

# The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

CHANDIGARH | GURUGRAM | JALANDHAR | BATHINDA | VOL. 141 NO. 159 | 16 PAGES | ₹5.00 | REGD. NO. CHD/0006/2021-2023 ESTABLISHED IN 1881

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THURSDAY | 10 JUNE 2021

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AUSTRALIA, JAPAN SHARE  
CHINA CONCERN WORLD

GOVT SCRAPS PLAN TO SPLIT GAIL, COMPANY  
TO MONETISE PIPELINES BUSINESS

CHOKSI'S BAIL HEARING  
TOMORROW BACK PAGE

THURSDAY | 10 JUNE 2021



BJP chief JP Nadda with Jitin Prasada in New Delhi on Wednesday. PTI

## Setback for Cong, Prasada joins BJP ahead of UP polls

Tribune News Service

### CONG IN DOLDRUMS

**Rajasthan:** Pilot and his loyalists continue to await rehabilitation. A frustrated Pilot has repeatedly urged action but to no avail

**Maharashtra:** An edgy Milind Deora is seen to be veering towards the BJP. He has publicly praised the PM on some occasions

**Punjab:** CM Amarinder Singh is under attack from his own party men. The Congress has allowed the critics to air their grievances

**Karnataka:** Former CM Siddaramaiah and party chief DK Shivakumar remain at loggerheads with both vying for CM's chair

His joining the saffron party comes at a time when the latter is struggling to retain the support of various sections of society. Besides 'mismanagement' during the second Covid wave, CM Yogi Adityanath faces allegations of "favouring" the Thakur

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

### Mumbai deluge



A BMC worker regulates traffic on a waterlogged road in Mumbai on Wednesday. PTI

**IN BRIEF**  
**Twitter: Compliance officer within a week**  
NEW DELHI: Social media platform Twitter is learnt to have written to the government that it was in advanced stages of finalising chief compliance officer as per the new Information Technology rules and additional details would be submitted to the government within a week, according to an official source. — PTI

**MP ex-CM Kamal Nath admitted to Medanta**  
GURUGRAM: Former Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath (74) was admitted to Medanta Hospital this morning following complaints of fever and shortness of breath. He is being monitored by a team of doctors. — OC

**In Hry, 10-year-old raped inside school**  
REWARD: A 10-year-old girl was allegedly raped inside a village school in Rewari district. Five minor boys aged between 8 and 15 years have been arrested, the police said on Wednesday. The school was closed because of vacation. INSIDE

**Encrypted chats can be analysed: NCB**  
CHANDIGARH: Investigating a drugs case, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has made it clear that end-to-end encrypted WhatsApp chats can be dug into and analysed by the government agencies with the help of forensic specialists.

As a petition filed by an 18-year-old for bail came up for hearing before the Punjab and Haryana High Court, the NCB submitted the chat was end-to-end encrypted. They were, therefore, constrained to send it to forensic specialists. INSIDE

## Month on, accused in Tikri assault case held

Tribune News Service

**JHAJJAR, JUNE 9**  
Had 'sexually abused' Bengal woman at site

charge Manoj Kumar. He would be produced before a local court on Thursday.

The victim had come to Tikri from West Bengal to support farmers on April 12. She died of Covid at a private hospital in Bahadurgarh on April 30. On May 8, her father lodged a complaint alleging his daughter was sexually assaulted by Malik at the protest site.

Rajesh Duggal, Jhajjar Superintendent of Police, said Malik was arrested by a police team led by CIA-2 in

## Ventilator out of use at Nurpur, patients suffer

Rajiv Mahajan

**NURPUR, JUNE 9**

Even as critical patients from lower Kangra region are being referred to hospitals in other districts, a ventilator at Nurpur's Civil Hospital has been gathering dust at its storeroom for the past over four years.

The equipment could have saved the lives of several Covid patients who died due to lack of ICU beds in the district.

A 50-bed Covid care centre was set up at the Civil Hospital where only oxygen beds were arranged. Not a single ICU bed with ventilator facility was provided by the district authorities.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## 'Wanted' gangster, aide shot in Kolkata

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9

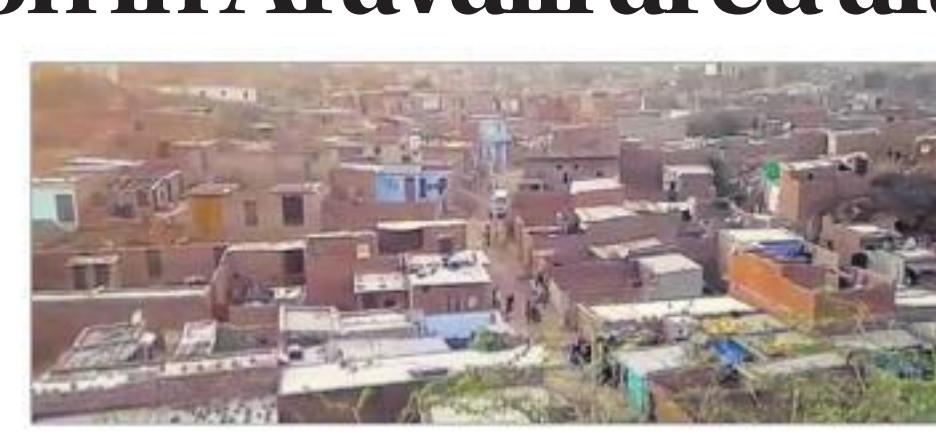
Punjab's most-wanted drug smuggler and A-category gangster Jaipal Singh Bhullar along with Jaspreet Singh, alias Jassi, who had rewards of Rs 10 lakh and Rs 5 lakh, respectively, on their heads, were killed in an encounter with the STF of the West Bengal Police in Kolkata on Wednesday.

DGP Dinkar Gupta, while addressing a press meet today, said both gangsters-turned-drug smugglers were wanted in the killing of ASIs Bhagwan Singh and Dalwinder Singh at the grain market, Jagraon, on May 15. INSIDE

## Demolition in Aravalli area after drone survey: MC

BIJENDRA AHLAWAT  
Tribune News Service

**FARIDABAD, JUNE 9**  
The first phase of the demolition drive against encroachments in the Aravalli forest land of Khor Lakkadpur village in the district did not begin today as the district administration decided to first conduct



Khor Lakkadpur village has nearly 10,000 dwellings. TRIBUNE PHOTO

a drone survey of the area.

In a joint press statement this evening, Municipal Corporation Faridabad Commissioner Garima Mittal, DC Yashpal Yadav and Deputy Commissioner of Police (NIT zone) Anshu Singla said that in compliance with the apex court order, the demolition

would be carried out soon, but it would be preceded by a drone survey to detect the exact violations.

It said a report would be prepared jointly by teams of the local administration and the demolition dates would be decided accordingly.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## Paddy MSP up ₹72; meagre, say farmers

Tribune News Service



MAXIMUM FOR OILSEEDS

Crop	Old MSP*	New	Hike
Sesame	₹6,855	₹7,307	₹452
Tur, urad	₹6,000	₹6,300	₹300
Groundnut	₹5,275	₹5,550	₹275
Paddy**	₹1,888	₹1,940	₹72

\*PRICES PER QUINTAL; \*\*COMMON GRADE

by Rs 300, taking it to Rs 6,300, while that of groundnut by Rs 275 to take it to Rs 5,550.

Elaborating on the decisions by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

Modi has a lot of respect for farmers and that is why the government will be ready for talks with the farmers whenever they want to talk. But, we have repeatedly urged farm unions to logically point out objections to relevant provisions of the law and we will listen to them and also attempt a resolution to their concerns," the minister said.

He said the government had held talks with farmers 11 times and asked them what their objection to the laws was and which provision of the laws they deemed unjust.

"But, neither any political party responded to the matter in the House, nor any

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## Can't share vaccine stock data, Centre tells states

Tribune News Service

### INFO SENSITIVE

- The Centre says information stored in the electronic vaccine intelligence network (eVIN) is sensitive and owned by it
- The data is not meant to be shared publicly without the consent of the Health Ministry

lytics generated by the electronic vaccine intelligence network (eVIN) are not to be shared with any organisation, media agency, online and offline public forums without the ministry's consent."



GUIDELINES FOR KIDS

- Remdesivir not recommended; rational use of HRCT imaging
- Steroids harmful in asymptomatic, mild cases of infection
- No antimicrobials for asymptomatic and mild cases
- For mild infection paracetamol 10-15mg/kg/dose
- In case of moderate infection, immediate oxygen therapy

92,596 FRESH CASES

TOTAL DEATHS 3,53,528

ACTIVE CASES 12,31,415

2,219 DEATHS IN 24 HOURS

## In Punjab, active cases drop below 20,000

Vishav Bharti



ON THE DECLINE

Date	Active cases
January 8	3,007
February 8	2,112
March 8	8,020
April 8	26,389
May 8	71,948
June 8	18,546

a few days. Between April 8 and May 8, the state's active caseload increased by almost 50,000. As on May 8, the number of active cases was 71,948.

In January this year, the active cases had come down to around 2,000. With the beginning of the second wave in February, the cases started rising and the trend continued over the next three months.

After the peak last month, the state started witnessing a decline in the number of daily as well as active cases.

On January 8, active cases stood at 3,007. The same came down to 2,112 in February. Soon the number rose exponentially and the state added around 18,000 active cases in

the next three months.

Even as the number has gone down below 20,000, experts caution people not to lower the guard and must comply with the Covid protocol.

## Una university withholds papers of 100 SC students

Bhanu P Lohumi

Tribune News Service

SHIMLA, JUNE 9

- The university kept documents following 'delay in release of scholarships'
- All the students fell in free education category, it maintained
- The education regulator has ordered immediate release of the documents

Bharat Bhushan, a lawyer representing a few of the students, submitted the list to the HPPEIRC. He claimed the 100 students were

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

# 4 medical colleges to boost health infra

To come up in Mohali, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala & Malerkotla at ₹ 1,500 crore

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MOHALI, JUNE 9

Health infrastructure in the state is set to get a boost with the creation of four new government medical colleges at a cost of Rs 1,500 crore in Mohali, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala and Malerkotla, OP Soni, Medical Education and Research Minister, said today.

Talking to the media after laying the foundation stone of the boundary wall of Dr BR Ambedkar State Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS), Mohali, Soni said there would be no dearth of doctors in Punjab as soon, about 500 additional doctors would pass out every year from the upcoming government medical colleges. He said



Ministers OP Soni and Balbir Singh Sidhu lay the foundation stone of a medical college in Mohali on Wednesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

presently, there were around 1,400 MBBS seats in medical colleges (both private and government) of Punjab which would witness an increase of 500 with the opening of the four medical colleges,

Land has been made available for all the colleges and AIMS, Mohali, is expected to be operationalised first. Around 80 per cent of the faculty has been recruited for the college and the process is on

## 500 MORE SEATS

■ Minister OP Soni on Thursday said there would be no dearth of doctors in Punjab as around 500 additional doctors would pass out every year from the upcoming government medical colleges

■ He said presently, there were around 1,400 MBBS seats in medical colleges (both private and government) of Punjab which would witness an increase of 500 with the opening of the four medical colleges

for recruitment of paramedics and support staff. "The NMC inspection has been applied and we are hoping to start the first batch of MBBS this year," he said. The medical college building will house an

academic block, four lecture theatres, labs, girls/boys/hostels, faculty residences, library, auditorium as well as ample space for indoor play area/community centre.

Around Rs 325 crore would be spent on infrastructure while Rs 50 crore would be spent on high-tech equipment. The spade work was over and tenders would be floated for the construction of medical college and hospital building in a fortnight, said Soni.

Meanwhile, consultants had been approved for Hoshiarpur and Kapurthala medical colleges and designs were being reviewed. Once the building designs were finalised, the tenders would be floated, he said.

# Pay tuition fee to get roll numbers, SC students told

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9

The Joint Association of Colleges (JAC) today announced to issue roll numbers of 2 lakh SC students of the 2020-21 session enrolled under the SC Post-Matric Scholarship scheme, but with a condition that students would have to pay the tuition fee, which has already been deposited by the government in their bank accounts.

Around Rs 325 crore would be spent on infrastructure while Rs 50 crore would be spent on high-tech equipment. The spade work was over and tenders would be floated for the construction of medical college and hospital building in a fortnight, said Soni.

Meanwhile, consultants had been approved for Hoshiarpur and Kapurthala medical colleges and designs were being reviewed. Once the building designs were finalised, the tenders would be floated, he said.

## ₹65-CR CENTRAL FUND RELEASED

■ The state government has released ₹65 crore of the ₹90 crore central fund it withheld this session

■ The move comes days after private colleges threatened to withhold the roll numbers of SC students over non-disbursement of grants under the SC Post-Matric Scholarship scheme

Welfare Department had disbursed Rs 152 crore, comprising tuition fee and maintenance fee, among 1.76 lakh students enrolled under the scheme 2020-21 session. However, the tuition fee component had to be paid to the respective colleges, but the

students failed to do so.

JAC Co-Chairman Dr Anshu Kataria said the relaxation of releasing roll numbers had been made only for the students of 2020-21 academic session. "But for those who belong to the 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 session, the unaided colleges won't be able to issue roll numbers as nobody has paid for their studies, neither the government nor the students," he said.

"The colleges taught them for three-four years but now they are under huge financial crunch. Because of non-payment, around 250 colleges may turn NPA this year, while 300 colleges have already been declared NPA by banks for defaulting on loan," Kataria added.

# Cong MPs meet Capt, vow support

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9

Expressing full faith in Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh's leadership and vision for the state, Punjab MPs today reiterated that the Congress would comfortably sweep the 2022 Assembly poll to carry forward the party's developmental agenda for people.

In a statement issued here today, Patiala MP Preetneet Kaur, Khadoor Sahib MP Dr Amar Singh Gill, Jalandhar

## SAD TO HOLD DHARNA AT CM'S RESIDENCE

The SAD has announced to hold a dharna at the residence of CM Capt Amarinder Singh in Chandigarh on June 15 to demand dismissal of Health Minister Balbir Singh Sidhu, besides a CBI probe into the alleged vaccine and Fateh kit scams

MP Santokh Singh Choudhary, Fatehgarh Sahib MP Dr Amar Singh and Faridkot

MP Mohammad Sadiq, who called on the Chief Minister at the latter's residence earlier in the day to discuss the election strategy for the forthcoming poll, said the people of Punjab only wanted Capt Amarinder Singh as their Chief Minister for another term.

Underlining that there was no challenge to the Congress in Punjab in the next elections, the MPs said every Punjabi would once again stamp his approval on Capt Amarinder Singh's name.



A farmer readies his field for paddy transplantation at a village in Nawanshahr, and (below) saplings being uncovered. PHOTOS: MALKIAT SINGH

# SIT an eyewash, alleges AAP

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9

After holding a protest in front of the Lambi police station demanding the arrest of those involved in spurious liquor factory busted at Badal village, AAP has called the formation of SIT by the state government a tactic to "fool" people.

Demands probe by sitting HC judge

Kisan Wing state president Kultar Singh Sandhu said in the past the government had set up several SITs in the drug cases, but without any success.

He said as per the demand of AAP, this case should be investigated by a serving Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court so that the real culprits could be arrested. — TNS

# Centre delayed cap on vaccine prices: Minister

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9

Punjab Health and Family Welfare Minister Balbir Singh Sidhu today said the Centre's order of capping Covid vaccine prices at private hospitals came very late.

He said the decision came when the private hospitals had already made huge profits even as BJP leaders kept leveling false allegations that the Punjab Government was making profit by supplying vaccines to private hospitals.

On the Centre's decision to take all vaccine purchases under its purview, he said the state/UT governments did not enjoy the unique position of the Government of India that allowed it to negotiate an appropriate price for the vaccines.

## COVID METER

	CASES	1,407
	Critical	240
	ACTIVE	17,344
	DEATHS	66

## DISTRICT-WISE COUNT

DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Jalandhar	142	6
Bathinda	117	4
Amritsar	104	9
Ludhiana	104	8
Hoshiarpur	96	1
Total	5,83474	15,293

He said the Modi government should ensure free vaccine to all and abolish the 25 per cent quota allocated to private players. The Centre should also refund all payments made by the state governments for Covid vaccines under the new policy.

AMAN SOOD

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, JUNE 9

Farmers will start paddy transplantation across the state from Thursday. Over 14.5 lakh tubewells will be drawing millions of litres of underground water, which is already witnessing a depletion of 2.5 feet annually.

While farmers are searching for skilled labourers, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) is toiling hard to make arrangements for meeting the substantial increase in power demand during the season.

Every tubewell pumps out 30.24 lakh litres of water a week with an average eight hours of power supply. PSPCL has assured an uninterrupted power supply for the fields. With a record number of tubewells running in the fields to pump out underground water, the demand for

## LABOUR PANGS

Farmers are facing acute shortage of labourers, who are yet to come from Bihar and UP, to sow nearly 25 lakh hectares across the state. The present rate for migrant labourers is ₹2,500 to ₹3,500 per acre in addition to other incentives

power is expected to reach 13,500 MW.

According to PSPCL officials, the power consumption of tubewells in 2018-19 paddy season was 7,299 million units. It was 7,800 million units in the last season. However, the power demand is expected to rise further this season.

With scorching summer heat, the demand for power in Punjab has already reached around 10,000 MW and is expected to rise fur-

ther in case the rains are delayed. "PSPCL is ready to provide daily eight-hour power supply to its agriculture consumers from June 10 along with 24-hour supply to all other category of consumers," said A Venu Prasad, CMD, PSPCL.

Prasad said 2,700 MW had been made available for this paddy season with the help of power arrangements and other states. Since 2013, the PSERC has been informing the state government that the

PSPCL is inflating the figures of electricity supplied to agricultural consumers (tube-wells) by 5 to 10 per cent to show reduced transmission and distribution (T&D) losses. The line losses determined by the PSERC are 2 per cent higher than those claimed by the PSPCL.

As compared to 13,66,160 tubewells in 2018 paddy season, 14,50,960 tubewells would be functional this season. Already the falling groundwater table in the state has set alarm bells ringing as agriculture experts say that the groundwater level is falling by 1 meter per annum. Early sowing of paddy "puts an extra pressure on soil" and leads to consuming too much of groundwater. As many as 108 blocks in the state are under the "dark zone" (where water table has fallen drastically) because of the increasing area under paddy cultivation.

# Bathinda teachers protest transfer delay

Bathinda: ETT Teachers' Union members staged a protest against postponing of primary school teachers' transfers. Protests were also held in different blocks at Bhagta, Talwandi Sabo, Rampura and Goniania. Union president Gurjot Singh said, "The government's decision to first order the transfers of teachers and now postponing these has irked primary teachers across the state." TNS

# Engineer promoted

Chandigarh: Basant Kumar Jindal of Sangrur, who is working as Deputy Chief Engineer at Lehra Mohabbat Thermal Plant, PSPCL, has been promoted as Chief Engineer. He has been posted as Chief Engineer (Planning) at Patiala. TNS

# MSP hike not enough, say farmers

Want increase as per Swaminathan report's recommendations

SAMEER SINGH

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE



Farmers stage a sit-in against the central government at a toll plaza in Bathinda. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## INPUT COSTS HAVE GONE UP

● A meagre increase of ₹72 on paddy and ₹200 on cotton is nothing but a cruel joke. The input costs of farming have increased considerably. We reject the MSP hike. Ramkaran Singh Raman, BKU LEADER

## HOLD TALKS, TOMAR URGED

SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal on Wednesday urged Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Tomar to hold fresh talks with farmers to understand why they wanted the farm laws to be repealed instead of rejecting the demand

Centre must be more pragmatic in its policies and increase MSP as per the C2 formula recommended by Swaminathan report."

Balkaran Singh Balli, a leader of the Punjab Kisan Union, said: "Every year, a farmer spends heavily on seeds, labour, pesticides

and diesel for irrigation and then the government simply washes its hands off by making a meagre increase in the MSP. Farmers who cannot bear the burden of debt end their lives." Baldev Singh Sandoha, president, BKU (Sidhpur), said: "We oppose this meagre

# Moga part of NITI Aayog's 1 billion saplings project

MOGA, JUNE 9

Lauding the efforts being made to ensure Moga district's overall development, the NITI Aayog has selected it as one of the two districts in the country where the pilot project of planting a proportionate of one billion saplings will be initiated to boost the green cover.

The second district is Ranchi in Jharkhand.

## Admn to prepare 5-yr blueprint

Ninety lakh saplings will be planted in Moga in five years. Moga District Magistrate Sandeep Hans said this was a great gift from the NITI Aayog to Moga on the occasion of World Environment Day.

He said 100 crore saplings would be planted in 112 districts of the country in a phased manner. Moga was lucky to be first on the list. A blueprint was being prepared to plant 90 lakh saplings in the district. Stakeholders have been asked to identify land for the purpose. — TNS

# International karate player turns labourer to help family

2018 gold medallist was promised government job

SUKHMEET BHASIN

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, JUNE 9

Fighting poverty, a 23-year-old international karate player from the region is being forced to work as a labourer to transplant paddy at her native village Gurne Kalan in Moga district.

Hardeep Kaur, who has won 20 medals in various karate championships at Malaysia and national games in Goa, was promised a government job in 2018, but she is still unemployed. Talking to The Tribune, she recalls that when she had returned after winning a gold medal in Malaysia in 2018, Sports Minister Rana Gurmeet Singh Sodhi had met her during a visit to the area and announced a government job for her, but even after three years the promise remained fulfilled. "My father works as a labourer and I am studying DPEd (diploma in physical education) from Patiala. To support my studies and parents, I work as a labourer

mother Sukhwinder Kaur said the government should help her daughter, who brought laurels to the state. Harjit Singh, the farmer whose fields Hardeep works, said: "She is a sports star. Winning a gold medal at an international event is no mean feat. The government should provide her a job under its Ghar-Ghar Rozgar scheme so that she is not forced to do menial jobs and is able to live her life comfortably."</

# Dreaded gangster Jaipal, aide killed in Kolkata encounter

Were accused of murdering two CIA ASIs in Jagraon last month

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE



Jaipal Singh Bhullar and Jaspreet Singh; and DGP Dinkar Gupta at a press meet on Wednesday.

**CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9**  
Punjab's most-wanted drug smuggler and A-category gangster Jaipal Singh Bhullar, along with Jaspreet Singh (alias Jassi), who had rewards of Rs 10 lakh and Rs 5 lakh, respectively, on their heads, were killed in an encounter with the STF of the West Bengal Police in Kolkata on Wednesday.

The raid at their hideout was conducted on a tip-off by the Punjab Police and coordination with central security agencies. Director General of Police (DGP), Punjab, Dinkar Gupta, while addressing a press conference here today, said both gangster-turned-drug smugglers were wanted in the killing of ASIs Bhagwan Singh and Dalwinderjit Singh at the grain market, Jagraon, on May 15. Jaipal was the most notorious as he had links with anti-India agencies in Pakistan.

He had snatched a 9-mm pistol from ASI Sukhdev Singh of the Khanna police on the evening of May 10, when he was deployed at a naka on the GT road near Doraha. The DGP said the Punjab Police launched a massive operation, codenamed 'Operation Jack Manhunt', to nab Jaipal Bhullar and Jaspreet Singh. Many police teams were dispatched to various states to nab these gangsters with the help of other police forces.

He said the Punjab Police had arrested Bharat Kumar of Sahnewal, Ludhiana, near the

Shambhu border in the Raja area and recovered a .30 bore pistol along with a Honda Accord car. Bharat was providing logistic support to Jaipal in Gwalior after he and Jassi fled from Punjab.

The DGP said Bharat revealed that Jaipal and Jassi were holed up in a rented apartment in Kolkata. "The Punjab Police immediately dispatched a special team for Kolkata by flight. In the meanwhile, we also coordinated with the Kolkata police to share pinpointed inputs regarding their current hide-

out for the arrest of the drug smugglers," he said.

The DGP said a senior police officer from the Kolkata police informed them in the afternoon that both criminals had been killed in retaliatory firing by the STF in which one of their police inspectors had sustained bullet injuries.

"I am grateful to the West Bengal Police which acted on inputs provided by the Punjab Police and conducted a raid at the Kolkata apartment where Jaipal was holed up along with Jassi," the DGP said.

Many police teams were dispatched to various states to nab these gangsters with the help of other police forces.

He said the Punjab Police had arrested Bharat Kumar of Sahnewal, Ludhiana, near the

## Probe sought into stamp duty 'scam'

**MOHALI, JUNE 9**  
Bir Devinder Singh, former Deputy Speaker, today urged the CM to probe the multi-crore stamp duty scam regarding the 120-acre land in two villages of Bairampur and Manak Majra in Mohali district. The land was allegedly transferred without paying stamp duty, causing a loss of several crores to the state exchequer. "When the former tehsildar objected, she was transferred and Vikash Sharma was appointed, who made a parallel file and approved it," he said. — TNS

## Woman killed, 9 booked

**FATEHGANJ SAHIB, JUNE 9**  
A dispute between neighbours led to the death of a woman after she was run over by a car. The district police booked nine persons in a murder case on the complaint of Sonu, a resident of Sirhind town.

As per the FIR, Sonu said he and his brother lived in Sirhind while their uncle lived in Himachal. His son Sanju was married to Kirna, daughter of Jang Singh, Sonu's neighbour. He said two months ago, Sanju died under mysterious circumstances and now, the family

came to know that he was tortured by his wife Kirna. He said Kirna and her father started quarrelling with them alleging they were supporting the family of Sanju. They allegedly attacked their house. Kirna's brothers Badal and Rama ran over their car over Baljit Kaur, wife of his brother. She was rushed to the Civil Hospital and then to Rajindra Hospital, Patiala, where she died.

The police have registered a case under Sections 302, 120B, 323 and 506 of the IPC against nine persons. — OC

## DSP who sought funds for treatment dies

Govt waives ₹18 lakh hospital bill | Kin to get job, ex gratia

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Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, JAILS MINISTER

advanced stage of approval.

On knowing about the officer's ill health, CM Capt Amarinder Singh had put Health and Medical Education Adviser Dr KK Talwar on the job to monitor his health and treatment facilities.

DGP Dinkar Gupta was reviewing the DSP's health on a daily basis. "We have lost a brave officer. We were in constant touch with the doctors to save him," said Commissioner of Police Rakesh Agrawal. — TNS

## Encrypted chats can be analysed: NCB

SAURABH MALIK  
TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9**  
Investigating a drugs case, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) has made one thing clear: End-to-end encrypted WhatsApp chats can be dug into and analysed by government agencies with the help of forensic specialists.

As a petition filed by an 18-year-old for regular bail in a drugs case came up for hearing before the Punjab and Haryana High Court, the NCB submitted that the entire WhatsApp chat was end-to-end encrypted. As such, it could not be opened by the NCB officers. They were, therefore, constrained to send it to forensic specialists for "opening and analysis".

The prosecution's case was that the petitioner and his co-accused-father were found in possession of 520 grams of heroin without permit or licence. They were arrested on February 14, 2020.

Justice Sudip Ahluwalia's Bench was told the complicity/involvement of the accused in trafficking was established from his talks over phone and WhatsApp communications with a Nigerian handler/supplier of contraband.

Screenshots from the peti-

**SENT TO FORENSIC TEAM**

- NCB sends chats to forensic specialists for 'opening and analysis'
- The matter has its genesis in a case registered under the NDPS Act at the NCB police station, Chandigarh

titioner's phone regarding his alleged interaction on WhatsApp with the supplier were filed along with the NCB reply. The Bench was told there was an exchange of text messages and audio and video chats from February 8 to 14, 2020.

The petitioner's counsel submitted that the recordings of the alleged WhatsApp conversations between the petitioner/holder of the phone at the relevant time and the contraband supplier had not been made available to show the petitioner's involvement.

The NCB counsel submitted: "Once the relevant report comes, it will be made available." He added the WhatsApp conversations were sent for forensic analysis with the intent to submit its report at an appropriate stage. Finding no justification to release the petitioner on bail at the current stage, Justice Ahluwalia dismissed the petition.

## Revenue officials to go on strike from June 21

**CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9**  
Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, said Mohan Singh Bhehpura, secretary of the Kanungo Association of Punjab. During the meeting, patwaris and kanungos expressed anguish over non-filling of the vacancies, leading to a huge burden on the existing patwaris. Against over 4,716 posts of patwaris in the state, only 1,900 are working. — TNS

## Wanted in 40 cases, carried ₹10L reward

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9**

Carrying a reward of Rs 10 lakh, most-wanted gangster Jaipal Singh Bhullar, alias Manjit Singh, was the son of a retired Assistant Sub-Inspector of the Punjab Police. Jaipal was wanted in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh for over 40 cases related to murder, extortion, kidnapping, robbery and smuggling.

He had succeeded in evading arrest for five years and was known as a master of surreptitious movement where he seldom used a mobile phone. Jaipal was a hammer-thrower and a budding talent at Speed Fund Academy, a Punjab Government sports training centre in Ludhiana. He met another player and small-time criminal Happy at the academy.

In July 2004, they carried out the kidnapping of seven-year-old Chirag, son of a cinema hall owner in Ludhiana. After his arrest, he came in touch with other gangsters in jail. Jaipal became close to Rajiv, alias Raja, when the lat-

ter landed there in 2006 for loot and murder of three Ludhiana jewellers. Jaipal and Raja ganged up and also became partners in crime with notorious gangster Shera Khubban.

In January 2009, both helped Raja flee from police custody at the Barnala bus stand. In another crime, they robbed a gun house in Hoshiarpur, looted money from banks in Panchkula and Mohali, robbed a Chandigarh businessman and a BJP leader in Panchkula, and jacked several flashy cars on highways.

In June 2009, Raja and some of the gang members were arrested by the Panchkula police. A month later, Jaipal and his team were arrested by the Chandigarh police. They were taken on production warrants to 27 police stations in Punjab, Haryana and Delhi. But in most cases, they were acquitted with witnesses reluctant to speak up.

## Kharge panel finalises report, to submit today

**CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9**

As the three-member Mallikarjun Kharge panel is learnt to have finalised its report before submitting it to Congress president Sonia Gandhi by tomorrow, Punjab Congress leaders and their supporters have taken to digital media and hoarding campaigns to further their political interests.

The official page of "Punjab Da Captain" has already launched campaign "Captain for 2022". Party leaders say the hoarding war was aimed at countering the dissidents. On the other hand, Charanjit Singh Channi, who is among senior party leaders who are questioning the Chief Minister on "unfulfilled" poll promises, has come up with a campaign, "Ghar Ghar Vich Chali Gal, Channi Karda Masles Hal". — TNS

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Director Research-cum-Nodal Officer No.DR/HPHD-PIU/11/2018-172 Dated : 05/06/21  
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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

I, Sunita alias Sunita Sharma w/o Sumesh Kumar # 3059, New Janta Nagar, Ludhiana hereby declare that I have changed my name to Sunita Sharma in near future. (CL21020836)

I, Anil Hora s/o Gulshan Hora r/o # 387, Sector 7, Panchkula (Haryana), have changed my name from Anil Kumar Hora to Anil Hora. (CL21020840)

I, Surinder Mohan Shukla s/o Sh. Munshi Ram r/o # 5, Charan Bagh, Patiala, declare that my son Bhavneet Mohan Shukla and his wife Anuradha Shukla are out of my control. I disown them from all my moveable/ immovable property. Anybody dealing with them shall do so at their own risk. (CL21020472)

I, Kalo W/o Om Parkash Residence of 32, Faidan Nizampur, Chandigarh have changed my name to Pyari Devi. (CL21020668)

I, Awani Kumar s/o Sagar Chand r/o House No. 176, Milk Colony, Dhanas, Chandigarh have changed my name to Awani Kumar. (CL21020678)

I, Ankita Saraf D/o Sh. Satyendra Kumar Saraf after marriage permanently changed my name Ankita Saraf to Ankita Goyal W/o Sh. Abhinav Goyal R/o H.No. 883/8, Geeta Colony, Thanaser, Kurukshetra, Haryana (India). Concerned note. (CL21020692)

I, Rajveer Singh Malli s/o Gurumukh Singh r/o Village Kamalpur, Distt. Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar, have changed my name to Rajveer Singh. (CL21020729)

I, Iqbal Singh s/o Komal Singh r/o # 18-D, New Ganesh Nagar Rajpura, earlier disowned my son Baldeep Singh by advertising in The Tribune on 02.08.2019. But now he is obedient to me. So, I cancel my disown. From now he will inherit my moveable/ immovable property. Concerned be note. (CL21020734)

I, Jagdish Kumar s/o Mansa Ram, H.No. 10-A, Green Avenue, Deep Nagar, Jalandhar declare that in my son Jitesh Jassal's certificates my name written wrong i.e. Jagdish Jassal. My correct name is Jagdish Kumar. (CL21020753)

I, Jai Dai spouse of No. 2500725P Rank L/NK Pradeep Kumar, Village Bashol, PO Shakrah, Tehsil and District Shimla, HP, declare that I have changed my name from Jai Dai to Jai Dei. Concerned note. (CL21020835)

I, Jaidev s/o Chandagi Ram r/o Radha Sawami Colony, Ambala Road, Kaithal informs that my son Gopal is out of my control. I disown Gopal from my moveable / immovable properties. I will not responsible for his any matter in future. (CL21020841)

I, Lila Vati w/o Pirthi Singh r/o Bhunans, Tehsil Guhla, Distt. Kaithal (Haryana), declared that I have changed my name from Leelawati to Lila Vati. (CL21020842)

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**COURT NOTICES**

In the Court of  
Sh. Ashok Kapoor  
Principal Judge Family Court,  
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar.  
CNR No.:  
PBBS01-000529-2021  
Next Date: 13.07.2021

Harsimrat Kaur wife of  
Balwinder Singh and daughter of  
Amarjit Singh, residing at Bharta  
Khurd, Tehsil Nawanshahr, District  
S.B.S. Nagar and another.

....Petitioners

Versus  
General Public and another

....Respondents

Petition under Section 7 read with  
Section 25 of the Guardian and  
Wards Act for declaring and  
appointing the petitioners to be the  
legal and lawful guardian of minor  
son namely Abhijit Singh, Dob  
07.08.2009 and further appointing  
the petitioners as legal and lawful  
guardians and sole custodians of  
minor son Abhijit Singh.

Notice to:  
General Public

In above titled petition the  
respondent(s) could not be served.  
It is ordered that the respondent(s)  
should appear in person or through  
counsel on 13.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to  
[https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=sbsnagar](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sbsnagar)

Dated, this day of 01.06.2021.  
Sd/- (Ashok Kapoor)

Principal Judge Family Court,  
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar.  
CL21020634 UID No.: PB0140

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In the Court of  
Sh. Ashok Kapoor,  
Principal Judge,  
Family Court,  
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar.  
CNR No.

PBBS01-004690-2019  
Next Date: 05.07.2021

Rajwinder Kaur wife of Gurmeet  
Kumar & daughter of Bhagat Ram,  
at present resident of Village  
Danduwal, Tehsil Phillaur, District  
Jalandhar.

...Petitioner

Versus  
Gurmeet Kumar son of Gurmail  
Chand, resident of VPO Jabbawal,  
Tehsil Nawanshahr, District SBS  
Nagar.

...Respondent

Petition under Section 13 of  
Hindi Marriage Act, 1955, as  
amended upto date for dissolution  
of the marriage by decree of  
divorce.

Notice to:  
Gurmeet Kumar son of Gurmail  
Chand, resident of VPO Jabbawal,  
Tehsil Nawanshahr, District SBS  
Nagar.

In above titled petition the  
respondent(s) could not be served.  
It is ordered that respondent(s)  
should appear in person or through  
counsel on 05.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to  
[https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=sbsnagar](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sbsnagar)

Sd/- (Ashok Kapoor)

Principal Judge, Family Court,  
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar,  
UID No. PB0140

CL21020635 01.06.2021

(U/o Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of  
Shri Gurumohan Singh  
Additional District and  
Sessions Judge-2,  
Ferozepur.

M/s J.P. Sortex Pvt. Ltd. through its  
Director Raman Garg.

Versus

Amira Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd.

CNR No.: PBZ01-004079-2019

Next Date: 09.07.2021

Publication issued to:

1. Amira Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,

Mohan Cooperative Industrial  
Estate, New Delhi through its  
Managing Director Rajesh Arora B-1/E-28.

2. Rajesh Arora, Managing Director, C/o  
Amira Pure Food Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,

Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi-110044.

3. Kiran A. Chauhan son of Anil Channa  
(Director) R/o #B-54, Pragati Marg,  
M.G. Road, Mehroli, New Delhi-110030.

4. Aparna Puri (Director) C/o Amira  
Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,

Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi-110044.

5. Rahul Sood (Director) C/o Amira Pure  
Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,  
Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi-110044.

6. Shyam Puri (Director) C/o Amira  
Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,  
Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi-110044.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/  
respondents) could not be served. It is  
ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s)  
should appear in person or through  
counsel on 09.07.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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Dated, this day of  
09.07.2021.

Sd/- Additional District and  
Sessions Judge-2,  
Ferozepur.

CL21020645

(U/o Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of  
Shri Gurumohan Singh  
Additional District and  
Sessions Judge-2,  
Ferozepur.

M/s J.P. Sortex Pvt. Ltd. through its  
Director Raman Garg.

Versus

Amira Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd.

CNR No.: PBZ01-004079-2019

Next Date: 09.07.2021

Publication issued to:

1. Amira Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,

Mohan Cooperative Industrial  
Estate, New Delhi through its  
Managing Director Rajesh Arora B-1/E-28.

2. Rajesh Arora, Managing Director, C/o  
Amira Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,  
Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi-110044.

3. Kiran A. Chauhan son of Anil Channa  
(Director) R/o #B-54, Pragati Marg,  
M.G. Road, Mehroli, New Delhi-110030.

4. Aparna Puri (Director) C/o Amira  
Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,  
Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi-110044.

5. Rahul Sood (Director) C/o Amira Pure  
Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,  
Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi-110044.

6. Shyam Puri (Director) C/o Amira  
Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd. #B-1/E-28,  
Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate,  
New Delhi-110044.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/  
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ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s)  
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Dated, this day of  
09.07.2021.

Sd/- Additional District and  
Sessions Judge-2,  
Ferozepur.

CL21020645

(U/o Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of  
Shri Gurumohan Singh  
Additional District and  
Sessions Judge-2,  
Ferozepur.

M/s J.P. Sortex Pvt. Ltd. through its  
Director Raman Garg.

Versus

Amira Pure Foods Pvt. Ltd.

CNR No.: PBZ01-004079-2019

Next Date: 09.07.2021

Publication issued to:

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**A Defining Moment in the History of Punjab**

**For the 1st time ever**

# **PUNJAB TOPS IN SCHOOL EDUCATION IN INDIA**



**Nawan  
Narua  
PUNJAB**

{ Latest rankings released  
by the Government of India }



**“ It is really creditable that Punjab has been accorded the top ranking amongst all the States/Union Territories in School Education for 2019-20. I congratulate all our teachers, students and their parents besides administrators for sheer hard work and commitment for this rare honour, which has made every Punjabi proud. I am confident that all of them would continue their efforts to impart quality school education in every nook and corner of the state. ”**

**Capt. Amarinder Singh  
Chief Minister, Punjab**

## **Some Highlights of the Rankings released by Government of India**

Parameter	All India Rank	Parameter	All India Rank
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>/ Availability of a school in the neighbourhood</li> <li>/ Enrolment of children in schools</li> <li>/ Preventing students from discontinuing their education</li> <li>/ Identifying students who have stopped studying and getting them back into school</li> </ul>	1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>/ Education imparted to Scheduled Caste students</li> <li>/ Education imparted to Rural students</li> <li>/ Education imparted to Girls</li> <li>/ Education imparted to Handicapped students</li> </ul>	1st
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>/ Facilities in schools</li> <li>/ Number of classrooms</li> <li>/ Functional toilets</li> <li>/ Clean drinking water</li> <li>/ Science laboratories</li> <li>/ Computer laboratories and Projectors</li> <li>/ Libraries</li> <li>/ Vocational Education</li> <li>/ Learning Aids in Primary Schools</li> <li>/ Ramps for physically disabled students</li> </ul>	1st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>/ Availability of teachers</li> <li>/ Attendance of students</li> <li>/ Attendance of teachers</li> <li>/ Mid-Day Meal</li> <li>/ Student Teacher ratio</li> <li>/ Number of schools having Principals</li> <li>/ Number of schools having Headmasters</li> <li>/ Merit based Recruitment of Teachers</li> <li>/ Online teacher transfers</li> <li>/ Community involvement in Schools</li> </ul>	1st

*On this remarkable achievement*

*Punjab Chief Minister*

**Capt. Amarinder Singh**

*will congratulate the*

**GOVERNMENT SCHOOL TEACHERS**

*on*

**June 10, 2021 (Thursday) | 11:30 AM onwards**

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# The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

## Unlock with caution

Covid-battered nation can't afford to be complacent

**W**HEN India's daily Covid caseload fell below 10,000 in the first half of February, weeks after the vaccination programme was rolled out, it was assumed that the country's war against the pandemic was practically over. The general mood was celebratory as well as self-congratulatory. The havoc wreaked by the second wave in April-May was both a rude shock and a wake-up call. The nation has paid a heavy price for its complacency. Now, with the second wave subsiding and the unlocking process underway in Maharashtra, Delhi and other states, it's imperative to quickly learn lessons from the recent nightmarish experience. Not for a moment should we be tempted into believing that the worst is behind us.

The role of Covid-appropriate behaviour in warding off future waves cannot be overstated, as stressed by AIIMS-Delhi Director Dr Randeep Guleria and NITI Aayog Member (Health) VK Paul. The basics are still as relevant as they were last year; if not more: wear a mask properly, maintain social distancing and avoid crowds. Last year, the unlocking that began in June after the world's most stringent lockdown had led to a rise in the number of daily cases. The peak was reached only in September, when the single-day caseload touched around 97,000. The corresponding figure this time was as high as over 4 lakh.

With the overstretched healthcare system getting a much-needed respite, it's time to step up testing and vaccination. The possibility of conducting rapid antigen tests in public places should be explored. These are certainly not as reliable as RT-PCR tests, but can help in prompt isolation of Covid-positive people and consequently reduce the risk of spread of infection. Superspreaders such as political and religious congregations, which allowed the virus to run riot earlier this year, should be a strict no-no at least for the next few months. The reopening of malls, which draw big crowds, must be closely monitored. Above all, it should dawn on us that there might be no return to the pre-Covid world of reckless abandon in the near future. The new normal ought to become a way of life.

## Caring for orphans

Challenge will lie in implementing SC order

**W**HILE the incidence of children losing one or both parents to natural deaths or tragedies like accidents or diseases is not new, the large scale on which it has happened because of the Covid-19 pandemic in the country has forced the Supreme Court to ask the states and union territories to create a roadmap for their future by ensuring that their education, which provides for empowerment as well as social and economic advancement, remains uninterrupted. The court has asked that arrangements for this purpose be made in both government and private schools. The court also wants details about their employment opportunities and special care for the girl child. Most of the families have been affected in terms of the loss of an earning member and protecting their interests is of prime concern. The government announced a special PM Cares for Children scheme for those orphaned due to Covid-19 with provisions for a corpus fund. But with the cause of death not clear in many cases, implementing it will remain a tough task.

Familial and social care is no doubt called for in the face of such adversity and the government and courts are right in trying to ensure that the legal and social rights of children are protected by the state. The pandemic has also underlined the fact that extended and joint families have been better able to cope with such tragedies in terms of care and support. The court also voiced concern over the collection of funds by NGOs or the practice of adoption of orphaned children in violation of the norms.

Tragedies are unforeseen but recovering from them remains the best bet to deal with the vicissitudes of life. Education provides a way out by helping people be on their own. Discontinuation of studies is as big a disappointment as the dropping out of children because of other socio-economic reasons. The education sector in the country is already in the grip of disruption and a setback to Covid-affected children will only add another dimension to it.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Harmony makes small things grow, lack of it makes great things decay. — Sallust

## ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

# The Tribune.

LAHORE, FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 1921

## THE GURDWARA BILL.

WE cannot help thinking that in view of the nature and extent of the differences of opinion regarding the proposed Gurudwara legislation disclosed by the discussions in the Council as well as in the Press and elsewhere, the decision at which the Punjab Government has arrived and which it has just announced in a communiqué published in our last issue, should cause no surprise. In the old days, when the Government was an undiluted despotism, and the legislature existed only to register the decrees of the executive, such differences of opinion would not have mattered, for the Government could always bear down any opposition with the help of its standing official majority in the Council. Not so to-day, when the legislature contains a large majority of elected members, and when the Government itself has been partially popularised. In the present case, moreover, the proposed measure belonged to the specific category of measures as to which the Government's responsibility to the Legislative Council and, through it, to the people is not partial but complete, at least in theory. It was an Indian minister who introduced the Bill, who was in charge of it throughout, and on whom, as distinguished from his Europeans and purely official colleagues, the responsibility for the legislation would have principally rested had he decided to persevere with it. It was clearly incumbent upon this minister, when he found that those principally concerned either did not want the measure or were so divided among themselves in regard to it that anything like a compromise acceptable to all parties was least to be expected, to consider whether the best thing for him in the circumstances was not to drop the Bill. It is the result of this consideration that is embodied in the communiqué.

# Israel-Palestine conflict

India has appropriately opted for a delicate balancing act in its ties with both



G PARTHASARATHY

CHANCELLOR, JAMMU CENTRAL UNIVERSITY &amp; FORMER HIGH COMMISSIONER TO PAKISTAN



HUMAN TOUCH: Issues pertaining to Jerusalem need to be handled sensitively by the Bennett government with understanding of Palestinian concerns. REUTERS

**T**HE absence of diplomatic relations with Israel for five decades left people in India with relatively little knowledge of Israeli thinking, about its neighbourhood. Moreover, India had little or no contact historically with the Jewish people in Israel and across the world. There was also little public understanding of the prevailing differences, aspirations and rivalries of people in West Asia and the Gulf Region who belonged to Judaism, Christianity and Islam — which all regard Jerusalem as their holy city.

There is a deep religious divide in Israel now, between the Jewish people and its minority Muslim population. This is very different from what happened in India, where the country was divided on religious lines in 1947. India adopted a secular Constitution. Pakistan, which believed in Jinnah's 'two-nation' theory of dividing people on the basis of religion, fell apart in 1971, with the creation of Bangladesh. This has raised the question if religion alone could be a viable basis for nationhood.

Prejudices prevail even today, between people who practice the three 'Semitic' faiths in West Asia. Jerusalem is the holiest city for Christians, as Jesus Christ was crucified, and buried there. For the Jewish people, who suffered the trauma of holocaust, Israel, with Jerusalem as its capital, is the 'Promised Land', where they had sought to live in, for centuries. The Temple Mount in Jerusalem is the third holiest site in Islam, after Mecca and Medina. The recent flare up in the Palestinian territory of Gaza arose from protests in east Jerusalem. The protests followed moves by Israel for

the eviction of six Palestinian families from their homes.

The Palestinians feared an adverse decision against them by the Israeli Supreme Court. They felt that the territory they were being expelled from was their own under international law. The situation escalated, with huge exchanges of fire between the Palestinian residents in Gaza and the Israelis. As many as 256 Palestinians, including 66 children, were killed in the exchange of fire. India has appropriately opted for a delicate balancing act in its relations with Israel, on the one hand, and its Arab neighbours, on the other.

While India's relations with Israel have expanded, PM Modi also developed a close personal relationship with his Israeli counterpart, Benjamin Netanyahu. Modi, however, also made it a point to visit the Palestinian capital Ramallah and call on Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas. Recent years have also been marked by a remarkable new relationship between Israel and some of its Arab neighbours, which, like Israel, have faced a deteriorating relationship with Iran.

Six Arab countries — Egypt, Jordan, Bahrain, UAE, Sudan and Morocco — now have diplomatic relations with Israel. Other leading Arab countries

like Saudi Arabia have discreet and direct talks and negotiations with Israel. They have a shared interest in countering the role of Iran in the region, including Tehran's support for radical Arab groups. Over the past few decades, the West Asia region has seen a shift of focus from Arab-Israeli rivalry to Arab-Persian (Iranian) rivalry.

There was disappointment in the Arab world when the then PM Narasimha Rao recognised Israel. Arab countries, however, soon recognised the reality that India would retain an interest in, and sympathy for, the Palestinian cause. Interestingly, Modi flew to Ramallah from Jordan in a Jordanian helicopter, escorted by Israeli military aircraft, for a meeting with Mahmoud Abbas. In recent discussions in the Security Council, on developments in Gaza and Jerusalem, India's Permanent Representative TS Tirumurti clearly spelt out what India expected from Israel and Palestine — 'Immediate de-escalation is the need of the hour. We urge both sides to show restraint, desist from actions that exacerbate tensions and refrain from attempts to unilaterally change the existing status quo, including in east Jerusalem, and its neighbourhood'.

Israel recognises that European powers are increasingly inclined to be sympathetic to the plight of the Palestinians. In an important gesture of sympathy, US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken announced that the US had decided to reopen its consulate in Jerusalem, after his meeting with Abbas in Ramallah. Washington evidently believes that Netanyahu's hardline on the Palestinians, particularly in Jerusalem, is counterproductive.

While the Palestinian issue is not going to be resolved in a hurry, it is noteworthy that President Biden is taking interest in rehabilitating Palestinians, whose homes in Gaza were destroyed by heavy Israeli bombardment. In the meantime, Israel will press ahead in getting formal diplomatic recognition from Arab countries, like Saudi Arabia. Israel would be well advised to not permit any further encroachment into Palestinian lands, especially in Jerusalem. Viable shape has to be given to measures to end Palestinian alienation.

There is little doubt that Egypt, and possibly Saudi Arabia, will be utilised to keep Hamas away from becoming trigger-happy. A major concern of Israel has been the role of Iran in the region, where Tehran is gaining substantial influence, while arming radical groups like the Hamas. The main question now is whether Iran will continue with these policies if Tehran negotiates a deal with the US and its European allies, which would end nuclear sanctions against it.

Netanyahu was unable to put together a viable coalition after the recent elections. Israel now appears set to form an ideologically divided coalition, led by a right-wing PM Naftali Bennett, who is a former Israeli military commander. The coalition government will include a left-leaning foreign minister, Yair Lapid. Bennett has a two-year term and will be succeeded by Lapid. The Biden administration would be happy with what has transpired. The Biden administration will be busy urging the Israelis to arrange a measure of reconciliation with the Palestinians. Issues pertaining to Jerusalem need to be handled sensitively by the Bennett government, with understanding of Palestinian concerns.

## Old-world charm of Malerkotla

### BALVINDER

**S**OON after Malerkotla was announced to become the 23rd district of Punjab recently, it remained in the news, chiefly for political reasons. This took me back to my Malerkotla days that I had spent in this historic town in the early '60s.

Our small town Dhuri, near Malerkotla, where we had settled after being thrown out of our homes and hearths in today's Pakistan, had no degree college then. So after completing high school, I spent two formative years in Malerkotla to pass 'one' preparatory college class. I fondly remember the town's narrow, but bubbly and living bazaars, my favourite being the one where talent-

ed craftsmen used to weave beautiful silky blazer-pockets that are still used as insignias by many professional and other educational institutions. Brass metal insignias and trophies are still crafted there.

Almost at the end of this lane was situated a famous photo studio, named John Studio, known later for having the first-ever colour lab in the whole northern region. Many youngsters would often throng this studio to get pictured in filmy poses, because it was from here that famous actor Dharmendra, as a young aspirant to enter the film world, had got his first portfolio made.

My nostalgic memories also include the fascinating sights of many old buildings and monumental but crumbling entry gates, built with small

'Nanakshahi' bricks.

I used to have a special liking for 'tongas' that used to ply to transport both goods and people. I would enjoy every ride because of the horse's rhythmic trot, well complimented by the sounds of bells put around their necks.

However, the most peculiar attribute of Malerkotla, having a large Muslim population, has been the following oft-repeated story.

During the 1947 riots, the Malerkotla region did not witness a single incident of violence and remained a lone island of peace. The reason for this communal harmony is believed to be the result of a benevolent gesture that the Nawab of Malerkotla, Sher Mohammed Khan, showed towards the Sikhs, in 1705, when two sons of

Guru Gobind Singh were ordered to be bricked alive by the Governor of Sirhind, Wazir Khan. The Nawab, a close relative of Wazir Khan, protested. Guru Gobind Singh, on learning this, reportedly blessed both the Nawab and the people of Malerkotla to live in peace and happiness.

There is another story not known to many, though it may sound weird. This was recently told to me by an acquaintance. He said during the British period, when the railway line between Ludhiana and Dhuri was being laid, the then Nawab saw to it that both the local railway station and its track were laid away from the town. The reason? He did not want the track to be used for committing suicide, as it was on the rise then.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Land mafia at work

Refer to 'Forest land grabbers'; the Supreme Court's order to demolish an unauthorised colony in the Aravalli forest area is highly appreciable. This illegal activity on a massive scale going on for the past several years could not be possible without the tacit connivance of the land mafia, forest officials and the municipal corporation. While the Haryana Government may look after the interest of these gullible poor owners of these houses, strictest punishment should be reserved for those found guilty in promoting such illegal colony under the very nose of the NCR authorities.

LN DAHIYA, ROHTAK

#### Razing of homes

It is shocking and disturbing that the Aravalli migrants would lose their homes to a 'strange system' which is in place in India. On the one hand, it seems to be a good decision that the SC wants zero tolerance in the case of encroachments. But in cases like that of Aravalli migrants people are not at fault. The land mafia which had carved out the illegal colony must be punished severely for shattering the innocent lives of the migrants. Secondly, such acts cannot take place without the involvement of government officials. The residents claim that nobody

stopped them from settling down in the area in the 1990s. This means that some corrupt officials must have been hand in glove with the mafia. Such officials should be taken to task. Imagine the condition of the migrants, the majority of whom have used their entire life's savings to build their dream homes, knowing little that one day these would be razed. Where will these people and their families go? The government must come to the rescue of the migrants who are tortured emotionally as well as financially. Immediate monetary help is the need of the hour. Let justice prevail for them.

BIR DEVINDER SINGH BEDI, SANGRUR

#### Eternal rabble-rouser

Refer to 'BJP wants Dalhousie renamed as Netaji Nagar, Cong opposes'; it is another gimmick of Subramanian Swamy to remain in the lime-light. He knows that it is only through such controversies that he can make himself relevant and earn sinecures from the BJP. He is highly educated but his misdemeanour nullifies his qualities. By raising the renaming bogey, he has proved his nuisance value. This little hill station neither belongs to his home state nor his constituency. The residents of Dalhousie, irrespective of their political affiliations, do not want its name changed.

The BJP endorses the ethos of

'Vasudhaiva kutumbakam'. Nations are helping one another in this pandemic. Swamy should use his capabilities in constructive activities in the service of people.

ROOP VERMA, JALANDHAR

#### Better late than never

It is a welcome announcement that free vaccination will be provided from June 21. 'Der aaye durust aaye' is in the interest of everyone in the country to overcome the Covid pandemic as soon as possible. Vaccination is the only way to keep the virus away. Now, it is imperative to chalk out a well-planned system for inoculation for everyone and initiate more efforts to clear the doubts about any bad effects of the jabs where people are hesitant to come forward.

JAGDISH SINGH JASSAL, PATIALA

#### Damage control by PM

Apropos of 'Centre to provide state free vax for all adults from June 21', the move is just to make good the dents on the face of the government sustained by the present poorly managed Covid situation and an exercise to earn goodwill in the forthcoming Assembly elections. Real governance is that which foresees and plans the remedies for any catastrophe the country may confront. It is only the SC

and state heads under whose pressure the government has mended its policy overnight. Checks and balances are the heart and soul of our Constitution lest one should become a dictator.

BR DHIMAN, HAMIRPUR

#### Vaccine policy

The Centre should frame a transparent formula for allocating vaccines to states, and make the formula public. Second, advance payments should be made well in advance. Third, the Centre should allow states to decide the distribution strategy. May it be door-to-door vaccination or drive-by vaccination or through other means, they should be free to mix-and-match strategies that suit them best. The ideal combination will be Central procurement and flexible decentralised distribution.

SANJAY CHOPRA, MOHALI

#### Income tax website

The new version of the income tax website is a let-down. I have been trying to access the website since June 7 but have not succeeded. There are login hiccups. I couldn't even see the utilities for filing the returns, like it used to be in Excel and Java-based versions. Hope the site functions smoothly soon.

RAJIV KAPOOR, SOLAN

# We need to forge a new middle ground



YOGENDRA YADAV

NATIONAL PRESIDENT, SWARAJ INDIA

risk, secularism turned to political opportunism or deracinated posturing, social justice was limited to caste-based reservations and modernism became a cover for cultural slavery.

No wonder, the public stopped subscribing to it. The spectrum of public opinion has shifted away from this old consensus. The new mid-point comprises acceptance of soft authoritarianism, aggressive and parochial nationalism, market fetishism, brazen majoritarianism, perpetuation of caste hierarchy and obscurantism. Every Indian must worry about this because this deadly ideological mix is out of sync with our constitutional values. This is also unsustainable, as it would mean the end of India as we have known it. This is not a stable equilibrium.

This is neither easy nor exciting. Imagining a new world, free from the constraints of here and now, is intellectually gratifying; forging a consensus is messy. Chasing a utopia is politically thrilling; discovering the middle ground is boring. Yet, democratic outcomes hinge upon the middle ground. The fate of the democracy, indeed of our young republic, depends upon the possibility of shifting the middle ground. This is the most pressing intellectual and political challenge of our times.

This challenge arises because the old equilibrium has collapsed and the new one is unsustainable. It is common to refer to the earlier one as Left and the new one as Right. This European parallel is inaccurate and misleading.

For the first five decades, the ideological consensus in India was defined by a mix of liberal democracy with nationalism, socialism, secularism, social justice and modernism. Over the years, this consensus degenerated. Liberal democracy was reduced to populism, nationalism faded into an empty slogan, socialism meant privatising profit and socialising a



The new consensus must be grounded in a positive and self-confident nationalism. An abstract internationalism or post-nationalism is not the answer to shallow and shrill nationalism. The viable response to the dominant *rashtravaad is desh prem*, which draws upon the best tradition of our freedom struggle.

**PRIORITIES:** Welfare policies' focus must shift to jobs, education and health. TRIBUNE PHOTO

positive nationalism that draws upon the best tradition of our freedom struggle. This would mean taking pride in India and giving a substantive meaning to the idea of India. Externally, this would involve securing for India, along with our neighbours and other post-colonial states, a rightful place at the global stage. Internally, this entails an investment in the Indian model of national unity that accepts deep diversities.

Second, we need to evolve a secularism anchored in our cultural and religious ethos. Communal bigotry cannot be defeated by deracinated secularism; defensive minoritarianism is no response to aggressive majoritarianism. Disengage from western debates on secularism as State-church separation.

Our real issue is religious and sectarian conflict. We need a state that practises *sarvadharma samabhaav*: equal respect for, principal distance from and non-discrimination against all religious communities. At the same time, the State must be able to act in a

non-partisan manner against any oppression or injustice within any religious community. Turning our back to religious traditions won't help us achieve a secular State. We must learn to have deep and open-ended engagement with all our religious traditions.

Third, we need to work out some variant of market socialism that stands firm on the end goal of last person first, while remaining flexible on the mechanisms for achieving this objective.

Bureaucratic State socialism is no answer to the inequities and wastefulness of the capitalist order. Markets are here to stay, just as is State regulation. Our economics must become 'econorm-ics': an integration of economic rationality with ethical norms and ecological sustainability. The focus of welfare policies needs to shift from basic needs like food and housing to employment, education and health.

Fourth, we must foreground the issue of social justice while embracing a multi-dimensional approach to it. This

avoids the pitfalls of identity denial and identity obsession that mark today's politics. This would involve acknowledging and addressing caste inequalities in a more serious way. It would involve recognising many cross-cutting dimensions of social inequalities that require state policy response: gender, sexual orientation, class, region, religious community and locality (rural-urban). Responding to various forms of injustice invites us to expand the repertoire of instruments of social justice. Caste-based reservations must be fine-tuned. The issues of political representation and leadership of women and marginalised communities need special attention.

Fifth, environmentalism cannot be kept at the margins of the political agenda anymore. We cannot live in denial of the enormous environmental cost, mostly for the adivasi communities, of what we call development. Nor is climate change denial an option anymore. Movements for peoples' control over *Jal-Jangal-Jameen* have laid the

foundations for environmentalism. This also calls for a reorientation in our agrarian policies and practices.

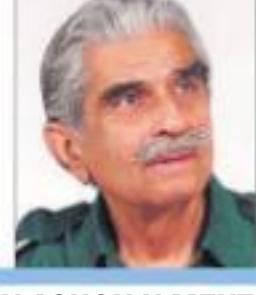
Sixth, our cultural policies and politics must be guided by the quest for Indian modernity that characterised our freedom struggle. This would save us from the shallow and imitative modernism on the one hand, and the defensive and inferiority-stricken traditionalism on the other. This would entail recovery and reconstruction of our civilisational heritage, while being open to learning from the world. This would necessitate a focus on the promotion of Indian languages, recognition of existing knowledge, traditions and recasting of the education curricula to reflect our needs, context and intellectual resources.

Finally, we need to embrace democratic republicanism, both as an end and a means. This requires us to recognise that democracy is not just about crafting a constitution, creating institutions and holding elections. It involves the creation of a political community of equal, informed and involved citizens. It takes us beyond the regular issues of liberal democracy: freedom of expression, institutional autonomy, procedural checks and balances, etc. It invites us towards deepening the democracy by decentring political power and ensuring equal access to resources and people's direct participation in decision-making.

None of these elements is new, though their combination might be somewhat unfamiliar. The middle ground proposed is not a brand new ideology. It is merely an explication of what exists in our Constitution and an attempt to connect these to the public. In that sense, the forging of a new ideological equilibrium is not just an academic or intellectual task. It requires a shaping and shifting of the existing spectrum of public opinion. This is a political challenge.

Views are personal

## The time for India to play the Tibet card is now



MAJ GEN ASHOK K MEHTA (RETD)

MILITARY COMMENTATOR

INDIA is in a strategic quandary: how to counter China's periodic coercion on the undefined LAC, which Beijing refuses to delineate? In 2013 (Chumar), 2014 (Depasang) and 2017 (Doklam), the PLA was persuaded to pull back, but not in 2020 East Ladakh. India does not have any instrument to dissuade or deter China in Tibet due to the asymmetry in hard power and infrastructure without compromising its strategic autonomy or inviting a kinetic response. Neither of these options is India willing to undertake.

The Chinese have violated border agreements and brazenly blamed India for the "rights and wrongs" in East Ladakh. Foreign Minister S Jaishankar has said that the Chinese have given five reasons for amassing troops on the border, provoked clashes for the first time in 45 years and shredded the 1988 consensus built over time to maintain peace along the border.

In December 2020, the then US President Trump signed into law America's Tibet Policy Support Act (TPSA), signifying Tibet's geo-strategic importance, origin of great rivers, necessity of protecting the environment of the Tibet plateau and ensuring Tibetans enjoy genuine autonomy. The TPSA makes it a policy to ensure that the Dalai Lama's succession is consistent with Tibetan Buddhism and is the prerogative of His Holiness. In the US, the succession issue is sacrosanct and codenamed Project 23T.

Similarly, the Chinese Communist Party holds dear two issues: its histori-



**GLOBALISE THE ISSUE:** China's presence is unlawful in Tibet, which has become an occupied country. TRIBUNE PHOTO

cal right to choose the 15th Dalai Lama; and concern over Tibetans in exile, particularly political and spiritual control over Tibet, including Chinese supervision over the monastery management committees. Previously, Tibetan youth joined monasteries when five years old.

The Chinese have changed it to 18 years. The US State Department, in its annual country report on human rights in China and Tibet, for the first time, does not describe Tibet as an inalienable part of China. It is a significant departure as Beijing makes every country say that Tibet is a part of China.

On March 10, 2021, the 66th Tibet Uprising Day was commemorated in New York opposite the UN Headquarters, recalling that 6,000 monasteries had been destroyed and 156 Tibetans

had self-immolated. Robert Destro, the sixth Tibet coordinator for the US State Department, noted that after nine rounds of talks with the Dalai Lama's emissary, a proposal for genuine autonomy was given by China in writing.

In the Freedom House report (March 8, 2021), Tibet is described as the least free country after Syria and in Report Without Borders (2021), Tibet is categorised as more inaccessible than North Korea. On the Uprising Day, US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said: "62 years ago, brave Tibetans rose up against Chinese invasion...; Beijing, for years has waged a campaign to destroy Tibetan culture...and lauded the new TPSA."

China has built elaborate road, rail and habitation hubs with military infrastructure on the border with Nepal,

Bhutan and India. Whole villages have been encroached across borders since 2017. On August 29, 2020, President Xi Jinping ordered that Tibet be built into an impregnable fortress, the new Great Wall, and facts be dug out that link Tibet to China for their impact on the boundary dispute with India.

India's boundary dispute is intrinsically linked to Tibet. New Delhi's recognition of Chinese sovereignty over Tibet was contingent upon China's acceptance of Tibetan autonomy. The Dalai Lama gave up the quest for independence in exchange for genuine autonomy.

Beijing has squashed autonomy and not kept its side of the bargain with Tibet and India. In 1965, Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri had informed the Tibet Government in Exile (TGE) that he would recognise it, but he died prematurely. But the original sin was committed by India's failure to prevent the annexation of Tibet, India's vital area.

Lt-Gen Francis Tuker, GoC-in-C, Eastern Command, wrote in 1946-47 that China, not Russia, was the main threat and Tibet be protected.

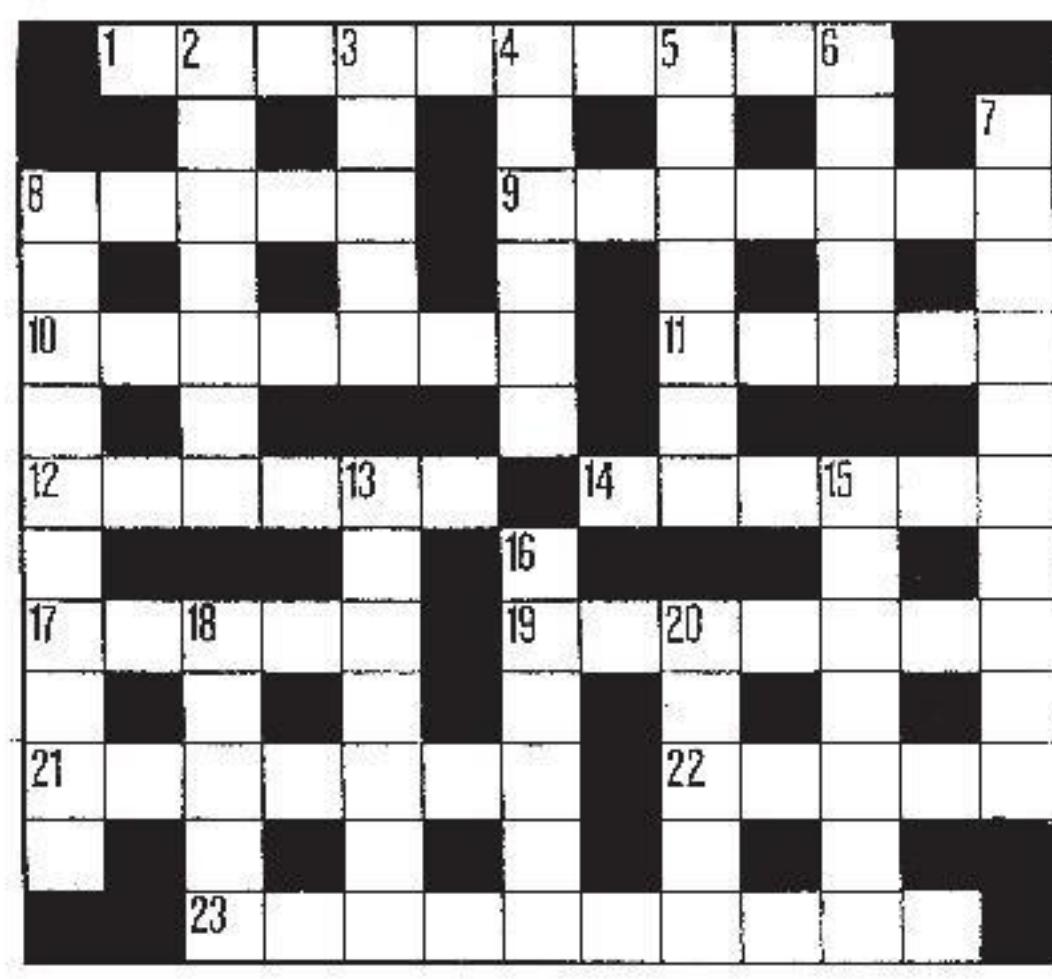
India should inform China that in the light of the recent events on the border, especially in East Ladakh, and New Delhi's rethink of its Tibet policy, fresh facts had emerged: Sovereignty claim over Tibet had been fudged, as Tibet was taken by force and, therefore, sovereignty was inherited. Tibet was never a part of the imperial China or of the Mongol empire. Illegal occupation of Tibet through invasion, misrepresentation of facts and altering the historical narrative did not provide legitimacy. The Indo-Tibet border was ratified in 1914 by the McMahon Line and ratified by Tibet. The Dalai Lama had traded suzerainty (not sovereignty) for autonomy.

This first step in reopening the Tibet issue will attract stiff Chinese reaction. After Trump signed the TPSA, the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi outlined Beijing's position, saying that the Indian media supporting US legislation was advocating Indian interference in China's Tibet affairs. It warned the media to take an objective issue on China's sovereignty and territorial integrity and not play the Tibet card to meddle in China's internal affairs.

But, India has to internationalise the issue of Tibetan freedom in concert with other democracies. The US Congress and the EU Parliament are believed to have recognised Tibet as an occupied country.

In his Freedom Brief 2020, Michael Van Walt, legal adviser to the Central Tibet Administration, has noted that China's presence is unlawful in Tibet, which has become an occupied country. As China does not possess sovereignty over it, government policy must be corrected as per the international law. India must enlarge the bilateral canvas of the border dispute to include Tibet and consider leading on Tibetan autonomy at the global fora. The time to bell the cat is now, when pique against China is at its peak.

### QUICK CROSSWORD



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

Across: 1 Ratify, 4 Hammer, 9 Mammoth, 10 Own up, 11 Satin, 12 Run-down, 13 Going strong, 18 Empower, 20 Dealt, 22 Maple, 23 Frame-up, 24 Stride, 25 Pewter.

Down: 1 Remiss, 2 Temp, 3 Frown on, 5 Adorn, 6 Monsoon, 7 Repeat, 8 Short shrift, 14 On paper, 15 Red tape, 16 Hermes, 17 Stupor, 19 Wield, 21 Avert.

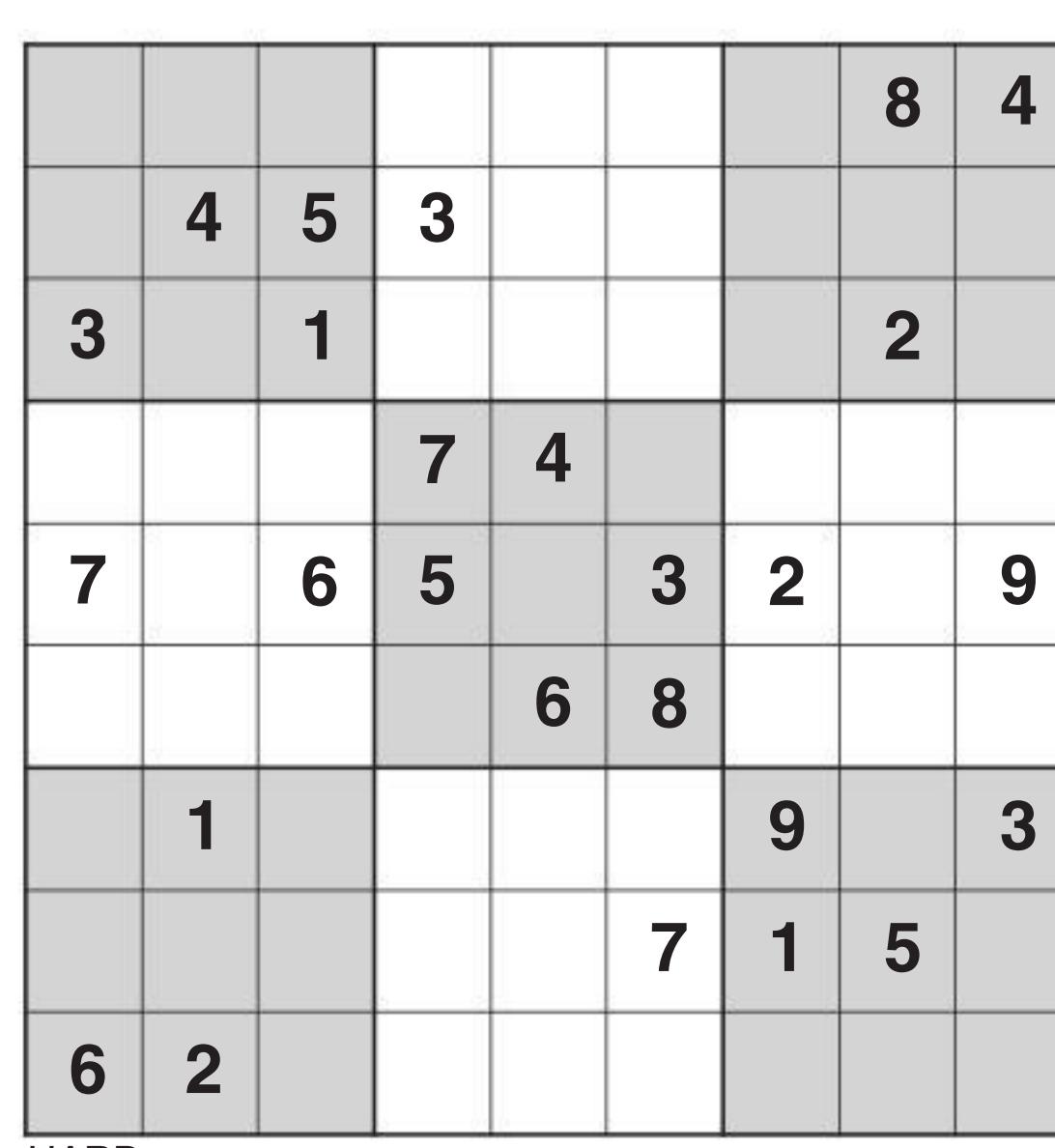
### ACROSS

- 1 Not yet settled (2,2,3,3)
- 8 Group of eight (5)
- 9 Remainder (7)
- 10 Foot-operated lever (7)
- 11 Fast (5)
- 12 To lure (6)
- 14 Annoy persistently (6)
- 17 Theatrical backer (5)
- 19 Do away with (7)
- 21 Former (3-4)
- 22 Sag (5)
- 23 Make ready for action (3,2,5)

### DOWN

- 2 Forbearing (7)
- 3 Eminent (5)
- 4 A language of Israel (6)
- 5 As a whole (2,5)
- 6 Accumulate quickly (3,2)
- 7 Ability to command (10)
- 8 Abstaining from alcohol (2,3,5)
- 13 A string instrument player (7)
- 15 Libyan capital (7)
- 16 Large underground chamber (6)
- 18 Conjecture (5)
- 20 Senior (5)

### SU DO KU



### CALENDAR

JUNE 10, 2021, THURSDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat	2078
■ Shaka Samvat	1943
■ Jyeshta Shaka	20
■ Jyeshta Parvishite	28
■ Hijri	1442
■ Krishan Paksha Tithi 15, up to 4.23 pm	
■ Dhriti Yoga up to 7.47 am	
■ Rohini Nakshatra up to 11.44 am	
■ Moon enters Gemini sign 1.10 am	

### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

### FORECAST

SUNSET: 19:24 HRS  
SUNRISE: 05:21 HRS

CITY	MAX	MIN
Chandigarh	39	31
New Delhi	41	30
Amritsar	43	31
Bathinda	43	31
Jalandhar	41	30
Ludhiana	41	30
Bhiwani	42	30
Hisar	43	29
Sirsa	44	32
Dharamsala	31	23
Manali	28	16
Shimla	27	19
Srinagar	34	20
Jammu	43	30
Kargil	20	12
Leh	17	6
Dehradun	38	25
Mussorie	27	19

TEMPERATURE IN °C

# LAND ACQUISITION OF MANALI SARCHU ROAD KM 0.00-13.00

Notice is hereby given to the public that the Ministry of Defense (Border Road Organization) intends to take the possession of land specified in the schedule situated in Mohal Kulang, Kathi, Palchan, Vashisht and Bahang, Aleo in Tehsil Manali Sub Division Manali District Kullu (HP) for the construction of Manali-Sarchu Road under section 40 of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition Rehabilitation Act 2013. Claims to compensation for all interest in such land may be made to them.

All persons interested in the land are accordingly required to file their objections in writing before the Land Acquisition Collector Manali, District Kullu (HP) within 30 days after the date of publication of notice, if any, to the acquisition of the said land. Any objection which is received after the due date or which does not clearly explain the nature of the sender interest in the land is liable to be summarily rejected. The land patches being acquired is also attached.

Objections received with the due date, if any will be enquired on 11 Jun 2021 at 05.00 PM.



## Office of Land acquisition collector-cum-Sub Divisional Officer(c) Manali Distt. Kullu (HP)

### Schedule

Private Land (Location- Kulang, Manali, Kullu) Mohal Kulang Phati Palchan Tehsil Manali District Kullu					3	40 मिन	58 मिन	39	सालम	00-00-32	
Sr. No.	Khewat Number	Khatoni No.	Khasra No		Area (in hectares)	4	182 मिन	260 मिन	111	सालम	00-00-12
			Old	New		5	183	261	1543/115	1543/115/1	00-01-99
1	49	56	79	79/1	0-02-33	6	182 मिन	260 मिन	1544/115	1544/115/1	00-01-19
2	50 मिन	57 मिन	80	80/1	0-03-95	7	181 मिन	259 मिन	1545/115	1545/115/1	00-01-32
3	50 मिन	57 मिन	81	सालम	0-00-80	8	181 मिन	259 मिन	1546/120	1546/120/1	00-00-60
4	1 मिन	1 मिन	158	सालम	0-00-48	9	184 मिन	262 मिन	1547/120	1547/120/1	00-02-92
5	1 मिन	1 मिन	159	सालम	0-00-72	10	185 मिन	264 मिन	128	128 /1	00-02-27
6	7 मिन	8 मिन	160	सालम	0-00-74	11	184 मिन	262 मिन	130	130 /1	00-01-26
7	7 मिन	8 मिन	161	सालम	0-00-42	12	184 मिन	262 मिन	131	सालम	00-00-47
8	15 मिन	17 मिन	163	163/1	0-00-35	13	159 मिन	230 मिन	140	140 /1	00-00-20
9	7 मिन	8 मिन	184	184/1	0-00-80	14	59 मिन	91 मिन	144	144 /1	00-01-55
10	7 मिन	9 मिन	190	190/1	0-01-43	15	59 मिन	91 मिन	147	सालम	00-00-36
11	60 मिन	67 मिन	600/214	600/214/1	0-00-23	16	75 मिन	112 मिन	151	151 /	00-02-19
12	61 मिन	68 मिन	603/214	सालम	0-00-12	17	34 मिन	49 मिन	152/1	152/1/1	00-00-73
13	65 मिन	72 मिन	605/214	605/214/1	0-01-23	18	40 मिन	57 मिन	154	सालम	00-01-21
14	61 मिन	68 मिन	607/215	607/215/1	0-00-07	19	40 मिन	57 मिन	155	सालम	00-00-24
15	63 मिन	70 मिन	594/215	594/215/1	0-00-05	20	49 मिन	75 मिन	159	सालम	00-00-34
16	63 मिन	70 मिन	595/217	595/217/1	0-00-21	21	49 मिन	75 मिन	160	सालम	00-01-78
17	64 मिन	71 मिन	596/217	596/217/1	000-44	22	21 मिन	35 मिन	161	सालम	00-00-74
18	64 मिन	71 मिन	220	220/1	0-00-28	23	49 मिन	75 मिन	164	सालम	00-00-14
19	5 मिन	6 मिन	222	222/1	0-00-27	24	19 मिन	33 मिन	166	सालम	00-00-20
20	9	11	223	223/1	0-00-85	25	49 मिन	75 मिन	167	सालम	00-00-15
21	10 मिन	12 मिन	224	224/1	0-00-05	26	20 मिन	34 मिन	168	सालम	00-00-52
22	10 मिन	12 मिन	225	225/1	0-00-05	27	20 मिन	34 मिन	169	सालम	00-00-60
23	5 मिन	6 मिन	229	229/1	0-01-75	28	8 मिन	14 मिन	172	सालम	00-00-10
24	5 मिन	6 मिन	231	सालम	0-00-20	29	8 मिन	14 मिन	174	174/1	00-00-41
25	43 मिन	50 मिन	234	234/1	0-00-34	30	4 मिन	10	177	177/1	00-00-28
26	41 मिन	48 मिन	235	सालम	0-00-56	31	4 मिन	8 मिन	178	178/1	00-00-03
27	39 मिन	43 मिन	237	237/1	0-00-06	32	8 मिन	14 मिन	179	179/1	00-00-15
28	39 मिन	43 मिन	238	238/1	0-00-72	33	8 मिन	14 मिन	180	180/1	00-00-28
29	25 मिन	29 मिन	239	239/1	0-00-58	34	14 मिन	25 मिन	192	192/1	00-00-59
30	40 मिन	46 मिन	240	सालम	0-00-95	35	177 मिन	255 मिन	201	सालम	00-00-75
31	40 मिन	46 मिन	243	सालम	0-00-28	36	177 मिन	255 मिन	202	सालम	00-00-88
32	40 मिन	46 मिन	244	सालम	0-00-70	37	48 मिन	73 मिन	204	सालम	00-00-72
33	29 मिन	33 मिन	388	388/1	0-00-20	38	40 मिन	73 मिन	205	205 /1	00-00-60
34	29 मिन	33 मिन	389	सालम	0-00-35	39	48 मिन	73 मिन	206	सालम	00-00-82
35	17 मिन	19 मिन	390	सालम	0-00-46	40	75 मिन	112 मिन	207	सालम	00-01-36
36	7 मिन	9 मिन	392	सालम	0-00-32	41	75 मिन	112 मिन	208	208/1	00-01-20
37	13	15	397	397/1	0-02-75	42	75 मिन	112 मिन	209	209/1	00-01-83
38	1 मिन	1 मिन	399	सालम	0-00-28	43	190 मिन	269 मिन	210	सालम	00-01-28
39	2 मिन	2 मिन	400	400/1	0-00-24	44	190 मिन	269 मिन	211	सालम	00-01-14
40	14	16	406	406/1	0-01-35	45	47 मिन	72 मिन	212	सालम	00-01-54
41	11 मिन	13 मिन	440	440/1	0-00-20	46	47 मिन	72 मिन	213	सालम	00-01-81
42	11 मिन	13 मिन	441	441/1	0-00-77	47	47 मिन	72 मिन	214	सालम	00-00-80
43	18 मिन	20 मिन	444	444/1	0-01-25	48	38 मिन	55 मिन	215	215/1	00-00-63
44	1 मिन	1 मिन	446	446/1	0-00-96	49	38 मिन	55 मिन	216	216/1	00-00-11
				total 44	0-31-76	50	61 मिन	93 मिन	218	218/1	00-00-88
						51	119 मिन	177 मिन	219	219/1	00-01-18
						52	119 मिन	177 मिन	220	सालम	00-01-39
						53	118 मिन	176 मिन	220/1	सालम	00-02-85
						54	61 मिन	93 मिन	221	सालम	00-01-76
						55	118 मिन	176 मिन	227	सालम	00-02-00
						56	23 मिन	37 मिन	268	सालम	00-00-48
						57	24 मिन	38 मिन	277	सालम	00-00-84
						58	40 मिन	60 मिन	288	सालम	00-00-18
						59	40 मिन	58 मिन	290	सालम	00-00-44
						60	23 मिन	37 मिन	291	सालम	00-00-73
			</td								

## Tap resources to raise funds for rural sanitation: Govt to states

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

The Centre has asked the states to tap their own available resources to raise their

share of contributory funds for implementation of Phase 2 of the Swachh Bharat Mission-Grameen for 2021-22.

The Jal Shakti Ministry, which implements the mission, has suggested the states to raise the funds through various schemes.

According to the arrangement under the Annual Implementation Plans of the state for 2021-22, the Central

share will be around Rs 14,000 crore and states will cumulatively spend over Rs 8,300 crore. —TNS

## IMA holds award ceremony for spring term

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9

The awards ceremony of spring term, 2021, comprising 148th regular course and 131st technical graduates

course, was held at the Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehradun, today.

Lt Gen Harinder Singh, Commandant, IMA, felici-

tated gentlemen cadets on the occasion who had excelled in various fields during their pre-commissioning training. —TNS

Sr. No.	Khewat Number	Khatoni No.	Khasra No		Area (in hectares)	Sr. No.	Khewat Number	Khatoni No.	Khasra No		Area (in hectares)
			Old	New					Old	New	
68	40 मिन	58 मिन	303/1	सालम	00-00-24	167	148 मिन	219 मिन	939	939/1	00-00-45
69	34 मिन	49 मिन	310	सालम	00-03-72	168	126 मिन	188 मिन	940	सालम	00-00-49
70	34 मिन	50 मिन	211	सालम	00-02-13	169	148 मिन	219 मिन	941	सालम	00-00-27
71	34 मिन	49 मिन	311/1	सालम	00-01-97	170	148 मिन	218 मिन	942	सालम	00-00-44
72	34 मिन	49 मिन	312	सालम	00-00-87	171	148 मिन	218 मिन	943	943/1	00-00-25
73	34 मिन	50 मिन	312/1	सालम	00-00-85	172	67 मिन	101 मिन	993	सालम	00-00-58
74	34 मिन	50 मिन	313	सालम	00-01-13	173	136 मिन	198 मिन	999	सालम	00-00-96
75	34 मिन	49 मिन	314	सालम	00-01-26	174	111 मिन	167 मिन	1093	सालम	00-00-99
76	34 मिन	50 मिन	314/1	सालम	00-01-20	175	177 मिन	255 मिन	1095	सालम	00-00-94
77	34 मिन	50 मिन	315	सालम	00-09-68	176	177 मिन	255 मिन	1096	सालम	00-00-73
78	36 मिन	53 मिन	316	316/1	00-00-23	177	86 मिन	124 मिन	1099	सालम	00-00-79
79	36 मिन	53 मिन	316	316/2	00-00-80	178	120 मिन	178 मिन	1160	सालम	00-00-48
80	34 मिन	50 मिन	317	सालम	00-03-52	179	120 मिन	179 मिन	1161	सालम	00-00-20
81	34 मिन	50 मिन	318	सालम	00-01-46	180	61 मिन	93 मिन	1162	सालम	00-00-57
82	36 मिन	52 मिन	319	सालम	00-02-13	181	61 मिन	93 मिन	1163	सालम	00-00-22
83	36 मिन	52 मिन	320	320/1	00-00-84	182	120 मिन	178 मिन	1164	सालम	00-00-38
84	36 मिन	52 मिन	320	320/2	00-01-34	183	120 मिन	179 मिन	1165	सालम	00-00-07
85	36 मिन	52 मिन	321	सालम	00-16-94	184	61 मिन	93 मिन	1166	सालम	00-00-48
86	34 मिन	49 मिन	323	सालम	00-00-90	185	61 मिन	93 मिन	1167	सालम	00-00-68
87	51 मिन	78 मिन	327	सालम	00-00-50	186	91 मिन	134 मिन	1171	1171/1	00-00-24
88	8 मिन	14 मिन	328	सालम	00-06-39	187	91 मिन	134 मिन	1173	सालम	00-00-25
89	49 मिन	74 मिन	329	सालम	00-01-55	188	61 मिन	93 मिन	1237	सालम	00-00-25
90	52 मिन	81 मिन	333	333/1	00-00-14	189	61 मिन	93 मिन	1238	सालम	00-00-61
91	24 मिन	38 मिन	335	335/1	00-00-15	190	178 मिन	256 मिन	1242	सालम	00-00-03
92	23 मिन	37 मिन	340	सालम	00-03-80	191	75 मिन	112 मिन	1244	सालम	00-00-88
93	34 मिन	49 मिन	341	सालम	00-01-70	192	98 मिन	151 मिन	1251	सालम	00-00-54
94	24 मिन	38 मिन	342	सालम	00-01-28	193	94 मिन	147 मिन	1255	सालम	00-00-93
95	23 मिन	37 मिन	343	सालम	00-00-20	194	98 मिन	151 मिन	1256	सालम	00-01-54
96	24 मिन	38 मिन	344	344/1	00-01-47	195	98 मिन	151 मिन	1259	सालम	00-01-08
97	24 मिन	49 मिन	345	345/1	00-00-39	196	117 मिन	175 मिन	1260	सालम	00-02-74
98	24 मिन	38 मिन	353	353/1	00-00-38	197	94 मिन	145 मिन	1261	सालम	00-01-05
99	52 मिन	81 मिन	353	353/1	00-00-15	198	94 मिन	145 मिन	1261/1	सालम	00-00-60
100	24 मिन	38 मिन	354	सालम	00-00-28	199	94 मिन	147 मिन	1262	सालम	00-01-86
101	24 मिन	38 मिन	355	सालम	00-00-72	200	8 मिन	14 मिन	1263	सालम	00-00-41
102	52 मिन	81 मिन	356	सालम	00-00-91	201	8 मिन	14 मिन	1264	सालम	00-01-31
103	52 मिन	81 मिन	357	सालम	00-00-28	202	8 मिन	14 मिन	1265	सालम	00-00-38
104	23 मिन	37 मिन	358	सालम	00-00-66	203	18 मिन	31 मिन	1266	सालम	00-00-72
105	23 मिन	37 मिन	359	सालम	00-01-11	204	104 मिन	160 मिन	1267	सालम	00-00-72
106	52 मिन	81 मिन	360	360/1	00-00-08	205	111 मिन	167 मिन	1268	सालम	00-01-80
107	23 मिन	37 मिन	361	361/1	00-00-44	206	110 मिन	166 मिन	1269	सालम	00-00-88
108	8 मिन	15 मिन	365	सालम	00-01-91	207	110 मिन	166 मिन	1270	सालम	00-00-38
109	8 मिन	18 मिन	366	सालम	00-03-43	208	111 मिन	167 मिन	1271	सालम	00-00-60
110	8 मिन	19 मिन	367	367/1	00-01-54	209	104 मिन	160 मिन	1272	सालम	00-00-85
111	8 मिन	14 मिन	371	सालम	00-02-47	210	111 मिन	167 मिन	1274	सालम	00-00-18
112	3 मिन	3 मिन	372	सालम	00-01-10	211	173 मिन	251 मिन	1277	सालम	00-00-50
113	3 मिन	3 मिन	373	सालम	00-00-25	212	115 मिन	72 मिन	1279	सालम	00-01-67
114	168 मिन	246 मिन	400	सालम	00-02-62	213	98 मिन	151 मिन	1317	1317/1	00-01-26
115	168 मिन	246 मिन	401	सालम	00-01-24	214	94 मिन	47 मिन	1332	1332/1	00-00-45
116	77 मिन	114 मिन	408	सालम	00-01-17	215	155 मिन	226 मिन	1376	सालम	00-10-41
117	46 मिन	71 मिन	416	सालम	00-01-12	216	155 मिन	226 मिन	1512	सालम	00-00-58
118	151 मिन	222 मिन	474	सालम	00-13-90	217	155 मिन	226 मिन	1513	सालम	00-02-14
119	98 मिन	151 मिन</td									

# ED to take over probe into opioid trafficking

**AMBIBA SHARMA**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, JUNE 9

The Himachal Pradesh Police will hand over the financial investigation in the cases of pharmaceutical opioid trafficking to the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

DGP Sanjay Kundu today said, "To curb such activities, the police are taking strict action, including financial investigation under the NDPS Act for the attachment of illegally acquired properties. The necessary information is being shared with the Enforcement Directorate

for investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act with a request to attach all properties acquired from the proceeds of pharma opioid trafficking". The Tribune highlighted the issue in its columns on Wednesday.

Kundu said that 139 factories in the state have licences to produce pharma opioids and psychotropic substances listed in the schedule of the NDPS Act. A few factories had been found misusing their licences and selling pharma products illegally.

"Following information from Interpol from Benin, a

## ILL-GOTTEN PROPERTIES TO BE ATTACHED

◆ The necessary information is being shared with the Enforcement Directorate for investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act with a request to attach all properties acquired from the proceeds of pharma opioid trafficking. — Sanjay Kundu, DGP

nation in Africa, the state police registered an FIR against Laborate Pharmaceuticals, Paonta Sahib, for illegally exporting 1.75 crore tramadol tablets worth around Rs 5 crore (priced around Rs 100 crore for illegal sale) to Chad, another African nation. The investigation in the case is under-

way," he added.

He said that on May 29 and 30, the state police in a joint operation with the Punjab Police seized over 30 lakh intoxicant tablets (12.45 lakh tramadol capsules, 7.72 lakh tramadol tablets, 9.99 lakh alprazolam (alprazolam) tablets) worth Rs 15 crore from Unique

Formulations at Paonta Sahib. Its marketing company PB Pharmaceuticals in New Delhi was also found to be fictitious and non-existent. "By printing the name of a non-existent marketing company on labels, pharma opioids were diverted to the illegal market.

The Sirsa police had registered another case against Unique Formulations and Apple Field Pharma. The proprietors/shareholders of Unique Formulations and Apple Field Pharma are the same".

He said that Orison Pharma International, Kala Amb, sold tramadol tablets to a marketing company in Ahmedabad without any agreement, contrary to the rules.

## First dose: June 19 last date for above 45, priority groups

**MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT-CUM-MEMBER SECRETARY RKS DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL KANGRA AT TANDA**  
No. HFW-H(DRPGMC)MGS/MS/RKS/2021-3962-63 Dated: 09.06.2021  
**E-TENDER NOTICE**

E-Tenders are hereby invited in two bid system for providing, fixing, supply and installation of up-gradation work of Compressed Air System and other items for Medical Gas Pipe Line System at Dr. RPGMC, Kangra at Tanda. The detail of tender documents can be viewed and downloaded from website: <https://www.hptenders.gov.in> as per schedule given below:-

Tender Cost (in Rupees)

Rs. 500/- (Rs. Five Hundred Only) non-refundable

Earnest Money

Rs. 10000/- (Rs. One Lac Only)

Performance Security (in Rupees)

Rs. 250000/- (Rs. Two Lac fifty thousand Only)

Date of publication of Tender

10.06.2021

Pre-Bid Meeting

18.06.2021 at 11.00 AM

Bid submission/uploading starting date

25.06.2021 at 11.00 AM

Last Date of submission of Tender

02.07.2021 at 01.00 PM

Date and Time of Opening of Technical Bid

02.07.2021 at 03.00 PM

Venue of Pre-Bid Meeting and Opening of Tender

O/o Principal, Dr. RPGMC, Kangra at Tanda

The bidders are advised to visit the aforesaid website regularly for any corrigendum, modification and clarifications in respect of this tender. The Medical Superintendent, RKS, Dr. RPGMC Kangra at Tanda (HP) reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason.

Sd/- Medical Superintendent, Dr. RPGMC, Kangra at Tanda (HP)

DI-4133

The state government has set June 19 as the cut-off date for the first dose of the Covid vaccine for the over 45 years' age category, healthcare workers, front line workers and other prioritised groups. "Persons falling in these categories may get the first dose of the vaccine before June 19," said a spokesperson for the Health Department.

He said that vaccination sessions for the above 45 years and priority groups would be held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday while Monday and Thursday (June 14 and 17) will be reserved for the 18-44 years age group," he added.

He said that the sessions would be published as per the prevailing guidelines between 2.30 pm and 3 pm, two days prior to the



₹150 SERVICE CHARGE

- As per the Health Department, private hospitals can take a maximum of ₹150 per dose as service charge
- They can charge a maximum of ₹780 for a Covishield dose, ₹1,410 for Covaxin and ₹1,145 for Sputnik V

actual date. The manufacturers would announce the vaccine prices fixed for the private hospitals, as per the revised guidelines for the implementation of the National Covid Vaccination Programme. "Private hospitals may take a maximum of Rs 150 per dose as service charges," the spokesperson added. — TNS

Kaushal said the college authorities had turned insensitive towards the women staff who helped the government in tough time. Kaushal urged the government to intervene in the matter and utilise the services of these trained nurses on rotation at makeshift Covid care centres established in Kangra district.

## Sacking nurses insult to Covid warriors: Cong

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, JUNE 9

The termination of the services of nurses of Tanda medical college and hospital was disrespect to Covid warriors, said Prem Kaushal, HPCC spokesperson, here today.

He said the nurses were outsourced employees and working in the institution in the hope that their services would be regularised. They had served when the pandemic was at its peak, and now when the situation has improved, the college authorities had terminated their services, he added.

Kaushal said the college authorities had turned insensitive towards the women staff who helped the government in tough time.

Kaushal urged the government to intervene in the matter and utilise the services of these trained nurses on rotation at makeshift Covid care centres established in Kangra district.

The state now has surplus liquid medical oxygen (LMO), as its demand has exponentially declined from 70 MT to 23 MT in the past few days. Its demand had peaked at 70 MT about three weeks ago," said Arindam Chaudhary, head of the Logistic Committee that monitors the availability of oxygen in all facilities.



23 MT oxygen used in past few days compared to 70 MT 3 weeks ago

ity of oxygen in all facilities.

To meet the burgeoning oxygen demand, new manufacturing plants were set up in the state. There are seven pressure swing adsorption plants and 13 private manufacturers are producing about 82 MT oxygen every day.

"The Indian Oil Corporation has provided 10 cryogenic cylinders of 500 litres each in form of aid and these will be sent to Hamirpur, Una and Kangra districts. Another 20,000 kilo litre capacity liquid oxygen plant has been set up at the

## AICC secy takes feedback from MLAs

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

### LEADERSHIP ISSUE CROPS UP AT MEET

◆ The issue of party going to the next Assembly polls without the active involvement of former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh was discussed at length," said a senior leader. The issue of going to the polls under a collective leadership was deliberated upon amidst speculation about a possible change in the state leadership.

Those who met Dutt today included MLAs Ram Lal Thakur, Harshwardhan Chauhan, Dhani Ram Shandil, Mohan Lal Bratka, Inder Dutt Lakhpal, Vinay Kumar, Lakhwinder Rana, Anirudh Singh and Vikramaditya Singh. He also met former state minister and senior leader Kaul Singh Thakur to get his feedback.

ment, price rise and failure to effectively tackle the pandemic," Dutt said.

"The issue of the party going to the next Assembly polls without the active involvement of former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh was discussed at length," said a senior leader. The issue of going to the polls under a collective leadership was deliberated upon amidst speculation about a possible change in the state leadership.

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## 554 Covid cases, 15 deaths in state

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

COVID METER		
SAMPLES TESTED	RECOVERED	ACTIVE
20,79,170	186,872	6,682
Positive	196,905	
Deaths	3,327	
DISTRICT-WISE COUNT		
DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Bilaspur	12,351	76
Chamba	10,523	132
Hamirpur	13,993	241
Kangra	44,833	990
Kinnaur	3,108	36
Kullu	8,613	150
Lahaul & Spiti	2,646	17
Mandi	26,362	368
Shimla	24,554	583
Sirmaur	14,989	201
Solan	21,958	302
Una	12,975	231
Total	196,905	3,327

## Curbs in force, most eating joints in D'sala closed

LALIT MOHAN

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

DHARAMSALA, JUNE 9 The state government has allowed restaurants and eating joints to function till 2 pm from June 7, but more than 90 per cent units in tourist city of Dharamsala are still closed.

The owners allege that it is not possible to operate under the present set of guidelines issued by the government. They say that several eating joints may find it difficult to reopen even after the lockdown restrictions are relaxed.

The closed eating joints and restaurants are posing problems for tourists and traders coming here for business or other purposes. Rishab, who came to Dharamsala for supplying



A restaurant shut during curfew in Dharamsala. KAMALJEET

### FOOD SERVICES NOT OFFERED

◆ Hotel owners are not offering food services as they are finding it difficult to bear expenses of maintaining staff for the restaurant section.

Sanjeev Gandhi, GEN SECY, HOTEL AND RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION, DHARAMSALA

material to a under construction company, said that everything, including

shops, close at 2 pm. Even hotels are not offering food. "I have been buying milk

to remain closed, he said.

Sanjeev Gandhi, general secretary of Hotel and Restaurant Association of Smart City, Dharamsala, said that all eating joints in McLeodganj were still closed. Even hoteliers and guesthouse owners were not offering food services, as it was difficult to bear the expenses of staff for restaurants.

Gandhi said that many people running eating joints in McLeodganj by taking buildings on lease had left, as they were unable to pay high rent.

Some famous eating joints in McLeodganj such as Mcleo Restaurant are also closed. Pankaj Chaddha, owner of Mcleo Restaurant, said that restaurants were unlikely to open till the end of June.

### TENDER NOTICE FOR PURCHASE OF 33.50 LAKH BL EXTRA NEUTRAL ALCOHOL(ENA) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021-22

PUR-1/ENA

Sealed tenders are invited from the manufacturers/suppliers of Extra Neutral Alcohol (ENA) for purchase of 33.50 Lac BL of ENA to be supplied immediately and to be completed on or before 31-3-2022 for HPGIC Country Liquor Bottling Plant, Mehtapur Distt. Una HP on F.O.R destination and exclusive of all taxes, export duty, import duty etc. as applicable, for the financial year 2021-2022 in Himachal Pradesh, so as to reach this office complete in all respect on or before 29-06-2021 upto 2.00 PM alongwith earnest money in the shape of demand draft in favour of HPGIC payable at Shimla.

The detailed terms & conditions of this tender notice can be obtained from this office on any working day or can be downloaded from our website

[www.hpgic.co.in](http://www.hpgic.co.in). The tenders will be opened on 29-06-2021 at 2.30 PM in the presence of the tenderers or their authorized representatives who wish to be present. Negotiations, if required, will be held with L-1. The undersigned reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason. The detail of the supply of ENA to be made to the unit is given as under:

### Description

### Quantity

### Earnest Money

Extra Neutral Alcohol (ENA) - Min. 33.50 Lacs BL-CLBP

Mehatpur

Rs. 5.00 Lakh

Sd/-  
Amit Kashyap, IAS  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

paper.tribuneindia.com

# Amid Covid crisis, exams for Class XI, XII cancelled

SRINAGAR, JUNE 9

J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said all pending examinations for Class XI and XII in the Union Territory had been cancelled in the wake of the Covid pandemic.

Sinha tweeted, "In view of safety and well-being of students due to the Covid pandemic, all pending Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education (JKBOSE) exams for session 2020-21 (regular/private) for Class XI and XII across the UT are cancelled."

He said a detailed procedure for publishing of results along with a scheme of marking would be completed by the JKBOSE shortly.

Meanwhile, J&K recorded 1,098 fresh Covid cases which took its caseload to 3,03,769 while 17 more fatalities pushed the death toll to 4,118, officials said.

Of the fresh cases, 324 were reported from the Jammu division and 774 from the Kashmir division of the UT, they said. Srinagar district



A doctor examines a patient at the DRDO-built hospital at Khonmoh on the outskirts of Srinagar on Wednesday. PTI

## 500-BED COVID HOSPITAL OPENS IN SRINAGAR

- LG Manoj Sinha inaugurated a 500-bed Covid hospital, established by the DRDO, at Khonmoh, Srinagar, on Wednesday
- After creating a makeshift hospital in Jammu, this is the second such DRDO-built hospital in the UT in the last 17 days

recorded the highest number of fresh cases at 254, followed by 113 in Budgam. The number of active Covid cases in J&K stands at 19,852 while 2,79,779 patients have recovered so far.

They said there were 18 confirmed cases of mucormycosis or black fungus in the

UT, with one fresh case reported since last evening.

Ladakh reported 72 fresh cases of Covid taking the overall tally to 19,330. The UT has recorded 195 Covid-related deaths with 141 in Leh district and 54 in Kargil district, while 18,194 patients have recovered so far — PTI

## Subordinate jobs reserved only for Ladakhis

LEH, JUNE 9

The Ladakh administration has reserved all subordinate service jobs for the local residents, a development welcomed by the BJP.

The recruitment rules, framed by Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur, would come into force from the date of their publication in the official gazette, a notification states.

As per the rules, the appointment to the service shall be made by direct recruitment or by promotion, failing which by absorption. The competent authority to appoint a person to the services by absorption shall be the administration. Ladakh BJP president and MP Jamyang Tsingy Namgyal thanked the Centre for the new rules.

However, prominent politician from Kargil Sajjad Hussain alleged that the new rules were full of flaws.

CPM leader Mohamad Yousuf Tariqami said there was no clarity whether those applying for jobs would have to submit permanent residence certificates, as was the practice prior to 2019, or domicile certificate. — TNS/PTI



## GLOBE TROT



**RESCUE OPS:** Firefighters search for passengers in a bus trapped under the debris of a collapsed building in Gwangju, South Korea, on Wednesday. REUTERS

**Tiny worm comes back to life after 24,000 yrs in Siberia**

**MOSCOW:** A microscopic organism has wriggled back to life and reproduced asexually after lying frozen in northeastern Siberia for 24,000 years. Russian scientists found bdelloid rotifer in soil taken from a river in Yakutia. REUTERS

**Oz medical body calls for sugar tax to combat obesity**

**CANBERRA:** Australia's top medical body has called on the government to implement a tax on sugary beverages to combat obesity, diabetes and poor health. IANS

**El Salvador 1st country to make bitcoin a legal tender**

**SAN SALVADOR:** El Salvador President Nayib Bukele on Wednesday approved a Bill to make bitcoin cryptocurrency a legal tender. The Central American country is now the first country in the world to have taken this decision. IANS

# Quad on track to provide jabs to Southeast Asia by 2022: US

WASHINGTON, JUNE 9

The commitment of the Quad nations to provide one billion Covid-19 vaccines to people in Southeast Asia by 2022 is still on track, according to a top White House official.

In March, leaders of the Quad comprising Australia, India, Japan and the United States, during their first virtual summit, committed themselves to provide one billion vaccines to Southeast Asia.

These vaccines were to be manufactured in India, but due to the unprecedented second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, certain quarters are raising doubts if the Quad can meet its commitment by 2022.

"We have been in close consultations with our partners and with India. Obviously, this is an extremely difficult period for Indian friends. The United States has tried to stand with Delhi and bring others, both in the private and the public sectors, to support them," said Kurt Campbell, the White House's Indo-Pacific



A voter at a polling station during presidential elections in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, on Wednesday. REUTERS

**EU LAWMAKERS OKAY VIRUS PASS**

**BRUSSELS:** European Union (EU) lawmakers on Wednesday endorsed a new travel certificate that will allow people to move between European countries without having to quarantine or undergo extra Covid tests. AP

ic policy director.

"Our discussions with both our partners in the private sector and also in government suggests we are still on track," he said.

Participating in a panel dis-

cussion organised by the Center for New American Security, a think-tank in Washington DC, he said the most intense efforts right now really were in the short-term.

"I think we're feeling rela-

**TRACKING VIRUS**

NATION	DEATHS
US	6,13,052
BRAZIL	4,77,307
INDIA	3,53,528
MEXICO	2,29,100
UK	1,27,854

WORLDOMETER TILL JUNE 9, 11 PM

**VACCINE FOR ALL IN JAPAN BY OCT-NOV**

**TOKYO:** Japan plans to finish vaccinating all citizens who have applied for shots by October. November, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga said during a debate between party leaders on Wednesday. REUTERS

tively confident as we head into 2022, but we recognise that what we are facing right now across Asia, in fact, across the world, are new strains that spread more rapidly," Campbell said. — PTI

# Japan, Oz discuss China's actions in regional seas

TOKYO, JUNE 9

Japan and Australia on Wednesday shared concern about China's increasingly assertive actions in regional seas and expressed strong objections to "coercive or destabilising" behaviour.

Foreign and defence ministers from the two countries agreed in the online talks to strengthen their security ties as China presses its claims to contested areas in the Asia-Pacific region. Japanese Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi told reporters after the talks that the officials shared their concerns about China's activity in the East and South China Seas as a challenge to the international community. Motegi was joined by Japanese Defence Minister Nobuo Kishi and their Australian counterparts, Marise Payne and Peter Dutton.

Japan regularly protests to Beijing over its coast guard presence near the Japan-controlled Senkaku islands, which China also claims and

**'STOP SABOTAGING REGIONAL PEACE'**

**Beijing:** China's foreign ministry said on Wednesday it strongly objected to Japan and Australia playing up the "China threat" and smearing China maliciously in response to a joint statement from the two countries. It urged all sides to stop interfering Beijing's internal affairs and sabotaging regional peace and stability. PTI

calls Diaoyu. Chinese vessels routinely violate Japanese territorial waters around the islands, sometimes threatening fishing boats, Japanese officials say. Japan and China are also in dispute over the development of undersea resources in the area.

"We reinforce our strong opposition to any destabilising or coercive unilateral actions that could alter the status quo and increase tension in the East China Sea," Japan and Australia said in a joint statement released after the talks. — AP

lives of Indian-Americans but religious practice varies. While nearly three-quarters of Indian-Americans state that religion plays an important role in their lives, religious practice is less pronounced.

Forty per cent of respondents pray at least once a day and 27 per cent attend religious services at least once a week. The report notes that roughly half of all Hindu Indian-Americans identify with a caste group. Foreign-born respondents are significantly more likely than US-born respondents to espouse a caste identity. — PTI

# Russian court mulls motion to outlaw Navalny's organisations

MOSCOW, JUNE 9

A Russian court on Wednesday began considering a request to declare organisations linked to jailed Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny "extremist", a move that if approved would ban his allies from a parliamentary election later this year too.

The case, the latest chapter in a long-running crackdown on President Vladimir Putin's fiercest domestic opponent, could deliver a final hammer blow to a vast political net-

work that Navalny has built over years to try to challenge the veteran Russian leader's grip on power.

Navalny and his allies have denied the prosecutor's allegations, casting them as an attempt to try to crush their political opposition to the ruling United Russia party ahead of parliamentary elections in September.

The prosecutor's request, if approved by the court, would formally end the activity of a network of groups set up by Navalny. — Reuters

# Indian-Americans face discrimination regularly: Survey

WASHINGTON, JUNE 9

Indian-Americans, who constitute the second largest immigrant group in the US, regularly encounter discrimination and polarisation, according to a survey released on Wednesday.

The report, 'Social Realities of Indian Americans: Results from the 2020 Indian American Attitudes Survey', draws on the Indian-American Attitudes Survey (IAAS), a collaboration between the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Johns Hopkins-SAIS and the University of Pennsylvania.

**2 CHARGED FOR RACIST VIDEO TARGETING PATEL**

**LONDON:** Two men were charged on Wednesday with sending a grossly offensive message related to a racist social media video targeting UK Home Secretary Priti Patel. The

duo were summoned to court on May 29 and are next due to appear at Mansfield Magistrates Court in Nottinghamshire, East Midlands region of England, on June 29. PTI

The findings of the report are based on a nationally representative online survey of 1,200 Indian-American residents in the US conducted between September 1 and 20, 2020, in partnership with the research and analytics firm YouGov, it said in a statement.

"Indian-Americans regularly encounter discrimination. One in two Indian Americans has reported being discriminated against in the past one year, with the discrimination based on skin colour identified as the most common form of bias.

"Somewhat surprisingly, Indian-Americans born in

the United States are much more likely to report being victims of discrimination than their foreign-born counterparts," said the report.

According to the report, Indian-Americans exhibit very high rates of marriage within their community.

While eight out of 10 respondents have a spouse or partner of Indian-origin, US-born Indian-Americans are four times more likely to have a spouse or partner who is of Indian-origin but was born in the United States.

The survey found that religion plays a central role in the

# BUSINESS



## Vedanta Group to buy Videocon for ₹292 cr

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

Billionaire Anil Agarwal's Vedanta Group on Wednesday said it will make an upfront payment of almost \$40 million (about Rs 292 crore) for the acquisition of Videocon Industries Ltd, which will help it become the largest shareholder in the Ravva oil and gas fields in KG basin.

The National Company Law Tribunal's Mumbai Bench on Tuesday approved the acquisition of bankrupt Videocon Industries by Vedanta Group firm Twin Star Technologies, with the lenders set to take a haircut of 90%.

A proposal to bifurcate state-owned gas utility GAIL (India) Ltd has been scrapped for now and instead the company will monetise some of its pipelines by selling a minority stake through InvIT.

GAIL chairman and managing director Manoj Jain said the company has sent a plan for monetising two of its pipelines to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and an Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) is possible within the current fiscal if approvals come soon.

GAIL is India's biggest natural gas marketing and trading firm and owns nearly three-fourths of the country's 17,126-km gas pipeline network, giving it a stranglehold on the market. To resolve the issue, it was proposed that GAIL's pipeline business should be hived off

asset consists of an upfront payment of almost \$40 million and the rest deferred payments shall begin post completion of two years from the acquisition date," it said. Agarwal made a fortune buying state companies and fixing them up, building a metals and mining powerhouse. His group acquired state-owned BALCO in 2001 and Hindustan Zinc in 2002 and bankrupt assets such as Electrosteel and Ferro Alloys Corporation Limited. — PTI

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BSE

333.93

51,941.64

NSE

104.75

15,635.35

GOLD

₹48,680

Mumbai (MCX)

SILVER

₹71,400

Mumbai (MCX)

## Govt scraps plan to split GAIL, company to monetise pipelines



**OWNS 75% OF COUNTRY'S NETWORK**

■ GAIL is India's biggest natural gas marketing and trading firm and owns nearly three-fourths of the country's 17,126-km gas pipeline network

■ Sources said the proposal to split GAIL was dropped as the company had a large project pipeline in its network. A subsidiary may not have been able to raise the funds at rates that a combined balance sheet of GAIL can get

into a separate entity.

"There is no pending proposal in this regard," Jain said at a call with reporters on the company's earnings.

He was asked about the fate of the plan to transfer the pipeline business into a new subsidiary, with GAIL holding the core business of

marketing natural gas and petrochemical production.

"We are initially monetising through InvIT. Proposals for InvIT for two pipelines have been sent to the ministry. Once it clears, we will start working on the monetisation plan," he said.

Asked if this meant that the split plan was junked, he said, "it appears so." "We are going for the pipeline-wise route (for monetisation) instead of the entire segment," he said. He said GAIL will monetise some of its pipelines by selling a minority stake through InvIT.

The idea is to transfer pipelines with a steady revenue stream into a trust whose units can be sold to investors and the same can be traded on the stock exchange. This way, GAIL will upfront get money from such a sale that can be used for capital expenditure. — PTI

## BoB to sell NPA a/cs to recover ₹597 crore

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

State-owned Bank of Baroda (BoB) will conduct an e-auction of as many as 46 NPA accounts later this month to recover dues of Rs 597.41 crore.

The lender, in a notification, said it intends to sell these NPA accounts to asset reconstruction companies (ARCs)/banks/NBFCS or other financial institutions (FIs) on 100% cash basis, for which the e-auction will take place on June 21, 2021.

The major NPA accounts put up for sale include Meena Jewels Export & Meena Jewellers Export (Rs 60.76 crore); Crystal Cable Industries (Rs 57.49 crore); JR Foods Ltd (Rs 41.60 crore); Shree Raghuvanshi Fibres (Rs 27.38 crore); Kaneri Agro Industries (Rs 24.69 crore); Man Tubinox (Rs 24.28 crore) and Aryans Educational and Charitable Trust (Rs 20.79 crore).

The last date for submission of expression of interest is June 19, the bank said, adding the completion of due diligence will take place on the same day.



The e-auction of 46 NPA a/cs will take place on June 21.

"E-bidding timings will be from 11.30 AM to 12.30 PM with unlimited extension of 5 minutes in case the amount is increased by the bidders. The incremental amount shall be in multiple of Rs 10 lakh," Bank of Baroda said.

With respect to Chennai-based Rahima Leather Exports against which there is an outstanding of Rs 9.13 crore, Bank of Baroda said it has received an ECGC claim of Rs 1.18 crore. — PTI

## Punjab textile industry availed ₹7,600 cr credit in 2020

VIJAY C ROY

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 9

Punjab-based textile and apparel industry availed credit of Rs 7,600 crore as of December 2020, a decline of 6.7% year-on-year. This is due to the suspension of manufacturing activities in the aftermath of Covid-induced lockdown in March 2020, according to a report by Centre for Research in International Finance (CRIF) and



**LUDHIANA CONTRIBUTES 10% TO TOTAL EXPORTS**

Ludhiana contributes around 10% to total exports from the country and caters to 30% of the domestic apparel demand. With an installed capacity of 750 lakh spindles, the northern region contributes 15% to the total capacity of the country.

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI). Out of this, Ludhiana-

## Dieselgate: Former VW CEO charged with false testimony

**PARIS, JUNE 9**  
Unseeded Barbora Krejčíková reached the semifinals of the French Open on her fifth appearance in a Grand Slam main draw as she beat a nervy Coco Gauff 7-6(6) 6-3 today.

The 33rd-ranked Czech saved five set points as she recovered from a slow start and benefited from her 17-year-old opponent's lack of composure to book a meeting with Maria Sakkari after the defending champion Iga Świątek lost 6-4 6-4 to the Greek.

It was the 25th-seeded Gauff's first quarterfinals at a Major and after a promising start the American appeared to crumble under pressure, making 41 unforced errors as she served seven double faults.

Krejčíková is looking to become the first player from the Czech Republic to lift the Suzanne Lenglen Cup since Hana Mandlíková in 1981.

Almost 5,000 spectators — up from 1,000 until then — were allowed on a sun-kissed court Philippe Chatrier as Covid measures started to ease today.

"Thank you so much, it was amazing, we were more pumped. Thanks for cheering," Krejčíková said on court. "I had never dreamed of being here on this court, reaching the semifinals. I was behind in the first set but decided to go for every ball and just enjoy myself."

#### Tsitsipas too good

Fifth seed Stefanos Tsitsipas beat world No. 2 Daniil Medvedev in straight sets on Tuesday to advance to the semifinals for the sec-

# Greece's gift to tennis

Sakkari defeats defending champ, Tsitsipas beats Medvedev



Maria Sakkari topped Iga Świątek 6-4 6-4 on Wednesday; (below) Stefanos Tsitsipas shakes hands with Daniil Medvedev after their quarterfinals match on Tuesday. REUTERS



Alexander Zverev beat Alejandro Davidovich Fokina 6-4 6-1 6-1. REUTERS

ond straight year and end the Russian's surprise run on the Parisian clay.

The Greek avenged his

Australian Open semifinals loss to the Russian this year and improved his Grand Slam quarterfinals record

to 4-0 with a 6-3 7-6(3) 7-5 win that tied up a last-four clash against Germany's Alexander Zverev.

# Spain's young guns fire, France win 3-0



Spain's players celebrate after scoring against Lithuania. AP/PTI

LONDON, JUNE 9  
Spain's group of young debutants plus Bryan Gil in the starting line-up.

**Benzema concern**

Karim Benzema's return to international soccer continues to go awry as the France forward limped off injured in his team's 3-0 victory over Bulgaria.

Benzema had a penalty saved and hit the post last week in his first appearance for France in nearly six years.

He lasted just 41 minutes on Tuesday before being forced off. But France coach Didier Deschamps has brushed off concerns, indicating that it is just a dead leg. — AP/PTI

**Fans rewarded for UEFA's multi-country event**

It seemed ambitious nine years ago when UEFA said it would organise the Euro 2020 in 13 different cities around the continent. It seemed optimistic last year when UEFA decided to stick to a 12-city plan after postponing Euro 2020 when the coronavirus pandemic was declared. Now Euro 2020 will kick off in 11 cities, separated by four time zones and up to 4,700km. Yet the quirky, one-time-only hosting plan looks to



1 DAY TO GO

#### Spain's Llorente tests positive for Covid-19

MADRID: Spain defender Diego Llorente has tested positive for Covid-19, the national team said today, five days before their Euro 2020 opener. Spain captain Sergio Busquets had tested positive on Sunday and Spanish FA (RFEF) president Luis Rubiales warned more cases were likely. Both players had left the team's camp, while the rest of the squad continue to prepare for the tournament, the federation said.

Spain face Sweden in their Euro 2020 Group E opener on Monday. AP/PTI

#### Nadal drops set, beats Schwartzman to reach semifinals

PARIS: Rafael Nadal's French Open set streak is over. His pursuit of a record-breaking 21st Grand Slam title — including 14 at Roland Garros — remains very much intact. Nadal shrugged off dropping a set in Paris for the first time in two years and regained control, whipping violent forehands punctuated with fist pumps and yells of "Vamos!" en route to a 6-3 4-6 6-4 6-0 victory over 10th-seeded Diego Schwartzman to reach the semifinals at the clay-court Major tournament. Nadal, who turned 35 last week, is now 105-2 for his career at Roland Garros. He is just two wins from eclipsing the men's mark for most total Grand Slam singles championships that he currently shares with Roger Federer. In addition to his 13 trophies at Roland Garros, he has won four titles at the US Open, two at Wimbledon and one at the Australian Open.

"It was a very close match and we both served pretty well," Tsitsipas said.

#### Zverev's first time

Alexander Zverev settled some early nerves before beating Spain's Alejandro Davidovich Fokina 6-4 6-1 6-1 on Tuesday to reach the semifinals for the first time.

After his frustration wore off following an early argument with chair umpire Alison Hughes over a line call, Zverev clicked into gear while an increasingly despondent Fokina wavered. — Reuters

#### UEFA EURO 2020 MATCH SCHEDULE

##### POOL STAGE

###### JUNE 12

- Turkey vs Italy 00:30am\*
- Wales vs Switzerland 6:30pm
- Denmark vs Finland 9:30pm

###### JUNE 13

- Belgium vs Russia 00:30am
- England vs Croatia 6:30pm
- Austria vs N Macedonia 9:30pm

###### JUNE 14

- Netherlands vs Ukraine 00:30am
- Scotland vs Czech Rep. 6:30pm
- Poland vs Slovakia 9:30pm

###### JUNE 15

- Spain vs Sweden 00:30am
- Hungary vs Portugal 9:30pm

###### JUNE 16

- France vs Germany 00:30am
- Finland vs Russia 6:30pm
- Turkey vs Wales 9:30pm

###### JUNE 19

- Netherlands vs Austria 00:30am
- Sweden vs Slovakia 6:30pm
- Croatia vs Czech Rep. 9:30pm

###### JUNE 21

- N Macedonia vs Netherlands 9:30pm

###### JUNE 22

- Ukraine vs Austria 9:30pm

###### JUNE 23

- Czech Rep. vs England 00:30am

###### JUNE 24

- Croatia vs Scotland 00:30am

###### KNOCKOUT PHASE

- Round of 16: June 26-30

###### Quarterfinals:

- July 2-4

###### Semifinals:

- July 7-8

###### Final:

- July 12

Live on Sony Ten | \*All times IST

**GROUP A (Rome/Baku):** Turkey, Italy (hosts), Wales, Switzerland

**GROUP B (Copenhagen/St Petersburg):** Denmark (hosts), Finland, Belgium, Russia (hosts)

**GROUP C (Amsterdam/Bucharest):** Netherlands (hosts), Ukraine, Austria, North Macedonia

**GROUP D (London/Glasgow):** England (hosts), Croatia, Scotland (hosts), Czech Republic

**GROUP E (Seville/St Petersburg):** Spain (hosts), Sweden, Poland, Slovakia

**GROUP F (Munich/Budapest):** Hungary (hosts), Portugal (holders), France, Germany (hosts)

be the best result fans could hope for with the coronavirus continuing to limit international travel. Nine of the 11 hosts — all except Azerbaijan and Romania — qualified for the 24-team tournament, giving tens of thousands of fans the chance to see at least two home games. That's a better outcome than having a single host nation, like France in 2016 and Germany in 2024, which most likely would have had to shut borders to many visiting fans. AP/PTI

#### NZ to keep key bowlers fresh for WTC final

BIRMINGHAM, JUNE 9

New Zealand are set to rest a few of their key bowlers for the second Test against England to ensure they are fresh and raring to go when they clash with India in the World Test Championship final on June 18.

New Zealand are already dealing with fitness concerns around skipper Kane Williamson, while spinner Mitchell Santner has also been ruled out of the second match, starting tomorrow, due to a finger injury. Williamson has been ruled out of the second Test against England to give much-needed rest to his "irritated" left elbow.

With pacer Trent Boult now available for selection for the final match of the series, New Zealand can easily rest one of their other key bowlers — Tim Southee, Neil Wagner and Kyle Jamieson.

"It won't be a surprise if more than one among them does not take the field."

"They (bowlers) have all scrubbed up pretty well, but it doesn't necessarily mean they will play in the next match," New Zealand head coach Stead said.

Matt Henry, Doug Bracewell and uncapped Jacob Duffy could be the replacements for the pacers.

"With an eye to the (WTC) final we want to make sure the key bowlers who we think will take part in that game are fresh and ready for that first ball of the match versus India," Stead said. — PTI

# Wrestler Ravi settles for silver in Poland

the second period but Ravi still could not breach his defence and eventually lost the title clash 3-5.

Competing in only his second competition of the season, Ravi began with an easy 10-1 win over Abdullaev but struggled against Kazakhstan's Adlan Askarov before prevailing 8-3.

He sealed his spot in the semifinals with a 9-5 win over American Nathan Khalid Tomasello. Ravi then reached the final with a 7-4 win over Iran's Reza Ahmadali Atri-nagharchi. — PTI

#### IOA, Rijiju divided over new kit sponsor

NEW DELHI: After dropping Chinese sportswear company Li Ning as India's Olympics kit sponsor, Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju today said the country's athletes will not wear branded apparel in the upcoming Tokyo Games even as the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) claimed that the search is on for a new partner. Rijiju's statement came hours after IOA president Narinder Batra told PTI that the national Olympics committee was hoping to find a new kit sponsor for the contingent by the end of this month after cutting ties with Li Ning on Tuesday. "Indian athletes, coaches and support staff, won't be wearing any branded apparel at Tokyo Olympics. Only 'INDIA' will be written in the kits of our athletes," Rijiju tweeted. However, Batra said search is on for a new sponsor within the limited available time. "The process (of finding a new sponsor) is in progress but time in our hand is very limited. We don't want to put pressure on anyone and have them on board under duress," Batra said. PTI

#### India's first ever taekwondo entry at Paralympics

NEW DELHI: Aruna Tanwar has been awarded a wild card entry for the upcoming Tokyo Paralympic Games, which will make her the first Indian to compete in the global event, the national federation said today. Indian Taekwondo president Namdev Shringarkar said Aruna received the wild card based on her "exemplary past performances". "She is the first taekwondo athlete from India to qualify for the Paralympics. This has opened the doors for all the aspiring athletes that want to be in this position," Shringarkar said. PTI

#### NORTHERN RAILWAY

##### INVITATION OF TENDERS THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM

Tender Notice No. 08/2021-2022 Date: 09.06.2021

Dy. Chief Materials Manager, NRly. Store Depot Mech. Workshop, AMRITSAR for and on behalf of President of India, invited tenders through e-procurement system for the supply of the following items:-

S.N.	Tender No.	Description	Qty.	Due Date
1.	62215109	High Tensile Centre Buffer Coupler (Non-Transition) for BRN 22.9M1 Wagons as per attached annexure-I	400 Set	06.07.2021
2.	62215110	High-Capacity Draft Gear with Follower for BRN 22.9M1 Wagons as per RDSO Drg No. WD-81010-S-03 alt.11, item no. 19 & RDSO Spec. 49-BD-08 with amendment 01 of sept-16	400 Nos	06.07.2021

NOTE- Above tenders with detailed description are uploaded on IREPS site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). The firm who desires to participate against e-tenders, are advised to electronically register themselves on the above website for which they would require to have a class III digital certificate form certifying Agencies authorized under IT Act 2000. By Govt. of India. Manual offers against e-tenders will not be accepted.

1253/21

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E-AUCTION NOTICE NO. 47/2021-2022

DMW/Patiala will be conducting a live E-Auction sale through the website ([www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)) for which schedule as under:-

Time of Auction</
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## IN BRIEF



**Former UP Chief Secy takes charge as EC**

**NEW DELHI:** Former UP Chief Secretary Anup Chandra Pandey assumed charge as an Election Commissioner on Wednesday. Pandey was appointed to the post on Tuesday. — PTI

**Asharam fit & stable, R'stan Govt tells SC**

**NEW DELHI:** The Rajasthan Government has told the SC that self-styled godman Asharam Bapu, serving a life term in two rape cases in a Jodhpur jail, was fit and stable, but trying to change the venue of his custody on the pretext of medical treatment. — PTI

**Nod to use drones for mapping villages**

**NEW DELHI:** The Civil Aviation Ministry on Wednesday gave conditional permission to the Survey of India to use drones for mapping of inhabited areas of villages under the Union Government's SVAMITVA scheme. The scheme was inaugurated last year to create accurate land records so that villagers could use them to take loans and other financial benefits. — PTI

**'Is man' forced to chant 'Jai Shri Ram' in Tihar**

**NEW DELHI:** An alleged ISIS member, arrested for planning suicide attacks and serial blasts across the country, approached a Delhi court on Wednesday claiming that he was beaten up by other inmates in Tihar jail and forced to chant 'Jai Shri Ram'. Accused Rashid Zafar was arrested in 2018. — PTI

# CBI books biz honcho Thapar for ₹466-cr Yes Bank loan fraud

Agency carries out searches at 14 locations in Delhi-NCR, 3 other cities

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered an FIR against Oyster Buildwell Private Ltd, Avantha Group promoter Gautam Thapar and others, as its officials raided 14 locations in Delhi-NCR and three other cities in connection with a case related to alleged diversion of over Rs 466 crore in Yes Bank during 2017-19.

Agency officials said, "Thapar is already being probed in another case related to diversion of public money in Yes Bank allegedly involving bank's former chief Rana Kapoor."

In the latest FIR, the CBI has also named directors of Oyster Buildwell Pvt Ltd — Raghbir Kumar Sharma, Rajendra Kumar Mangal and Tapsi Mahajan — as well as

## DEFAULTED ON PAYMENTS

- The CBI case pertains to loan taken by Oyster Buildwell Pvt Ltd (OBPL), a holding company of Avantha Realty Limited, and its misappropriation between 2017 and 2019.
- The OBPL was required to pay an interest-free refundable security deposit of ₹515 cr to JPL for which Yes Bank had sanctioned long-term loan of ₹515 crore for 10 years.
- The firm defaulted on payments with the account turning into a non-performing asset on Oct 30, 2019. The total outstanding principal dues stand at ₹466.15 crore



GAUTAM THAPAR

unidentified executives of Avantha Realty Pvt Ltd and Jhabua Power Ltd.

In its FIR, the CBI has alleged that Oyster Buildwell Pvt Ltd (OBPL) "is part of Avantha group with over 97 per cent stake held by Avantha Realty and the remaining by Thapar and Vani Kapoor".

The Central probe agency has registered the case on the basis of a complaint dated May

27, 2021, which it received from Yes Bank's Chief Vigilance Officer Ashish Vinod Joshi.

The CBI has alleged that the accused have indulged in a criminal conspiracy, criminal breach of trust, cheating and forgery for diversion of public money to the tune of ₹466.15 crore, the officials said.

After registering the case, the CBI team searched 14 locations in Delhi and NCR. The total outstanding principal dues stand at ₹466.15 crore," alleged the complaint.

Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), Secunderabad (Telangana) and Kolkata (West Bengal), including the premises of the accused, they said.

The complaint by Yes Bank, now a part of the FIR, has alleged that Jhabua Power Limited (JPL), a group concern of OBPL, entered in operations and maintenance contract for its 600 MW power plant with its holding company Jhabua Power Investment Ltd (JPIL) for 10 years.

The OBPL was required to pay an interest-free refundable security deposit of Rs 515 crore to JPIL for which Yes Bank had sanctioned a long-term loan of Rs 515 crore for 10 years.

"The company defaulted on payments with the account turning into a non-performing asset on October 30, 2019. The total outstanding principal dues stand at Rs 466.15 crore," alleged the complaint.

# Delayed by Covid, HAL jet deliveries to start from July

AJAY BANERJEE  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

Amid the Covid gloom, public sector giant Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) too has had to slow down the production of helicopters and fighter jets like Tejas.

The Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the HAL, R Madhavan, in a telephonic chat with *The Tribune*, said over the past three months, a delay in production had been witnessed as many of the suppliers weren't able to deliver raw material on time. "But things are normalising now," he said.

The company has also delayed the delivery of 15 light combat helicopters (LCH) to the Indian Air Force (IAF) due to the pandemic.

"The company has delayed the delivery of 15 light combat helicopters (LCH) to the Indian Air Force (IAF) due to the pandemic," he said.



**'WILL WORK OVERTIME'**

Many of our suppliers weren't able to deliver raw material on time. But things are normalising now

R Madhavan, HAL CHAIRMAN

sion, Madhavan said, "We have to produce 10 more of these, which will be done this fiscal."

Separately, four jets are ready and IAF pilots will soon be coming to Bengaluru to fly these away from the Tejas facility. He said the production of trainers, part of 83 jets ordered for the Tejas Mark-1A version, would commence next year (2022-23 fiscal).

About the Advanced Medium

## Choksi's bail plea to be heard tomorrow

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

The Dominica High Court has adjourned the bail hearing of fugitive diamond merchant Mehul Choksi till June 11, local media reports stated. Choksi had approached the high court after the magistrate rejected his bail petition.

Dominica News Online has reported that the hearing on Choksi's bail plea took place before high court judge Wynante Adrienne Roberts through video-conferencing, where local legal team comprising Julian Pre-

Combat Aircraft (AMCA), Madhavan said. "We have to decide how we produce the jet after freezing (finalising) its design. We want to bring in private Indian partners for the production."

On helicopter business, he said the order for 15 light combat helicopters (LCH) (tested extensively in war-like conditions in Ladakh last summer) "should have come in by now". Pending the order, HAL is producing five to seven LCH this year. The government has specified the need for 150 such machines.

About the light utility helicopter (LUH), Madhavan said, "We plan to have the first delivery in August 2022 to mark 75 years of Independence."

On making the bigger 10-12 tonne helicopter called the Indian Multi-Role Helicopter (IMRH), he said, "The wind tunnel tests are yet to be conducted. The Army and the IAF are on board and the Navy has also given its requirements. The version will be created on the same platform."

## Choksi's bail plea to be heard tomorrow

MEHUL CHOKSI

vost, Wayne Norde, Wayne Marsh and Cara Shillingford-Marsh represented the Indian businessman.

The government's side was represented by Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) Sherma Dalrymple, who "strongly objected" to Choksi's plea calling him "a flight risk", the media outlet said.

## 5 MHz spectrum okayed for Rlys

a real-time basis and would be able to augment both communication and signalling network of the railways, Javadekar said.

The Ministry of Railways said, "It brings a strategic shift in railways' operations and maintenance regime. It will help in improving the safety and increasing the line capacity to accommodate more trains using the existing infrastructure. The modern rail network will result in reduced transportation cost and higher efficiency."

The Railways currently uses optical fibre for its communication network but with the fresh spectrum allocation, it will be able to use high-speed radio on

With this, the Railways has envisaged to provide LTE-based mobile train radio communication on its route. "The estimated investment in the project is more than Rs 25,000 crore. The project will be completed in the next five years," a statement read.

The Railways currently uses optical fibre for its communication network but with the fresh spectrum allocation, it will be able to use high-speed radio on

announcing the decision of the Union Cabinet meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar said the allocation of 4G spectrum would help improve safety of passengers on the rail network in the country.

## Key conspirator in Kerala gold smuggling case held

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

and taken up the investigation. A chargesheet has already been filed in the case naming 20 accused in January this year, they said.

The officials said the probe into the case has revealed that Mohammed Mansoor, while being in the UAE, had conspired with the charge-sheeted accused

The case pertains to seizure of 30 kg gold, worth ₹14 cr, in 2020

Mohammed Shafi P and others to facilitate smuggling of gold to India, through import cargo addressed to diplomats at the UAE consulate in Thiruvananthapuram.

The NIA special court in Ernakulam had issued a non-bailable arrest warrant against Mansoor. He was produced before a special court in Kochi and has been remanded in the agency custody for five days.

## India, Thailand navies begin joint patrol



■ The Indian and Thai navies on Wednesday kicked off a three-day coordinated patrol in the Andaman Sea in the backdrop of growing concern over China's increasing maritime presence in the Indian Ocean region.

■ The Indian Navy's offshore patrol vessel INS Saryu and Thai ship Krabi along with Dornier maritime patrol aircraft from both navies are participating in the 31st edition of the India-Thailand coordinated patrol (CORPAT), officials said.

## QS Rankings: 3 Indian varsities in top 200

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated IIT, Bombay, IIT, Delhi, and IISc, Bengaluru, for top 200 positions in QS World University Rankings 2022.

In a tweet, the Prime Minister said: "Efforts are underway to ensure more universities and institutions of India scale global excellence and support intellectual prowess among the youth."

Quacquarelli Symonds, global higher education analysts, today released the 18th edition of the world's international university rankings.

Three Indian universities have achieved top 200 positions in QS World University Rankings. The IISc, Bengaluru, ranked No 1 in the world for research. Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal congratulated IIT, Bombay, for securing 177th position, IIT, Delhi, for 185th rank and IISc, Bengaluru, for 186th position in rankings.

## Telangana HC Bench strength increased from 24 to 42 judges

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 9

In one of the biggest jumps, the Bench strength of a high court, the number of judges in the Telangana High Court has been increased "with immediate effect" from 24 to 42 judges after the Centre agreed to it.

The decision is aimed at dealing with huge pendency of cases in the Telangana High Court where 2.37 lakh cases await disposal.

Out of 42 judges, 32 will be Permanent Judges and 10 will be Additional Judges, a Supreme Court release announced.

The proposal to increase the Bench strength of Telangana High Court — which had been pending for approval with the Centre since February 2019 — was revived by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana after he

## PELA IN SC SEEKS POSTPONEMENT OF CA EXAMS

A petition has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking postponement of the CA examinations scheduled to commence from July 6 to any later date after the Covid-19 situation normalises, or until after teachers, students and invigilators are vaccinated.

SC to take up former Mum top cop's plea tomorrow

The Supreme Court (SC) will take up on June 11 former Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh's petition seeking transfer of all inquiries against him to an independent agency outside Maharashtra.

According to the top court's cause list uploaded on its website, Singh's petition is listed for hearing before a vacation bench led by Justice Hemant Gupta on Friday.

The NIA had registered the case on July 10, 2020,

## INFLOW OF FUND

₹276 cr

BJP got in 2019-20 compared to ₹472 cr in 2018-19

₹58 cr for Cong in 2019-20, ₹99 cr in 2018-19

₹130 cr TRS got in 2019-20, higher than Cong

Other national parties whose annual audit reports were recently uploaded on the EC website are CPI(M) and CPI. While CPI(M)'s income for 2019-20 stood at nearly Rs 159 crore, CPI's was Rs 6.58 crore. The expenditure incurred by CPI(M) was Rs 105.68 crore in 2019-20, whereas in case of the CPI, it was Rs 6.53 crore.

Several regional parties have received more funds through this route than the Congress. According to the audited reports, these include the TRS (Rs 130.46 crore), Shiv Sena (Rs 111.4 crore), YSR Congress Party (Rs 92.7 crore), BJD (Rs 90.35), AIADMK (Rs 89.6 crore) and the DMK (Rs 64.90 crore).

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