

The Tribune

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020

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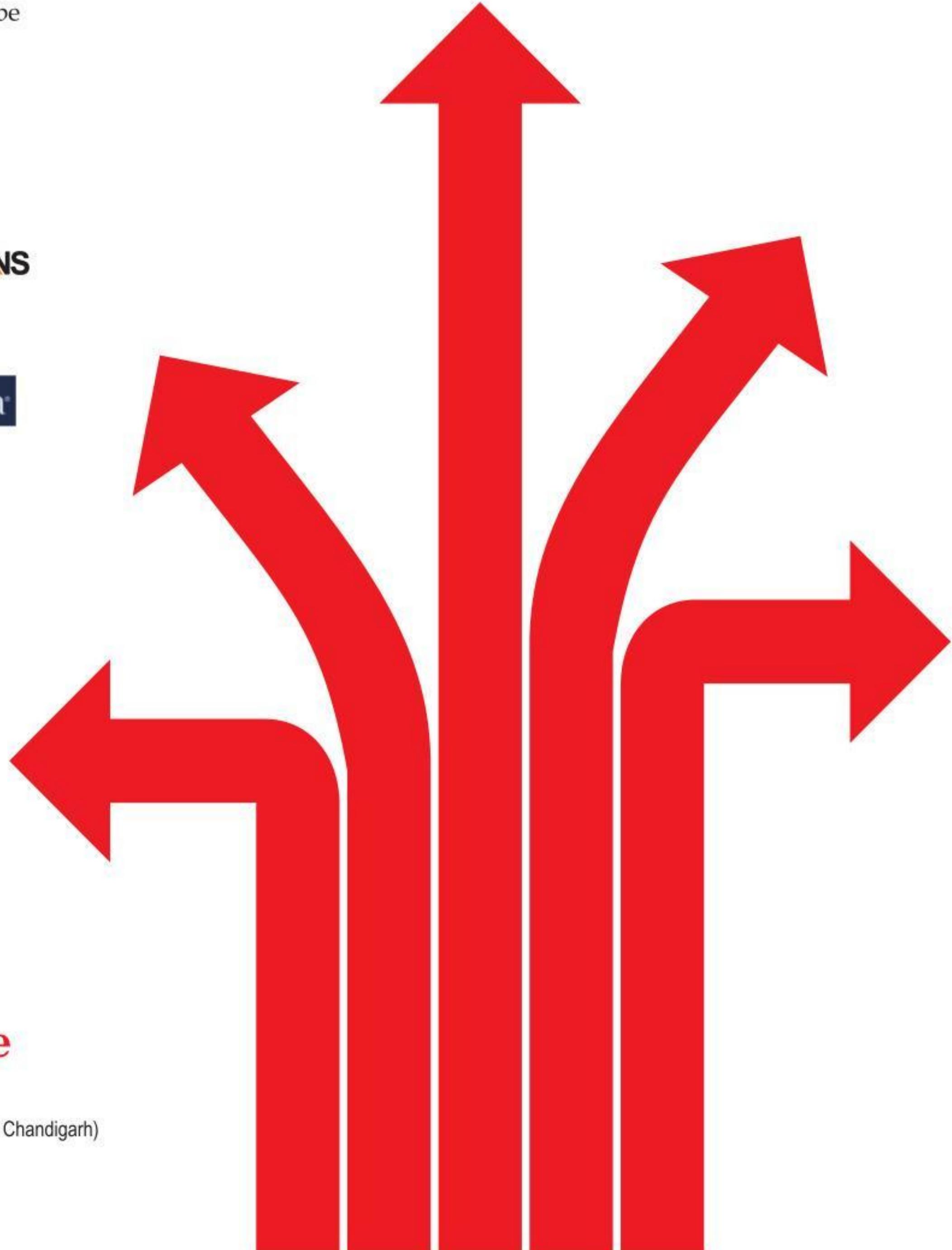
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UAE-ISRAEL PACT A BETRAYAL
OF PALESTINE: IRAN WORLD

CHINESE COMPANIES IN INDIA HIT BY
NEW IMPORT HURDLES BUSINESS

RBI OKAYS ₹57K-CR SURPLUS
TRANSFER TO GOVT BACK PAGE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020

SC holds Bhushan guilty of contempt for CJI tweets

Says it's attack on top court | Lawyer faces 6-month jail

SATYA PRAKASH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

The Supreme Court today held activist-lawyer Prashant Bhushan guilty of contempt of court for his tweets against Chief Justice of India SA Bobde and the last four CJIs.

A three-judge Bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra said, "The scurrilous/malicious attacks by the alleged contemnor No. 1 (Bhushan) are not only against one or two judges but the entire Supreme Court in its functioning of the last six years. Such an attack which tends to create disaffection and disrespect for the authority of this court cannot be ignored."

It said if such an attack was not dealt with requisite degree of firmness, it may

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

'ATTACK CREATED DISAFFECTION, CAN'T IGNORE'

Such an attack which tends to create disaffection and disrespect for the authority of this court cannot be ignored. SC Bench

PROMINENT CASES IN THE PAST

EMS NAMBOODIRIPAD (1971)

On Nov 9, 1967, Kerala CM EMS Namboodiripad described judiciary as 'an instrument of oppression' and judges as 'dominated by class hatred, class prejudices'. The SC imposed ₹1,000 fine or simple imprisonment for a month

JUSTICE KARNAN (2017)

Calcutta HC Judge CS Kaman levelled allegations of graft against certain judges and passed orders against then CJJS Khehar and six other judges. SC Bench convicted him of contempt of court and sentenced him to six-month jail

ARUNDHATI ROY (2002)

Activist-author Arundhati Roy accused the SC of showing 'disquieting inclination... to silence criticism and

PRASHANT BHUSHAN

REMARKS THAT DREW SCIRE: In June 27 tweet, Bhushan alleged past four CJIs played a role in 'destruction of democracy'. On June 29, he claimed 'present Chief Justice' rode bike 'while keeping the apex court in lockdown'

Prez takes swipe at expansionist China

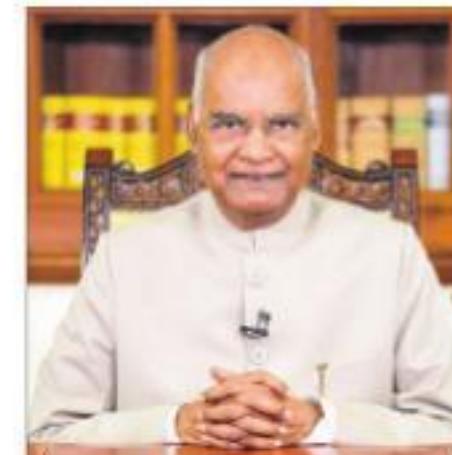
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

In an apparent reference to China and developments in Ladakh, President Ram Nath Kovind, on the eve of India's 74th Independence Day, said while the world community needed to fight together against the greatest challenge before humanity (Covid-19), "some in our neighbourhood tried to carry out their misadventure of expansion".

"Our brave soldiers laid down their lives defending borders. The nation salutes the martyrs of Galwan Valley," he said.

He said the Covid-19 pandemic has reminded humanity of shared destiny of global community, respect for nature, importance of building health infrastructure and use of science and technology on path to progress. "These lessons will prove useful to humanity," he said.

"The nation is indebted to doctors, nurses and health



Covid-19 dominates his speech on I-Day eve

workers who have been at the forefront in our fight against the virus. Unfortunately, many of them lost their lives battling the pandemic. They are our national heroes. All Covid-19 warriors deserve high praise," he said. Referring to the New Education Policy, he said it would develop a new quality system transforming future challenges into opportunities and paving the way for a New India. — TNS

1 Kirti, 9 Shaurya Chakra; none for Galwan heroes

21 ITBP personnel involved in LAC faceoff recommended for gallantry awards

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

President Ram Nath Kovind today approved 84 awards and decorations to armed forces personnel and para-military staff. The awards include a Kirti Chakra, nine Shaurya Chakras, five Bar to Sena Medals (gallantry), 60 Sena Medals (gallantry), four Nao Sena Medals (gallantry) and five Vayu Sena Medals (gallantry).

The President has also approved 19 Mention-in-Despatches to Army personnel for their contribution in different military operations, which include eight posthumous for Operation Meghdoot at Siachen and counter-terrorism Operation Rakshak in J&K.

None of the gallantry awards announced today are for the clashes with China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) at Galwan on June 15 or the two in May at north of Pangong Tso, a 135-km glacial melt lake. All the three clashes occurred along in Ladakh. On the other hand, the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, which is co-located with the Army along the LAC, said it had recommended gallantry awards for 21 personnel



South and North Blocks illuminated on the eve of 74th I-Day celebrations in New Delhi. MUKESH AGGARWAL

NAVY PILOT SAVED OIL DUMP

■ Among Nao Sena Medal (gallantry) recipients is Capt Mrigank Sheokand, a MiG 29 pilot of Navy

■ Awarded for saving an oil dump at Zuari, Goa, when one engine of his plane had failed and the other was on fire

■ But he waited inside his plane to steer it clear off the oil dump before ejecting

4 NAO SENNA MEDAL (GALLANTRY)



Capt Mrigank Sheokand Cdr Dhanush Menon Haridas Kundu Naveen Kumar

PREZ MEDAL FOR HRV ADGP ARSHINDER CHAWLA, PUNJAB HOME GUARDS BY COMMANDANT GENERAL HARMANJEET SINGH

for their action during faceoffs and skirmishes with Chinese troops in May-June. "The ITBP troops not only effectively used shields to protect themselves, but also responded fiercely to PLA advancing troops and brought the situation under control," an ITBP spokesperson

7TH MEDAL FOR CRPF MAN POLICE MEDAL FOR COP KILLED IN BATLA ENCOUNTER

REPORTS ON BACK PAGE

son said. On the list of Shaurya Chakra, the third highest peace-time gallantry award, is Lt Col KS Rawat for an operation along the Line of Control where

he and his team waited in ambush for over 36 hours to strike at terrorists infiltrating from Pakistan. Havildar Alok Kumar Dubey killed a top terrorist in gunfight, while Major Anil Urs is the third Army man to be awarded Shaurya Chakra for action along the LoC.

4,000 INVITEES, 20% VISITORS AT RED FORT

Only 20% of VIPs and other participants will witness PM Narendra Modi's speech this year. Over 4,000 persons, including diplomats, officials and media personnel, have been invited for the ceremony at the Red Fort, keeping in view the Covid-19 protocol, the Defence Ministry said.

AMID COVID CRISIS, 7TH ADDRESS BY PM MODI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will deliver his seventh straight I-Day speech from the ramparts of the Red Fort on Saturday — an address that comes amid the Covid-19 pandemic, a border standoff with China and a slew of reforms by the government under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

LOW-KEY AFFAIR, NO SCHOOLKIDS THIS TIME

The event will be limited to presentation of the Guard of Honour to the PM, unfurling of the Tricolour, accompanied by playing of the National Anthem and firing of a 21-gun salute, besides PM's speech. No schoolkids would be present this year. Only NCC cadets will attend the celebrations, said police officials.

'Birther' conspiracy theory hits Kamala

WASHINGTON: Democratic Party vice-presidential candidate Kamala Harris has been hit by a 'birther movement', with US President Donald Trump saying he had heard that she didn't meet requirements to serve the White House. As per the US Constitution, the president needs to be born in the United States.

California senator Kamala, 55, was born to a Jamaican father and an Indian mother. The conspiracy theory about Harris started after a Newsweek Op-Ed by Dr John Eastman, who ran in the Republican primary to be California's attorney general in 2010. The Biden campaign called opinion piece racist.

Biden campaign member Ajay Bhutoria said Harris, born in Oakland, California, on October 20 in 1964, was a natural born US citizen. — PTI

Entered Jamia to restore order: Cops

NEW DELHI: The police on Friday told the Delhi High Court that it had entered Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) university to restore order which was disrupted by incidents of arson and destruction of public property during the student protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act in December last. Additional Solicitor General Aman Lekhi told the court that the police entered the campus with the "legitimate objective" to restore order. — PTI

Fortis renamed as Parkway

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

Fortis Healthcare today said its board has given an in-principle nod to change the name of the company and its subsidiaries to 'Parkway' in relation to the hospital business, to disassociate itself from the erstwhile promoters.

'Parkway' is an internationally acclaimed brand in the field of healthcare, belonging to the IHH Group, the ultimate parent of Northern TK Venture Pte Ltd, which has 31 per cent shareholding. Singh brothers — Shivinder and Malvinder — were the promoters of Fortis Healthcare. — PTI

23L PPE exports in July, cases near 25L

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

The government's self-reliance goal amid raging Covid-19 pandemic today got a push with India touching the 23 lakh personal protective equipment (PPE) export mark in July alone.

As the disease burden rose to 24,61,190 cases, the government said it had exported 23 lakh PPEs to five countries — the US, UK, UAE, Senegal and Slovenia — in signals of a resilient and emerging Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

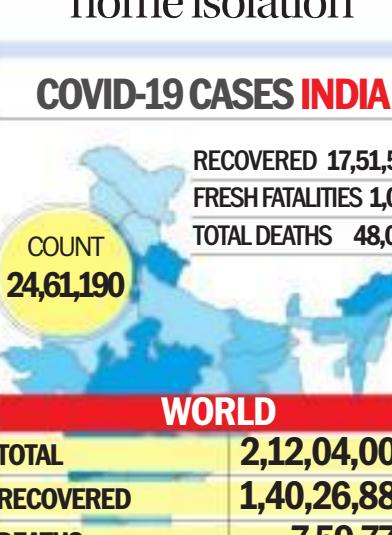
In a statement, the Health Ministry said at the start of the pandemic, the world was grappling with a huge shortage of medical equipment, including N95 masks, PPE kits and ventilators, and India was importing most of its requirement.

The government and stakeholders worked together to turn the pandemic into an opportunity and ramp up local manufacturing capacity to meet domestic requirements for PPEs and also pitch for exports," the government said.

The case surge in the past

Amit Shah tests negative, will stay in home isolation

COVID-19 CASES INDIA



Punjab CM firm, free power to farmers to stay

RUCHIKA KHANNA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

The group of experts led by eminent economist Montek Singh Ahluwalia has suggested radical policy changes in agriculture, industry, skill development and digitisation to propel growth in Punjab.

The first report, submitted to the Punjab Government last week, was discussed by Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh with the experts through video-conferencing. He reiterated that free power to farmers would stay. He agreed with the recommenda-

tion that diversification in agriculture was the way forward. The final report is to be submitted by December 31.

A perusal of the report reveals that it mirrors the policies of the NDA government at the Centre. It favours corporatisation and encouraging private parties to buy grain. It talks of rationalisation of power subsidy to the farm sector through the 'Pani bachao, paisa kamao' campaign and segregation of agriculture feeders. It wants the salary of employees capped which could affect 7.50 lakh employees and

Meanwhile, Indian Ambas-

sador Vikram Misri held another meeting in Beijing to persuade the Chinese forces to act as per the spirit of the talks between Special Representatives (SR) — National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi. Today he met a serving general in the Chinese Central Military Commission and informed him about India's stand vis-à-vis the situation on the borders in eastern Ladakh.

their families. It also calls for "better realisation" of revenue from the sale of sand and liquor through higher royalties and taxes. The report says that farmers should shift to high-value crops and that Punjab should become a farm machinery-manufacturing hub.

Hinting at corporatisation in agriculture, the report recommends creating a framework that allows land to be leased for 15-20 years for plantation and orchards, 5-10 years for other agriculture purposes on renewable terms. It favours change in land laws for allowing vertical development.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

EDIT: MONTEK'S PRESCRIPTION

MONTEK PANEL'S KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Diversification in agriculture
- Rationalising power subsidy
- Capping wages of employees
- Agri land for non-agriculture use
- Thrust on skill development
- Vertical growth, digitisation



The mangled remains of a truck hit by boulders on the Chandigarh-Manali National Highway at Hanogi Mata temple in Mandi district on Friday. PTI

2 DIE AS BOULDERS HIT 2 TRUCKS IN HP

■ Two persons were killed and three injured when boulders fell on two vehicles following a landslide at the Hanogi Mata temple on the Chandigarh-Manali national highway on Friday.

■ The driver of a Tata 407 truck, parked on the roadside, was killed when boulders fell on the vehicle. Another passing Tata 407 truck, on its way from Mandi to Kullu, was hit, killing one of its four occupants. INSIDE

Two J&K cops shot on I-Day eve

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 14 Amid tight security ahead of Independence Day, militants killed two policemen on the busy Nowgam road on city outskirts today.

The J&K Police said two suspected militants opened fire at policemen deployed on routine security duty inside a lane on the Nowgam bypass, leaving three wounded. "The three were shifted to hospital where two suc-

cumbed," said a police officer. The two slain policemen were identified as Ishfaq Ayoub of Maloora, Srinagar, and Fayaz Ahmed of Devsar, Kulgam. IGP (Kashmir) Vijay Kumar said Jaish-e-Mohammed was behind the

attack. "The militants involved will be neutralised soon," said Kumar, adding there was an "input about possible attacks ahead of Independence Day". This is the second attack on security forces in the Valley in the past three days. On Wednesday, a soldier was injured when militants attacked an Army quick reaction team at Hygam along the Srinagar-Baramulla national highway. — TNS

HC orders CBI probe into 'illegal' checkpoints near mining sites

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14 Taking on record a report establishing the existence and operation of illegal and unauthorised checkpoints near some mining sites in Ropar, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has ordered a preliminary inquiry by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

The Bench also directed the initiation of action in accordance with the process of law on the basis of the preliminary inquiry's outcome. "The outcome/action taken be apprised to this court on the next date of hearing," the Bench added. The direction comes less than six months after the state of Punjab denied the existence of illegal checkpoints or barriers.

"In view of the findings in the report, we are inclined to initiate action against the officials, who have failed to discharge their obligations under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957." HIGH COURT BENCH



'OFFICIALS FAILED TO DISCHARGE DUTY'

In view of the findings in the report, we are inclined to initiate action against the officials, who have failed to discharge their obligations under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.



opment) Act, 1957, and failed to preserve the supremacy and rule of law," the Bench of Justice Jaswant Singh and Justice Ashok Kumar Verma asserted.

The direction came after the Bench took into consideration the "established exceptional circumstance", the stand of the

state and its authorities, and the dimension of the lawlessness involved".

Referring to the report, the Bench said it established the existence and operation of the illegal and unauthorised checkpoints by private persons without any authority of law at various locations "with an

instance where such illegal checkpoint is even nearby a police post".

Fixing the case for September first week, the Bench said it had no reason to doubt the report, supported by photographs and video clips filed by the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Ropar.

In his report, CJM-cum-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Ropar, Harsimranjit Singh, had said that he interacted with local residents, passers-by and truck drivers without disclosing his identity. They unanimously confirmed that no truck carrying sand and gravel was allowed to cross the points without paying royalty.

The judicial officer was asked to step in on a previous date of hearing after the state counsel's claim

regarding the absence of illegal checkpoints and barriers near the mining sites was "vehemently controverted" by counsel Mansur Ali on behalf of petitioner Bachittar Singh.

In the UT district courts,

Judiciary disposes of over 1L cases since virus outbreak

SAURABH MALIK
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

2,69,069 cases filed in Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh since March 24

1,411 of the 4,348 cases filed were disposed of. "The number of cases filed and disposed of during the period is amongst the highest in the country," a senior High Court official asserted. The numbers are significant, considering the fact that the High Court was hearing just about 10 cases a day through video-conferencing even after a lapse of about 50 days from the time it imposed restrictions on its functioning following the outbreak.

The High Court also disposed of, on an average, around 100 cases daily through video-conferencing during the period. No less than 35,257 cases were filed in the High Court, of which 11,484 cases were disposed of. In Punjab, 1,22,040 cases were filed in the district courts during the period, while 49,245 cases were disposed of. In Haryana, 1,07,424 cases were filed, while the disposal stood at 39,661 cases.

In the UT district courts,

More than 70 officers and staff members have been quarantined across Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh since July 13. Prior to this, more than 500 judicial officers, their families and staff in the two states and Chandigarh were quarantined.

Over a period of time, the High Court restructured and re-organised the entire system, with more than 30 judges holding virtual courts daily. As of now, four Division Benches and about

29 single Benches are functioning on a rotation basis, taking the total number of cases being listed for hearing daily to about 1,000.

This despite the fact that Covid has hit the judiciary hard during the past few days. Latest information suggests that two more High Court officials, one in the communication cell and another in the accounts branch, tested positive. The accounts branch has, as such, been closed for three days. As many as 12 officials have tested positive in the Faridkot District Courts and nine in Pathankot District Courts.

Amount will be given through DBT to 25L beneficiaries

The amount would soon be given through the direct benefit transfer (DBT) scheme to 25.25 lakh beneficiaries, including elderly, widow and destitute women, dependent children and disabled persons.

Giving the break-up, a spokesperson said Rs 127.80 crore would be disbursed among 17.05 lakh old-age beneficiaries, Rs 34.90 crore as financial assistance to 4.65 lakh widow and destitute women, Rs 11.37 crore to 1.51 lakh dependent children and Rs 15.27 crore to 2.04 lakh disabled persons.



An official takes a swab sample of a man in Patiala. FILE PHOTO

Flouting norms, Patiala docs 'working privately'

Many of them posted in Covid wards

KARAM PRAKASH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, AUGUST 14

Violating government rules, some doctors at the Government Rajindra Hospital were allegedly found to be indulging in private practice. In fact, even the doctors who have been performing duties at the Covid ward were found to be practising privately at their homes.

During a fact check by The Tribune, it was found that doctors of the medicine and orthopaedics departments of the hospital were practising at their residences after coming straight from Covid duties. In some cases, the doctors have openly advertised their services outside their homes while some of them disguise themselves behind different clinic names. In another instance, a senior doctor of the orthopaedics department was seen attending the patients at the spouse's clinic.

Sources said many hospital

doctors were even performing surgeries at private hospitals in the city. Besides, some of the doctors were on-call consultants in many private clinics. However, the names of the doctors are not mentioned in the patient's treatment file.

A retired professor at the Government Medical College (GMC), Patiala, said, "It is an open secret that government doctors indulge in private practice. Sadly, the government has failed to take action against these doctors as they are part of the wider net."

Surbhi Malik, incharge, Covid ward, Government Rajindra Hospital, said, "As I have been assigned duty for the Covid ward only, I cannot comment on the issue." Dr Harjinder Singh, Principal, GMC, said, "Private practice is strictly banned by the government.

We have been issuing directions regularly to doctors to refrain from such practices. I will take action if anyone is found practising privately."

'Khalistan' flag hoisted atop Moga mini seett

MOGA, AUGUST 14

Just a day before the Independence Day, unidentified persons hoisted a flag of 'Khalistan' atop the mini secretariat at the district headquarters in Moga.

Preliminary investigations revealed that the flag was hoisted at 8.15 am. The youths also shot a video of the act and raised slogans.

Police announce reward of ₹50,000 for info on suspects

The security agencies sprung into action after the incident. Officials of intelligence agencies sent a report to the higher authorities, terming the incident a lapse on the part of security personnel deployed on the secretariat premises. The SSP has marked an inquiry into the incident. District Magistrate Sandeep Hans and SSP Harmanbir Singh Gill announced a reward of Rs 50,000 for giving information about the two youths who reportedly hoisted the flag.

The Tricolour hoisted on the premises of the secretariat was also removed by the miscreants and thrown on the ground, a police official said.

The police have registered a criminal case under relevant sections of the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971, and various other sections of the IPC. — TNS

Won't let anyone disturb peace: CM

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

Even as he directed the police to take strict action against the miscreants responsible for hoisting a 'Khalistan' flag atop the Moga administrative complex, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh today appealed to the youth not to get swayed by the vicious propaganda of anti-India elements like Gurpatwant Singh Pannu and his Sikhs for Justice (SFJ).

"You try to come to Punjab and I will teach you a lesson," the Chief Minister dared Pannu, adding that any attempt to disturb the state's peace would be dealt with an iron hand. Capt Amarinder said he had directed DGP Dinkar Gupta to ensure that the two miscreants identified in the Moga incident were arrested at the earliest so that a deterrent action could be taken

against them as per the law. Reacting to Pannu's call for raising black flags to mark India's Independence Day, the Chief Minister said Punjabis in India were prosperous people and were not interested in indulging in such acts. — TNS

CAPT DARES SFJ

You (Pannu) try to come to Punjab and I will teach you a lesson.

Capt Amarinder Singh, CHIEF MINISTER

Will lead mass stir if free power stopped: SAD

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal today warned Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh against the withdrawal of free power facility to farmers, introduced in 1997 by the Parkash Singh Badal-led SAD-BJP government.

"If you take a single step towards discontinuing free power to farmers, you must prepare yourself and your government to face an unprecedented mass movement by the SAD for safeguarding the interests of the already beleaguered peasantry. We will never allow free power to be stopped," Sukhbir said.

Meanwhile, the party also slammed the government for deciding to abolish 40,000 posts in the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited. — TNS

Despite raids, no let-up in illicit liquor trade in Muktsar village

ARCHIT WATTS
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, AUGUST 14

The seizure of spurious liquor from Kattianwali village in the Lambi Assembly segment here continues unabated.

A number of raids have been conducted in the village, with many cases having been registered against the accused under the Excise Act for allegedly preparing spurious liquor in the past.

In the past week, three persons were arrested from the village and over 230 litres of liquor was seized from them. As per the police records, on August 11, a man was arrested for allegedly carrying 125 litres of hooch; on August 7, another arrest was made and 100 litres of liquor was seized; and on August 6, a man was nabbed for allegedly carrying nine bottles of illicit liquor.

Meanwhile, residents of some neighbouring villages said those involved in the illegal activity had a strong network, and they managed to escape from the site before the team of police reached there.

Liquor contractors in the village have time and again informed the authorities concerned that they were suffering losses due to the sale of spurious liquor in the area.

On June 1, the police had seized 400 litres of spurious liquor from the village. Earlier, on May 24, nearly 350 litres of spurious liquor was destroyed, and on May 20, nearly 30,000 litres was destroyed.

Meanwhile, residents of some neighbouring villages said those involved in the illegal activity had a strong network, and they managed to escape from the site before the team of police reached there.

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Interestingly, in the neighbouring Haryana, the pension is Rs 30,000. Before coming to power, the Congress had made

Beware of swindlers selling free smartphones: Minister

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

State Education Minister Vijay Inder Singh today cautioned people not to fall prey to online swindlers, who were promising free smartphones under the 'Punjab Smart Connect Scheme'.

Taking strong exception

to the messages being circulated on WhatsApp and other social media platforms, Singh said the scheme was solely for Class X students studying in government schools.

He warned miscreants of dire consequences under the cyber crime prevention laws for indulging in this kind of "mischievous

online fraud". Singh asked people of the state not to follow any messages or click on any URL message being circulated via instant messaging services, such as, WhatsApp and SMS, which ask users to register themselves first to get free smartphones under the government scheme.

A senior police officer said thick vegetation along a canal was becoming a safe haven for people involved in the illegal activity. "We can't even clean the dense wild growth as it is spread in a vast area, and requires huge funds. Some people are taking advantage of this and preparing hooch here," said a police officer.

lofty promises to freedom fighters in its election manifesto. It had planned to hike the pension to Rs 15,000 three years back, but nothing was done. Even poorer states like Odisha pay more pension to their freedom fighters.

Punjab had played an important role during the country's freedom movement. Just after the Independence, the Government of India recognised 34,000 men and women from Punjab as freedom fighters. Over 2,000 laid down their lives in a long struggle for Independence. Of them, only a few survived. Now, the pension is being given to their eligible kin.

Only symbolic I-Day celebrations on border

Tribune News Service



Police officials prepare for a full-dress rehearsal ahead of the Independence Day parade in Amritsar on Friday. VISHAL KUMAR

NO EXCHANGE OF SWEETS THIS YEAR

Border Security Force (BSF) and Pakistan Rangers personnel did not exchange sweets and greetings on the occasion of Pakistan's Independence Day on Friday. "As per Covid-19 guidelines, there was no plan to offer or accept sweets. This time, the traditional parade and hoisting of the flag will be held, but the occasion will be devoid of visitors," a BSF official said.

the governments on both sides needed to start a comprehensive dialogue to bring their diplomatic, political and security agencies together to resolve the bilateral differences.

Freedom fighters, their kin getting meagre pension

VISHAV BHARTI
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

Though the Congress government had made many promises in the Assembly election manifesto, there seems to be no end to the wait of freedom fighters and their kin in Punjab for getting a hike in the meagre pension.

In the state, there are 1,021 eligible beneficiaries under the Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, but they get just Rs 7,500 monthly pension under the scheme. This pension was hiked way back in 2014, said Veerendra Kumar Meena, Principal Secretary, Freedom Fighters Department.

Ex-sarpanch booked for ₹22 lakh fraud

AMRITSAR, AUGUST 14

The police have booked a former sarpanch of Chak Motewala village here for allegedly embezzling grants of Rs 22.65 lakh. It was only after the executive engineer of the Rural Development Department conducted an inquiry into the case for a second time that the accused was booked.

The accused, Hukamjeet Singh, allegedly forged some bills to embezzle the development funds during the previous SAD-BJP government.

A source in the district administration said the order to conduct an inquiry against the accused had come from the head office in Chandigarh. The role of the then panchayat secretary was also under the scanner. — TNS

paper.tribuneindia.com

Night curfew extended in cities

CM announces various measures to curb spread of Covid-19

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

As Covid cases continue to spike, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Friday announced extension of night curfew from 9 pm to 5 am in all cities, along with a slew of other measures, to control the further spread of the pandemic.

The night-time curfew will now be applicable in all cities, with exemption for industries, said the Chief Minister, while announcing sector-based division of big cities, with a nodal officer to

NODAL OFFICERS TO ASSIST HEALTH TEAMS

- CM Capt Amarinder Singh announced sector-based division of big cities, with a nodal officer to be appointed in each to assist the health teams in contact tracing.
- He announced weekend 'Stay at home' to avoid unnecessary movement and socialising in Ludhiana, Patiala and Jalandhar for the next fortnight



be appointed in each to assist the health teams in contact-tracing.

He also announced weekend 'Stay at home' to avoid unnecessary movement and socialising in Ludhiana, Patiala and Jalandhar

for the next fortnight, after which the situation will be reviewed.

In another major decision, it has been decided that every marriage palace, restaurant or office, where more than 10 people gather,

will appoint a Covid monitor to ensure full compliance of masks, sanitisation and social distancing, Capt Amarinder said at his weekly Facebook Live #AskCaptain session. He warned that teams would inspect such places and violators would be penalised.

The directions came amid a continuing spike in Covid cases, with an average of 1,000 cases being reported in the past seven days. The maximum cases last week came from Ludhiana, Patiala, Jalandhar, Amritsar and Mohali.

25 more succumb, toll 731

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

Punjab today saw the highest number of Covid-19 cases in a single day with 1,077 more people contracting the virus while 25 persons died after getting infected with the disease.

Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Patiala continued to report maximum number of cases, with 296 being reported from the industrial town. Patiala reported 135 new cases and Jalandhar reported 134 cases. The highest death toll was reported from Ludhiana with seven casualties while Patiala and Sangrur reported four deaths each.

The total number of cases in the state is 29,013 while the

COVID-19 CASES DISTRICT-WISE COUNT

DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS	DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Ludhiana	6,438	216	Moga	677	6
Jalandhar	3,727	94	Fatehgarh Sahib	615	6
Amritsar	2,670	105	Tarn Taran	528	17
Patiala	3,374	67	Kapurthala	568	19
Sangrur	1,432	48	Fazilka	405	2
SAS Nagar	1,647	30	SBS Nagar	444	7
Gurdaspur	1,007	28	Faridkot	518	1
Bathinda	1,072	13	Barnala	570	11
Hoshiarpur	773	23	Ropar	419	7
Ferozepur	805	12	Muktsar	358	3
Pathankot	708	15	Mansa	258	1
Total positive	29,013		Deaths	731	

total deaths are now 731.

In Ludhiana, those who lost their lives today included a 27-year-old from Haibowal, a 33-year-old from Shimlapuri,

who was admitted at Government Rajindra Hospital, Patiala, and a 35-year-old from Khanna, who was patient of TB. —TNS

Eight more cops infected

SANGRUR, AUGUST 14

With eight more police officials posted in different branches testing Covid-positive, the authorities have closed all offices located in the Police Lines, Sangrur, for three days. Health department officials are conducting tests of all contacts of positive patients.

Sources said till date, 150 police officials of various ranks, including SPs, DSPs and inspectors, have tested positive. Of the total number, 38 are under treatment at isolation centres while others have recovered and resumed their duties. —TNS

Eight from state to get I-Day awards

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

President's Medal for Dy Commandant General, Home Guards

Home Guards and Civil Defence (HG & CD), would receive the President's Medal

for Distinguished Service.

The Punjab Government said seven more personnel would be awarded Home Guards and Civil Defense Medal for Meritorious Services. These officials are Gurinder Pal Singh, JSO Civil Defence (CD); Anil Kumar District Comman-

der; Home Guards (HG); Rajender Krishan District Commander; Sukhnandan Kaur Senior Assistant (HG & CD); Nirmal Singh, Platoon Commander (HG & CD); Gurcharan Singh, Chief Warden; and Rachpal Singh, Platoon Commander (HG).

"IN THESE POLICIES, THE INVESTMENT RISK IN THE INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO IS BORNE BY THE POLICYHOLDER"

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CONGRATULATIONS INDIA WISHING YOU A HAPPY 74TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

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HSIIDC Announces Allotment of Commercial Booths/Shops

Particulars/Estate	Size (in sq. mtrs)	Reserve price (Rs. in Lakh)
IE Karnal, Sec-37 (KIOSK)	64	37.06
IE Karnal, Sec-37 (Double Storey Booth)	75.625	51.00
IE Karnal, Sec-37 (Triple Storey SCO)	108	114.64

Date of closing of Registration/deposit of EMD 11.9.2020 (up to 23:59 hrs) Start of e-Auction: 17.9.2020 (7.00 AM to 9.00 PM)
Earnest shall be @5% of the reserve price.

In case of participation in more than one booth/shop, an intending bidder would be required to deposit EMD for each shop/booth separately.

Note: (1) All details including any proposal due date extensions, clarification, amendments, addenda, corrigenda etc. will be uploaded on the website of the HSIIDC (www.hsiidc.org.in) and will not be published in newspapers. Hence, applicants may regularly visit website of HSIIDC to keep themselves updated about such developments. (2) The Corporation may without assigning any reasons withdraw any or all the sites from the e-auction at any stage and is not bound to accept the highest bid or any or all the bids even if they are above the reserve price. HSIIDC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids or cancel/postpone the e-auction without assigning any reasons thereof.

Haryana State Industrial & Infrastructure Development Corp. Ltd.
A State Government Undertaking
Regd. Office: C-13 & 14, Sector-6, Panchkula, Ph. 0172-2590481-83, Fax: 2590474
e-mail: contactus@hsiidc.org.in CIN: U29199HR1967SGC034545
Website: hsiidc.org.in /mdhsiidc



Punjab Government

led by

Chief Minister

Capt. Amarinder Singh

pays glowing tributes to

Shaheed Karnail Singh Issru

the legendary hero of Goa Liberation Movement

on his

Martyrdom Day



BKU protests Centre's farm ordinances

BATHINDA, AUGUST 14 Members of the BKU Kranthi Union took out a flag march at different villages in Mansa to protest against the Union Government's "anti-farmer" ordinances.

The march was carried out at Malakpur Khiala, Khiala Kalan, Khiala Khurd, Bhupal, Ralla, Joga, Buraj Jhabbar, Ubha, Burj Hari and Tamkot villages in the district.

Ughar Singh, president of the union, said, "We will observe the Independence Day as black day to express our resentment towards the Centre for introducing farm ordinances. If the ordinances and the decision to impose GST on agricultural land leased on contract for cultivation is implemented, then the farming community will be further pushed down to its lowest ebb." —TNS

Pupils shun non-clinical PG courses, many seats vacant

BALWANT GARG
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

FARIDKOT, AUGUST 14

In most of the medical colleges in the state, students have shunned non-clinical post-graduate (MD) courses as they are not as lucrative as the clinical courses.

As many as 89 of the total 124 MD seats in six non-clinical branches are still vacant in seven medical colleges in the state. In an endeavour to fill these seats, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences (BFUHS) on Friday invited the candidates for the fourth round of admissions for the contract for cultivation is implemented, then the farming community will be further pushed down to its lowest ebb." —TNS

Experts in the medical education field said the response and demand for non-clinical courses, including anatomy,

MICROBIOLOGY BRANCH MOST FAVOURED

- It is first time in the last many years that medical students have shown some interest in the microbiology branch
- Microbiologists are in high demand after the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic in the country
- The Health Department is contemplating to shift its priorities vis-à-vis microbiology research to deal with new viruses
- Until recently, this branch had few takers

physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology, microbiology and community medicine, was coming down and this year it had slipped further.

For the admission to 23 MD seats in the anatomy branch, there is not even a single candidate this time. In the biochemistry branch, 15 of the 17 seats are lying vacant presently.

Similar is the situation

in pharmacology, physiology and community medicine branches.

It is first time in the last many years that medical students have shown some interest in the microbiology branch. Microbiologists are in high demand after the Covid-19 outbreak in the country.

The Health Department is even contemplating to shift its

priorities vis-à-vis microbiology research to deal with new viruses, so many students have shown interest in the microbiology branch this time. Otherwise, until recently, this branch failed to attract many students.

Experts said one of the reasons for students not opting for the non-clinical branches was that there were BS and MSc courses available in pharmacology, anatomy, physiology and biochemistry. Though pathology is also a non-clinical branch and has weightage equal to biochemistry and microbiology, but many doctors opt for MD in pathology since MSc in the subject is not available.

Of the 40 seats in the pathology course in Punjab, only one seat has remained vacant.

Govt schools being upgraded for quality education: Minister

SANGRUR, AUGUST 14

School Education Minister Vijay Inder Singla on Friday said the state was upgrading government schools to provide quality education to children.

He was here to inaugurate smart schools at Kalajhar and Phagwala villages of the district.

The Cabinet minister also laid the foundation stones of several developmental works at Rajpura, Masani, Phagwala and Roopnagarhi. He also visited the court complex to attend a function organised by the local Bar association.

"Government Elementary Smart School, Kalajhar, has been upgraded at a cost of Rs 67 lakh while around Rs 54 lakh has been spent on Government Senior Secondary School, Phag-



Cabinet Minister Vijay Inder Singla inaugurates a smart school in Sangrur.

Department had succeeded in increasing the enrolment of students up to 13 per cent.

"There will be no dearth of funds for developmental works required in Sangrur. I will also ensure the quality of the projects being implemented by various government departments," said Singla. —TNS

Capt promoting SAD as main Oppn party: Mann

BATHINDA, AUGUST 14

AAP MP Bhagwant Mann has accused the Capt Amarinder Singh government of promoting SAD as the main opposition party.

The petitioners were seeking the quashing of orders and notifications issued between May 26 and June 19, whereby final-year students were directed to appear for their end-semester examinations. —TNS

Mann alleged that no action had been taken against the Congress MLAs over their role in the illicit liquor trade in the Majha area, which led to killing of more than 100 persons.

All kinds of mafias were enjoying government patronage from the past many years as both CM and Badals were hand-in-glove with each other, the MP alleged. —TNS

Rehab centre attacked

ABOHAL, AUGUST 14

Over 10 armed miscreants attacked a private de-addiction centre in Hathianwali village on the Abohal-Sadulshahar road and abducted Kulwant Singh (23) of Pakki Tibbi village, Muktsar, who was under treatment there for the past three months.

Preliminary probe indicated that the miscreants had also

planned to kill a patient, but he managed to escape.

The miscreants vandalised the centre and fired shots, injuring four persons. They took away Rs 10,000 and important documents. A FIR has been registered against Gagandeep Singh, Robin Singh and Joban Singh of Muktsar and Balwinder Singh of Abohal or Daulatpura village. —OC

Manpreet to kickstart LED project today

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, AUGUST 14

The city roads here are all set to be illuminated with LED lights as Finance Minister Manpreet Singh Badal would start the project at the local Fire Brigade Chowk on Independence Day.

Under this project, 23,254 LED streetlights will be set up in the city at an estimated cost of Rs 16 crore, which also includes the cost of operation and maintenance work for eight years.

The LED lights would have SIM cards to provide real-time information about the functioning of lights, for which a dedicated monitoring room would also be set up. A faulty streetlight would

show in the monitor room, resulting in early resolution of the problem.

Pertinently, the project has been hanging fire for the past many years. Earlier, in February last year, a tender was floated but in the pre-bid, many bidders demanded a change in the tender norms. Later, it was delayed due to the model code of conduct for the General Elections.

MCB Commissioner Bikramjit Singh Shergill said: "The LED streetlights will save 57 per cent electricity bill of the MC and will also enhance the beauty of the city". Besides, the MC would also install pop up sprinkling system at a cost of Rs 1.25 crore in various parks of the city, Shergill added.

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

The Punjab and Haryana High Court extended by another week the stay on holding the final examinations by Panjab University (PU).

The direction came after the university counsel told the Bench that he would get instructions over whether PU was taking online examinations or not.

At the very onset, the coun-

Dhillon writes to CM over CSAT

CHANDIGARH, AUGUST 14

Brinder Singh Dhillon, chief, Punjab Youth Congress, today wrote to CM Capt Amarinder requesting him to make the CSAT qualifying in Punjab Civil Services exam.

Handing over the letter to Special Principal Secretary to CM Gurkirat Kirpal Singh, Dhillon said the guidelines and procedure for Punjab Civil Services Exam 2020 were already advertised, it wouldn't be possible to change them now. —TNS

Class X students stage protest

SANGRUR, AUGUST 14

Irrked over the Punjab School Education Board's delay in declaring the results, students of Class X studying in open schools staged a protest in front of Education Minister Vijay Inder Singla's local residence. —TNS



15 August, 2020

On the Occasion of INDEPENDENCE DAY Heartiest Greetings to the People of Haryana

“On this auspicious day, let's revive the memories of the valiant martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the Nation. Taking inspiration from them, let's all contribute to create a self-reliant India following the ideas of harmony, brotherhood & equality.”

- Manohar Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana

Govt. of Haryana



Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid submission schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - MCPH Division No. 4			
1.	Providing of electric components for blower panels at 30MGDBBRSTP (re-invite). Est. Cost: Rs. 7,60,850/-, EMD: Rs. 15,220/-, Time Limit: 1 Month	14.08.2020 To 20.08.2020 at 2:00 P.M	20.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M
2.	Repair & rewinding of 125 HP Submersible Non Clog Pumps at STP Diggian, Mohali. Est. Cost: Rs. 11.30 lacs, EMD: Rs. 22,600/-, Time Limit: 1 Month	14.08.2020 To 20.08.2020 at 2:00 P.M	20.08.2020 at 3:00 P.M

Note : Tender Notice alongwith detailed terms and conditions of the DNT and Corrigendum is available on website <https://etenders.chd.nic.in/nicgep/app>

NODAL OFFICER-CUM-EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
M.C.P.H. Div.No.3, Room No.1, Water Works, Sector-37, Chandigarh

Notification under Section 3 (D) read with sub-section (3) of Section 3G of NH Act 1956

Office of CALA cum-SDO(c) Sadar Mandi H.P.

Notification

The Central Government, in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the Notification bearing No. 4394(E) dated 6 December, 2019 published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, issued under sub-section (1) of Section 3 A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act) for building (widening/ four-laning, etc), maintenance, management and operation of NH No-70 (New 03) on the stretch of land from Km 224 to Km 264.960 in the district of Mandi in the state of Himachal Pradesh.

And whereas, the substance of the said notification was published in "Amar Ujala" dated 20 December 2019 and the "The Tribune" dated 20 December 2019, under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act.

And whereas the Competent Authority has received objections filed under Section 3-C, considered and settled the same appropriately;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Competent Authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

And whereas, upon receipt of the said report of the competent authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government has declared that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And whereas, the said declaration has been published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, bearing No.2137 (E) dated 29 June, 2020 as required under Section 3D of the said Act;

And further, in pursuance to sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

Now, therefore, in compliance of sub-section (3) of Section 3G, the Competent Authority hereby invites all the landowners or persons interested in the land being acquired under these proceedings to submit their claims in respect of the land mentioned in the Schedule given here-in-below within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this Public Notice in the office of the Competent Authority for Land Acquisition.cum-Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) Sadar, Distt Mandi. (H.P.)

All the persons interested [owner of the lands and other interested person(s)] in the lands specified in the Schedule given below are hereby called upon to submit their claims in the said land (their share, area of land, any assets attached thereto e.g. structures/ trees etc. and state the nature of the respective interest in such lands along with relevant records. The said landowners or persons interested therein shall also furnish the particulars of their Bank Accounts to which they would like their compensation amount to be credited. The claims may be submitted in the following indicative format:

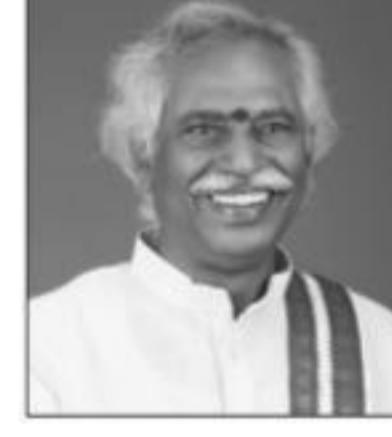
me of village/ Town	Name of the Land owner/ Interested person	Field Survey No.	Area of land in his share	Any structures/ trees / tubewell attached to the land	Name of the Bank & Branch in which he/she holds the Account No. _____, IFSC Code of the Bank Branch	Particulars of the Bank Account

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired, with or without structures, falling within jurisdiction of CALA cum SDO (C) Sadar in the district of Mandi in the state of Himachal Pradesh was published in Amar Ujala dated 6 July 2020 and in The Tribune dated 6 July 2020

Competent Authority for L.A. cum-Sub-Divisional Officer (civil) Sadar, Distt Mandi. H.P.

बंडारू दत्तात्रेय
राज्यपाल
हिमाचल प्रदेश



सन्देश

स्वतंत्रता दिवस के शुभ अवसर पर मैं समस्त देशवासियों, विशेषकर हिमाचलवासियों को हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं प्रेषित करता हूँ।

यह ऐतिहासिक दिन है, जब विदेशी साम्राज्य की दासता से यह राष्ट्र मुक्त हुआ। एक लम्बे संघर्ष के पश्चात् इस दिन देशवासियों ने आजादी का पर्व मनाया। लेकिन, यह इतना आसान भी नहीं था। देश के असंख्य नायकों और देशभक्तों के बलिदान के पश्चात् हम गुलामी की जंगीरों से मुक्त हुए। राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी, जवाहर लाल नेहरू और सरदार पटेल का योगदान तथा आजादी की क्रांति के जनक बाल गंगाधर तिलक, लाला लाजपत राय, सुभाष चंद्र बोस और क्रांतिकारी सरदार भगत सिंह, चंद्रशेखर आजाद, जैसे असंख्य माँ भारती के सपूतों ने इस राष्ट्र को दासता से मुक्त कर हमें आजाद करवाया। स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर मैं उन सभी देशभक्तों को प्रदेशवासियों की ओर से श्रद्धासुमन अर्पित करता हूँ। मैं, उन शहीद वीर सपूतों को भी नमन करता हूँ, जिहोंने स्वतंत्रता के उपरांत देश की एकता और अखण्डता को बनाए रखने तथा देश की सीमाओं की रक्षा करते हुए शहादत पाई है।

स्वतंत्रता दिवस हमें आत्म-विवेचन का अवसर भी प्रदान करता है कि हमने इस देश के छह खुल्हे विकास तथा स्वच्छ समाज के निर्माण में कितनी भूमिका निर्भाउ है। मैं, प्रदेशवासियों का आह्वान करता हूँ कि वे सकारात्मक दृष्टिकोण अपनाकर देश के विकास में आगे आएं।

मुझे प्रसन्नता है कि इस छोटे से पहाड़ी प्रदेश ने विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में विकास के अनेक आयाम स्थापित किए हैं और यह प्रदेश प्रगतिशील राज्य के रूप में उभरकर सामने आया है। इस उपलब्धि के लिए मैं समस्त प्रदेशवासियों को बधाई देता हूँ तथा आशा करता हूँ कि भविष्य में भी इसी उत्साह के साथ राज्य को प्रगति के पथ पर अग्रसर रखने के लिए सर्वैव प्रयासरत रहेंगे।

आज पूरी दुनिया कोरोना महामारी के संकट से जूझ रही है। हमें इस मुश्किल की घड़ी में आत्मविश्वास को बनाए रखना है और शारीरिक तंदरस्ती व मानसिक दृढ़ता के साथ आगे बढ़ना है। मैं इस अवसर पर आप सभी से अपील करता हूँ कि प्रधानमंत्री की 'कचरा भारत छोड़ो' मुहिम को और मजबूत बनाएं। साथ ही, दो गज़ की दूरी, मुँह ढकना, हाथ धोना और समय-समय पर दिए जा रहे निर्देशों का पालन करें। मैं इस मौके पर, सभी 'कोरोना वॉरियर्स' का आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ जो पूरी निष्ठा से समाज सेवा में संलग्न हैं।

इस महत्वपूर्ण दिवस पर मैं राज्य की उन्नति एवं सर्वांगीण विकास की कामना करता हूँ। आइए, हम सब संकल्प लें कि निष्ठा और प्रतिवद्धता के साथ हम राष्ट्र और राज्य की उन्नति के लिए अपने कर्तव्य का निर्वहन करेंगे।

स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर आप सबको पुनः मेरी हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ।

(बंडारू दत्तात्रेय)

06

HP

The Tribune
CHANDIGARH | SATURDAY | 15 AUGUST 2020

High Court sets aside teachers' appointment

VIJAY ARORA

SHIMLA, AUGUST 14

The HP High Court today set aside the appointment of those teachers who were appointed/inducted through school management committee (SMC). The court further directed the state government to engage/appoint regular teachers against the substantive posts within six weeks from today after completing all the codal formalities.

While taking care of the academic pursuits of the children, the court further directed the state to ensure in the schools imparting of online teachings to all the students.

While declaring the action of the state government illegal, a Division Bench comprising Justice Sureshwar Thakur and Justice CB Barowalia



HC directs state to ensure online teaching for all students

observed that "there is a palpable open breach of the mandate of Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution of India by the state authorities by inducting the teachers through the SMC mode instead of following the proper procedure in accordance with Recruitment and Promotion Rules."

It was contended in the petition that the right of equality of opportunity to access public employment was untenably denied to them. It was also contended that gross discrimination was practiced by the state authorities by selecting the teachers through the school management committee(s) concerned in various faculties in government schools located within state.

competition, or to occur, in the zone of consideration."

The court passed this important judgment on a petition filed by Kuldeep Kumar and others challenging the action of the state authorities whereby it had recruited/inducted teachers through the SMC mode instead of following the proper procedure in accordance with Recruitment and Promotion Rules.

The Bench further observed that "the pedestal of Articles 14 and 16 of the Constitution of India does ensure(s) to every aspirant to propagate the sacrosanct right of equality of opportunity to at least enter the arena of

58 infected in state

SHIMLA, AUGUST 14

After a continuous surge in Covid cases, there was some relief as the state recorded 58 new infections today. The tally of the positive persons stands at 3,874, including 17 deaths.

The highest number of 12 cases were reported from Chamba, 10 from Kullu, including six farm labourers,

-

Solan

914

1

Kangra

562

3

Chamba

279

-

Hamirpur

394

4

Sirmaur

479

1

Mandi

290

6

Bilaspur

160

-

Shimla

217

2

Kullu

200

-

Kinnar

59

-

Lahaul & Spiti

6

-

Total

3,874

17

as institutional quarantine centres in the district.

DC, Sirmaur, RK Pruthi said, "There are 26 containment zones in Nahan subdivision, 14 in Paonta Sahib, six each in Rajgarh and Shillai and one in Sangrah". —TNS

Shimla road blocked at Dharampuri

INDEPENDENCE DAY SPECIAL

The Tribune Advertisement Marketing Supplement

Message



V.P. Singh Badnore
Hon'ble Governor
of Punjab and Administrator,
UT Chandigarh

On the historic completion of 73 years of our country's Independence with its emergence as the largest democracy and a leading economy of the world, I extend my heartiest felicitations to the people of India, particularly of Punjab and Chandigarh.

As we all celebrate our Independence Day today, I respectfully bow to the heroes of our Independence struggle – known and unknown – who fought, suffered and even sacrificed their lives to achieve freedom for us. The strong edifice of democracy, built by our founding fathers on the four pillars of justice, liberty, equality and fraternity has withstood several threats from both within and outside and has grown from strength to strength.

It is a matter of great pride to recall the laudable contribution of the people of Punjab who have always displayed courage and commitment to the cause of freedom. Punjab has always been on the forefront and known as a Progressive state of India.

The valiant, confident and fearless Punjabis are always ready to fight to maintain peace, harmony and unity as preached and taught by their great saints and Gurus. It is the land of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh, Kartar Singh Sarabha, Shaheed Madan Lal Dhingra, Lala Lajpat Rai, Shaheed Udham Singh and countless other freedom fighters who fought selflessly and relentlessly to achieve Independence for our country.

The hard-working people of Punjab are known, the world over, as the architects of Green and White Revolutions in India. Punjab is also known as the food basket of India for contribution to the National food security. The versatile Punjabis are also known for their innovations. I appreciate the efforts of Sh. Dalbir Singh, a progressive farmer from village Bahadurpur in district Rupnagar who is supplying free cooking bio-gas to combat the situation. Regular

Message

every household of his village. This village has not spent on LPG for the last 9 years. The farmer has installed a Bio-Gas plant on his own and started processing the bio waste, utilising it and converting it as cooking gas and now working on producing electricity from the Bio waste.

As we all know, for the past more than 8 months, the world is in the grip of Covid-19 Pandemic. Each affected country is now dealing with a growing number of positive cases and deaths. Since the first reported Covid Positive case in India till date there are major decisions taken at the level of Indian Government to combat the novel corona virus.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the early days of the Covid-19 outbreak, had directed the country's top scientists in and outside the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to expand testing facilities besides putting the country under complete Lockdown. The hard decision of the national lockdown slowed down the spread of the virus and gave the government time to prepare the healthcare infrastructure to trace, track, test, quarantine and treat people. Safety norms and health advisories were in place and by and large people were obeying the guidelines issued time to time. He encouraged the citizens of the country during the extremely difficult times to keep the spirits high through the initiatives like- 'Taali, Thaali aur Umeed ka Diya'. Even slogans like 'Do Gaji Doori... Bahut Hai Zaroori' motivated people to evolve India that is inclusive, vibrant in growth opportunities and a strong leader in the comity of nations.

In a unique initiative to prevent spread of COVID-19, Punjab had introduced a daily points system under its anti-COVID 'Mission Fateh', in which users of the state's COVA App can register daily precautions they are following against coronavirus, with regular users being recognized as 'Mission Fateh Warriors'.

In one of the Video Conferences with the States, the Hon'ble PM appreciated the proactive approach of Punjab's COVID micro-containment and house-to-house surveillance strategy. All other states were asked to adopt this model, which was helping Punjab successfully in controlling the spread of the pandemic.

Similarly, Chandigarh Administration too has been fighting a fierce battle with the Corona virus and taking numerous steps to combat the situation. Regular

I once again wish you all a very Happy Independence Day.

JAI HIND

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eminence in all walks of life. The College has a modern building having 62 class rooms, 1 seminar hall, 1 auditorium, 7 computer labs, 14 science labs, 2 research labs, 1 digital language lab and a central instrumentation lab. The computerized library houses more than 65,000 books including some rare books and N-LIST. There is an ultra-modern Indoor gymnasium, lawn tennis court and cricket academy on the campus. 28 research students are pursuing research work for Ph.D. under the able guidance of the teachers. Their students have got 52 merit positions including 4 first positions and 3 gold medals as per the latest results declared by the Punjabi University examinations. Besides NSS, NCC, and 'Scouts and Guides', the college also has achievements in cultural activities at national level to its credit.

Their sportspersons have bagged 36 University championships and were runners up in 14 competitions. They have also won prizes in 7 international and 144 national events. The college has a rich tradition of organizing Conferences, Seminars, Workshops, Science Fairs, Exhibitions, Festivals, Extension Lectures, Tournaments and Educational Tours for the overall personality development of its students.

'We won the war of Independence, we shall win this battle against Covid too!'



Capt. Amarinder Singh
Chief Minister,
Punjab

review meetings are being held to take stock of the prevalent situations in and around Chandigarh through VC and time to time issue guidelines in accordance with the MHA and Health, Govt. of India. All the three Medical Institutions in Chandigarh are working absolutely in coordination with the Administration and have been directed to take special care of co-morbid patients and ensure that fatalities are minimum. I place on record my gratitude to the NGOs, VOs, Politicos and Religious Institutions for ensuring food for all in Chandigarh during these testing times. Timely action, strict perimeter control, setting up of rapid response teams and involvement of civil defence remained an integral part in our continuous fight against the Coronavirus. Chandigarh Administration's containment strategy in containing the spread of infection in Bapu Dham Colony is largely appreciated by the WHO.

In the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, we have a dynamic, dedicated and determined leader who reflects the aspirations and hopes of over a billion people. A visionary approach of our Prime Minister's initiative for 'Atam Nirbhar Bharat', is a step towards discovering more possibilities for spurring inclusive & equitable growth. Every citizen of India is determined to convert the coronavirus "crisis into an opportunity". Let us stay committed to evolve India that is inclusive, vibrant in growth opportunities and a strong leader in the comity of nations.

The recently announced New Education Policy has laid the foundation of New India of 21st century. It aims at making the youth 'Future Ready' while focusing on the National Values and National Goals, besides reflecting the ideals of Guru Rabindranath on Education. The new structure of a 5 + 3 + 3 + 4 curriculum is a step in this direction and we have to ensure that our students become Global Citizens and also remain connected to their roots.

I call upon the people of Chandigarh and Punjab, Civil & Police Officers, Ex-Servicemen, Youth, Doctors, Academicians, Intellectuals, NGOs, Voluntary Organizations and Media to resolve to take our country to new heights with a new fervour and new energy. Let us, on this occasion, renew our pledge to collectively work hard performing our duties with sincerity, commitment, devotion and dedication, keeping the interest of our country upper most.

I once again wish you all a very Happy Independence Day.

JAI HIND

hit the peak, which may be just around the corner now. So are we prepared to take the battle against Covid to the next level?

Are we ready to take inspiration from all those freedom fighters from Punjab, whose only mission in life was to free the nation from British colonialism? I feel the biggest ode today to those freedom fighters – Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Sukhdev, Lala Lajpat Rai, Kartar Singh Sarabha, Madan Lal Dhingra, Shaheed Udham Singh, Dr. Diwan Singh Kalepani to name just a few – would be to ensure that we do not lose any more lives to the Coronavirus. And in remembering their sacrifice, let us also take a moment to salute all the Corona warriors who have given up their lives to protect us from the deadly pandemic.

Freedom from the pandemic is a challenge that we all have to battle successfully, and I can assure the people of Punjab that we are working day and night to keep them safe and protected. Our health and medical infrastructure today is among the most robust in the country, and we continue to strengthen it every day, in line with the commitment we made to our people. From establishing specialised Covid centres to the three Plasma Banks we have operationalised at the Government Medical Colleges of Patiala, Amritsar and Faridkot, we continue to build our capacities to fight the pandemic out of our lives. But it is a collective fight in which every individual's contribution will make a difference.

You can do your bit by adhering strictly to the safety protocols – wearing masks at all times, maintaining social distance, etc. With a fatality rate of 2.4 percent and recovery rate of 70 percent, Punjab may have so far fared somewhat better than many parts of India, but the worst is not behind us. In fact, experts warn that we are yet to

Those who have fortunately recovered from the disease can help others by donating their plasma, which would be your biggest homage to the warriors of our freedom movement and our fight against Covid.

Needless to say, **Health** will continue to be a priority sector of focus for us, not just through the pandemic but even thereafter.

The pandemic has, of course, thrown up many other new challenges before us, the least of which is **Education**. This has always been a vital sector of focus for the government, and our sustained investments in it have yielded exceptional results, as evident in the performance of the government schools even amid the pandemic this year. The Class XII pass-out percentage in these schools has risen to 94.32 percent (as against regular percentage of 90.98) in 2019-20, from 61.90 percent in 2016-17 – a notable achievement indeed! I would like to thank the teaching and non-teaching staff of the government schools, without whose dedication these results would not have been possible.

The challenge now lies in ensuring equitable education facilities for government school students in the new online education normal amid Covid. We are aware of the competitive disadvantage which these students face viz a viz their private school peers. To fill the gap to some extent, we have now launched the 'Punjab Smart Connect Scheme', to distribute over 1.74 lakh smartphones to boys and girls studying in Class XII of government schools by November, 2020. The majority of the beneficiaries will be the

most marginalised students from OBC/SC/ST categories, who have lagged behind majorly in securing online education amid the closure of schools. My best wishes are with all the Class XII government school students, and I am sure they shall do us proud. At the same time, we are cognizant of the need to provide **Employment** to our youth through increased **Industrialisation**, which are consistently promoting through intensive investment in measures to boost ease of doing business. Our industry-friendly initiatives have so far attracted investments of Rs. 64,931 crore, which are at various stages of implementation on the ground, with the potential to create 2,29 lakh jobs in the state. In fact, so far, we have successfully facilitated 13.42 lakh youth in getting employment – public and private; wage and self-employed, through our job 'melas', under our 'Ghar Ghar Rozgar Scheme'. The next two years will witness a major step-up in these efforts as more industrial initiatives begin to bear fruit, and investments in the state increase further.

Apart from Health, Education, Industry and Employment, some of the other key sectors we identified as critical to the state's growth and development are Security, Law & Order, Drugs, Agriculture, and Governance. I am happy to share that of the 445 commitments made in the manifesto, 256 have been fully implemented, 86 partially executed and work is in full swing on realizing the remaining, despite some delays caused by the prevailing pandemic. I am, however, optimistic of, and committed to delivering on each

of our promises before the end of this term.

We have also provided relief of about Rs. 4700 crore to about 80 percent (5.64 lakh) of the farmers, with the remaining set to be benefited soon. I promise that we shall also continue to support the farming community through other measures, moving forward. And I also want to take this opportunity to thank all the farmers, arthiyas, labourers and the state government agencies which worked hard to ensure successful procurement of a whopping 128 LMT of wheat during Rabi Marketing Season-2020 amid the unprecedented Covid crisis.

Our Police force is firmly tackling the forces of terror and secessionism, which continue to threaten our hard-earned peace through the anti-India forces operating from across the border, at the behest of the ISI. The fact that 30 terrorist modules have been busted in last 3 years shows how grave the threat is. But let me assure you, that come what may, we will not let these forces push us back to those dark days of terror, which cost us thousands of innocent lives, and which we fought hard to come out from.

While there is a lot that has been achieved in the past few years, I promise you that there is a lot more that we intend accomplishing in the coming months. With the grace of Akal Purakh, as well as the support of my colleagues and the people of Punjab, I am confident that we shall succeed and achieve 'Fateh' against all odds, as we have done in the past. A bright and shining future awaits all of us, and together we shall march into a new tomorrow.

JAI HIND



This 74th Independence Day, let us dedicate ourselves to fighting the battle against COVID with the same determination, courage, commitment and resolve with which we fought and won the war against the British imperialist forces. Together, we shall overcome this too!

Capt. Amarinder Singh

Chief Minister, Punjab



The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Direct tax reforms

More steps needed to check rampant evasion

On the face of it, faceless assessment and appeals under direct tax reforms are a major step forward towards bringing transparency in the taxation system and empowering honest taxpayers. The fact that barely one per cent of India's population — predominantly the salaried class — pays taxes shows that corrupt or negligent officials have largely failed to check tax evasion.

A Covid-hit country striving to rebuild its economy needs confidence-building measures that can drastically raise tax compliance and plug leakages. It has to be ensured that the honest are not harassed and the dishonest are not spared, and not the other way round, as is often the case now. A taxpayers' charter has the potential to reduce the trust deficit between the government and the taxpayer. Why should people who have nothing to hide live in mortal fear of the taxman? The onus will be on the tax officials to act reasonably and avoid overreach. It is also imperative to widen the tax net and catch the big fish in particular. The number of individual taxpayers in the country who have disclosed annual income above Rs 50 lakh is as low as around 3 lakh (in case of income above Rs 5 crore, the figure is even less than 10,000). Last month, the Central Board of Direct Taxes signed an MoU with the Securities and Exchange Board of India for data exchange between the two organisations. More such steps can help in effectively zeroing in on the evaders.

Speedy resolution of tax disputes is another key factor. The funds locked in litigation serve no purpose; these can be released and put to use only if cases are disposed of without delay. A common grouse among Indian taxpayers is that they do their duty but are still deprived of quality services and facilities, including affordable healthcare, good roads and round-the-clock power supply, as the hard-earned money they part with is misused or not optimally utilised. It's up to the government to ensure that valuable tax revenue does not go down the drain.

Montek's prescription

Implementing it may prove to be tough for Punjab

THE expert group headed by Montek Singh Ahluwalia, set up to suggest a post-Covid economic strategy for Punjab, has done some plain-speaking. The group has suggested a series of austerity measures for the cash-strapped state which are likely to have wide-ranging ramifications at a time when people are already reeling under the effect of the pandemic and the lockdown. It has been suggested that Punjab do away with free power for the agriculture sector as it benefits only the big farmers and that its untargeted nature has prevented it from achieving what was intended — alleviate the distress of small and marginal farmers.

Paddy is a water-guzzling crop and its cultivation was being blamed for the decline in water table. It has been suggested that Punjab have a look at the Haryana model that is providing cash incentives in districts where water has been overexploited to diversify and reduce procurement of paddy from critical areas, steps that could also help in checking the problem of stubble burning. Free power meant an annual burden of around Rs 6,500 crore. This money could be used to fund loan waiver, create infrastructure and implement schemes related to education and health, both priority sectors in the post-Covid period.

Studies have pointed out that over 80 per cent of the beneficiaries of free power have been medium and large farmers while the rest were small farmers, the section among which rural indebtedness and suicides prevail. Of the over 14 lakh agricultural tubewells that benefited from the plan, only around one-fifth were with small farmers. So, the priority has to be set right. But how it will be done is what matters. Punjab will have to go for crop diversification carefully. It lost out on industrialisation in the recent past. It is for the Centre to ensure that cultivation of crops is broad-based on the basis of demand and remunerative prices to ensure food security. Pay cuts and deferring salaries can only be short-term measures for the fixed income group. The government should reconcile conflicting interests in its decision-making process.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The road to the sacred leads through the secular.

— Abraham Joshua Heschel

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

LAHORE, SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 1920

Mrs. Naidu and Mr. Montagu.

OUR readers are aware that a reference was recently made in the House of Commons to a speech made by Mrs. Sarojini Naidu in which she was reported to have charged certain Martial Law authorities with having ill-treated women in the Punjab. The latest issue of *Young India* publishes the correspondence which has since passed between Mr. Montagu and Mrs. Naidu on this painful subject. In a letter dated July 9, Mr. S.K. Brown, writing on behalf of Mr. Montagu, asked Mrs. Naidu to withdraw the charges for which she alone "appeared to be responsible," or to produce justification for them. The next day, the same official, again writing on behalf of Mr. Montagu, admitted that the allegations did occur in the evidence part of the Congress report, but said that they were not against any Martial Law authority, but only against Indian Police constables, and asked Mrs. Naidu to make this clear, if this was what she had in her mind. Mrs. Naidu in her reply begins by pointing out the differences between Mr. Montagu's first letter and his second by expressing her surprise that Mr. Montagu should attempt to make such a fine distinction, when the police were an integral part of the Martial Law machinery. She then goes on to say that there were only two instances of outrages upon women which she specifically attributed to Martial Law authorities and quotes statement 581, page 866, Congress Report, made by 23 women and a passage from statement 362, page 367, in both of which serious allegations are specifically made. Mrs. Naidu thus concludes her letter:—"I am deeply grieved to discover that until now, you were not cognisant of the statements embodied in the Congress evidence concerning such outrages upon Indian women: and I trust that you are causing an exhaustive and impartial enquiry to be made into such cases."

Reimagining secularism

If a new post-Gandhian language can be created, a new India is possible

NOUS INDICA
RAJESH RAMACHANDRAN

PRE-MODERN: Gandhi's charkha helped in uniting a destroyed nation.

Indian secularism was a reaction to the colonial project to defeat the national movement by creating, fostering and weaponising communal identities.

THE tragedy of the destruction of the Babri Masjid on December 6, 1992, was amplified manifold during the *bhumi pujan* for a new Ram temple at exactly the same site by PM Modi on August 5, 2020. The PM of a constitutional republic performing the role of a *yajmana* for a Hindu ritual at a site of bloodshed, conflict and an SC-ruled resolution has led to a lot of lamentations over the death of constitutional secularism, with many commentators writing out its death certificate and some others insisting that it is still alive and has only gone into a deep coma. If it is dead, it has to be understood how it was born. The concept of Indian secularism was not a British colonial construct but a native impulse, born out of genuine humanity and the practical necessity to defeat colonialism. Indian secularism was a reaction to the colonial project to defeat the national movement by creating, fostering and weaponising communal identities.

The demons of identity politics unleashed by the colonial government were waging a million mutinies within, which would have ensured complete chaos and the continuation of foreign rule had the Gandhian nationalist glue of communal amity not worked even to the extent it did. And it was this spirit of camaraderie, patriotism and Gandhian hope that transformed itself into Indian secularism. Had it been a vestige of colonial rule like the railways and the army, or a British copy like the parliamentary system, then Rajendra Prasad would have been sworn in holding a copy of *Gita* by some Shankaracharya, making him promise to protect the saffron parivar. And that is exactly what the British did in Pakistan.

For Queen Elizabeth's coronation oath in 1953 was administered by the Archbishop, who asked her, 'Will you to the utmost of your power maintain the Laws of God and the true profession of the Gospel? Will you to the utmost of your power maintain in the United Kingdom the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law? Will you maintain and preserve inviolably the settlement of the Church of England, and the doctrine, worship, discipline, and government thereof, as by law established in England? And will you preserve unto the Bishops and Clergy of England, and to the Churches there committed to their charge, all such rights and privileges, as by law do or shall appertain to them or any of them?' And Pakistan was part of Elizabeth's territories according to this oath.

The British legacy, thus, was clearly not the reason for India becoming a secular republic, nor can the left liberal elite appropriate the idea of the composite nationhood. It was a *desi* pre-modern phenomenon much like Gandhi's *charkha*, non-cooperation, Ram Rajya, the *vaishnava jan to* and *ishwar-allah* hymns that united a destroyed nation, which had no confidence or resources to fight the biggest empire in the world. Whereas the British, looking at this movement through the proselytising prism of the practitioners of a Semitic religion, did not or refused to understand the underlying truthful intent of the Gandhian brotherhood. Ironically, the British symbolised and epitomised modernity, while Gandhi, the naked fakir, was dubbed pre-modern.

But what remains unsaid is that beneath the flying machines and computing robots, there is the collective pre-modern unconsciousness in every society, which gets reflected in atavistic fears, turning Hagia Sophia into a mosque, Babri Masjid into a temple, forcing the *Bible Belt* in the US to turn against a black president, gay marriage or the dilution of gun laws. The pre-modern is everywhere; in the Vatican, in Israel, in the Arab world, in Iran, in tiny Sri Lanka; and in equal measure in every temple, church and mosque. But when the pre-modern gains control of the levers of political power, what it manages to unleash is the evil within us in gargantuan proportions.

It was with great difficulty that Gandhi converted the pre-modern, trying to create a language to converse with it, to pacify and tame it. He was not successful.

ful all the time but there was a constant effort to converse with clashing pre-modern identities for peaceful, respectful coexistence. It was this conversation that got stopped with his assassination. All that the Congress governments and other mainstream parties, particularly the Left, had attempted since then was to use half-baked ideas of secularism — devoid of any conversation with the pre-modern Indian — merely to practise politically immoral acts of duplicity while seeking power.

The latest *bhumi pujan* is no special rupture considering that Jawaharlal Nehru merely wrote a letter instead of legally getting the trespass into Babri Masjid on the intervening night of December 22 and 23, 1949, nullified and the issue closed forever. It was the same Prime Minister who undemocratically dismissed the Kerala state government in 1959 because the regressive forces of the Church and a caste organisation wanted it so. Thus, the death of constitutional secularism was foretold even before the Constitution came into force. But what has altered since then is that we have a political force that converses with the pre-modern to provoke, to inflame and to feed its insecurities. The success of this Hindutva force is directly proportional to the hypocrisy of the Congress and the Left-wing parties.

It is to the credit of the Gandhian engagement with the pre-modern that Hindutva has taken so long to strike roots. If Indians were simplistic, blood-thirsty goons, then what stopped them all this while? Aren't the Church, the Ulema and the RSS the same? Aren't they all trying to mobilise, politicise and weaponise religious and group insecurities? Unless the non-Hindutva political parties answer these questions to converse with the Indian pre-modern, simultaneously eschewing the temptation to manipulate the pre-modern, the Hindutva forces will keep defeating them. But if a new post-Gandhian language can be created, a new India is a possibility. It is also a necessity because, as Rahat Indori wrote, if there is a fire, it will burn down all the houses, not just mine.

'Gold dust' of grandfather's script

RAJNISH WATTAS

On the night of August 14, 1947, my parents caught the second-last train chugging out of the Lahore railway station. Miraculously they crossed the Wagah border and breathed in the air of freedom, redolent with the fragrance of home soil. But this is not a story about their train to India. When my siblings and I were growing up, our house here was full of books and journals in English, Hindi and Urdu. Our father would often read out couplets from Ghalib, Iqbal, Mir, Faiz (his classmate in Lahore) and other legendary poets. At times, he would recite verses of his own father that he could still recall. All of grandfather's work; newspaper clippings, manuscripts

and notebooks had been left behind in the ancestral haveli at Sialkot.

Though grandfather's poetry resonated through our childhood, none of us had seen or heard him; not even a faded photograph existed. A revenue official in the 1920s, he was a poet at heart — a rebellious one. His poetry was immersed in the fiery events of the freedom struggle. He wrote copiously on it along with rich tributes to Gandhi, Lala Lajpat Rai, Tilak and other nationalist icons. Disciplinary proceedings were mooted against him. It was only with the kind intervention of a liberal, literary-minded British revenue commissioner who wrote, 'This man will be more dangerous to the empire outside the service than inside', thereby rejecting the case!

It was a family lament that nothing of

his literary treasure existed. But then, from nowhere an old tattered notebook of his writings was found in a distant relative's house. The small notebook, with weathered paper, had *naazm* and *ghazals* scribbled in fading blue ink — some complete, some abandoned half-way. There it was, in front of our eyes. But the notebook remained locked up as nobody in the family knew Urdu.

But with the advent of Covid lockdowns, many forgotten projects got a new life and exploring the notebook became a priority. The first task was getting the poetry transliterated into Devanagari script to make it accessible to us all. Some Urdu-knowing friends encouraged us to have it published. This entailed getting authoritative advice on the correct meanings and nuances of chaste Urdu. A ques-

tion arose on the correct meaning of the word 'Ghubaar', his pen name (*takhallus*) used for the poetic oeuvre. As a family of Urdu ignoramus, we conveniently took it to mean 'vent out pent up feelings'. However, an erudite scholar corrected us and explained that it meant 'dust-like', as denoting a pall of dust left behind. He shared that in the 14th century a calligrapher, Umar al-Aqta, presented to the Sultan Timur a copy of the Quran which he had calligraphed in the 'Ghubaar' (literally, dust) script, a copy so tiny that it could fit under the socket of a signet ring. Alas, it was too small for the Sultan's ego and was rejected!

But when the Kalam-e-Ghubaar comes out in print, the tiny specks of grandfather's fading ink will glow like gold dust.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Virtues of pluralist society

Apropos of the editorial 'Lessons from the US' (Aug 14), we may fail to recognise the fact that the rise of Kamala Harris is attributed to a truly pluralist society that provides abundant possibilities to people with exemplary talent, courage and conviction. It is time for the Indian State to pause and do some honest introspection to promote democratic and secular values which somehow seem to have fallen prey to the forces of pseudo-nationalism and pseudo-secularism.

SUKHMAN, CHANDIGARH

Worthy choice

Refer to 'Lessons from the US'; Kamala Harris is a worthy choice as Joe Biden's running mate. Given that she is a biracial child of immigrants, Kamala truly represents the diversity of the US, and has been chosen as a flag-bearer of inclusivity, a living antidote to the four-year tenure of President Trump. It should not be forgotten that she tends to have a sceptical view of India's rightward political turn that is against the principle of inclusivity, diversity and coexistence.

SS PAUL, NADIA

Has come a long way

'Lessons from the US' echoes the sentiments of Indians. It is challenging to

get acknowledged in distant lands. One has to perform more in comparison to natives to draw attention even on the basis of one's merit. Kamala has come along way because of her academic parents. She is going to sway the voters of Afro-Asian roots in America. Having undergone a long periods of trials and tribulations, they seem to have the same emotional affinities.

RAJ BHADUR YADAV, FATEHABAD

Will eliminate corruption

By launching a taxation platform for 'honest taxpayers', PM Modi has taken a historic step to end the era of inspector raj in the tax regime. Faceless, seamless, painless will be the new SOP for the income tax department. The scrutiny, assessment and appeals would no longer be confined to one region or one officer, ensuring transparency and harassment. The random computerised system will end person-to-person contact between the taxpayer and the taxman. The new IT chapter is set to widen the tax base with more and more people willingly paying taxes under the new laws.

ANIL VINAYAK, AMRITSAR

Tax reforms

PM Modi has taken the biggest step to reform the tax system since Independence by launching

a transparent taxation platform. It is a big gift to the honest taxpayers of the country. The taxpayers will not only be rid of the income tax department, but also of unnecessary disputes. The government will have to ensure that the system checks corrupt officials as well as discourages those who refuse to pay taxes. It should be monitored at the level of the Ministry of Finance. Only then will the desired form of the taxpayers' charter emerge. It is a matter of consideration that in a country with a population of 135 crore, there are only 1.5 crore income tax payers. The government should make efforts to make it mandatory for every adult Aadhaar card holder to file tax returns, even if no tax is payable.

SHAKTI SINGH, KARNAL

Faceless taxation

The taxation system going faceless is needed for a country of 135 crore people, where less than 2% people pay tax. This will not only help in checking frauds in the system, but will also reduce corruption prevalent in the taxation departments. It was becoming a hindrance to growth. The consistent efforts to clean up the system is commendable, but the big-

ger question is whether it will be implemented in the right spirit.

MUSKAA GULATI, AMBALA CITY

Nothing on ground

Refer to the editorial 'Boost for defence industry', it seems like the BJP government is on an announcement spree over the past six years. Every week, there is something new, but on the ground, we hardly see anything. The media is also tight-lipped, even as the government has failed on various issues such as employment, drugs, corruption, price rise etc. This government will be remembered for bhaashan, bhaashan aur bhaashan.

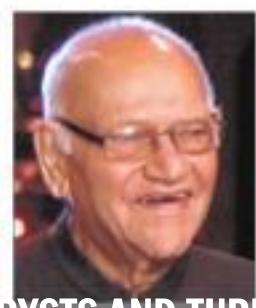
RAJEEV BANSAL, NABHA

Show of maturity

Reference to the news 'Post Rajasthan, Cong to deal with dissidence in Punjab' (Aug 14); dealing with the dissidents in Rajasthan has boosted the morale of the Congress leadership, which is now planning to solve the problem of dissidence in Punjab. The maturity which Rahul Gandhi and his sister have shown in dealing with this problem proves that Rahul can don the crown of the party president.

FAQIR SINGH, DASUYA

Let's not criminalise a love affair gone awry



TRYSTS AND TURNS

JULIO RIBEIRO

TILL he was found dead hanging from a rope tied to a fan in his bedroom in Bandra, I did not know anything about Sushant Singh Rajput! But now that he took his own life, I have learnt that he was born in a town in Purnea district of Bihar, that his sister was a distinguished cricketer, that Sushant himself was a much-above-average student who did not complete his engineering studies because he was drawn towards dancing, at first, and to acting later.

I did not learn of him earlier because I am not a film buff. What made me interested in the film career of this young man was the large outpouring of grief from ordinary countrymen for the death of a popular actor who had made a mark in TV serials and later in the tinsel world. He did not come from a 'film' background. So, he had to work hard to excel. But excel he did and people young and old, rich or poor, Hindu and Muslim, high caste or not, urban and rural, joined an orchestrated chorus for 'Justice to Sushant Rajput'.

What was the 'justice' they sought and why did politicians of different persuasions dive in such big numbers in a pool filled with their own crocodile tears? After all, these worthies are surely aware that the film world,

despite its glamour and wealth, can be an institutional Pied Piper that lures its constituents to a life so far removed from the conventional, that it leads often to perdition.

The conventions that are routinely breached are those of love and marriage. Sometimes, sensitive humans, like Sushant Rajput, are not able to 'withstand the slings and arrows of outraged fortune', as the great bard put it, or the charms of 'La Belle Dame Sans Merci' who keep poor men in thrall.

But the one who claimed him publicly has now become the centre of a tug-of-war between two states, Maharashtra and Bihar, and two conflicting political interests. Aditya Thackeray, the young scion of the Thackeray dynasty (in the making) is the son of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra and also the Minister for Environment and Tourism in the state cabinet. His friendship with Sushant and his reported attendance at a social event in the deceased actor's home on an evening prior to his suicide has set off a whispering campaign to point the needle of suspicion to the young man in a not too subtle attempt to unsettle the coalition that rules the state!

The strategy will not succeed as Aditya is on round-the-clock police protection. His every move is under watch and under scrutiny. Besides, the young minister has not denied his friendship with Sushant. He says he has many other friends in Bollywood. He affirmed that his friendship did not stray into territory that defined the reasons for the suicide. Like many citizens of Maharashtra, I believe Aditya. He has not yet joined the fraternity of the wily politicians who can



CHORUS: Young and old, rich and poor are seeking 'Justice for Sushant Rajput' and even the politicians have dived in.

Numerous young men and women who are in the public eye succumb to suicidal tendencies. They become objects of prurient public attention. The police, who would have turned away common citizens in similar circumstances, go to town with such media-attracting cases. Even senior police officers, who should be concentrating on more urgent matters, get involved.

tell lies without blinking!

The Bihar police, backed by the Bihar government, saw in Sushant's death a sustained but prurient interest in the circumstances that led to his suicide. If they took a stand contrary to that of their counterparts in Maharashtra, it would open their path to a place in the sun. So they calculated!

They pounced on a suspicion voiced by the actor's father that Sushant's girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty was the reason for the tragedy. Moreover, he suspected that the girl had siphoned off money from the dead actor's bank account, an accusation that has been challenged by the Maharashtra police.

An amendment in the Indian Penal Code introduced a provision to criminalise 'abettment' to suicide, while 'attempt' to commit suicide was slowly losing favour with the jurists and social activists. It was motivated by the

sad spectacle of brides in Gujarat, particularly, committing suicide when their husbands and in-laws tortured them for more dowry. The wordings of the amendment were interpreted by the police in such a way that could make the age-old and natural 'inclination of the moth for the star and the night for the morrow' a very dangerous proposition, though difficult to avoid.

Some years ago, a priest from my Christian communion, the Roman Catholic, came for my advice. He was accompanied by an old woman of less than moderate means whose daughter was lodged in the Byculla women's jail for undertrials. The girl's offence was that she had got entangled with a Hindu boy who had no job. The boy lived on the very modest earnings of the girl. Her mother opposed the liaison. When the girl called off the arrangement, the boy committed suicide. The girl was

arrested for abetment.

I thought this was preposterous, but could do nothing to help. If the police interpretation was upheld by the courts, it would mean the end of romance and adolescent love. Nobody henceforth could get into a relationship, like young people routinely do, without finally tying the knot. Most often than not, this happens in only one in hundred or more teenage romances.

My interpretation of the law based on the objective of introducing the amendment is that the accused should be seen to overtly encourage the person driven to suicide to take his or her own life. A love affair gone awry would not qualify for criminalisation.

Yet, numerous young men and women who are in the public eye succumb to suicidal tendencies. They become objects of prurient public attention. The police, who would have turned away common citizens in similar circumstances, go to town with such media-attracting cases. Even senior police officers, who should be concentrating on far more urgent and serious matters, get involved. In Sushant's case, even the chief ministers and home ministers thought it would give them political mileage to get personally involved!

People should allow Rhea Chakraborty to live her probably lonely existence. And, they should allow Sushant Rajput's soul to rest in peace. More importantly and urgently, the courts should put a stop to police investigating suicides where unrequited love is the sole reason for ending life.

Freedom of the individual holds the key to unity



M RAJIVLOCHAN

HISTORIAN

Seven decades after the British left, we need to take a moral decision on whether we would continue to privilege the artificially created primordial divisions along caste and religious lines, or reward the individual who has loyalty to the Constitution. Caste and religious groupings have commitments that can never be in harmony with the nation as a whole. The individual alone stands to support the nation fully.

AS we commemorate another Independence Day, we notice that guile and guts are needed to craft a country, ensure that fissiparous memories are forgotten, and create new ones about harmonious living. Merely making sacrifices or appeasing caste and religious groups are poor strategies to knit a people into a nation. Indians like to recall the martyrdom of their ancestors for the independence of the country. *Hum laye hein toofan se kashti nikal ke, iss desh ko raksha mere bachho sambhal ke* was and continues to be a powerful sentiment. However, very few remember that consolidating this Independence after the British left, and convincing people to stay together, required tremendous guile and guts. The wisdom of a handful like Sardar Patel, their willingness to force the nay-sayers and refusal to kowtow to anyone who opposed India, ensured it became a country and did not disintegrate into hundreds of small, mean, warring territories.

When the British left India in 1947, their direct rule was only over about three-fifth of the landmass. The rest was controlled by sub-contractors put in place after the British became the paramount power. These sub-contractors or 'Princes', had a well-equipped, battle-hardened army of about 2,00,000 at the time the British left India. While departing, the British gave these sub-contractors the privilege of becoming independent rulers. Many, like Jaipur, Alwar, Bharatpur and Dholpur, banded together to create a new country, called *Matsya Ganrajya*. The prince of Hyderabad, one of the richest in the world, lording over one of the poorest princedoms, and his wazirs, even con-



SPIRIT OF FREEDOM: Resilience has helped the country withstand divisiveness.

ducted an open warfare to assert independence. Publicly shared folk memories of those Hyderabadi who escaped to Pakistan and whose ancestors fought against India in 1947-48 are that at least 2,00,000 of their ancestors were killed in this fight and that eventually they lost because Pakistan, an Islamic republic, refused to support them militarily.

Pandit Sunderlal Srivastava of the United Provinces was tasked by the Congress to report on the suppression of separatism in Hyderabad. He wrote a long report condemning the actions. Home Minister Patel shelved the report. As expected, everyone forgot about the conflict. They now rebuilt their lives around new opportunities that a newly independent India offered.

Over the decades, these opportunities have been good enough to forge bonds of love, affection and trust, over-riding the differences in region, religion and language. Today, there is little hesita-

tion in saying that India has withstood the test of time, remained a united and powerful nation, capable of protecting the residents of the country. Most importantly, the people continue to be upbeat about the future and trust their government. This is how the country was crafted by the makers of Constitution in 1950 when they outlawed caste discrimination, refused to allow separate electorates, or identify a national language. Instead, they made the individual citizen the fulcrum around which India was to exist. Over the years, far too often than is healthy, we allowed caste and religious groupings to overwhelm the freedom of the individual.

The consequent partisan politics has been a great distraction that makes it impossible to plan any long-term project internally and present a strong image externally. This was most dramatically visible in a recent headline. After Narendra Modi laid the founda-

tion stone of a Ram temple at Ayodhya, the *Times*, London, headlined its story, 'Modi is hailed as the Hindu king of a divided nation'. The paper refused to acknowledge the resolution of a long-festered problem.

So what exactly would be the parameters of a nation that is united? Will that unity be in the form of individuals that relate to the nation and disregard primordial loyalties? Or will that unity have to be defined as one between groups defined in terms of religion or caste?

We need to notice that a recognition of caste and religious identities as being the primary identity of a person, marks the success of the British colonial project in India. The project was to convince the Indians that theirs was a second-rate, decrepit culture based on mutually warring primordial identities.

That the British preferred us to forget thousands of years of living together is understandable. Why modern-day Indians would prefer to forget that experience is a more complicated problem.

To the British, India seemed like complete chaos. It was inconceivable to them that thousands of languages and belief systems could co-exist without any one group imposing upon the other. The English came from a system where the primordial belief systems overpowered all else. Millions, not hundreds or thousands, were routinely killed over their beliefs. If the Crusades, the Hundred Years' War, the Spanish Inquisition, are too far back in history, then please look at the two World Wars, Hitler's Germany, Mussolini's Italy or Stalin's Russia. In India, on the other hand, differences in belief were not something to fuss about.

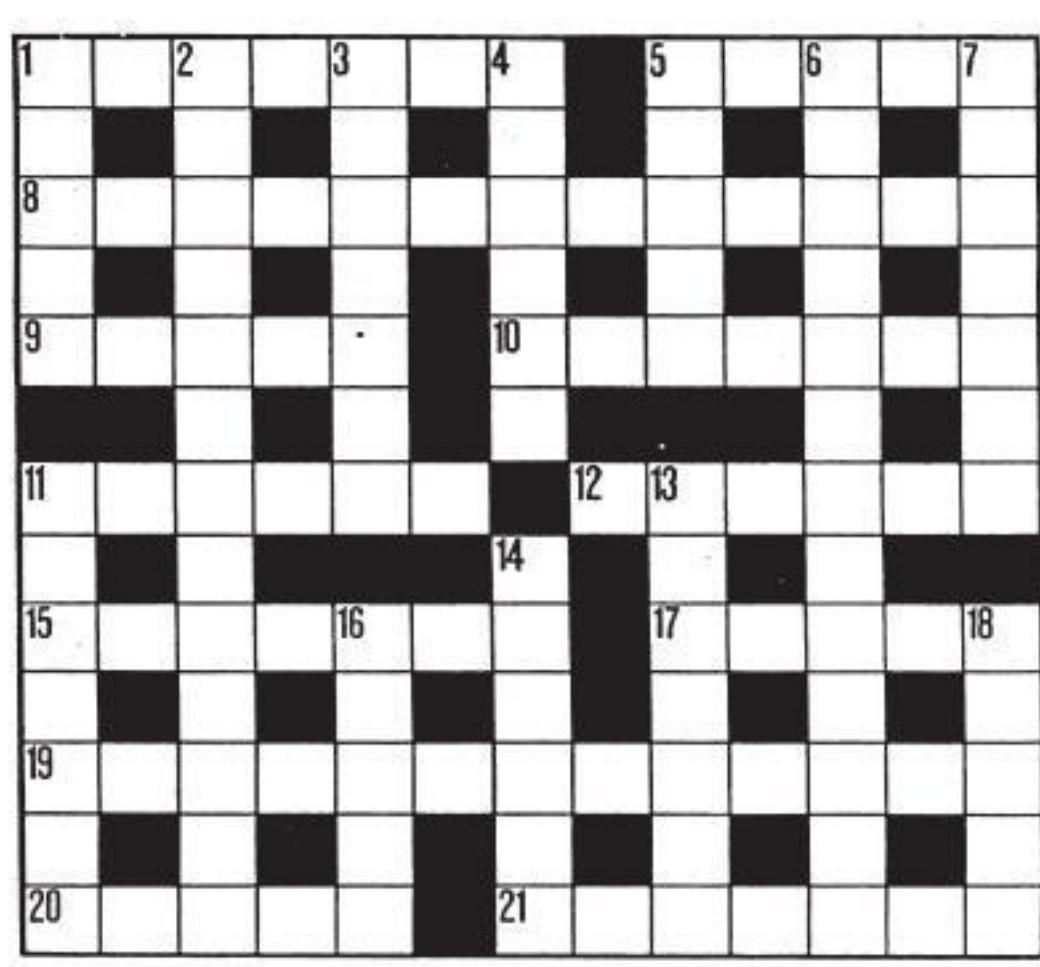
In the Census Report of 1911, we learn that the Census Commissioners of Bom-

bay region noticed thousands who did not claim to be either this or that but showed complicated characteristics. For instance, there were Hindus of the Panchpiriya cult who worshipped Mohammedan saints. Or there were the Matia Kumbis of Gujarat who called in Brahmins to perform their ceremonies but were followers of the Pirana saint Imam Shah. The field-level Census officials classified such people as 'Hindu-Mohammedans'. The Census Director, learned in the science of anthropology, strongly felt that his subordinates should have ditched the greyness and classified them as either Hindus or Mohammedans. He noticed the 'extremely indefinite character of the boundary line between different religions in India' and promised that by the next Census, all individuals would be forced into neat primordial categories (Census of India, 1911, p. Vol I, Part 1, p 118). The dividing line between the Hindus, Jains and Sikhs was, so the report said, even more hazy and non-existent.

Similar indeterminacy was noticed to exist across caste divisions. By the next Census in 1921, the colonial officials drew stronger lines within the Indian society. 'Divide and rule' is how such artificially created divisions were condemned by the leaders of the Indian National Congress.

Seven decades after the British left, we need to take a moral decision on whether we would continue to privilege such artificially created primordial divisions along caste and religious lines, or reward the individual who has loyalty to the Constitution. Caste and religious groupings have commitments that can never be in harmony with the nation as a whole. The individual alone stands to support the nation fully.

QUICK CROSSWORD



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

Across: 1 Squat, 8 Boil down, 9 Minor, 10 At no time, 11 Bower, 12 Law, 16 Finale, 17 At odds, 18 Try, 23 Idler, 24 Hitherto, 25 Buyer, 26 Folklore, 27 Unity.

Down: 2 Quixotic, 3 As one man, 4 Portia, 5 Gloom, 6 Comic, 7 Sneer, 12 Let, 13 Way, 14 Good turn, 15 Adherent, 19 Retort, 20 Shift, 21 Stall, 22 Belle.

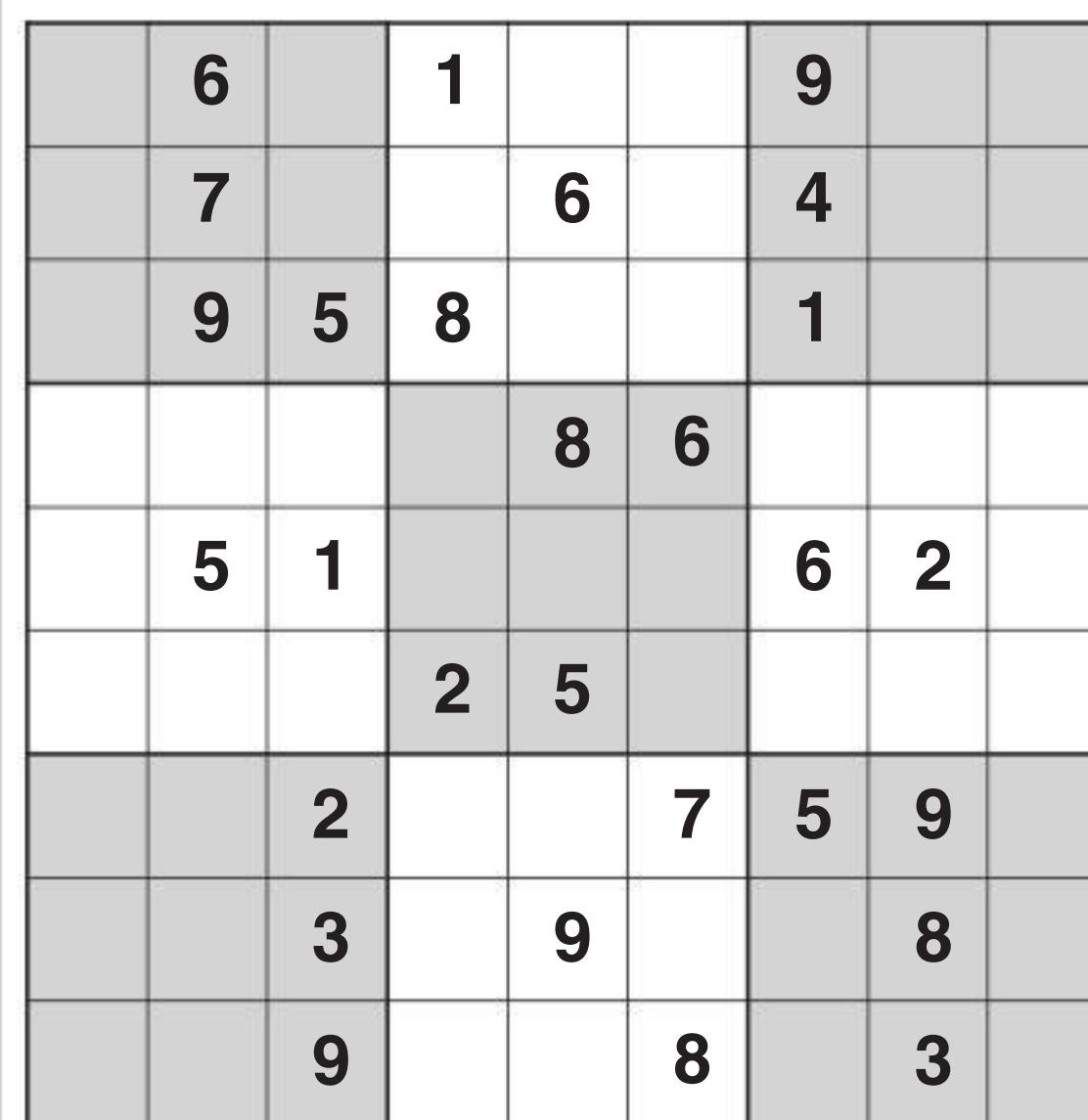
ACROSS

- 1 Match to decide a tie (4-3)
- 5 Force of armed men (5)
- 8 Crazy (3,2,4,4)
- 9 Lustre (5)
- 10 Be uncomfortably hot (7)
- 11 Impair (6)
- 12 Noisy public protest (6)
- 15 Sloth (7)
- 17 A lively dance (5)
- 19 Suffer stoically (4,3,4,2)
- 20 Sorrowful poem (5)
- 21 Wealthy (7)

DOWN

- 1 Dutiful (5)
- 2 Nevertheless (2,3,4,4)
- 3 Illegal act (7)
- 4 Conclusion (6)
- 5 A simple adhesive (5)
- 6 In a sensational way (13)
- 7 Past middle age (7)
- 11 Squirm (7)
- 13 Indefinitely numerous (7)
- 14 Bicycle for two (6)
- 16 Sycophant (5)
- 18 Played a part (5)

SU DO KU



MEDIUM

CALENDAR

AUGUST 15, 2020, SATURDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat 2077

■ Shaka Samvat 1942

■ Shravan Shaka 24

■ Shravan Parvishtha 31

■ Hijri 1441

■ Krishna Paksha Tithi 11, up to 2:21 pm

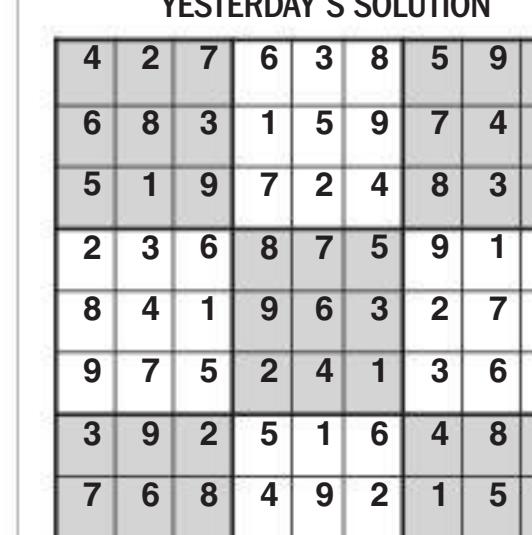
■ Harshana Yoga up to 9:08 am

■ Mrighshikha Nakshatra up to 6:36 am

■ Moon in Gemini sign

■ Independence Day

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



FORECAST

SUNSET: SATURDAY 19:05 HRS

SUNRISE: SUNDAY 05:49 HRS

CITY MAX MIN

Chandigarh 32 25

New Delhi 32 25

Amritsar 35 25

Bathinda 35 28

Jalandhar 34 25

Ludhiana 34 25

Bhiwani 35 27

Hisar 34 27

Sirsa 35 27

Dharamsala 29 18

Manali 27 15

Shimla 25 18

Srinagar 35 21

Jammu 35 26

Kargil 25 15

Leh 32 18

Dehradun 30 25

Mussoorie 22 17

TEMPERATURE IN °C

MATRIMONIALS**BRIDES WANTED****BRAHMIN**

Brahmin Saraswat Punjabi boy, B.Tech., fair, handsome, 5'-11", 23 Feb, 90, 9:05 am, New Delhi. Business in Panchkula good income. Father retired Senior Government Officer. Own kothi in Vasana Kunj South Delhi. Requires good Punjabi Brahmin family daughter. WhatsApp: 98733-56506. (CL20029013)

Homely religious veg. girl for issueless divorcee PQ Brahmin only boy, 44. Caste no bar. Contact: 98729-80721. (CL20028708)

Match for Saraswat Brahmin Boy, 21.03.1990, 01.12 PM, Chandigarh anshik manglik, 5'-6", B.tech, working at Noida, belongs to Una-Nangal area. Employee girl preferred. Father retired Bank Manager. Family settled at Mohali. Send girl's biodata on WhatsApp: 977958-5588. (CL20029165)

Culturally oriented girl preferable with health background for handsome Himachali Brahmin boy 1991 born, height 5'-5", working as Health Promotion Office in semi Govt. Organisation of Australia. Coming India in May 2021. Contact: 94184-14146. (CL20029715)

SQPM Saraswat Brahmin Himachali boy, 1983, 5'-6", Ass. Prof. PGI, Chandigarh. pcharma3108@gmail.com, 94186-15803. (CL20029321)

Himachali Brahmin boy from Jalandhar, handsome well educated and settled business, 23 Sept, 1989, 11 a.m., Jalandhar, 98153-10705, 95307-97878. (CL20026244)

B.Tech + MBA, 5'-10" height, handsome salary. Tricity preferred. Mbs: 88473-69586. (CL20027003)

Saraswat Brahmin Mangli boy, vegetarian, 5'-8", 19.2.94, time 6:37 a.m., Qualification: Diploma Electrical, working MNC near Patiala. Only qualified. Manglik girl preferred. Contact: 9646041498, 8260250949. (CL20027145)

Gaur Brahmin pure vegetarian boy, Dec. 91, 5'-6", B.Tech., MNC Bangalore. Preferred MNC job. WhatsApp: 9888224759. (CL20027693)

Renowned business family Saraswat Brahmin pureve handsone, MBA, Auto engine, 5'-10", Anshik manglik 11.8.91, 5:50PM, Amritsar, got PR under 491, Melbourne, Australia. 98140-44988 , upper caste no bar. (CL20027902)

Match for Dr. Dental Surgeon (BDS) Saraswat Brahmin boy, 22.08.88, 2:04 pm, Jalandhar, 6'-1", doing own clinic practicing since past 7 years. Elder brother doctor residing abroad. Status family preferred. Contact: 94170-25454. (CL20028304)

Gaur Brahmin Manglik boy 25.11.1987, 3.18 p.m. Patiala, 5'-8", M.Tech. Working MNC. Residence Rajpura, 82643-76904. (CL20028339)

Kaushal Brahmin boy, 17.12.90, Time 3:30 am, Nangal Dam, 5'-8", B.Tech., MBA, working in Ltd. Company. Father working in Govt. sector, well educated girl required. Preferred areas Nangal, Una, Ropar nearby. Contact 94787-91297. (CL20028420)

Beautiful and educated girl required for Brahmin boy, Law Graduate, 5'-11" Dec. 1989. 15 acre land. 98887-12539 Fatehgarh Sahib. (CL20028433)

Saraswat Brahmin June 1993/5'-7", B.Tech., MBA, private job. Seeks highly educated girl. Doabs preferred. 94176-48297. (CL20028435)

Suitable match for Saraswat Brahmin boy 22.3.91, 5'-11", SDO Class I Officer, father retired, mother housewife, elder sister married Dhuri (Sangrur), 98766-21011. (CL20028441)

Suitable match for handsome B.Tech., MBA, Saraswat Brahmin boy, 1st Oct, 1991 (1.58 p.m.), 5'-7", (Patiala), working in MNC, Gurgaon, working/ well educated girl from Punjab based family preferred. Contact: 97975-84527, 62390-19366. (CL20028508)

Match for Punjabi Brahmin boy 13.01.1982, 5'-8", B.Com., MBA Time 10.30, Mansa 4 Lakh Area Manager in Medical Company. Khatri welcome. Malwa preferred. 94631-83044. (CL20028550)

SMF Himachali Brahmin boy, 24.3.1983, 5:05 am, Bilaspur, 5'-8", fair complexion, MBA, own business at Ghumarwan (any category also), 98165-98408. (CL20028558)

Saraswat Brahmin boy 06.04.1981, 5.45 pm, Barnala Govt job in Railways Malwa preferred. 98767-25777. (CL20028572)

We are looking bride for our son 33 (5'-6") Govt. teacher. The bride should be Govt. employee. Preferred Govt. teacher. 8045-80145. (CL20028587)

Match for Saraswat Brahmin boy 22.07.1990, 09:30 AM, Amritsar, 5'-11", B.Tech., Advocate Income Tax Kurukshetra. 94683-03390. (CL20029101)

Qualified match for Saraswat Brahmin boy 27.09.93, 09:00 pm, Jalandhar. Parents Govt. Officers. 95923-34768. (CL20029057)

Match for Saraswat Brahmin boy 20.1.1990, 09:30 AM, Amritsar, 5'-11", B.Tech., Advocate Income Tax Kurukshetra. 94683-03390. (CL20029062)

Saraswat Brahmin BDS Doctor boy, own clinic, 1991, 5'-8". Parents Govt. ret'd. Sister Doctor married. 93161-02471. (CL20029274)

PQM for Brahmin boy, MCA, Software Engineer (working in Norway), 15 Aug. 1989, 04:35 a.m., Jalandhar, 5'-11", 7 band, Winnipeg blood relation case applied. WhatsApp: pictures & biodata 76580-59047. (CL20029106)

Match for Gaur Brahmin boy 08.02.1986, 5'-7", BA, Advocate Income Tax Kurukshetra. 94683-03390. (CL20029053)

Suitable medicos match for MBBS working Diploma in Medical Radiology & Electrology, Saraswat Brahmin 25 years, 6', boy, belongs to Ludhiana. Presently settled Bhati, Gujarat. Contact: WhatsApp - 99985-84125, 090995-81243. (CL20029007)

Suitable match for Brahmin boy 1983, 5'-7", MBA, own chemical trading company, Ludhiana. 98153-56672. (CL20029009)

Pure veg. fair Punjabi Saraswat boy, 22 Oct, 91, 4:35 a.m., 5'-7", Muktsar, B.Tech. Mechanical pursuing MBA BITS Pilani, working as Deputy Manager in Videsh Mantralaya 32 LPA, urban/rural properties, 7 band. Winnipeg blood relation case applied. WhatsApp: pictures & biodata 76580-59047. (CL20029106)

Match for Gaur Brahmin boy 08.02.1986, 5'-7", B.Tech., Advocate Income Tax Kurukshetra. 94683-03390. (CL20029053)

Professional match for Saraswat Brahmin (Manglik) brothers 10+2, three year Diploma (ECE), July 1987, 5'-5", working IT Company Panchkula, II.B.Tech. CSE June 1989, 5'-8" in BEL Factory Pk1 on contract both have dashing personality pure vegetarian ITI Tricity prefer simple marriage. Upper caste no bar. Kundli must. 9736-36473 WhatsApp: 98153-74373. (CL20029133)

Hindi Brahmin boy 13.03.1991, Ropar, 5'-8", Job IT Park Chandigarh. Want tall, slim girl in Central Govt./ Govt. Bank service. Parents retired from Govt./ Govt. Bank service. Own house at Mohali. Other upper castes no bar. WhatsApp: 94171-10281. (CL20028602)

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.**

Advertisement:

Classified: 0172-2670257, 2670338, 2670258

E-mail at: classified@tribunemail.com

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E-mail at: thehindcirculation@tribunemail.com

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E-mail at: advt@tribunemail.com

Circulation: 0172-2670319, 2670250, 267044

CLASSIFIEDS

KHATRI/ARORA

Match for Non-Manglik Arora boy, 19.11.92, 08:25 am, Moga, 5'-10", B.Com. (P). Own well settled business at Delhi. Plastic raw material trading, mother housewife. Required working, non-working educated girl. 98996-12900. (CL20028342)

Match for Khatri, Kalra boy 13-10-98-4:10 pm, Gangapur City, 5"-5", B.Sc-IT, whatsaap 89302-13747. (CL20028355)

Arora manglik boy Central Excise Inspector 01.11.1989, 6:50 AM, 5'-6", Bathinda. Preferred Central Govt. Employee. Bank officer, transferable. Kundli must be match. 94171-30353. (CL20028400)

Arora B.Tech., 5'-10", 5.25 Lac, 25.10.1990, 21:20, Abhara, working NCR. Match working NCR preferred. Respectable family. 97795-85215, mlk955@gmail.com (CL20028530)

Match for Wadhwa (Hindu) handsome boy, 10.01.1995 (02.25 a.m.), 6', B.Tech, working in Japan. Preferred B.Tech, or interested in Japan. 98880-43821. (CL20028540)

Suitable match for Bedi Khatri boy 1991, 5"-2" M.Tech Canadian PR. Parents govt. employee. 98888-11048 (CL20028549)

Alliance for our son, 29.10.1987, 1:30 pm, Jalandhar, B.Com., Company Secretary, LL.B., working in a multinational company, package 10 lacs. WhatsApp 90416-77681. (CL20028585)

PR Canada Required for BDS, Implant, Arora handsome manglik only son, 30-08-1995, 08:01 pm, Ambala 5"-8". Serving dental college, having rental property, upper caste no bar. Whatsapp 98123-42794, 98623-33796 sunitaarora2274@gmail.com (CL20028632)

Beautiful, tall, fair match for Arora boy 1991, 5"-11", Khatri, Radha Soami, Advocate, two kids 5/ 2 years. Caste no bar. 9876190819, 991555670. (CL20028703)

Match for Rajpara based boy 31/ 5"-8" MBA pursuing CA (last Group) doing own business 8 lac, Tricity/ Rajpara well educated family. 98150-90735. (CL20028768)

Wanted extremely beautiful girl for an extraordinary handsome boy (personality like model) very fair, height 5"-11", Khatri, Radha Soami, Advocate, two kids 5/ 2 years. Income more than 3 Lacs per month. Phone No. 95307-69002, 82646-25253. (CL20029405)

Hindi Khatri boy 12.01.1998, Amritsar, boy smart, fair good personality. 5"-8", B.Tech, MBA Finance manager in (PVT) Bank. Father Retd officer, Mother Govt Teacher. Preferred working girl. 97797-38001, 99151-89670. (CL20027903)

Match for Khatri B.Tech., 91 born, 5"-10", own business. Small family. Kundli must. Whatsapp 98782-14261. (CL20028477)

Khatri boy 11.03.92, 08:08 am, 5"-7", B.Tech. Yamanagar job Chandigarh. 98121-52751. (CL20028751)

Manglik Khatri, 5"-11", 26 August 1990, 12:07 am, B.Tech, MBA, serving as an Officer, status family, needs serving girl. 95010-63763. (CL20028760)

Arora Manglik boy 31.7.1988, Abhara, 11:30 pm, well settled businessman. Contact: 98724-73126. (CL20028732)

Batra boy 21.03.92, 08:08 am, 5"-7", B.Tech. Yamunagar job Chandigarh. 98121-66486. (CL20028751)

Manglik Khatri boy, 5"-11", 26 August 1990, 12:07 am, B.Tech, MBA, serving as an Officer, status family, needs serving girl. 95010-63763. (CL20028760)

PQM for B.Tech (IT), 6"-2" tall boy, working in MNC, Chandigarh, 15 LPA, 25.11.1990, 23:05, Jalandhar, 9888874203. (CL20028856)

Australian Arora boy 6", 28.5.91, Kotakura, 9 p.m., Interior Decoration Contractor, preferences beautiful girl above 5"-3". 98881-00566. (CL20028938)

Khatri Manglik boy, 1983, Height 5"-10", MBA bank service required beautiful educated girl. Ambala whatapp 90340-07751. (CL20028940)

Tricity working girl for 5"-9", 4.00 am, Software Engineer, working in Amsterdam, 5"-11", 11.10.1990, 6:15 pm, Ambala. Contact 98884-92253. (CL20028522)

Kohli 4.19.96/ 5"-3", Tech, job IG Airport, Delhi, Engineer, wanted B.Tech. CSC girl. 79860-26134. (CL20028561)

Beautiful educated match for handsome Hindu Khatri boy, 22.09.1988, 12:05 pm, Patiala, 5"-6", B.Com, Practicing at Patiala, Gurdaspur. Upper caste welcome. Preferred Govt. Teacher. 62806-84519. (CL20029548)

Wanted suitable match for Khatri, 5"-8", Hamirpur, H.P., Computer Science Engineer slim 31 year, slim handsome boy. Divorced no issue. Himachali girl preferred. 78072-34848. (CL20028600)

Chhabra boy 22.02.1989, 01.8 p.m., Kurukshetra, 5"-6", MBA Finance, MNC Gurgaon, 9.5 Lakh. SAP Certified. Seeking MBA/B.Tech. working 97296-57236. (CL20029008)

PQM for Arora boy 84 born, 5"-9", Ph.D. from an IIT, working as an Assistant Professor in a reputed university, salary 12 LPA, kundli match must. Contact: 98768-22699. (CL20029016)

Employed match for Arora boy, Asst. Manager in Govt. Bank, 18.07.1992, 5.44 pm, Ferozepur, 5"-7", 98884-93043. (CL20029022)

Software Engineer height 5"-10", Oct. 86, Chandigarh, Parents retied Govt., well settled in Chandigarh. 80425-76875. (CL20029059)

Suitable match for Arora boy, 27/ 5"-6", doing wholesale business in Chandigarh, looking for good educated girl. 81464-61927. (CL20029064)

Suitable match for Arora/Khatri boy 09.11.1991, 7:58 a.m., Chandigarh, 5"-11", good looking, B.Tech, working in IT company, Mohali. Contact/ WhatsApp: 97791-51157, preference Tricity. (CL20029094)

Match for Khatri/ Arora boy, Govt. job in Bank, Karnal, 05.08.1987, 06:18 pm, MCA. Contact: 09961-40176. Marriage bureau excuse. (CL20028595)

Suitable match for Hindu Khatri boy 04.09.1991, 6:35 pm, Ambala/ 5"-10", B.Tech, firsttry company account manager. 82954-12218 (CL20029290)

PQM for Gulati boy 30.06.1985, 2:30 pm, 5"-8", MA, Steno Diploma, Job permanent Aided College. Own house. 98965-04749. (CL20029485)

Manglik Arora smart boy 19.11.1989 (2:20 pm, Khanna, 5"-7", B.Tech. Own good business. Seeks qualified girl. Contact after matching kundli. Whatapp 98984-43734. (CL20029558)

Hindu Khatri handsome boy 3.11.1991/ 5"-11", B.Tech., reported (Noidea), handsome income, seeks professionally qualified mate. Himachali welcome. Marriage bureau please excuse. Whatapp: 93160-77177. (CL20029589)

PQM for slim boy, BBA, Iron business, 12 Feb. 1992, 03:10 pm, S-3", Lud. 99882-44100. (CL20029667)

Suitable match for handsome Gursikh Khatri boy (recent divorce) 31, 5"-11", B.Tech, working in Govt. Bank as Officer, seeks unmarried educated girl. Contact: 86194-02113. (CL20029679)

Professionally qualified employed match for fair handsome boy, 16.01.1991, Fazilka born, 06:45 pm, family Ferozepur based, B.E. from PU, working in MNC, Gurgaon, 16 LPA. Father retired officer. Contact: 94173-10029. (CL20029743)

Match for handsome Manglik boy own business Panchkula. Upper middle class 4th June 1990, 2:30 pm. 99887-55251. (CL20029812)

Khatri handsome fair 29 years/ 5"-4", B.Tech working Delhi MNC, Package 11lac, smart intelligent girl preferred, Whatapp 94164-47692, ajaywalia1234@gmail.com (CL20029898)

Suitable match for Nagpal boy 01.07.1989, 5"-8", 12:09 am, Chandigarh, own business. Contact: 93691-60401. (CL20029897)

Match for Khatri/ Arora boy 19.11.92, 08:25 am, Moga, 5"-10", B.Com. (P). Own well settled business at Delhi. Plastic raw material trading, mother housewife. Required working, non-working educated girl. 98996-12900. (CL20028342)

Match for Khatri, Kalra boy 13-10-98-4:10 pm, Gangapur City, 5"-5", B.Sc-IT, whatsaap 89302-13747. (CL20028355)

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Arora B.Tech., 5"-10", 5.25 Lac, 25.10.1990, 21:20, Abhara, working NCR. Match working NCR preferred. Respectable family. 97795-85215, mlk955@gmail.com (CL20028530)

Match for Wadhwa (Hindu) handsome boy, 10.01.1995 (02.25 a.m.), 6', B.Tech, working in Japan. Preferred B.Tech, or interested in Japan. 98880-43821. (CL20028540)

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Alliance for our son, 29.10.1987, 1:30 pm, Jalandhar, B.Com., Company Secretary, LL.B., working in a multinational company, package 10 lacs. WhatsApp 90416-77681. (CL20028585)

PR Canada Required for BDS, Implant, Arora handsome manglik only son, 30-08-1995, 08:01 pm, Ambala 5"-8". Serving dental college, having rental property, upper caste no bar. Whatsapp 98123-42794, 98623-33796 sunitaarora2274@gmail.com (CL20028632)

Beautiful, tall, fair match for Arora boy 1991, 5"-11", Khatri, Radha Soami, Advocate, two kids 5/ 2 years. Caste no bar. 9876190819, 991555670. (CL20028703)

Match for Rajpara based boy 31/ 5"-8" MBA pursuing CA (last Group) doing own business 8 lac, Tricity/ Rajpara well educated family. 98150-90735. (CL20028768)

Wanted extremely beautiful girl for an extraordinary handsome boy (personality like model) very fair, height 5"-11", Khatri, Radha Soami, Advocate, two kids 5/ 2 years. Income more than 3 Lacs per month. Phone No. 95307-69002, 82646-25253. (CL20029405)

Hindi Khatri boy 12.01.1998, Amritsar, boy smart, fair good personality. 5"-8", B.Tech, MBA Finance manager in (PVT) Bank. Father Retd officer, Mother Govt Teacher. Preferred working girl. 97797-38001, 99151-89670. (CL20027903)

Match for Khatri B.Tech., 91 born, 5"-10", own business. Small family. Kundli must. Whatsapp 98782-14261. (CL20028477)

Khatri boy 21.03.92, 08:08 am, 5"-7", B.Tech. Yamunagar job Chandigarh. 98121-52751. (CL20028751)

Manglik Khatri, 5"-11", 26 August 1990, 12:07 am, B.Tech, MBA, serving as an Officer, status family, needs serving girl. 95010-63763. (CL20028760)

Beautiful, tall, fair match for Arora boy 1991, 5"-11", Khatri, Radha Soami, Advocate, two kids 5/ 2 years. Caste no bar. 9876190819, 991555670. (CL20028703)

Match for Rajpara based boy 31/ 5"-8" MBA pursuing CA (last Group) doing own business 8 lac, Tricity/ Rajpara well educated family. 98150-90735. (CL20028768)

Wanted extremely beautiful girl for an extraordinary handsome boy (personality like model) very fair, height 5"-11", Khatri, Radha Soami, Advocate, two kids 5/ 2 years. Income more than 3 Lacs per month. Phone No. 95307-69002, 82646-25253. (CL20029405)

Hindi Khatri boy 12.01.1998, Amritsar, boy smart, fair good personality. 5"-8", B.Tech, MBA Finance manager in (PVT) Bank. Father Retd officer, Mother Govt Teacher. Preferred working girl. 97797-38001, 99151-89670. (CL20027903)

Match for Khatri B.Tech., 91 born, 5"-10", own business. Small family. Kundli must. Whatsapp 98782-14261. (CL20028477)

Khatri boy 21.03.92, 08:08 am, 5"-7", B.Tech. Yamunagar job Chandigarh. 98121-52751. (CL20028751)

Manglik Khatri, 5"-11", 26 August 1990, 12:07 am, B.Tech, MBA, serving as an Officer, status family, needs serving girl. 95010-63763. (CL20028760)

Beautiful, tall, fair match for Arora boy 1991, 5"-11", Khatri, Radha Soami, Advocate, two kids 5/ 2 years. Caste no bar. 9876190819, 991555670. (CL20028703)

Match for Rajpara based boy 31/ 5"-8" MBA pursuing CA (last Group) doing own business 8 lac, Tricity/ Rajpara well educated family. 98150-90735. (CL20028768)

Wanted extremely beautiful girl for an extraordinary handsome boy (personality like model) very fair, height 5"-11", Khatri, Radha Soami, Advocate, two kids 5/ 2 years. Income more than 3 Lacs per month. Phone No. 95307-69002, 82646-25253. (CL20029405)

Hindi Khatri boy 12.01.1998, Amritsar, boy smart, fair good personality. 5"-8", B.Tech, MBA Finance manager in (PVT) Bank. Father Retd officer, Mother Govt Teacher. Preferred working girl. 97797-38001, 99151-89670. (CL20027903)

Match for Khatri B.Tech., 91 born, 5"-10", own business. Small family. Kundli must. Whatsapp 98782-

MANGLIK

Manglik handsome Khatri boy 30.8.1991, 5'-8", Diploma in Sales, own business. Contact: 89013-91276. (CL20028750)

Mahajan MBA boy 22-05-83/ 5'-4", 18.25 Shimla. Working MNC. 79697-94283, 95014-3498. (CL20029044)

Working Doctor for B.Tech Manglik boy, 17-09-1990, 11-10' am, Chandigarh 5'-10", 111PA. IT company, Gurgaon. 85709-97755, 87085-46102. (CL20029266)

MD/ MS/ IAS for MS (Ophthalmology), 34, 5'-9", doing fellowship. Convent educated, status family Chandigarh. 79737-54789. (CL20029902)

H'some Doctor boy 1990, 5'-10", MD, MBBS (22 LPA) Radiologist M&MC, parents Doctors, own hospital req. B'ful match, caste no bar. 83199-62815, 75684-81719. (CL20029944)

Match for S/C, 39, govt service preferred educated girl, no bar no liability. Mob: 94175-01012. (CL20029842)

SM4 30, 5'-10", MD (Radiologist), MBBS, own Diagnostic Centre, family of Doctors. Caste no bar. 79747-85812, 97709-31596. (CL20030003)

SCHEDULED CASTES

Same profession preferred for Ravidasia handsome boy, Dec. 92, 5'-8", B.Tech. Asstt. Manager in Govt. Banks. Parents Gazetteed Officer. 94170-02839. (CL20026579)

Manglik Mittal boy 5'-6", 28 Apr, 94, 45 pm, BA. Self business wanted suitable girl. 98720-34257. (CL20029592)

Manalik Khatri Graduate boy 11.11.1991, 5:43 pm, own business, wants beautiful educated girl. 94176-33248. (CL20029797)

KAMBOJ

Kamboj Sikh boy, 28/5'-9", Govt. job, rural urban property, seeks educated girl. Pref. M.Sc. 94662-34779, 98151-28060. (CL20028816)

Kamboj (Vinayak) boy, Canada PR, height 5'-11", 28 years. B.Tech., M.S. (Toronto, CA). Data Scientist (Bell, CA). 99968-87032, 98186-52308. (CL20028820)

Canada PR Kamboj Sikh boy MBA, 5'-11", 1989, wanted well educated girl. (WhatsApp): 98155-42632. (CL20029561)

Kamboj Sikh boy 30/6'-1", Inspector Co-operative department. Required govt job girl. No down. Upper caste welcome. Whatapp: 99157-86842. (CL20029629)

SM for handsome well settled businessman Kamboj boy Indian Army contractor, 5'-11", July 86. 98554-93092. (CL20029985)

DOCTORS/ENGINEERS

Medico/Status match for MBBS PCMS boy, August-1987, 5'-5" Sikhi family. Caste no bar. Tricity preferred. Mobile/WhatsApp: 98141-56473. (CL20028385)

Doctor/Civil Service beautiful girl match for Hindu Arora boy 1986, 5'-6", MD Radiology, Assistant Professor in reputed Govt. Medical College. 93065-52337, 86077-38080. (CL20028341)

MD, MS match for 5'-8", Aggarwal boy, March 91, MD Dermatology SR in Medical College. Father Doctor. 98152-91093. (CL20028345)

Medico match for Sikhi boy, 29/5'-11", PGD Anaesthesia, SR in reputed Hospital Ludhiana. Caste no bar. 8427656352. (CL20028450)

Suitable Medico match for handsome, 5'-9" 30, clean shaven Nai Sikhi boy, doing MD Medicine from well placed family of landlord Doctors. Caste no bar. WhatsApp: 98150-21292. (CL20028565)

Searching bride for 31 yr old Chauri M.Tech, qualified boy Ambala working in Govt. Bank at Asst. Mngr. Preferred only working Cal/Whatapp: 94768-13490. (CL20028650)

Match for fair Ravidasia boy Sept, 1991/ 5'-10", M.Sc. PNB Scale 1 Officer. KarnaI basic family. Govt./PSU preferred. 94668-28612. (CL20028699)

Match for MBBS Charmer boy 1989/ 5'-8", Medical Officer Haryana, seeks working girl Medico or teaching. 98698-23321. (CL20028577)

Match for only SC (Ad-dhamri) Ravidasia Doabian handsome boy, Jan 93/5'-10", MBA (final semester) working HR in American company. Mohali, 4.50 Lac PA. Own house at Mohali. Well settled decent, educated family settled at Mohali. Parents retired from govt. Presently father Adv/Notary/CC. No dowry. WhatsApp complete details with biodata. Mob: 98880-49081. (CL20028643)

Searching bride for 31 yr old Chauri M.Tech, qualified boy Ambala working in Govt. Bank at Asst. Mngr. Preferred only working Cal/Whatapp: 94768-13490. (CL20028650)

Match for fair Ravidasia boy Sept, 1991/ 5'-10", M.Sc. PNB Scale 1 Officer. KarnaI basic family. Govt./PSU preferred. 94668-28612. (CL20028699)

Suitable match for 1986 born Ravidasia boy 5'-8", B.Tech., Junior Engineer in Ph. Govt. 99880-13575, 998843436. (CL20028697)

Match for Mazabi Hindu Engineer boy, 1987, 5'-9", working AEE (PSPLC). Government Engineer/ Class-I/ Officer/ Doctor preferred. 94641-43435. (CL20029002)

Match for handsome Ravidasia boy 27, 6'-2", Govt. job required Australian PR or work Visa girl. Two sisters citizen in Australia. Father Bank Manager. 81460-57843. (CL20029003)

Seek beautiful Ramdasia girl from IT/ Commerce/ BDS/ Physiotherapy background for Ravidasia Sikhi Postgraduate Software Engineer boy, Canadian PR holder through express entry 28/5'-8". Well educated family, Chandigarh. Send photo to mehak172@gmail.com 75288-06987. (CL20029050)

Suitable match for Valmiki boy, 1990, 5'-8", working MNC. Caste no bar. 94674-67821. (CL20029051)

Match for Jat Sikh landlord Sandhu boy, 1994, 5'-8", MBBS RMO, Max Mohali, 20 acres, only boy. Father Pb. Govt. Class-I (ret'd), mother M.A., B.Ed. Cal/ and WhatsApp: 98556-22467. Email: ijjansandhu59@gmail.com (CL20029119)

Very handsome Hindu Khatri Dental & Facial Aesthetic Surgeon working UK, high earner 6 ft, Sept, 88, affluent cultured Doctors family originally from Punjab assets in UK & India, seeking tall, beautiful Dentist/ Medico, photos and biodata in first instance. Email: rrmndoc28@gmail.com WhatsApp: 44789026942. (CL20029148)

Suitable Doctor match for beautiful SC Majhbi/ Balmiki girl, Sep. 1994, 5'-3", pursuing MD Gynaecology 2nd year, educated family preference Punjab and Chandigarh. Marriage bureau excuse. Send profile/ photos at 94178-26296. (CL20029199)

MDS 30/ 5'-11" Status Khatri Family. Seeks Doctor/ Govt. Officer girl, Upper caste welcome. 62847-76065 (CL20029190)

Suitable match for MD Radiology, September 1986, 5'-10", fair complexion. Contact: 94170-79248. g.verma@hotmail.com (CL20029556)

Preferably MBBS/MD match for 36 yr old 5'-6" smart looks much younger SC boy MD well settled in private practice, legally divorced. Early decent marriage. Caste no bar. Contact: 81687-30287, 78887-1910. (CL20029648)

MS Ophthalmology, HCMS Ambala, 12 LPA, USA experienced. Garg, 1982, 5'-9", Chandigarh. 88876-79094, 94783-79311, 94170-03412. (CL20029890)

Searching Doctor/ Officer/ Engineer match for class one Officer Jatsikh boy 87/6', M.Tech., belongs to decent settled family. 97805-00231. (CL20029759)

MD/MS/PMS match for jatt Sikhi boy, 1991, 5'-6" MD (Paediatrics) Ambala, running his clinic at Patiala, father, mother 'A' class officers, brother judge, wife settled, married, well wife, doctor, sister married, well wife, settled, mobile 9915004285. (CL20029790)

Doctor/ Engineer match for Goyal boy 1986 born, 6', MS Ophthalmology, Good earning/ own clinic. Panchkula resident. Upper caste no bar. 98152-13897. (CL20029613)

Preferably MBBS/MD match for 36 yr old 5'-6" smart looks much younger SC boy MD well settled in private practice, legally divorced. Early decent marriage. Caste no bar. Contact: 81687-30287, 78887-1910. (CL20029648)

MS Ophthalmology, HCMS Ambala, 12 LPA, USA experienced. Garg, 1982, 5'-9", Chandigarh. 88876-79094, 94783-79311, 94170-03412. (CL20029890)

Searching Doctor/ Officer/ Engineer match for class one Officer Jatsikh boy 87/6', M.Tech., belongs to decent settled family. 97805-00231. (CL20029759)

MD/ MS/ IAS for MS (Ophthalmology), 34, 5'-9", doing fellowship. Convent educated, status family Chandigarh. 79737-54789. (CL20029902)

H'some Doctor boy 1990, 5'-10", MD, MBBS (22 LPA) Radiologist M&MC, parents Doctors, own hospital req. B'ful match, caste no bar. 83199-62815, 75684-81719. (CL20029944)

SM4 30, 5'-10", MD (Radiologist), MBBS, own Diagnostic Centre, family of Doctors. Caste no bar. 79747-85812, 97709-31596. (CL20030003)

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SM4 30, 5'-10", MD (Radiologist), MBBS, own Diagnostic Centre, family of Doctors. Caste no bar. 79747-85812, 97709-31596. (CL20030003)

MISC.

Seeking Professional settled convent educated girl for 1987, 5'-8" Master Mariner working in Oil & Gas industry and settled in Vancouver, Canada. Contact: 9357825986 or WhatsApp details. (CL20029841)

Suitable match for Valmiki Mazbhi 1984, 5'-8", B.Com. (Hons), MBA, doing own business. Father Govt. employee. Well educated, Tricity preferred. 96469-27572. (CL20029974)

Seeking **Professional** **settled** convent educated girl for 1987, 5'-8" Master Mariner working in Oil & Gas industry and settled in Vancouver, Canada. Contact: 9357825986 or WhatsApp details. (CL20029841)

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INDEPENDENCE DAY SPECIAL

The Tribune Advertisement Marketing Supplement

Veerbhumi Himachal Forges Ahead on the Path of Unprecedented Development and Prosperity



Jai Ram Thakur,
Chief Minister,
Himachal Pradesh

15th August is a centre historical day for all Indians. On this day in the year 1947, our country attained independence. Today, we are joyfully celebrating 74th Independence Day of our great democratic country.

Independence Day is also an auspicious day to commemorate the great patriots, who sacrificed their lives to liberate our country from the shackles of slavery. I pay tributes to the brave freedom fighters, who liberated the motherland by sacrificing their lives. I also pay my respect to all the veterans freedom fighters.

The people of Himachal have also overwhelmingly participated in the freedom struggle. 'Dhami', 'Golikand', 'Pragamandal Movement', 'Suket Satyagraha' and 'Pajauta Movement' anecdotes speak highly of the valiant contribution of the state. I also pay tribute to the freedom fighters of the state.

Himachal Pradesh came into existence on April 15, 1948, exactly eight months after the Independence of the country. I pay tribute to the First Chief Minister Dr. Y.S. Parmar and other personalities for their valuable contributions in the formation and reconstruction of the state. Today's Himachal is the result of Dr. Parmar's vision. From the formation of the state to attaining full statehood, the state has gone through many ups and downs. Dr. Parmar himself has been the pioneer of this journey. It is a matter of happiness for all of us that this year we are also celebrating the golden jubilee of statehood of Himachal Pradesh.

Veerbhumi Himachal: The history of the state is full of legacy of soldiers' bravery, valour and sacrifices. The youth of the state have always played an important role in various wars before and after independence and have shown exemplary courage. To make sacrifices for the sake of country is a glorious

tradition here. This is the reason that this state is also known as Veerbhumi as well as Devbhumi. It is a matter of great pride that the first Paramvir Chakra of the country was conferred upon Major Somnath Sharma, the heroic soldier of the state. During the Kargil war in 1999, our brave soldiers have served above and beyond. The stories of remarkable fighting spirit of Captain Vikram Batra and Havaldar Sanjay Kumar, the recipients of Paramveer Chakra, speak volumes of their valour and commitment. Col. D.S. Thapa was also conferred with Paramveer Chakra. After independence, soldiers of the state have received 1096 gallantry awards including 4 Paramveer Chakras and 2 Ashoka Chakras.

I also pay my respects to the brave soldiers of the State, who have been martyred recently while guarding the borders of the country in the Galwan Valley of Ladakh. Entire nation is grateful to the brave soldiers, who made supreme sacrifices while protecting the borders. The heroic tales of the war heroes will continue to inspire generations to come.

The state government is committed to the welfare of freedom fighters, soldiers, ex-servicemen and their families. Showing gratitude to the brave soldiers, several schemes are being implemented for their rehabilitation and welfare. The State government is providing Rs. 15,000 to freedom fighters and wives of deceased freedom fighters and Rs. 10,000 to their unmarried daughters. Rs. 51,000 is being provided for the marriage of daughters of freedom fighters and Rs. 21,000 for the marriage of their granddaughters. The dependents of freedom fighters were also provided with 2 percent reservation in government and semi-government services.

Annuity of Rs. 3 Lakh is being provided to Paramveer & Ashok Chakra winners, Rs. 2 lakh to Mahavir Chakra & Kirti Chakra and Rs. 1 lakh to Vir Chakra & Shaurya Chakra winners. During this tenure, Kirti Chakra and Shaurya Chakra winners have been given benefits of about Rs. 7.50 crore. The financial assistance given for the marriage of daughters of war widows has been increased from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 50,000.

New India: Today, our country is moving strongly towards self-reliance. Make in India, Vocal for Local, New National Education Policy and efforts to double farmers' income by 2022 will prove to be a boon in the formation of New India. The new education policy implemented by the centre government will be helpful in making India 'Vishwa Guru again. Successfully imple-

mented Swachh Bharat Mission has played an important role in making the whole country neat and clean.

Priority to Public Participation: The state government has given priority to public participation in development and to bring government closer to the people. An ambitious initiative 'Jan Manch' for speedy redressal of public grievances was started. Since the first Jan Manch held on June 3, 2018, total 189 Jan Manch have been organized in all the assembly constituencies of the state with 45,000 complaints and demands, out of which 91 percent have been resolved.

Mukhyamantri Seva Sankalp Helpline-1100 has been started. Any citizen can register the complaint by dialing 1100 number from any corner of the state. More than one lakh complaints have been received so far and most of the complaints have been redressed. 'My Gov' portal has also been started with the objective of quick resolution of public grievances and to get public feedback regarding the policies and programs of the government. This innovative effort has become very popular and the general public is openly giving suggestions, which will help the government in policy formulation and also ensuring their participation in the development process. Better health facilities: An ambitious scheme named 'Himcare' has been started in the state. So far, 5.50 lakh families have been registered under the scheme and more than one lakh people have availed treatment facility, on which Rs. 91.43 crore has been spent. Sahara Yojana has also been started to provide financial assistance to the poor people suffering from critical diseases. Under this scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 2000 per month is being provided to the eligible patients. So far, financial assistance of Rs. 5.90 crore has been provided to 9078 beneficiaries under the scheme. It has been decided to increase financial assistance to Rs. 3000 per month.

Under Himachal Grahini Suvidha Yojana, 2.78 lakh women have been provided free gas connections. Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in the country to achieve such an achievement. To provide houses for the poor, a target of construction of 10,000 houses has been fixed in the budget this year. A sum of Rs. 41.78 crore will be spent on plantation and rural livelihood improvement works under JICA project of Rs. 800 crore. Under the Mukhyamantri Ek Bigha Yojana in the state, a grant of Rs. 40,000 is being given to a woman or her family to build a backyard kitchen garden in a bigha land. 'Panchayati Yojana' has also been

launched for senior citizens in rural areas, under which parks and gardens will be developed in all the development blocks in a phased manner.

Mukhyamantri Swavalamban Yojana has inspired the youth of the state to adopt self-employment. Under the scheme, 25 percent subsidy is being provided, while 30 percent subsidy is being provided to women entrepreneur. Total 946 units have also been set up with a subsidy of Rs. 44 crore. With the successful implementation of the scheme, the youth of the State are now becoming employers instead of employment seekers.

Many new agricultural schemes have been started with a view to double the income of farmers and orchardists. As many as 59,000 farmers have adopted natural farming in the State. Mukhyamantri Khet Sanrakshan Yojana has proved successful in protecting crops from wild animals. So far, about 2600 farmers have benefited with Rs. 80.36 crore. Anti-hail net scheme has also proved to be effective for the orchardists. An area of 1587 hectares has been covered under this scheme with an expenditure of Rs. 44.44 crore. New projects have been started to promote cultivation of 'Hing' and 'Kesar'.

Covid-19 Challenge: This year the whole world is facing a new challenge of Covid-19. Major relief has been provided by the Centre Government by announcing the 20 lakh crore economic package under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan providing financial assistance to the poor, farmers, vendors, MSME, migrant labour and other weaker sections of society. Under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, the poor families of the country have availed free ration till November 2020, direct financial assistance of Rs. 500 per month in the 5.90 lakh accounts of women under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan, three cylinders free of cost to the 1.36 lakh beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala scheme and Rs. 2000 per month to the 8.74 lakh farmers under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi. All medical staff, sanitation workers and health workers were covered with life insurance of Rs. 50 lakh under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana.

To track the cases of Covid-19 in the state, an Active Case Finding Campaign was launched with support of health workers. This campaign was praised throughout the country. Meanwhile, e-Sanjeevani portal has been started in the country as well as in the state, whose main objective was to provide medical consultations to the people at home. It is a matter of pleasure to provide high quality spiritual value based education leading to holistic development of complete human beings who will propagate the message of universal brotherhood and philosophy of interfaith wisdom.

Besides providing honours at the Graduate, Postgraduate and Ph D level education in sciences, social sciences and languages, the university is providing free B.A(Hons) degree in Sri Guru Granth Sahib Studies which is a unique programme, probably first of its kind offered by any University in the country and abroad.

To train the students for civil services and other competitive exams, the university along with regular studies also provides free 3-5 years simultaneous coaching to potential students.

All India level achievements of the students vindicate the proactive approach towards skill development programs.

The University is commit-

ted to uphold the three basic principles of higher education namely; Teaching, Learning and Research. To strive for excellence in teaching and research, almost all professors are UGC qualified with exceptionally good academic records and have earned their Doctorate degrees.

The congenial atmosphere is all set to facilitate the transmission of knowledge in keeping with latest developments in pedagogy at the campus which makes it a preferred destination for the meritorious students from different states of the country.

The University has a firm resolve to provide a drug free environment and to create a disciplined campus life. In tune with the philosophy of Kalgidhar Society, Baru Sahib, all efforts are being made to impart spiritual, moral and cultural values in the students to make them good human beings and responsible citizens.

dislocations can be treated by advanced arthroscopic techniques. Arthroscopy (Key-hole surgery) is a new technique where a telescope is inserted into the shoulder joint which provides a clear, magnified view of the joint and small instruments are used to fix the problem inside the joint under direct vision. This stitchless technique of surgery leads to less pain, less need of medication, short hospitalization, less scarring, faster recovery for the patient as compared to conventional open surgery.

Dr Mukul Kaushal is a UK and Australia fellowship-trained Arthroscopy surgeon who completed his Masters in Orthopaedics from PGI, Chandigarh and is presently consulting at Trinity Hospital, Zirakpur, Punjab.

Punjab Aircraft Maintenance Engineering College



Punjab Aircraft Maintenance Engineering College, Patiala, presently functioning under Punjab State Civil Aviation Council, is affiliated to Maharaja Ranjith Singh Punjab Technical University, Bathinda to impart three years, B.Sc. Hons. Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and have Director General of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India approval for training for Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Course.

This is an integral course. Candidates passing out after three years will acquire B.Sc. Hons AME degree and pass DGCA module exams for AME license.

Aircraft maintenance engineering is about routine maintenance, repairs, troubleshooting the defects, conducting inspections to ensure serviceability and certification of fitness. Pilot is responsible for the safe flying, whereas Aircraft Maintenance Engineer is responsible to provide an airworthy and safe aircraft with all the system functioning as required. Before flight Aircraft engineer inspect the aircraft fit to fly then Pilot accepts aircraft to fly. Candidates with passion and skill to handle machines are perfect for this course. This college has given number of highly skilled professionals to aviation industry, some of them are at high positions with various airlines and general aviation sector in country and abroad.

NATIONAL DENTAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL



It is a matter of immense pride that, one of the largest democracies in the world, India is celebrating its 74th Independence Day on 15th of August, 2020. This day marks the historic occasion when the country finally broke the shackles of oppression and gained independence from the British Empire in the year 1947. Nevertheless, National Dental College and Hospital Dera Bassi was established in 1998 and is a recognized private college managed by highly dedicated former Army Officers and eminent Medicos and Dentists. We have MDS in six clinical subjects & 100 BDS seats. Institute is recognized by the Central Government, DCI and affiliated to Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Fardikot (Punjab). Admissions for the current session in MDS/BDS are open.

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Khalsa College

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The college is continuously proliferating under able and worthy Bhai Gobind Singh Ji Longowal, President, SGPC Sri Amritsar Sahib and able guidance of S. Surjit Singh Ji Rakha, honorary secretary of college's governing body. The institution has 20.5 acres of urban land at Badungar Road Patiala, 18.5 acres of land at village Dhablan and 36 acres at Badungarh, Patiala. The campus is home to 6251 students and 200 faculty members and an efficient team of supporting staff. The Institute is reputed for its state-of-the-art modern infrastructure, well stocked library, advanced technology labs, science labs, smart classrooms, well equipped gymnasium, Auditorium playgrounds and wi-fi campus. The institution also has a homely Mata Gujri Girls Hostel with a capacity to house 350 girl students, where students from Punjab and many other states are residing in hygienic and congenital atmosphere. Dr. Gurdip Singh Career Guidance, Counseling and Placement Centre has been working with a purpose to train and provide job opportunities to students and has an excellent and enviable track record for placement.

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(b)	Dental Tech	Open Vac	
(c)	Pharmacist	Reserve for ESM	
(d)	Nursing Asst	Reserve for ESM	
(e)	Lab Asst	Reserve for ESM	
(f)	Lab Tech	Reserve for ESM	
(g)	Safaiwala	Reserve for ESM	
(h)	CMR Data Entry Operator	Reserve for ESM	

2. The contractual selection and appointment are governed as per the conditions entailed in paragraphs 3, 8, (d) and 14 (a) (iii) of Annexure I of Govt of India letter No. 24(6)/03/US(WEY)(Res) dated 22.09.03, which is available on the ECHS website.

3. The place, date and time of interview will be intimated to eligible applicants telephonically after scrutiny of applications.

4. Candidates are required to bring original educational certificate/degree/testimonials/experience certificate and two PP photograph for the interview. Application forms will be submitted with copies of all supporting documents, including PPO, Discharge Book, Record of Service for Ex-Servicemen (Apex A to AO 135/78).

5. The applications are required to be submitted by hand/e-mail/registered post in prescribed format of application available on www.echs.gov.in at the following address:-

Station Headquarters (ECHS Cell) Beas, C/O 56 APO.
Telephone 01853-274005
E-mail - echsclshq.beas@gmail.com

6. Last date for submission/receipt of applications at above address is within 21 days from date of publication of the advertisement in the newspaper. Postal delays are not acceptable.

7. For any clarification contact at telephone No. 0185-274005 on any working day from 1000h to 1300h.

**GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
(DISASTER MANAGEMENT)**

No. Rev(DMC)(F)11-45/2018 Dated: 13.8.2020

NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The H.P. State Disaster Management Authority (HPSDMA) invite Request For Proposal(RFP) from reputed Chartered Accountants firms having head office/branch office in the State and empanelled with C&AG of India who wish to undertake the work of Internal audit of State Disaster Management Authority and 12 District Disaster Management Authorities (13 units) for the year 2013-14 to 2019-20. Interested firm/agency may submit their proposal to the address Deputy Secretary (Rev) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, HP Secretariat, Room No. G-11 Ellerslie Building, Shimla-02, during working hours 10.00 hours to 17.00 hours on or before 07-09-2020 upto 17:00 positively. The RFP document containing detailed terms and conditions can be obtained from the office of undersigned on any working day or can be downloaded from website www.hpsdma.nic.in

(Milap Chand)
Deputy Secretary(Rev-DM) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh,
HP Secretariat, Shimla-2
Contact No. 2880331 & 2880598

DPR/HP/314

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ਹੁਣ੍ਹ ਦੇ 15 ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਵਿਕਾਰ ਦੇ ਕੋਨ੍ਹ ਨੂੰ ਕਰ ਲਈ ਰਿਸਾਰਟ ਕੰਰੋਰਟਸ/ਸ਼ਾਈਪਸ/ਫਾਰਸ਼

ਪ੍ਰੈਸ਼ਨ ਰੇਟ ਮੌਜੂਦੇ ਹਾਨਾ ਟੈਬਰ ਥਰੀਂ ਕਰਨ ਅਤੇ ਪੇਸ਼ੁਣ ਦਾ ਸ਼ਹਿਰੀਲ ਹੋਣ ਲਿਖ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਹੈ।

ਕੋਮ ਦੀ ਵਿਲੁੱਧ ਅਤੇ ਟੈਬਰ ਦੀਆਂ ਮੱਤਾਂ eproc.punjab.gov.in ਵੈਕਾਰੀਟ ਉਤ ਦੀਪੀਆਂ ਨਾਸਕਲੀਆਂ ਨਾਲ ਇਸ ਲੀ-ਡੈਕਾਰਿਂਗ ਪ੍ਰੈਸ਼ਨ ਵਿਚ ਭਾਗ ਲੈਂਦ ਕਲਾਰ ਨਾਲ ਆਪਣੇ <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> ਤੋਂ ਸਿਸਟਮਕ ਕਰਵਾਉਣ। ਇਹ ਲੱਗ ਕਿਵੇਂ ਸਿਰਫ਼ 2/3 ਕਲਾਸ ਦੇ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਨਾਲ ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਪ੍ਰੈਸ਼ਨ ਵਿਚ ਕਿਸੇ ਤੁਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਮਦਦ ਨਾਲ ਲੈਣੀ 07811-661004 (ਅਧਿਕ ਹੋਰੋਜ਼ਾਂਡ ਨੰਬਰ), 0172-2970284 (ਗ੍ਰੇਡ-1 ਹੋਰੋਜ਼ਾਂਡ ਨੰਬਰ) eproc@punjab.gov.in ਵੇਲੇ ਪ੍ਰੈਸ਼ਨ ਕੀਤੇ ਗਏ ਹਨ।

ਸ਼ਾਹੀ- ਪ੍ਰਸ਼ਾਸਨ, ਸ਼ਾਹੀ- ਵਾਜ਼ਸਾਰਾਵ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ, ਸ਼ਾਹੀ- ਸ. ਪਿਉਸਪਲ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ,

ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਮਾਲੇਰਕੋਟਲਾ। ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਮਾਲੇਰਕੋਟਲਾ।

DPR/HP/63703

Government College, Aharwala (Bilaspur)
E-Mail: gcbilaspurinformation@gmail.com
TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited for hiring/engaging various services through eligible Outsourcing Service Providers/Agencies (having atleast three years of experience in the relevant field) for a period of 12 months in the College Campus as per Haryana Government Outsourcing Policy (Part-1). The interested agencies/Service Providers should submit 'Technical Bid in Form-A' & 'Financial Bid in Form-B' in a sealed envelope on or before 4th September 2020 at 11.00 a.m. Bidders must bring all valid original documents, as well as self-attested photocopies viz. Experience/License/Registration/PAN/ESI/EPF/GST etc. The agencies/Service Providers without the Draft of earnest money of Rs. 10,000/- in favour of Principal, Government College, Aharwala (Bilaspur) with Technical Form- 'A' and valid documents will not be permitted to participate in the bidding process and its application for tender will outrightly be rejected. Only Agencies/Service Provider, who qualifies in the Technical Bid, will be considered for Financial Bid. The rate of service charges must be quoted by limiting it up to the two decimal points only. If a tenderer uses more than two decimal points, figures mentioned after the second decimal point, will not be considered. In case of a tie, in respect of service charges the award of contract will be finalized by draw of lots or by open negotiation with the sole authority of Principal.

The College reserves the right to accept/reject any or all the bids, or may cancel the whole process without assigning any reason thereof. Form A & B, other general terms & conditions and other performances may be collected from the college during the working hours on any working day after two days of publication of this advertisement. Tender will be opened on 4th September, 2020 (Friday) at 11:00 a.m.

Corrigendum, if any, will be published on college website www.gcab.ac.in only.

Phone: 9354126041

PRDH/82271

Sd/- Principal

WESTERN RAILWAY
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No.S/16/2020 Date 13.08.2020

S.N.	Short Description of Item	Quantity	T.O.D.
428	Real Time RT PCR	1 No.	28.08.2020
429	Bogie Bolster Arrangement	96 Nos.	04.09.2020
430	Paint Aluminium	30160 Ltrs.	05.09.2020
431	Tensioning device Assy.	315 Set	05.09.2020
432	Vinyl Coated Upholstery Fabric	80917 Mtrs.	07.09.2020
433	Pair of Leather Hand Gloves	12587 Pair	07.09.2020
434	Set of Lock Assy.	43 set	07.09.2020
435	Cab Activating Key Switch (POS.N0.125).	37 Nos.	07.09.2020
436	Main compressor 1745 LPM	80 Nos.	07.09.2020
437	High Reach Pantograph.	48 Nos.	07.09.2020
438	CCPU Side Bearer Pad Assy. 22HS Bogies	919 Nos.	07.09.2020
439	Centre Pivot Top for Casnub 22 HS(Mod-I) Bogie	1166 Nos.	07.09.2020
440	Relay QNA1 BF/6B	1005 Nos.	08.09.2020
441	Bogie Frame Arrangement	96 Nos.	08.09.2020
442	Wheel Profiling Inserts Kennametal	2371 Nos.	09.09.2020
443	R/R Paint Black	108400 Ltrs.	09.09.2020
444	Set of VRLA Battery 110V,70AH	203 Set	09.09.2020
445	Main Entrance Door Mounting (R.H.)	23 Nos.	09.09.2020
446	IOH Maintenance kit	20 Set	09.09.2020
447	RP/ Rail Paint Synthetic Enamel, Exterior	23977 Ltrs.	10.09.2020
448	Roof Mounted AC Package Unit	35 Nos.	10.09.2020
449	Pressure Sensor Convector Oil	21 Nos.	10.09.2020
450	Carbon Brush for HITACHI Type Traction	33399 Nos.	11.09.2020
451	Set of PU Lining	4531 Set	11.09.2020
452	CCPU Side Bearer pad Assy. 22NLB bogie	859 Nos.	11.09.2020
453	Slack adjuster complete type IRS-A-750	259 Nos.	11.09.2020
454	Two Part Sliding Door Arrangement	200 Nos.	11.09.2020
455	Copper Catenary Wire (19/2.10MM) 65 Sq mm	136000 Mtrs	12.09.2020
456	Kit set for New Version MEMU Parking Brake Item	48 Sets	14.09.2020

Reverse Auction

1	Supply, Installation, Testing & commissioning of Hydraulically Operated Lifting & Swivelling	48 Sets	01.09.2020
2	Microprocessor Based Control and Fault Diagnostic System	800 Sets.	01.09.2020
3	Air Brake Equipment	48 Sets	03.09.2020
4	Fabrication & Supply of Complete Body Shell Assy.	48 Sets	04.09.2020
5	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Traction Engine and Electrics	48 Sets	07.09.2020
6	Armo converter 120 KVA	35 Nos.	11.09.2020

CORRIGENDUM : Please visit www.ireps.gov.in for corrigendum issued to following tender: Sr.No.320 of Tender Notice No. S/13/2020 Dl.23.07.2020 (Microprocessor based control and fault diagnostic system (Refender at Sr.No.1 RA above)) and Sr.No.418 of Tender Notice No. S/15/2020 dt.06.08.2020 (8V, 290AH Lead Acid starter battery) are deleted from Notice.

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.ireps.gov.in and www.wr.indianrailways.gov.in. ANJ-06 Like us: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly) - Follow us: [Twitter](https://www.twitter.com/WesternRly)



Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Government of India

74th Independence Day

Jai Hind

“ 15th August is a day to pay homage to all those greats who worked hard for India's freedom. Their struggles continue to give strength to millions. Independence Day is an occasion to reaffirm our commitment to build an India that would make our respected freedom fighters proud. ”

- Narendra Modi

Independence Day Ceremony at the ramparts of Red Fort to be live telecast by Doordarshan 6:25 a.m. onwards

davp 22201/13/0015/2021

Vaishno Devi: 2,000 pilgrims to be allowed daily from Aug 16

Langar, helicopter, ropeway, battery car facilities to be available

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 14

Despite rising number of positive cases of Covid-19 in J&K, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) today announced that the pilgrimage to the Mata Vaishno Devi cave shrine, nestled in the Trikuta Hills of Reasi district, would resume from August 16.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Shrine Board, Ramesh Kumar said, "During the first week of the resumption of pilgrimage there will be a ceiling of 2,000 pilgrims per day — 1,900 from within Jammu and Kashmir and the remaining 100 from outside J&K. The situation will be reviewed thereafter and the decision will be taken accordingly."

"The pilgrims will be allowed to undertake the pilgrimage after registration through the online mode only in order to avoid any assembly of persons at the Yatra Registration Centers," Ramesh Kumar said.



A file photo of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi shrine pilgrims at Katra.

'DECISION TO BE REVIEWED AFTER FIRST WEEK'

“During the first week of the resumption of pilgrimage there will be a ceiling of 2,000 pilgrims per day — 1,900 from within Jammu and Kashmir and the remaining 100 from outside J&K. The situation will be reviewed thereafter and the decision will be taken accordingly.

Ramesh Kumar, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SHRI MATA VAISHNO DEVI SHRINE BOARD

The CEO said the yatra would move in a unidirectional manner. The traditional route from Katra to Bhawan via Ban-

ganga, Adhkuwari and Sanjichhat will be used for going up and the Himkoti-Tarakote Marg route would be used for

coming back from the Bhawan.

"The Covid negative test report of the pilgrims from outside J&K and also from red zone districts of J&K will be checked at the helipad and the yatra entry points at Darshani Deodi, Banganga and Katra. Only those with negative reports will be allowed to move towards Bhawan. The ponies, pithus and palkis will not be allowed to ply on the tracks initially," the CEO said.

Free langar at Tarakote Marg and Prasad Kendra at Sanjichhat will be opened for the pilgrims. All the supplementary facilities set up by the Shrine Board, like battery operated vehicles, passenger ropeway and helicopter service, will operate strictly by following the social distancing norms and other precautionary measures.

In order to avoid congregational gatherings, booking or sitting of pilgrims in the Atka Aarti area and Shradha Suman Vishesh Pooja would not be allowed till further orders.

To avoid congregational gatherings, booking or sitting of pilgrims in the Atka Aarti area and Shradha Suman Vishesh Pooja would not be allowed till further orders.

According to the ANTF

540 cases in J&K; toll 520

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 14

The J&K recorded 540 new positive cases (119 in the Jammu division and 421 in the Kashmir province) during the past 24 hours, taking the Covid count in the UT to 27,489.

However, 12 deaths (all in the Kashmir division) have been reported during the same period. As many as 640 more Covid patients have recovered and been discharged from various hospitals (204 in the Jammu division and 436 in the Kashmir valley).

According to the official bulletin issued on Friday evening, out of 27,489 positive cases, 7,024 are active cases, 19,942 have recovered and 520 have died (39 in the Jammu division and 481 in the Kashmir province).

The bulletin further said out of 7,75,333 test results available, 7,47,844 samples had been tested as negative till Friday.

So far, 4,09,414 travellers and persons in contact with suspected cases have

COVID-19 PANDEMIC



UT TRACKER

	+VE	DEATHS
Bandipora	1,301	18
Srinagar	6,680	169
Anantnag	1,709	37
Baramulla	2,251	86
Shopian	1,553	24
Kupwara	1,459	32
Budgam	1,714	38
Jammu	1,843	27
Udhampur	642	02
Ganderbal	849	11
Kulgam	1,688	31
Pulwama	2,016	35
Samba	546	01
Rajouri	778	03
Kishtwar	180	00
Kathua	645	01
Ramban	623	01
Reasi	265	00
Poonch	316	02
Doda	331	02
Total	27,489	520

been enlisted for observation, which included 41,737 persons in home quarantine, including facilities operated by the government, 7,027 in isolation and 47,531 under home surveillance.

COVID-19 CASES DISTRICT-WISE COUNT

DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Bandipora	1,301	18
Srinagar	6,680	169
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Baramulla	2,251	86
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Ramban	623	01
Reasi	265	00
Poonch	316	02
Doda	331	02
Total	27,489	520

Besides, 3,12,599 persons have completed their surveillance period.

According to the bulletin, of the total 27,489 positive cases in J&K 5,378 have been reported as travellers.

Pak shells Kathua village

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 14

Pakistan Rangers shelled the civilian areas along the international border (IB) in the Hiranagar sector of Kathua district, causing damage to residential houses.

According to official sources, Pakistan resorted to unprovoked firing at about 10.50 pm on Thursday night and it continued till 4.15 am in the wee hours of Friday.

"Pakistan targeted residential areas from its Papu Chak post, being manned by 25 Chinab Ranger. The BSF troops posted at the Karol border outpost, being manned by 19 Battalion, retaliated fire. No loss of human life was reported," sources said.

"A few mortar shells fell on Chhan Tanda village causing damage to the residential houses there," the sources said.

Meanwhile, the BSF has heightened its vigil along the border on the eve of the Independence Day. The patrolling has been intensified along the border while the local police are also coordinating with them.

On Thursday, the Inspector General of Police, Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh, while reviewing security arrangements, had directed the police officers to step up security in their respective districts. "All the nakas on border roads, national highway and other interior highways be put on high alert round the clock," Singh had directed.

Traders seek reopening of markets, public transport

2 Punjab residents held with 32 kg charas

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 14

The Anti-Narcotic Task Force (ANTF) of the J&K Police on Friday foiled a major bid to smuggle charas from Kashmir to Mumbai by arresting two smugglers along with 32-kg charas worth Rs 1.3 crore.

According to the ANTF

officials, they received specific information that a drugs smuggling bid was being attempted in a truck parked in the transport yard here by the smugglers who had come from Kashmir and were carrying the consignment to Mumbai.

"On receiving the information, the ANTF team swung into action and

started search operation in the transport yard. The team located the truck and two persons were nabbed from the spot," the officials said.

They were identified as Angreza Singh and Sahib Singh, both residents of Tarn Taran in Punjab.

During the search of the truck, a total of 32 kg charas was recovered. Both smugglers have been arrested and the truck has been impounded. A case has been registered.

"The ANTF has been able to break this drug cartel which was the main inter-state racket of charas. We expect more arrests in this case," the officials said.



Security personnel check a vehicle on the Srinagar highway in Jammu on Friday. PTI

Alliance (KTA) president Ajaz Shahdhar.

He made the comments a day after Shahid Iqbal

Chowdary, District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, said the administration would allow

reopening of markets on a rotation basis and that there was no need of a lockdown if the people fol-

Stared for graft

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 14

A J&K Police sub-inspector (SI) was arrested by the Anti-Corruption Bureau while accepting a bribe from a truck driver.

The ACB said a truck driver had parked his truck near Batamaloo, Srinagar, and a SI, identified as Farooq Ahmad Abassi, asked him to produce documents of the vehicle.

"The complainant showed the relevant documents, but the said SI instead demanded a bribe of Rs 3,000 to return the documents.

Meanwhile, the complainant approached the ACB, Srinagar, and a case was registered. A trap was laid near Batamaloo and the SI was arrested while receiving the bribe," the ACB spokesman said.

After obtaining the police remand, the accused has been shifted to Shaheed Gunj police station, Srinagar.—TNS

J&K reduces syllabi of Class X, XII to 70%

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JAMMU, AUGUST 14

In a major decision to provide relief to students affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown, the Jammu and Kashmir Government on Friday announced a 30 per cent syllabus cut for students appearing in Class X and Class XII board examinations this year.

The announcement was made by the Principal Secretary, School Education Department, J&K, Asgar Hassan Samoon on Twitter.

"Syllabus for 10+2 reduced to 70 per cent in JK. This also applies for 10th class syllabus for exams," he tweeted in two separate tweets.

Highly placed sources in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) told The Tribune

Democracy suffered at hands of vested interests, says Sinha

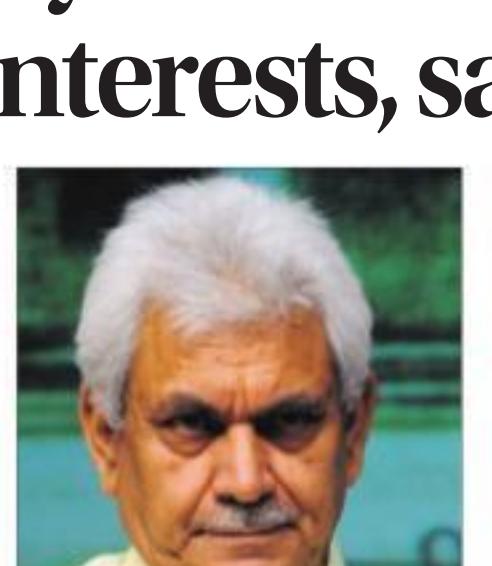
TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 14

Saying that democracy suffered at the hands of "vested interests", Lt-Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said they wanted to make development, peace, progress and social harmony, the most integral part of the narrative of J&K.

He said a new era of normalcy and development had dawned on J&K due to the constitutional change effected last year and promised the government would ensure this journey reaches to the destination quickly.

"Unfortunately, some wrong decisions were taken after Independence and these decisions inevitably led to resentment in the hearts of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and distanced them



Manoj Sinha

from the rest. Generation after generation was sacrificed at the altar of hatred. Instead of countless doors that should have opened for the people in Independent India, numerous doors closed upon the people, and distances increased," Sinha said in his Independence Day message. "We want to make development, peace, progress and social harmony

the most integral part of the narrative of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

"A new journey has been undertaken. To ensure that this journey allows us to reach our destination quickly, the government has earmarked five targets to be achieved," he said. He said the first target is to put in place a just and transparent system of governance. "Secondly, we want to establish a thriving grassroots-level democracy. Thirdly, we wish to ensure maximum welfare by ensuring that every person benefits from government schemes. Fourthly, we are committed to accelerate the development of Jammu and Kashmir. Lastly, economic development, creation of employment opportunities and livelihood will be our primary priority," he said.

An official spokesman said the L-G sought suggestions and recommendations from the VCs on how J&K could benefit from the New Education Policy and what were the challenges in its implementation.

L-G asks VCs to adopt UT-centric changes

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR, AUGUST 14

J&K Lt-Governor (L-G) Manoj Sinha on Friday asked the Vice-Chancellors (VCs) of the universities to prepare a roadmap for bringing qualitative improvement in the overall functioning of the universities and adopt J&K-centric changes as per the New Education Policy.

The Lt-G was chairing a meeting to review the functioning of the universities here at the Raj Bhawan.

An official spokesman said the L-G sought suggestions and recommendations from the VCs on how J&K could benefit from the New Education Policy and what were the challenges in its implementation.

He stressed on the importance of preparing an effective strategy for the implementation of grants under RUSA and asked the VCs to submit a detailed report on five unique initiatives taken by the universities in past few years and the impact of these initiatives on teaching-learning programmes.



People take part in a demonstration against the presidential poll results in Minsk, Belarus. REUTERS

To assuage public anger, Belarus frees detainees

MINSK, AUGUST 14

Belarusian authorities have released about 1,000 people detained amid demonstrations contesting the results of the presidential election, in an attempt to assuage public anger against a brutal crackdown on peaceful protests.

Around midnight, scores of detainees were seen walking out of one of Minsk's jails. "I

On the run, Oppn leader alleges rigging in presidential poll

take responsibility for what they say was violence against those people, who happened to be nearby and failed to back off quickly enough," Interior Minister Yuri Karayev said.

The move comes on the day that EU foreign ministers are due to meet to discuss possible sanctions against Belarus. Opposition leader Svetlana Tsikhanouskaya, who has been given refuge in Lithuania, posted a video statement contesting the results of the vote and demanding that the government start a dialogue with protesters. —AP

Iran, Turkey term UAE-Israel pact a betrayal of Palestine

TEHRAN, AUGUST 14

Iran and Turkey lashed out at their regional rival the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Friday over its decision to normalise diplomatic relations with Israel in a US-brokered deal, accusing it of betraying the Palestinian cause.

Iran's foreign ministry called the deal a "dagger that was unjustly struck by the UAE into the backs of the Palestinian people and all Muslims." It said the deal was "dangerous and illegitimate", the state news agency IRNA quoted a Foreign Ministry statement.

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammed Javad Zarif termed the agreement a "trap" fabricated by the US.

Turkey said the people of the region "will never forget and will never forgive this hypocritical behaviour" by the UAE. The UAE, which has never fought Israel and has quietly been improving ties for years, said the agreement put a hold on Israel's



Palestinians during a massive protest in Gaza on Friday. REUTERS

UN CHIEF WELCOMES HISTORIC AGREEMENT

United Nations: Welcoming the UAE-Israel pact, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has expressed hope that the historic accord would lead to Israeli and Palestinian leaders re-engaging in "meaningful negotiations" for a two-state solution. The UN chief said peace in the Middle East was imperative as the region confronted the grave threats of Covid and radicalisation. PTI

BRIEFLY

NEWPORT (WALES)

Shubhankar salvages round with late birdies

Shubhankar Sharma made a strong start but lost momentum before pulling things back for an erratic even-par 71 in the first round of the inaugural Celtic Classic golf tournament here. Sharma is tied-71st and needs a solid second round to avoid missing a third successive cut. Thomas Pieters held a one-shot lead following a 64. In Greensboro (US), Anirban Lahiri shot a 1-under 69, while Arjun Atwal shot a 2-under in the rain-hit Round 1 of the Wyndham Championship. In North Berwick (Scotland), Tvesa Malik opened her campaign at the Ladies Scottish Open with an even-par round to be placed tied-22nd. Aditi Ashok started with a 3-over 73 and was tied-48th. Diksha Dagar shot a 8-over 78 and was tied-120th.

LONDON

Arsenal sign Willian from Chelsea on 3-year contract
Arsenal have signed Brazilian winger Willian from Chelsea on a three-year deal. The 32-year-old joins Arsenal on a free transfer after failing to agree on a new long-term contract with Chelsea.

PRAGUE

Top seed Halep cruises into Prague Open semis
Top seed Simona Halep cruised past lucky loser Magdalena Frech 6-2 6-0 to advance to the semifinals of the Prague Open. AGENCIES

TODAY ON TV
SECOND TEST
ENGLAND VS PAKISTAN
SONY SIX 3:30PM
UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
MAN CITY VS LYON
SONY TEN 00:30AM (SUNDAY)
GOLF
WYNDHAM CHAMPIONSHIP
EUROSPORT 00:30AM (SUNDAY)

Officials are risking athletes' health: Mehta

IOA secretary criticises decision of holding national camps during Covid-19

VINAYAK PADMADEO

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

The secretary general of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), Rajeev Mehta, has once again criticised the decision of holding national camps during the times of the Covid-19 pandemic. Mehta reasons that without the vaccine it is hypocrisy on the part of the federations to force athletes to attend these camps when many of the officials have stopped their own family members from venturing out from the safe confines of their homes. "I have said this before and I will say this again, why are we rushing to hold these camps when there is no vaccine out to fight the virus?" Mehta told

The Tribune today.

"Most of the officials have stopped personal interactions with others and have stopped their family members from going out of their homes. Are these athletes not someone's daughters or sons? Are they not precious to their families? I want to know why we are risking their lives?" he added. The IOA secretary general was reacting to the rising number of detection amongst Indian athletes. Six male hockey players, including India captain Manpreet Singh, have been under observation in Bengaluru's SS Sparsh Multispecialty Hospital after they tested positive. Yesterday, badminton player N Sikki Reddy and team's

physiotherapist Kiran C tested positive.

Interestingly, Mehta's reaction came on the day when Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) announced plans to hold a national camp from September 1. WFI has sent a proposal to the Sports Authority of India (SAI) to restart the camp in Sonepat and Lucknow for men and women wrestlers, respectively. Further, SAI announced that the archery camp will resume in the Army Sports Institute in Pune from August 25. Weightlifting, cycling and athletics federation have also resumed training for the Olympics-bound athletes. Mehta reiterated that the current climate was not right

to resume training as cases in Patiala and Bengaluru — two of the major training centres — are rising daily.

"Cases are on the up and we don't know when it will subside. The officials who are pushing to restart camps have been arguing that other countries have already begun preparation for the Olympics. But those countries have far better health services than us," Mehta said. "Our healthcare workers are struggling to cope with the situation and here we are happily risking our athletes' health. Will those officials take responsibility if something tragic happens to any of our athletes? Who will be responsible? This has to stop," he said.

RB Leipzig stun Atletico to reach semis for first time

LISBON, AUGUST 14

RB Leipzig stunned Atletico Madrid, with a 2-1 victory in their Champions League quarterfinal yesterday to reach the competition's last-four for the first time in their club's short history.

With two minutes of normal time remaining, United States midfielder Tyler Adams snatched victory with a deflected shot from outside the box to set up a semifinal clash with Paris St Germain.

The German side had taken the lead in the 51st minute with a header from Spanish forward Dani Olmo but a disjointed Atletico were shaken into life when record signing Joao Felix came off the bench, earning and scoring a penalty to level in the 71st.

Atletico, runners-up in 2014 and 2016, looked more likely

Knocked out



Atletico Madrid's Marcos Llorente is challenged by RB Leipzig's Amadou Haidara during their match in Lisbon. REUTERS

to score the next goal but it was the club founded only eleven years ago who were left celebrating in front of the empty seats. Now the team, built up from the lower

leagues and owned by energy drinks company Red Bull, will come up against Neymar and company with a chance at a place in the August 23 final. — Reuters

Rizwan fifty frustrates England

ENG VS PAK 2ND TEST

SOUTHAMPTON, AUGUST 14

Pakistan middle-order batsman Mohammad Rizwan hit a defiant half-century on a difficult batting pitch to guide his side past the 200-mark in their first innings and frustrate England in the second Test today.

Having resumed on 126/5 overnight, Pakistan reached 223/9 when bad light stopped play on the second day. Rizwan, who was dropped by Jos Buttler on 14, was 60 and Naseem Shah on one.

After the start of play was delayed by 90 minutes by bad light, Babar Azam and Rizwan managed to negotiate a one-hour session before lunch without further loss.

Azam went shortly after lunch for 47. — Reuters

Serena gets the better of Venus

LEXINGTON, AUGUST 14

There was zero interaction between the two, not even a furtive glance, when Venus Williams walked past Serena Williams in the Top Seed Open's warmup area before their 31st matchup as pros.

Moments later, both headed to the court, each wearing a face covering — Serena sporting a leopard print design, Venus with a light blue medical mask — and were greeted not by the roars of an appreciative audience but basically by silence.

Zero fanfare because, well, there are zero fans at the first tennis tournament in the US since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic.

When the match began, though, everything seemed normal: hard hitting, big serving. Serena came back



Serena Williams plays a backhand against Venus Williams. AP/PTI

and won the last four games to beat her older sister 3-6 6-3 6-4 in a second-round match — 22-and-a-half years after the first between the two.

Folks could be seen laying on the ground to peek through the opening at the bottom of the fence at the back of the court.

"It definitely felt more

relaxed than the stadium at Wimbledon or at the US Open," said Serena, who now leads the all-in-the-family series 19-12. "But it still is not like the practice courts."

When it ended, the siblings simply tapped rackets. No handshake or hug, owing to rules about social distancing. — AP

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Notice Inviting Tender

Sr. DEE/TRD/FZR acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders for the works as under. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids upto closing date 07.09.2020 at 15:00 Hrs only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received shall not be considered. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand Draft, Banker's Cheque, Deposit Receipts FDR etc are not allowed.

Tender No.	Name of work	App. Cost. (Rs.)	Cost of Tender form(Rs.)	Date & time for submission of tender	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Completion period	Opening of tender	Website Particulars
204-TRD-FZR-2020-21	Round the clock Manning of Three (03) OHE TRD depots i.e. at Pathankot Cantt (PTKC), Samba (SMBX) and Udhampur (UHP) for a period of Three (03) years in the jurisdiction of ADEE/TRD/JAT of Firozpur Division	65,18,712.60	5,000/-	Upto 07.09.2020 15:00 Hrs.	1,30,400/-	36 Months	07.09.2020 after 15:00 Hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in

No.: 204-TRD-FZR-2020-21 Dated : 14.08.2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

74वें स्वतन्त्रता दिवस की हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं

पीएम स्ट्रीट वैंडर आत्मनिर्भर निधि

प्रश्नों के उत्तर

- गोला-सूखा कूड़ा अलग रखें
- भूमिगत कूड़ाइयों में समसदारी से कूड़ा डालें
- घर द्वार पर कूड़ा स्वच्छता प्रहरी को ही दें
- पोलीथीन/प्लास्टिक का कम प्रयोग : स्वच्छता में सहयोग आयुक्त, नगर निगम, धर्मशाला, अनिवार्य आयुक्त आयुक्त, नगर निगम, धर्मशाला।

स्वच्छ भारत मिशन

- गोला-सूखा कूड़ा अलग रखें
- भूमिगत कूड़ाइयों में समसदारी से कूड़ा डालें
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DI-7399

MAHATMA GANDHI STATE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, PUNJAB

(An ISO 9001:2015 & ISO 14001:2015 Certified Punjab Government Organization devoted to training and research in Public Administration)

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E-mail: helpdesk.mgsipa@punjab.gov.in | Website: [https://mgsipa.punjab.gov.in](http://mgsipa.punjab.gov.in)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

[Ref. No. E-163558/2020-21/1493, 14-08-2020]

Online bids are invited in electronic tendering system from the reputed firms/contractors for the contract of "Maintaining Grass Lawns, Flower Beds, Plants & Cleaning/Maintenance of Vacant Area" in MGSIPA Campus.

Important Dates

Publishing Date and Time	15.08.2020 11:00 AM	Document Download/ Sale Start Date and Time	09.09.2020 03:00 PM
Document Download/ Sale Start Date and Time	15.08.2020 11:00 AM	Bid Submission End Date and Time	09.09.2020 03:00 PM
Bid Submission Start Date and Time	15.08.2020 11:00 AM	Bid Opening Date and Time	11.09.2020 11:00 AM

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

1. The tender documents can be downloaded from website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

2. For any clarification/difficulty regarding e-tendering process, the firms/contractors can contact on 0172-2970263, 0172-2970284.

3. Any corrigendum/addendum/corrections, if any, shall be published on the website (<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>) only.

4. Bidders shall have to pay the fees (earnest money, document fee and processing fee, etc.) through online mode as mentioned on e-portal <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

5. MGSIPA reserves the right to scrap the e-tendering process at any stage without assigning any reason.

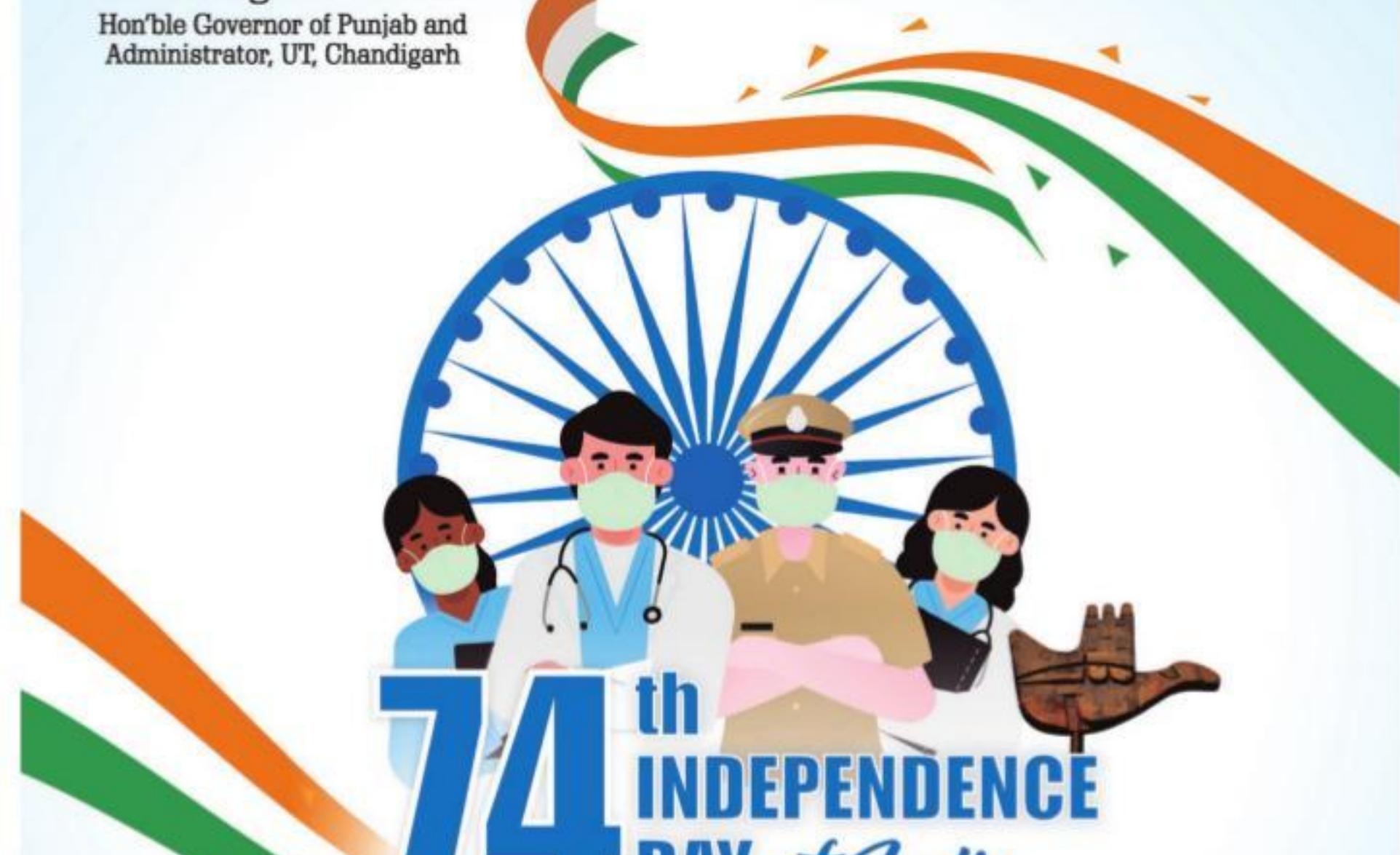
SCS-cum-DG, MGSIPA

DPR/Pb/63930

V. P. Singh Badnore

Hon'ble Governor of Punjab and Administrator, UT, Chandigarh

Chandigarh Administration wishes you



Let's celebrate the cultural diversity and harmony of our country in solidarity with the Corona Warriors who are working ceaselessly to contain the spread of the virus

STAY HOME. STAY SAFE.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS, CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION

PUNJAB POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
Vatavaran Bhawan, Nabha Road, Patiala
Phone: 0175-2302392, Web: www.ppcb.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

Subject: Regulation of Dairy Farms and Gaushalas by enforcement of environmental norms.

It is hereby notified for the information of all the proprietors of Dairy Farms/Gaushalas in the State of Punjab, that in compliance of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) orders dated 20.05.2020 issued in the matter of OA No. 46/2018, CPCB has framed "Guidelines for Environmental Management of Dairy Farms and Gaushalas" and categorized the Dairy Farm & Gaushala under Orange and Green Category, respectively. Therefore, it is mandatory to obtain Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate for all such dairy farms/gaushalas under the provisions of Air/Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. As such, all these unit holders of Dairy Farms and Gaushalas need to apply for obtaining the consent of PPCB through its online portal system (pbccoms.nic.in). Further, the environmental guidelines and Form-A for compliance status of environmental guidelines have been uploaded on Board's website www.ppcb.gov.in.

It is, therefore, enjoined upon all the stake holder to adopt necessary safe guards and ensure that environment norms as envisaged through aforesaid guidelines are complied with and also take necessary consent of the Board without further loss of time.

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4 more held in Kerala gold smuggling case

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) today said it has arrested four more accused in connection with its investigation into the Kerala gold smuggling case involving a diplomatic baggage addressed to the UAE Consulate at Thiruvananthapuram. The agency has so far arrested 20 accused in the case so far.

NIA spokesperson Sonia Narang said the four arrested persons had been identified as Mohamed Anwar TM, Hamzath Abdu Salam and Hamjad Ali of Malappuram district and Samju TM of Kozhikode district of the state.

RBI to transfer ₹57K cr surplus to govt

MUMBAI, AUGUST 14

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Board on Friday approved the transfer of Rs 57,128 crore as surplus to the Centre for the 2019-20 accounting year.

In a statement, the bank said the decision was taken at the 584th meeting of the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India, chaired by Governor Shaktikanta Das.

The board reviewed the current economic situation, continued global as well as domestic challenges, and monetary, regulatory and other measures taken by the RBI to mitigate the economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"The board also approved



COVID LOCKDOWN IMPACT

The Covid pandemic-triggered lockdown affected government's revenue collections as fiscal deficit hit a record ₹6.62 lakh crore in between April and June.

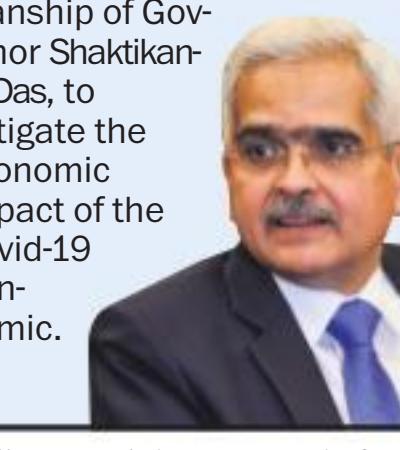
the transfer of Rs 57,128 crore as surplus to the Centre for the 2019-20 accounting year, while deciding to

maintain the Contingency Risk Buffer at 5.5 per cent," the statement said.

Further, the Central Board

ECONOMIC REVIEW

The RBI Board reviewed the current economic situation, continued global as well as domestic challenges, and monetary, regulatory and other measures taken by the RBI, under the chairmanship of Governor Shaktikanta Das, to mitigate the economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

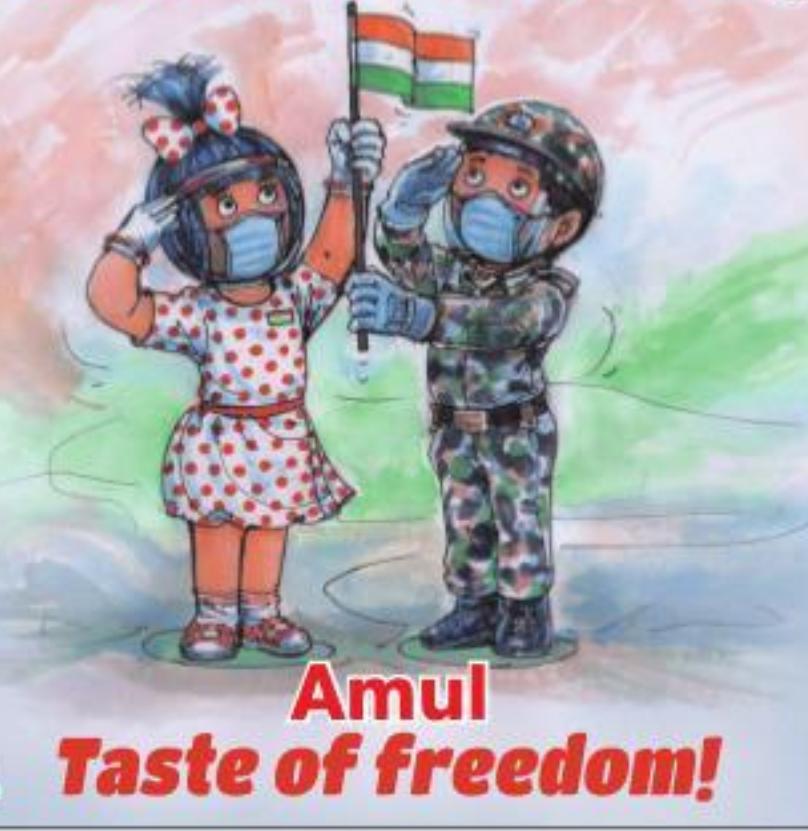


bank during the last year, and approved the annual report and accounts of the Reserve Bank for 2019-20.

According to the RBI Act of 1934, section "Allocation of surplus funds" mandates for any profits made by the Reserve Bank of India from its operations to be sent to the Central government.

The Covid pandemic-triggered lockdown affected government's revenue collections as fiscal deficit hit a record Rs 6.62 lakh crore in the April-June period. Fiscal deficit is an indication of the borrowings needed by a government. It occurs when revenue collections fall short of expenditure. — Agencies

Swadhantra Divas!



SC cancels interim bail of Unitech promoter

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

The Supreme Court (SC) on Friday dismissed the bail plea of Unitech promoter Sanjay Chandra and his brother Ajay Chandra, who are facing criminal cases for allegedly duping homebuyers.

A Bench headed by Justice DY Chandrachud, which had last month given interim bail to Sanjay Chandra, directed him to surrender immediately. It turned down his lawyer's request to give him two weeks to surrender.

The top court noted that the brothers failed to deposit Rs 750 crore as directed by it earlier. It asked the Delhi Police to investigate all aspects of illegalities including siphoning of funds by them as pointed out by forensic auditors.

It also sought a comprehensive affidavit, giving details of the steps taken by the investigative agencies on the forensic audit report.

The SC had on July 7 given interim bail for a month to Sanjay, who is facing criminal cases in connection with his compa-



'HOW CAN THERE BE EXAMS WITHOUT CLASSES?'

New Delhi: Maintaining that there is a direct relation between exams and teaching, several petitioners on Friday questioned before the SC the rationale behind the University Grant Commission's decision asking universities to hold exams without properly covering the syllabus. "How can there be exams without teaching?" senior counsel Abhishek Manu Singhvi wondered while arguing before a Bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan. TNS

ny's failure to deliver flats to homebuyers, on the ground that his parents had been diagnosed with Covid-19. The Bench, however, had denied a similar relief to his younger brother Ajay Chandra, who has been in jail for almost three years.

CRPF officer bags 7th medal in 4 yrs

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

Assistant Commandant (AC) Naresh Kumar, a courageous officer with sharp tactical acumen and indomitable courage, has scripted history by receiving Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG) for seventh time in a short span of four years.

"Kumar has led the CRPF's Valley Quick Action Team (QAT) in Srinagar, which has a glorious history of continued success marked with numerous gallantry medals that embellish its valour. This year alone, the Valley QAT has been adorned with more than 15 Gallantry medals," the CRPF said in an official release.

Kumar got his first medal in 2017 for an operation, which was conducted in Srinagar in 2016 during which he neutralised two terrorists from across the border. In 2018, he was awarded with two PMGs for neutralising two Hizbul Mujahideen commanders

■ Assistant Commandant Naresh Kumar got his first medal in 2017 for an operation, which was conducted in Srinagar in 2016

■ He neutralised two terrorists from across the border

■ In 2018, he was awarded with two PMGs for neutralising two Hizbul Mujahideen commanders

Mujahideen commanders in a fierce operation.

This year alone, the Valley QAT has been adorned with more than 15 Gallantry medals. The erstwhile IG Srinagar, Ravideep Singh Sahi, and the present Valley QAT Commander Loukrakpam Ibomcha Singh and his teammate Constable Devsant Kumar have been awarded with Police Medal for Gallantry for a courageous operation in Srinagar on October 3, 2017 where two militants were neutralised.

Will give befitting reply if enemy attacks: Rajnath

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Friday that India would give a befitting reply if it was attacked, in an oblique message to China in the midst of the border row in eastern Ladakh.

In a message to the armed forces on the eve of Independence Day, he said India believed in winning hearts and not land. "But it does not mean we will let our self-esteem be hurt," he said in the message. The Defence Minister said whatever India did in the realm of national security was always for self-defence and not to attack other countries. "If enemy country attacks us, we will give a befitting reply," said the Defence Minister.

"History is a witness to the fact that India has never attacked anyone or tried to capture land of another country," said Singh. — PTI



Police personnel rehearse for the 74th Independence Day celebrations in Vijayawada on Friday. PTI

Police medal for 926; J&K gets maximum 81 for gallantry

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 14

The government today announced the list of 926 cops from across the country to receive the prestigious police medal on Independence Day. A total of 215 are to be awarded with Police Medal for Gallantry (PMG), 80 President's Police Medal (PPM) for distinguished service and 631 for meritorious service.

According to the list released by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), among the states, the Union Territories (UTs) and the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), J&K has bagged the maximum 81 PMG, followed by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) with 55 and Uttar Pradesh and Delhi with 23 and 16, respectively.

Police personnel from Punjab, Haryana, HP and Chandigarh received only a few medals and none has been named for the PMG. Only two

personnel of the Punjab Police are named for the PPM and 13 for meritorious services medal.

The Haryana Police will receive one PPM and 11 medals for meritorious service. HP will get one PPM and three for medals for meritorious service. Chandigarh gets only one President's Police Medal for distinguished service. Uttar Pradesh Police personnel have been awarded maximum 73 medals for meritorious service, followed by CRPF and BSF with 59 and 46, respectively.

AIRASIA'S OFFER FOR ARMED FORCES

New Delhi: AirAsia India on Friday announced that it was offering 50,000 seats without base fares to the armed forces personnel for travel between September 25 and December 31. TNS



personnel of the Punjab Police

are named for the PPM and 13 for meritorious services medal.

The Haryana Police will receive one PPM and 11 medals for meritorious service. HP will get one PPM and three for medals for meritorious service. Chandigarh gets only one President's Police Medal for distinguished service. Uttar Pradesh Police personnel have been awarded maximum 73 medals for meritorious service, followed by CRPF and BSF with 59 and 46, respectively.

For President's Police Medal for distinguished services, eight Intelligence Bureau (IB) officials have been chosen. Late Delhi Police Inspector Mohan Chand Sharma's name has been mentioned in the list of recipients as "6th BAR" to PMG posthumously.

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Acknowledging that some of these recommendations may be tough to implement, the report says: "If we really want to restore Punjab to its earlier position, that objective calls for a radical break from past trends and this cannot be achieved by proceeding on a business-as-usual basis."

"It calls for radical new policy initiatives and if we cannot take these difficult decisions, we must be content with the more limited objective of getting out of the current severely depressed economic situation as quickly as possible."

FROM PAGE 1

Punjab CM firm, free power to farmers will stay

It calls for embarking on the road to digitisation in developing agriculture value chains and building the-state-of-the-art startup ecosystem with the setting up of "Punjab Innovation Fund". The biggest challenge, the report says, is to go in for skill development and bringing social sector reforms, especially for the migrant labour.

Acknowledging that some of these recommendations may be tough to implement, the report says: "If we really want to restore Punjab to its earlier position, that objective calls for a radical break from past trends and this cannot be achieved by proceeding on a business-as-usual basis."

"It calls for radical new policy initiatives and if we cannot take these difficult decisions, we must be content with the more limited objective of getting out of the current severely depressed economic situation as quickly as possible."

Gehlot wins trust vote

The Congress victory came after former Deputy CM Sachin Pilot struck truce with the party. In the Assembly today, Pilot, seated closer to Opposition (his seating was changed after he was sacked as the Deputy CM), said, "I am

now closer to the border. You know why – because the bravest and the strongest soldiers are sent to the border."

While the Congress managed to save the day, the BJP feels the truce between Gehlot and Pilot would be short-lived. — TNS

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सारे जहाँ से अच्छा
हिन्दुस्तान हमारा

74^{वां}
स्वतंत्रता
दिवस

हिमाचलवासियों को
स्वतंत्रता दिवस के पावन अवसर पर
हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

असंख्य शहीदों के सर्वोच्च बलिदान को
हिमाचलवासियों का नमन।
आई हम स्वाधीनता सेनानियों के अथक प्रयासों से
हासिल आज़ादी का मूल्य समझें
देश की आन-बान और शान बनाएं रखें

- जय राम ठाकुर
मुख्यमंत्री, हिमाचल प्रदेश



मुख्यमंत्री एवं जन सम्पर्क विभाग, हि.प्र. द्वारा जारी