

The Sunday Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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ENERGY GOALS PILLAR OF US-INDIA TIES: BIDEN WORLD

THAT EMPTY FEELING SPECTRUM

ROYALS CRUSH KKR TO RISE FROM BOTTOM BACK PAGE

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SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2021

It's tsunami, not wave, says HC

Seeks plan from Centre, Delhi Govt to tackle crisis

We are calling it a (Covid) wave, it is actually a tsunami... will hang whoever obstructs the movement of oxygen. The 480 MT per day is still to see the light of the day.

— Delhi High Court

medical staff and medicines, to deal with the expected peak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, representing the Centre, said there might be a rapid rise in the number of cases in May and June. — TNS/PTI

20 die in 1 hospital, Delhi begs for O₂

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, APRIL 24

India grappled with an unprecedented public health crisis on Saturday as critical Covid patients died across cities for want of oxygen, hospitals begged for supplies and several Delhi facilities halted admissions in the absence of life-saving O₂ amid a tsunami of infections.

The situation across hospitals was worrisome with 20 critical patients dying overnight at Jaipur Golden Hospital in Delhi where half an hour supply was left this morning and replenishments were delayed. After another world record setting peak of today, the Centre asked the country to be ready for the worst. The signs of things to come were evident today after even AIIMS-New Delhi,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Toll 357 in 24 hrs: 1 death every 4 minutes

At Ganga Ram, over 100 lives at risk



A Covid patient receives oxygen provided by a Sikh organisation at a gurdwara in Ghaziabad's Indirapuram on Saturday. PTI

ACTIVE CASES CROSS 25 LAKH

DAILY CASES 3,46,786

TOTAL CASES 1,66,10,481

DEATHS IN 24 HRS 2,624

TOTAL FATALITIES 1,89,544

NEED FUNDS TO EXPAND: SII AMID PRICING ROW

The SII has defended Covishield price at 1.5 times the initial cost saying the earlier price was based on advance funding and now it had to invest in expansion.

No oxygen, 6 die at Amritsar hospital

VISHAL KUMAR



Four of the six patients at Amritsar hospital were Covid positive

1-DAY LOCKDOWN IMPOSED IN KAPURTHALA DIST

PB SHUTS STEEL INDUSTRY TO DIVERT OXYGEN FOR MED USE

their patients to other hospitals," he said. Private hospitals have been complaining of shortage ever since the administration started rationing of medical oxygen.

However, Neelkanth Hospital managing director Sunil Devgan claimed they had flagged the problem to the nodal officer 48 hours prior to the incident. "We had even asked the attendants to shift

Virus kills two kids in Himachal

SHIMLA, APRIL 24

Covid claimed the lives of 26 persons, including two children, in Himachal Pradesh. A five-year-old died in Kangra and a 10-year-old in Hamirpur. "We did not see children dying in the first wave. Only the aged and those with co-morbidities were at high risk," observed Dr Malay Sarkar, clinical in-charge, Covid-19.

Meanwhile, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya (DDU) Hospital here has run out of beds. "We now have 91 patients. We have arranged for a few more beds," a doctor said. Although the IGMC portal showed it had five vacant beds, sources claimed the hospital was refusing fresh admissions. — TNS

IN BRIEF

IAF flies in 4 oxygen tankers from S'pore

NEW DELHI: The Air Force has brought four high-capacity oxygen tankers from Singapore and offloaded them at the Panaghat air base in West Bengal, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs said on Saturday. — TNS

J&K announces 34-hr curfew from 8 pm

JAMMU: The J&K administration announced a 34-hour curfew from 8 pm on Saturday amid Covid surge. "Complete curfew in the UT from 8 pm on Saturday till 6 am on Monday," a statement said. — PTI

Long queues outside BHEL for med oxygen

BHOPAL: Amid acute shortage of medical oxygen due to Covid surge, vehicles and individuals are queuing up outside BHEL's plant here to get the empty cylinders refilled with the life-saving gas. — PTI

Haryana Govt offices to function with 50% staff

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 24

Amid a spike in Covid cases, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar today announced that all IT sector and corporate offices in six districts — Faridabad, Gurugram, Hisar, Panchkula, Karnal and Sonepat — would remain closed till May 3. The government offices in all districts will work with 50 per cent staff.

He said no lockdown would be imposed in Gurugram and Faridabad, but work from home would be followed wherever

CM says no lockdown, but steps taken to curb Covid spread

possible. Chairing a state-level meeting, the CM asked the state industry to work in shifts. "Covid cases have been on the rise and the government is taking steps to control it," he said. For vaccinating the population above 18 years, government hospitals would administer doses free of cost. — TNS

Customs duty waived on vax, oxygen, equipment

NEW DELHI, APRIL 24

The Centre on Saturday waived basic customs duty and health cess for three months on imported oxygen and oxygen generation and transport equipment as well as imported Covid vaccines.

The 16 oxygen and related equipment on which duty has been waived include oxygen concentrator along with flow meter, regulator, connectors and tubing, oxygen canister, filling systems, storage tanks and cylinders. — TNS



A man carries an O₂ cylinder for a patient in Gurugram. PTI

Covaxin price: ₹600 for states, ₹1,200 pvt clinics

NEW DELHI, APRIL 24

Bharat Biotech, the maker of indigenous Covid shot Covaxin on Saturday said the vaccine would be priced at Rs 600 a dose for state governments, Rs 1,200 for private hospitals and Rs 150 a dose for the Centre for the expanded inoculation drive starting May 1 when the new jab policy kicks in to cover all adults.

Bharat Biotech said it would export the vaccine for USD 15 to 20 a dose. The announcement follows a similar declara-



tion by Covishield manufacturer SII with a dose costing Rs 400 to state governments and Rs 600 to private hospitals.

Under the new policy from May 1, the Centre will offer free shots to health and frontline workers and anyone above 45 years of age at its hospitals and facilities. — TNS

CBI registers FIR against Deshmukh over corruption

NEW DELHI, APRIL 24

After getting enough prima facie material in the preliminary enquiry (PE) to start a formal probe, the CBI today registered an FIR against former Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh and conducted searches on premises linked to him in connection with corruption allegations.

CONDUCTS SEARCHES AT MAHA PREMISES

In the FIR, Investigating Officer (IO) RS Gujiyal, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) in the CBI, has recommended to the headquarters to register a regular case, as it was prima facie found that there was "commission of cognisable offences punishable under various sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act and the IPC against Deshmukh and other unidentified persons".

Agency sleuths raided premises linked to Deshmukh in Mumbai and other places in Maharashtra. — TNS

NEW CJI MEETS SR JUDGES, REVIEWS FUNCTIONING



After being sworn in by the President on Saturday, Chief Justice of India NV Ramana swung into action.

He held consultations with six senior judges to review functioning in view of the Covid situation.

10 dead, eight go missing in Joshimath avalanche

NEW DELHI, APRIL 24

A day after an avalanche hit the areas north of Joshimath in Uttarakhand, 10 bodies have been found, while eight persons remain missing. The Army has, so far, rescued 384 persons, six of them critically injured.

A senior Army official said the rescue operations were launched last night and efforts were on to locate labourers who

were in two separate camps. The avalanche hit a location about 4 km ahead of Summa on the Joshimath-Malari-Rimkhim axis around 4 pm on Friday.

A BRO detachment and two labour camps exist nearby for road construction. An Army camp is located 3 km from Summa. The area had been experiencing heavy rain and snow since Monday. — TNS

Won't let govt derail stir, warns Tikait

Tribune News Service

PART OF HRY HIGHWAYS OPENED: KISAN MORCHA

CRACKDOWN LIKELY

Section 144 will soon be enforced in Sonepat. Farmers to face action for violating the orders.

Ashok Bansal, SONEPAT DC

Centre wants to derail the farmers' struggle by using the pandemic as an excuse. We will not relent till the laws are withdrawn."

"While farmers in Haryana are not facing any problem at procurement centres, in Punjab, the Centre is harassing them with an aim to crush the peasant movement," he said.

Addressing a farmers' rally at Karandi village in Mansa, Tikait said: "The

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Markfed suspends AFO
CHANDIGARH: Taking note of irregularities in 'bardana' distribution, Markfed MD on Saturday suspended Harsimranpreet Singh, AFO, Goni Branch office, with immediate effect. The Markfed MD said on the basis of the reports received for indulging in irregularities in the distribution of gunny bags, the AFO was placed under suspension.—TNS

SAD leaders meet DC

SANGRUR: Alleging lack of arrangements for wheat purchase, senior leaders of the SAD on Saturday met the DC and submitted a memorandum to provide required facilities to farmers. "Farmers are facing serious problems in grain markets and the government must look into it. We have met the DC and submitted a memorandum," said Iqbal Singh Jhunda, district president, SAD.—TNS

CM orders ban on mining at night

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 24

To check illegal mining in the state, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh has ordered a complete ban on mining from 7.30 pm to 5 am, directing the police and Enforcement Directorate (Mining) to take strict action against those found engaging in mining operations at night.

The Chief Minister, who chaired a high-level meeting on Friday to review the illegal mining situation in the state, asked the Mining Department to strictly ensure no mining was undertaken by any authorised contractor in riverbeds or other areas after 7.30 pm and before 5 am.



NO CURBS ON SAND MOVEMENT

- Sand/gravel movement to continue unhindered during night
- Mining curbs will remain in force across state from 7.30 pm to 5 am
- Police, ED (Mining) asked to take strict action against violators

Warning of stringent action against violators, the Chief Minister said

illegal sand mining operations should also be dealt with strictly.

Directing the DGP and the newly constituted Enforcement Directorate (Mining) to crack down strictly on any night-mining activity, the CM, however, ordered there should be no hindrance to the smooth movement of sand and gravel during night in view of high level of construction activity in the state.

Availability of the material at affordable price should also be ensured, he told the department, directing Principal Secretary (Mining) to coordinate with authorised contractors to bring down the prices of sand and gravel.

During the meeting,

Sukhbinder Singh Sarkaria, Minister, Water Resources, apprised the Chief Minister of a positive impact of the creation of Enforcement Directorate (Mining) in curbing illegal sand mining activities.

He told the Chief Minister sand mining operations in the state would be conducted smoothly, and smooth transportation of sand would be ensured.

DGP Dinkar Gupta said all Commissioners of Police and SSPs had been directed to take action against those involved in illegal sand mining.

He said additional manpower would be deployed to check night sand mining operations, in line with the Chief Minister's directives.

Mining: Binds down state to its affidavits filed in writ petition



OBSERVATIONS ON UNDERTAKINGS

■ Punjab has put in efforts to plug loopholes existing in system regulating mines and minerals, which allowed unscrupulous elements to take advantage of the situation

■ It is further evident specific responsibilities have been fixed, and officers concerned are duty bound to take action in case of any violation under their domain

rised officer. All such permits would be issued through online mode. This would help in monitoring the vehicle involved in transportation of minor mineral in the state.

In its December 15, 2020, affidavit placed before the Bench of Justice Jaswant Singh and Justice Sant Parkash, the state had added the proposed rules/ amendments would be formulated, approved by the council of ministers and notified.

The affidavit added the department was developing a web portal with provision for online complaints' submission to improve the reporting mechanism and control over illegal mining.

It was further proposed that all wheel/chain mounted excavators/loads involved in excavation of earth/minor minerals would be required to register with the department and fitted with the GPS to monitor their movement.

"We bind the state to various affidavits filed by it in the writ petition, whereby numerous proposals have been put forth. It would be appreciated in case all pro-

posals as enumerated in affidavits filed by the state and detailed in our judgment are concluded within a three months," the Bench added.

Bathinda villagers spar over land, allege foul play

BATHINDA, APRIL 24

A high drama was witnessed at Shergarh village in the district when panchayat members were stopped from harvesting wheat crop on 37 acres. A group of residents from the same village confronted the panchayat members claiming ownership of the land.

Nahar Singh, sarpanch, Shergarh village, said, "There are five to six families who had taken the illegal possession of the panchayati land. After the matter was pursued in courts, in March the district administration had given possession of the land to the panchayat. Today, a police team and officials of the administration visited the site so that wheat harvesting could be started, but the party who had taken illegal possession of

Row after panchayat members stopped from harvesting wheat

the land did not let us do that."

The wheat on the said tract of land was sown by the group of villagers who were accused of taking illegal possession of the land. The villagers alleged foul play and political patronage in the matter.

Pawan Kumar, tehsildar, Tawandhi Sabo, expressed ignorance about the matter. The BDPO could not be contacted despite repeated attempts. Paramvir Singh, ADC (D), said, "We had asked the officials of the area to carry out the work in the village. I think till now the problem has not been solved.—TNS

Ugrahan flays gherao of farmer leaders

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 24

The BKU (Ugrahan) today flayed the gherao of the leaders of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha and "pressuring" them to declare the date of Parliament march.

President of the union Joginder Singh Ugrahan alleged that the Samyukt Kisan Morcha postponed the decision of Parliament march because the government was trying to find some excuse to launch repression on farmers' protests at the Delhi borders.

He said the gherao of leaders showed the "nefarious designs of some elements who were playing into the hands of the anti-farmer forces", which were trying to create the situation like January 26.—TNS

Provide 'bardana' to farmers, says AAP

BATHINDA, APRIL 24

Members of the AAP Kisan Wing today submitted a memorandum of demands to the Mansa DC, urging him to provide 'bardana' (gunny bags) to farmers. They also demanded proper arrangements for procurement of wheat in mandis.

Hardev Singh, president, AAP Kisan Wing in Mansa, said, "We have demanded that the administration must resolve problems being faced by farmers in mandis in the procurement season. Owing to the shortage of bardana and poor arrangements in mandis, wheat has been damaged by rain."

"Many farmers have been sitting and guarding their produce for many days amid inclement weather condi-

WHEAT PROCUREMENT

- Members of the AAP Kisan Wing demanded proper arrangements for procurement of wheat in mandis
- Hardev Singh, president, AAP Kisan Wing in Mansa, said owing to the shortage of bardana and poor arrangements in mandis, wheat had been damaged by rain

tions. We have requested the DC to direct officials concerned to ensure proper arrangements in mandis so that procurement can be conducted in a hassle-free manner," he said.—TNS

Akalis protest shortage of gunny bags

FATEHGHAR SAHIB, APRIL 24

On the call of SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal, leaders of the party's district unit and the Youth Akali Dal today staged protests against the state government for its "failure" to arrange gunny bags for the smooth procurement of wheat.



Led by Jagdeep Singh Cheema, district president, SAD, party workers submitted a memorandum to the SDM, Fatehgarh Sahib. They demanded a judicial probe into the gunny bags' shortage issue. They urged the government to ensure timely payment and lifting of procured wheat.

The workers of the Youth Akali Dal staged a protest at the grain market, Sirhind, for poor arrangements and shortage of gunny bags.—OC

Dera suspects' security stepped up

Tribune News Service

FARIDKOT, APRIL 24

In view of increased threat perception to the lives of eight Sacha Sauda dera followers and family members of late Mohinder Pal Bittu, all accused in the sacrilege incidents of 2015, the Faridkot police have tightened their security here.

Sources say the police have advised the dera followers to stay home in view of increased threat to their life. Around 35 police officials are providing round-the-clock security to these dera followers and their families.

The eight, accused of theft of 'bir' of Guru Granth Sahib

THREAT PERCEPTION

- Quashing of probe into Kotkapura police firing case by the High Court
- Decision on police probe in Behbal case expected soon

from Burj Jawahar Singh Wala village and desecration of the 'bir' at Bargari, were provided police security in July last year after the killing of Mohinder Pal Bittu, one of the accused, inside the Nabha jail by two inmates.

Their security was further stepped up in January after the Punjab and Haryana High Court replaced the head of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the Punjab Police, headed by then DIG RS Khatra. The court orders had come on a plea of a dera follower, who had challenged the summoning order by a trial court, passed after the chargesheet was filed against him by the SIT into the 'bir' theft case. With the High Court recently quashing the investigation into the Kotkapura police firing case and the decision on the police investigation in the Behbal Kalan case expected in the coming days, the police see an increased threat to the lives of the dera followers, said sources in the police.

Cong-AAP nexus exposed: SAD

HC VERDICT

Says arrest former IG over firing probe

Tribune News Service



Senior SAD leaders Maheshinder Singh Grewal and Daljit Singh Cheema address a press conference in Chandigarh on Saturday.

NO MORAL RIGHT FOR CM TO STAY IN OFFICE

Since the CM led the exercise by holding meetings to execute the Congress and AAP's political agenda, he does not have moral right to continue in office. Daljit Singh Cheema, SAD

They alleged AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal was hand in glove with the Congress in promoting and defending former IG Kunwar Vijay Pratap Singh, charged with executing

the conspiracy. They said since a direct criminal conspiracy had been proved following the HC verdict, the former IG be charge-sheeted, booked and arrested for his misdeeds.

MLAs want answers on SIT fiasco

Tribune News Service

SIDHU'S POSERS

Why evidence against Parkash Singh Badal and Sukhbir was not examined or brought before the court? Who is responsible for delaying and weakening the case?

Najot Singh Sidhu, CONG LEADER

Office or the technical team contesting the case in the court.

A day after the HC gave a detailed judgment after quashing the SIT probe into the Kotkapura police firing case, Sidhu tweeted, "How will we get justice? If two years after naming Parkash Singh Badal and Sukhbir Singh in the chargesheet, no challan was filed against them nor their names were added to the FIR. Why evidence against the two was not examined or

Answers are being sought as to how technical flaws like registering second FIR, non-issuing of challans against Badals and other issued pointed out by the court were not checked by the Legal Remembrancer.

Office or the technical team contesting the case in the court.

A day after the HC gave a detailed judgment after quashing the SIT probe into the Kotkapura police firing case and the decision on the police investigation in the Behbal Kalan case expected in the coming days, the police see an increased threat to the lives of the dera followers, said sources in the police.

18 die in 24 hrs at Patiala hospital

TRENT NEWS SERVICE



A medic collects samples in a micro-containment zone in Patiala.

PATIALA, APRIL 24
Amid mounting Covid cases in the state, the Government Rajindra Hospital here reported 18 deaths due to the infection over the past 24 hours.

The authorities said a majority of the victims were referred from other districts. With this, the death count at the hospital has risen to 1,163 since the outbreak last year.

Most of the deaths are said to have taken place during the night and, therefore, might be a case of investigation. However, the hospital authorities said as the majority of seriously ill patients arrived during the night, they died within a few

hours of admission.

Dr HS Rekhi, Medical Superintendent, said they had enough oxygen supply for Covid patients. "We have adequate supply of oxygen at the hospital. Besides, we have our own oxygen plant

for uninterrupted supply."

Meanwhile, in the wake of a spike in the caseload over the past 72 hours, the authorities have converted the 8th floor of the MCH building into a dedicated Covid ward of the Rajindra hospital.



NORMS GO FOR TOSS: A huge rush of commuters at the Patiala bus stand on Saturday. RAJESH SACHAR

Govt shuts iron, steel plants, diverts O₂ supply to hospitals

TRENT NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 24
Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh today ordered shutdown of operations of the state's iron and steel industries to divert oxygen for medical use. He also directed setting up of oxygen control rooms amid the escalating oxygen crisis in the state.

Taking stock of the situation, the CM said he had already taken up the matter with the Centre, seeking increase in oxygen quota urgently. A sudden influx of patients from neighbouring states had put additional burden on oxygen requirement of hospitals in the state, he noted.

Ordering closure of industrial operations at the iron and steel plants, Captain Amarinder has also asked for a feasibility report from the

COVID METER	
Cases	5,724
Critical	61
Active	46,565
Deaths	92
WORST-AFFECTED DISTRICTS	
DISTRICT	CASES
SAS Nagar	802
Ludhiana	861
Bathinda	592
Patiala	465
Jalandhar	544

Power Department on use of thermal plants for providing oxygen for medical use.

Punjab has witnessed a sharp increase in oxygen demand over the past few days. The demand for oxygen currently stands at 250 MT per day and is further expected to go up to 300 MT in the

coming days on account of spiralling Covid cases.

Reacting to reports of increase in the price of oxygen by suppliers, he asked the PSIC to discuss, negotiate and settle the pricing with bulk suppliers and inform the Principal Secretary, Medical Education & Research, on the final decision.

In another step, he ordered the Punjab Health Systems Corporation (PHSC) to procure 100 more oxygen concentrators, including 50 approved earlier. It was pointed out that concentrators could support the L2 facilities with current patient load, and also help increase the number of L2 beds in facilities such as in Tarn Taran and in Gurdaspur where more such beds were needed.

Already in short supply, 'Fateh kit' downsized

RAJ SADOSH

ABOHAL, APRIL 24
The "Fateh kits" launched by Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh last September are not only in short supply, but have been downsized as well. Amid the Covid surge, 200 patients are awaiting kits for use during isolation at the Civil Hospital or home.

Amid the shortage, the hospital received only 50 kits after the problem was highlighted in these columns.

At the launch, each free kit was equipped with 18 items, including a pulse oximeter, digital thermometer, essential medicines, etc. along with educational material and instructions for use of medicines. Instructions for patients and caregivers were also provided in the kit, besides a self-monitoring log chart.

Pulse oximeter, a few medicines missing

However, pulse oximeter, priced at Rs 1,150, and a few medicines are now missing from these kits. Inquiries made by patients indicated the government had downsized the kits and dropped oximeter from the list.

Abohal, the hometown of PPCC chief Sunil Jakhar, leads in terms of positive cases as well as deaths in Pafizka district. As many as 13 infected persons have died this month alone. BJP MLA Arun Narang today wrote to the CM demanding ventilators and medical oxygen cylinders for the Civil Hospital so that patients, instead of being referred to Faridkot, got treatment at the facility.

Union minister Som Parkash in ICU at Mohali

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 24
Union minister Som Parkash, who had tested positive for Covid-19 earlier this week, is on oxygen support in an ICU of a private hospital in Mohali where doctors were closely monitoring his condition.

Parkash (72), Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry and BJP MP from Hoshiarpur, had tweeted earlier this week, stating that he had tested positive for the infection.

According to a statement issued today by the Fortis Hospital, "Som Parkash is on oxygen support and being managed medically as per guidelines. He is being monitored closely in the ICU and the next few days would determine the trajectory of his stabilisation," it said. — PTI

Amid surge, Cong councillors 'party'

SUHKMEET BHASIN

BATHINDA, APRIL 24
Despite a Covid surge, Congress leaders held a party at a resort on the outskirts of the city on Friday night. Many persons attended the event.

It is learnt that the party was thrown by Mayor Raman's husband Sandeep Goyal, who is a liquor contractor. He held the party to celebrate Raman taking charge as the city Mayor.



Congress councillors at the party.

has gone viral on the social media. Senior Deputy Mayor Ashok Pradhan was seen din-

ing with Congress councillors and other leaders.

Pradhan said the event was just a casual meeting of a small group of Congress councillors to celebrate party leaders joining top offices of the Bathinda MC. However, Sandeep denied hosting the party. He said, "Covid norms were followed and I was at the resort only for some time. No woman councillor, including Raman, was there."

The Bathinda IGP and SSP could not be contacted.

Most fatalities within hours of arrival at night

TRENT NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 24
In order to ensure adequate supply of medical oxygen to the critically ill patients, the Punjab Government has provided 147 oxygen concentrators to the worst-hit districts of Malwa.

Chief Secretary Vini Mahajan, while chairing a meeting to review the Covid situation besides supply and demand of medical oxygen, today directed the Health and Family Welfare Department to ensure 100 per cent testing in micro-containment zones for early detection of Covid-19.

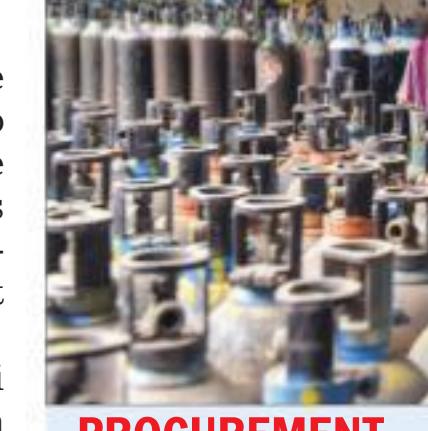
She instructed the department to make '104' helpline functional round the clock for medical oxygen requirements in the state.

The Chief Secretary asked the department to ensure a complete ban on elective surgeries and oxygen-consuming industrial activities to tackle the unprecedented shortage in the state.

The Chief Secretary

Malwa given 147 O₂ concentrators

TRENT NEWS SERVICE



PROCUREMENT REVIEWED

- The Chief Secretary held a separate meeting with senior officials to review medical oxygen supplies and procurement in the state
- She directed them to ensure optimum utilisation of available stocks and follow up with the Centre/states/agencies to procure additional supplies

ordered further augmentation of medical oxygen supplies to health facilities and warned of stern action against those hoarding and diverting medical oxygen supplies.

Moga village hits 100% vax target

MOGA, APRIL 24

All residents over the age of 45 years at Safuwala village in Moga district have been vaccinated for Covid-19, a district administration spokesperson has said.

Dr Indervir Singh Gill, posted at the community health centre, Daroli Bhai village, with the help of panchayat and local health workers played a key role in making Safuwala the first village in Punjab to achieve the 100 per cent vaccination target.

Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh recently congratulated Safuwala residents when 330 residents over 45 years of age got vaccinated in a single day. The CM's appeal for vaccination stuck with the residents. In the second camp, 380 more got vaccinated in a single day. Dr Gill said the villagers cooperated with the health authorities. "When we went house-to-house for Covid testing, people came forward willingly," he said. — TNS

PUNJABI UNIVERSITY, PATIALA
(Established under Punjab Act. No. 35 of 1961)
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Birth Anniversary of
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Bhagwan Mahavir Swami Ji

An apostle of non-violence, truth and righteousness

Department of Information & Public Relations, Punjab



A woman and her attendants wait outside the Civil Hospital in Hisar for a bed on Saturday.

Patient load up, health infra starts to crumble

DEEPENDER DESWAL

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

HISAR, APRIL 24

With the Covid crisis deepening, the district health infrastructure, it seems, is unable to cater to the rising number of patients in the district.

An aged woman was rushed to the local Civil Hospital, but had to wait for nearly three hours on the footpath before getting a bed. Her family members said the hospital refused to admit her, stating that all beds were occupied.

The woman was brought to the Civil Hospital from Hansi after her condition deteriorated on Friday evening. Her family contacted eight private hospitals before finally getting a bed after the recommendation from a prominent personality. The medical staff have taken her sample for the Covid test and the report is awaited.

Meanwhile, Dr Ramesh Punia, a biologist in the Civil Hospital, said he was getting flooded with phone

IN JIND, 7-DAY WAIT FOR COVID REPORT

The Health Department has issued a notice in Jind, stating that the Covid test reports of people gave their samples on April 17 was available while those who submitted on April 18 and onwards had to wait. This indicated that the waiting period for the test report is about one week in Jind. The report of 3,129 samples is awaited in Jind district. TNS

calls asking for the availability of beds in government and private hospitals in the district. "I am feeling helpless as the Covid cases are increasing every day," he posted on Facebook.

Hisar DC Priyanka Soni said, "We have added 100 beds and six hospitals have been turned into dedicated Covid centres. Five helpline numbers have also been launched for any Covid-related queries."

10,491 NEW CASES, 60 MORE SUCCUMB

- With 10,491 new cases, the state's tally reached 4.13 lakh on Saturday. Besides, 60 more deaths were reported
- Gurugram alone reported 3,136 new cases, followed by Faridabad (1,530 cases), Hisar (857), Sonepat (802), Karnal (578) and Panipat (525)
- Eight deaths were reported in Gurugram and seven each in Faridabad and Ambala
- In all, 5,104 persons recovered in past 24 hours. The active cases reached 69,384

COVID METER

Cases	10,491
Critical	1,995
Active cases	69,384
Deaths	60
WORST-AFFECTED DISTRICTS	
Gurugram, Faridabad & Sonepat	

Finally, protesters at Tikri get jab

JHAJJAR, APRIL 24

The district administration finally succeeded in persuading protesting farmers in all, 10 farmers received the jab at a vaccination booth today. —TNS

a vaccination booth at the Tikri border to get vaccinated against Covid. In all, 10 farmers received the jab at a vaccination booth today. —TNS

Before the Court of Sh. Gopal Singh Chahal IAS, Marriage Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur

Subject:- Application by Shri Kalu Ram S/o Mahanda Ram R/o Ward No. 01 Khai Road Bharat Nagar Ferozepur City.

Versus General Public

As per application of Shri Kalu Ram S/o Mahanda Ram R/o Ward No. 01 Khai Road Bharat Nagar Ferozepur City. His son Manish Kumar date of birth is 08.10.1984, who is now residing abroad V CHIKOUONI 22 TBL ISI GEORGIA since 24.12.2012 not got marriage till date, so that the unmarried certificate may be issued to him.

This is for the information of all concerned that if anyone has any objection for issuing of Unmarried Certificate to Manish Kumar son of Sh. Kalu Ram resident Ward No. 01 Khai Road Bharat Nagar Ferozepur City. Now, V CHIKOUONI 22 TBL ISI GEORGIA abroad, then they may object in person or through counsel before this court within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice. After expiry of this period, objection received will not be considered.

No. 1288/Peshi
Sd/- Marriage Officer-cum-Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur.

Dated: 12.04.2021 DI-1631

website=https://no1bhatinda.kvs.ac.in/ Email-kv1bhatinda@gmail.com

वर्ष 2021-22 हेतु पंजीकरण के लिए आवेदन

केंद्रीय विद्यालय नंबर 1, बठिंडा कैट दूरभास एवं फैक्स- 0164 2290788
Migrants head to their native places in Panipat on Saturday.

NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA SAMITI, REGIONAL OFFICE, CHANDIGARH
TENDER NOTICE FOR ENGAGEMENT OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Sealed tenders are invited by Deputy Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (Regional Office), Chandigarh for empanelment of Chartered Accountants firms for the Audit of the JNVs situated in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir (UT) and Chandigarh (UT) on State basis for the Financial Year 2021-22. The firms who are having their office at Chandigarh may apply for the audits of JNVs situated in Punjab State in the same manner the CA firms having their office in Jammu & Srinagar may apply for the audits of JNVs situated in J&K (UT) State and the CA firms that are having office at Shimla may apply for the JNVs of Himachal State.

The Chartered Accountant firms should have at least 10 years experience of audit of autonomous Central Government organizations for conducting the audits of JNVs located in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir (UT) and Chandigarh (UT) under the administrative control of NVS (RO) Chandigarh. The tender forms will be available in the Office of Deputy Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (Regional Office), Bay No. 26-27, Sector 31-A, Chandigarh-160030 during working days on cash payment of Rs. 500/- or it can be downloaded from this office website (<https://navodaya.gov.in/nvs/ro/Chandigarh/en/home/index.html>) w.e.f 26.04.2021 to 17.05.2021. The firms who have downloaded the form from our website will pay the cost of tender form through Demand Draft/Bank Pay Order of Rs . 500/-payable in the name of Deputy Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, Chandigarh which will be appended along with the tender form. The tender form will not be entertained in absence of Demand Draft. The last date of receipt of sealed filled tender forms is 17.05.2021 by 2.00 P.M. and the same will be opened on 18.05.2021 at 11.00 A.M. in presence of present bidders.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Corporate offices to be closed in six worst-hit districts

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, APRIL 24

Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar today announced that the IT sector and corporate offices in six districts — Faridabad, Gurugram, Hisar, Panchkula, Karnal and Sonepat — would remain closed till May 3 up to 9 pm due to rising Covid cases.

The government offices in all districts will operate at 50 per cent attendance. Even the industry has been asked to work in shifts.

He clarified that no lock-

down would be imposed in Gurugram and Faridabad. "Work-from-home should be followed, wherever possible," he said.

The CM chaired a state-level Covid Monitoring Committee today.

"The Covid figures have been rising by the day and the government has put all its strength to control it," he said while addressing a press conference.

For vaccinating the population above 18 years, the government hospitals would administer doses free of cost.

SEC 144 IMPOSED, WORK FROM HOME

■ No lockdown will be imposed in Gurugram and Faridabad. Work-from-home should be followed, wherever possible. DCs had been authorised to impose Section 144 wherever required. ML Khattar, CM

It will cost Rs 880 crore to the state exchequer. However, in private hospitals, people have

to pay Rs 600 per injection.

"The vaccination drive will start from May 1 for people above 18 years. It will be registered-based. People can choose to go at private or government facilities," said the CM.

On oxygen demand, the CM said with the help of the Centre, the shortage had been met. "We had raised the demand of 180 MT, but are getting 162 MT. In future, we may need 200 MT for which the Centre would be approached to meet the shortfall," he said.

"We have issued an order for oxygen from Bokaro

through the train. About 6,000 MT oxygen supply would come from there. We will keep oxygen in reserve too," said the CM. A team has been set up to monitor oxygen supply across the state. New plants will be set up for oxygen production.

All private hospitals had been asked to reserve 50 per cent beds for Covid patients. Earlier, the reservation was 30 per cent. He also said that at the PGIMS, Rohtak, 1,000 beds, and in other medical colleges, 1,250 beds with oxygen had been added.

IN BRIEF

Anil Vij gets first dose of Covaxin

AMBALA: Home and Health Minister Anil Vij was administered the first dose of Covaxin at his residence here on Saturday. He was administered the trial dose of the vaccine in November last year. He, however, tested positive later. Vij said: "The vaccine is completely safe and people should get themselves vaccinated." TNS

Admin ropes in saints to spread awareness

KURUKSHETRA: To motivate people to follow Covid guidelines, the district administration has roped in gurus. The administration has got video messages from preachers and is circulating them on social media. TNS

Don't fleece migrants, travel agents warned

HISAR: After getting complaints of charging of excessive fare on transportation from migrant labourers heading home, the district authorities have cautioned the tour and travel agencies to cancel their permits. TNS

Oxygen shortage has Karnal hospitals on toes for hours

PARVEEN ARORA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

KARNAL, APRIL 24

Oxygen crisis prevailed in the city for around four hours today owing to delay in its supply. The situation could be gauged from the fact that the oxygen stock of four hospitals out of the total 14 dedicated private hospitals was almost exhausted and the stock of two was about to get over in two hours.

The crisis created panic among the hospital authorities and the attendants of around 110 patients. However, later supply from Roorkee gave some respite to the hospitals,

Sources said Roorkee and Panipat had been assigned to cater to the needs of oxygen of Karnal by the government, but on Thursday, Karnal did not get the supply which was sent to Jhajjar. With the gap of one day supply of oxygen, hospitals, fully packed with Covid patients, started crying for oxygen. "We have to remain on toes for four to five hours to get oxygen supply. We had to

rush our ambulances and employees to the agency godown to get oxygen," said a doctor of a private hospital. Similarly, a member of a private hospital, said he reached at around 9.30am in the city on Saturday. After delivering the supply at the KCGMC, it reached at around 11pm at the agency. Four to five cylinders were given to each hospital, which as per the hospitals' authorities was meagre.

Senior drug controller Parjinder Singh was assigned the duty to streamline the medical oxygen supply in the private as well as the government hos-

pitals. The truck with oxygen supply was supposed to come late on Friday night, but it got delayed and reached at around 9.30am in the city on Saturday. After delivering the supply at the KCGMC, it reached at around 11pm at the agency. Four to five cylinders were given to each hospital, which as per the hospitals' authorities was meagre.

The DC said in the morning, there was a shortage, but now the situation was under control.

Claim police haven't removed barricades

Notably, in a meeting of the SKM leaders with government officials in the PWD Rest House in Rai on Thursday, it was decided that barricades from one side of the road would be removed for free passage to the emergency vehicles.

In a joint statement, the

SKM leaders said it had been almost 150 days for the farmers sitting on the borders of Delhi. Covid is spreading rapidly in Delhi and patients have died due to the lack of oxygen in many hospitals.

Extending its condolences to all those who died due to the virus or are infected, the

Farmers open one side of Delhi border for emergency services

Migrants head to their native places in Panipat on Saturday.

Constable, wife dupe man of ₹1.8 lakh

YAMUNANAGAR, APRIL 24

A Constable and his wife have been booked for duping a man of Rs 1.8 lakh on the pretext of arranging a guard's job.

The accused, Vikrant and Shalu of Jhajjar's Kheri Khumar village, were booked under Sections 420 and 406 of

the IPC at the Bilaspur police station on April 22 on the complaint of Sandeep of the district's Aambwala village.

In his complaint, Sandeep said he had met Vikrant through a common friend.

"One day, Vikrant told me he had good relations with sever-

al officers and he could arrange a government job for me. He demanded Rs 1.8 lakh for it. In March 2020, I deposited the money in the bank account of Vikrant's wife."

As the time elapsed, Sandeep realised he had been duped. —TNS

Ex-MLA passes away

Jhajjar: Former MLA and BJP leader Dariyaw Singh Rajora (75) passed away at his house in Jhajjar city on Saturday after suffering from a prolonged illness. People from all walks of life attended his last rites and paid tributes to the departed soul. TNS

In Remembrance



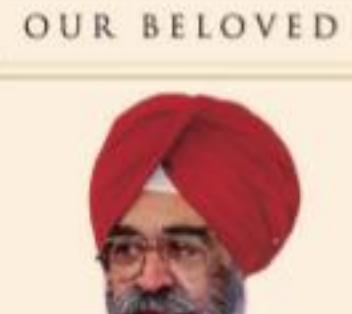
S. Avtar Singh Atwal I.P.S.

(Deputy Inspector General of Police)
Your righteousness, ideals & the path tread are forever cherished and give us inspiration to move on with greater commitment

Amrita Atwal
Dr. Amandeep & Harbir Atwal
Sumer Singh Atwal

Mobile: 98765 00501

OUR BELOVED



S. GUNJIT SINGH IRS (RETD)

(07th November 1941 to 17th April 2021)
has completed his human journey and left for his heavenly abode.
He was a remarkable man and an extremely lucky one to have been blessed with amazing friends and well-wishers. Thank you for being an incredible part of his life and ours.

ANTON ARDAS:
Monday, April 26th, 3.30pm to 5pm
at Gurudwara Sahib, Saket.

Please scan the QR Code
to join the live streaming on YouTube.

A LOVING FAREWELL BY

SHIVINDER (wife)
GURPREET (daughter)

DR. DIPANJIT AND DR. JASNEENA (son and daughter-in-law)
SHIREEN AND ARMANA (grand-daughters)

ALL FRIENDS AND FAMILY CONTACT: 9811540444, 9810667213, 9810562597

Oxygen leakage at Nalagarh hospital, two patients shifted

Facing breathing problem, provided ventilator at ESIC Hospital, Katha

AMBIKA SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, APRIL 24

Two critically-ill patients (a 29-year-old man and a 32-year-old woman) were shifted to the ESIC Hospital at Katha in Barotwala in the district today after they did not get oxygen due to a leakage in the supply pipeline at a newly created makeshift hospital at Nalagarh.

The faulty pipeline led to the loss of oxygen from 20 of the 40 cylinders provided to the makeshift facility. Four doctors have been posted at the makeshift hospital.

An anaesthetist was deputed at the ESIC-Katha after this episode. Though the doctors at the Nalagarh hospital wanted to shift the two patients, who were facing breathing problem, to a higher medical facility, they failed to get approval from two other hospitals.

"Two critically-ill



FAULTY PIPELINE TO BLAME

The faulty pipeline led to the loss of oxygen from 20 of the 40 cylinders provided to the makeshift facility at Nalagarh (pic).

patients were brought to the makeshift hospital at Nalagarh Friday evening," said Dr KD Jassal, Block Medical Officer, Nalagarh.

The government had earlier announced the appointment of new staff at this hospital.

Deputy Commissioner KC Chaman said, "Two serious patients were on Saturday shifted from the makeshift hospital at Nalagarh to the

ESIC Hospital at Katha where they were provided oxygen and ventilator support. Some technical glitches led to disruption in oxygen supply and efforts are afoot to rectify the fault".

"Of the eight ventilators available at the ESIC Hospital, Katha, two were made functional on Saturday and efforts were afoot to make the remaining ones operational soon. Requisite con-

nectors are being arranged from Wipro industries," added Chaman.

The Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, had set up the makeshift hospital in February and Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu had inaugurated it virtually. Two ventilators available there are yet to be made functional due to the lack of accessories such as multipurpose monitors and connectors with humidifiers of requisite units.

The Block Medical Officer had apprised senior officials about the requirement of connectors on April 16 but precious little had been done to make them functional.

Doctors said ventilators received by the state under PM-Cares had failed to operate due to technical glitches. The absence of 5 ampere sockets was being cited as one of the reasons.

Radha Soami sect offers centre for Covid care

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, APRIL 24

The Kangra district administration has proposed to set up 500-bed Covid hospital equipped with oxygen facility at the Radha Soami sect regional headquarters in Paror.

Sources here said the sect had offered its over 300-kanal preaching centre for corona patients. The centre is equipped with modern kitchen facilities and toilets. It could accommodate thousands of people. Last year also, during the lockdown, the sect had set up a facility for the stay of thousands of patients.

Kangra DC Rakesh Prajapati said a Covid hospital for about 500 patients at Paror was being set up on the directions of Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur. He also said a proposal had been sent to the government to take over a private hospital at Gaggal in Kangra.

In the district, Tanda medical college has the capacity to accommodate 108

Kangra admin to provide 500 beds

patients, the Dharamsala Zonal Hospital 130 and Dadh hospital 40. With the increasing number of cases, the bed capacity in the district is getting exhausted.

Former minister and senior Congress leader GS Bali has questioned the preparedness of the government for tackling the second wave of the pandemic. He said it was unfortunate that the authorities were lying regarding the oxygen supply in hospitals. While the government had been claiming that four oxygen plants were functioning, the fact was that just one oxygen plant in Dharamsala was working. The failure of the authorities to get the oxygen plants functional beforehand was a serious lapse on the part of officials and action should be taken against them, he said.

Bali also questioned the unavailability of anti-viral drugs.



Sh. Manohar Lal, Chief Minister, Haryana

**Get
Vaccination
Today**

**For a Safer
Tomorrow**



**Everyone above
18 years of age
to get vaccinated
from 1st May**

**Vaccination
continues for
people of 45 years
of age and above,
get yourself
vaccinated and
encourage others**



**Both the corona vaccines
are safe**

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related to COVID-19**

Contact State Helpline Numbers

8558893911 (Gurugram & Faridabad)

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Highest 2,073 cases, 24 deaths in one day

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, APRIL 24

The Covid situation worsened today as the highest ever 2,073 fresh cases were reported in the state, taking the tally to 86,138. Besides, 24 persons died of the virus, the highest in one day. Eight deaths were reported in Kangra, five in Hamirpur, three in Mandi, two each in Shimla, Solan and Chamba and one each in Una and Sirmour.

The highest number of 360 cases was reported in Kangra, followed by 317 in Solan, 269 in Shimla, 207 in Sirmour, 194 in Hamirpur, 184 in Bilaspur, 142 in Una, 92 in Kullu, 31 in Chamba, seven in Kinnaur and five in Lahaul and Spiti. The number of active cases rose to 13,411.

COVID METER

Samples tested	1440,233	
Recovered	71,396	
Active cases	13,411	
Positive cases	86,138	
Deaths	1,291	
DISTRICT-WISE COUNT		
DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Una	6,125	95
Solan	11,205	87
Kangra	14,425	303
Chamba	3,790	57
Hamirpur	5,410	74
Sirmour	5,811	52
Mandi	12,740	157
Bilaspur	4,578	29
Shimla	13,355	317
Kullu	5,406	90
Kinnaur	1,594	17
Lahaul & Spiti	1,699	13
Total	86,138	1,291

₹30-cr fine on Gagret firm

UNA, APRIL 24

The Una Excise and Taxation Department on Friday slapped a penalty amounting to about Rs 30 crore on a firm located in Gagret subdivision for reportedly manipulating the GST. Rakesh Bharatiya, Joint Commissioner of the Central zone of the Excise and Taxation department located in Una district, in a press release said the Chief Executive Offi-

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'REACHING THE ZERO MALARIA TARGET'



**Under the visionary stewardship of
Chief Minister, Punjab
Capt. Amarinder Singh
and under the able guidance of
Health & Family Welfare Minister, Punjab
S. Balbir Singh Sidhu**

WORLD MALARIA DAY

is being observed across the State
on 25th April 2021



Any Fever can be.. Malaria

MALARIA IS TRANSMITTED BY BITE OF ANOPHELES MOSQUITO.
ANOPHELES BREEDS IN CLEAN STAGNANT WATER AND BITES DURING NIGHT
AND EARLY MORNING HOURS

SYMPOMTS OF MALARIA

- Fever with chills & rigors
- High grade fever and headache
- Lethargy and weakness after fever
- Sweating



PREVENTION FROM MALARIA

- Avoid stagnation of water in and around houses.
- Sprinkle burnt oil on water collections.
- Wear full sleeve clothes that cover the body to avoid mosquito bite
- Use mosquito nets, repellents during nights

REMEMBER

- Report to nearest Government Hospital in case you have above symptoms.
- Test and Treatment of Malaria is given free of cost in all Government Hospitals of State.

For health related information & suggestion

DIAL 104
24X7 TOLL FREE
MEDICAL HELPLINE

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Registrar

MATRIMONIALS

BRIDEROOMS WANTED

JAT SIKH

Parents seek US born or raised Jat Sikhs Professional match preferably Doctor/Dentist for beautiful US Citizen Jat Sikh DDS Dentist girl, 28 yrs, 5'-5", well versed with both cultures. Forward biodata with pictures to: sadapunjab@gmail.com (CL21002455)

Match for Dhillon Jatt Sikh girl, 1994, 5'-1", M.Tech., PR in Canada. Seeks match from highly qualified boy from good family. +91 99917-35830, 72068-11736. (CL21009032)

Medical/ professional match for Jat Sikh, 27, MD, USA citizen, very pretty girl, doing Residency-Internal in USA. Well established family. Jat Sikh boys doing Residency in USA preferred. E-mail: bestcare2012@hotmail.com (CL21008373)

MD/ MS/ MBBS well-settled match for beautiful, Jati Sikh 1990/ 5'-6", MBBS girl. Contact: 92177-69394 WhatsApp 70098-60490. (CL21002477)

Wanted a rational & Non Orthodox Jat Sikh boy for B'ful, 34 yr girl, height 5'-8". Assi, Professor in Delhi. Quali. Ph.D. (Eco.), 94607-87253. (CL21002698)

Suitable match for Jat Sikh girl, 93 born, 5'-7", BA Programme, Software Engineer working as freelancer, Delhi, bio-data, photos, WhatsApp: 98688-81234. (CL21004684)

Seeking suitable match for our beautiful, professionally qualified Jatt Sikh daughter, 36 years old, 5'-2", working as a Doctor. Never married. Family well settled in US. Match preferred from US/ Canada. If interested, please send biodata and most recent photos to: s r k s a n d u @ g m a i l . c o m (CL21007615)

Required a PQM, preferably an Engineer/ IT professional for a well mannered, polite, Jatt Sikh girl, 29 yrs, Ht. 5'-2". M.Tech (ECE) from premium institute. Working in a premium IT organisation. Parents retired Govt. Lecturers, only brother is a UK citizen. Please respond with brief biodata to: matralliance92@gmail.com (CL21007638)

Professionally qualified match for Grewal girl, 92 born, 5'-7", pursuing Ph.D. in Biotechnology, looking for non-turban boy with white collar job (STEMS preferred) from Canada, USA, Europe. Father Senior Officer. WhatsApp: 98550-64444. (CL21007695)

We are looking for a professionally qualified/ business oriented and well-settled alliance from Tricity for Jat Sikh girl 1988 born, 5'-3", Group-B Officer in Punjab Govt. (Mohali). Mobile/ WhatsApp: 98721-65231. (CL21007780)

Affluent Jat Sikh family seeking alliance for their Canadian MD Doctor daughter, doing fellowship, 30/ 5'-7", slim, fair. Looking for suitable professional cleanshaven match preferably Doctor. wedloc5@gmail.com (CL21007790)

Match for Jat Sikh Canadian PR girl, Dec. 1987, 5'-5", M.Sc., M.Phil (Psychology). Preference Canadian/ USA PR/Citizen Jat Sikh match. WhatsApp: 76269-38219. (CL21007894)

Jatt Sikh girl (32), 5'-5", BDDS, cleared NBDE for DDS in US, have Canada visa, looking for educated boy. Preferably US or Canada citizen. Contact: 9137806177. (CL21007897)

Seeking well settled match in India/ Canada for Jatt Sikh Dhillion, 27/ 5'-5" girl with Ph.D. (Physics), working as Assistant Professor in reputed university. 8054933648. (CL21009741)

Dentist/ Doctor match for Dec. 1987 born, 5'-6", beautiful dentist from landlord Grewal family. WhatsApp: +91 98772-67122. (CL21009794)

Jatt Sikh Bal family looking for suitable match for August 1987/ 5'-5", B.Tech, MBA girl, working in MNC. 98145-03265. (CL21008025)

Upper middle class Jatt Sikh business family looking for well-educated match from reputed business family for their daughter 86 born, ht. 5'-4", beautiful, slim, MA English, homely. WhatsApp bio with pic on 70878-66268 or Call on 98150-66268. General caste no bar. (Please phone on Monday). (CL21008066)

Match for young beautiful Jatt Sikh girl, 26, 5'-8" Nursing, Canada working 5 years, PR applied, seeks well settled businessman/ serviceman, Canadian PR preferred. Mail: jatindarsingh454321@gmail.com/ Call: 8398-993436. (CL21008067)

Match for beautiful, pleasing personality, never married Jat Sikh Sandhu female, 1972/ 5'-6", M.A., M.Ed., M.Phil (Psychology). Preference NRI 99152-15861, 93572-30001. (CL21008278)

Jatt Sikh 27/ 5'-3", M.Sc., Chemistry, B.Ed., PTET, CTET required qualifies (job) boy Sangur, Patiala, Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib, Mohali, Chandigarh. 99143-55086. (CL21008546)

Very beautiful fair slim 5'-5", decent educated Jat Sikh BDS Masters Public Health, Consultant with Ministry of Health Delhi from well educated settled family of Chandigarh. Father retired Army officer. Mother Doctor Ex PCMS. Brother Lawyer married. Suitable educated match preferred. 99156-81503. Email: p.mangat6@yahoo.in (CL21008325)

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E-mail at: circulation@tribunemail.com

Medico/ non Medico match for decent smart MD Skin Doctor daughter 1988 and 5'-6". WhatsApp: 98789-17177. (CL21009559)

SM4 Jat Sikh girl, Sept. 1991 born, slim, tall, 5'-7", M.Sc. in Life Sciences, doing online dress designing business. 99140-92088. (CL21009561)

Seeking suitable match for Delhi born Jat Sikh girl, 92 born, 5'-4", M.Sc., B.Ed. Preference Delhi & Tricity. Mob No. 98102-34881. (CL21009644)

Jatt Sikh Sidhu girl 1992 born, 5'-6", MA, B.Ed., Preference Delhi & Tricity. Mob No. 98102-34881. (CL21009644)

Suitable match for Jat Sikh 1994 born, 5'-3", slim, fair, beautiful Delhi educated, M.Sc., B.Ed. girl, working in a School and runs a Coaching Institute, looking for well-educated, high status non-turbanned Army/ Air-force or highly paid handsome boy of opulent family. Caste no bar. Only WhatsApp biodata with pictures to: 79019-03603. (CL21008373)

Match for Dhillion Jatt Sikh girl, 1994, 5'-1", M.Tech., PR in Canada. Seeks match from highly qualified boy from good family. +91 99917-35830, 72068-11736. (CL21009032)

Medical/ professional match for Jat Sikh, 27, MD, USA citizen, very pretty girl, doing Residency-Internal in USA. Well established family. Jat Sikh boys doing Residency in USA preferred. E-mail: bestcare2012@hotmail.com (CL21008373)

MD/ MS/ MBBS well-settled match for beautiful, Jati Sikh 1990/ 5'-6", MBBS girl. Contact: 92177-69394 WhatsApp 70098-60490. (CL21002477)

Wanted a rational & Non Orthodox Jat Sikh boy for B'ful, 34 yr girl, height 5'-8". Assi, Professor in Delhi. Quali. Ph.D. (Eco.), 94607-87253. (CL21002698)

Suitable match for Jat Sikh girl, 93 born, 5'-7", BA Programme, Software Engineer working as freelancer, Delhi, bio-data, photos, WhatsApp: 98688-81234. (CL21004684)

Seeking suitable match for our beautiful, professionally qualified Jatt Sikh daughter, 36 years old, 5'-2", working as a Doctor. Never married. Family well settled in US. Match preferred from US/ Canada. If interested, please send biodata and most recent photos to: s r k s a n d u @ g m a i l . c o m (CL21007615)

Match for educated groom having Govt job for Jatt Sikh divorced girl 87 born, M.Sc., 5'-2", abroad excuse, Majha preferred cont. 98551-34590, 94174-32080. (CL21008487)

Defence Officer, Doctor, IAS, IPS, match for Jat Sikh girl, 29 yrs, Ht. 5'-2", M.Tech (ECE) from premium institute. Working in a premium IT organisation. Parents retired Govt. Lecturers, only brother is a UK citizen. Please respond with brief biodata to: matralliance92@gmail.com (CL21007638)

Professionally qualified match for Grewal girl, 92 born, 5'-7", pursuing Ph.D. in Biotechnology, looking for non-turban boy with white collar job (STEMS preferred) from Canada, USA, Europe. Father Senior Officer. WhatsApp: 98550-64444. (CL21007695)

We are looking for a professionally qualified/ business oriented and well-settled alliance from Tricity for Jat Sikh girl 1988 born, 5'-3", Group-B Officer in Punjab Govt. (Mohali). Mobile/ WhatsApp: 98721-65231. (CL21007780)

Affluent Jat Sikh family seeking alliance for their Canadian MD Doctor daughter, doing fellowship, 30/ 5'-7", slim, fair. Looking for suitable professional cleanshaven match preferably Doctor. wedloc5@gmail.com (CL21007790)

Match for Jat Sikh Canadian PR girl, Dec. 1987, 5'-5", M.Sc., M.Phil (Psychology). Preference Canadian/ USA PR/Citizen Jat Sikh match. WhatsApp: 76269-38219. (CL21007894)

Jatt Sikh girl, 27, MD, USA citizen, very pretty girl, doing Residency-Internal in USA. Well established family. Jat Sikh boys doing Residency in USA preferred. E-mail: bestcare2012@hotmail.com (CL21008373)

MD/ MS/ MBBS well-settled match for beautiful, Jati Sikh 1990/ 5'-6", MBBS girl. Contact: 92177-69394 WhatsApp 70098-60490. (CL21002477)

Wanted a rational & Non Orthodox Jat Sikh boy for B'ful, 34 yr girl, height 5'-8". Assi, Professor in Delhi. Quali. Ph.D. (Eco.), 94607-87253. (CL21002698)

Suitable match for Jat Sikh girl, 93 born, 5'-7", BA Programme, Software Engineer working as freelancer, Delhi, bio-data, photos, WhatsApp: 98688-81234. (CL21004684)

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RAJPUT

Rajput girl, 20 Sept, 1992, 10:40 pm, 5'-2", B.Tech CSE, govt. service. Preferred Tricity. 98760-27486. (CL21009893)

Match for Garhwali Koli Rajput
Ropar based good looking girl 5'-6", 05.11.1994, done B.Tech. ECE, private job MNC. Contact 70094-08041. (CL21007694)

Garhwali Rajput slim & fair, 11.04.90/ 11 am/ Chandigarh/ 5'-3" MA/ B.Ed working girl as TGT Punjab Govt School at Mohali, seek Chandigarh/ Mohali educated Govt service boy, 97818-17400. (CL21007783)

Match for Independent (B.Tech-MBA) Rajput Himachali girl 5'-4", 93 born Preff. MBA (Tier-I) 94186-25613, 62800-24262. (CL21007819)

Hindu Kashyap Rajput girl, 26, 5'-4", B.Tech, M.A., Govt. job Banking sector MNC from Tricity.88276-99037, 96850-08593. (CL21007951)

Rajput Anshik Manglik Thakur girl 1992, 5'-4", Chartered Accountant (final), working Chandigarh. 083293-58827. (CL21007971)

Kashyap Rajput vegetarian girl, 5'-6", 6.12.93, M.Sc. Physics, B.Ed., TET pass. 84271-06562, 82890-74293. (CL21008041)

SM for Himachali Rajput girl Dob. 31.07.1992, Time 3:43 am, POB: Mumbai. Qualification: B.Tech. (CSE), MBA. Preference: Defence Officer. 88283-71897. (CL21008176)

Verma girl 21.11.1992, 5'-4", 05:25 pm, M.Com, B.Ed., working in CBSE school. Required well qualified, well settled boy. 98554-45246. WhatsApp: 73076-05303. (CL21008368)

Match for Sikh Mair Rajput beautiful girl MBA 5'-2", 95 born, from highly educated family of Officers. Mob. 98722-12749. (CL21008433)

Match for Himachali Rajput Pathania girl, 29/ 5'-3". Ph.D Physics from PU Chd, seeking well settled/ Gazetted Officer preferred. 70184-12808. (CL21008678)

Suitable match for beautiful, slim, Sikhs Rajput Chohan girl, 31/ 5'-1", M.Tech, B.Ed., PTET, CTET, working private Lecturer. Khatri also welcome. 98769-64811. (CL21009707)

DOCTOR/ENGINEER

DM/ MCh/ MD/ MS non-Manglik match for Bansal 28/ 5'-1", fair, slim, beautiful girl, pursuing MCh (Cornea), first year, PGI, Chandigarh, belongs to high status business family. Tricity only. 99150-85535. (CL21007964)

Suitable match for beautiful Kambjo Sikhi girl 1990, 5'-4", M.Sc., B.Ed., Community Health Officer in Punjab Govt. Preferred Govt. job. 80549-12007. (CL21007891)

Suitable match for Tricity-based SC (Chamar) girl 89/ 5'-2", M.Tech, PO in Bank. Father Bank AGM. Mother Govt. Teacher. Brother Engineer. Bhabhi Officer in Central Govt. M- 88720-81886. (CL21007753)

SM4 beautiful, slim, HP, Ravidasia girl, 91 born, 5'-4", Medical Technologist at PGI. Preferred Government employee in Tricity. WhatsApp: contact: 89689-30318. (CL21007832)

Suitable match for Kambjo girl Dec. 1994, 5'-6", M.Com., IELTS trainer. WhatsApp 98784-32007. (CL21009625)

Kambjo Sikhi girl 1990, 5'-4", M.Sc., B.Ed., Govt. Bank as Assistant Manager. Preferred Chandigarh, Panchkula, Mohali. 95923-74736. (CL21006702)

Suitable match for Tricity-based SC (Chamar) girl 89/ 5'-2", M.Tech, PO in Bank. Father Bank AGM.

Mother Govt. Teacher. Brother Engineer. Bhabhi Officer in Central Govt. M- 88720-81886. (CL21007753)

PQM for good looking Garg girl 28/ 5'-6" pursuing MD Gyana, Punjab preferred. Bureau excuse. WhatsApp: 98157-75883. (CL21007702)

Medico MD/ MS/ Civil Services match for fair, beautiful, Manglik Singla girl, 31/ 5'-2", MD. Microbiology, working as Senior Resident in reputed Medical College in Punjab. Father Head of the dept. in Panjab Medical College. Contact 94172-43263, 98888-71294. (CL21008743)

Suitable match for Kashyap Rajput girl, 13.08.1985, 5'-3", B.Com, MBE, M.Sc. IT, NEAT-A level certificate. Contact/WhatsApp: 92167-55332, 73050-00007. (CL21008870)

Brahmin, Khatri, Rajput match for good looking Rajput girl, 8.2.1987, Amritsar, 5'-6", Postgraduate, currently working in Pune, package 13 lac. WhatsApp: 94646-64078. (CL21009051)

Kashyap Rajput beautiful, slim girl Dec. 89, 5'-5", Pvt. job in Chandigarh unftte, upper caste no bar. 98779-8178. (CL21009118)

S/M for Himachali Rajput daughter of a Senior Defence Officer (Retd.)

B.Tech (CSE), May 1987, 5'-4", serving MNC Bangalore, 15L package, HP, Chandigarh, Delhi preferred, upper castes welcome, supply biodata with recent photograph. WhatsApp: 96634-27679. (CL21009157)

Rajput girl 5'-3", 24.8.1988, 12:22 pm, Chennai, BA Economics, HR Diploma and Soft Skill Trainer. 10 yrs experience in Aviation. Ready to relocate. 98234-21305. (CL21009271)

Seeking well settled match for Himachali Rajput (Una based) beautiful girl M.Sc. (Food Tech) PG Dip. F.S. & Q.M. 1996/ 5'-3". Contact: 86289-55018/ 94182-97824. (CL21009289)

Match for beautiful Goldsmith girl, Maths Lecturer. M.Sc. TET, Feb. 1988, 5'-1". Preference Goldsmith/ Khit Khatri/ Arora/ General. 7508311386. (CL21009423)

Match for beautiful Himachali girl 30 years, 5'-3", Software Engineer in reputed company, Gurugram NCR, currently settled in Tricity Chandigarh. 96469-01156, janwal.pipes@gmail.com (CL21009563)

SM4 Himachali Rajput girl, 27 yrs, 5'-5", M.Tech (IT), currently working in MNC. Boy must be Government or Defense Officer from well settled strictly Himachali Rajput family. 96255-62323. (CL21009608)

Suitable match for Chauhan Rajput beautiful girl 20.10.1991, 11:50 am, Sunam). Preferred well settled educated grom from Ludhiana. Kundli matching. 93579-16000. (CL21009647)

Goldsmith 1992, 5'-4", M.Ed, MA (ECO), TET clear Prefer Govt. job and NRI boy. 9679244332. (CL21009751)

Rajput girl B.Tech, M.Tech & MBA, 1990, 18.10, job in Pvt. College Chd. 94186-62662. (CL21009692)

Himachali Rajput girl, Ph.D, 8.2.1991, 4.45 am, Jalandhar, 5'-2", Holding Canada & US Visa. Preference NRI. 70181-30784. (CL21009770)

Match for Verma homely girl 7.9.1993, 5'-3", Graduation 6.15 am Ludhiana. 98720-21868. (CL21009796)

PQM for Kashyap Rajput girl, 1990, 5'-4", M.Tech, MBA. Preferred minimum 5'-8" boy working in tricity. 75088-54724. (CL21009846)

MUSLIM

25/ 5.8 beautiful Graduate girl convert educated working Infosys, father Professor, brother Pilot. 98885-78143. (CL21009565)

TONK-KASHATRIYA

Sikh Tonkashatriya girl, 27.9.1994, 7.22 pm, Amritsar, 5'-2", M.Com, B.Ed. Required qualified, well settled boy. 99145-77999, 98555-37927. (CL21007866)

Tonk-Kashatriya girl, 1995/ 5'-2", M.Com, B.Ed., Govt. employee Clerk, JRF holder. Preferred Govt. employee settled family. 98131-95157. (CL21008313)

Suitable match for Siki-Tonk- Kashstriya girl, 27 years, 5'-4", B.Tech, working in MNC at Bangalore. Father Gazette Officer, Mother Teacher. Contact: 95013-38999. (CL21009618)

Suitable match for Tonkshatriya girl 5'-2.5", 1993, BAMS, Community Health Officer under National Health Mission. Wants a well settled Medicos match or Govt. Officer. Contact: 97795-35365, 9750-26813. (CL21009635)

TONK-KASHATRIYA

JAT

Chandigarh based Himachali Hindu Jat girl, non-manglik. 26.09.1989, 12:30 p.m., 5'-2", MBA, pvt. job Mohali. 97793-12202, 62802-78107. (CL21007319)

KAMBOJ

Doctor/ Officer match for MBBS PCMS-I Kamboj Sikhi girl December 1992, 5'-2", 9795-85671. (CL21008007)

Kamboj Sikhi beautiful girl, 31, 5'-6", B.Tech, M.BA. Job IT Park, Panchkula. Rural/urban property.Preferred Cleanshaven Tricity, Khatri, Arora, Ramgarhia, Jat welcome. 99964-76706. (CL21008264)

Suitable match for Kamboj Sikhi girl, 1994, 5'-5", LL.B., LL.M., preparing for Judicial exams. Seeks Govt. employee/ well settled Sikhs Ravidasia boy. 94662-57680, 98960-96347. (CL21009752)

Suitable match for beautiful girl, July 1993/ 5'-3", Jubal Kathi, Panthi, M.Sc., working Wildlife Trust of India. Anshik Manglik. Himachali and same caste prefer. Contact 99997-67173, 98688-81417, 99119-81417. (CL21005597)

Ramdasia Sikhi girl, 1982, issuesless divorcee, fair, smart, Govt. teacher M.A., B.Ed. Preferred Chandigarh, Panchkula, Mohali. 95923-74736. (CL21006702)

Suitable match for Tricity-based SC (Chamar) girl 89/ 5'-2", M.Tech, PO in Bank. Father Bank AGM. Mother Govt. Teacher. Brother Engineer. Bhabhi Officer in Central Govt. M- 88720-81886. (CL21007753)

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Match for 1988 born, Brahmin Punjabi MBBS Doctor boy, 5'-8", Govt. job Haryana. Preferred Govt. job. 90414-23294. (CL21008182)

Match for Ravidasia SC girl 1990, 5'-7", M.Tech. (Computer Science), PO Govt. Bank job. 62606-11382. (CL21008208)

Suitable match for Ravidasia/ Chambar beautiful, B.Com. girl, 5'-0", 30+, well educated family, vegetarian/ Radhasoami. Tricity preferred. Mob. 99152-32211. (CL21008160)

Match for Balmiki Weaver BDS girl, 1990/ 5'-4", PR Canada, Job Dental Assistant. Preferred Chandigarh, Mohali, Patiala, Ambala. Contact 98157-23536. (CL21008173)

Match for 1988 born, Brahmin girl, 29 yrs, 5'-2", M.Tech. (Computer Science), PO Govt. Bank job. 62606-11382. (CL21008208)

Suitable match for Majbhi Sikhi girl, 5/11.1992, 5'-3", BA, B.Ed., MA Economic PSET pass preferred Govt. employee/ well settled businessman/ Patiala, Sangrur, Barnala Distt. 62390-57538, 94171-83950. (CL21008221)

Match for Ramdasia Sikhi Weaver BDS girl, 1990/ 5'-4", PR Canada, Job Dental Assistant. Preferred Chandigarh, Mohali, Patiala, Ambala. Contact 98157-23536. (CL21008182)

Haryana Balmiki girl State Bank PO 30 years, 5 ft., BE Biotech, Father Bank Sr. Manager retd. Mother housewife need teetotaller officer in Central State Govt. or PSU. 90789-63210

PROPERTY FOR SALE



Petrol Pump in Chandigarh. Schools, Hospitals in Mohali / tricity. Kotkies Aerocity Flats & kothis in TDI City Sector-110, 111. 98144-60877. (CL21009442)

Mohali: Commercial Showroom, prime location, ample parking, Ground / Basement Vacant, Phase-11. Throwaway price. 99143-27641. (CL21009489)

A-One Associates 98151-54979: Sale/ purchase of property showrooms/ kotkies/ flats all Chandigarh/Mohali. Quick deals. (CL21005335)

Barnala main (Alal) Market- 2 side front showroom 6450' (20'x 80'), parking, lift, near Railway/ bus stand. Mobile: 88475-40765. (CL21009153)

52 sq. yards corner side park in Sec. 36, Chandigarh only FF for sale 97017-00001. (CL21007669)

8 marla facing park floors in Sec. 20, Chandigarh for sale. 97017-00001. (CL21007670)

3 storey building at Mohali, 1 km from Shoghi, Shimla. 85804-76678. (CL21007715)

Wanted/ available all sizes kothis full/ floorwise in all Sectors Chandigarh. Rama Properties 98140-42287, 97804-18830. (CL21007814)

Zirakpur 3 BHK, corner, Facing east duplex near Highway and park. 93573-97697, 98760-40666. (CL21007927)

Chandigarh more than 2 kanal, corner house prime location, Sector 8-A, (near Lake) plot price, direct deal. Genuine buyers only. 98149-67149. (CL21007673)

Chandigarh more than 4 kanal house B-road, (lush green area) Northern Sector. 98149-67149. (CL21007675)

Chandigarh 4 kanal old house facing park, excellent location, Sector 9. (Genuine buyers only).

98149-67149. (CL21007678)

Chandigarh: More than 4 kanal bungalow superb location in Sector 10 Genuine buyers contact: 98149-67149. (CL21007679)

Wanted 8 kanal, 6 kanal, 4 kanal, 2 kanal, 1 kanal plots/ kotkies in Chandigarh. (Spot payment). Immediately settlement. 98149-67149. (CL21007680)

Required houses 14 marla, 12 marla, 10 marlas, 8 marla, 5 marla or residential/ commercial/ industrial property Chandigarh. (Payment ready). 98149-67149. (CL21007681)

Chandigarh showroom second floor vacant, freehold fully renovated Sector-40, for sale. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL21007723)

Chandigarh: More than 4 kanal triple bhisti market Sector 19-D. Vacant possession. Reasonable price. Shree Properties. 98140-35506. (CL21007724)

Chandigarh freehold showroom triple bhisti market Sector 19-D. Vacant possession. Reasonable price. Shree Properties. 98140-35506. (CL21007730)

Chandigarh: four kanal houses B-road, Sector 4, 8, 9. Confirm deals. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL21007731)

Chandigarh two kanal B-road, facing park houses Sector 28, prime location. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL21007732)

Chandigarh: ten marla houses Sector 15, 21, 32, 34, 35 full/ floorwise. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL21007733)

Chandigarh one kanal second floor, marbled, well maintained, facing park Sector 33. Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL21007740)

Chandigarh SCO freehold Sector 7 (Inner Market) only confirmation with Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL21007741)

Chandigarh: showroom ground floor with basement, Sector 34. Rent @ 4.00,00/- per month. Shree Properties: 98140-35506. (CL21007745)

Two Kanal decent location House Sector 18, Chandigarh. Contact: Anuj Associates 98150-38223. (CL21007876)

Rental (Property): Showroom fully builtup, with top brands, huge parking, Chandigarh - Ambala Highway, Zirakpur. Contact: 92074-92074. (CL21007944)

Hotel: 17 luxurious rooms with banquet hall, restaurant, huge parking, on Airport Road, Janta Lane, Sector 82, Empire Estates: 98150-83500. (CL21008203)

1 kanal house Phase 4, Mohali. Kothi in Shivalik (Kharar) 140, 200, 178 gaj, Plot 156, 165, 144, 262, 300, 500, Sector 117 plots 435, 493 gaj. 95922-2623. (CL21009234)

4 kanal confirm houses Sector 2, 9, 28, Chandigarh. Contact: Delhi Punjab Real Estate: 98724-07701. (CL21009363)

14 marla single storey liveable house Sector 35, Chandigarh. Contact: Delhi Punjab Real Estate: 95011-21600. (CL21009365)

Direct deal 14 marla liveable good house, Sector 35-D, Chandigarh, (going cheap). Immediate sale. 98149-67149. (CL21009762)

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Kothi one kanal Phase 2, Kothi 16 marla Sector 70, Mohali. 98144-10997. (CL21009007)

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Chandigarh SCO freehold Sector 7 (Inner Market) only confirmation with Shree Properties 98140-35506. (CL21007741)

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4 kanal confirm houses Sector 2, 9, 28, Chandigarh. Contact: Delhi Punjab Real Estate: 98724-07701. (CL21009363)

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I. Himmat Singh s/o Sh. Pratap Singh r/o # 411 Kurari, Mohalla Kalka, Distt. Panchkula, have declared that the previous original sale Deed No. 3320, Dtd. 14.11.2011 and transfer Deed No. 2096, Dtd. 16.6.2014 and 2401, dtd. 16.6.2014. Hadbus No. 152 Account No. 29/30 of Maija Dharampur, Pinjore has been lost. Somebody find it please contact Mobile No.: 90348-34828. (CL21009603)

It is notified for the information that my Original qualifying examination certificate of main Secondary examination of year 2020 and Roll No. 13144846 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Ranayodh Singh Village Chanwanwadi, PO Yusafpur Darelaw, Distt. Sultanpur Lodhi, Distr. Kapurthala, Punjab-144629. (CL21009824)

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epaper(CL21009814.com)

COURT NOTICES

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Ms. Aprajita Joshi, Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Amritsar. Vivek Sharma Versus General Public CNR No. PBAS02-00384-2019 Next Date: 10.5.2021

SUCC

Publication issued to:

1) Minakshi Kamboj W/o Aseem Kamboj D/o Late Sh. Jatinder Nath Sharma R/o 9531 Thronhill CT SE, Lacey, Washington 98513 USA.

2) Mishal Mehra W/o Sumit Mehra D/o Late Sh. Jatinder Nath Sharma R/o 2/1 Queen Road, Camden Park 5038, South Australia, Australia.

In above titled case, the respondents could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 10.5.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 08.04.2021.

Sd/- Civil Judge, (Senior Division), CL20097354 Amritsar.

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Sh. Ajai Singh Principal Judge Family Court, Ludhiana.

Karishma Singh @ Kashmira Mehta Versus Rohit Mehta CNR No.: PBLD01-038000-2019 Next Date: 11.05.2021

Publication issued to:

Rohit Mehta Father: Kewal Kumar Mehta R/o H.No. 1932/37, Surinder Nagar, Ludhiana.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 11.05.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 19.03.2021.

Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, CL20112089 Ludhiana.

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Ms. Monica Sharma Civil Judge (Senior Division), Hoshiarpur.

Punjab Gramin Bank Vs. Rajdeep Singh CNR No.: PBHO2-00003-2021 Next Date: 10.05.2021

Publication issued to:

1. Rajdeep Singh son of Davinder Singh r/o Village Wahad, Tehsil and District Hoshiarpur.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/ respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 10.05.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 08.04.2021.

Sd/- Civil Judge (Senior Division), CL21009663 Hoshiarpur.

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Sh. Kuldeep Singh Cheema, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Hoshiarpur.

CNR No.: PBGD01-007581-2019 Next Date: 11.05.2021

Publication issued to:

Arun Kumar Verma Son: Budhi Lal, Village Sadipur, Miri Kala, District Unnao (UP), Unnao, Uttar Pradesh.

...Respondent Claim Petition for grant of compensation U.S 166 of Motor Vehicle Act 1988.

Notice:

1. Surjeet Singh son of Shitla Parshad Singh resident of House No. 14, Rasool Pur, Police Station Aashpur Devsala, Tehsil Patti, District Partapgarh.

...Respondent

Claim Petition for grant of compensation U.S 166 of Motor Vehicle Act 1988.

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

Dated, this day of 25.02.2021.

Sd/- Principal Judge, Family Court, Gurdaspur.

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of Sh. Kuldeep Singh Cheema, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Hoshiarpur.

CNR No.: PBGD01-007581-2019 Next Date: 11.05.2021

Publication issued to:

Arun Kumar Verma Son: Budhi Lal, Village Sadipur, Miri Kala, District Unnao (UP), Unnao, Uttar Pradesh.

...Respondent

Claim Petition for grant of compensation U.S 166 of Motor Vehicle Act 1988.

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

Dated, this day of 25.02.2021.

Sd/- Principal Judge, Family Court, Gurdaspur.

(U/O 5 Rule 20 CPC)



Photographer Eadweard Muybridge's pioneering work on human and animal images in motion laid the foundation for the birth of the cinema

ARTS page 12



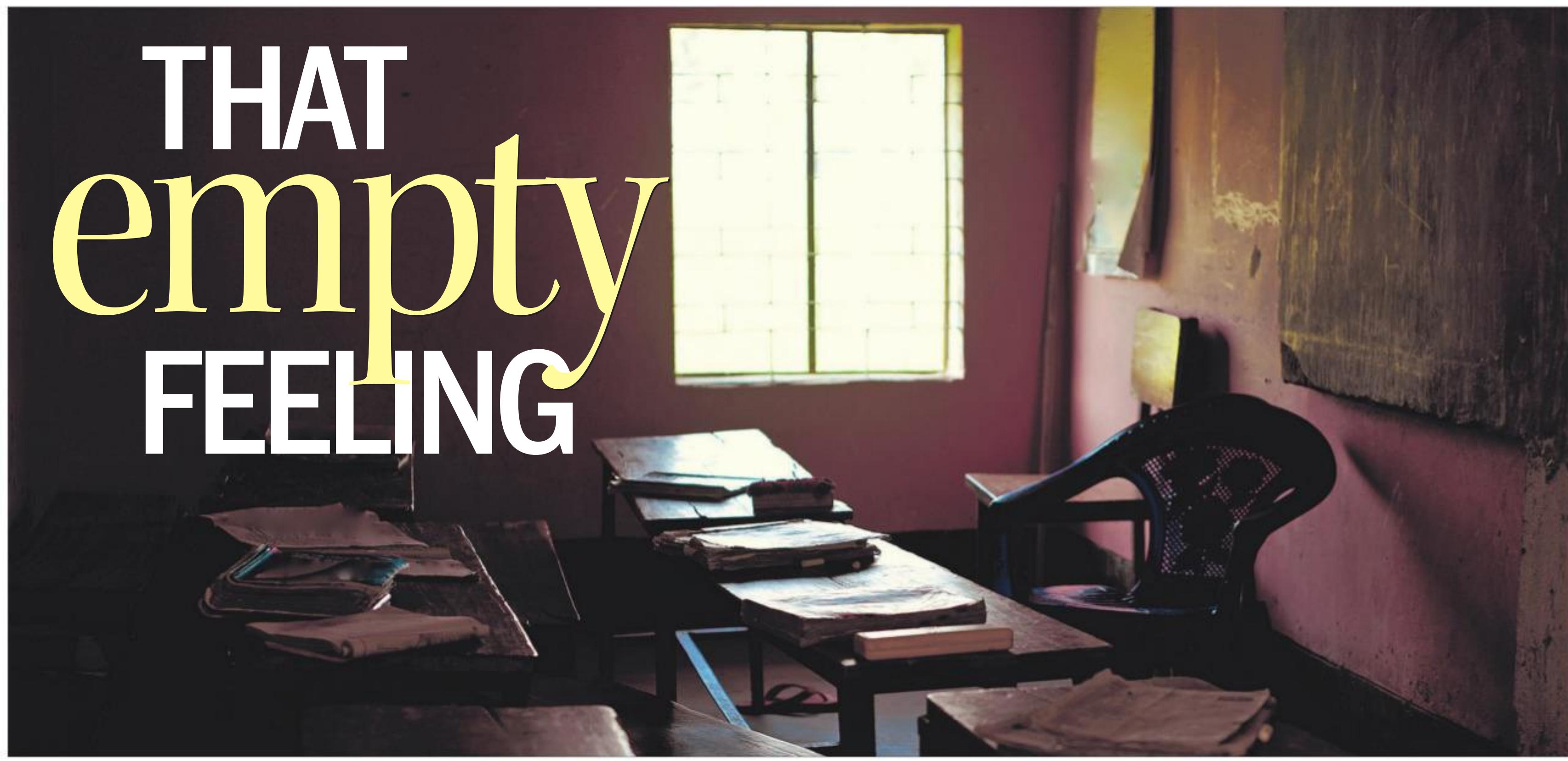
Remembering the remarkable feat of Col Chhewang Rinchen, Col Uday Singh, Subedar Mohinder Singh and Brig ML Whig, the Maha Virs of Nubra & Kargil

TRIBUTE PAGE 13



Amish Raj Mulmi's latest book 'All Roads Lead North' delves into Kathmandu's fascination with China and holds out a warning for New Delhi

BOOKS page 14



ISOCK

It was 2020 that was supposed to be the year of the unknown — an unending, extended academic exercise almost every student, teacher and parent grappled with as best as they could. 2021 is panning out to be an even bigger test

RENU SUD SINHA

THE anxieties and uncertainties of 2020 are playing out all over again a year later for students, teachers and parents alike as the tsunami-like second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic forces cancellation and postponement of board and entrance examinations. After the CBSE, the CISCE has decided to cancel the Class X boards and defer the Class XII exams. Cambridge International has cancelled Class X and XII exams in India, while the International Baccalaureate (IB) Board, too, has decided not to conduct Class XII exams. NEET and IIT-JEE have been postponed, as also the entrance exams to various varsities as well as UGC-NET.

In normal times, perhaps, news about cancellation of board exams may have brought a smile and a sigh of relief to many, but in the 'new normal', there has been a mixed reaction.

Class X student Palak Sharma of Chandigarh went numb on hearing the news of the cancellation. Bengaluru-based Siddharth Sundrarajan, on the other hand, was relieved — not because he would not have to face the dreaded exams, but "because at least a decision had been reached, one way or another". They would not have to remain in limbo like their seniors in Class XII. Maanya Arora was just happy to have been spared of the stress of appearing for exams. Mom Kavita too felt relieved from the health and safety point of view, but felt that schools could have looked at the option of holding exams on own campuses on the pattern of pre-boards.

For Palak and many others, the cancellation bore ominous tidings. While a large number did appear in pre-boards conducted by their schools, many were saving their energy and hard work for the 'actual exams'. There were others who didn't appear for school-conducted pre-boards, mostly due to the Covid situation. They are feeling anxious and cheated, as now the yet-to-be-announced new assessment criteria may be based on marks scored in pre-boards and/or internal assessment. Based on percentage scored in these exams, many students have not been able to get their preferred streams after being promoted to Class XI.

Most parents, however, agree with this pragmatic decision going by the escalating Covid cases. The students, too, may reluctantly reconcile, but are quite scathing in their reactions. Ananya Priyadarshini, a Class X student of Carmel Convent, Chandigarh, is among the top students of her class. She was looking forward to cut her teeth in the first competitive exams of her life. Disap-



Tribune Photo: RAVI KUMAR



PHOTO: PTI



Most Class X students are feeling relieved because at least a decision has been reached, one way or another. They would not have to remain in limbo like their seniors in Class XII, who are feeling anxious and frustrated as there are no clear answers or guidelines about their exams, if and when these take place.

pointed, she only has one query, "If election rallies and Kumbh Mela could be held, why not boards? The CBSE should have been prepared for the eventualities of cancellation. It should have either postponed the exams or warned students

that pre-board marks may be considered the final or at least should have prepared the assessment criteria beforehand."

Her brother, Aryan, a Class XII student at St John's, Chandigarh, who is dealing with his own anxieties of facing a

stretched academic year, is quick to point out the lacuna in the CBSE offer that "any candidate who is not satisfied with the marks allocated on this basis will be given an opportunity to sit in an exam as and when the conditions are conducive to hold the exams". According to Aryan, "This kind of scenario may be possible only in September-October. This would certainly clash with half-yearly Class XI exams, as classes have already started. Many may not opt because that would mean simultaneous preparation for both Class X boards and Class XI half-yearly."

While these may be some minor hiccups for Class X students, it's the Class XII students who are the worst sufferers. An extended academic year, coupled with uncertainty and lack of clear answers, has also stretched their already taut nerves. A majority is unsure of the way forward, let alone any direction. The delay has also put a spanner in the works for those applying abroad. Many may now have to rethink career plans and these young minds are certainly not equipped to handle this added pressure.

Ludhiana-based Arnav Kapoor, a Class XII Commerce student of Kundan Vidya Mandir, was all set to apply to universities in New Zealand and Australia. But the present uncertain situation has demotivated him immensely, says his mother Parul, leading to extreme mood swings and irritability. Now the family is advising him to go in for graduation at DU and postpone chasing his dreams to study abroad.

An NRI presently based in Chandigarh, Upasana Sharma was looking forward to move back to New Zealand to be with her husband after her daughter Muskan, a Class XII student at Vivek High School, finished with her board exams. Now they're staring at the possibility of a gap year.

"The situation is even worse for those who took a gap year last year, thinking that circumstances may get better this year," says Ashita Mahendru, a Delhi-based clinical psychologist. "The domino effect is adding to their helplessness as they have to get admission anywhere to force this year to avoid another gap year. Mental health issues, OCD in particular, are rising among the young at an alarming level. This postponement has only added to their feelings of helplessness and hopelessness."

"In some cases, more than students, it is the parents who are more anxious about the gap year and are putting pressure on their wards about a no-waste year."

"Dealing with ambiguity is always difficult," says Kamna Chhibber, mental health specialist at Fortis Healthcare, Vasant Kunj, Delhi. "As even parents are not able to provide any answers, it's adding to their anxiety. Many of them are not able to provide emotional sup-

port their children need at this time. Perhaps, that's why the number of students calling our helpline numbers has gone up considerably," she adds.

"Many students, who were caught in the Covid net, are yet to regain complete normalcy even after full recovery. Mental health issues have increased among the affected lot. Many are facing extreme mood swings. Their studies have been affected drastically. Performance of such students also declined post-Covid. There have been instances in some Delhi schools where performance of the whole class was affected," adds Mahendru.

For many youngsters from board classes already in therapy for mental health, this delay has added to their existing disorders. Class XII Commerce student, Delhi-based Divjot Kaur has already been in therapy for four years. She had always found sessions with her therapist

A SILVER LINING IN DARK TIMES

In the times of cancelled hopes and delayed dreams, not everything and everyone is gloomy. One of such lucky souls is Delhi-based Humanities student Dev Sharma. He is not bothered about the delay in board exams and is spending his time acquiring new skills like learning piano or perfecting old ones like improving his drawing skills. But then he can afford to chill as he has already cleared entrance exams to the course he is passionate about — product designing.

Bengaluru-based Parth Bhargava is another youngster who is not bothered about the uncertainty. An IB student, his Class XII exams have already been cancelled. The board grades its students on year-round assignments; Class XII marks form only a minor part of the overall assessment. Based on that, he has already found conditional acceptance in various universities abroad.

quite helpful in being able to manage her issues. After the postponement of exams, for the first time in four years, she had to be prescribed psychotropic drugs as sessions alone were not helping her escalate mood disorder. "After the initial transitory relief, frustration set in as I had already been studying the same thing for 13-14 months. But this delay, ambiguity and a sense of no direction has made it way worse. It will affect our next semester at college as well which would be so the pressure will continue."

Chandigarh-based Dhruv Sharma, preparing for JEE, and Abhyajit Singh, preparing for NEET, agree with her assessment of shorter college semester. However, these youngsters also see a silver lining in this stretched academic year — more time to revise and practice.

In the end, they all hope and wish for the same thing — clear guidelines and an assurance by the authorities that they won't be left in the lurch on June 1 when the board reviews its decision. All of them are keeping their fingers crossed that exams would be held eventually and not cancelled.

Photographer who stopped time

Eadweard Muybridge's pioneering work laid the foundations for the birth of the cinema

It is the rhythm, the looping, loping rhythm. It is knowing that every walk is the same, yet every walk is unique (in fact, every step is unique). It is knowing that even walking is an expressive cultural act that cannot be reduced to science. It is staring like a voyeur at people in the form of objective documents while knowing deep down it is a performance entirely for you. It is the inseparability of looking, learning and pleasure.

— David Company, referring to the opening sequence of John Travolta's *Saturday Night Fever*



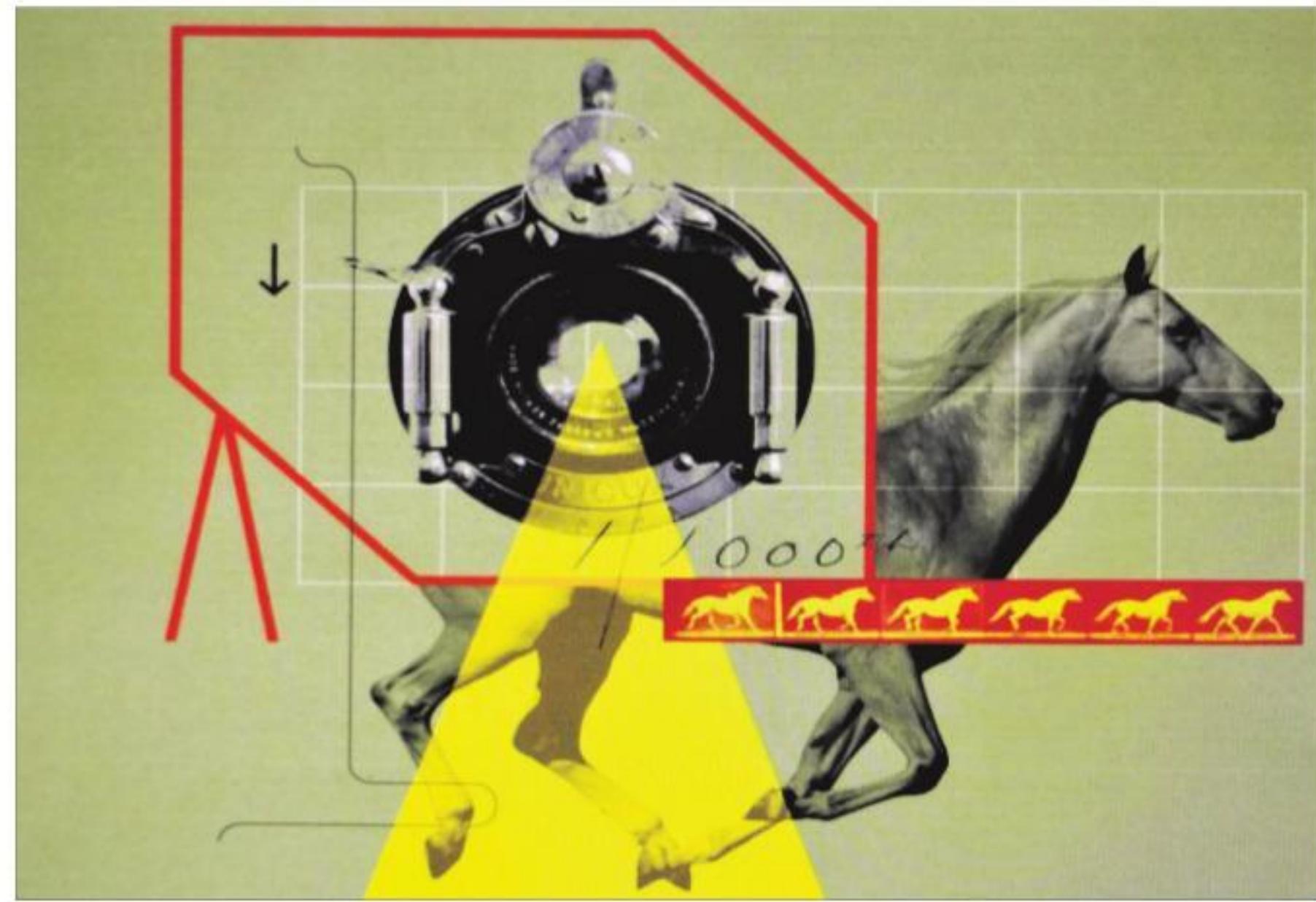
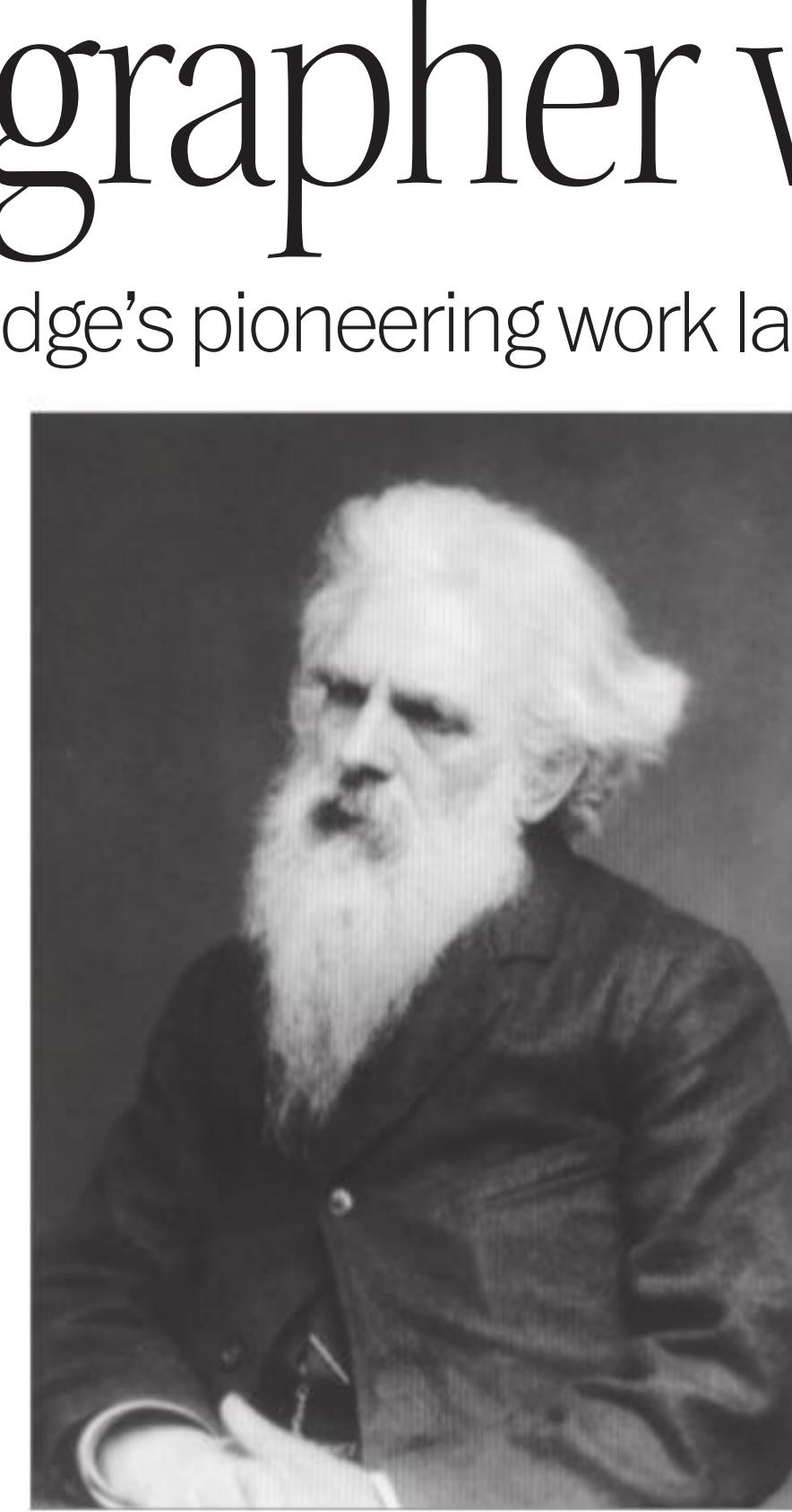
'ART & SOUL'

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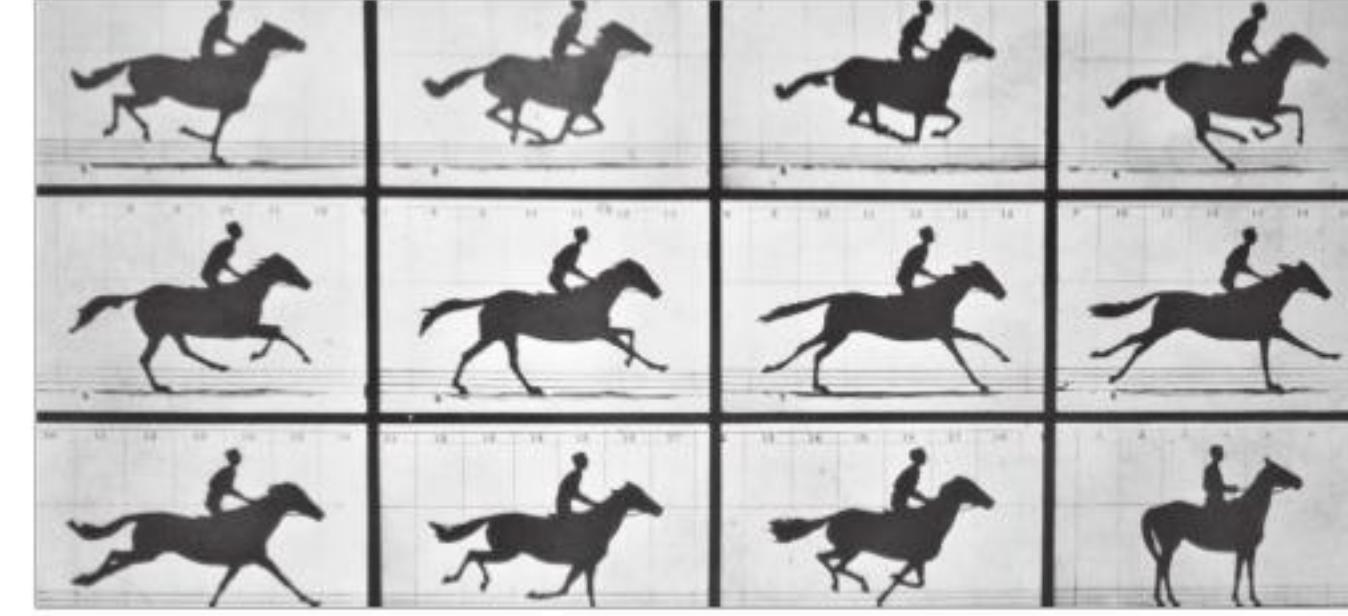
ZOOPRAXISCOPE (derived from three Greek words, broadly meaning "living-doing-looking") is an early device for displaying moving images, considered an important predecessor of the movie projector. It was conceived by photographic pioneer Eadweard Muybridge in 1879 and built for him by January 1880 to project his famous chronophotographic pictures in motion.

There are countless things that I know nothing about, but, as one who has engaged with art history for a considerable part of his life, at least two things I should have known. One, that when Marcel Duchamp painted his iconic 1912 work, *Nude Descending a Staircase*, which showed to a startled world several overlapping views of a figure in steady motion, he was building on the work of a photographer obsessed with movement who had produced a photo-series, *Woman Walking Downstairs*, in 1887. Two, that the tongue-twisting name of that photographer was Eadweard Muybridge, born in England but active for the most part in the United States: someone whom I had not heard of till now. Mercifully, one keeps learning.

One knows now that Muybridge (1830-1904) was, or became, many things in his life: landscape and survey photographer, documentary artist, war correspondent and inventor. His fame rests, however, on the images he produced of human and animal subjects in motion, his work often cited as having 'laid the foundations for the birth of the cinema', and 'having influenced... generations of artists and filmmakers'. There must be very few photographs, one reads, that have had anything like the impact of Muybridge's studies of human locomotion. As a critic of a relatively recent Muybridge show at the Tate, London, wrote: "They changed things forever and have come to symbolise modernity's seismic and irreversible shifts in the understanding of vision, the living body, nature, science and art. So singular, so bold, so uncompromising was his project that historical time seems to split into two epochs. There is 'before Muybridge' and there is 'after Muybridge'." In his work, as another critic wrote, there is "an absolutely fascinating merger of artistic and scientific ideas. The two disciplines had been on a divergent course since the Renaissance, and Muybridge is one of the people who brought them back together".



(Clockwise from far left) Eadweard Muybridge, a portrait; a modern artist's impression of Muybridge's work; studies in motion: a woman jumping over a chair; a zoopraxiscope built by Muybridge; and Horse in Motion series by Muybridge



Muybridge seems to have had a streak of impetuosity in his character. In a stagecoach crash in Texas, he suffered serious head injuries that took years to recuperate from; in 1874, he shot and killed his wife's lover but was acquitted on grounds of 'justifiable homicide' by a court. Someone noted that all these experiences probably led him to keep 'measuring and visualising things', going over moments in close sequence in his mind. Whether this or not, he cer-

tainly was eager to take up challenges. One of the challenges came in the form of a debate that was raging in California at that time: when a horse gallops, do all four hooves leave the ground at the same time? The Governor of the state, Leland Stanford, a passionate horse-breeder, was interested in movement and, in 1872, he is known to have engaged this remarkably talented man who 'walked around in old clothes and a hat with a hole in it' — Muybridge — to analyse the horse's movement as closely as was possible. Muybridge arranged for the horse — Occident was the name — to gallop past a row of cameras equipped with trip wires, and got a series of 12 shots in less than half a second. The finding? 'Sure enough, all four hooves really do leave the ground.' The images were put together and, now seen as iconic, were published as '*A Horse in Motion*'. A host of other experiments, and achievements, followed.

Things were changing fast in the 1870s, at least in the United States. In

that decade, to photography were added the newly invented telephone and phonograph. Along with the railroad, telegraphy came in, both becoming instruments for 'annihilating time and space', as someone said. The part that this maverick photographer, who worked with manic energy — unprecedented photographs of the Yosemites, a 13-part 360° panorama of San Francisco city, nearly 1,00,000 photographs that he took while working at the University of Pennsylvania — played in the times was remarkable, for he was not only a visionary, a thinker, but also a showman, travelling from city to city, lecturing, demonstrating, publicising. He converted a lightweight two-wheel, one-horse carriage into a portable darkroom to carry out his work, and with a logo on the back dubbed it Helios' Flying Studio. What stands out in all this, apart from his own inventions and patents, is the fact of how many persons of his own time, and a little later, were impacted by his thinking. As historians do sometimes, long lists

have been compiled: among them, apart from Marcel Duchamp of course, are counted the great inventor, Thomas Edison; the artist Thomas Eakins; William Dickson, to whom one owes the motion picture camera; Etienne Marey, the French photographer. When Clegg Brian speaks of him as 'The man who stopped time', no one truly differs.

It is this aspect of Muybridge's work and thought, this wrestling with time, which truly stands out. '*A River of Shadows*' is the title of the book Rebecca Solnit wrote on him and the technology of the West. Somewhere in it, she writes, "It was as though he had grasped Time itself, made it stand still, and then made it run again, over and over. Time was at his command as it had never been at anyone's before. A new world had opened up for science, for art, for entertainment, for consciousness, and an old world had retreated further."

All this for a man who 'walked around in old clothes and a hat with a hole in it', and about whom I knew nothing till now.

Glowing in the sun's shine

Scottish artist Olivia Fraser's latest show brings alive the Indian summer

MONICA ARORA

"Summertime. It was a song. It was a season. I wondered if that season would ever live inside of me."

Benjamin Alire Saenz

SCOTTISH artist Olivia Fraser's latest show at London's Grosvenor Gallery is entitled 'Indian Summer'. According to the artist, it represents all that is positive, rejuvenating and prosperous after the harshness of a cold, impersonal winter. Settled in a sprawling farmhouse in Mehrauli, on the outskirts of New Delhi, with her author and historian husband William Dalrymple and her family, Olivia identifies herself with India, its

art, culture, history and architecture ever since she moved here in 1989.

Having learnt art at the Wimbledon Art College, she chose to further study and understand the traditional Indian miniature painting technique under Jaipuri and Delhi masters. For her, "miniature painting isn't about the 'miniature' size of the paintings but instead about the techniques, material, style and traditional narrative deployed by the artist". It is about the detailing in the finer nuances, about a sense of observation and about expression in a manner that is true to the art form.

Olivia finds the entire process of grinding pigments from naturally occurring materials such as malachite and lapis lazuli, and mixing these with Gum Arabic and water very comforting owing to the leisurely and unhurried pace. According to her, "Painting particularly in ancient Indian styles such as Nathdwara Pichwai is a calm, peaceful and steady process that reminds us of how human beings are essentially connected to nature. I thrive in the slowness and stillness of it all and the movement created by the fine squirrel or mongoose hair brushes on handmade sheets of Sanganer paper completes the cyclical element of existence. For me, the process of seeing 'inside out' or of the intrinsic link between our spiritual and physical worlds is particularly enchanting."

The ornately burnished surfaces with meticulous brush strokes are amply visible in her creations that are evocative in their gem-like stone colours and familiar Indian motifs. She, sometimes, even uses gold leaf and other semi-precious gems for adding a blend of authenticity to her miniatures. Over the years, she has moved from depicting

people, places, topographies and cultures of India to more detailed and refined figurines and elements that have more depth and enriched, deep colours".

According to Olivia, perhaps being from the western part of the world makes her exceptionally fond of long Indian summers, which despite their quintessential 'heat and dust' analogies are full of beauty and hope. "Summer is the season of the delicious, ripe and juicy mangoes, akin to a reward for dwelling in the scorching sun for nearly five months and that, for me, is the joy of summer. Plus, the Amaltas in all its golden glory is blazing like the flaming sun from treetops and the sight is like a balm for sore eyes. It is no surprise then that mangoes have found their way in two prominent artworks of the show, *Indian Summer I* and *II*".

Olivia started working on the artworks for this show during the 2020 lockdown and found much solace gazing at the laburnum blossoms visible from her studio window. Art for her has been offering much respite and comfort during these intermittent lockdowns. "I have also created an artwork where I have shown my feet, and these are metaphorical while we are ensconced within our homes during another pandemic-induced curfew situation. Since feet are all about walking and freedom to move, perhaps, this is my way of representing paths that we wish to tread once we have the freedom to go about the business of living. Also, feet are considered sacred in Buddhism, Hinduism, even Christianity, and are an important symbolism of our belief systems and how we can always learn something new from invoking ancient wisdom."

CAPTION CONTEST 1302



Entries are invited to suggest a caption for the above photograph. The caption should only be in English, witty and not exceeding 10 words, and reach Spectrum, The Tribune, Chandigarh, 160030, by Thursday. The best five captions will be published and

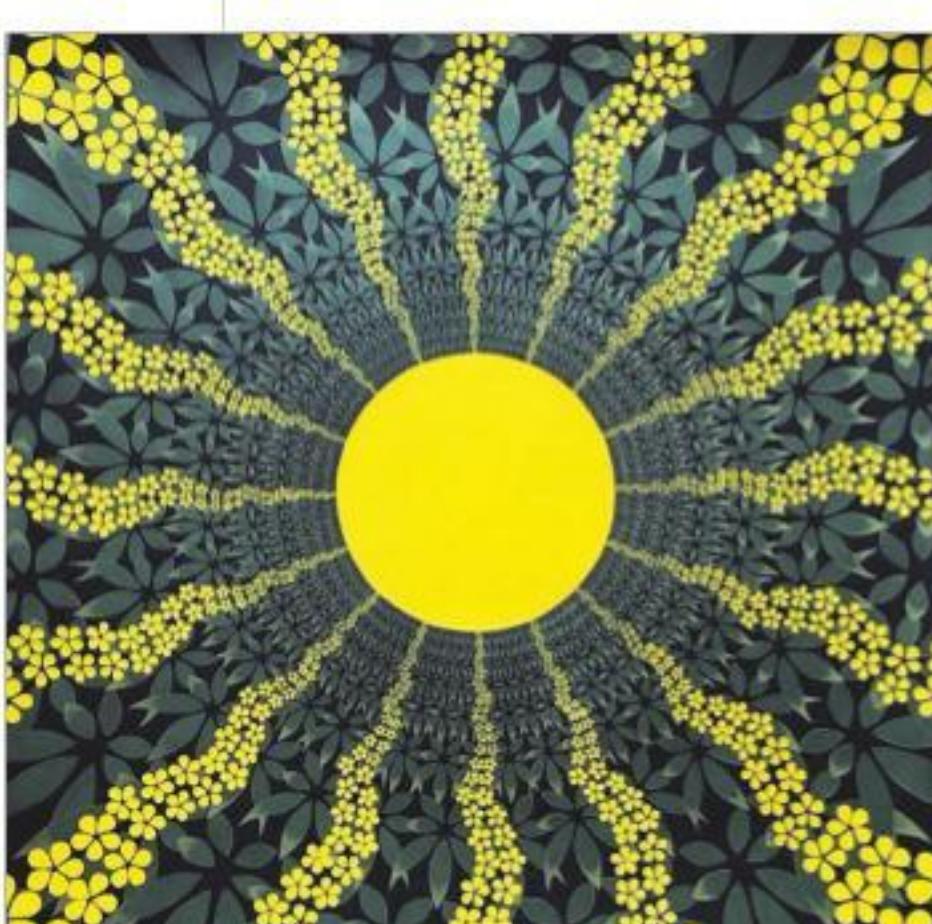
awarded ₹300, ₹250, ₹200, ₹150 and ₹100, respectively. Each caption must be accompanied by a clipping of the caption contest and its number. Photocopies of the caption photo will not be accepted. Please mention the pin code in your address.

You have a camera or a phone camera? Click and send us a picture for the caption contest. The selected picture will be used for Caption Contest. Mail the high resolution picture (.jpg format) at captionpics@tribunemail.com

Selected entries for Caption Contest 1301

April 18 issue (see photo)

- Pole star—Ashish Ranjan, Sangrur
- Above the sea level—Jasbir Singh, Kamal
- Net working—Ashwani Kumar, Dhuri
- Wing commander—Lalit Kalia, Manimajra
- Bird watch—Jaskaran Preet Kaur, Chandigarh



Maha Virs of Nubra & Kargil

The remarkable feat of Col Chhewang Rinchen, Col Uday Singh, Subedar Mohinder Singh and Brig ML Whig

Lt COL DILBAG SINGH DABAS (RETD)

THE strategically important 400-metre all-weather bridge in Eastern Ladakh not only connects Darbuk with Daulat Beg Oldi (DBO), just 45 km from the LAC with China, but also provides a vital link for the people of Ladakh living in the interior areas with mainland India. It is most aptly christened Colonel Chhewang Rinchen Setu after the 'Lion of Ladakh', who fought all the four wars during his Army career — 1947-48, 1965 and 1971 against Pakistan and 1962 against China—and was decorated in all.

Chhewang Rinchen was born on November 11, 1930, at Sumur village in Nubra valley, north of Leh. In Nubra, his great grandfather was bestowed with the title 'Lion of Ladakh' for his bravery and his mother was revered as 'Mother of Nubra' for her compassion. Very early in his life, Chhewang inherited both the attributes; bravery from his great grandfather and compassion from his mother.

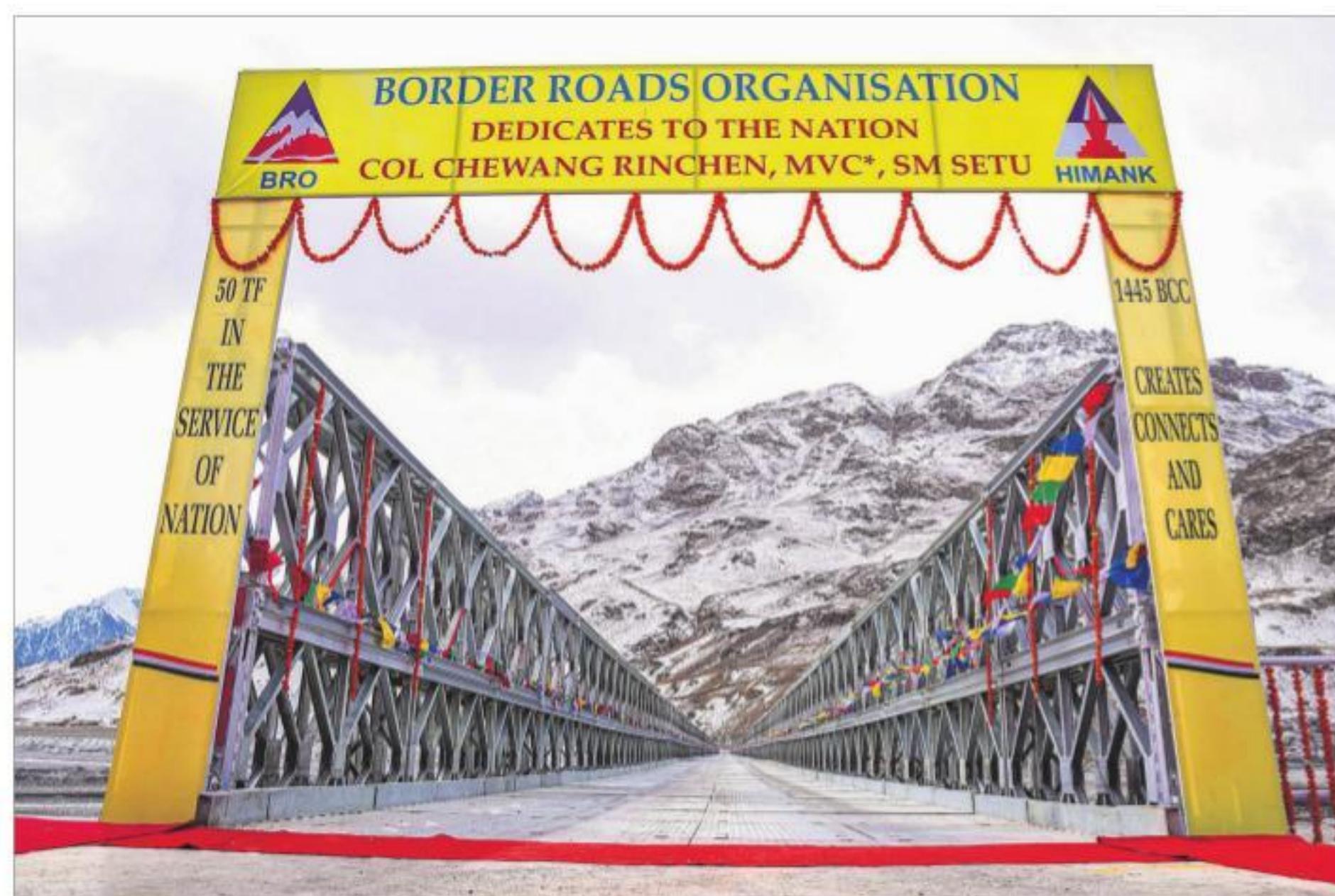
The invasion of Kashmir by Pakistan started in October 1947, placing Ladakh in grave jeopardy from the Gilgit-Baltistan raiders from the north. Since Leh and areas east of it were far from mainland Kashmir, news reached rather late. Chhewang was then in 10th standard studying at Leh.

While he was waiting for his results, he learnt that Pakistani raiders had reached Zojila and were heading towards Leh. He also learnt that another axis for the raiders to reach Leh was via Gilgit-Skardu-Turtuk through Nubra valley, his homeland. It was June 1948.

Chhewang, then about 17-and-a-half, without informing anybody, trekked back to his village with a mission: not to allow the enemy to encroach upon Nubra. During his frantic move from village to village for 10 days, he gathered 28 volunteers, named them 'Nubra Guards' and reported to the nearest Army post at Turtuk to join the fight to stop the intruders from entering the valley. After about 10 days of basic training in field craft and handling weapons, Chhewang, along with his band of Nubra Guards, formally joined 7th J&K Militia as a soldier on July 25, 1948.

The cardinal attributes of Sepoy Rinchen — resourcefulness, leadership qualities and loyalty to his *paltan* — did not go unnoticed; just about a month later, he was promoted to the rank of Jemadar.

In September 1948, Jemadar Chhewang Rinchen of 7th J&K Militia, while negotiating a height of 17,000 feet under heavy snow and extremely inclement weather, led the charge by the 28 Nuns (Ladakhi term for the young ones) onto the intruders and recaptured the tactically important Lama House from the



A view of the Colonel Chhewang Rinchen Bridge on Shyok river in Ladakh, which is named after the two-time MVC recipient. PTI



Chhewang Rinchen is not just the youngest Maha Vir Chakra awardee (which he won twice), but is the only one to have been decorated during all the wars he fought while in service

enemy in Nubra sector.

In another daring action, having marched for three days through heavy snow blizzards, he launched a fierce attack on the most dominating feature near Biangdangdo and captured it. This action was immediately followed by the capture of Tukkar Hill, the last enemy bastion in Leh tehsil, which involved crossing of a snow-clad mountain over 21,000 feet. During the last action, half of his platoon was suffering

from frostbite but under his inspiring leadership and following his example of personal bravery, his men accomplished the seemingly impossible feat.

For his daring act of taking on the enemy far superior in number, and recapturing the lost ground, Jemadar Chhewang Rinchen was awarded the Maha Vir Chakra, becoming the youngest to get the second highest gallantry decoration.

On June 1, 1959, Rinchen, MVC, now a Subedar, was granted Temporary Commission and was posted to 14 J&K Militia as Second Lieutenant. In the 1962 India-China conflict, he was awarded the Sena Medal for leading a rescue patrol near Chandni Post in DBO.

During the war with Pakistan in 1965, Chhewang Rinchen, now a Captain, was Mentioned in Dispatches for his commendable role in defending the territory in Nubra valley which he had recaptured in 1948.

In 1971, now a Major, he led a company-sized composite group called 'Dhal Force' against a strongly held Pakistani post on Point 18402. After a bitter fight, the force successfully recaptured the post (one of the highest captured in

Ladakh) and also the tactically vital and strongly held Chalunka complex of the enemy. Seeing the enemy in hasty retreat, he daringly exploited the success and captured almost 800 sq km of Turtuk area which was in illegal occupation of the Pakistan army.

For this daring operation against all possible odds, he was awarded the Bar to the Maha Vir Chakra (the award won second time). The battle account reads:

"Major Chhewang Rinchen of Ladakh Scouts was the commander of the force assigned the task of capturing the tactically vital and strongly held Chalunka complex of the enemy in Partapur sector north of Leh. The complex consisted of nine strongly held positions, each fortified with mine and wire obstacles. Major Rinchen planned and executed the operation with professional competence and great zeal. Under most adverse weather conditions, Major Rinchen led his men displaying aggressive spirit and cool courage, moving from bunker to bunker, exhorting and encouraging his men to destroy the enemy, making the operation a complete success."

Chhewang Rinchen retired from active service in 1980. However, on popular recommendations, he rejoined the Army in 1983 in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Before his final retirement in 1985, he was conferred the honorary rank of Colonel.

Not just the 400-metre Darbuk-DBO Bridge in Eastern Ladakh, another strategically important post in Siachen Glacier is named Rinchen Post.

Chhewang Rinchen is not just the youngest Maha Vir Chakra awardee, the award he won twice; he is the only

awardee in the Indian Army to have been decorated during all the wars he fought while in service.

The 1971 India-Pakistan war in the northern theatre, covering the border from J&K in the west to Eastern Ladakh, saw the emergence of three more Maha Virs — Colonel Uday Singh, Subedar Mohinder Singh and Brigadier ML Whig. Col Uday Singh, son of Khet Singh, a Rathore Rajput from Gharaha village in Jodhpur, after matriculation from Sir Pratap Singh High School, Jodhpur, joined the Joint Services Wing (JSW) and was commissioned into 8th Gorkha Rifles on June 4, 1950.

In 1971, Uday, now a Colonel, was given the command of three Ladakh Scouts infantry companies and a section each of mortars and machine guns to recapture Indian territory from Chalunka to Turtuk north of Leh, held strongly by a PoK infantry battalion in Nubra.

The task involved movement on mance pack and animal transport, mostly by night, at sub-zero temperature at an altitude up to 18,000 feet and above. It is due to the sheer grit and determination of Colonel Uday and his Gorkhas fighting against all possible odds that today, not just Tyakshi, Turtuk and Chalunka, but also around 800 sq km territory is back where it belonged — India.

For his conspicuous gallantry, outstanding leadership and cool courage in the face of the enemy superior in number throughout this 10-day successful operation, Col Uday Singh was awarded the Maha Vir Chakra.

Subedar Mohinder Singh, son of Sardar Bodh Singh, hailed from Sham

Nagar village in Amritsar district. During the 1971 war, while commanding No. 9 platoon of 'C' Company, a Sikh company of 18 Punjab, in the Kargil sector, he went way beyond the call of duty and undeterred led his platoon uphill from the front for the capture of a height that had defied capture by the Indian Army's earlier attempts twice over.

After reaching the assaulting distance, he gave the cry 'Bole So Nihal' and before the mighty Sikhs of No. 9 platoon of 18 Punjab followed with the iconic words 'Sat Sri Akal', they were already bayoneting one enemy after the other just short of the targeted height, with Subedar Mohinder in the lead. After half an hour of hand-to-hand fight, the highest point, that overlooked the Srinagar-Leh highway, was back with the Indian Army.

After the ceasefire on September 23, 1965, overlooking the agreements, the Pakistan army captured certain key Indian localities in the Poonch and Kargil sectors. Both needed to be recaptured, the ones in the Kargil sector on priority since some of these overlooked the Srinagar-Leh highway from where, with observed artillery fire, the enemy could interdict the transport carrying supplies for the Indian Army operating right up to the LAC in Eastern Ladakh.

For his bold planning, and quite often, being in the forefront to ensure its execution, Brig Mohinder Lal Whig, ex Gorkha Rifles, son of Sardari Lal Whig of the reputed Whig family of Amritsar, while commanding 121 Independent Infantry Brigade Group, was also awarded the Maha Vir Chakra during the 1971 India-Pakistan war.



The many colours of summer

AMARJEET BATTH

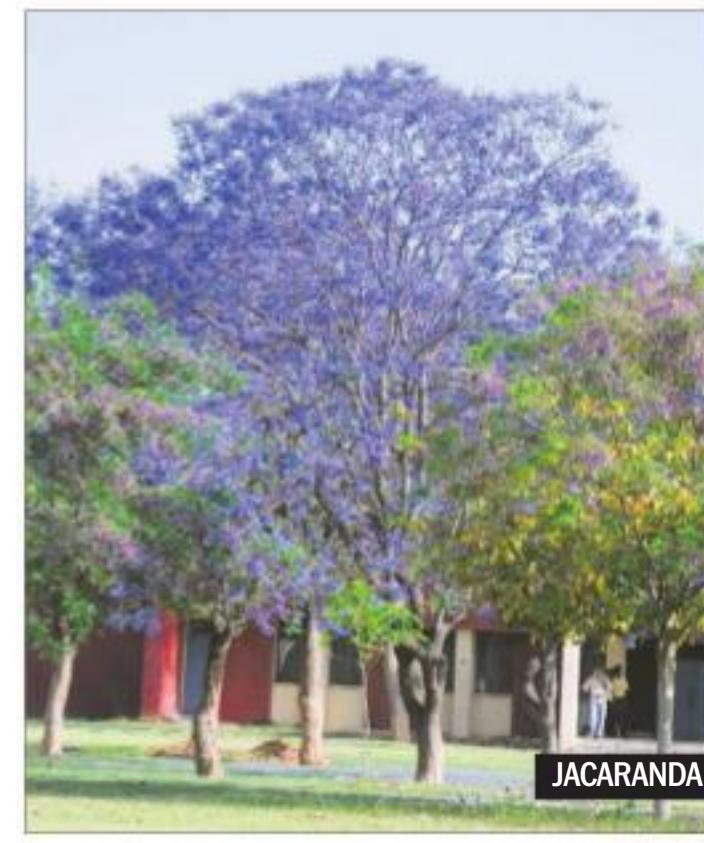
AS the summer season progresses, colours drift from the ground (annuals) to the eye level, flowering shrubs and further to the skyline with beautiful blooming trees. Many trees exhibit nature's floral elegance. The magic of the trio — Jacaranda (blue), Gulmohar (red), Amaltas (yellow) — adds to the beauty of the months of April and May. Jacaranda is the first to flower, followed by Gulmohar and Amaltas. The lovely colour scheme of blue-red-yellow is a treat to the eyes. Many a time, as this year too, summer comes early. The erratic weather can result in advance flowering. If there's planned horticultural plantation for city roads, nature's beauty can be seen at its best.

JACARANDA BEAUTY

Jacaranda mimosifolia, locally known as 'Neeli Gulmohar', is a medium-sized, deciduous tree with finely cut foliage and showy tubular, bell-shaped mauve-blue flowers. It can be planted along roadsides as an avenue tree, in clusters in public gardens and as standalone in a home garden. The tree does not form a very dense canopy. This allows diffused light to pass through it, thus making it possible for grass to grow under it. Prune the tree to form one central leader (main trunk) for strength, stability and maintain its shape.

THE DANCE OF GULMOHAR

Delonix regia, popularly known as 'Gulmohar', is a large deciduous fast-growing tree. Its beauty has inspired poets, writers and artists. The orange-red flowers of the tree remain in bloom from the end of April till August. Thereafter, the seed pods are formed. These are green and flaccid. Subsequently, these turn



dark brown and woody and remain hanging on trees for a long time. The leaves then turn yellow. The shedding of leaves takes place in November and the tree remains bare till the end of March. This period is followed by flowering. The tree needs abundant irrigation during bloom. Its shallow root system often leads to uprooting during heavy storms.

THE AMALTAS AVENUE

Cassia fistula or 'Amaltas' is a fast-growing medium-sized perennial tree with spreading branches. Its fragrant yellow flowers start blooming from mid-May, giving a pleasant soothing summer feel. Amaltas makes for an excellent avenue tree, especially for beautification. The continuous fall of flowers creates a romantic effect as a yellow carpet is formed underneath the tree. It is planted in groups of three or five in big gardens. Its hybrid variety *Cassia alipurens* has cream-coloured flowers.

In Sanskrit, it is called 'Aragvadha', meaning "disease killer" and is said to have many medicinal benefits.

QUEEN'S FLOWER

Often *Lagerstroemia flos-regiae* (*L. flos-regiae*), also called Queen's Flower, is planted in combination with Amaltas. Its dark green leaves and contrasting mauve flowers mellow down the brightness of golden-yellow flowers of Amaltas. Synchronised flowering of the two makes for a good combination during May-June. Since Amaltas is a mid-sized tree with a good spread, it should be planted in the background and *L. flos-regiae* being relatively small in size and compact in growth can be planted in the foreground. These combo trees can even be placed standalone. Often one Amaltas in the background is planted with two to three *L. flos-regiae* in the front. Alternatively, these can be planted in rows with Amaltas at a distance of 20-25 feet and *L. flos-regiae* at an interval of 15-20 feet. Since the colours are in contrast, the total tree mass should be able to balance each other.

BLOW THE SILVER TRUMPET

Tecoma argentea is a medium-sized evergreen tree with light grey bark, crooked trunk, corky bark and well-structured branches with glossy silver green leaves. The dense funnel-shaped yellow flowers become strikingly beautiful when in bloom and are arranged in terminal panicles when the tree is in a completely leafless state during April-May. These trees can be planted in groups in gardens and can be considered for plantation along an avenue. These are also nice specimen trees for a home garden. Prune the tree for its good appearance and remove dead, diseased wood as and when required.



An enamoured Kathmandu looks North

MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RETD)

NEPAL, the small Himalayan nation wedged between two giant neighbours, China and India, has for more than a century sought to create sovereign space to act independently of India. Since 2015, stars got so re-aligned that Nepal decided to turn to China when two major Communist parties aligned and merged to form the Nepal Communist Party. It swept the polls with a two-thirds majority in the Lower House, simple majority in the Upper House, governments in six of seven provinces and victories in 80 per cent of local elections. Prime Minister KP Oli capitalised on such a breathtaking electoral success and political stability with his brand of ultra-nationalism following India's clumsy reactions to Nepal's non-inclusive Constitution of 2015, backed by China's behind-the-scenes political activism. Almost all at once, Nepal's Look North gaze was visible and this has been competently encapsulated in Amish Raj Mulmi's *All Roads Lead North*.

The book is a blend of history, travel and elegant imagination enriched by the vivacity of prose and vigorous archival



Chinese President Xi Jinping (right) with Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli. REUTERS

research but not without, I dare say, discernible bias for the elusive China card.

Mulmi, in fact, traces the birth of the China card to the deteriorating relations between India and China and events from January to September 1962 — the King Mahendra Janakpur bomb-throwing incident, the India-imposed unofficial blockade and Chinese Foreign Minister Chen Yi's statement: "In case any foreign army makes a foolhardy attempt

to attack Nepal, China will side with Nepalese people."

At the heart of Nepal's grievance is the 1950 treaty, the root of an unequal relationship; the simmering border row; the economic blockades of 1988/2015 and New Delhi's micro-management, including lack of respect for Nepal's sovereignty (taking Nepal for granted). "Therefore, in 2015, China no longer saw Nepal under India's umbrella," says Mulmi, the Chi-

na card having graduated to 21st century Nepal-China relations.

How enamored Mulmi is with China can be gauged from one-liners like: 'China is ultimate ray of hope for Nepal'; 'Today, across length of Nepal, it is China's soft diplomacy'; 'Ordinary Nepalis have begun to believe in China's potential to transform this country'; 'It is in Rasuwa border one witnesses Nepalese' belief that China is a better neighbour than India'; 'Little imagination is needed why Nepalese think of China as a superpower'... This gives way to passionate prose that 'China is many things, superpower, aid-giver, friend in need, essential provider, demanding neighbour, older brother (was always India), competitor, model for development and growth and vision for development in future'.

His description of Chinese penetration in Nepal, be it his hometown Pokhara or Kathmandu's Thamel or even Mandarin teachers in villages, is revealing as China seems poised to overtake India in FDI. Besides its singular focus on Tibet and Tibetans over which Nepal is pleased to please, the long-term aim is to seek parity with India. The China-Nepal Economic Corridor, part of BRI, seeks to connect North with South, the open sesame to India's strategic Indo-Gangetic plains and its markets. Given the current hostility in geopolitics, factors of security

might trump economics.

Mulmi is critical of China, too, but much less than the high praise for it. Ultimately, for Mulmi and many Nepalese, it is this shift to China that the Nepalese would not want to admit, of Kathmandu's determination to stand up to Indian bullying, partially driven with Chinese help, to break free from special relations, Nehru's magnificent frontier and dependence on India. But he admits that while Kathmandu has failed beyond its China card, unable to turn it into a winning hand, Beijing has secured its larger interests in Nepal. Mulmi's India-bashing is justified and a wake-up call for New Delhi. But here, too, some of it might be anger.

India has done much for Nepal that the current generation of Nepalese may not want to admit. Mulmi warns that as long as India views Nepal through a security lens, it will lose ground. But it has not 'missed the bus on people-to-people relations', he asserts. A new hand has been dealt in Kathmandu and China is on the back foot. For Nepal to keep equidistance between India and China has never been really feasible and Looking North will challenge the imperatives of geography that the Chinese technology and wealth will try to conquer. Nepal is situated between two fastest growing economies and is no longer just a yam between two boulders. A must-read book.

Agony and ecstasy of being Kabir Bedi

NONIKA SINGH

In more ways than one, Kabir Bedi's life has been an open book. So what happens when the actor himself decides to look back at his roller-coaster voyage across continents? What you get is not superficial gloss or mere sensational details like his open marriage with Protima Bedi, but a pulsating heart, a thinking mind, a contemplative soul and above all, a raconteur.

The book begins on a frenetic note where we meet the young Kabir and a fanboy moment as he wrangles an exclusive interview with the Beatles with sheer quick thinking. The vividness with which he recalls the questions he asked punctuates the entire book. Indeed, a whole lot of research must have gone into building the background of events. For someone born before Partition (1946), his story does coincide with the birth of a nation and Kabir does fill us in with the many historic moments.

But this is no political treatise. It begins and ends as a deeply personal story and you can't help but admire his courage to bare his heart and soul. A certain candidness marks reminiscences when he talks about the two significant loves of his life — Protima Bedi, his first wife and mother of his two children, and Parveen Babi, the glamorous actress. Much of the first part of the book is devoted to his tumultuous relationship with these two beautiful women about whom he writes, "I had gone from one emotionally draining woman to another."

However, it's the honesty with which he recollects his son Siddharth's battle with schizophrenia and consequent suicide that is commendable and heartrending. As you meet Kabir the father who could not save his son despite his best efforts, you empathise. However, the real strength of the book does not merely lie in revealing what clearly falls

within the purview of what is private and intimate. The beauty is how Kabir weaves it all together in a language that has the felicity of a writer and eloquence of a storyteller.

From material to mortal to spiritual... there are many worlds in his canvas, which is vast and probing. As Kabir's gaze turns outwards and inwards, we are led to a fascinating interplay of words, images, anecdotes and people. Apart from his very personal circle, Kabir introduces us to the crème de la crème of glamour. Even though his encounters with international celebrities such as Gina Lollobrigida and Federico Fellini were brief, he manages to create a character sketch of them. As for the people really close to him, it's his parents Baba Bedi and English mother Freda Bedi who demand his complete reverence-like regard. Be it their unique love story, political leanings or spiritual sojourns, he keeps the reader engaged in their odyssey.

With four marriages, his current wife Parveen Dusani younger than his daughter Pooja Bedi, his life may have the outward trappings of what ordinary mortals consider sensational. But it's an equally enriched life which has been privy to not just astounding fame in Italy, where 'Sandokan' earned him unprecedented stardom, but also a chequered career in Hollywood.

Kabir had an unusual childhood, part of which was spent as a monk in Rangoon. His interface with different religions, as his family's lineage has a direct connect with Guru Nanak Dev and his mother was ordained as a Buddhist nun, is as much a part of his worldview. The chapter 'Ramblings On The Beach' brings forth his understanding of not just Sikhism and Buddhism, but also other world religions. What he writes about Hinduism too is an incredible thought. Evidently, the book, though an absorbing read, is not a saucy account of a star. Reflecting upon one man's journey, it illuminates life in its entirety and complexity.

Tracing the culinary heritage of Jews

PUNEETINDER KAUR SIDHU

ARTIST and Sahitya Akademi Award winner Esther David's latest book showcases Jewish life in India. She traces the culinary heritage of this minuscule community, the 5,000-odd members of which live in tiny pockets around the country.

Replete with recipes, historical snippets and peppered with illustrations, 'Bene Appetit' is a quick, easy read and every bit as appetising as its instructive contents. Following the opening notes on Jewish culture are introductory chapters about the Jewish communities that call India home. The author, herself a Jew, takes readers to the Bene Israel Jews of Western India, to the Cochin Jews in Kerala, the Bagdadis in Kolkata, the Bene Ephraim of Andhra Pradesh, and the Bnei Menashe of Manipur and Mizoram.

This book is an endeavour to trace and document the traditional foods, festivals and dietary habits of a people diminishing in number. Through her interactions with them, David discovers that while regional influences are overwhelmingly

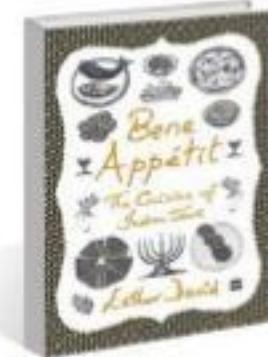


A signboard to Jew Street in Kochi. The community has well assimilated in their home of over 2,000 years and their roots are most evident on special occasions. ISTOCK

evident in their food habits, Indian Jews diligently observe dietary laws as laid down by the faith. The most important of all is adhering to kosher meals — strictly no mixing of meat with dairy products. It is this commonality, along with religion, that binds these communities together despite being physically distant. And although Jews are well assimilated in their home of over 2,000 years, their roots are most evident on special occasions.

For Shabat prayers, for instance, grape juice sherbet — in the absence of kosher wine — is served in all Jewish households in India.

Prominent festivals and historically symbolic foods form an important component of the book. We learn that apples dipped in honey, signifying a sweet year ahead, are mandatory on Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year. In Kerala, Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) is observed by consuming wheat flour halwa after a day of fasting. Like elsewhere, Passover marks the exodus of Jews from Egypt. In Western India, matzo, the unleavened bread carried across the Red Sea, has been replaced with the bin-khameer-chi-bhakri. A platter of assorted fruits edged with sweetened poha, nuts and dried fruits, called malida, is another essential part of celebrations. Scores of similar nuggets, with detailed recipes, are packed between the covers of 'Bene Appetit'. A delicious read.



BENE APPETIT:
THE CUISINE OF
INDIAN JEWS
by Esther David.
HarperCollins.
Pages 199.
₹399

Policing tales, with wit and humour

JUPINDERJIT SINGH

FROM rescuing a wailing bridegroom on the road during Emergency days to code songs employed by smugglers, to the tale of a donkey on the border and spice girls from UK police, former Punjab DGP GS Auja's book 'In and Out of Step' takes the reader on a delightful journey.

A compilation of writing, especially Middles and features which appeared in newspapers, mainly *The Tribune*, the short pieces carry enriching lessons of life with a subtle touch of wit and humour.

The writer's thoughts and stories gallop through the pages —

of the life of a trainee in the police academy, the challenges of service while dealing with criminals wielding 'desi katta' or country-made guns in Bihar in contrast to sophisticated weapons and modern policing in Punjab, built on the long tradition of British police history and work culture.

As a bonus, one gets immersed in erudite writing, ornamented with rich vocabulary, to build on the repertoire of terms and finer elements of the why and how of the police uniform, parade, horse-riding, weapons and architectural insights.

The title of the book may suggest an indulgence in revelations, but the author does not

stray into that sphere. He clears it early in the book. "I was neither a Sherlock Holmes nor a Robin Hood in uniform... I am more of an observer than a protagonist — a part of the audience than the stage."

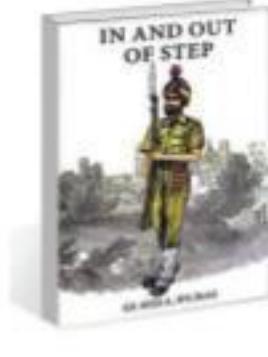
In several passages, the author reflects in a terse yet powerful manner on political, social or policing issues. Like when the first contingent of officers completed their training under a special Indo-Afghan initiative at the Police Academy in Phialaur in 2002, the passouts made a unique request to the author, the director of the academy:

"Don't send us back to Afghanistan. We would be happy to serve in Punjab Police."

Anecdotes from his trainee days in Mussoorie where the author hummed in the canteen, "Hari ki canteen ho, Sath Nazneen ho, Kuch meetha namkeen ho", bring a nostalgic smile.

There's the hilarious recounting of how smugglers in Gurdaspur played the song 'Watan ki aabru khatre mein hai' on loudspeakers to raise an alarm about a police raid.

The book also takes the reader through journeys across the world. You can pick any chapter to read, and will feel quite at home, in and not out of step.

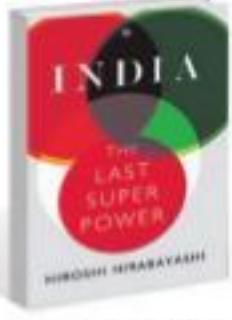


IN AND OUT OF STEP
by GS Auja.
The Browser.
Pages 254.

₹695

BACKFLAP

AT the outset, author Hiroshi Hirabayashi, Japan's former ambassador to India, says his book is aimed at removing some of the stereotypes that his people harbour about India. However, it isn't just about that. He paints a picture of India as a growing superpower. He details its strengths and weaknesses, throwing light on the history of friendship between the two countries, how the shared religion (Buddhism) has strengthened the bond. He places India at the centre of world politics and projects a picture of its growing global significance. Hirabayashi, who served here between 1998 and 2002, expects India to join the ranks of great powers such as the US and Russia, cashing in on the increasing presence of its rising population and a more visible diaspora.



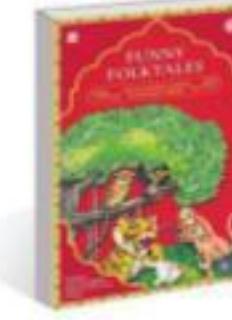
INDIA: THE LAST SUPER POWER
by Hiroshi Hirabayashi.
Aleph.
Pages 204. ₹699

MOTHERHOOD is a tiny bit about childbirth, a lifetime of raising children. But how to do it right? Partly memoir, this book also serves as a manual on raising sons who see from the woman's point of view. Informed by the author's work as a professor of journalism specialising in social-justice movements and social media, as well as by conversations with psychologists, experts, and other parents and boys, this book follows a mother's journey to raise a feminist son as a single parent. From teaching consent to counteracting problematic messages from the media, well-meaning family, and the culture at large, she believes mothers have a lot of work to do when it comes to boys. A deeply personal story of struggling, failing, and eventually succeeding at raising a feminist son.



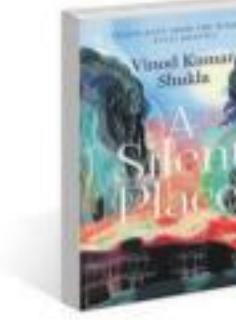
HOW TO RAISE A FEMINIST SON: A MEMOIR AND MANIFESTO
by Sonora Jha.
Penguin Random House.
Pages 304. ₹399

AMAR CHITRA KATHA has been telling India's greatest stories since 1967, with over 400 iconic comics from the great epics, folklore, mythology, history and literature. HarperCollins Children's Books has come up with adaptations for young readers for the first time. The Folktales series — 'Buddhist Stories', 'Tales of Wit and Wisdom' and 'Funny Folktales' — is a delightful collection of tales that have captured the imagination of generations of young Indians. While one brings gems from Buddhist folklore and fables, the other is a collection of stories of the witty Birbal and Tenali Raman. The third comprises hilarious stories that will have you in stitches. Enjoy the new experience of story-telling.



**FUNNY FOLKTALES:
AMAR CHITRA KATHA
FOLKTALES SERIES**
by Christopher Baretto.
HarperCollins.
Pages 140. ₹175

COUNTLESS are the wonders of nature. The greatest wonder is man. Countless are the victims of man. The greatest sufferer is nature." These lines from *The Silent Place*, English translation of Sahitya Akademi Award-winning Hindi writer and poet from Chhattisgarh Vinod Kumar Shukla's *Ek Chuppi Jagah* tell the plight of nature at the hands of humanity. Shukla, who is considered to be one of the gentlest and most profound writers of our time, infuses poetry, prose and riddles to tell the story of a group of young children who try to bring back sound to the silent woods, a world that lies on the other side of the stream. Using magic realism, the book takes us back to our childhood in a journey into a slow-paced world where rabbits escort people and a pygmy mountain plays with children.



THE SILENT PLACE
by Vinod Kumar Shukla.
Translated by Satti Khanna.
Eka.
Pages 176. ₹399

GUEST COLUMN
GUL PANAG

No one cares for healthcare

If you were to ask any Indian, irrespective of caste, creed, gender or background, about their number one desire for themselves and their family, eight out of 10 times the answer would be good health. And happiness. However, if this same person was at a polling booth and you asked her about the top priority that determined her choice of candidate, healthcare could be the unlikeliest of answers.

This dichotomy, in my view, is the single-most important reason for the collapse of the public healthcare system in India. The electorate doesn't think or value healthcare as being a part of the elected government's charter of duties. What does voting for 'development' mean if it doesn't include more hospitals and augmentation and upgradation of existing ones? Development or 'vikas' has been sold as an abstract concept, and the media has played its part in helping politicians sell it.

If we look at the states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh, they are catered to by a single referral hospital, the PGI in Chandigarh, that has been bursting at its seams for decades now. There are horror stories of patients succumbing to their fate in ambulances even before they could reach the gates of the PGI. And when they do, the wait in the corridors is endless.

The situation is pretty much the same across India. It's always the few referral hospitals like AIIMS and the PGI that bear a disproportionate burden, far above the capacity for which they were designed.

And that's largely because quality primary healthcare is almost non-existent. Most states don't prioritise healthcare, and thus, the local primary healthcare centres/dispensaries leave a lot to be desired. With the exception of Delhi, perhaps.



The electorate doesn't think healthcare is part of the government's charter of duties.

directly by the families of politicians or are sanctioned by them. The list of sanctions includes free land, which any genuine entrepreneur in India cannot get without political clout. This creates a huge disincentive for the political class if they were to improve the public healthcare system. Who will use these private hospitals and clinics if public healthcare becomes efficient and free?

Workable remedies

While referral institutes like the PGI came up in the 1950s and '60s, the population of our country has multiplied manifold since. There must be a structured plan to create at least one PGI-level referral hospital in every district. If you do the math, it is not such a difficult ask.

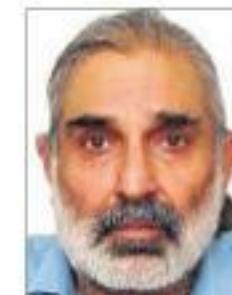
Second, primary healthcare needs to be modelled around best global practices. The benefits of investing in primary healthcare far outweigh the expenses incurred.

Free, basic healthcare needs to become a priority for political parties and the electorate must rise above the politics of caste and creed to vote for those who have these basics on their manifesto.

It is incumbent upon the media to highlight the role played by the government in healthcare. Only once the electorate is made aware that it is one of the core responsibilities of the government to provide healthcare, can the electorate demand accountability and choose retribution through the ballot if not satisfied. The electorate has seen the collapse of the public healthcare system. It must be educated about who is responsible and what needs to be done towards fixing it. The ball is now in the Fourth Estate's court. Will it finally call a spade a spade?

— The writer is an actor and entrepreneur

The obit writer

GUEST COLUMN
RAHUL BEIDI

subjects that are periodically updated and re-worked, and in some cases even approved by the subjects themselves.

Without doubt, the obits of the recently deceased Prince Phillip were such an instance, much like those of his narcissistic uncle Lord Louis Mountbatten, who reportedly spent an inordinate amount of time during his lifetime to ensure largely bespoke obits. For him, it was obviously important that he be remembered in the grand way he perceived himself, and he succeeded. Many obits also follow the dictum of not speaking ill of the dead but the liveliest ones, without doubt, remain those that are candid and salacious. After all, the aphorism that no one can libel the dead is in such cases, apposite.

The obvious question such an obit collection might legitimately provoke could be the motivation in gratuitously publicising the life stories of scores of people long dead, irrespective of their renown. My response is that this anthology is by no means a macabre celebration of their deaths, but a salutation to their quirky lives, escapades, vicissitudes and animated existences. In a sense, these obits strive to demystify death, simply by highlighting the sprightly tales that lie interred within each one of the subjects. Not writing about them would be a disservice to their existence, all of which, to use a clichéd phrase, adds up to a rudimentary draft of contemporary history.

Obituaries — derived from the Latin *obitus*, meaning death or the last day — also provide closure in times of uncertainty, anonymity and deracination. They offer the fading luxury of reminiscences, despite Internet's supremacy: informality, nostalgia, irreverence, humour, sensitivity, and of course, long-forgotten historical events. By transporting the reader to a bygone era, obits offer a transitory, but comforting reprieve from a dreary existence rife, amongst myriad other negatives, with disquieting technology and the equally bewildering and the dehumanising phenomenon of Twitter, Facebook and the like.

Of all the obits in the book, some of the subjects I knew well, others superficially, a handful by association and the remainder, not at all. But substantial portions were published before the Internet epidemic, necessitating extensive inquiry, meetings with relatives or friends and research in musty archives. All these years later, all I can say is that the entire exercise was a challenge and gratifying as my subjects' lives revealed India's depreciating human resource heritage.

After a certain age, many of us avidly scan newspaper death notices, not just to keep abreast of the declining scorecard of our acquaintances, but as a gratifying testament simply to being alive. In short, 'The Last Word' serves as a veiled lesson to us all: act now. After all, as the adage goes, life is not a dress rehearsal: make the show worthy of a racy obit.

Active viewer, time for physical activity

GOOD SPORT
ROHIT MAHAJAN

RIGHT now in India, we're witnessing the horror that Europe and the US went through a few months ago — the coronavirus pandemic is wreaking havoc in our country, too, mocking at the premature crowning of victory that our leadership indulged in. Amidst these nightmarish scenes of misery and devastation, the Indian Premier League goes on. Maybe it's just as well — this may sound insensitive, but life must go on, business must go on.

Sport is business, but it's also something with an inherent value — sport is an immunobooster for its practitioners. That said, sport is good if you step out and play merely watching it on TV is not enough



Within three days, pressure from football associations, governments and fans forced the big clubs to pull out of the proposed European Super League. REUTERS

On March 22, cricketer Devdutt Padikkal tested positive for Covid-19. On April 22, he smashed 101 off 52 balls in an IPL match. Now, Padikkal is young — only 20 — and obviously fit and strong. His testing positive, quarantining, recovering, resuming training and then making a 100 — all this within a month — may not be a miracle for a sportsperson.

But if one wishes, one can draw lessons from his story — sport will make you fitter. This is a guarantee.

The vaccine is here, the immunisation is on, but it's clear that Covid-19 isn't going away any time soon — we'd have to live with it for years. We'd have to learn to deal with it, manage it. Apart from masks and social distancing, the best way to do that is to eat healthy and be physically active.

In 2008, a worldwide study by the

medical journal *Lancet* concluded that physical inactivity caused 5.3 million premature deaths out of the 57 million deaths that occurred worldwide that year. The study noted: "Worldwide, we estimated that physical inactivity causes 6.10% of the major non-communicable diseases such as coronary heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and breast and colon cancers. Furthermore, this unhealthy behaviour causes 9% of premature mortality."

In short, sport is good if you step out and play — merely watching it on TV is not enough; IPL on the TV at night might elevate the mood and take the mind away from the terrible news around us, but it's no substitute to stepping out to walk, jog, play, breathe in the fresh air.

Fanning the fire

How many Ferraris does an average person need? None, perhaps. But

why do footballers need so many? This vital question was thrown up recently, when within three days, the grandest football league of all was announced and demolished — a multi-billion dollar sporting empire that was stillborn.

Big European clubs are suffering financially due to the pandemic. Their accounts are in the red, and their top officials are hired with the mandate to take urgent steps to bolster the finances. They came up with the idea of the European Super League (ESL) — it's not an original idea, having been floated several times before, but this time it was formally launched. The big clubs wanted themselves to be members in perpetuity of ESL, so that they could play each other every year. Contests among the big clubs garner most interest and eyeballs, and they wanted to mop up all the revenues from the sale of TV and digital rights. This

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would have dried up the financial stream of the smaller clubs — they would not have been part of ESL. The Champions League would have been demolished, leaving the smaller clubs little to play for at the continental level.

The fans of football — of clubs big and small — reacted with anger. Perhaps the pandemic has made them more civic-minded than ever before; perhaps the thought of profiteering, chasing more money and denying it to others, is an anathema in these times — in times when everything seems uncertain, and money less precious than oxygen. Within three days, pressure from football associations, governments and fans forced the big clubs to pull out of ESL — the project is dead.

Big clubs are desperate to chase money — one reason is that player salaries have spiralled out of control. Barcelona's salary limit before the pandemic was 671.4 million euros; it was reduced to 382.7 million euros for the Covid-hit season. Football players provide us joy, but are they really worth so much? Are they really worth more than scientists and doctors?

La Liga president Javier Tebas said: "These clubs need to reduce their expenses. We don't need to keep increasing earnings so that players can have seven Ferraris instead of six."

The common man doesn't need a Ferrari. For him, an ambulance in need is worth a million times more than a Ferrari.

Covid-19 comes home to stay, and what it leaves behind

IMMORTAL FOR A MOMENT
NATASHA BADHWAR

THE best way to focus on writing this column is to confess right away that I am sick with the Covid-19 infection. This sentence may sound alarming but it also contains in itself the information that I have been incredibly lucky in this season of death, despair and abject dereliction of duty by the state. I'm managing our personal tryst with Covid-19 at home along with my children, who are all also battling the same symptoms of fever, fatigue, nausea and body ache. A close group of friends, family and my husband are on call and once in a while when there is a pocket of peace, I send them a photo to let them know that we are resting and recuperating. We will recover.

On my phone, there is a constant stream of distress messages from friends and colleagues, most of whom are trying to coordinate support for others. The mayhem and mismanagement is such that even people of

privilege and power have been unable to get tests done and have searched desperately for hospital beds, oxygen cylinders and life-saving drugs for those close to them. Both mainstream as well as social media feeds have been strewn with videos of bodies from cremation grounds and people lying defenceless outside hospitals unable to admit them.

I don't know how we will recover from the trauma of the circumstances in which so many of us have struggled to find help. I do not remember this level of dissonance in my lived experience. It is beyond our imagination that despite scientific progress and systems of governance in 2021, people are suffering and dying because of the callous abdication of responsibility of India's political and administrative leadership.

Last year, at exactly this time of the year when India was under lockdown, we had felt

similarly trapped as we watched millions of desperate workers stranded without work, shelter or food and walking across the country to reach their home districts. Volunteers across the world had confronted the forced helplessness by bonding together online and offline and starting food distribution drives in solidarity. People had organised buses and donated generously to ensure that others were able to survive the mass hunger that had been thrust upon them.

We need to respond to the dystopian scenes of the present in the same way. As usual, action and solidarity with each other is the only way to dent the hubris that has created the panic we are in. The same social media feed that brings news of devastation is also the location where people are coordinating resources to try to save as many lives as possible. #PakistanStandsWithIndia is the top trending hashtag on Pakistani Twitter.

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In his book, 'If This Is a Man', Primo Levi, who had survived life in a concentration camp, writes: "...precisely because the Lager was a great machine to reduce us to beasts, we must not become beasts. One must survive to tell the story, to bear witness; and that to survive we must force ourselves to save at least the skeleton, the scaffolding, the form of civilisation... We must walk erect, without dragging our feet, not in homage to Prussian discipline but to remain alive, not to begin to die."

As we stand witness to another phase in human history when cruelty and ruthlessness is being normalised by those in power, we must fight back with the conviction that each individual life is precious. We, as a people, must have power over those who we have elected to govern. We need to keep

telling stories that are sought to be buried, asking questions to hold others accountable and lending a hand to those in torment. The good within us must triumph over moral turpitude.

The sense of shock that seems to overwhelm us now has a purpose to serve. Collective grief reminds us of our interconnectedness and how much we are all the same beneath the veneer of race, community and class. Let us resolve to never forget that it is not the Covid-19 pandemic that defeated us, it is the insensitivity and reckless arrogance of those who looked the other way when our people needed responsible and compassionate governance the most.

The virus will come and go but the lessons we have learnt of loss and abandonment must always stay with us.

The writer is a filmmaker and author natasha.badhwar@gmail.com

EC getting TMC men detained on polling day: Didi

KOLKATA, APRIL 24
West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee on Saturday alleged that the three Election Commission special observers were ordering police officers to detain TMC workers during polling hours. She said she would move the Supreme Court after the elections against the "conspiracy".

"These officials are giving orders to detain our men on the night before the polls and keep them in custody till 4 pm. Their WhatsApp conversation has been given to me by people in BJP" she said, showing the transcript of a purported chat between the special observers with DMs and SPs.—TNS

Two ONGC staffers rescued in Nagaland

GUWAHATI, APRIL 24
Two employees of the ONGC, kidnapped by suspected ULFA(I) ultras from the Lakhwa oilfield in Sivasagar district of Assam on Wednesday, were rescued after an encounter near the Indo-Myanmar border in Nagaland on Saturday.—PTI

Sufficient foodgrain to deal with any situation: Centre

VIBHA SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 24
The Centre today said sufficient foodgrain stock was available in the country to deal with any situation.

Speaking to the media about the additional free-of-cost foodgrain being provided to National Food Security Act (NFS) beneficiaries for May and June, Food and Public Distribution Secretary Sudhanshu Pandey said: "There is sufficient stock, much more than the buffer norm, available in the country to deal with any situation. As Rabi procurement is also going on, more is being added."

According to Food Corporation of India officials, the country has reserve of 77.23 MT of foodgrain, including 49.93 MT rice (31.06 MT in form of unmilled paddy) and 27.3 MT of wheat as of April 1. The current stock is more than three times the buffer norm of 21.04 MT, they said.

Pandey says the Centre is closely monitoring the situ-



77.23 MT
RESERVE OF GRAIN IN INDIA

21.04 MT
BUFFER NORM

94% GOT FREE RATION LAST YEAR: STUDY

■ An independent survey conducted by Dalberg has shown "a very high level of satisfaction among the beneficiaries with regard to distribution of foodgrain during the crisis last year"

■ Study by Microsave Consulting across 18 states/UTs has also shown that an average of 94% households received free ration on monthly basis during the crisis

ation to ascertain whether the scheme needs to be extended beyond June.

"The Prime Minister has

time and again repeated that there is no question of a complete lockdown. It was after reviewing the situation, the

government yesterday made the announcement of providing additional foodgrain to NFS beneficiaries in May and June," he added.

Pandey said the Chief Ministers of 13 states had requested the Centre to continue with the scheme launched during the Covid crisis in 2020. The Centre "successfully distributed" for eight months between April and November around 30 MT of foodgrain with a "high level of satisfaction", he said.

According to officials, an independent survey conducted by Dalberg (commissioned by the Ministry of Finance) has shown "a very high level of satisfaction among the beneficiaries with regard to distribution of foodgrain under the PM-GKAY and NFSU during the crisis".

Another study by Microsave Consulting (funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) in 88 districts across 18 states/UTs has also shown that an average of 94 per cent households received the free ration on monthly basis during the crisis.

Pressure mounts on Biden to ease vax raw material export

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, APRIL 24
American medical adviser says US will try to help India deal with its record-breaking Covid surge

to offer a ray of hope with its top medical adviser Anthony Fauci assuring that the US would try to help India deal with its record-breaking Covid surge.

Though there was conspicuous silence from some enthusiastic backers of US-India ties, the US Chamber was most forthright in seeking the

release of AstraZeneca vaccine doses for India and Brazil as these will not be needed in the US which will have enough doses by June to vaccinate every American.

"This move will affirm US leadership and we should work with partners around the globe because no one is safe from the pandemic until we are all safe from it," said the US Chamber in a repudiation of State Department spokesperson Ned Price stressing on American exceptionalism to justify the ban on exports. Price had said it is in the interest of the world that all Americans are vaccinated.

Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib sought a patent waiver from the White House which has been sought before the WTO by India, South Africa and Pakistan

but opposed by the US and the EU.

The State Department deputy spokesperson Jalina Porter has suggested that the US will be mindful of the entire world affected by the pandemic. "And as we look to our Indian friends battling this pandemic, we'll also acknowledge the toll that it's taking not only on the people of India but as well as all throughout South Asia and, quite frankly, all over the world," she said.

Royals crush KKR to rise from bottom

MUMBAI, APRIL 24
Bottom-placed Rajasthan Royals beat Kolkata Knight Riders in the 18th match of IPL-14 tonight to join two other teams on four points, leaving KKR alone at bottom.

Set a modest 134 to win, RR did not need to exert much, reaching the target for the loss of four wickets, with seven balls to spare. RR captain Sanju Samson, the only batting star of a team that has struggled to put runs on the board, remained unbeaten on 42 off 41 balls. Samson's fifth-wicket partnership of 34 with David Miller (24 off 23) took the team comfortably over the line.

Teen star Yashasvi Jaiswal, playing his first match of the season, got KKR to a good start with a 17-ball 22 with five fours, after England star Jos Buttler was trapped lbw for five by leg-spinner Varun Chakravarthy.

Jaiswal fell when he went for a big shot and holed out to Kamlesh Nagarkoti at sweeper cover,



Sanju Samson, Captain of Rajasthan Royals, bats during match 18 of the Indian Premier League in Mumbai on Saturday. PTI

making it 40/2. Next man Shivam Dube continued in the same vein, making 22 off 18 balls and adding 45 runs with Samson off six overs, before falling to a googly from Chakravarthy. Earlier, RR pacers combined accuracy and guile to restrict KKR to 133/9, with Chris Morris picking up 4/23 in his four overs. The RR pacers cleverly used change of pace to stifle the KKR batsmen. RR's pacers conceded only 101 runs in 16 overs and picked up seven wickets.

Morris, the most expensive player ever in the IPL auctions, proved his worth with a four-wicket haul. Jaydev Unadkat (1/25), Chetan Sakaria (1/31) and Mustafizur Rahman (1/22) also were impressive. KKR's opener Shubman Gill (11) disappointed yet again. In the powerplay, KKR laboured to only 25/1 in six overs as Gill and Nitish Rana failed to force the pace. Rana was the second to go, beaten by extra bounce from Sakaria in 2009. PTI

Archery WC: Deepika-led women's team seek gold

GUATEMALA CITY, APRIL 24

The Indian women's recurve team of Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat and Komalika Bari assured itself of the first medal in the Archery World Cup Stage 1 here after cruising into the final with a straight-set win over Spain.

However, the men's team, which qualified as the third seed, lost 26-27 in the quarterfinals to Spain in a shoot-off after the two teams were tied 4-4.

India are in the medal hunt in three more events — Atanu Das and Deepika advanced into the mixed pair bronze playoff; the two will also vie for individual medals, having qualified for the semifinals in their respective sections.

In the women's team semi-

Hockey umpire Thakur dies of Covid

MOHALI: Former international hockey umpire Suresh Kumar Thakur passed away here today due to Covid-related complications. He was 51. Thakur had officiated in several prestigious international tournaments including the four-nation tournament in Hamburg (Germany) and the Azlan Shah Cup at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. TNS

H'bad ex-cricket Yadav no more

HYDERABAD: Former Hyderabad fast bowler Ashwin Yadav died after suffering a cardiac arrest here at age 33. Yadav, who is survived by his wife and three sons, played 14 First-Class matches and captured 34 wickets after making his Ranji Trophy debut in 2007 against Punjab in Mohali. His last Ranji Trophy match was against Mumbai in 2009. PTI

Tendulkar recovers, to donate plasma

MUMBAI, APRIL 24
On his 48th birthday today, former India captain Sachin Tendulkar today said he has recovered from Covid-19 and will donate plasma when he is eligible. Tendulkar tested positive for the virus on March 27 and had to be briefly hospitalised. Tendulkar said: "I personally, when permissible, will donate it (plasma) and I have spoken to the doctors." Tendulkar had been in home isolation after he was discharged from hospital on April 8.—PTI

India, Bagan player Ganguly passes away

KOLKATA, APRIL 24
Former India and Mohun Bagan winger Pronab Ganguly, who is best remembered for his double strike against East Bengal in the club's 1969 IFA Shield win, died after suffering a cardiac arrest at his Park Circus residence on Friday. Ganguly, a member of the Indian team in Merdeka Cup in 1969, played for Mohun Bagan for eight seasons on the trot. —PTI

The Indian women's recurve team of Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat and Komalika Bari assured itself of the first medal in the Archery World Cup Stage 1 here after cruising into the final with a straight-set win over Spain.

However, the men's team, which qualified as the third seed, lost 26-27 in the quarterfinals to Spain in a shoot-off after the two teams were tied 4-4.

India are in the medal hunt in three more events — Atanu Das and Deepika advanced into the mixed pair bronze playoff; the two will also vie for individual medals, having qualified for the semifinals in their respective sections.

In the women's team semi-

nal, the Indian trio outclassed the Spanish team of Elia Canales, Ines De Velasco and Leyre Fernandez Infante, the top-seeded Indians winning 6-0 after consistent scores of 55, 56 and 55. This is India's first World Cup final since 2016 in Shanghai.

India will start firm favourites in a depleted field — without Asian heavyweights South Korea, China and Chinese Taipei — when they take on seventh-seeded Mexico in the final on Sunday. — Agencies

Gurdwara holds 'oxygen langar'

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

GHAZIABAD, APRIL 24

Serving the humanity is the core mantra that has been driving vice-president of the Ghaziabad Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee Gurpreet Singh as he has started a unique initiative of

"oxygen langar" to help Covid-19 patients amid severe shortage of medical oxygen in the country.

Amid SOS calls and messages for oxygen cylinders and concentrations flooding social media platform, Singh Saheb (as he is lovingly called) said, "We have started

'oxygen langar' on the premises of Indirapuram Gurdwara in Ghaziabad. On a daily average for the past one week we have been providing life-saving facility to 70 to 90 persons on demand."

For the purpose, the gurdwara has also brought out a helpline number 9097041313.

MISSION FATEH
Initiative of Government of Punjab for fighting COVID
REAL TIME HOSPITAL BEDS AVAILABILITY

BED AVAILABILITY IN GOVERNMENT & PRIVATE HOSPITALS

Sr. No.	District Name	GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS		PRIVATE HOSPITALS	
		Level 2 For Moderate COVID 19 Patients	Level 3 For Severe COVID 19 Patients	Level 2 For Moderate COVID 19 Patients	Level 3 For Severe COVID 19 Patients
1	Amritsar	339	217	341	193
2	Barnala	80	0	0	0
3	Bathinda	210	0	396	105
4	Faridkot	200	270	0	0
5	Fatehgarh Sahib	62	0	37	4
6	Fazilka	100	0	0	0
7	Ferozepur	110	0	110	5
8	Gurdaspur	130	0	35	0
9	Hoshiarpur	191	0	53	13
10	Jalandhar	610	66	884	368
11	Kapurthala	110	0	11	6
12	Ludhiana	300	20	844	279
13	Mansa	40	0	0	0
14	Moga	50	0	44	9
15	Muktsar	100	0	22	0
16	Pathankot	70	0	106	9
17	Patiala	660	100	174	45
18	Ropar	155	0	47	0
19	SAS Nagar	60	0	533	373
20	Sangrur	110	0	21	0
21	SBS Nagar	150	0	48	17
22	Tarn Taran	100	0	137	20
	Grand Total	3937	673	3843	1446

Note: The Hospital Wise availability can be accessed from 104 Medical Helpline, District Control Rooms, COVA App., PHSC Website (phsc.punjab.gov.in).
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, PUNJAB

HARYANA MONKEY COUNT

28th - 30th APRIL, 2021

Haryana Forests & Wildlife Department and Wildlife Institute of India invite you to participate in their first coordinate Monkey Count in the State using an online application.

DOWNLOAD APP

REGISTER

WAIT FOR APPROVAL

START USING APP

TIMINGS : 5:30 AM - 10:00 AM (DAILY) 5:00 PM - 07:00 PM

Other probable species which you may encounter and are to be recorded

Wildlife Census Haryana

App on Google Play

Contact:

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Forests and Wildlife Department, Haryana