take legal recourse against the state government's decision to end the quarantine period granted to the medical staff after performing Covid duties. It has also decided to keep sporting black badges at work to register their protest against the decision.

DATED: 19.05.2021

Cost of Period Approx.

Tender Comp-

From up to 21.05.2021, 11:00 a.m

03.06.2021 up to 5:00 p.m.

04.06.2021 at 11:00 a.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,

Punjab W/S & Sew. Divn., Ferozepur.

Est Cost EMD Time

5,34,590 10,700 1 Yr

60,64,357 93,150 6 M

processing letion

Document/

Fee (Rs.)

Rs. 1000/-

website

of

months

work

Last date

of filing/

uploading

tenders

Last date of

uploading

tenders:-

11:00 a.m

28/05/2021

opening of

tenders:-

On dated

28/05/2021

(11.30 a.m.

DPR/HP/931

PRDH-11/2022/200/2996/I/31/4

Date of

More deaths possible

66 A nurse died at the IGMC due to Covid. More healthcare workers can die if the quarantine period is not restored.

Pushpender Verma, SECY OF HIMACHAL MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

Pushpender Verma, association secretary, said the entire medical staff was shocked by the decision. "It's sad and

shocking that the government did not even bother to speak to us on the issue even after several requests and our symbolic protest," said Verma. "We have decided to move the High Court," he said.

The association mourned the death of a nurse due to Covid at the IGMC. "There can be more deaths of healthcare workers if the quarantine period is not restored," he added

Shahpur man missing after cyclone

DHARAMSALA, MAY 20 Pawan Chand Katoch, a resident of Garoh village in Shahpur area of Kangra district, has gone missing after Tautkae cyclone. His father Jagroop Chand Katoch has written to Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur seeking his

help in tracing his son. In his letter to the Chief Minister, Jagroop Katoch has stated that his son was serving as a diver with UWSL, Under Water Services Company, since 2009.

"We came to know on May 15 that Pawan and his coworkers were on duty at Manglore in Karnataka in the sea and during their work tug (boat) plunged into waters. We tried a number of times to information Paramjeet Singh Jasal, senior diving manager, as well as Ravi Sexsena, assistant vicepresident of the company. They were not responding even after repeated commu-

unable to get any information about Pawan and he was not sure if the company was putting any efforts to trace them. Kewal Singh Pathania, HPCC general secretary, in a letter to the Chief Minister urged him to help the family know about the whereabouts of Pawan.— TNS

2,648 new cases, 65 deaths in state

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 20

As many as 2,648 Covid cases were reported in the state today, taking the tally to 172,722. Besides, 65 persons died of the virus — 19 in Kangra, 13 in Shimla, seven in Mandi,

cases was recorded in Kangra, followed by 314 in Mandi, 257 in Solan, 226 in Hamirpur, 200 in Shimla, 191 in Sirmaur, 180 in Chamba, 191 in Una, 175 in Bilaspur, 187 in Una, 65 in

DISTRICT-WISE COUNT

DISTRICT-WISE COUNT					
DISTRICT	+VE	DEATH			
Una	11,173	19			
Solan	19,955	23			
Kangra	38,816	73			
Chamba	8,646	9			
Hamirpur	12,248	18			
Sirmaur	13,258	14			
Mandi	23,330	28			
Bilaspur	10,824	4			
Shimla	21,853	50			
Kullu	7,676	12			
Kinnaur	2,498	3			
Lahaul & Spiti	2,445	1			
Total	172,722	2,58			

Kullu, 14 in Lahaul and Spiti

five each in Hamirpur and nications," Katoch said. Sirmaur, four each in He said the family was Chamba and Solan, three each in Una and Bilaspur, and two in Kullu. The highest number of 828

and seven in Kinnaur.

Frescoes damaged in renovation of Chamba temple, art lovers upset

Lalit Mohan TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, MAY 20

Art lovers are upset at the destruction of the heritage in the Chamunda temple at Devi Kothi village in Churah of Chamba district.

Sources said about two century-old temple was being re-constructed by contractors without any advice from experts. The contractors were concretising the temple building that had damaged its frescos.

Vijay Sharma, an expert in Kangra painting and Padma Shri awardee, said the temple was on the verge of destruction. The existence of the temple had been endangered by some 'rookie' contractor.

Malvika Pathania, coordinator of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) for Himachal, said it was shocking that the frescos of the temple had been damaged. She said, "I had talked to Chamba DC and urged him to stop the work"

The temple was built by then Chamba king Umed Singh in the mid-18th cenSources say century-old building being re-constructed without expert advice



Damage casued to frescoes at the Chamunda temple. KAMALIEET SINGH

tury. Constructed in the hill style with sloping roof terrace, the temple was embellished with frescos and carved wooden panels. The amazing architecture of the temple and the work of painting and carving was so exquisite that thousands of tourists visit the village every year.

Dr Eberhard Fischer, director of the Swiss Museum, and Vijay Sharma jointly wrote a book on the temple which

was available online and has attracted experts from across the world towards the art heritage of Chamba. The temple was preserved some years ago by the Department of Language and Culture. The government had also appointed a monument attendant to protect it. Deputy Commissioner DC

Rana said the committee of the temple had started the RCC work on the temple campus which had been stopped.

IMPORTANT NOTICE **Negative RT-PCR report mandatory for**

Kind Attention Rail Passengers

Month

train passengers arriving in Maharashtra It is notified for the information of all concerned that

Passengers travelling in trains are advised to follow COVID-19 appropriate behaviour while boarding, travelling and de-boarding at destination.

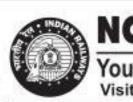
Any person entering the State of Maharashtra by any mode of transport will have to carry a negative RT-PCR test report which should have been issued from up to a maximum of 48 hours before the time of his entry into Maharashtra.

All the restrictions that have been made applicable to persons arriving from States of Kerala, Goa, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Delhi and NCR region, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh as per the orders dated 18th April 2021 and 1st May 2021 will be applicable to everyone arriving from any part of the country in to the State.

The latest State-wise advisory is available on website http://contents.irctc.co.in/en/stateWiseAdvisory.html Passengers travelling in long distance trains are requested to check the advisory and follow COVID-19 appropriate behaviour for their own safety and safety of others.

All norms of the State and Central Government regarding COVID-19 including Social distancing, sanitization etc., may be followed in the trains and at the Railway stations. All other precautions associated with COVID-19 should also be ensured.

Visit RailMadad website:www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in Download RailMadad app. RailMadad Helpline No.: 139 Please join us on



BoQ and tender related conditions can be downloaded from the website Visit us at : www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in "SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

epaper.tribEORiFURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

Your Convenience - Our Concern

872-82 dated 05/05/2021 GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA TENDER NOTICE

SR. No.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)		WEBSITE OF THE DEPARTMENT	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	BHAGAT PHOOL SINGH GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE FOR WOMEN, KHANPUR KALAN SONEPAT	SUPPLYING OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL BOOKS	28.05.2021 22.06.2021	5 LACS	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	bpsgmc.purchase@gmail.com
2.	DRDA, JHAJJAR	DOOR TO DOOR COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION, SEGREGATION & SAFE DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE FROM RURAL AREAS OF ALL GRAM PANCHAYATS ON POPULATION BASIS (CENSUS-2011) OF THE CONCERNED GRAM PANCHAYATS IN JHAJJAR DISTRICT	19.05.2021 17.06.2021	14 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01251-252742 drdajjr@hry.nic.in
3.	PANCHAYATI RAJ BHIWANI	CONSTRUCTION OF BIDSAR MODEL POND AT VILLAGE TIGRANA BLOCK & DISTT BHIWANI	24.05.2021 17.06.2021	144.22 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01664-243929 prexeeng.bhw@hry.nic.in
4.	IRRIGATION KAITHAL	REPAIRING AND PAINTING OF PARAPET WALLS OF VARIOUS BRIDGES FROM REACH RD 63390-133300 OF BML-HB-BB-MPLC.	21.05.2021 30.05.2021	2.18 LACS	www.etenders.hry.nic.in	01746-298412 xensarasvatidnktl@gmail.com
5.	IRRIGATION NARWANA	EXTENSION IN LINING OF WATER COURSE OF OUTLET AT RD 52440/L AND RD 58000/L DHARODI MINOR AND 01 NUMBER OTHER WORK.	CLOSING DATE 28.05.2021	17.06 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	xen-wsnrw.irr@gov.in
6.	IRRIGATION KAITHAL	SEALED QUOTATION FOR SUPPLYING OF POCKLANE MACHINE, JCB MACHINE, TRACTOR TROLLEY ETC. ON HOURLY BASIS FOR INTERNAL CLEARANCE OF VARIOUS DRAINS/CHANNELS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF KAITHAL W.S. DIVISION KAITHAL IN KAITHAL DISTT. +1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 25.05.2021	EMD 2 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01746222384 xenktl@gmail.com
7.	PWD (B&R) AMABLA CANTT.	CONST OF LR FROM BABYAL TO BHOOR MANDI IN AMBALA DISTT KM 1.40 ROAD ID 174 PDG STREET LIGHT	24.05.2021 07.06.2021	21.40 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	0171-2630877 pwd-eeed-ambala@hry.nic.in
8.	PANCHAYATI RAJ ROHATK	RE-TENDER CONSTRUCTION OF GOBAR GAS PLANT AT VILLAGE KHARAWAR, BLOCK SAMPLA DISTT. ROHTAK	21.05.2021 27.05.2021	52.61 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9812711163 prexeeng.roh@hry.nic.in
9.	WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT JIND	PURCHASE OF FOOD ITEMS UNDER ICDS	CLOSING DATE 26.05.2021	2.15 CRORE	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01681-246930 pojnd.wcd@gmail.com
10.	WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT JIND	TRANSPORTATION WORK OF SNP SUPPLY TO AWCS IN JIND	CLOSING DATE 26.05.2021	EMD 50000/-	https://etenders.hry.nic.in	01681-246930 pojnd.wcd@gmail.com

JAMMU & KASHMIR/LADAKH



A health worker collects a woman's swab sample for Covid test at Khag, Budgam, on Thursday. PTI

67 deaths, 4,169 new Covid cases in J&K

SRINAGAR, MAY 20

rose to 3,422 on Thursday with 67 more fatalities, while 4,169 new cases pushed the infection tally to 2,60,057, officials said.

Of the new cases, 1,518 were from Jammu division and 2,651 from Kashmir division. Srinagar district recorded the highest of 674 new cases, followed by 499 in Jammu district and 393 in Budgam district. The active cases are 50,554 while 2,06,081 patients have recovered so far. The death toll has risen to 3,422 as 67 patients died in the past 24 hours, officials added.

Ladakh recorded 134 fresh cases that took the total infection tally to 16,918 while one person died taking the number of fatalities to 171. As many as 127 people were dis-

LADAKH SEES 134 CASES, ONE DEATH

Ladakh recorded 134 fresh cases which took the total infection tally to 16,918, while one person died, taking the number of

As many as 127 people were discharged from hospitals after recovering, pushing the total number of recoveries to 15,158 in the UT

number of recoveries to

Facing terror case, DSP Davinder dismissed

Disgraced DSP Davinder Singh, who was arrested and chargesheeted by the NIA in a terror case, was on Thursday dismissed by the Jammu and Kashmir administration, an official order said.

Singh was arrested in January last year when he was ferrying terrorists of the banned Hizbul Mujahideen to Jammu from Kashmir. The case was investigated by the NIA, which filed a chargesheet against Singh and others.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha ordered Singh's dismissal from service with "immediate effect" under Article 311 of the Constitution. This provision enables the government to withdraw presidential pleasure without holding an inquiry and the decision can only be contested in the high court.

According to the NIA chargesheet filed before a special court in Jammu last year, Singh, who was posted in the

Peeved over the silence of

leaders of separatist groups,

their factions in Pakistan and

in occupied-Kashmir are mak-

foment trouble in Jammu and

Kashmir by giving calls from

across the border for 'bandhs'

and strikes to mark the death

anniversary of Mirwaiz Farooq

and Abdul Gani Lone, officials

said on Thursday. The death

THE CHARGES

Davinder Singh had been in constant touch with his handlers in the Pakistan High Commission who have been repatriated to Islamabad

Singh has been accused of providing support to banned terror group Hizbul Mujahideen

sensitive anti-hijacking unit of the police, had been in constant touch with his handlers in the Pakistan High Commission who have since been repatriated to Islamabad.

Singh, who has been

accused of providing support to banned terror group Hizbul Mujahideen, was tasked by his Pakistani handler with establishing a "contact" in the Ministry of External Affairs for carrying out espionage activities, but he couldn't. The chargesheet was filed in the first week of July last year. — PTI



Jawans refill medical oxygen cylinders for the treatment of Covid patients at Rangreth in Srinagar on Thursday. PTI

Ensure Covid centre in all panchayats: L-G

JAMMU, MAY 20 To strengthen the health infrastructure in rural areas amid the Covid second wave, Lieutenant Governor (L-G) Manoj Sinha has directed district authorities to ensure a five-bed Covid care centre in every pan-

chayat of the Union Territory. He also approved Rs 1 lakh from the district capex budget for the creation of facilities in schools, community halls and panchayat ghars in con-

sultation with the nearest health centre and panchayat representatives.

"Each centre to have one oxygen-supported bed for immediate patient care. Rs 1 lakh approved from district capex budget for creation of facilities in school, community hall or panchayat ghar in consultation with nearest health centre and panchayat representatives," Sinha mentioned in his tweets. — PTI

security & steps to curb virus

DGP reviews

JAMMU, MAY 20

DGP Dilbag Singh on Wednesday reviewed the security scenario and the response of his force to the second wave of Covid here, a police spokesman said.

He also handed over operation command vehicles, equipped with modern technology, to his men and said providing additional mobility and safety gear would surely increase the efficiency and capabilities of the force working on the anti-terror front.

Chairing a meeting of top officers here, Singh directed them to take all the necessary measures in assisting the administration and implementing the government directives on the ground to prevent the spread of Covid.

ADGPs Mukesh Singh and MK Sinha briefed the DGP on the security situation. — PTI

83%Pbvictims...

FROM PAGE 1

among five states with people having the highest burden of comorbidities. "The high case fatality rate is undoubtedly due to the highest burden of comorbidities," he said.

A Health Department report had earlier found that Punjab had 35.7% "unadjusted prevalence" of hypertension compared to 25.3% nationally. The state was also found to be having the highest prevalence of high systolic blood pressure, high total cholesterol and high fasting plasma glucose.

PSIEC

Plots

through

e-Auction

BID START DATE

BID END DATE

21.05.2021 | 10.00 AM

18.06.2021 | 03.00 PM

MODE OF PAYMENT

1. Eligibility fees shall be 2% of the total reserve price and shall be payable

online. The eligibility fees of unsuccessful applicants shall be refunded.

after adjusting eligibility fee paid, payable online or through bank draft plus

2 percent cancer cess extra of total bid amount within maximum 3 days of

Balance 30% of Bid Amount shall be payable within 30 days of Allotment.

Balance 60% shall be required to be deposited in 6 equal half yearly

installments alongwith interest, as applicable. The first installment shall be

payable after expiry of 6 months of allotment OR in lump sum within a

2. The successful bidders will be required to pay 10% of total bid amount

The price of the plots shall be payable as under:

bid acceptance conveyed on SMS/E-mail.

on freehold basis

in various focal points

Residential

offers

The Covid death toll in J&K

fatalities to 171

charged from hospitals after recovering, pushing the total 15,158 in the UT.

Of the 134 new cases, 124 were reported from Leh and 10 cases from Kargil.

The deaths in Ladakh have reached 171, which includes 123 in Leh and 48 in Kargil.

SRINAGAR, MAY 20 SEPARATISTS SILENT AFTER CRACKDOWN

Separatist leaders are mostly silent after a series of raids by Income Tax, NIA, CBI and Enforcement Directorate officials, questioning their funding pattern

PoK separatists fomenting trouble: Officials

ing desperate attempts to Peeved over their silence, their factions in Pak-occupied Kashmir are making attempts to create unrest in J&K

> anniversary of both the leaders falls on Friday.

Farooq and Lone were killed by Hizbul Mujahideen in 1990 and 2002 for opposing

growing gun culture in the Kashmir Valley. Officials keeping a watch on developments noted that a release issued by the Awami Action

Committee (AAC) earlier this week had urged people to pray for Mirwaiz Farooq at their homes due to Covid. Peeved over the approach

of not holding protests or giving 'hartal' calls, the faction of the moderate Hurriyat Conference in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on Wednesday issued a release calling for a shutdown besides holding protests.—PTI

FROM PAGE 1



Navy rescues 137 crew members of GAL Constructor. PTI

Barge death toll 49...

called off till a few weeks. Of the 261 persons on the ill-fated barge, 186 have been rescued and brought back to the shore in batches. All those who have been rescued had jumped off the barge as it sank. All were wearing selfilluminating life jackets with a special prop to keep a person's head above water.

The sunken barge was engaged by the Heera oil rig, part of the Bombay High oil rigs, 70 km off Mumbai.

government last night ordered a probe into the sequence of events that led to the stranding of several barges and ships. Three barges and three ships associated with oil rigs went adrift on Monday.

Other than barge 'P305' that sunk, all others are safe. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) on Thursday towed the drill ship Sagar Bhushan and barge 'Support Station 3' to the Mumbai harbour. All 297 men on board are safe. All 137 personnel on barge GAL Constructor were rescued on Tuesday by the Navy and Coast Guard helicopters.

Meanwhile, eleven more persons are missing at sea. They were on tug-ship 'Varaprada'. Two survivors, picked up mid-sea on the night of May 17, were brought to the shore on board INS Kolkatta on Wednesday night.

Blackfungus...

Out of the total discharged

cases, 96 patients were from

Leh and 31 from Kargil, offi-

cials said. With this, the active

cases in Ladakh have come

down to 1,589 — 1,328 in Leh

Meanwhile, nurses at Sher-

i-Kashmir Institute of Med-

ical Sciences (SKIMS),

Soura, have urged the peo-

ple to follow the norms to

keep Covid at bay. Covid can

be avoided by following stan-

dard operating procedures,

"The Covid patients need

compassion, help and good

treatment and in this diffi-

cult situation, healthcare

professionals like nurses

responsibility to treat them

with commitment and

affection," a senior nurse

shouldered the

and 261 in Kargil.

feel the nurses.

said. — PTI

maxillo facial surgeons and institution of antifungal medicine Amphotericin-B."

The ministry has asked states to make mucormycosis a notifiable disease under the Epidemic Diseases Act-1897, wherein all "government and private health facilities, medical colleges will follow guidelines for screening, diagnosis and management issued by the Centre and ICMR, making it mandatory to report all suspected and confirmed cases.

Gujarat alone has reported over 500 cases. With mucormycosis raging, the Centre today announced a plan to import 6 lakh vials of Amphotericin-B. Minister of Chemicals Mansukh Mandaviya said the shortage of Amphotericin-B would be resolved soon.

2Baijnath...

According to health officials, the first person to be infected in Shuru village had a contact history. From him, the infection spread to his family members and then to other villagers. "Community transmission cannot be ruled out. We are undertaking mass testing in both villages and hope to check the spread of virus with the cooperation

towards Covid protocol.

of villagers," said the SDM.

Hard times for Hry college staffers...

I will need to borrow money for her treatment," he rues.

He is not alone when it comes to bearing the brunt of delayed payment of salary in Covid times. As many as 3,000-plus teaching and nonteaching staff in the 97 aided colleges in the state are awaiting their salaries, which have been held up since February due to clearance at various levels.

When contacted, Haryana Education Minister Kanwar Pal Gujjar said the department was getting it expedited. "We will give the salaries for the months of February and March by the end of this week. We will try to push the clearance of salaries for April and May as well later in the month," he said.

However, it will be a case of too little, too late for employ-

epaper.tribuneindia.com

ees like library attendant Ramesh Kumar, working in a Sonepat college. "With no salary, I was barely making both ends meet when I tested positive. Had it not been for the college staff, I would not have had anything for medicines and food. They collected money and arranged for supplies and for my travel to my hometown in Rewari when I recovered. I owe my life to them," he said, adding that he is the only earning

member in a family of six. "The non-payment of salaries at the peak of Covid is almost criminal since that is the source of income for most of us. We have even lost a few employees to Covid. It has been a difficult time," says vice-president of the non-teaching employees association of aided colleges

Bijender Kadyan.

The 2000-strong teaching staff of these colleges is equally at a disadvantage. "My 83year-old diabetic mother and I got infected. Though we recovered in home isolation, I was worried about organising finances in case a need for hospitalisation arose," says Dr Narender Chahar of a college in Rohtak.

The president of the teachers' association of aided colleges, Dayanand Malik, explains that their salaries get delayed by a month or two on a routine basis. "However, because of Covid, everybody felt the pinch slightly more and even at the end of two months, there was no sign of our salary. We have been in touch with the Education Minister over the

matter."

R-28(P)

250

200

350

250

PATHANKOT

R-227, R-228, R-229, R-232, R-249,

R-255, R-259, R-260, R-321

R-3, R-11, R-13, R-14

R-26, R-27, R-28, R-29

R-65, R-66, R-67, R-68

R-213, R-338

TANDA

Enjoy new beginnings in your own home

DETAILS OF RESIDENTIAL PLOTS

SIZE RATE PER (SQ.YD.) **ELIGIBILITY FEE** PLOT NO. (SQ.YD.) **ABOHAR** R-2, R-3, R-4, R-1(P) 3000/- 3300/-(P) 13500/- 14850/-(P) 225 R-90, R-91, R-92, R-89 (P), R-93 (P) 3000/- 3300/-(P) 200 12,000/- 13,200/-(P) R-137, R-138, R-139, R-140, R-136(P) 3000/- 3300/-(P) 9,000/- 9,900/-(P) 150 R-6, R-7, R-8, R-9, R-10, R-5(P) 3000/- 3300/-(P) 6,000/- 6,600/-(P) **AMRITSAR (NEW)** R-94 R-95, R-96, R-97, R-98, R-99 500 75,000/-7500/-R-403, R-404, R-405(P) 7500/- 8250/-(P) 52,500/- 57,750/-(P) 350 R-485, R-486, R-487 250 7500/-37,500/-**BATHINDA (IGC)** R-4, R-5, R-6 R-21(P), R-22(P) 3500/- 3850/-(P) 35,000/- 38,500/-(P) 500 18,375/- 20,212.5/-(P) R-238, R-240, R-291(P) 3500/- 3850/-(P) R-115, R-116, R-117, R-119 3500/-14,000/-**CHANALON (KURALI)** R-14, R-16, R-19(P), R-29, R-33 6000/- 6600/-24,000/- 26,400/-(P) 200 **GOINDWAL SAHIB - II** 500 R-641, R-645(P), R-921 30,000/- 33,000/-(P) 3000/- 3300/-(P) 250 727, 730 15,000/-3000/-150 761, 1071 3000/-9,000/-**LUDHIANA PHASE - VIII** 350 R-9, R-9-A 12000/-84,000/-**NAYA NANGAL** R-145, R-146-A, R-146-B(P) 8000/- 8800/(P) 350 56,000/- 61,600/-(P) 200 R-21, R-154, R-159, R-160, R-162 8000/-32,000/-150 R-82 8000/-24,000/-**PATIALA** R-29, R-36(P), R-37(P), R-59(P) 7000/- 7700/-(P) 56,000/- 61,600/-(P) R-1(P), R-10(P), R-11(P), R-19(P) 38,500/-(P) 250 7700/-

3000/-

3000/-

3000/-

3000/-

3000/-

3000/-

PUNJAB SMALL INDUSTRIES & EXPORT

CORPORATION LIMITED (A State Govt. Undertaking)

30,000/-

15,000/-

12,000/-

21,000/-

15,000/-

12,000/-

e-Auction

HELPLINE NO. 6284 999 031, 6284 999 032

#18 Himalaya Marg, Udyog Bhawan, Sector 17-A, Chandigarh 160017 Phone: 2702301-305 | Fax: 2702039 eauction.psiec@gmail.com

period of 60 days from the date of issue of allotment letter (without interest) along with 10% rebate thereon.

GUIDELINES FOR e-Auction

 Detailed terms &conditions available at www.psiec.punjab.gov.in and https://puda.e-auctions.in/

Bidders are required to enroll at https://puda.e-auctions.in/ from 10:00 AM on 21-05-2021 to 3:00 PM on 18-06-2021.

Bidders are advised to use a proper high data network connection. PSIEC will not be responsible for any network failure or lapse on their part.

Any corrigendum pertaining to any of the properties offered or any intimation regarding extention of e-auction shall be announced on

www.psiec.punjab.gov.in and https://puda.e-auctions.in/ Corner plot is denoted by (P) in the table above. Additional 10% will be

eligibility and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) are avilable at

charged for corner plot. Details of Plots/ sites, their sizes/ dimensions, layout plan, reserve price, help manual and detailed terms & conditions of e-auction including

www.psiec.punjab.gov.in

Email: support.punjab@nextenders.com,

http://puda.e-auctions.in/

website only.

DPR/Pb/4697

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

Dated 07.06.2021 Tender Notice No. 03 The Department of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana invites online bids for the following Amount (in lakh) Prov/Laying of Sewerage/New manhole chambers As per uploaded and Water supply line. 2 Prov/Inst. of Tubewells (against failed tubewells)

Opening of Technical bid 09.06.2021 till 01.00PM Opening of Financial Bid Date will be fixed after technical bid opening For Detail logon to eproc.punjab.gov.in. Note: Any Corrigendum(s) to the Tender Notice shall be published on the above

> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Zone-C (O&M) cell Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana. e-mail: xenzonecomcell@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS etender.punjabgovt.gov.in **PUNJAB LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

e-Short term Tender/Notice-1/2021-22/PLDB The Punjab Livestock Development Board, Livestock Complex, Sector 68, Near Army Institute Law, S.A.S. Nagar invites e-tender on Double bid system for following items as per terms and condition

Sr. No.	Name of Farms	Quantity of Wheat Straw (Toori)
a.	Semen Bank, Nabha	1600 Qtl.
b.	Semen Bank , Ropar	550 Qtl.
C.	Cattle Farm, Rauni, Patiala	3000 Qtl.
d.	Buffalo Farm, Mattewara, Ludhiana	2400 Qtl.
e.	Gokul Gram Bir Dosanjh, Nabha	1200 Qtl.
	Total	8750 Qtl.

http://eproc.punjab.gov.ir E-Tender details can also be obtained from the Departmental website www.husbandrypunjab.or

Corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded on above websites only **Additional Chief Executive Office**

FAX No: 0172-2217084

Telephone No. 0172-2217083 Email ID: dahpunjab@gmail.com

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE DIVISION LUDHIANA

DPR/Pb/4690

NOTICE INVITING ON LINE BIDS BID NO. 04/PWSSD/LDH of 05/2021

On the behalf of Ld. Chief Executive Officer, Pb. W/S and Sew. Board Chandigarh, Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Division Ludhiana invites bids from the eligible bidders as per DNIT conditions for the work detailed below:

Sr. No.	d	Name of the Work		Qty.	Amount	Time Limit	
1.	Treatment Pl Technology a	and Maintenance of 3 ant 16 MLD capacity of at Jagraon for the year 202 2021 to 31.03.2022 (For 9	on SBR 21-2022		App. Cost Rs. Lump Sum	9 Months	
2.	Operation and Maintenance of Main Pumping Station (Disposal Works) Sahnewal Town, Distt. Ludhiana for the period of 9 Months (01.07.2021 to 31.03.2022)				App. Cost Rs. Lump Sum	9 Months	
3.		of damaged water supply 10 at Payal Town, Distt. Lu		1 Job	App. Cost Rs. 2.71 Lakh	1 Month	
4.		Installing of New T/Well ne Distt. Ludhiana. (Balance v		1 Job	App. Cost Rs. 5.09 Lakh	1 Month	
For	Societies:	Closing date & time - Date of opening	09.06.2 10.06.2		up to 05:00 p. at 11:00 a.m.	m.	
For Contractors/							

Agencies:-

DPR/Pb/4710

Closing date & time - 16.06.2021 up to 05:00 p.m. 17.06.2021 at 11:00 a.m. Date of opening For detailed logon to https:/eproc.punjab.gov.in

Any Corrigendum(s) to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published on

the above website only. Sd/- Executive Engineer,

> Pb. W/S & Sew. Division, Ludhiana. eepwssdivn2ldh@gmail.com

CHIEF ENGINEER, KANGRA ZONE **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH, DHARAMSHALA**

OFFICE OF THE

[ON THE LETTERHEAD OF THE EMPLOYER] Invitation for Bids No.: PWD/07/R7/2021-22

Loan No. and Title: Loan No. 3573 IND/Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Project.

Contract Package No. and Title: PWD/07/R7/; Construction of Model Career Centre (MCC) building at Kasba Kotla, district Kangra. H.P. (SH: C/o Main Building including Water Supply and Sanitary Installation, Septic Tank, Site Development, Rain Harvesting Tank, Ground water recharging pit, Retaining wall and Boundary wall, Environment Component, Site Barricading etc.)

Deadline for Submission of Bids is 28 June 2021 at 11:00 hrs (IST)

- The India has received the financing from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of "Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Project". Part of this financing will be used for payments under the Contract Package named above. Bidding is open to Bidders from eligible source countries of the ADB.
- The "Public Works Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh represented by Chief Engineer, Kangra Zone, Dharamshala" ("The Employer") invites sealed bids from eligible Bidders for the Construction of Model Career Centre (MCC) building at Kasba Kotla, District Kangra. H.P. (SH:- C/o Main Building including Water Supply and Sanitary Installation, Septic Tank, Site Development, Rain Harvesting Tank, Ground water recharging pit, Retaining wall and Boundary wall, Environment Component, Site Barricading etc.) ir all respect ("The Works").
- National competitive bidding will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single-stage: Two-Envelope procedure and is open to all Bidders from eligible countries as described in the Bidding Document Only eligible Bidders with the following key qualifications should participate in this bidding;
- a) Participation in at least one contract that has been successfully or substantially completed within the last five years and that is similar to the proposed works, where the value of the Bidder's participation exceeds INR18 million (INR 1.8 Crore);
- b) Minimum average annual construction turnover of INR 48 million (INR 4.8 Crore), calculated as total certified payments received for contracts in progress or completed, within the last three (3) years
- c) Has financial resources to meet its current contract commitments, plus INR 3 million (INR 30 Lakh) requirements for the Subject Contract; d) Meets other Personnel and Equipment requirements as stipulated
- in the Bidding Document. However for complete eligibility and qualification requirements, bid

document should be referred.

To obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents, Bidders should contact:

Attention: Er. Harsh Puri

Executive Engineer, Kotla-Behar Himachal Pradesh Public Works Department (HPPWD) Himachal Pradesh

India. Phone Number - 94180-27640

Fax - 01970-233116

E-mail ID - eepwd-kotlabehar-hp@gov.in

A Pre-bid meeting shall take place on 04 June 2021 at 03:00 p.m. (IST) at the address stated above.

To purchase the bidding documents in English language, eligible Bidders should write or visit at the office of the Employer at address stated above and pay a nonrefundable fee of INR 5,000 towards the

cost of bidding document in the form of Bank Demand Draft. In case of written request, the document will be sent by post/ courier and no liability will be accepted for loss or late delivery.

The Bidders who wish to receive the bidding document by post/courier shall have to pay an additional amount of INR 3,000 for delivery within India, or USD 250 for delivery outside India. The method of payment will be through bank demand draft payable at Kotla-Behar, Himachal Pradesh, India. The eligible bidders may otherwise download the bidding document in

English language from the website www.hppwd.gov.in, such bidders shall be required to submit INR 5,000 with their bid in the form of Bank demand draft towards cost of bidding document.

Deliver your bid to the address above

- on or before the deadline: 28 June 2021at 11:00 hrs (IST) together with a Bid Security as described in the Bidding Document.
- Bids will be opened on 28 June 2021 at 11:30 hrs (IST) in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

Executive Engineer, Kotla-Behar, HPPWD

For and on behalf of: Chief Engineer, Kangra Zone

Public Works Department, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, epaper tribuneindia.com

DPR/HP/883

Municipal Council, Khanna ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਖੰਨਾ (ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਲਧਿਆਣਾ)

ਨੈ: 2567 ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ

ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਖੰਨਾ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੰ. 2021_DLG_64986 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਮਿਤੀ 10.05.2021 ਤੋਂ ਮਿਤੀ 24.05.2021 ਤੱਕ Renovation and Modernization of Bus Stand MC, Khanna ਦੇ ਕੰਮ ਦਾ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਲਗਾਇਆ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੰ ਭਰਨ ਦੀ ਆਖ਼ਰੀ ਮਿਤੀ 24.05.2021, ਸਮਾਂ ਸ਼ਾਮ 06.00 ਵਜੇ ਤੱਕ ਹੈ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰੀ-ਬਿੱਡ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਮਿਤੀ 20.05.2021 ਨੂੰ ਸਵੇਰੇ 11.00 ਵਜੇ ਤੋਂ ਸ਼ਾਮ 05.00 ਵਜੇ ਤੱਕ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਖੰਨਾ ਵਿਖੇ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਦੀ ਤਕਨੀਕੀ ਬਿੱਡ ਮਿਤੀ 25.05.2021 ਨੂੰ ਸਵੇਰੇ 10.00 ਵਜੇ ਅਤੇ ਫਾਈਨਾਂਸ਼ੀਅਲ ਬਿੱਡ ਮਿਤੀ $\overset{\circ}{2}6.05.2021$ ਨੂੰ ਸਵੇਰੇ 10.00 ਵਜੇ ਖੱਲਗੀ। ਬਾਕੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ www.eproc.punjab.gov.in 'ਤੇ ਦੇਖੀਆਂ ਜਾਂ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਕੋਰੀਜੰਡਮ ਅਤੇ ਅਡੈਂਡੰਮ ਕੇਵਲ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਹੀ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।

Sd/- Vice president, Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Khanna. DPR/Pb/4693 Municipal Council, Khanna.

PUNJAB POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LTD POLICE COMPLEX, PHASE-VII, SAS NAGAR. TEL. NO. 4080111, 4080112 & FAX No. 4080107

INVITATION OF BID (IFB) SHORT E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 9/2020-21 DATED 19.05.2021

Online tenders are invited on two bid system (Technical Bid & Financial Bid) on percentage basis above/below/at par from the DNIT for the following works from the eligible Contractors enlisted in Central/State Government and PSU as per detail given in the website eproc.punjab.gov.in

Sr. No.	Name of Work	i) ii) iii) v)	Estimated Cost Earnest Money Processing Fee Tender Form Cost	Time Limit (in months)
1	Construction of ITI at Bhagwanpura, Block Amloh, District Fatehgarh Sahib.	i) ii) iii) iv)	Rs. 784.51 lacs Rs. 7.84 lacs Rs. 5900/- Rs. 5900/-	09
(i)	Start Date of Down Loading	21	.05.2021 Time 17:	00 Hrs.
ii)	Last Date of Bid Submission	03	.06.2021 Time 11:	00 Hrs.
iii)	Date & Time of Opening of Technical Bid	04	.06.2021 Time 11:	00 Hrs.
conta	For any clarification/difficulty regarding act us on 0172-2970263, 0172-2970284/4			

Corrections, if any will be published in the website. Sd/- CHAIRMAN-cum-MANAGING DIRECTOR

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT-CUM-MEMBER SECRETARY, RKS. DR. R.P. GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL. **KANGRA AT TANDA**

E-mail: medical.supdt.tanda@gmail.com Website: http://www.hptenders.gov.in Tender No.: HFW-H(DRPGMC)MS/RKS/e-tender/2020-3393 Dated:19.05.2021

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

E-tender under Two Bid Systems are hereby invited from the eligible tenderers for Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Liquid Medical Oxygen Tank with intake capacity of 30KL including civil work like concrete platform and boundary chain link fencing in Dr. R.P. Govt. Medical College & Hospital, Kangra at Tanda. The detailed tender document can be viewed and downloaded from website: https://www.hptenders.gov.in as per schedule given below **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:-**

Commencement of download of

	e-Tender Form from website					
3	Last Date for Queries on or before	28.05.2021, 5.00 P.M.				
	Last Date for Uploading of Tender in e-procurement platform on or before	31.05.2021, 11:00 A.M.				
	Opening of Techno-Commercial Bid	31.05.2021, 3:00 P.M.				
	Opening of Price Bid	Next any further date to be notified				
1	E.M.D.	Rs. 1,50,000.00				
	Venue	THE PRINCIPAL Chamber, DR. R. P. GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE, KANGRA AT TANDA — 176002				
1	Phone: 01892-267115	Fax No.: 01892-267115				
201	The bidders are advised to visit the aforesaid website regularly for any corrigendum odifications and clarifications in respect of this tender. The Principal-cum-Chairm					

RKS reserves the right to reject/accept any or all the tender offers without assigning Sd/- Principal-cum-Chairman, RKS,

Dr. RPGMC, Tanda. DI-3051

HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT, HIMACHAL PRADESH

Block No.6, SDA Commercial Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-171009, India Phone: 0177-2621466, 2621476 Fax: 0177-2622307 Website: www.hphealth.nic.in Email: ddhsproc@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

Short Term E-Tenders are invited from the All India based Manufacturers/Authorized Distributors of Manufacturers (for indigenous product)/Direct Importer (for imported product), for procurement of 70 lac (tentative), Syringe, auto-disable, 0.5 ml with needle (23Gx1" or 0.6x25mm) and protective cap, required primarily for Covid-19 vaccination, F.O.R. State Vaccine Store Parimahal Shimla - 171009, Regional Vaccine Store Mandi, c/o CMO Mandi, Distt. Mandi (HP) and Regional Vaccine Store Dharamshala, C/o CMO Kangra, Distt. Kangra (HP). The detailed tender document can be viewed and downloaded from 18.05.2021 on website: https://www.hptenders.gov.in. The Last date and time for submission & uploading of filled in tender documents is 25.05.2021 up to 01:00 PM. The Tender will be opened on 25.05.2021 at 2.30 PM. All subsequent corrigendum, modifications and clarifications in respect of this tender will be published only on website https://www.hptenders.gov.in. The bidders are advised to visit the aforesaid website regularly. The undersigned reserve the right to accept or reject any or all the tender offers without assigning any reason.

Director Health Services. Himachal Pradesh Shimla – 171009

ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟਰ ਸਮਾਜਿਕ ਸਰੱਖਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਤੇ ਬਾਲ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ ਫੋਨ: 0172-2602294

DPR/HP/893

ਜਨਤਕ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੀ ਮਦਦ ਬੱਚੇ ਦੀ ਜ਼ਿੰਦਗੀ ਬਚਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ

ਕੋਵਿਡ 19 ਦੀ ਸਮੱਸਿਆ ਦੇ ਦੌਰਾਨ ਇਕ ਹੋਰ ਸੰਕਟ ਗੰਭੀਰ ਰੂਪ ਲੈ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਬੱਚੇ ਅਚਾਨਕ ਹੀ ਮਾਪਿਆਂ ਤੋਂ ਵਾਂਝੇ ਹੋ ਰਹੇ ਹਨ। ਇਹ ਅਜਿਹੇ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਹਨ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਬੱਚੇ ਦੇ ਮਾਪੇ ਅਕਾਲ ਚਲਾਣਾ ਕਰ ਜਾਂਦੇ ਹਨ ਜਾਂ ਇਕ ਮਾਂ ਜਾਂ ਪਿਓ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੰਦਾ ਜਾਂ ਦਜਾ ਬਿਮਾਰ ਜਾਂ ਹਸਪਤਾਲ ਵਿਚ ਦਾਖਲ ਹੁੰਦਾ ਹੈ ਜਾਂ ਦੋਵੇਂ ਮਾਤਾ-ਪਿਤਾ ਹਸਪਤਾਲ ਵਿਚ ਦਾਖਲ ਹੁੰਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਅਜਿਹੇ ਸਮੇਂ ਸ਼ੋਸਲ ਮੀਡੀਆ 'ਤੇ ਅਪੀਲ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜੇਕਰ ਕੋਈ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਗੋਦ ਣ ਦਾ ਚਾਹਵਾਨ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰਨ। ਆਪ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਦੀ ਮਦਦ ਕਰਨਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਜਿਸ ਦਾ ਅਸੀਂ ਪੁਰ ਸਨਮਾਨ ਕਰਦੇ ਹਾਂ, ਪ੍ਰੰਤੂ ਗੋਦ ਲੈਣਾ ਅਤੇ ਦੇਣਾ ਇਕ ਕਾਨੂੰਨੀ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਜੇਕਰ ਆਪ ਦੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਵਿਚ ਕੋਈ ਅਜਿਹਾ ਬੱਚਾ ਆਉਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਜੁਵੇਨਾਇਲ ਜਸਟਿਸ (ਕੇਅਰ ਐਂਡ ਪ੍ਰੋਟੈਕਸ਼ਨ ਆਫ਼ ਚਿਲਡਰਨ) ਐਕਟ 2015 ਦੀ ਧਾਰਾ 31 ਅਤੇ 32 ਦੇ ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਉਸ ਦੀ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਵੇ। ਇਸ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਦਾ ਉਲੰਘਣ ਕਰਨ ਵਾਲਿਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਜੁਵੇਨਾਇਲ ਜਸਟਿਸ (ਕੇਅਰ ਐਂਡ ਪ੍ਰੋਟੈਕਸ਼ਨ ਆਫ਼ ਚਿਲਡਰਨ) ਐਕਟ, 2015 ਦੀ ਧਾਰਾ 80 ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਸਜ਼ਾ ਦਾ ਪ੍ਰਾਵਧਾਨ ਹੈ।

- ਅਜਿਹੇ ਸਾਰੇ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਨੈਸ਼ਨਲ ਚਾਈਲਡ ਹੈਲਪਲਾਈਨ 1098 ਨੂੰ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਕਰੋ। ਇਹ ਇਕ ਟੋਲ-ਫ੍ਰੀ ਨੰਬਰ ਹੈ ਜੋ 24x7 ਘੰਟੇ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਹੈਲਪਲਾਈਨ ਚਾਈਲਡ ਲਾਈਨ ਇੰਡੀਆ ਫਾਉਂਡੇਸ਼ਨ ਦੁਆਰਾ ਚਲਾਈ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ. ਜੋ ਕਿ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਤੇ ਬਾਲ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਮੰਤਰਾਲੇ ਦੀ ਨੋਡਲ ਏਜੰਸੀ ਹੈ।
- ਸਟੇਟ ਅਡਾਪਸ਼ਨ ਰਿਸੋਰਸ ਏਜੰਸੀ (ਸਾਰਾ) ਦੇ ਨੰਬਰ- 9592104500 'ਤੇ ਵੀ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਮਦਦ ਦੀ ਕੋਸ਼ਿਸ਼ ਕਰ ਰਹੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਬਾਰੇ, ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਫੋਟੋਆਂ, ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਸਥਾਨ, ਪਤੇ ਜਾਂ ਨਿੱਜੀ ਵੇਰਵੇ ਸਮੇਤ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੇ ਨਾਲ ਵੀ ਸਾਂਝੀ ਨਾ ਕਰੋ। ਇਹ ਬੱਚੇ ਦੀ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਲਈ ਗੰਭੀਰ ਖ਼ਤਰਾ ਪੈਦਾ ਕਰ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹੇ ਦੇ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਬਾਲ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਯਨਿਟ ਜਾਂ ਬਾਲ ਭਲਾਈ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਜਾਂ ਜਵੇਨਾਇਲ ਜਸਿਟਸ ਬੋਰਡ ਨਾਲ ਤਾਲਮੇਲ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੈ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੂਚੀ sswcd.punjab.gov.in/en/wcd/integrated-child-protection-scheme-icps ਅਤੇ sswcd.punjab.gov.in/en/downloads 'ਤੇ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਤੋਂ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਜੇ ਤਸੀਂ ਪਭਾਵਿਤ ਹੋਏ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਲਈ ਪਨਾਹ, ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਸਵਿਧਾਵ
- ਦੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਕਰਨਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹੇ ਦੇ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਬਾਲ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਯੂਨਿਟ ਜਾਂ ਭਲਾਈ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਜਾਂ ਜੁਵੇਨਾਇਲ ਜਸਟਿਸ ਬੋਰਡ ਨਾਲ ਤਾਲਮੇਲ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੂਚੀ sswcd.punjab.gov.in/en/wcd/integrated-child-protection-scheme-icps ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ, ਨੂੰ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ। ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹੇ ਵਿਚ ਚੱਲ ਰਹੇ ਸੁਪਰਡੈਂਟ, ਚਿਲਡਰਨ ਹੋਮ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੂਚੀ
- sswcd.punjab.gov.in/en/wcd/integrated-child-protection-scheme-icps ਅਤੇ sswcd.punjab.gov.in/en/downloads 'ਤੇ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ, ਨੂੰ ਵੀ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ। ਪੰਜਾਬ ਰਾਜ ਵਿਚ ਬਾਲ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਰੱਖਿਆ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨ ਦਾ ਗਠਨ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ, ਤੁਸੀਂ ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ 79996-00009 ਅਤੇ 0172-2298097 ਨੰਬਰਾਂ 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਵੀ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ।
- Institue of Mental Healh and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) ਦੇ ਨੰਬਰ- 080269-72240 'ਤੇ ਮਾਨਸਿਕ ਸਿਹਤ ਅਭਿਆਸਕਾਂ ਤੱਕ ਪਹੰਚ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ। ਨੈਸ਼ਨਲ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨ ਫਾਰ ਪ੍ਰੋਟੈਕਸ਼ਨ ਆਫ਼ ਚਾਈਲਡ ਰਾਈਟਸ (ਐਨ.ਸੀ.ਪੀ.ਸੀ.ਆਰ.) ਨਾਲ ਵੀ

ਜੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਬੱਚੇ ਨੂੰ ਭਾਵਨਾਤਮਕ ਅਤੇ ਮਾਨਸਿਕ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ National

181 'ਤੇ ਵੀ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ, ਜੋ ਕਿ ਮਹਿਲਾ ਹੈਲਪਲਾਈਨ ਨੰਬਰ ਹੈ।

ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਬੱਚਿਆਂ ਮਦਦ ਕਾਨੰਨ ਦੇ ਦਾਇਰੇ ਵਿਚ ਰਹਿ ਕੇ ਹੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ। DPR/Pb/4717

Gaza conflict rages on, WHO appeals for humanitarian pause

Wants access to city for giving aid | Hamas fires more rockets

GAZA/JERUSALEM, MAY 20 Diplomatic efforts towards a ceasefire in the Gaza war gathered pace on Thursday amid a worsening humanitarian crisis in the Palestinian territory. but Israeli airstrikes again pulverised the enclave and Hamas rockets targeted towns in Israel. International agencies appealed for a halt in the violence to allow medical and other supplies into Hamas-run Gaza.

The severity of injuries is straining an already overwhelmed health system," WHO regional director Ahmed Al-Mandhari said in Cairo. A senior official in the Hamas militant group said a ceasefire could take hold within days. Rocket attacks on Israel stopped for eight hours early on Thursday but then resumed against communities near the Israel-Gaza border. An Israeli minister said Israel would halt its offensive only when it had achieved its goals, and Israeli warplanes unleashed more airstrikes on the densely-populated enclave on an 11th day of hostilities. Health officials in



PALESTINIAN ENVOY ACCUSES ISRAEL OF 'GENOCIDE'

Foreign Minister Riyad Al-Malki has accused Israel of committing "genocide" against Palestinian families. He urged the international community to protect the Palestinian people until their freedom is assured. He urged the assembly to ensure that Israel was held accountable for killing innocent Palestinians and not provided with arms. AP



Gaza say 230 Palestinians, including 65 children and 39 women, have been killed and

more than 1,700 wounded in aerial bombardments. Israeli authorities put the death toll to

date at 12 in Israel, with 336 persons treated injuries. — Reuters

EU seals Pfizer deal for 1.8 bn doses

BRUSSELS, MAY 20

The European Union's executive arm on Thursday finalised a third vaccine contract with Pfizer and BioNTech through 2023 for an additional 1.8 billion doses of their Covid-19 shot.

The EU said the deal, which was agreed on behalf of all 27 EU countries earlier this month, would allow the buying of 900 million doses of the current shots and of a serum adapted to the virus' variants, with an option to purchase an extra 900 million shots. The signature of the agreement



a jab in London. AP/PTI

comes less than a week before a court hearing in Brussels pitting the commission against

TRACKING VIRUS NATIONS DEATHS US 6,02,035 **BRAZIL** 4,41,864 **MEXICO** 2,20,850 **UK 1,27,69**4 III ITALY 1,24,810 WORLDOMETER

AstraZeneca, which is accused of failing to deliver the promised number of doses. — AP

TILL MAY 20, 11 PM

Sri Lanka suspends inbound int'l flights

соломво: The Sri Lankan government has suspended all inbound international passenger flights for 10 days from Friday as part of its efforts to curb the spread of the pandemic. PTI

Shangri-La summit in Singapore cancelled

SINGAPORE: The Shangri-La Dialogue Asian security summit that was due to be held in Singapore next month has been cancelled due to Covid-19, organisers said. PTI

BUSINESS

NSE USD S EURO € POUND € JPY YUAN CAD AUD AS SGD SS HKD 337.78 ₹73.12 ₹89.22 ₹103.27 ₹0.67 ₹11.35 ₹60.34 ₹56.72 ₹54.88 ₹9.41

New ITR filing portal from June 7

Existing website to remain suspended from June 1 to June 6

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

The existing income tax portal will be unavailable for six days — from June 1 to June 6 — as a prelude to the launch of a newer, mobile-friendly version from June 7, said a Finance Ministry statement.

It has advised taxpayers that they should complete urgent tasks involving submissions, uploads or downloads before June 1 to avoid any difficulty during the blackout period.

The new e-filing portal (www.incometax.gov.in) is aimed at providing taxpayer convenience and a modern, seamless experience, it added. It will provide multiple payment options using net-banking, UPI, credit card and RTGS/NEFT from any account of the taxpayer in any bank.



In order to avoid any inconvenience to taxpayers, the Department will not fix any compliance dates during this period.

The new portal is integrated, enabling immediate processing of Income Tax Returns (ITRs) to issue quick refunds. It will also display all interactions and uploads or pending actions on a single dashboard for follow-up action by the taxpayer.

Users, even without any tax knowledge, have been asked to use ITR preparation software, available online and offline, to effortlessly file their returns. The ministry is also planning to set up a new call centre to answer queries in this regard that will

Further, directions have been issued to fix hearing of cases only from June 10 onwards, to give taxpayers

include a chatbot/live agent.

time to respond on the new system. Any hearing or compliance during this period will be preponed or adjourned if it requires online submissions.

DEADLINE FOR RETURN

NOW SEPTEMBER 30

day extended the due

date of filing income tax

individuals by two months

The Central Board of Direct

deadline for companies by a

Taxes (CBDT) has also

extended the ITR filing

month till November 30

returns for 2020-21 for

till September 30

The I-T Department has already intimated banks who avail services of PAN verification about the non-availability of services and has asked them to ensure that their customers are informed about the blackout period.

Royal Enfield recalls over 2.36 lakh bikes

Eicher Motors



NEW DELHI, MAY 20

in the ignition coil that can cause misfiring and, in rare cases, an electric short circuit. The recall will apply to Meteor, Classic and Bullet model motorcycles sold in India, Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines, Australia, New Zealand and Malaysia, Royal Enfield said. — Reuters

repay \$6m in wages **AMSTERDAM, MAY 20**

An Amsterdam court on

Thursday ordered fugitive former car executive

Carlos Ghosn to repay Nissan and Mitsubishi \$6.1 million in wages he received from their Dutch-registered JV Nissan-Mitsubishi BV in 2018. Nissan and Mitsubishi, which ousted Ghosn as chairman in 2018, claimed Ghosn had

wrongly granted the wages

to himself. — Reuters

Ex-Nissan boss told to **Amazon faces five** new lawsuits in US **SEATTLE, MAY 20**

Amazon.com

Inc was hit on Wednesday with five new lawsuits by women who



worked in corporate or warehouse management roles, and accused the online retailer of gender bias, racial bias or both. The women, aged 23 to 64, accused Amazon of favouring men over women in career growth, allowing supervisors to denigrate them, and retaliating after they complained. — Reuters

Bad bank to get 80 large NPA accounts

NEW DELHI, MAY 20 State-owned

banks are likely to shift around 80 NPA large accounts for

the resolution to National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd., which is expected to be operational by next month. It is expected that NPAs over Rs 2 lakh crore will move out of the books of the banks to the bad bank. It will pick up those assets that are 100% provided for by the lenders. — PTI

ਟੋਲ ਵੀ ਹੈਲਪਲਾਈਨ 1800-121-2830 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹੋ।

BRIEFLY

NEW DELHI

India women to play maiden pink-ball Test vs Australia The India women's team will play their maiden pink-ball Test the countries announced

later this year, against Australia in Perth, cricket boards of both today. Mithali Raj's team will take on Meg Lanning's squad at the WACA ground from September 30 in what will be only the second Day-Night Test in women's cricket, following Australia's drawn 2017 match against England in Sydney.

BUENOS AIRES

Maradona doctors could

face murder charge Seven people being investigated over the death of Argentine footballing great Diego Maradona could face charges of premeditated murder, a news report has said. The accused, including Maradona's neurosurgeon Leopoldo Luque, psychiatrist Agustina Cosachov and psychologist Carlos Diaz, could face eight to 25 years in prison if found guilty. The indictment is based on findings by a board of experts into Maradona's death from a heart attack last year. The report of

these experts concluded that Maradona received inadequate medical care and was left to his fate for a "prolonged, agonising period" before his death, which occurred just weeks after the 60-year-old underwent a brain surgery for a blood clot.

PCB to stage remaining **PSL**

matches in Abu Dhabi

The Pakistan Cricket Board is set to stage the remaining matches of the sixth edition of the Pakistan Super League in Abu Dhabi after receiving all outstanding approvals and exemptions from the UAE government.

LONDON Liverpool back in Premier

League's top-4

Liverpool beat Burnley 3-0 on Wednesday to climb to fourth in the Premier League. Liverpool will head into Sunday's final round looking to clinch qualification for the Champions League. With two qualifying spots up for grabs to join Manchester City and Manchester United, Chelsea are in third place on 67 points, one more than both Liverpool and fifth-place Leicester. Liverpool have a superior goal difference to Leicester.

REGGIO EMILIA (ITALY)

Juventus beat Atalanta 2-1 to win Italian Cup final

Gianluigi Buffon lifted the last trophy of his glittering Juventus career after his team beat Atalanta 2-1 in the Italian Cup to put some shine on a disappointing season. It was a recordextending 14th Italian Cup title for Juventus, and a first for star forward Cristiano Ronaldo.

Mbappe helps PSG retain French Cup title

Kylian Mbappe scored one goal and set up the other as Paris Saint-Germain stayed on course for a domestic double by beating Monaco 2-0 to retain the French Cup. It was a record-extending 14th cup win for PSG, who trail leaders Lille by one point in Ligue 1. AGENCIES

CHANDIGARH HOUSING BOARD CHANDIGARH 8, Janmarg, Sector 9-D, Chandigarh 160 009 Phone: 0172 4601826

PRESS NOTICE

Notice Inviting e-Tenders Executive Engineer-IV on behalf of the Chairman, Chandigarh Housing Board invites Percentage Rate Tenders through e-procurement process from the enlisted Agencies/Firms/Contractors/ Tenderer having valid enlistment certificate issued by any one or the specified departments i.e. UT Engineering Department/ Municipal Corporation Chandigarh / CPWD / MES Punjab PWD / Haryana PWD / Himachal PWD / other State Govt. Departments. Boards / Corporations & PSUs for the work or "EARTH WORK IN CENTRAL GREEN PARK AT IT HABITAT RGCTP. CHANDIGARH".

Estimated Cost:- Rs. 56,30,729/ Earnest Money:- Rs. 1,12,700/, Period of Completion: - 02 Months. Last date of submission of bid online is 31/05/2021 Last date of physical submission of bid & date of opening hid is 04/06/2021. For detail Milestone dates of Electronic

Tendering are given at the website http://etenders.chd.nic.in/nicgep Ph.: 0172-4601710 0172-4601746 Executive Engineer-IV

for & on behalf of Chairman Chandigarh Housing Board. epaper.tribuneinduandom

Dravid to coach India white-ball team in Lanka

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

Former India captain Rahul Dravid, currently heading the National Cricket Academy (NCA), is set to be named the head coach of the Indian white-ball squad that will tour Sri Lanka in July.

Dravid, who stopped travelling with the India A and U-19 teams after taking over as NCA head in Bengaluru, will be the head coach of the second-string side in the absence of the main team staff. The India coaching staff, including head coach Ravi Shastri, bowling coach Bharat Arun and batting coach Vikram Rathour, will

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Though there has been a

marked decline in Covid-19

cases in the country, the

numbers are still high and

Indian athletes have been

making efforts to train

abroad to avoid contracting

The Sports Ministry

through its Target Olympic

Podium Scheme (TOPS) has

been backing athletes in this.

The latest Olympics hopeful

to get a helping hand is

wrestler Vinesh Phogat (53kg

category), whose request to

train in Hungary and Poland

until July, after she finishes

her current high-altitude

stint in Bulgaria, has been

accepted. Vinesh will train in

Budapest until June 9, travel

for the Poland Open (June 9

to 13) and return to Budapest

INSURANCE COVER

The Sports Ministry has

decided to extend medical

and accident insurance cov-

er to athletes, coaches and

support staff from this year.

The medical insurance cover

of Rs 5 lakh each will be pro-

campers, probable national

campers, Khelo India ath-

letes and junior campers

Excellence. The insurance

includes a Rs 25 lakh cover

in case of accident or death.

wrestlers Sumit Malik (125kg)

and Seema Bisla (50kg), row-

Singh, and tennis player Anki-

ta Raina have been added to

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD.

BEAS VALLEY POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Subsidiary Company of H.P.S.E.B. Ltd.)

Registered Office: C-208, Main Road Sector-III, New Shimla

Corporate Office : Jhalwan, Joginder Nagar, Distt. Mandi

CIN No: U40101HP2003SGC025877, GSTIN: 02AABCH4161P1ZL

Company Secretary: Mob No. 94596-84691 E-mail: cshpsebl@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING BIDS (e-Tendering Mode only)

Online (through) rate bids (Two- part bid system) are invited by the

undersigned for and on behalf of Managing Director, Beas Valley Power

Corporation Ltd. (BVPCL) for the below described work on the prescribed forms from the reputed companies having a sufficient

experience and expertise to execute such works in the past. The

tender documents shall be available on e-Tendering website:

Estimated Earnest Bid Money

Money

70.00

Lakh

19.05.2021

21.05.2021

21.06.2021

28.06.2021

Joginder Nagar, Distt. Mandi.

Himchal Pradesh. Ph. No. 01908-224412

up to 14:00 hours

Crore

Detailed Design & Fabrication Drawings for its replacement

Supply of steel plates, Storage, Fabrication, Testing, Painting

Transportation to Project site, Erection and commissioning of

Surface, Steel In-Liners, Cladding work of Penstock and its

specials, complete in all respect including execution of allied civil

works (Design/Construction Drawings) for Uhl- Stage-III-

(100MW) HEP, Joginder Nagar, Distt-Mandi, Himachal Pradesh".

Time for Completion= 23 Months

The bid document shall be available online and is to be submitted on the

website https// www.hptenders.gov.in .The bidders would be

required to register in the website, which is free of cost. For submission

of bids, the bidders are required to have digital signature certificate

(DSC) from one of the authorized certifying authority (CA). Aspiring

bidders, who have not obtained the user ID and password for

participating in e-tendering in HPSEBL, may obtain the same from the

website https://www.hptenders.gov.in. DSC is mandatory to

participate in e-tendering. Bidders already have valid DSC issued from

authorized CAs can use the same in this tendering process as per

Any further clarification, corrigendum, amendment, extension or

addendum shall be notified on the above website only; no press notice for

the same shall be issued. Bidders should regularly visit the website to

Managing Director, BVPCL, Uhl Stage-III, (100 MW).

including

GST

Rs.

20,000.00

https://www.hptenders.gov.in by 21 May, 2021.

Name of Work

Dismantling of existing Surface

Penstock fabricated from

SAILMA550 HI Steel, Complete

O/o MD, BVPCL, Jhalwan, Distt. Mandi, Joginder Nagar- 175015 Tel Number: 01908-224412 & 224516, Email Id: mdbvpcl_jnr@yahoo.com

the TOPS core group.

Tender

following key dates:-

of online NIT

Date of Online publication

keep themselves updated.

Energy Saved is Energy Generated

Date of downloading of NIT

Last date & time for submission

Date of opening of Techno-Commercial Bid

e-mail address: mdbvpcl_inr@yahoo.com

ers Arjun Lal Jat and Arvind

Meanwhile, Olympics-bound

training at SAI Centre of

vided to all national

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

the virus.

Olympics-bound athletes keen to

train abroad to avoid Covid-19 in India

be on tour in England for five Test matches and the World Test Championship final during the time India's white-ball specialists play in Sri Lanka.

"He will travel with the team to Sri Lanka in all likelihood," a BCCI official said.

Bowling coach Paras Mhambrey will also be part the of the support staff. India are expected to play

three ODIs and as many T20s in Sri Lanka in July, though the schedule has not been announced yet.

Dravid has earned praise for unearthing and grooming young talent during his stint

Vinesh will train in

Hungary and Poland

after she finishes her

current high-altitude

to be based there until July 2.

Her coach Woller Akos, spar-

ring partner Priyanka and

physiotherapist Poornima

Raman Ngomdir will accom-

pany her. The Mission

Olympic Cell (MOC) cleared

the training stint that will

approved a five-week train-

ing camp of doubles scullers

Arjun Lal Jat and Arvind

Singh in Portugal from June

1. Besides, doubles tennis

specialists Divij Sharan and

Rohan Bopanna's participa-

tion in several tournaments

between January and June

2021 has been approved, with

a total cost of Rs 57.51 lakh.

also

stint in Bulgaria

cost Rs 20.21 lakh.

The MOC has

with the India A and India under-19 sides. Many of the India youngsters, including those who could be touring Sri Lanka, have played under Dravid as coach. The Board of Control for Cricket in India is yet to confirm Dravid's appointment, however.

The squad will have plenty of fringe players and some established white-ball specialists. Hardik Pandya, Shikhar Dhawan Shreyas Iyer are in the run ning for captaincy.

It remains to be seen if Iyer recovers in time from his shoulder surgery to play in Sri Lanka. — Agencies

Vinesh to train in **Teams may** notcometo Europe till July India for T20 **WC: Hussey**

SYDNEY, MAY 20

Former Australia coach Mike Hussey, who was infected with the Covid-19 virus while coaching Chennai Super Kings during the now-suspended IPL, believes that it would be "very difficult" to organise the T20 World Cup in India this year. The T20 World Cup is scheduled to be held in India later this year but with the country still in the grip of a devastating second wave of the coronavirus pandemic, there is speculation that the tournament would be moved out of India.

Hussey said various cricket boards would be reluctant to send their teams India. "We're talking about eight teams in the IPL. I think there are probably similar number, maybe more teams coming in from overseas (for the T20 World Cup). ...if cities, that is when the risk goes up," Hussey said. — TNS |

Z-28016/6/2021-PMSSY.IV **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE**

3rd Floor, Indian Red Cross Society Building, New Delhi- 110001 ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EACH IN AIIMS AT (i) BHOPAL (MADHYA PRADESH), (ii BHUBANESWAR (ODISHA), (iii) PATNA (BIHAR), (iv) RISHIKESH (UTTARAKHAND), (v) GUWAHATI (ASSAM), (vi) AWANTIPORA (JAMMU & KASHMIR) and (vii) DARBHANGA (BIHAR)

(PMSSY DIVISION)

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (PMSSY Division) invites applications from eligible candidates for filling up the post of Executive Director on deputation/short term contract/contract basis in the Level 15 Rs. 182200-224100/- in the Pay Matrix (as per 7th CPC) each in Al India institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) at (i) Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh) (ii) Bhubaneswar (Odisha) (iii) Patna (Bihar) (iv) Rishikesh (Uttarakhand) (v) Guwahati (Assam) (vi) Awantipora (Jammu & Kashmir) and (vii) Darbhanga (Bihar). For further details, please visit Ministry's Website and Division's Website at www.mohfw.gov.in and http://pmssy-mohfw.nic.in

Detailed advertisement will be published in the Employment News. The closing date of receipt of application will be the 45th day from the date of publication of advertisement in Employment News.

(S.M. Routray) Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India davp 17101/11/0002/2122 **Tel : 011-23350005**

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL **EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH**

NOTICE FOR WALK-IN INTERVIEW

The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, (PGIMER) Chandigarh intends to fill the following post for Regional Organ and Tissue Transplan Organization (ROTTO) under National Organ & Transplant Programme (NOTP) during

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	No. of Post
1.	Director In Charge	01
2.	Joint Director (Technical)	01
3.	Programme Assistant cum Data Entry Operator	01

The above posts are to be filled purely on contractual basis (fixed salary) on the rate as approved by the Ministry. For further details like qualification, experience, emoluments of the post etc., the candidates are advised to visit PGI website www.pgimer.edu.ir and download the detailed terms and conditions. Interested candidates may appea before the interview board/committee with detailed Bio-data/application form supported with a copy of all certificates/testimonials, experience certificate and publications etc. for the posts on 04.06.2021 at 03:00 p.m. in the Committee Room, M.S. Office, Nehru Hospital, PGIMER, Chandigarh. DIRECTOR



SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA

SEBI Bhavan, C4/A, 'G' Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East) Mumbai – 400051

Empanelment of Forensic Auditors

Notice Inviting Applications For

Applications invited in prescribed format for Empanelment of Forensic Auditors.

Detailed advertisement is available in our website www.sebi.gov.in under section 'Tenders'. davp 15204/11/0070/2122

PUBLIC NOTICE

HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT. **CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION**

Walk-in interview for filling up the posts **Psychiatrist** and Medical Officers on contractual basis for the tenure of one year for Drug De-Addiction Centre in Model Jail under Health & Family Welfare Department, Chandigarh Administration will be held on 27th May 2021 at 9.00 a.m. Necessary details are available on departmental website www.nrhmchd.gov.in or contact O/o National Health Mission, 4th Floor, Administrative Block, Govt. Multi Speciality Hospital, Sector 16 Chandigarh (Phone No. 0172-2702924).

Sd/- Director Health & Family Welfare, **Chandigarh Administration.**

CHANDIGARH STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY, UT, CHD

INTERNATIONAL HOSTEL, SECTOR 15-A, (NEAR PGIMER), MADHYA MARG, **CHANDIGARH** they're playing in different PHONE NO. 2544563, 2783300, FAX NO. 2700171

EMAIL: chandigarhsacs@gmail.com WEBSITE: www.chandigarhsacs.org.in

Request for Expression of Interest (Eol) for short listing of NGOs/CBOs for establishment of Care and Support Centres (CSCs) in Chandigarh.

Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society (CSACS) invites applications from interested Civil Society Organizations (NGOs/CBOs) for empanelment/selection to (a) implement care and support centers. A CSC is a community-based service delivery point which provides counselling psychosocial support, outreach activities, linkages to welfare schemes and enabling environment for PLHIV. CBOs/NGOs that are registered Societies/ Trusts and active in community work are eligible to apply.

Additional information viz. terms of reference/scope of work. qualifying and evaluation criteria may be seen on the website of Chandigarh SACS. www.chandigarhsacs.org.in.

Last date of Expression of Interest applications in the specified format with relevant documents to Chandigarh SACS shall be up to 5:00 p.m. on 7/6/2021.

"Please note that this is not a request for proposals. The request for proposal will be issued to short-list NGO/CBO only".

> Sd/- Project Director, **Chandigarh State AIDS Control Society**

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEN-HQ/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date- 15.06.2021 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against these tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. In place of Earnest money deposit, "Bid Security Declaration" is to be submitted or prescribed format as available in document section on the portal

Tender Type		der Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System		
	- 8	Open	Works	Single Bid System		
Date of Uploading Tenders		oading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time		
19.05.2021		05.2021	01.06.2021	15.06.2021/15:00 Hrs		
).	Tender No.		Details of Tender			
	20-2021-22-	Ordinary repair & main	tenance as well as new works, additio	ns & alterations to existing structures and		

ADEN-1-FZR emergent works in Zone no 1 (2021-22) all Service Buildings and Staff Quarters, level crossing, bridges etc, from BTI (excluding) to FZR (excluding) on BTI-FZR section and from KKP (including) FKA (excluding) on KKP-FKA section in the section of SSE/W/KKP under ADEN-I/FZR. Validity of Offer Advertised Value (Rs.) Period of Completion 2,00,27,417.67/-12 Months 45 Days Similar nature of work - Any civil work other than track work. 21-2021-22- Ordinary repair & maintenance as well as new works, additions & alterations to existing structures and ADEN-1-FZR emergent works in Zone no 2 (2021-22) all Service Buildings and Staff Quarters, level crossing,

Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion 3.00.44,455.59/-12 Months 45 Days Similar nature of work - Any civil work other than track work.

bridges etc. from Talwandi (including) to Firozpur (including) on LDH-FZR section in the section of

Validity of Offer

Period of Completion

1073/2021

22-2021-22- Ordinary repair & maintenance as well as new works, additions & alterations to existing structures and ADEN-1-FZR emergent works in Zone no 3 (2021-22) all Service Buildings and Staff Quarters, level crossing, bridges etc. from LDH (excluding) to Talwandi (excluding) on LDH-FZR section in the section of SSE/W/JGN under ADEN-I/FZR

SSE/W/FZR under ADEN-I/FZR.

Advertised Value (Rs.)

Note 1:- Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender.

1.00.08,500.34/-12 Months Similar nature of work - Any civil work other than track work. 23-2021-22- Ordinary repair & maintenance as well as new works, additions & alterations to existing structures and ADEN-2-PTK emergent works in Zone no 1 (2021-22) all Service Buildings and Staff Quarters from Dina nagar (including) to Verka (excluding) on ASR-PTK section and Batala-Qadian section in the section of SSE/W/BAT under ADEN-II/PTK.

Advertised Value (Rs.) Validity of Offer Period of Completion 80,07,643,41/-45 Days 12 Months Similar nature of work - Any civil work other than track work.

Tender Notice No.- 770-W/169/ WA/1/FZR/20,21,22 & 23/2021-22/DRM/FZR Date:- 19.05.2021 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG

NOTICE INVITING TENDER The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Baggi invites tenders on behalt of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following works(s) through e-tendering process :-

E/Cost | Earnest Time Money 1 PLWSS to Chandyal Bhadhyal & Behna in Tehsil Balh District Mandi (HP) (SH:- C/O Pump House-cum-Chowkidar Room, C/O Toilet for Pump House staff, Providing Elecrical installation to pump house, C/O Boundary wall around pump house, Providing Barbed wire fencing around 19,54,089/- 36,811/-Months storage tanks, Providing and Fixing of bulk merters, C/O RCC Storage Tank 10000 Itrs capacity, C/O 2 Nos RCC Storage Tank 15000 Itrs capacity and C/O RCC Storage Tank 22000 Itrs capacity) (UNDER JJM)

Last date of filling/uploading the tender through e-tendering: 27/05/2021 upto 05.00 PM. The tender form and other detail and condition can be obtained from the

website https://hptenders.gov.in or from office of Jal Shakti Division, Baggi upto the date specified above. **Executive Engineer,**

Jal Shakti Division, Baggi DPR/HP/908

HIMACHAL PRADESH Jal Shakti Vibhag

Sealed item rate tender on form 6 & 8 for the following work is hereby invite on behalf of the Governor of H.P. from the contractors of appropriate class enlisted with H.P. Jal Shakti Deptt. so as to reach in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Matiana on or before 28.5.2021 up to 3.00 P.M. The tender will be opened on the same day at 3.30 P.M. in the presence of the contractors or their authorized representatives who may wish to be present. The tender forms can be had from this office up to 27.05.2021 till 4.00 P.M. the date of sale/receipt & opening of tenders shall be considered as next day if holiday happens on above specified date.

Sr. No.		Estimated Cost		- 1	Cost o
1	Linking of source Drought affected GWSS Gadeog in GP Bani, Tehsi Theog, Distt. Shimla HP. (SH:- C/O RCC Storage Tank 5000 Itrs capacity, C/O Intake Tank Hallah Source & P/L of Distribution System for Village Gadeog.)		6000/-	6 Months	250/-

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- The contractor/firm should provide registration /renewal of enlistment and
- Earnest Money in the shape of NSC/saving account in any of the Post Office in Himachal Pradesh F.D. or Demand Draft duly pledged in the name of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Matiana or certificate of exemption of earnest money deposited.

Tender application without cost of tender form and Earnest Money wi

- 4. The telegraphic/conditional tender will not be entertained in any case.
- 5. The offer of the tender shall be kept open for 120 days.
- The contractor must quote their rate both in words as well as in figures. 7. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the
- tenders without assigning any reason thereof. 8. The contractor only authorized dealer are entitled to participate in the tender

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division Matiana. No.:- JSV -DM-CB-Tender-Matiana/2020-

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

DPR/HP/915

Online bids on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti, Division Mandi on behalf of the Governor o Himachal Pradesh, in Electronic tendering system in two covers fo the under mentioned work from the contractors/firms of appropriate class enlisted with HP Jal Shakti Vibhag. Name of Work:- CAD of LIS Shila kipper in GP Majhwar, FIS Bijani

in GP Bijani and FIS Chabuan Nela in GP Majhwar Tehsil Sadar Distt. Mandi HP. (SH:- C/O Field Outlets = 21 Nos, C/O R/wall, C/O Field Outlets/Hydrants = 4 Nos, C/O Chamber = 8 Nos and Laying, Jointing and Testing of HDPE pipe of various dia in distribution systems and Laying, Jointing & Testing of R/Main). **Estimated Cost** : Rs. 42,77,483/- Only

Earnest Money : Rs. 71,700/- Only Time Limit : Six Months Cost of Tender Document: Rs. 800/-Name of Work: CAD of LIS Gumanoo in GP Bari (Phase-Ist. &

2nd., LIS Bari in GP Bari Gumanoo and LIS Dhanyara in GP Dhanyara (Salether) in Tehsil Sadar Distt. Mandi (HP).(SH:- C/O Head Weir, C/O Field Outlets=18 Nos. C/O R/Wall, C/O Chamber for protection of Hydrents =29 Nos, C/O Delivery tanks= 3 Nos and Laying, Jointing and testing of HDPE pipe of various dia in distribution systems and Laying, Jointing & Testing of R/Main)

: Rs. 64,64,875/- Only **Estimated Cost Earnest Money** : Rs. 97,200/- Only Time Limit : Six Months Cost of Tender Document: Rs. 800/-

The bids are to be submitted online which are to be encrypted and digitally signed by the contractor/firms. The bidders are advised to obtain digital signature certificate (DSC) from the suitable vendors or any authorized agency at the earliest.

Schedule of Tendering:-

- 1. Bid Submission start date 19.05.2021 05.00 PM 2. Bid Submission end date 25.05.2021 05.00 PM 3. Opening of Cover-I 26.05.2021 at 11.30AM 4. Opening of Financial bid Date and place to be notified separately
- **CONDITIONS:-**1. The e-tender documents shall be uploaded in two covers:-
- Cover-1 shall contain scanned copies of "Eligibility Information" ii. Cover-2 shall contain "Financial Bid" on the prescribed form

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Mandi. DPR/HP/900

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG Division Reckong Peo E-TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division Rekongpeo, Distt. Kinnaur invites iter rate tender on behalf of the Governor of H.P. from the eligible contractors for the following works through e-tendering process:

Estimated Earnest Cost

of

Cost (Rs.) Money

Name of Work

No.

		,	(Rs.)	tender form (Rs.)	
1	C/o GWSS Gotrang to Mathe Kanda in GP Sungra, Tehsil Nichar, Distt. Kinnaur, H.P. (SH: Site development for Civil Work, C/o intake chamber, Storage tank 10000 ltrs cap, R/Wall, CC 1:5:10 at various RD's, barbed wire fencing and Laying, jointing, tesating of GMS tubes of various dia)	21,66,670	40000	400	18 months
2	C/o WSS Sangla Kanda to Reshwal in GP Sangla, Tehsil Sangla, Distt. Kinnaur, H.P. (SH: C/o RCC intake chamber, Storage tank 30000 ltrs cap, Laying, jointing tesating of GMS tubes of various dia at various RD's)	21,61,823	39927	400	18 months
3	Remodeling of GWSS Tranda in GP Tranda, Tehsil Nichar, Distt. Kinnaur H.P. (SH: Laying, jointing and testing of GMS tubes at various RD's and dismentelling and relaying of GMS tubes at various RD's)	21,33,936	39509	400	18 months
4	Remodeling of WSS Nigulsari in GP Tranda, Tehsil Nichar, Distt. Kinnaur, H.P. (SH: C/o intake chamber, C/o RCC Storage tank 15000, 7500 litres capacity, barbed wire fencing around civil structure and laying, jointing and testing of GMS tubes of various dia)	14,03,016	28060	400	12 months
5	Providing GWSS to Duno in GP Nichar, Tehsil Nichar, Distt. Kinnaur, H.P. (SH: Site development for Civil Work, barbed wire fencing, C/o intake chamber, C/o RCC storage tank 10000 ltrs cap, laying, jointing and testing of GMS tubes of various dia)	12,94,213	25884	400	12 months
6	Augumentation of WSS Panvi and providing household connections to balance FHTC in GP Panvi, Tehsil Nichar, Distt. Kinnaur, H.P. (SH: C/o RCC intake	10,85,709	21714	400	12 months

chamber, Storage tank 10000 ltrs cap, fencing around civil structure, Laying, jointing and testing of GMS tubes of various dia at various RD's) C/o Storage tank and pipeline for WSS 7,51,529 15031 250 Kamroo in Tehsil Sangla, Distt. Kinnaur, months H.P. (SH: C/o RCC intake chamber Storage tank 50000 ltrs capacity, laying, jointing and testing of GMS tube of 50 mm dia at RD 0 to 850) **KEY DATES:-**1 Date of online publication 21/05/2021, 10:00 a.m. 21/05/2021, 10:00 a.m. to 03/06/2021, 2 Downloading of e-tender documents 05:00 p.m.

3 Date of submission of e-tendering 21/05/2021, 10:00 a.m. to 03/06/2021, 05:00 p.m.

which is free of cost.

5 Date of opening bid 04/06/2021, 11:00 a.m. Tender documents and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed online from the portal http://hptenders.gov.in by the firms/individual registered on the website DPR/HP/904

Not allowed to speak, Didi calls Domestic vaccine needs to PM's Covid meeting 'insulting'

BJP says Bengal Chief Minister's conduct 'shameful, undignified'

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KOLKATA/NEW DELHI, MAY 20 West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today said chief ministers were reduced to mere puppets and not allowed to speak despite being invited at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's video-conference meeting on the Covid situation with district magistrates.

Accusing the PM of insulting the spirit of federalism, Mamata said she along with counterparts from states was not allowed to speak, which was akin to insulting them.

"Modi was bypassing the federal structure and humiliating the chief ministers. This was not a one-way communication, but a one-way humiliation... one nation, all humiliation," said Mamata, calling the meeting "super-flop".

Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad called Mamata's conduct "shameundignified, condemnable and least expected from the CM of a large state like West Bengal".

Citing instances, Prasad claimed Mamata had seldom

IN BRIEF

Narada case

hearing deferred

KOLKATA: Citing unavoidable

circumstances, the First Divi-

sion Bench of the Calcutta HC

failed to "assemble" on Thurs-

day, leading to deferment of

hearing in the case filed by the

CBI against bail granted to

TMC leaders in the Narada

case. The Bench is hearing the

CBI plea to transfer the bail

applications from the special

case against Kalra

NEW DELHI: The ED on Thurs-

day said it had registered a

criminal case under various

sections of the Prevention of

Money Laundering Act against

Delhi businessman Navneeet Kalra and his associates for

their alleged involvement in

oxygen concentrator hoarding

and black-marketing racket. TNS

Jawan hurt in firing

NEW DELHI: A BSF jawan sus-

tained a bullet injury in a firing

by trans-border cattle smug-

glers in Cooch Behar district of

Bengal on Wednesday. Sources

in the BSF said the incident

took place near the Putiabaro-

masia border outpost. TNS

along WB border

CBI court to the HC. TNS

ED files PMLA



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee addresses a press conference at the state secretariat in Kolkata on Thursday. PTI

'NO COMMUNICATION, ONLY HUMILIATION'

66 Modi was bypassing the federal structure and humiliating the chief ministers. This was not a oneway communication, but a one-way humiliation... one nation, all humiliation. Mamata Banerjee, WEST BENGAL CM

'UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR'

66 Nothing better can be expected of Mamata... You don't attend a meeting that is entirely your call...but you come to a meeting (of DMs) and try to derail it... it's unacceptable. Ravi Shankar Prasad, UNION LAW MINISTER

attended meetings called by the PM. On rare occasion when she did attend, she allegedly tried to disrupt them, Prasad said in Delhi.

Sources said the DMs of nine districts from West Bengal, including Kolkata, North and South 24 Parganas, Howrah and Hoogly, were asked by the PMO to take part in the meeting.

The DM of North 24 Pargana was slated to speak in the conference. But, Mamata allegedly passed instructions last night that none of the DMs should participate in the meeting, said sources.

The DMs of 45 districts from nine states and their respective CMs were present in the meeting. West Bengal, the 10th state, was represented by Mamata accompanied by Chief Secretary and Health Secretary. However, her comments were not sought.

Claiming she had gone to the meeting prepared to flag several issues, Mamata claimed the PM never asked about the availability of beds, vaccine or oxygen or about the status of the black fungus infection in Covid patients.

Gurcharan Singh Chani (1951 - 2021)

Artiste who spent his last years bringing cheer to ailing kids

Nonika Singh

INDAGI Retire Nahi Hoti"... That was one of the many delightful and meaningful plays of eminent thespian and filmmaker Gurcharan Singh Chani. Alas, the deadly Covid can force many to retire from life prematurely and Chani too succumbed to its fatal reach.

National School of Drama (NSD) alumnus, though he studied theatre as deeply as his fellow students, the path he created for himself was markedly different. If as a student he was piqued by the question "theatre for whom", as a practitioner he found an answer and decided to dedicate it to the community and stage it right in the centre of the people.

Free of all isms, his plays were for, of and certainly by the people. Non-actors, ordinary men and women became stars of his plays, where he would take a song, a line, piece of poetry, toss it around and turn it into a play.

While the rich proscenium theatre that NSDians so excel in never fascinated him, rich literature certainly did. In his theatre of protest and provocation one could often hear the poetry of radical poets like Avtar Pash. Returning to Punjab during times of militancy not only required courage, but also conviction in his beliefs.

As a professor of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, he could easily have chosen an easy way out and opted for cinema as many of his contemporaries did. But not only did his home-state beckon, so did his beliefs which later became his cause celebre. Chandigarh may have been his home for



the past several decades, but as the Sangeet Natak Akademi recipient became one of the city's most notable persons, world was his oyster. His documentaries on Indian arts and heritage, encapsulating the true spirit of India's majestic forts and more have that rare archival value. More recently, his documentary series on North-East celebrated the region's ethnic diversity and the vigour of the land.

Donning colourful turbans like an emblem, his zeal never waned. Forever a communicator, his past few years were also dedicated to bringing cheer to the ailing children. Through his numerous clowning acts, he and his "CEVA Drama Repertory Company" spread joy and laughter in children's wards in city hospitals.

Till last lockdown he believed in living in the moment and now the moment has frozen. But not that endearing smile which never left his lips, not even when nearly two decades ago he lost his mentor and teacher Balwant Gargi whose death he did not mourn but celebrated by throwing a party.

Vijayan sworn in Kerala CM



Governor Arif Mohammad Khan presents a bouquet to Pinarayi Vijayan after he took oath as Kerala CM in Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday. PTI

Village head shot in Bareilly

Bareilly (UP): A village head was on Thursday shot by some people here. Mohammad Ishtiyaq (32), head of Pargawa village, was on a motorcycle with his wife riding pillion when the incident took place, SP Rohit Singh Sajwan said. The incident is stated to be fallout of political rivalry.—PTI

Printed and published by Rajesh Ramachandran for The Tribune Trust Printed at The Tribune Press, Bullandpur, Jalandhar. Published at The Tribune, Sector 29-C, Chandigarh. RNI No. CHAENG/2017/72604. Copyright © The Tribune Trust. All rights reserved.

Telephones: 0181-2226116, 2603737 Circulation: 0172-2670419, Advertisement: 0172-2670256, 257

Editor: Rajesh Ramachandran* *Editor for purpose of PRB Act, 1867 epaper.tribuneindia.com

Tauktae-hit states told to restore essential services

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 20 Cabinet Secretary Rajiv

Gauba today directed the officials of the Cyclone Tauktae-affected states and union territory to restore telecom, power, roads, water supply and other infrastructures at the earliest with the help of Central agencies.

In an official release, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said Gauba, while chairing the meeting of the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC), reviewed the relief and rehabilitation efforts undertaken in the aftermath of the extremely severe cyclonic storm in the Arabian Sea.

"During the meeting, issues related to the efforts carried out by the Navy and coast guard along with other agencies to rescue persons on three barges and one offshore drilling vessel of the ONGC

YAAS: FISHERMEN ISSUED WARNING

The ships, aircraft and remote stations of the Indian Coast Guard have started warning fishermen and mariners in Bay of Bengal to return to the shores or take shelter at the nearest ports as cyclone Yaas is likely to intensify within the next 72 hours. TNS

Rajnath lauds efforts of Navy, Coast Guard

were also discussed," it said. "Chief Secretaries of the states and advisors to the administrators of the union territories apprised the NCMC of the damage to infrastructure, crops as well as loss of life in the affected areas and the measures taken by them to restore telecom, power, roads, water supply and other utilities," the MHA said in the release.

get priority over exports: MEA

SANDEEP DIKSHIT

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

Despite several neighbouring countries facing a shortage of vaccines promised by India, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday that priority would be given to domestic needs. Answering a spate of questions in this regard, MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi referred to a media interaction with the Foreign Secretary late last month where he had expressed confidence that in the next two to three months, there should be a "very, very significant increase" in the production and availability of vaccines.

The MEA spokesperson was asked about several neighbouring countries needing to urgently administer the second shot of India-made vaccine. He was also asked about China stepping in the breach by shipping millions of vac-



a drive-in vaccination centre in Nagpur on Thursday. PTI

INDIA-CHINA TIES AT CROSSROADS: JAISHANKAR

New Delhi: The relationship between India and China is at a crossroads and its direction depends on whether the neighbouring country adheres to various agreements on maintaining peace and tranquillity along the border, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Thursday referring to the eastern Ladakh standoff. PTI

cines in the neighbourhood. referred to Shringla's observations that India will have to make sure it has the necessary

capacity to cater to its domestic needs before resuming the promised but held-back doses of vaccines to neighbouring countries.

Correct Delhi CM's tweet:S'pore to Facebook, Twitter

The Tribune

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

The Centre today indicated that it might not come to the defence of Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal, who may face action under a Singapore law for linking a Covid strain to the island country.

The Singapore Government has issued "General Correction Directions" to Facebook and Twitter. Under this, these companies will be required to carry a "Correction Notice to all end-users in Singapore" who use the app that "there is no new 'Singapore' variant of Covid. Neither is there evidence of any variant that is extremely dangerous for kids".

The notice is not directed at the Delhi CM or Indian social media, but aims at safeguarding Singaporeans from false information. Singapore's anti-misinformation law, Protection from Online Falsehoods & Manipulation Act, allows criminal prosecution of foreign individuals indulging in propagation of fake news. — TNS

Mutations affecting theyoung, kids: Modi NEW DELHI, MAY 20

As daily Covid deaths fell below 4,000 for the first time in eight days and decline of active cases continued, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for out-thinking the virus with innovative strategies, noting that the virus was an expert at mutations.

Addressing officials of 60 districts across 11 states today, the PM said the mutations were affecting the young and children. Warning officials against laxity, he said, "Over the past few days, active cases have started to reduce, but the challenge remains as long as this infection is present even on a minor scale."—TNS

Educate Covid orphans free in Navodaya schools: Sonia to PM

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Thursday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi urging him to educate children orphaned during the Covid-19 pandemic free of cost in government-run Navodava schools.

"Amid the devastation caused by the pandemic and the heart wrenching tragedies being faced by affected families, news of young children losing one or both parents to Covid-19 are the most

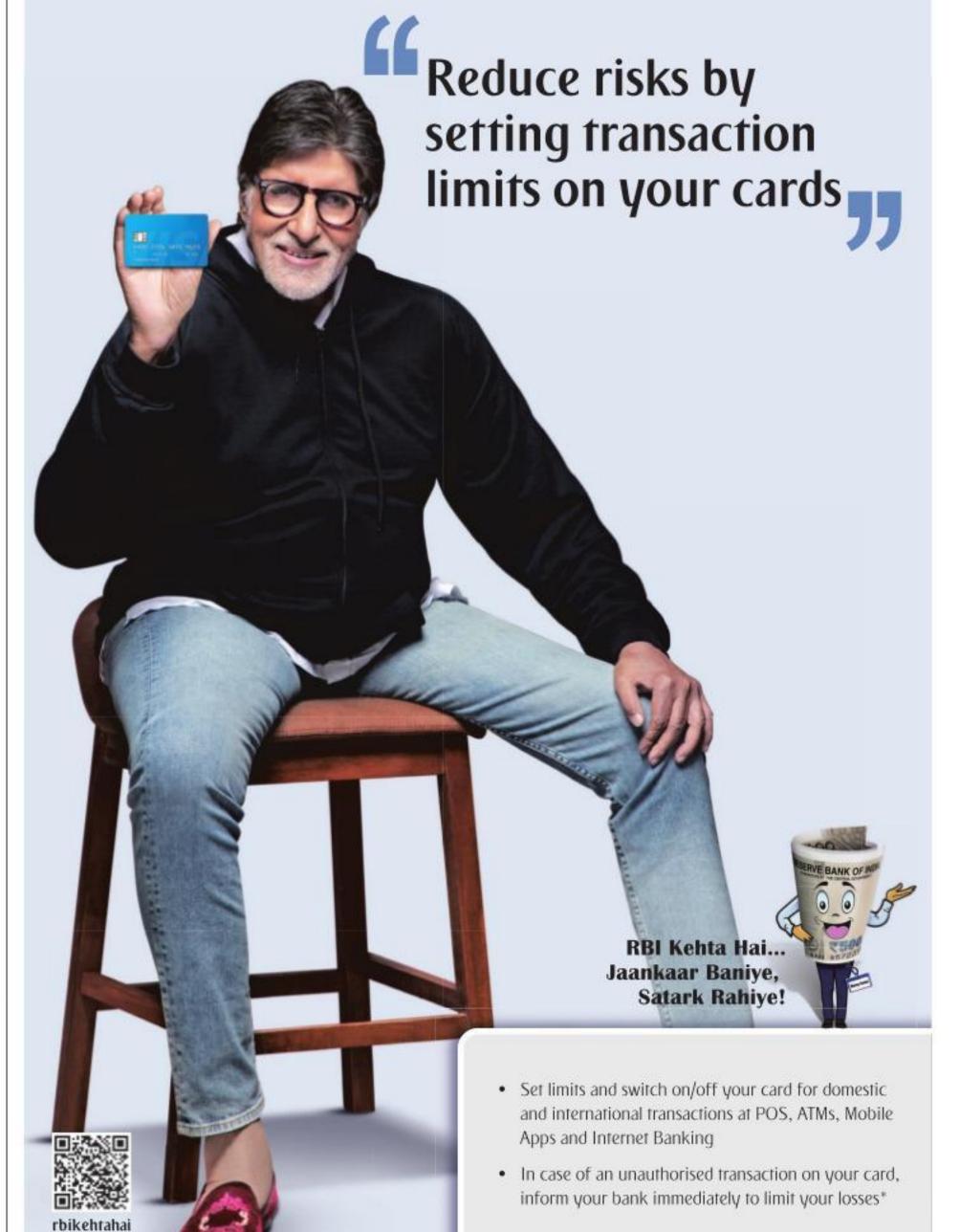
no support towards a stable education or future. I am writing to request you to consider providing free education at Navodaya Vidyalayas to children who have lost either both parents or an earning parent on account of the pandemic," Sonia said in a letter to PM.

Saying there are 661 Navodaya schools in the country, Sonia mentioned that the schools are one of the most significant legacies of late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and that it was his dream to make

poignant. These children are high-quality modern educaleft with the trauma of loss and tion accessible and affordable to talented youth, predominantly from rural areas.

> She said, "As a nation, we owe it to the children to give them hope for a robust future after the unimaginable tragedy that has befallen them."

Backing the suggestion by Sonia, her son and former party president Rahul Gandhi tweeted, "Children are among the worst hit by Covid trauma, many having lost their parents. The Congress chief makes an important suggestion to safeguard their future."



*For more details, visit https://rbikehtahai.rbi.org.in/ For feedback on this advertisement, write to rbikehtahai@rbi.org.in

