



# The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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DEMOCRATS BEGIN PROCESS TO IMPEACH TRUMP WORLD

SENSEX BREACHES 49K-MARK FOR 1ST TIME; IT, HDFC STOCKS SPARKLE BUSINESS

CDS IN LADAKH TO REVIEW SECURITY BACK PAGE



TUESDAY | 12 JANUARY 2021

## ‘Extremely disappointed,’ SC raps govt over impasse

May stay implementation of farm laws | Proposes court-monitored panel | Order today

“Responsibility is on all of us. Any stray incident can spark violence. We don’t want anybody’s blood on our hands. SC Bench

SATYA PRAKASH  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

Pulling up the government for the poor handling of the farmers’ agitation against farm laws, the Supreme Court on Monday said it intended to stay the implementation of the contentious laws and set up a committee to find an amicable solution to the problem.

“We are extremely disappointed with the way the government is handling the issue. Last four times you said the negotiations were on. What negotiations are you talking about? If you have some sense of responsibility, and if you say you will withhold the implementation of laws, we will form a committee to decide,” a three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India SA Bobde told Attorney General KK Venugopal.

The court’s comments came after Venugopal said farmers’ organisations had rejected various offers made by the government.

“People are committing suicide. People are calling

### CJI ASKS ELDERLY FARMERS TO RETURN

The CJI expressed concern over elderly farmers, women and children protesting in the severe cold. “Let me take a risk and say Chief Justice of India wants them (protesting farmers) to go back.”

### AG OPPOSES STAY SUGGESTION, CHIDED

The SC questioned AG Venugopal’s vehement opposition to its suggestion. “We are not experts on economy. You tell us whether you are going to hold these laws or we will,” the CJI said

### NO EXTRA TIME

The SC refused to grant extra time to the Centre, saying it had already granted the govt a ‘long rope’.

names. People are suffering in the cold and the pandemic,” noted the Bench, which also included Justice AS Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian.

“We don’t see why there should be an insistence that the laws must be implement-



FARMERS HUDDLE AROUND A BONFIRE AT THE GHAZIPUR-DELHI BORDER ON MONDAY. PTI

### DHINDSA, 2 CONG MPs WALK OUT OF PANEL MEET

Three MPs, Partap Singh Bajwa and Chhaya Verma (both Cong) and Akali rebel SS Dhindsa walked out of a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Monday, seeking to discuss farm laws.

### 4 MORE FARMERS DEAD

Nirmal Singh (48) of Dhaura village in Barnala, who had been supplying ration to farmers, took his life on Sunday on his return from Delhi. Three other farmers died due to health issues. Labh Singh, a Ludhiana farmer, consumed poison. He is critical. **INSIDE**

### ABHAY’S ‘CONDITIONAL’ RESIGNATION LETTER

Senior INLD leader and MLA Abhay Chautala has sent a ‘conditional’ resignation letter to the Speaker, saying it should be considered a resignation if the Centre fails to repeal the three new farm laws by January 26.

LEGISLATIONS CAN’T BE STAYED BY SC UNLESS PRIMA FACIE UNCONSTITUTIONAL: EXPERTS

ed at any cost...Our intention is clear. We want an amicable solution to the problem. That is why we asked you last time why don’t you keep the laws on hold. But you keep asking for time,” it said. The Bench posted the matter for passing a formal order on Tuesday.

During hearing on the petitions challenging the validity of the three farm laws and those seeking removal of agitating farmers from Delhi roads, the top court described the situation as “very delicate”.

It said, “We are doing this

because you have failed to solve the problem. The Union of India has to take the responsibility. The laws have resulted in a strike and now you have to solve the strike.”

“It will not help you to say that this was started by the last government.... We have

## Won’t be part of court committee: Unions

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

Farm unions today said they would not be part of any panel the Supreme Court might form to attempt resolution of the ongoing deadlock over farm laws.

After a meeting with their lawyers, the unions said they were “unanimous in their decision that the laws must be repealed forthwith”.

“While all organisations welcome the SC suggestion to stay the implementation of farm laws, they are collectively and individually not willing to participate in any proceedings before the SC-appointed committee,” the Sanyukta Kisan Morcha said in a statement.

The farm leaders thanked the court for understanding their problem and speaking comforting words during the

### CONSULTED LAWYERS

“We met our lawyers and after deliberation, we told them that we are not ready to go before any committee that may be appointed by the SC.”

Darshan Pal,  
FARM UNION LEADER



hearing, but said the SC could not play mediator in a policy matter. “Our lawyers told the SC that they had no instructions to agree for a committee without consulting us. So we met our lawyers and after deliberation on pros and cons of the suggestions about the committee, we told them that we are not ready to go before any committee that may be appointed by the SC,” said union leader Darshan Pal.

mently opposed the court’s proposal to stay the implementation of the farm laws, saying farmers from other parts of the country supported the laws. Venugopal said, “A law cannot be stayed by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

EDIT: APT DRESSING-DOWN



## Banks’ bad loans may double by Sept, warns RBI

SANDEEP DIKSHIT  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

Bad loans of Indian banks may double by September this year despite a slight improvement in the gross non-performing assets (NPA) during the Covid era, according to an RBI report released on Monday.

Four banks may fail to meet the minimum capital level by September if there is no resuscitation by the stakeholders, it warned.

## Reserves of 4 banks may dip below danger level



The warning came on a day the RBI cancelled the licence of Vasantdada Nagari Sahakari Bank. The Maharashtra-headquartered bank will be unable to pay its present depositors, said the RBI.

Stress tests by the RBI’s Financial Stability and Development Council showed that the gross NPA ratio of all banks may nearly double from the current 7.5%.

## Union Minister Naik injured in mishap; wife, aide dead

PANAJI, JANUARY 11

Union Minister Shripad Naik was injured while his wife and an aide died in a road accident in Karnataka on Monday, an official said.

Their vehicle met with an accident near Ankola in Uttar Kannada district.

Naik has been shifted to Goa Medical College for further treatment, the official said. The PM spoke to the Goa CM to ensure proper treatment. — PTI

## Bird flu spreads to 10 states, UTs

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

Bird flu has spread to 10 states and Union Territories, including Kerala, Rajasthan, HP, Gujarat, Haryana, UP, MP, Delhi and Maharashtra. The Centre today asked the states not to close mandis or restrict sale of poultry products as there was no scientific evidence of bird flu transmission to humans. PM Narendra Modi asked states to step up surveillance around poultry farms and water bodies to gather updates on any potential avian disease. — TNS



## It’s a baby girl for Virushka

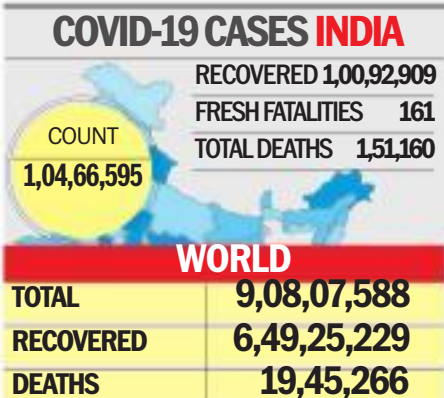
MUMBAI: Actor-producer Anushka Sharma and cricketer husband Virat Kohli on Monday announced the birth of their first child, a baby girl. Kohli said both the baby and Sharma were healthy. He said, “We are thrilled to share with you that we have been blessed with a baby girl this afternoon.” **PTI**

## 11 mn doses ordered, dispatch begins

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

The Union Government on Monday placed a purchase order with Serum Institute of India (SII) for 11 million doses of Covishield, each costing Rs 210, including Rs 10 as GST.

Sources said transportation of the vaccine began late this evening. The Health Ministry would soon place order for Covaxin, which is indigenously developed by Bharat



Biotech, they said.

Meanwhile, PM Narendra Modi today said the Centre

### VAX TO COST ₹200

3 CR TO GET SHOTS IN PH-1

CENTRE TO BEAR EXPENSES FOR ROUND 1

POLITICIANS NOT IN PRIORITY GROUP



would bear the cost of inoculating three crore frontline warriors in the first phase.

Addressing CMs virtually ahead of the January 16 vaccine rollout, the PM said public representatives were not part of the priority group in the first round of inoculations.

“Government and private health workers, personnel of the armed forces, paramilitary, disaster management, civil defence and surveillance teams will be covered in the first phase,” he said. — TNS/PTI



Cops guard trucks which will transport the Covishield vaccine from the Serum Institute of India, Pune. **PTI**

## 3 days after arrest, PLA soldier sent back

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

The Indian Army on Monday handed back to China a soldier of the People’s Liberation Army (PLA), three days after apprehending him at the southern bank of Pangong Tso in eastern Ladakh, Army authorities said.

The soldier was returned to China at the Chushul-Moldo border point in eastern Ladakh at 10.10 am. The Chinese soldier was captured at the southern bank of Pangong lake in the early hours of Friday after he trans-

gressed across the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control. Following the capture of the soldier by the Indian Army, China had sought his immediate return on Saturday. It was the second such incident of India capturing and subsequently returning a Chinese soldier in the last three months.

Indian and Chinese troops are locked in a tense border standoff in eastern Ladakh for over eight months. The faceoff began in May last year, following a clash between the two sides in the Pangong lake area.

## Salary cut despite charging full fee, HP institutes put on notice

BHANU P LOHUMI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, JANUARY 11

Taking note of complaints regarding payment of partial salaries by private educational institutions despite charging full fee from students, the Himachal Pradesh Private Educational Institutions Regulatory Commission (HPPEIRC) has directed them to give details of courses offered, number of students enrolled and fee charged.

Sources say courses are being offered without approval and without furnishing com-



### Regulator seeks details of courses, enrolments & income

plete details of students enrolled and fee charged. The commission had, on August 20 last year, written to the institutions to submit complete details for the period 2013-14 to 2019-20, but most of them

failed to respond.

A teacher at a nursing college alleged that some private institutions were exploiting the faculty members by not paying them their dues citing pandemic even as they are charging full course fee from students.

Maj Gen Atul Kaushik (retd), Chairman, HPPEIRC, has sent notices to the erring institutions. “There are complaints that private institutions are charging full fee from students, but have imposed a pay cut and reduced the staff strength,” he said.

## Vihari, Ashwin pull off memorable draw in Sydney

SYDNEY, JANUARY 11

The injury-ravaged Indian cricket team, battered by top-class Australian bowlers and served abuse by the home team’s fans from the stands, battled for 97 overs on the last day of the third Test to secure a memorable draw.

Set an improbable 407 for victory, India’s more realistic task was to bat the whole day to earn a draw. This too seemed unlikely on a worn-out final day wicket, against the world’s best fast bowling attack. Yet, India managed to

### India battle 97 overs on Day 5 of third Test



Ajinkya Rahane and Ravichandran Ashwin celebrate in Sydney. **AP/PTI**

hold out, ending up with 334/5, losing only three wickets in the day’s play. The series is level at 1-1 with one match to play, beginning in Brisbane on Friday.

India had several heroes today: The gritty Cheteshwar Pujara played 205 balls for 77 runs, and Rishabh Pant raised visions of a win by blasting 97 off 118 balls. But the pride of place must go to Hanuma Vihari and Ravichandran Ashwin, who took loads to the body and defied the Australians for over 42 overs dur-

ing an unbeaten partnership of 62 runs. Vihari, hobbled by a hamstring injury, made 23 off 161 deliveries, and Ashwin, who was struck on the body several times by short balls, made 39 from 128 balls.

India batted 131 overs in the innings, the first time since 2002 they lasted over 100 overs in the fourth innings of a Test. Captain Ajinkya Rahane said, “This is as good as winning a Test match. When you come abroad and play a match like this, it is really special.” — TNS/Agencies

## Farmers away, mining mafia has field day in Ghanaur villages

AMAN SOOD  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

GHANAUR, JANUARY 11

With majority of farmers from the Ghanaur area camping on Delhi borders in protest against farm laws, illegal mining of sand has become rampant here. The mining mafia, which enjoys political patronage, has dug up private land up to a depth of over 40 feet.

“We reported the matter to the district administration and the mining department in November, but to no avail. This is because the mining mafia enjoys political patronage,” a villager alleged.

“I have a rice sheller in the village. Around 30-foot-deep pits created due to mining on the adjacent piece of land now pose a threat to my building,” said Vishavjeet Singh, who has also filed a complaint with the Shambhu police here. “They are now threatening me for complaining against

reckless mining,” he said.

“Despite repeated complaints against illegal mining in the area, the district administration has done nothing in that regard. Our complaints to the police have also fallen on deaf ears,” villagers said.

“Two FIRs have been lodged over the past three months. I will verify if the mining mafia has become active again in these villages,” said Ghanaur DSP Jawinder Tiwana. “As one of the FIRs was registered in October, I will seek a clarification in that regard from the SHO concerned,” he said.

Shambhu SHO Gurmeet Singh told *The Tribune* that he was unaware of any illegal mining in the area. When asked if any complaint was pending in that regard, he feigned ignorance. When *The Tribune* said it had a copy of the complaint, he accepted a complaint was received.



Mining goes on unchecked at Ghanaur in Patiala. **TRIBUNE PHOTO**



# Stir toll mounts, 4 die in a day

Two from Muktsar suffer cardiac arrest at Tikri; another passes away in Ludhiana

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11

At least three more farmers died today because of health conditions during the ongoing farmer agitation against the agriculture laws enacted by the central government.

Jagdish Singh (60) and Titu Singh (40), both from Muktsar district, died of cardiac arrest at the Tikri border. A 45-year-old farmer, Harpinder Singh, alias Neetu Khalsa, of Abul Khurana village in Muktsar passed away last night at a hospital in Ludhiana. He, too, had gone to the farmers' stir on the first day it started, but returned from there in last week of December after developing some health issues.

Jagdish Singh, a numberdar, had been with protesters at the border from day one. Though he had come back to his village, he went back about 10 days ago. He was an activist of the Bhartiya Kisan Union (Sidhupur). His father has served as village sarpanch. His family owns about 35 acres in the village, said sources.

Gurdas Singh, a close relative of the deceased, said, "He (Jagdish Singh) was staying in a trailer. He had gone to answer nature's call in the morning when he collapsed. We took him to Civil Hospital, Bahadurgarh, where the doctors



Muktsar residents Jagdish Singh and Harpinder Singh

declared him brought dead."

Meanwhile, some farmers in the village said the deceased had last night informed his son about developing some health issue. The deceased is survived by wife, two sons and parents. Villagers said the body reached the village in the evening and cremation would be held on Tuesday.

Neetu Khalsa, too, passed away last night at a hospital in Ludhiana. He had returned from the protest site in the last week of December after developing some health issues. Sources said the deceased was first taken to a hospital in Bathinda and then to Ludhiana, where he passed away last night.

The deceased had less than 10 acres and owed a huge

amount to a private bank, said sources. He was cremated in the village. Among those present there included former AAP MP Sadhu Singh and senior SAD leader and former Malout MLA Harpreet Singh.

Purushottam Singh Gill, a BKU leader, said both Jagdish Singh and Titu Singh had been camping at the border for the past many days and suffered a heart attack that led to their death.

Civil Surgeon Dr Sanjay Dahiya said Jagdish Singh was brought dead to the Civil Hospital in Bahadurgarh this morning and the exact reason of death would be clear from the postmortem report. Notably, 14 farmers have so far lost their lives during the ongoing protest at Tikri.

## Back from site, Barnala man hangs himself

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SANGRUR, JANUARY 11

Though majority of the farmers at the Delhi borders since November 2020 are in high spirits, some are resorting to ending life, hinting at the growing resentment.

Yet another farmer allegedly ended life by suicide in Dhaula village of Barnala last night after returning from Delhi.

Nirmal Singh, 48, had been actively participating in the collection, transportation and distribution of ration from his village to the protest site with BKU (Dakaunda) members.

"He had returned last evening from Delhi, but hanged himself at his house in Dhaula village. He was under debt and might have taken the extreme step after seeing no solution in sight to the protest," said Darshan Singh Mehta, district vice-president, BKU (Dakaunda).

Mehta said the Barnala administration had announced to extend financial help to Nirmal's family in a day or two. "The government should waive his debt of Rs 2 lakh, give a government job to

### FARMER CONSUMES POISON, CRITICAL

**Sonepat:** Labh Singh, a farmer from Sirhala of Ludhiana, reportedly consumed some poisonous substance at the Singhu border on Monday. Volunteers of the Sanyukt Kisan Morcha admitted him to a private hospital. His condition is stated to be critical.

a member of his family and Rs 10 lakh compensation. We would not cremate his body till the demands are met," he said.

Raminder Singh Patiala, a member of Kirti Kisan Union, said suicides were isolated cases with the deceased having their individual reasons. "Farmers are aware of the fact that we are fighting a long battle," he said. Earlier, a young farmer, Gurlabh Singh, ended his life after returning from Delhi. He had allegedly consumed some poisonous substance in Dayalpur Mirza village of Bathinda. Two days ago, Amrinder Singh, a farmer from Fatehgarh Sahib, too, died after consuming poison.

# 3 Rajya Sabha MPs walk out of agri panel meeting

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH, JAN 11

Three Rajya Sabha MPs, including Partap Singh Bajwa and Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa from Punjab, today walked out of a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture in New Delhi after the committee chairman refused to discuss the three central Acts passed recently and the subsequent protests by farmers.

The three, including Chhaya Verma from Chhattisgarh, demanded that the issue of farm laws and ongoing protest by farmers be discussed at the meeting. However, their demand was turned down by committee chairman PC Gaddigoudar, a BJP MP from Karnataka.

He cited the laid down agenda had to be followed and other matters could not be discussed. Officially, the agenda of the meeting was "Evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying)" in connection with the examination of subject "Status of Veterinary Services and Availability of Animal Vaccine in the Country".

The three MPs raised the issue citing protests by farmer unions at the Delhi

Had sought discussion on farm laws, protests



PM MUST SHOW MAGNANIMITY



"If the PM does not show magnanimity by agreeing to demands of the farmers, people will lose faith in the executive and legislative branches of the government."



borders for the past 40 days. However, the chairman refused to digress from the agenda and allow a discussion on the three central farm Acts, prompting the three to walk out of the meeting in protest.

Bajwa said the government should not have let the situation to continue for so long. "This is the last chance for the Prime Minister to intervene in this matter," he said. "If the PM does not step in

now and show magnanimity by agreeing to the demands of the farmers, people of India will further lose faith in the executive and legislative branches of the government," the MP added.

Talking to mediapersons after the meeting, Shiromani Akali Dal (Democratic) president Dhindsa, who is a nominated member of the committee, objected to the refusal of the committee to discuss the farm laws.

## Boycott call undemocratic, say BJP leaders

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11

Reacting to a call by farmer unions for social boycott of BJP leaders Harjeet Grewal and Surjit Kumar Jyani, the two today termed it a "Talibani farman".

Talking to The Tribune, Jyani said the call was undemocratic and "depicted their true character". "How, can someone socially boycott another individual in a democratic country," he asked.

### Jyani, Grewal term it Talibani farman

Calling himself a farmer, Jyani said: "They have in fact given a call for boycotting the son of a farmer. Nobody is going to follow their call."

Grewal said it was evident the leaders didn't have faith in democracy. The two have been mediating between farmer unions and the Centre to end the stir. — TNS

## Repealing farm laws only option, says BKU

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11

Reacting to the Supreme Court's observation on three agricultural laws, the Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ugrahan) said repealing the laws was the only way out.

Joginder Singh Ugrahan and Jhanda Singh Jethuke, president and senior vice-president of the BKU, said their struggle would continue till the laws were repealed.

"The reprimand of the central government by the Supreme Court over not resolving this issue is certainly welcome and it is an achievement of the struggle. Further reprimand by it over not entering into consultations with the farmers during the presentation and passing of these laws is a confirmation of the dictatorial attitude of the central government, corroborates its indifferent attitude and

### NOW, PENSIONERS ANNOUNCE SUPPORT

**Chandigarh:** The Punjab Government Pensioners Welfare Association has expressed solidarity with the farmers who are protesting at Delhi borders. The association on Monday passed a resolution supporting the farmers and also observed a two-minute silence for those who have sacrificed their lives for the cause.

establishes further that the peasant struggle is legitimate," they said.

Ugrahan said it was clear by now that peasants all over India had declared these laws to be against their interests and that they were unconstitutional. The organisation expressed hope that the Supreme Court would tell the government to repeal these laws by considering the will of the people.



Youth Akali Dal leaders hold a tractor rally in Jalandhar on Monday. PHOTO: SARABJIT SINGH

## YAD gives 'Delhi Chalo' call for R-Day

JALANDHAR, JANUARY 11

The Youth Akali Dal (YAD) today gave a 'Delhi Chalo' call for a tractor march on Republic Day and began mobilising its activists.

As a prelude to the event, YAD president Parambans Singh Romana and secretary general Sarbjot Singh Sabi led a tractor rally from Pappura village to Guru Teg Bahadur Nagar in the city. Later addressing a meeting, Romana said, "This is the

### Govt unwilling to end impasse: Harsimrat

battle of our survival and nobody should be left behind. Everyone should reach Delhi for the event on Republic Day." Thousands of Akali workers would leave for Delhi from two different points of Punjab, he added.

"In the tractor rally, all YAD activists will use flag of

farmer unions and work hard to pressure the BJP-led central government to accept the farmers' demands. YAD workers will contribute by rising above the party lines so that farmer agitation could achieve a huge success," he said.

The YAD general secretary said the Centre was showing utter disregard for the farmers' agitation and conducting meeting after meeting with zero result. — TNS

## Soaring high



A kite-maker lends support to the farmers' protest ahead of Lohri in Amritsar on Monday. TRIBUNE PHOTO: VISHAL KUMAR

## US-based NRI sends dry ration for farmers

PATIALA, JANUARY 11

Coming out in support of protesting farmers, US-based NRI and social worker Darshan Singh Dhaliwal has sent many trailers of dry ration to Delhi borders.

Hailing from Patiala, Singh said farmers needed the support to continue the ongoing protest against the farm laws. "Every time, people of Punjab face a problem, we have

always come out in support. This time also, we have sent dry ration for farmers protesting at Delhi borders," Dhaliwal said. He said he himself would be protesting at Delhi borders along with the farmers. Meanwhile, Akali Dal leaders said they had erected waterproof tents for the farmers so that they did not face any problems during the protest. — TNS

## Protesters' families join rally at Sriganganagar

ABOHAH/SRIGANGANAGAR, JAN 11

Hundreds of farmers' families at Sriganganagar participated in a rally that was organised by the United Farmers' Front, as a part of the ongoing nationwide agitation against the farm laws.

Senior leader Sheopat Ram Meghwal said farmers would take out a rally on tractors for a few hours after the Republic Day parade at New Delhi.

The tractor rally brought together farmers, traders and labourers unions, he said. Hundreds of people assembled to start the rally at the New Grain Market. Besides tractors, many of them were using motorcycles and jeeps. Farmer leaders gave a call to reach Delhi on January 26 for the final phase of struggle against the laws. — OC

## Why is AAP scared of Akalis, asks Mohindra

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11

Lashing out at the Aam Aadmi Party leaders for their campaign against CM Capt Amarinder Singh, Local Bodies Minister Brahm Mohindra today said the AAP had become subservient to the Akalis and started leveling baseless allegations against the CM.

He also expressed surprise over the newfound love of AAP for the Akalis. "It is strange and surprising that a party whose leader Arvind

### CAPT AMARINDER BOLDER THAN KEJRIWAL

"Unlike Arvind Kejriwal, Capt Amarinder has a distinguished record of taking bold decisions even at the risk of losing his chair... let the AAP leaders quote one similar single example of their leader."

Brahm Mohindra, LOCAL BODIES MINISTER

Kejriwal tendered an unconditional apology to Bikram Singh Majithia over a defamation suit, is trying to preach political morals to Capt Amarinder," Mohindra said.

The minister said the AAP leadership in Punjab was now busy trying to wash off the blot of cowardice of their leader. "But let me tell them, they have chosen a wrong

course and wrong target as Capt Amarinder's credibility and reputation is above board," he remarked.

The minister wondered as why the AAP leadership had stopped speaking against the Akalis even on the farmers' issue, as they were part of the decision to implement the three farm laws. "Have you arrived at some subtle understanding with the Akalis or your leader is still afraid of Majithia?" he asked the AAP leaders. — TNS

# Cops keep track of Punjabi songs released during stir

JUPINDERJIT SINGH

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11

After having booked singer Shree Brar for allegedly singing a provocative song, the Punjab Police are now studying the content of more than 20 other songs to find if these can incite violence.

A police special dossier has catalogued almost all songs sung since the farmer protests began in September last year.

"The songs in favour of farmers standing up to the government over central farm laws are a reflection of people's sentiment. There is nothing illegal or provocative

about these songs. However, in the garb of protests, many singers in Punjab and abroad have either penned highly provocative lyrics or their videos contain objectionable scenes. These paint a distorted picture of the ground reality," said a senior police official.

He said the police were merely keeping an eye on the content of songs and cataloguing did not necessarily mean the singers would be booked. "Most singers have released songs on the popular sentiment of the farmers' protests. But organisations such as



Singers Shree Brar and Sidhu Moosewala

### ATTEMPT TO INCITE VIOLENCE

- Banned outfits such as Sikhs For Justice are trying to use the platform to incite violence, which is against the law
- Police are preparing a special dossier cataloguing songs sung since farmer protests began in Sept, says a cop
- They are merely keeping an eye on the content and cataloguing doesn't mean singers will be booked

banned terror agency Sikhs For Justice was trying to use the platform to incite violence or seek support for Khalistan movement. That is against the law," said a senior police official.

The dossier besides naming several Punjabi singers also mentions a Pakistan singer for a violence-inciting song. It mentions views against each song and records the kind of comments made on the content.

Ninder Ghugianvi, an author of several books on Punjabi folk songs and a member of a committee on monitoring violence and

obscene songs, said it was unfortunate many singers were exploiting people's sentiment over the farmers' protests by promoting gun culture, gangsterism, making fun of police or supporting Khalistan movement.

"Legal action against them is justified. However, songs in praise or support of the ongoing farmer's struggle should not be objected to," he said.

Patiala SSP Vikramjit Duggal, who had booked singer Shree Brar, said action was taken against the singer as he had shown and encouraged jail break in a music video.



# Fuel, property set to get costlier in state

Spl infra fee to be levied at ₹0.25 per litre, per ₹100 on immovable assets

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11  
Petrol and diesel, apart from buying of immovable property in Punjab, are set to become expensive with the Cabinet today deciding to levy special Infrastructure Development (ID) fee.  
To be deposited in the Development Fund of Punjab Infrastructure Development Board (PIDB), the state government will be taking the ordinance route to impose the levy. The levies would be imposed once approved by the Governor. The government is likely to introduce the levies after the civic body polls.  
The special ID fee would be imposed at Rs 0.25 per litre each on the sale of petrol and diesel within the state. Likewise, special ID fee at Rs 0.25 would also be levied for every Rs 100 of the value of purchase of immovable property. The move would lead to creation of additional revenue streams of around Rs 216.16 crore annually into the Punjab Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF).  
Likewise, the Cabinet, led by CM Capt Amarinder Singh, also approved certain amendments in the Punjab Infra-



ONE-TIME SETTLEMENT SCHEME APPROVED

- In a reprieve to the business community, especially the small and medium businessmen, the “Punjab One Time Settlement Scheme for Recovery of Outstanding Dues-2021” was approved
- It would facilitate clearing and settling pending arrears, putting a financial burden of ₹121.06 crore on the state exchequer
- The scheme would be implemented from February 1 under which all dealers whose assessments had been framed up to December 31, 2020, could apply till April 30

## YES TO ACQUISITION OF MALERKOTLA PALACE

- To preserve glorious heritage of the state, the Cabinet approved acquisition, conservation and use of Mubarak Manzil Palace, Malerkotla, in Sangrur
- To facilitate the acquisition, the government will provide ₹3 crore to Begum Munawwar-ul-Nisa, owner of the property, as consideration for transferring property with all its rights to the state government

## INFO DEPT REJIG

- To bring in more efficiency in the functioning of the Information and Public Relations Department in the changed scenario, the Cabinet approved the plan to restructure it

structure (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002, through promulgation of an ordinance and thereafter introducing a Bill viz the Punjab Infrastructure (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2021, in the Punjab Vidhan Sabha.

To effect the imposition of special ID fee, an amendment would be made in the existing provision by inserting a new section 25-A Levy of Special Fee, which stipulates: “Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, the state government

may impose the special ID fee for purpose of which a special head shall be created under which the accrued special ID fee shall be collected and deposited to the Development Fund created under the provisions of Section 27(1).”

# Nod to amend job policy for war heroes

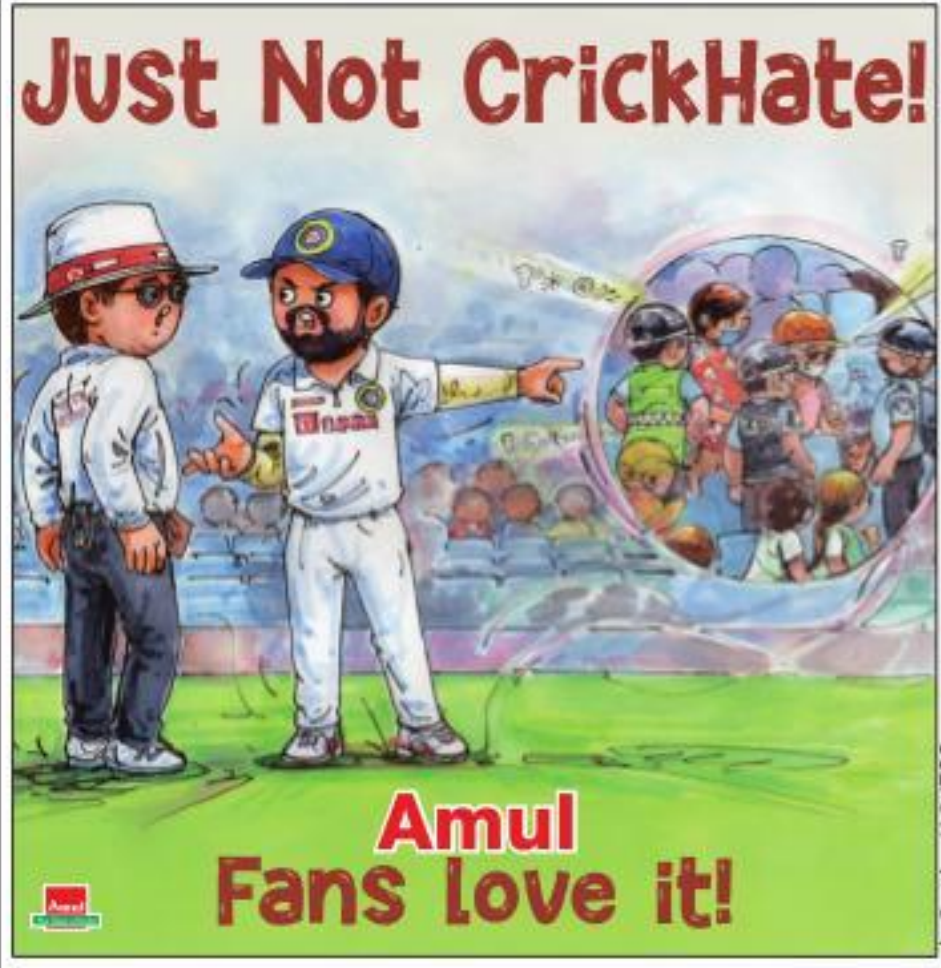
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11  
The Punjab Cabinet today gave approval to amend the policy of “Appointments of Honour & Gratitude to the War Heroes or their Dependents” with a view to mitigating the problems being faced by dependents of martyred/disabled soldiers in getting jobs in line with the existing policy.  
The policy was notified on August 19, 1999, to enable the state government to provide a government job to a dependent family member of martyr/disabled soldier in recognition of their supreme sacrifice.  
A spokesperson for the Chief Minister’s Office said with the passage of time, urgent need was felt to amend the policy in view of the hardship being faced by dependents.  
During a meeting with the Chief Minister, the next of kin of martyrs who had been given appointment letters on February 14 last year had apprised him of the difficul-

## WHAT IT MEANS

- Family of a martyr can reserve job for a minor child in case widow of the soldier does not wish to take up the job herself
- Widows forced to take up Group D posts due to financial hardship can get Group C appointment after upgrading educational qualification

ties and thereupon the CM had assured them of resolution on a priority basis.  
The amendments in the policy would allow the family of a martyr to reserve the job for a minor child in case the widow of the soldier does not wish to take up the job herself.  
Another provision has been inserted whereby widows of martyrs, who had been constrained to take up Group D posts due to extreme financial hardship, would be allowed to take a fresh Group C appointment, provided they had upgraded their educational qualifications accordingly.



# ₹7-cr duty imposed on distillery, HC told

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11  
Excise duty of over Rs 7 crore was imposed on a distillery in Rajpura tehsil on unaccounted stock of liquor; the Punjab and Haryana High Court was today told.  
In an affidavit submitted before the High Court, Punjab joint commissioner, excise, on behalf of the state submitted the premises of a distillery in Patiala district was inspected on May 21, 2020.  
A thorough checking was carried out, keeping in view the conditions laid down under the

Punjab Liquor Rules, 1956, and Punjab Distillery Rules, 1932.  
During the course of checking, it was noticed by the inspecting team that 22,936 cases of unaccounted liquor was found, which could not be explained by the management/ staff from the record maintained as per the relevant provisions. The affidavit was filed in response to a petition against the Enforcement Directorate and other respondents by NGO ‘Sabka Mangal Ho’ through counsel Pardeep Kumar Rapria. — TNS

## IN BRIEF

**MBBS, BDS classes to start from January 16**  
Faridkot: After the delay of over four months due to Covid, the Baba Farid University of Health Sciences (BFUHS) has notified that classes for MBBS and BDS courses for 2020-21 in all 24 medical and dental colleges in the state will commence from January 16. All candidates have to undergo the medical check-up before joining classes. The last date for admission in MBBS course for this academic session was earlier extended from December 31 to January 15. TNS

**SGPC to prepare Sikh students for govt exams**  
Amritsar: The SGPC has planned to open a centre that will provide coaching to ‘sabat surat’ Sikh students for competitive exams. Besides, students of religious studies will be imparted graduate and postgraduate-level studies. This was announced by SGPC chief Bibi Jagir Kaur after holding a special interaction with Sikh intellectuals on Monday. Kaur said Sikh intellectuals had given valuable insights on reprinting of puratan (old) books on Sikh history and the coming centenary days, which would be put into practice. TNS

**Jobless teachers to gherao CM**  
Sangrur: Members of the TET and ETT Pass Union have announced gheraoing Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh during his visit to Abohar on Tuesday. “We will gherao the Punjab CM during his visit,” said Deepak Kamboj, president of the union. The members have been protesting in Sangrur for the past several days demanding recruitment in the Education Department. TNS

# Industry bounces back as 96% units resume ops, 97% staff rejoin work

NITIN JAIN

LUDHIANA, JANUARY 11  
Having surmounted handicaps posed by pandemic-induced lockdown, the industry in Punjab has bounced back, reviving jobs and revenue.  
A whopping 96 per cent of the total units registered in the state have resumed operations with 97 per cent of the total workforce back in action. During the lockdown, only 435 of the total 2.6 lakh units, including 500 large units, were left operational in the state.  
In Ludhiana — the Manchester of India — which has the largest number of registered units in any district of the state, 81,812 of the total 95,202 industries have become operational with the return of 5,05,893 of the total 7,69,245 workers.  
In Punjab, 2,37,118 industries with 16,08,108 workforce have resumed operations.  
Industries in Ludhiana were hit hard as 13,390 units closed down with 2,73,906 of its workers losing jobs. This was 92.58 per cent of the total 14,462 industrial units that had closed down in the state, while the workforce rendered jobless in Ludhiana was 98.08 per cent of the total 2,79,245 losing jobs in the state.  
To further ease out the regulatory burden on the industrialists for setting up their new units, the Punjab Right



LUDHIANA WORST HIT, 2.7 LAKH WORKERS LOST JOB

- With 13,390 units shut and 2,73,906 workers losing jobs, Ludhiana district was hit hardest in the state
- Now, 81,812 of the 95,202 industries have become operational in the district with the return of 5,05,893 workers

to Business Act, 2020, was notified and implemented in October, empowering the District Bureau of Enterprises to issue certificates of in-principle approval within three to 15 working days to new MSMEs being set up in industrial parks or zones in the state.  
Moreover, all 45 reforms under the District Reform Action Plan, mandated by the DPIIT, were implemented to further improve ease of doing

business and eliminate physical touch-points between entrepreneurs and district-level functionaries.  
Under the State Reform Action Plan, 2020, mandated by the DPIIT, 285 of the total 301 reforms have already been implemented in the state.  
Besides, another opportunity was extended to the industrial units for migration from FIIP(R)-2013 to the Industrial and Business

Development Policy, 2017.  
Sibin C, Director, Industries and Commerce, said: “The state government played a vital role in facilitating the operations of industries and transportation of migrant labourers seeking employment. The day-to-day operational problems of the industry were taken up with departments concerned on a 24x7 basis and continuous efforts were made for revival of the industry in the state.”

# Residents oppose ‘Baserā’ plan

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SANGRUR, JANUARY 11  
The CM Slum Development Programme “Baserā” has been facing opposition from hundreds of Sangrur residents.  
They alleged that the government had put a condition that after getting property rights, they could not transfer the plot or house for 30 years to anyone and that was unacceptable. Expecting appreciation but caught in crosshairs of newly launched scheme and fearing losing votes, senior Congress leaders have turned into foot soldiers and are visiting each house to convince residents about the benefits of the scheme.  
“We would not avail the benefits of the scheme as it is against us. In self declaration, there is a condition that if anyone gets proprietary rights under this scheme, he could not lease out,

## DON'T WANT CLAUSE

- Sangrur residents alleged that the government had put a condition that after getting property rights, they would not be able to transfer the plot or house for 30 years to anyone
- “If the government wants to help the poor, it must not set any condition,” said Vijay Sahni, senior SAD (D) leader from Sangrur

gift, sell or transfer the ownership of the land to any other person for 30 years. It’s unacceptable. We will also circulate the copies of the scheme to make all aware. If the government wants to help the poor, it must not set any condition,” said Vijay Sahni, a senior leader of the SAD (D) from Sangrur.  
“Though all want to take benefit of the scheme, there is

confusion over the conditions and the government must clarify to prevent any problem,” said Parminder Singh, a local resident. Since the Nagar Council elections are likely to take place soon, the Opposition has caused anxiety among local Congress leaders who were seeing the new scheme as a vote spinner.  
Anil Kicha, Chairman, Sangrur Market Committee, alleged that their political opponents were spreading false information about the scheme and they were holding meetings to clarify all aspects of the scheme. “The government will transfer the ownership of land to occupant immediately. Baserā is aimed at giving direct benefit to the poor. But our political opponents are unable to digest this,” said Mahesh Kumar Meshi, Vice-Chairman, Punjab Small Industries and Export Corporation.

# Capt ‘shielding’ gangster

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11  
BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh today slammed the Capt Amarinder Singh government for allegedly patronising gangster-turned-politician Mukhtar Ansari to help him evade appearance in courts in UP where he is facing murder charges.  
Reacting to reports that the Punjab jail authorities refused to hand him over to

the UP Police on the pretext of health issues, Chugh said by protecting a murder accused, the government was soaking its hands in blood.  
Chugh asked the CM why he was trying to save the notorious criminal.  
Ansari, sitting BSP MLA from Mau, is presently lodged in a Punjab jail in connection with an extortion case. — TNS



Mukhtar Ansari

# AAP to govt: Help, don't harass, jobless

CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11  
Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Youth Wing state president and Barnala MLA Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer today condemned the statement by Education Minister VijayINDER Singla against the party.  
In a statement issued from the party headquarters, Hayer said the minister was at loggerheads with the AAP because it was standing with farmers. He said instead of listening to unemployed teachers, Singla was torturing them and following the directions of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah.  
Hayer said the Modi-led Centre was harassing farmers in severe cold. Similarly, the Punjab Education Minister could not see unemployed teachers sitting outside his residence in this harsh weather. He said instead of blaming the AAP, the Education Minister should learn from the Delhi Government on how teachers are valued.  
Hayer asked the Education Minister to address the problems of unemployed teachers who had been protesting outside his house for the past 12 days. Taking a dig at CM Capt Amarinder Singh, Hayer said, “Will minister Singla explain as to why Capt Amarinder did not seek time from the PM for a meeting regarding farmers’ issues to date? Why Capt did not say a word about the farmers’ demands when he met Amit Shah?” — TNS

# Chemists seek inclusion in vaccination priority list

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, JANUARY 11  
The Punjab Chemists Association (PCA) has written to Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh requesting him to include pharmacists, medicine traders, support staff and families in the preference list of the Covid-19 vaccination programme.  
Surinder Duggal, state president of the union, said: “The PCA is an apex organisation of chemists and distributors with over 24,500 members, including medicine professionals and traders (retailers and wholesalers) in the state. Medicine dealers are in the essential service sector and therefore most vulnerable to

## MOST VULNERABLE

“Medicine dealers are in the essential service sector and therefore most vulnerable to the infection as they are the first contact point with public while dispensing medicines.”  
Surinder Duggal, STATE PRESIDENT, PUNJAB CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION  
the infection as they are the first contact point with public while dispensing medicines.”  
“We feel it’s extremely important to protect all of them on priority to keep them healthy in challenging times amid pandemic. We must be included in the priority list of vaccination,” Duggal added.

# 5 pvt hospitals de-listed for siphoning off govt funds

Fake bills claimed in name of dummy patients under Ayushman Bharat scheme

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, JANUARY 11  
The Health Department has de-empanelled five private hospitals for allegedly embezzling government funds under the Ayushman Bharat Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana by claiming fake medical bills in the name of dummy patients.  
These hospitals are Akashdeep Hospital, New Life Hospital, Verma Hospital, Manu Arora hospital and Sandhu Life care hospital.  
Earlier, too, various private hospitals had come under the scanner for bungling funds under the Ex-Serviceman Contributory Health Scheme (ESCH) by claiming fake bills. The Army authorities had even lodged an FIR with

## SCAMMERS AT WORK

- Manu Arora Hospital claimed ₹82 lakh for the treatment of 533 patients under the scheme, while the government had already cleared ₹70 lakh
- Owner Manu Arora allegedly treated a dummy patient in the name of his wife Poonam Arora
- New Life Hospital claimed ₹48 lakh for treating 477 patients and Verma Hospital sought medical claims



- of ₹27 lakh for 176 patients
- Sandhu Hospital, which claimed ₹43 lakh for 344 patients, was reportedly found treating a dead patient admitted in the ICU under the scheme

the cantonment police station here. Around 24 persons, including doctors and several army veterans, were booked for fraud and forgery. Three of them were later arrested, while further investigations

were under progress by an SIT in this regard.  
Civil Surgeon Dr Charanjit Singh said 87 private hospitals and 10 government hospitals were empanelled by the Health Department

under the Ayushman Bharat Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojana.  
“The state health agency will now scrutinise the records of all hospitals who had claimed huge amounts under the scheme,” he said, adding that these five hospitals were de-empanelled following a detailed report by Deputy Medical Commissioner Dr Gurmeet Kaur.  
As per the findings, one of these hospitals even claimed bills by treating a dead patient, while another hospital treated his own family members under the scheme.  
Manu Arora Hospital claimed Rs 82 lakh for the treatment of 533 patients under the scheme, while the government had already cleared Rs 70 lakh

to the hospital.  
Similarly, New Life Hospital claimed Rs 48 lakh for treating 477 patients. Verma Hospital had sought medical claims of Rs 27 lakh for 176 patients and Sandhu Hospital had claimed Rs 43 lakh for 344 patients. “Sandhu Hospital was found treating a dead patient admitted in the ICU under the scheme,” the Civil Surgeon added. Manu Arora, owner of Manu Arora Hospital, treated a dummy patient by pasting the picture of his wife Poonam Arora, it is alleged.  
All the claims needed a detailed investigation, so the state health agency had initiated a probe in this regard. An FIR would be lodged after the investigation, he added.



## CLASSIFIEDS

### SITUATION VACANT

**Required Veterinary Graduate** (BVSc & AH) for field work for Muskan Farms, Punjab. A Leader in Cattle Feed Business in North India. Salary not a issue. Experience holders will be preferred. Contact: 88725-04000, 84375-04000. (CL20083333)

**Looking for experienced staff** for high school (Batala), Vice Principal - 10 yr + experience required. Teachers - 7 yrs + experience required. Contact: 98157-46846. (CL20083370)

**Required two Doctor MBBS/ MS/ DGO/ MD or MD Anesthesia male/ female couple priority,** salary 1 Lac to 2.5 lac. Address PNH Hospital Delhi Highway Nanautu Sahitranpur UP. Contact No: 99274-96985, 90584-36902. (CL20083377)

**Required experienced PGT/ TGT teachers** in all subjects for BST Sr. Sec. School (CBSE affiliated) near RCF, Kapurthala. Interview on 13 January 2021 (Wednesday) at School campus at 11:00 am. Contact: 83600-78301. (CL20083389)

### ADMISSION GUIDANCE

**Ph.D (all streams) LL.B., LL.M., Pharmacy, BA, MA, B.Com., M.Com., MBA, B.Tech., M.Tech., Diploma, Regular/ distance/ part time for Government employees.** 95019-03221, 94175-30888. (CL20081743)

### PROPERTY FOR SALE

**Newly built 12 marla (1755 sq. ft.)**, 2nd floor, corner, park facing, three bedroom attached bath, drawing dining, store, kitchen, Sector 28-D, Chandigarh. Owner 98140-39322. (CL20083340)

**Harman 99150-01900/ 98722-55755** Chandigarh Sector 16 corner 14 marla ground floor apartment tastefully fitted. (CL20083401)

### COURT NOTICE

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)**  
In the Court of  
Sh. Mahesh Grover,  
Additional Judge,  
(Senior Division),  
Fatehgarh Sahib,  
Gurmukh Singh  
Versus  
Vikramjit Singh  
CNR No.  
PBF02-000869-2020  
Next Date:- 28.01.2021

Publication Issued To:  
6. Sukhwinder Singh s/o Kulwant Singh s/o Harbans Singh. 7. Jatinderpal s/o Balvir Singh s/o Anur Singh. 8. Gurwinder Singh s/o Balwant Singh s/o Ujjagar Singh. 9. Babu s/o Kaartar Singh s/o Gulab Singh. 10. Baljinder Singh s/o Avtar Singh s/o Gopal Singh. 11. Balvir Singh s/o Anur Singh s/o Bela Singh. 12. Gurnam Singh s/o Avtar Singh s/o Inder Singh. 13. Pritam Mehta s/o Tara Chand Mehta s/o Valyiti Ram. 14. Deepvinder Singh s/o Sewa Singh s/o Aiyia Singh. 15. Gurwinder s/o Bhupinder Singh s/o Makhan Singh. 16. Amarjit Singh s/o Niranjan Singh s/o Purnam Singh. 17. Sudesh Rani w/o Naresh Kumar s/o Sunder Lal. 18. Harneet Kaur w/o Jasvir Singh s/o Balkehar Singh. 19. Rakesh Kumar s/o Ram Lal s/o Lal Chand. 20. Surinder Kaur w/o Sukhwinder Singh s/o Hazara Singh. 21. Jaswinder Singh s/o Jodha Singh s/o Jagroop Singh. 22. Amrik Singh s/o Satnam Singh s/o Jagat Singh. 23. Amanpreet Singh s/o Paramjit Singh s/o Dalip Singh. 24. Jagdeep Kaur w/o Karnail Singh s/o Mohinder Singh. 25. Anita Rani w/o Harjinder Kumar s/o Roshan Lal. 26. Brij Mohan Goyal s/o Bhola s/o Roshan Lal. 27. Pritpal Singh s/o Bakshish Singh s/o Mahima Singh. 28. Shamsher Singh s/o Gurbachan Singh s/o Mahima Singh. 29. Neelam Gupta w/o Parveen Kumar s/o Jai Kishan. 30. Itika Mittal d/o Sunil Mittal s/o Shakti Kapoor. 31. Joginder Singh s/o Darshan Singh s/o Lal Singh. 32. Harpal Singh s/o Kuldeep Singh s/o Pritam Singh. 33. Ravinder Kaur w/o Harpal Singh s/o Kuldeep Singh. 34. Balwinder Kaur w/o Bhajan Singh s/o Niranjan Singh. 35. Manpreet Kaur w/o Manjit Singh s/o Attar Singh. 36. Jaswant Kaur w/o Jagdev Singh s/o Phuman Singh. 37. Nirbhai Singh Mangat s/o Sital Singh Mangat s/o Gurdial Singh. 38. Anjali Mittal w/o Sushil Mittal s/o Shakti Kumar Mittal. 39. Gurpreet Singh s/o Bhajan Singh s/o Naranjan Singh. 40. Bhupinder Singh s/o Deena Nath s/o Bali Ram. 41. Sachin Singla s/o Vijay Kumar Singla s/o Sarup Chand Singla. 42. Aman Pathak s/o Krishan Pathak s/o Surinder Nath Pathak. 43. Narinderpal Kaur w/o Utam Singh s/o Shivram Singh. 44. Surinder Singh Khalsa s/o Charan Singh s/o Ram Singh. 45. Sukhdev Singh s/o Dalip Singh s/o Bishan Singh. 46. Parminder Kaur w/o Taranjit Singh s/o Gopal Singh. 47. Aditi Gupta w/o Virtual Singh s/o Darshan Singh. 48. Mannoham Singh s/o Sadhu Singh s/o Gian Singh. 49. Saruti Bara D/o Sunil Verma s/o Ram Sarup Bara. 50. Amarjit Kaur w/o Jaswinder Singh s/o Jagir Singh. 51. Jasvir Kaur w/o Hoshair Singh s/o Mohinder Singh. 52. Jagdeep Kaur w/o Jaswinder Singh s/o Amrik Singh. 53. Alka Mittal w/o Sanjay Mittal s/o Tarseem Kumar Mittal. 54. Sarabjit Kaur w/o Kuldeep Singh s/o Iqbal Singh. 55. Chander Shaker s/o Narinder Nath s/o Gupat Dass. 56. Amit Jain s/o Gian Chand s/o Inder Sain. 57. Manjit Kaur w/o Charanjit Singh s/o Kuldeep Singh. 58. Baljit Kaur w/o Naginder Singh s/o Kuldeep Singh. 59. Uveswer Kaur w/o Saudagar Singh s/o Gurnam Singh. 60. Neelam Gulati w/o Swaran Gulati s/o Bhola Ram. 61. Rashpinder Singh s/o Nirmal Singh s/o Narata Singh. 62. Apreet Kaur w/o Satnam Singh s/o Piana Singh. 63. Rajesh Aggarwal s/o Sohail Lal Aggarwal s/o Banwari Lal. 64. Sukhchain Kaur w/o Satnam Singh s/o Gian Singh. 65. Jasvir Kaur w/o Satpal Singh s/o Attar Singh. 66. Sunny Chopra s/o Naresh Kumar Chopra s/o Savantdar Dev Chopra. 67. Gurwinder Singh s/o Balkar Singh s/o Hazara Singh. 68. Darshan Singh s/o Ravinder Singh s/o Kehar Singh. 69. Gaurav Lakhanpal s/o Chander Lakhanpal s/o Narindernath. 70. Paramjit Singh w/o Ajit Singh s/o Bachan Singh. 71. Navdeep Kaur w/o Harwinder Singh s/o Harbhajan Singh. 72. Pavitir Singh s/o Nazir Singh s/o Dalip Singh. 73. Sunny Garg s/o Rattan Lal Garg s/o Lachman Dass Garg. 74. Gurmest Singh s/o Sukhdev Singh s/o Mohinder Singh. 75. Gurpreet Kaur w/o Kamalpreet Singh s/o Satvir Singh. 76. Jagdeep Singh s/o Balvir Singh s/o Kehar Singh. 77. Sharanpreet Singh s/o Jagdev Singh s/o Phuman Singh. 78. Kuldeep Kaur w/o Kulwant Singh s/o Didar Singh. 79. Dharminder Kaur w/o Kashmir Singh s/o Saudagar Singh. 80. Akwinder Kaur w/o Dharminder Singh s/o Kashmira Singh. 81. Sukhwinder Kaur w/o Aytar Singh s/o Jaswant Singh. 82. Navdeep Singh s/o Ram Lal s/o Swaran Singh. 83. Anil Kumar s/o Surjit Kumar. 84. Jasmeet Singh s/o Harbans Singh s/o Harnam Singh. 85. Hira Singh s/o Jagmit Singh s/o Harbans Singh.

All residents of near Gurdwara Jyoti Saroop Sahib Fatehgarh Sahib, Sirhind, Tehsil & District Fatehgarh Sahib.  
In above titled case, the defendant(s) respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 28.01.2021 at 10.00 a.m.  
For details login to [https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=panchkula](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=panchkula)  
Dated, this day of 24.12.2020.  
Sd/-  
Civil Judge, (Junior Division),  
CL20083354 Panchkula.

### LAND FOR SALE

**Prime land 10250 gaj,** corner, surrounded by farmhouses, near T-point, New Chandigarh, 28500000/- . 94785-01691. (CL20083357)

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**I, Manu s/o Subhash Chander,** EQ 25 Pacca Bagh, Jalandhar, have changed my name to Mannu Arya. (CL20083356)

**I, Vicky Ram S/o Darshan Lal R/o Village Chudiali,** PO Chudiala, Sub Tehsil Saha, Ambala, have changed my name to Vikramjeet Singh Concerned note. (CL20083412)

**I, Pardeep Kumar S/o Mohinder Singh R/o 76-A Mati Dass Nagar,** Mahesh Nagar Ambala Cantt have changed my name to Pradeep Chaudhary Concerned note. (CL20083397)

**I, Arjun Agarwal s/o Sh. Sunil Kumar Aggarwal,** resident of Village Bara, P.O. Kumarhatti, Tehsil & District Solan, H.P.- 173229 wish to state that I have changed spellings of my name from Arjun Aggarwal to Arjun Agarwal. (CL20083375)

**I Kanwaljit Singh S/o Manohan Singh 14, Sant Rasila Avenue Qadian Road Batala (Pb)** declare that my daughter Jameet Kaur is out of my control. I disown her from all my moveable / immovable property. I shall not be responsible for any her acts and if anybody deals with her that shall be at his own risk. (CL20083346)

**I, Manju Devi W/o Late Harinder Singh R/o D-119, Gurmohar City Extension,** Derabassi, SAS Nagar, Mohali (Punjab), have declared that my elder son Gajinder Singh Negi is out of my control and I debar him from all my moveable and immovable property. Anybody dealing with him will be responsible at their own risk. (CL20083409)

**I, Subedar Parveen Kumar Army** number JC 490875H inform that in my service book record name of my wife and her date of birth are entered as Seema Devi and 17.10.1984, which are wrong. Her actual name is Seema Rani and date of birth is 17.10.1986. Which should be entered in my service record. (CL20083418)

**We, Sushil Kumar Sachdeva s/o Dalip Kumar and Nisha Rani w/o Sushil Kumar Sachdeva r/o 5, South Avenue,** Abohar declare that our son Anurag and his wife Isha are out of our control. We debar them from our moveable, immovable property. We will not be responsible for their acts or conducts. There remain no relations between us of any kind. Whosoever will deal with them, then he/ she himself will be personally responsible for the same. (CL20083359)

**For Circulation and Advertisement booking and other related queries** please call at following numbers from Monday to Saturday between 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.  
**Circulation:**  
0172-2670319, 2670250, 2670442  
**E-mail at**  
[circulation@tribunemail.com](mailto:circulation@tribunemail.com)  
**Advertisement:**  
Classified: 0172-2670257, 2670338  
**E-mail at**  
[classified@tribunemail.com](mailto:classified@tribunemail.com)  
**Display:** 0172-2670256, 2670342  
**E-mail at** [advt@tribunemail.com](mailto:advt@tribunemail.com)

### COURT NOTICE

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)**  
In the Court of  
Dr. Tarun Kumar Verma  
Civil Judge, (Junior Division),  
Panchkula.  
CNR No.:  
HRPK02-000442-2020  
Next Date: 28.01.2021  
B.N. Kaushal & Another  
Versus  
Krishan Kumar Verma & Others  
Suit for Declaration

Notice to:  
9. Neelam Verma d/o Sh. Rajinder Kumar Verma, r/o Village Kumbhra, Tehsil & Distt. Mohali.  
10. Poonam Verma d/o Sh. Rajinder Kumar Verma r/o Village Kumbhra, Tehsil & Distt. Mohali.  
11. Sapna Verma s/o Sh. Rajinder Kumar Verma r/o Village Kumbhra, Tehsil & Distt. Mohali.  
In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 28.01.2021 at 10.00 a.m.  
For details login to [https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=panchkula](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=panchkula)  
Dated, this day of 24.12.2020.  
Sd/-  
Civil Judge, (Junior Division),  
CL20083354 Panchkula.

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**The Tribune Classified THE RIGHT CHOICE**

### HIMACHAL PRADESH

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

No. PWD/BWD/TA/E-tender/2020-21/

Dated:

#### "CORRIGENDUM"

The on-line tenders for the work invited wide this office N.I.T. No. PWD/BWD/T/A/NIT/2020-21/16936-95 dated 11/12/2020 published vide R.O. No. 5016/2020-2021(Classified) dated 15/12/2020 in Weekly Giriraj Shimla. The estimated cost of tender may be read as Rs. 7,65,32,550/- instead of Rs. 7,65,17,451/- . All other Terms & conditions shall be remained unchanged.

**ON BEHALF OF GOVERNOR OF H.P**

Executive Engineer, HPPWD Division Bhawarna, Pin-176083,

Tel: 01894-247777 e-mail: [eepwd-bhaw-hp@gov.in](mailto:eepwd-bhaw-hp@gov.in)

**HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPAK**

DPR/HP/5258

**BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD**  
(POWER WING)

**Corrigendum-3 NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**

**NIT No. BP-2806**

**Name of Office :** Dy.Chief Engineer, Bhakra Power House Circle, BBMB (PW), Nangal

**Name of Work :** Capital Maintenance of 157 MW Hydro Generating Machine Unit No. 10 (Fifth Unit) at Bhakra Right Bank Power House (5x157 MW) of Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), Nangal.

**Last date for upload pre-qualification documents** 27.01.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs.

**Last date for download tender documents** 10.02.2021 upto 16:00 Hrs.

**Last date for submission of online bid** 11.02.2021 upto 11:00 Hrs.

**Due date for opening technical bid** 11.02.2021 at 11:30 Hrs.

**For detailed NIT & Earnest Money to be deposited please visit BBMB website :** [www.bbmb.gov.in](http://www.bbmb.gov.in) & <https://bbmbeproc.abcpocure.com>

**785-PR-Generation-6 FOR YOUR BETTER TOMORROW SAVE ENERGY TODAY**

### MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AHMEDGARH, LOCAL GOVT. PUNJAB DEPTT., PUNJAB TENDER NOTICE

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS (CIVIL WORKS)**  
<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

**E-tender - LG/MCOAH/AHD/2020-21/6**

The Municipal Council, Ahmedgarh invites percentage rate e-tenders on **Double Bid System**, for the following work from the enlisted Contractors/ Societies/Firms of Municipal Council, Ahmedgarh.

(A) **Date and time schedule:-**

Sr. No.	Online Sale of Bidding Start	Last date of online submission of Bidding Document	Opening of Technical Bids
1	11.01.2021, 12:00 p.m.	31.01.2021, 12:00 p.m.	31.01.2021, 03:00 p.m.

(B) **List of works:-**

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in Lacs)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Tender Form Fees	Time Limit
1	C/o MAINHOLE NEAR SHANI MANDIR TO DEHLIZ ORCTROI	0.76	1520	500	1 Month
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.76</b>			

For participating in the above e-tendering process, the contractors shall have to get themselves registered with <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> and get user ID and Password. Class-2/3 Digital Signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. For any clarification/difficulty e-tendering process flow, please contact on **0172-2970263, 0172-2970284 (Site Helpline Number)** E-mail Helpline: [eproc@punjab.gov.in](mailto:eproc@punjab.gov.in).

**Note:-** Corrigendum, if any, will be issued/Published on website only.

DPR/HP/5697

### HIMACHAL PRADESH

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

#### e-Procurement Notice

#### INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

1. The Executive Engineer, Shimla, Division No. 1, HPPWD, Shimla-3, H.P on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the online bids on item rate, in electronic tendering system, in 2 Cover System for the undermentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD	Cost of Tender	Time Allowed
1	Construction/Improvement on circular road i Shimla Town (SH- C/o Pedestrian path with chequered plate in RD. 152/500 to 152/630 and raised PCC foot path safety railings in RD's 150/670 to 151/00, 151/120 to 151/540 & 152/640 to 153/00 and Crush barrier WBM railings in RDs 148/940 to 149/00, 149/020 to 149/390, 150/450 to 150/500, 151/480 to 151/810, 148/00 to 148/110 and 148/500 to 148/640 on MRR via Lakkar Bazar) (Under Smart City in Shimla Town).	19265492/-	348000/-	5000/-	180 days
2	Construction of type-III Quarters after dismantling of Thana Kothi building at Kasumpti Shimla-9 (SH- C/o Building Portion, site Development, W.S & S.I and rain harvesting tank etc).	70,35,686/-	1,03,000/-	2000/-	365 days
3	Construction/Improvement on road from Brock Hurst to Vikas Nagar in Shimla Town (SH- Widening, Metalling and tarring in various location U-shape drain, Retaining wall and Breast wall in Brock Hurst to Vikas Nagar road at Rd. 0/00 to 0/615) (Under Smart City in Shimla Town).	53,71,515/-	78,800/-	2000/-	120 days
4	Construction of rain shelter at Vikasnagar Bus stop and pedestrian path on Vikasnagar to Kasumpti via SDA Complex road between Rd. 0/145 to 0/190, (Under Smart City in Shimla Town).	20,09,163/-	40,000/-	500/-	90 days

2. **Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission:-** The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Bidder would be required to register in the website which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in HPPWD may obtain the same from the website: <https://hptenders.gov.in>. Digital Signature is mandatory to participate in the e-tendering. Bidders already possessing the digital signature issued from authorized CAs can use the same in this tender.

3. **Key Dates:**

1. Date of Online Publication	20.01.2021 18.00 Hrs.
2. Document Download Start and End Date	20.01.2021 18.00 Hrs. up to 04.02.2021 16.00 Hrs.
3. Bid Submission Start and End Date	20.01.2021 18.00 Hrs. up to 04.02.2021 16.00 Hrs.
4. Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document	05.02.2021 up to 10.30 Hrs.
5. Date of opening of Technical Bid	05.02.2021 11:00 Hrs.
6. Date of opening of Financial Bid	05.02.2021 11:00 Hrs.

4. **TENDER DETAILS:**

The Tender Documents shall be uploaded online in 2 Cover.

i). **Cover 1:** Shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical documents/ Eligibility information."

ii). **Cover 2:** Shall contain "BoQ/Financial Bid", where contractor will quote his offer for each item.

5. **SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS:** The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and other Technical Documents in the O/o Executive Engineer Shimla Division No-1 HPPWD, Shimla-3 as specified in Key Dates Sr. No. 4 on Tender Opening Date, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.

6. **BID OPENING DETAILS:** The Technical bids shall be opened on 05.02.2021 at 11:00 Hrs. in the office of Executive Engineer, Shimla HPPWD Shimla, H.P. by the authorised officer. In their interest the tenderer are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

7. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.

8. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents. The officer inviting tender shall not be held liable for any delays due to system failure beyond its control. Even though the system will attempt to notify the bidders of any bid updates, the Employer shall not be liable for any information not received by the bidder. It is the bidders' responsibility to verify the website for the latest information related to the tender.

**Eligibility Criteria:-**

(i) The bidders must have successfully completed similar nature of one work not less than 40% of estimated cost during the last five years under Govt. Department State or Central PSU's (without Liquidated damages or compensation).

(ii) The Executive Engineer reserves the right to accept/reject any tender/application or all tenders without assigning any reason.

DPR/HP/5257

# Negating CFSL report mammoth task for SIT

### TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

FARIDKOT, JANUARY 11

The special investigation team (SIT) of the Punjab Police is facing a Herculean task of negating a report of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) of the CBI in which the Central agency had given a clean chit to all three prime accused of sacrilege incidents.

In regard to pasting of blasphemous posters at gurdwaras in Burj Jawahar Singh Wala and Bargari villages in September 2015, the CFSL, in its report dated August 28, 2018, claimed that the authorship of the questioned writings could not be connected with any set of the writers, attributed to Mohinder Pal, alias, Bittu, Sukhjinder Singh, alias Sunny, Shakti Singh and eight other accused in the case.

Now, a week after the High Court ordered the CBI to handover all relevant documents and material in sacrilege cases to the SIT and directed that the evidence presented by the CBI would be taken into consideration by the Judicial Magistrate,

Lab had found sacrilege accused 'truthful' in polygraph, other tests

### HAVE ENOUGH PROOF

“No forensic report is a concluding evidence in criminal law to decide a case. The SIT has many other clinching evidences to prove the guilt of the accused in this case. SIT OFFICIAL

Faridkot, to pass an appropriate order, the SIT is under strain to 'undo' the CFSL's 'handwriting expert report'.

The CFSL had conducted the polygraph, layered voice analysis examination, palm/fingerprints and handwriting tests of Mohinder Pal, Sukhjinder Singh and Shakti Singh between August 20 and 28, 2018, and found them "truthful" in the polygraph test, with no deception in layered voice analysis and not connecting them with the writing of the posters. While the

SIT is pinning largely its case on these three accused (Mohinder Pal already died in Nabha jail) for them writing and pasting these posters, the CFSL report is a big clog in progression of its case in the local court.

Around 75 persons underwent various tests, including forensic psychological assessment, handwriting, polygraph, palm/finger prints examination and layered voice analysis tests at the CFSL between September 2016 and August 2018 during the investigation in three sacrilege incidents at Bargari and Burj Jawahar Singh Wala between June and October, 2015.

On June 20, 2018, the Punjab DGP had written to the Director, CBI, informing him that after the questioning of Mohinder Pal, it was found that he was the main conspirator in the theft of Guru Granth Sahib and sacrilege incidents. No forensic report was a concluding evidence in criminal law to decide a case. The SIT had many other clinching evidences to prove the guilt of the accused in this case, said a senior officer in the SIT.

# Soil erosion triggers fear of canal breach

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

FATEHGARH SAHIB, JANUARY 11

Residents of Sehajadpur village and nearby villages in the district have expressed fear of a breach in the Bhakra canal main line following erosion of soil under sandbags placed by the Irrigation Department sometime ago.

A large number of residents today gathered at the damaged section along the canal and informed the higher officials. Later, a team of the department comprising XEN Hakam Singh and SDO Gursaran Singh took stock of the situation. The residents said cracks had appeared on the bank earlier and the department had plugged these by placing sandbags to prevent further erosion. However, soil under the



Irrigation Department officials inspect the Bhakra canal.

### REPAIR WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT IN MARCH

“Soil erosion is taking place due to fast water current. Repair work will be carried out once the flow of water is halted in March. Hakam Singh, XEN

sacks was continuously eroding, increasing the chances of a breach.

They said besides the

adjoining villages, the canal water might enter Mandi Gobindgarh town, impacting both life

## NGO to honour meritorious girls

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

ABOHAR, JANUARY 11

The Hiteshi Foundation, an NGO constituted last year to carry forward the legacy of social activist, writer and former councillor Mathura Dass Hiteshi, has decided to honour the girls who top class X, XII, BA and BED exams this year in Abohar subdivision.

Chairman Bharat Hiteshi made the announcement through a message at the 'sewa yajna' organised by the Hiteshi Foundation to distribute jerseys, shoes and socks among 150 students of four Sanskar Kendras that are being run by NGO Sewa Bharati.

# ASHA workers seek regular jobs

### OUR





A farmer inspects his damaged wheat crop in Karnal's Kaimla village on Monday. SAYEED AHMED

# Day after ransacking, village counts losses

Wheat on 12 acres damaged | ₹2.6L loss to event mgmt firm

**PARVEEN ARORA**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**KARNAL, JANUARY 11**  
A day after the venue of Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar's 'kisan mahapanchayat' in Kaimla village was ransacked by protesting farmers, the situation was returning to normal, with people hopeful of peace and harmony.

Some villagers were in support of the 'kisan mahapanchayat', saying the Chief Minister had the right to express his point of view. On the contrary, some villagers were against the programme, saying it should not have been organised in their village.

They thanked God that there was no loss of life, which could have prolonged the conflict between residents of Kaimla village and of other villages.

"The incident on Sunday was unfortunate as it should not have happened. It led to unrest, but after being pacified by elders, youths in the village were

## OVER 800 UNNAMED PERSONS BOOKED

According to a police official in Karnal, a case has been registered against 71 persons, including Gurnam Singh Charuni, by name while 800-900 unnamed persons have also been booked.

calm. Had any untoward incident taken place, it would have been dangerous for everybody," said 65-year-old Balbir Singh of Kaimla village.

He maintained that the Chief Minister had the right to express his point of view. "I am thankful to God that there was no loss of life on Sunday, otherwise it would have led to a war-like situation. Everything passed off peacefully," said 70-year-old Ram Singh. He said the government should have avoided this programme.

Another local resident, Rajinder, blamed the police

for remaining a mute spectator and the ransacking of the pandal could have been avoided had the police taken any action. He said everybody had the right to express his point of view.

The wheat crop of some farmers was damaged due to the faceoff. "A helipad was established on my fields. Due to the protest, the wheat crop on around two and a half acres was damaged. I request the government to compensate me," said Balwinder Singh, a farmer.

The event management company which had provided a tent for the programme suffered a loss of Rs 2.6 lakh as its public address system was damaged by protesters.

Nishant Kumar Yadav, DC, said he had sent a Revenue Department team to the spot to assess losses. The wheat crop on 12 acres had been damaged. "The government will compensate the farmers and the event management company for the losses," he asserted.

# Farmers: Will gherao police station if anyone nabbed

**KARNAL, JANUARY 11**  
Farmers have threatened to gherao the police station if their brethren are arrested in connection with the vandalism of the 'mahapanchayat' venue at Kaimla village on Sunday.

"We are ready to court arrest, but want to make it clear that if the police try to arrest any farmer, we will gherao the police station (where the case has been registered)," said Jagdeep Singh Aulakh, member of the state

core committee, BKU (Charuni) on Monday while addressing farmers at the Bastara toll plaza, where they have been staging dharna. "Not a single farmer attacked a government or police official. On the contrary, it was BJP workers who attacked farmers," he claimed.

The BKU leader further said, "We had appealed to the BJP several times that it should cancel the programme, but it ignored our calls, forcing us to protest." — TNS

# Hooda: BJP leaders inciting protesters

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11**  
Leader of the Opposition Bhupinder Singh Hooda has hit back at Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar and said it was not he, but BJP leaders, who were provoking farmers with their statements.

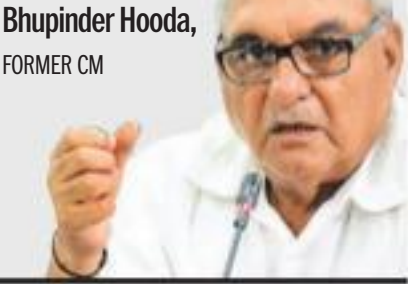
"If the next round of talks has been scheduled for January 15, why is the Chief Minister saying that laws will never be repealed. The farmers' movement has been peaceful. But if you (Khattar) provoke them, anarchy will spread," he said here on Monday.

Hooda further said, "Overnight, farmer leaders have become communists. They have also been labelled Khalistanis and Pakistanis. It is an insult to the farming community.

On Khattar's statement that Congress leaders were "day-dreaming" on moving a no-confidence motion against the state government, the former Chief Minister said,

## TRUST DEFICIT

When a Chief Minister can't hold a public meeting in his district, there cannot be an issue important than this. The government has lost people's confidence.



"When a Chief Minister can't hold a public meeting in his district, there cannot be an issue important than this. The government has lost people's confidence."

When asked about the registration of attempt to murder cases against farmers, the Congress leader warned the government of avoiding confrontation with farmers. "It is a sensitive and serious situation."

# Locals recall '93 Nissing protest

**KARNAL, JANUARY 11**  
A day after the Kaimla incident in which the CM's 'mahapanchayat' venue was ransacked allegedly by protesting farmers, locals recall how two farmers had lost their lives in police firing which had taken place at Nissing town in 1993 during the then Bhajan Lal-led Congress government.

However, the police yesterday managed to tackle the situation and no loss of life was reported.

In both incidents, farmers were opposing the CM's pro-

gramme. In Kaimla village, the CM had to cancel his visit, which was planned to educate the farmers on the "benefits" of the three farm laws. However, in the Nissing incident, farmers, who were opposing the electricity Bill, had an altercation with the police when the then CM Bhajan Lal was addressing the gathering at the grain market. The police had to use force to bring the situation under control.

According to farmers, who had participated in the protest, two from Kaithal dis-

trict — Lakhpat Singh and Mam Chand — had died while others were injured.

The then CM was safely escorted by then SP VN Rai with the help of CM's security officials.

Rai said the 'kisan mahapanchayat' should not have been planned at a time when talks were on between farmer leaders and the Centre.

Sewa Singh Arya, BKU leader, said the Kaimla incident could have been a repeat of the Nissing farmers' protest had the police not tackled the situation. — TNS

# Abhaysubmits 'conditional' resignation

**CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11**  
INLD leader Abhay Chautala today sent his "conditional" resignation to the Vidhan Sabha Speaker to express solidarity with farmers.

In a letter to the Speaker, Abhay wrote that the letter should be considered as resignation from the Assembly if the Centre failed to repeal the three farm laws by January 26.

Abhay said he could not play any constructive role for the welfare of farmers under the circumstances in the wake of the deadlock between farmers and the Central Government over the farm legislation. — TNS

## IT'S MEANINGLESS, SAYS SPEAKER

I cannot take any decision on conditional resignation. If he wants to resign, he should hand over the resignation letter to me personally and resign with immediate effect.

Gian Chand Gupta, SPEAKER



A Sikh museum at the Singhu border. TRIBUNE PHOTO

# Mini Sikh museum comes up at Singhu

**MUKESH TANDON**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SONEPAT, JANUARY 11**

Parwinder Singh, one of the few Sikh sculptures who has been propagating the Sikh history through a museum created by him at Balongi in Mohali district, today established a mini museum near the central stage at the Singhu border.

"Our history is full of courage and martyrdom. I have come here with some statues to make youths aware

about the Sikh heritage," says Parwinder Singh.

Parwinder Singh, who is a scooter mechanic by profession, said the statues of Bhai Mati Das, Baba Deep Singh, Bhai Sati Das and four Sahibzadas had been established in the mini museum, which was visited by hundreds of farmers today.

He said there were 70 statues at his museum at Balongi, but it was not possible to bring all of them here.

# Cops land in dock

**SAURABH MALIK**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11**

The Haryana Police have landed themselves in the dock after an investigating team of the same six police officers registered two drugs cases against a person. In both cases, the second investigating officer was called after the alleged recovery of objectionable material.

"After hearing counsel for the parties, without commenting upon merits of the case and considering the fact that the investigating team, consisting of six police officers, in both FIRs is exactly the same and a perusal of both FIRs shows that the second investigating officer was called after effecting recovery from the petitioner, it will be a debatable issue whether a proper and fair investigation was conducted by them," Justice Arvind Singh Sangwan asserted, while granting regular bail to the accused.

Justice Sangwan directed the forwarding of the order's copy to Jind Superintendent of Police for issuance of appropriate

## Investigating team of same officers registers 2 cases against a person

ate directions to the investigating officers under the NDPS Act to follow the correct procedure in the future.

The direction by Justice Sangwan came after the counsel for the petitioner contended that the second investigating officer was called at a stage when recovery had already been carried out by the first investigating officer, which did not amount to proper and fair probe.

It was submitted that once a person was apprehended on the suspicion of carrying some intoxicating substance, the second investigating officer in ordinary cases was called immediately.

The search and consequent recovery were carried out in the presence of the second investigating officer, but such a procedure was not followed in the present case.

# HC seeks details on masks for jail inmates

**CHANDIGARH, JANUARY 11**

With jail no bar for Covid infection, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has asked for details regarding availability of masks for inmates. The Division Bench of Justice Rajan Gupta and Justice Karamjit Singh has set a day's deadline for the purpose.

The direction came on a petition against Haryana and other respondents by Rishi. As the case came up for hearing through video-conferencing, his counsel told the Bench that the petitioner, a jail inmate, was tested for Covid. His RT-PCR test was reported to be positive on December 27.

As a result, he was taken to a quarantine centre in Sector 12, Panchkula. Thereafter, the petitioner did not receive attention from the medical authorities. Taking note of the submissions, the Bench issued notice of motion, which was accepted by the state counsel. — TNS

**ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON BUFFALOES**  
**SUB-CAMPUS, BIR-DOSANJH, NABHA.**  
**Ph. No: 01765-263167, 263164**  
**Website: www.cirb.res.in**

**AUCTION NOTICE**

The Officer-in-Charge, CIRB Sub-campus, Nabha on behalf of the Director, CIRB, Hisar invites eligible bidders at public auction of 52 surplus animals details as per given below:-

1. Buffaloes	: 22
2. Heifers	: 02
3. Males	: 28

The public auction will be held at Sub-campus, Nabha on dated **28th January, 2021 at 10.00 a.m.** The auction committee will provide the terms & conditions of the auction to the bidders at the time of auction. For details please visit our website **www.cirb.res.in** or visit CIRB, Sub-campus, Nabha on any working day.

DI-17984 Sd/- OFFICER INCHARGE

**ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਅਹਿਮਦਗੜ੍ਹ**  
**ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ (14 ਦਿਨ)**  
**eproc.punjab.gov.in**

**E-tender - LG/MCOUNCIL/AHD/2020-21/MP1**

ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਅਹਿਮਦਗੜ੍ਹ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਡਬਲ ਬਿੰਡ ਸਿਸਟਮ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਮਿਊਂਸਪਲ ਫੰਡ ਅਧੀਨ 7 ਲੱਖ ਰੁਪਏ ਦੇ 1 ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਦੇ ਕੰਮਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ ਕੰਟਰੈਕਟਰਜ਼/ਸੁਸਾਇਟੀਜ਼/ਫਰਮਜ਼ ਤੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਸਿੱਧ ਰੇਟ ਮੰਗੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹਨ। ਟੈਂਡਰ ਖ਼ਰੀਦ ਕਰਨ ਅਤੇ ਖੋਲ੍ਹਣ ਦਾ ਸ਼ਬੰਧਿਤ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਹੈ:-

Sr. No.	Online Sale Of Bidding Start	Last Date Of Online Submission Of Bidding Documents	Opening Of Technical Bids
1	11.01.2021 12:00 PM	25.01.2021 12:00 AM	25.01.2021 03:00 PM

ਕੰਮਾਂ ਦੀ ਡਿਟੇਲ ਅਤੇ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਦੀਆਂ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ **eproc.punjab.gov.in** ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ ਉੱਪਰ ਦੇਖੀਆਂ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰਿੰਗ ਪ੍ਰੋਸੈਸ ਵਿਚ ਭਾਗ ਲੈਣ ਲਈ, ਠੇਕੇਦਾਰ ਆਪਣੇ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** 'ਤੇ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ ਕਰਵਾਉਣ। ਇਸ ਡਿਜੀਟਲ ਸਿਗਨਚਰ 2/3 ਕਲਾਸ ਦੇ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹਨ। ਟੈਂਡਰਿੰਗ ਪ੍ਰੋਸੈਸ ਵਿਚ ਕਿਸੇ ਤਰ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਮਦਦ ਲੈਣ ਲਈ 0172-2970263, 0172-2970284 (ਸਾਈਟ ਹੈਲਪਲਾਈਨ ਨੰਬਰ) ਈ-ਮੇਲ ਹੈਲਪਲਾਈਨ **eproc@punjab.gov.in** ਹੈ।

ਨੋਟ:- ਜੇਕਰ ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਬਿਧੀ ਹੇਠਲੀ ਤਾਂ ਕੇਵਲ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ ਉੱਪਰ ਹੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

ਸਹੀ:- ਪ੍ਰਸ਼ਾਸਕ, ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਅਹਿਮਦਗੜ੍ਹ।	ਸਹੀ:- ਕਾਰਜਸਾਧਕ ਅਫ਼ਸਰ, ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਅਹਿਮਦਗੜ੍ਹ।	ਸਹੀ:- ਸ: ਮਿਊਂਸਪਲ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ, ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਅਹਿਮਦਗੜ੍ਹ।
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DPR/Pb/702

**ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ**  
**ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਬੋਲੀਆਂ ਮੰਗਣ ਦਾ ਨੋਟਿਸ**  
**ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਨੰ. 1 (2021) ਮਿਤੀ 11.01.2021**

ਕਾਰਜਕਾਰੀ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਅਰ (ਸ), ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ, ਸੰਗਰੂਰ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਸਿਵਲ ਅਤੇ ਜਨ ਸਿਹਤ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੇ ਨਿਮਨਲਿਖਤ ਕੰਮਾਂ ਲਈ (1) PROVIDING AND FIXING RAILING AROUND APF SABJI MANDI SUNAM, MC SUNAM, DISTT. SANGRUR (**WORK CODE-SGR-2020-021**) (2) NEW APPROACH ROAD JANDALI BRIDGE TO NGM AHMEDGARH (COMPACTION EARTH WORK TO 20MM THICK OPEN GRADED PC WITH SEAL COAT AND CONST. OF CULVERT, SIDE DRAIN, AND ROAD STRUCTURES) DISTT. SANGRUR. (PMB FUNDS) **WORK CODE-SGR-2020-022** (3) AGUMENTATION OF S.W.D. SEWERAGE, RAISING MAIN, UPGRADEMENT OF MACHINERY & DEVELOPMENT OF DISPOSAL WORKS IN NGM KHANOURI, MC KHANOURI DISTT. SANGRUR. (MC FUNDS) **WORK CODE-SGR-2021-001** (4) PROVIDING RAISING MAIN DI PIPE FOR STORM WATER DRAINAGE, CONSTRUCTION OF 1 NO. LAVATORY BLOCK OF SIZE 28'-9"x18'-3" NEAR SHOP NO. 17 AND CONNECTING MANDI SLUDGE SEWER WITH CITY SEWER & AUGMENTATION OF PUMPING MACHINERY IN NGM SUNAM, DISTRICT SANGRUR (62.5 KVA MAHINDRA/ KIRLOSKAR POWEROL SILENT DG SET) **WORK CODE-PH-SAS-68-2019** (5) CONST. OF 2 Nos MAIN GATE (SLIDING) AT MANDI BHAWANIGARH, MC BHAWANIGARH DISTT. SANGRUR. (MC FUNDS.) **WORK CODE-SGR-2021-002** (6) SPECIAL REPAIR INTERNAL ROADS AT FOCAL POINT JOULIAN (COMPACTION EARTH WORK TO 20MM THICK OPEN GRADED PC WITH SEAL COAT) DISTT. SANGRUR. (MC FUNDS.) **WORK CODE-SGR-2021-003** (7) SPECIAL REPAIR INTERNAL ROADS AT FOCAL POINT GEHALAN (COMPACTION EARTH WORK TO 20MM THICK OPEN GRADED PC WITH SEAL COAT) DISTT. SANGRUR. (MC FUNDS.) **WORK CODE-SGR-2021-004** (8) PROVIDING AND LAYING RISING MAIN FROM STP TO SARHIND CHOUAT MANDI BHAWANIGARH, MC BHAWANIGARH DISTT. SANGRUR **WORK CODE-SGR-2021-006** ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ ਨਾਲ ਸੂਚੀਕ੍ਰਿਤ ਠੇਕੇਦਾਰ/ਏਜੰਸੀਆਂ ਅਤੇ ਸੁਸਾਇਟੀਆਂ 'ਤੇ ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ। ਠੇਕੇਦਾਰ/ਏਜੰਸੀਆਂ ਨੂੰ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਕੰਮਾਂ ਲਈ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਇਨਲਿਸਟਮੈਂਟ, ਜਿਵੇਂ ਕਿ ਰੋਡ ਵਰਕ, ਹਾਟ ਮਿਕਸ ਪਲਾਟ, ਬਿਲਡਿੰਗ ਵਰਕ, ਬ੍ਰਿਜ ਵਰਕ ਅਤੇ ਜਨ ਸਿਹਤ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਦੀ ਇਨਲਿਸਟਮੈਂਟ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰਨੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਹੋਰ ਵੇਰਵੇ ਲਈ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** ਦਾ ਹਵਾਲਾ ਲਿਆ ਜਾਵੇ। ਜੇਕਰ ਕੋਈ ਸ਼ੱਧ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ ਤਾਂ ਸਿਰਫ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

ਨੋਟ:- ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦੀਆਂ ਹਦਾਇਤਾਂ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਰੁ. 60.00 ਲੱਖ ਤੱਕ ਦੇ ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ/ ਅਧਿਵਚਾਰ ਸਹਿਕਾਰੀ ਸਭਾਵਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਪਹਿਲ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

Sd/- Executive Engineer (C),  
Punjab Mandi Board, Sangrur.

DPR/Pb/660

**Hiring of Security Guards**  
**VAJRA STATION CANTEN**  
**JALANDHAR CANTT**

- Proposals are required for outsourced service of Security Guards comprising of 03 Male & 01 Female guard for 08 hrs duty shift during day time on all days in Vaibra Station Canteen.
- Bids are required to be submitted on a performa available at Vaibra Station Canteen, Jalandhar Cantt duly completed alongwith all relevant documents by 27 Jan 2021 to the Manager at Vaibra Station Canteen.
- Selected bidder will be informed by post and through notice in Vaibra Station Canteen, Jalandhar Cantt.

By Patron  
Vaibra Station Canteen,  
Jalandhar Cantt

**BHAKRA BEAS MANAGEMENT BOARD**  
**(Power Wing)**

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER** Dated 11.01.2021

**E-NIT No. : BP-2820**  
**Name of Office:** Dy. Chief Engineer, Bhakra Power Houses Circle, BBMB (PW), Nangal.  
**Name of work:** Supply of Nonmetallic brake Friction Pads for 157MW Hydro Generation Machines of Bhakra Right Bank Power House of BBMB (PW), Nangal.

<b>Start date for download tender documents</b>	<b>11.01.2021 from 10:00 Hrs.</b>
<b>Last date for download tender documents</b>	<b>02.02.2021 upto 16:00 Hrs.</b>
<b>Start date for submission of online bid</b>	<b>11.01.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs.</b>
<b>Last date for submission of online bid</b>	<b>02.02.2021 upto 17:00 Hrs.</b>
<b>Due date for opening technical bid</b>	<b>03.02.2021 at 11:00 Hrs.</b>

For detailed NIT & Earnest Money to be deposited please visit BBMB website **https://bbmbproc.abcpurchase.com & http://bbmb.gov.in.**  
**787-PR-Generation-4 For Your Better Tomorrow Save Energy Today**

**SAINIK SCHOOL SUJANPUR TIRA**  
**DISTT. HAMIRPUR (HP)- 176110**

- Sainik School Sujanpur Tira functions under the aegis of Sainik School Society which is registered under the Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860). School invites applications for recruitment to the following posts on contractual basis.

(a)	01	Nursing Sister	-OBC
(b)	01	Craft Attendant	-ST
(c)	14	General Employees	-Gen-07, ST-03, OBC- 04
(d)	02	Ayahs/ Nurse Maids	-General

- Details regarding age criteria, essential qualifications, desirable qualifications, application fee, pay scale and allowances, procedure to apply, nature of the selection tests etc. are available on school's website: **www.sainikschoolsujanpurтира.org**.
- Duly filled in application forms along with all necessary documents must reach this office latest by 1700 hrs. on 04 Feb 21. Incomplete applications/ received after due/ last date including postal delay will not be entertained.

File: SSST/108/4/Adm  
Date: 11 Jan 21

Principal  
Sainik School  
Sujanpur Tira (HP)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the public at large that M/s Omaxe Ltd had executed a term sheet dated 24.02.2020 with M/s Ireo Waterfront Pvt Ltd. having its registered office at C-4, 1st Floor Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017 (Ireo Waterfront) for its project Ireo Water Front (Project) admeasuring 494.39 acres situated at Villages Dakha 1-2, Devatwal Birmi, Gahaur and Eisewal Canal Road, District Ludhiana, Punjab and advanced amounts to IREO in consonance with the aforesaid term sheet.

That in light of the various disputes arisen between M/s Omaxe Ltd & Ireo Waterfront with respect to the term sheet, the public at large is hereby informed to desist from entering into any business transaction or execution of any Agreement in the said project with Ireo Waterfront since as per the terms of the Term Sheet M/s Omaxe Ltd has legal rights over the land in the said project.

Any person dealing with M/s Ireo Waterfront with respect to the above mentioned land and/or project shall be dealing at his/her own risk, cost & responsibility and M/s Omaxe Ltd. shall not be held responsible and liable for the same.

Place: New Delhi  
Date: 12.01.2021

For Omaxe Limited  
Sd/-

**OMAXE LIMITED (CIN: L74899HR1989PLC051918)**  
Regd. Office: Shop No.19- B, First Floor, Omaxe Celebration Mall, Sohna Road, Gurugram-122001, Haryana  
Corp. Office: Omaxe House, 7, LSC, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019 | Website: **www.omaxe.com**



# The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

## Apt dressing-down

Centre should heed SC's advice to put farm laws on hold

THE Supreme Court has rightly taken the Centre to task for its mis-handling of the farmers' agitation, which began in the last week of November and has shown no sign of abatement so far despite the severe cold and the loss of 60-odd lives. 'Extremely disappointed' — these words sum up the court's reaction to the way the negotiations between the government and the farmer leaders over the contentious farm laws have progressed. The government's dilly-dallying, aimed at wearing out the protesters, has cut no ice with the CJI-led Bench, which is keen on constituting a committee to break the deadlock.

In a scathing observation made in August last year, the apex court, while hearing a plea regarding the Tablighi Jamaat congregation, had said that governments did not act till the courts directed them to do so. A similar script is being played out now, with the Centre stubbornly sticking to its guns over the agriculture-related Acts and promising, at best, some amendments. What's worse, the government has tried to pass off the stir as being Punjab-centric, whereas farmers from Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and other states have also been vocal in opposing the laws. The vandalism witnessed on Sunday at Kaimla village in Karnal district, where Haryana CIM Manohar Lal Khattar was scheduled to hold a kisan mahapanchayat but had to cancel it, unfortunately shows that the discontent is manifesting itself in violent ways and how quickly things can spin out of control.

Invoking Gandhi's satyagraha, the court has reaffirmed the citizens' right to stage a peaceful protest, even as it has expressed concern over the prolonged presence of agitators, especially the vulnerable elderly, at Delhi's borders. It is hoped that the court's welcome intervention will rouse the government to be part of the solution rather than of the problem. The Centre can no longer hide behind the fig leaf of the 'potential benefits' of the new laws. Its strategy of forcing the states to toe the line has backfired. The government has to learn to 'let go', starting with deferment of the implementation of the Acts.

## Stamp out racism

Thrilling Sydney Test marred by abuse of players

RACISM should have no place in any society, and most certainly not in sport, which often represents the best in human beings. The third Test between India and Australia in Sydney, though it ended in a draw, did have all the elements that cause fans to idealise sport — heroic performances by the hosts, great mental and physical toughness displayed by the visitors as they ground out an honourable draw. Yet, the contest was soured by revelations that a few Indian players were targeted with racist abuse by spectators during the match. It seems the worst was reserved for Mohammed Siraj — playing only his second Test — who was allegedly called 'brown dog' and 'big monkey'. Siraj promptly reported the matter to his captain and match officials, and a few spectators were ejected from the stands.

The matter is being investigated, and it would be unwise to jump to conclusions. But, on the basis of lived experience, players, immigrants and short-term visitors to that country report that some Australians display racist behaviour. Most Indians who have visited that country for some duration have their own 'racism' story to relate. Ravichandran Ashwin, who has toured Australia four times, said about the crowd on Sunday: 'They have been quite nasty... But this time they've actually gone up a step higher and used racial abuse.'

Abuse is often passed off as banter in grounds in Australia. It happens elsewhere too, but it seems that the 'banter' is the sharpest, with a racist edge, in Australia. It has emerged as a multicultural country only in recent decades — the 'White Australia' policy was discontinued only in the 1970s, and non-Whites became a sizeable chunk in even the biggest cities only over the last 20-odd years. Acceptance and assimilation can't be instantaneous. Yet, most Australians are welcoming of visitors. When it comes to sport, though, even they can be extremely nationalistic. Glass after glass of beer, while 'barracking' opposition players, can cause anyone's latent racism to bubble over. This seems to have happened in Sydney. The authorities will do well to stop the abuse of players, and punish the perpetrators if it turns racist.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Our young people are assets to be cultivated and nurtured; let's begin treating them that way. — Jane Fonda

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

## The Tribune.

LAHORE, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1921

### THE NEW VICEROY.

AT last the Cabinet has succeeded in getting someone to accept the Viceroyalty of India. We are not aware of any previous instance in the history of India's connection with the British Crown in which this most highly paid post in the Empire went a-begging as it has gone in this case. Precisely how many persons have been thought of for the office during the last 3 months there is no means of knowing, but if the newspapers are to be believed, more than half a dozen have been actually sounded and have either refused the offer or have been rejected on reconsideration, and these include one or two of the Presidency Governors in India, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, Mr. Winston Churchill and Mr. Montagu himself. Nor had there ever been such brisk newspaper canvassing in the interests of individual candidates as on this occasion. Every prominent British journal, at any rate every journal that takes any interest in Indian questions, seemed to have its own particular favourite, and three or four journals in India itself joined in the fray. A suggestion thrown out by the *London Times*, perhaps in a casual mood, that members of the India Civil Service were not to be considered necessarily ineligible for the appointment, was eagerly taken up both at Allahabad and at Lahore. More than once did newspapers give what was little better than surmising all the appearance of a knowledge of the inner counsels of the cabinet, and in three or four cases confident predictions were made which turned out to be without any foundation. The climax was reached by the *Pioneer* which, taking the cue from a Bombay paper and with a view to out-distancing it in the race, actually announced that Mr. Winston Churchill had been appointed Viceroy. The statement just made in an official communique that Lord Reading has been appointed Viceroy puts an end to this process of canvassing.

# The tragic loss of a dream

It seems that the system dislikes the radical and creative spirit of the young



AVIJIT PATHAK  
SOCIOLOGIST

EVEN though I am a 'senior citizen', my everyday world is filled with the active presence of the young. The reason is that as a university teacher, I interact with them—I mean urban/middle class students, seek to enter their inner world, and evolve together. Hence, on National Youth Day, I sharpen my power of empathy and try to understand what it means to be young in our times. Well, I know that on this day all sorts of noble words will be uttered like a mantra; and even the otherwise corrupt political class would not forget to advise the youth to learn from Swami Vivekananda (this day is also the birth anniversary of the radical monk)—the spirit of fearlessness, boundless energy and *karmayoga*. But then, I feel it is important to see beyond the ritualisation of empty words, go deeper, and understand the turbulent state of the youth.

To begin with, I have no hesitation in saying that they are growing up in a world that seems to have lost its dreams. In a world characterised by reckless instrumentality inherent in neoliberal global capitalism and violent right-wing authoritarianism (or 'nationalism'), there seems to be no dream anymore: the dream that once led Bhagat Singh to activate the conscience of a defeated nation; or the dream that led John Lennon to inspire us to imagine a new world. Think of growing up in a world where mainstream politics is nothing but a spectacular dramaturgical performance, or a naked manifestation of money/muscle power; culture is television soap opera, or noisy music with sexist connotations; religious gurus are state-sponsored/media-savvy celebrity



NO GLORY: The youth are living amid politico-cultural decadence. TRIBUNE PHOTO

We must go beyond ritualisation of the National Youth Day. We have conspired against the youth, as our education system has failed to liberate them from the trap of toxic culture and psychic violence.

*babas*; communication is the instantaneity of social media; the worth of a person is measured in terms of Facebook/Twitter/YouTube subscribers or followers; and corruption is no longer a matter of shame. Yes, the youth live amid this widespread politico-cultural decadence. Is it that there is no romance with the meaning of being young anymore? See the manifestations of this collective decadence—a fanatic youth intoxicated with the cacophony of Jai Shri Ram, a misdirected 'radical' becoming a suicide bomber, a directionless young man with drug abuse or sexual violence, a youth with utter superficiality as depicted in the Karan Johar variety of films, or a consumptionist youth seduced by the glitz of the market.

As a teacher, I have no hesitation in saying that we have conspired against the youth, as our education system has failed to liberate them from this trap of toxic culture and psychic violence; nor has it succeeded in renewing their creative life-energy. In other words, there is no light of illumination

in what the system regards as 'education': a process of institutionalised graded learning with the ritualisation of examinations, and one-dimensional emphasis on the market-driven ideology of success. See the way they are growing up amid coaching centre 'gurus', science education as the packaged physics, chemistry and maths 'solutions' for all sorts of entrance tests, and the social construction of the IITs and IIMs as sites of 'salvation' promising attractive placement and salary package. This education, we must acquire the courage to say, has nothing to do with the flowering of human consciousness. Our 'toppers' are not the ones who make you believe that to be young is to live intensely, and strive for truth and justice. Instead, they only mythologise what can be regarded as a technically efficient one-dimensional mind—some sort of a skilled workforce for the perpetuation of techno-capitalism. And, paradoxically, this craving for success tends to diminish the possibility of aesthetic-

ly enriched life-affirming sensibilities. It is difficult to find youngsters talking about Satyajit Ray and Adoor Gopalakrishnan in a fancy coaching centre; seldom do you come across a young man in a five-star private university or an institute of technology thinking about equity and justice, or celebrating the music of Bhupen Hazarika and poetry of Gajanan Mukti-bodh. Instead, in a hyper-competitive world everyone seems to have become a disenchanting 'pragmatic'. Biologically young; spiritually dead: what a tragic metamorphosis!

Yet, despite these structural constraints, I see a possibility; and it gives a meaning to my vocation of teaching. Even in this dystopian age, there are young minds that have not yet lost their dreams; they seek to find themselves in life-affirming creative pursuits. In recent times, I have seen them in diverse protest sites: university students working selflessly to provide relief to riot victims in Delhi, or raising their voice against the discriminatory character of the CAA. I have witnessed their intellectual alertness that would have pleased the likes of Marx and Ambedkar; and in their art of resistance I have seen the glimpses of Gandhian satyagraha. No, they are not like the 'angry young man' as Amitabh Bachchan depicted in films in the 1970s; instead, of being nihilistic, they say 'yes' to love, solidarity and equity.

However, the market castigates them as 'non-productive'; militant nationalists loathe their critical consciousness; and through the epidemic of sedition charges the ruling regime seeks to 'discipline' and 'silence' them. Yes, the technobureaucratic machine wants only loyal conformists: efficient workers with docile bodies and minds; and the dominant political class wants non-reflexive followers to say 'yes' to the cult of authoritarian personalities. No wonder, the system dislikes the radical and creative spirit of the young. But then, this positive life-energy refuses to wither away. We should not forget to celebrate this light on National Youth Day.

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# Charging up on Everest bungalow

RS DALAL

I joined Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, as a Deputy Director in 1986 and was also given the charge of its riding club. Once we had settled down, I, rigged in my full riding gear, started going down to the small dainty riding ground located in the Happy Valley, hedged in by Himalayan mountains. The riding staff was impressed by my proficiency and I instantly gained their confidence. 'Sir, horse riding that once was a compulsory activity is now optional and only a handful of trainees take interest in it' was their constant grouse.

The syces would narrate exciting experiences of good old times of riding out on mountain trails, especially

the one about riding up to the Everest bungalow. The bungalow was built in 1832 by George Everest, the then Surveyor General of India, and after whom the highest mountain peak of the world is named.

'But how do we go there?' I queried. 'It's about 8 km from the academy and the last leg is a 3-km steep climb, along a bridle path through the flaming forest of rhododendron trees,' they explained. 'Then why are we riding here every day. It's so boring!' I protested. 'Actually thereby hangs an ill-fated tale, sir! A mishap occurred few years ago, during a riding excursion. The horse of a trainee officer suddenly bucked and tumbled down the mountain slope, though luckily, the trainee was left hanging in the branches, fairly well and alive,' they recounted.

The irresistible lure of the scenic historic destination made me impulsively declare that on the coming Sunday, our breakfast would be at the Everest bungalow! 'I will be leading a group of adventurous riders. We start at 6.30 am!' The staff went up in cheers and claps. A few intrepid riders among the trainee officers volunteered.

Everyone, agog with excitement, turned out at the academy gate on Sunday morning. We mounted the horses, and feeling tall and regal, trotted up to the company garden at a leisurely pace. Then cantered onto the Hathi Paon road, a short climb. The next 2 km was a bumpy trot. Now we had come to the most thrilling part of our ride. The horses too sensed it and were restlessly scraping the earth

with their hooves. A narrow, steep bridle path meandered through the wooded forest and led up to the mountaintop. 'Sit firmly in the saddle, loosen the reins a bit and here we go!' It was exhilarating; the horses pulling with full strength and cantering with a frenzy. The resultant commotion in the forest, the resonating sound of hooves striking the stones, charged up the environment. It felt like a cavalry charge of the medieval times. And suddenly the sky opened up and there we were at the top of the mountain in front of the bungalow. The horses were huffing, puffing, frothing and sweating profusely. We quickly dismounted, unbuckled the saddles and let the horses recover. Oh! But what a thrilling and adventurous ride!

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Hurdle in expressway

Reference to the move by some farm bodies to oppose the acquisition of land for the Delhi-Katra expressway passing through Punjab is ill-timed and short-sighted. The proposed expressway is likely to boost religious tourism as it connects with Amritsar and Kartarpur Sahib. Besides cutting travel time, transport, trade, hotel and agriculture will benefit a lot from it. Those opposing the expressway are robbing the public of travel convenience and employment avenues, besides revenue gains to the government treasury.

ANITA WAHI, KAPURTHALA

#### Mockery of 'Jai Jawan'

Apropos of '30 yrs after Army officer's death, wife awaits pension', it is a matter of shame for the authorities in the Defence Accounts Department that Kanta Katoch has been waiting for the release of pensionary benefits, despite court orders and directions by the Centre. This attitude is tantamount to cruelty of the worst order towards a female senior citizen related to a defence officer. Perpetrators of such crimes should not forget that their family members may have to face such situations in future. Even the attitude of PNB officials at Ludhiana and DPDO at Chandigarh warrants condemnation. Such acts of offi-

cials should be construed as major misconduct and entries to that effect should be reflected in their ACR.

UPENDRA SHARMA, BY MAIL

#### CAA significance

Apropos of 'Another temple bites the dust in Pakistan'; the rampant discrimination and human rights violations against religious minorities in Pakistan need no elaboration. The dismal state of these minorities is attested by the fact that their numbers have only dwindled since the Partition. Temple desecration is only one of the many ways in which their religious freedom has been undermined in the Islamic State. Rapes, murders and forced conversions are regular occurrences. It is for these reasons that these minorities are seeking haven in India. The demolition of the Krishna Dwara temple should be a wake-up call for the so-called secularists and liberals who deem the CAA 'anti-Muslim', when in reality its objective is to protect these religious minorities whose rights have been trampled upon for decades.

NISSIM AGGARWAL, CHANDIGARH

#### Judicial officers

Apropos 'BCI wants three years practice must for aspiring judicial officers', the BCI has rightly stated that a majority of judicial officers not having

practical experience at the Bar are found incapable, inept, impolite and impractical in their behaviour. A majority of fresh law graduates selected through judicial services exam and appointed in lower/subordinate courts without any practical experience at the Bar, fail to handle cases efficiently, effectively and skillfully which results into inordinate delay.

MADAN LAL SHARMA, BY MAIL

#### Responsibility to state

A chief minister should not overlook his responsibility to the state ('Khattar's mahapanchayat venue ransacked'). Rather than seeing the writing on the wall, the Haryana CM vaguely blames it on the Congress, the communists and a farmers' organisation, against whose head a police case has also been registered. The CM, in vibrant federalism, is not expected to ignore the interests of his state to simply please the rulers at the Centre, viewing them as his masters. He is expected to have courage to assess the ground situation and report the same to the Centre. The CM's utterings, besides provoking the peaceful agitators, will undermine the office of the CM and may further add to the arrogance of the Centre, intent on imposing the contentious laws rejected by the real stakeholders.

HL SHARMA, AMRITSAR

#### SC bats for farmers

When delayed and biased court proceedings have almost become the hallmark of the present-day judicial system in the country, the Supreme Court in its hearing on farmers' protest has come up with a human heart, showing great concern about the safety and wellbeing of the protesting farmers and asking the government to put on hold the implementation of the three farm laws or the court will do it. It is rightly pointed by the SC that it is better to constitute a high-level committee to listen to the grievances of the agitating farmers.

SS VERMA, LONGOWAL

#### Fire at govt hospital

Every now and then, the government indicts private hospitals for their lapses and exorbitant charges without setting its own house in order. The gruesome fire incident which killed at least 10 infants at a government hospital in Maharashtra is shocking ('Ghastly hospital fires'). The accident has exposed the chinks in the safety measures in government hospitals. All hospitals, hotels, theatres, institutes, malls and skyscrapers of the country should be periodically audited for fire safety measures. It seems that there is no accountability in government buildings.

SUNIL CHOPRA, LUDHIANA



# Trump is not yet over and done with



V SUDARSHAN  
JOURNALIST AND AUTHOR

It is a tricky question, but everyone is asking it: how much damage can Donald Trump do in the few days that he has in the White House? Well, Trump is unpredictable, has the nuclear button and when President-Elect Joe Biden was putting on record that he was not getting cooperation from the Defence Department for the transition, he was putting it mildly.

The trickier question is: how much damage could Trump have done had he managed to get himself about seven million more votes or had he perverted the electoral college verdict?

Just think of the way Trump bullied and arm-twisted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to manufacture dirt on Biden by threatening to withhold hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid. Donald Trump Mark II would have run amok in truly breathtaking ways. There can be no understating it: a loose cannon like Trump in the White House poses as big a danger to America, its allies, and the world, as the myriad inheritors of Osama bin Laden.

We are not even talking here about the way he tried to bully the Georgia State Secretary Republican Brad Raf-

fensperger, to 'find' enough ballots for him to overturn the election, 11,780 of them to be precise or face action. Or, the way he pushed his Vice-President Mike Pence to reverse and undermine the results of the November 3, 2020, elections. Or, the way he goaded his ragtag army of White supremacist supporters to overrun the Capitol, giving a new, twisted currency to the word 'coup', usually an illegal attempt to unseat an incumbent. Not even the way he has deliberately obstructed the transition in every way he could.

But the real question to ask is: how much damage can Trump do once he is out of the White House and what can be done to prevent it?

It is slightly ridiculous to talk of the elections in 2024 even before the winner of the 2020 election has had a chance to change the furnishings of the Trump White House. But some straws are already swinging in the wind. Trump has let it be known in stage whispers, that he is so good at, that he is going to give the White House, to use a phrase once hugely popular with African dictators and Pakistani Generals and Bolivian presidential hopefuls, 'another shot' in 2024.

Trump and his entourage have already declared they will go after those Republicans who do not stand with Trump and it is not an idle threat, considering that many will be up for re-election.

Trump's dilemma right now is that he cannot say he is running in 2024 while he is still waging a war with the 2020 results. Those gloves could come off after January 20.



GRAVE CONCERN: Barring the odd dissonance, Republicans en bloc have not uttered a squeak of disapproval for Trump's excesses. REUTERS

It should be a concern. Consider the Republicans. They are not fleeing en masse from Donald Trump. They are hedging their bets. True, there are incipient rifts and tentative resignations, but they are not for impeaching Trump again. At least, not openly for it. In conclaves after the storming of the Capitol Hill by Trump's putschists, barring the odd dissonance here and there, Republicans en bloc have not uttered even a squeak of a formal disapproval for Trump's bizarre excesses and systematic and blatant subversion of the democratic processes.

On the contrary, some have even written to Speaker Nancy Pelosi, seeking that she discontinue her marshalling a movement towards impeachment. Joe Biden has not

embraced the impeachment movement in any significant measure. He wouldn't want his hard-won presidency to be bogged down by battling ghosts Trump has let loose to inhabit the White House.

Biden has other problems waiting in the White House wings. In two years, for instance, when the term of a third of the senators is up, there is no saying if the all-too-slender majority the Democrats hold will evaporate. Biden has two years to do what he wants, and the impeachment of Trump is not a priority for the 78-year-old who may not be in a position to run again.

Trump, on the other hand will be 78 in 2024, as old as Biden is now. The question is: will Trump be in a physically better shape than his disman-

Trump and his entourage have already declared that they will go after those Republicans who don't stand with him and it is not an idle threat, as many will be up for re-election. Trump's dilemma is that he cannot say he is running in 2024 while he is still waging a war with the 2020 results. Those gloves could come off after January 20.

bled twitter handle by then? Will he have found another social media bullhorn to corral, egg on, and incite his 88 million following he had on twitter? And will he still have a strangehold on the GOP?

On January 20, we will probably see some more brassy jarring noises from Trump-eteers.

Pelosi's probably aiming to have Trump rendered incapable from running again in 2024. That can happen if the impeachment sticks. It doesn't need to stick in the next eight days, though. The House can probably come up with a resolution and pass it by then, but the Senate has to consider it and it requires two-thirds of the members signing on for conviction, a bit of a tall order right now, although a

simple majority could also cut it.

The current Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has indicated that the earliest the Senate can meet on any impeachment motion is probably January 19, Trump's last day as the 45th President of the United States. On that day, he exits the White House, stage left, pursued by howls of derision and relief and yells of protests of the 75 million who voted for him and are convinced that the election has been stolen and could still vote Trump back into the White House as the 47th incumbent.

Theoretically, theoretically. If he is not impeached again by then, that is, and he quietly fades away to fulminate in his memoirs, which will no doubt be stocked in the 'fiction' section of bookstores and will make for a racy reading.

Practically, it could be a different story. It would depend on how much of a hold Trump would still have on the Republicans, but a stronger articulation of his promise to contest 2024 will have a blunting effect on the field of Republican presidential hopefuls, like Mike Pence. Getting Trump to vacate the White House has proven tough enough. Preventing another person like Trump getting anywhere near the White House as President is what America needs to figure out.

Joe Biden has too few numbers, too many other battles to fight, and probably no stomach to work for measures to reduce the scope of the interpretation of the election results, for a smoother handover of the White House, or to reduce the transition time, for instance.

# Need to address skepticism over Covid vaccines



Dr R KUMAR  
PRESIDENT, SOCIETY FOR PROMOTION OF ETHICAL AND AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE

India has more than 30 Covid vaccine candidates at different stages of development. The mRNA vaccine candidate is considered safe as it is non-infectious and non-integrating. Monoclonal antibodies are the latest to join the armamentarium of the clinicians. These are laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system's ability to fight off harmful antigens such as viruses. These are yet to be rejected.

If the bulk of the population is immunised against the coronavirus pathogen, it will not find hosts; hence, it will not spread through the community. However, some degree of skepticism exists since it is given to healthy people and reports of anaphylaxis deaths in a few cases and side effects and allergies in many cases have been pouring in.

A study has found that 94 per cent of formerly infected patients had diminished antibody levels within 90 days. Will the immunity caused after vaccination sustain longer? Will the vaccine be effective even against the mutated versions of the virus?

The main predictors of skepticism have been religiosity and political orientation, morality, and lack of data on Indian subjects after phase III trials. In India, the fear of causing sterilisation or assault on religious beliefs of some communities has been endemic.

The unprecedented speed of vaccine development has also generated a number of misconceptions that have fueled skepticism in the cases of Covishield and Covaxin, approved recently. It will be a big job to boost public confidence amid concerns and ongoing hesitancy about vaccines.

But as the coronavirus is dying its natural death, should one take the risk of mass vaccination? Shouldn't we look before we leap and go slow? Will the old and sick, with limited capacity to bear the onslaught of the pathogen, be able to withstand the rigours of the vaccine?

However, some doctors aver that most people will not get anaphylaxis and the benefits in protecting people against Covid-19 outweigh the risks. "You can be confident that the vaccine has met the regulator's robust standards of



BIG CHALLENGE: Vaccinating a billion people with multiple doses against Covid-19 is going to be a daunting task in India. TRIBUNE PHOTO

safety, quality and effectiveness," says the UK's medicine regulator.

India has more than 30 Covid vaccine candidates at different stages of development. The mRNA vaccine candidate — HGC019 — developed by Pune-based Gennova, is considered safe as it is non-infectious, non-integrating in nature, and degraded by standard cellular mechanisms.

Monoclonal antibodies are the latest to join the armamentarium of the clinicians. These are laboratory-made proteins that mimic the immune system's ability to fight off harmful antigens such as viruses. These are yet to be rejected.

In India, vaccinating a billion people with multiple doses against Covid is going to be a daunting and unprecedented challenge.

India is known to be the largest vaccine producer globally and supplies

more than 60 per cent of the vaccines to Unicef. In recent years, the Department of Biotechnology, Department of Science and Technology (DST), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), and institutes such as the National Institute of Immunology, All India Institute of Cholera and other Enteric Diseases and All India Institute of Medical Sciences, have started playing crucial, complementary and collaborative role in vaccine research and providing the needful impetus to the indigenous vaccine. The regulator has given its nod to two indigenous vaccines Covaxin and Covashield.

Smallpox, measles and polio vaccines have been great success stories in the past. The last three years have brought many achievements for the

Indian vaccine industry.

A new bivalent oral cholera vaccine, meningitis-A vaccine, and an indigenous Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccine were developed by Indian manufacturers in collaboration with international partners and are now licensed in India. In 2009, a new bivalent (O1 and O139) killed whole cell oral cholera vaccine was licensed for a two-dose schedule in India. The vaccine available at a low price received WHO prequalification procurement by UN agencies. The highly effective meningitis-A vaccine, available at a very low cost, is one of the cheapest new vaccines available and used in nearly 100 million doses in the countries of the African meningitis belt.

It was Edward Jenner who noticed that milkmaids who got cowpox never get smallpox. Thus, the idea of vaccination was born. In 1796, Jenner inoculated a child with the harmless version of the disease to stimulate an immune response. Despite repeated exposure, the child never fell ill. Vaccination saw a dawn. As smallpox vaccine became mandatory for British children in 1853, it provoked a backlash; many saw the policy as an infringement of individual liberties.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the illness officially eradicated in 1989, thanks to a global vaccination campaign.

The early 20th century witnessed challenges in the expansion of smallpox vaccination, the typhoid vaccine trial in the Indian army personnel, and the setting up of vaccine institutes in almost all Indian states.

In the post-Independence period, the BCG vaccine laboratory and other national institutes were estab-

lished; a number of private vaccine manufacturers came up, besides the continuation of smallpox eradication efforts, till the country became smallpox-free in 1977.

It was in 1885 that French scientist Louis Pasteur developed the rabies vaccine. It appeared successful when he gave it to a child bitten by a rabid dog. Vaccine skeptics, however, opposed Pasteur also. It was in the 1920s that vaccines against TB, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough were developed. A vaccine against typhoid was developed at the end of the 19th century.

The first vaccine campaign against the seasonal flu targeted US soldiers fighting in Europe in 1944-45, with a new shot developed each year. In the 1950s, when polio vaccination was a US government priority, Elvis Presley lent himself to the cause, getting the shot live on prime time.

In the 1970s, a campaign to inoculate Americans against swine flu started, but was given up when the pandemic failed to materialise and those vaccinated developed adverse effects; that fueled vaccine skepticism.

In 1998, a study published in the prestigious *Lancet* medical journal suggested a link between the MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccine and autism, which was later falsified. In 2009, an H1N1 — or swine flu — outbreak set off alarm bells around the world. Although related to the infamous 1918 flu strain, the virus turned out to be far less consequential.

The development of vaccines against flu has seen tardy and partial success; hence the skepticism over the Covid-19 vaccines that needs to be addressed.

QUICK CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1 Arrogantly confident (8)

5 Roman god of war (4)

9 A tropical fruit (5)

10 Childish chatter (7)

11 First one way, then the other (4,3,5)

13 Real (6)

14 Forgive (6)

17 To bypass (5-7)

20 Far-reaching (7)

21 Move in cringing way (5)

22 Grow weary (4)

23 Adversary (8)

DOWN

1 Search thoroughly (4)

2 Get in touch with (7)

3 Sudden violent action (5,7)

4 Feel contrition (6)

6 Later than (5)

7 Very agitated (8)

8 US west coast city (3,9)

12 Ancient Indian language (8)

15 Waste away (7)

16 Stimulus (6)

18 Tidiness (5)

19 Inclination (4)

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V EASY

CALENDAR

JANUARY 12, 2021 TUESDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat

2077

■ Shaka Samvat

1942

■ Posh Shaka

22

■ Posh Parvishite

29

■ Hijari

1442

■ Krishan Paksha Tithi 14, up to 12.23 pm

■ Vyagatha Yoga up to 2.47 am

■ Moola Nakshatra up to 7.38 am

■ Purvashadha Nakshatra 6.22 am

■ Moon in Sagittarius sign

■ Amavas

■ Swami Vivekananda Jayanti

■ Gandmool up to 7.38 am

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

4 3 6 8 2 5 7 9 1

7 2 1 3 9 4 5 6 8

5 8 9 1 6 7 4 3 2

3 4 2 9 1 6 8 7 5

8 1 5 7 3 2 6 4 9

9 6 7 5 4 8 1 2 3

2 9 8 6 7 1 3 5 4

1 7 4 2 5 3 9 8 6

6 5 3 4 8 9 2 1 7

FORECAST

SUNSET: TUESDAY 17:41 HRS

SUNRISE: WEDNESDAY 07:21 HRS

Sunny

Partly Cloudy

Cloudy

Rainy

Foggy

CITY

MAX

MIN

Chandigarh

14

08

New Delhi

18

07

Amritsar

15

05

Bathinda

16

06

Jalandhar

15

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Ludhiana

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Bhiwani

16

06

Hisar

17

05

Sirsa

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06

Dharamsala

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04

Manali

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Shimla

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06

Srinagar

06

-02

Jammu

15

07

Kargil

-07

-17

Leh

-09

-20

Dehradun

23

06

Mussoorie

17

06

TEMPERATURE IN °C

epaper.tribuneindia.com



# Removal of clauses which allow tea garden land sale proposed

BJP keen to do away with clauses incorporated by the Cong regime

PRATIBHA CHAUHAN  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SHIMLA, JANUARY 11**  
The contentious issue of allowing sale of land under tea gardens is likely to once again come alive with the committee on revenue reforms recommending doing away with Section 6(a) and 7(a) of Himachal Pradesh Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1972, which allows sale of land under tea gardens.

Sources said that the BJP was keen to do away with these clauses which had been incorporated by the Congress regime under pressure from the powerful tea estate owner lobby. The general feeling is that as long as these clauses remain in the Himachal Pradesh Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1972, the powerful tea estate owners will



'Violative of spirit of Act'

Party leaders felt as long as these clauses remain in the HP Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1972, powerful tea estate owners will keep seeking permissions to allow sale of land under tea gardens, which is violative of the very spirit of the Act.

keep seeking permissions to allow sale of land under tea garden which is violative of the very spirit of the Himachal Pradesh Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1972. The committee on revenue

reforms headed by Revenue and Irrigation and Public Health Minister Mahender Singh will be placing the recommendations of the committee before the Cabinet for approval.

The issue of allowing land sale under tea has been raised during successive Congress as well as BJP regime. Attempts by the tea garden owners lobby to get the previous Congress Government to allow sale of their property in the name of tea tourism failed to materialize.

Now fresh attempts were made during the present BJP rule to allow sale of land under tea gardens. A proposal has been moved during the BJP regime to allow land under tea gardens for setting up of a cantonment. The matter has been referred to the law department and Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur has time and again reiterated the stand that he was not in favour of allowing land sale under tea as it was against the land ceiling Act.

# CM: 75% BJP-backed nominees won poll

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SHIMLA, JANUARY 11**

While claiming 75 per cent victory of BJP-backed candidates in the first phase of the panchayats and civic bodies' polls, Chief Minister Jai Ram Talking to mediapersons here today, Thakur dared the Congress to form the bodies if it had majority. "It is for the first time that the BJP has performed so well in the election, which reflects the faith people have in the BJP leadership and the government," he said.

Though the polls are not fought on party symbols, it was clear that the BJP had registered an impressive win in the first round.

The polls for remaining panchayats are to be held in three phases on January 17, 19 and 21. The poll percentage yesterday was 73.

"It is surprising that the Congress is trying to make claims of victory. If they have performed so well, then they should form municipal councils and nagar panchayats easily," he said.

He claimed that the BJP-backed candidates had been elected in 76 of the 102 gram panchayats where there was unanimous elections. Besides, he said the BJP-backed candidates had clear majority in 22 of the 29



People trust party

“It is for the first time that the BJP has performed so well in the elections, which reflects the faith the people have in the party leadership and the government. It is surprising that the Congress is trying to make claims of victory.”  
Jai Ram Thakur, CHIEF MINISTER

municipal councils and 18 of the 21 nagar panchayats. Of the total 414 ward seats, the BJP-backed candidates had won 221 and Congress affiliated in 22, while 49 were either from the CPM or independents.

Thakur thanked the people for supporting the candidates and assured them that the BJP would ensure that there was overall development in the state. "I urge people to elect candidates with a clean image," he said.

# Cong: BJP misused govt machinery

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SHIMLA, JANUARY 11**

While claiming that the party has done exceedingly well, the Congress today accused the BJP of misusing government machinery and muscle power to garner support in the panchayat and urban local body (ULB) poll.

Addressing a press conference here today, Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee (HPCC) president Kuldeep Rathore accused the BJP of using unfair means to sway voters in its favour. "The BJP not only tinkered with the reservation roster but also misused government machinery to the hilt to ensure support for its backed candidates," he alleged.

Rathore dared the BJP to hold elections on party symbols if it was so confident of its victory and also issue a list of names of all party backed candidates who had won if they were so sure of their victory. "The claims of the BJP of winning 75 per cent victory is totally false and aimed at misleading the public about the party's popularity," he remarked.

Rathore said despite the BJP misusing official machinery, people had



Kuldeep Rathore

backed a vast majority of Congress-backed candidates and it was after a long span of 25 years that the Congress had managed to gain majority in the Theog Municipal Council.

"It was not just BJP ministers and MLAs but even some officials who tried their level best to win over some independent candidates to create an impression that the BJP had swept the poll," he alleged.

He said the Congress would not allow murder of democracy by the BJP which was desperate to register victory, be it by hook or crook.

Rathore urged the independent candidates, who had won, not to get influenced and fall prey to the inducement being offered by the BJP.

# Swine Flu (H1N1)

Swine Flu (H1N1) is a contagious disease that can be serious. Act before its too late.

## Symptoms of Swine Flu (H1N1)

- High Fever
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Body Ache
- Difficulty in Breathing

## PEOPLE AT HIGH RISK

- Pregnant women.
- Infants and old people.
- People with immune deficient conditions.
- People with medical and surgical illness.
- People with chronic medical conditions.

- ☑ Cover nose & mouth while sneezing and coughing.
- ☑ Wash your hand regularly with soap and water.
- ☑ Drink plenty of fluids.
- ☑ Isolation of cases.

- ☒ Avoid shaking hands.
- ☒ Avoid touching your eyes nose or mouth.
- ☒ Avoid self-medication.
- ☒ Avoid reuse of tissues.
- ☒ Avoid crowded places.

## EARLY INVESTIGATION SAVES LIFE

For more information kindly visit the your nearest Government Health Facility

**National Health Mission, Haryana**

## IAF hunt on to trace Delhi paraglider

BIR (PALAMPUR), JANUARY 11

The Indian Air Force (IAF) today launched a massive search operation to locate missing paraglider Rohit Badhoria. A team, along with a helicopter, reached Baijnath this morning from Sarsawa, Uttar Pradesh.

After a brief meeting with civil and police officials at Baijnath, the IAF started its operation immediately. The chopper flew over the Dhauladhars several times and used high-resolution cameras but till the evening, they could not succeed in the mission. A team from the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Manali, also reached Baijnath and moved towards the Jalsu Pass in the Dhauladhars. — OC

## Setback for BJP in Solan, wins 14 seats against Cong's 18

AMBIKA SHARMA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SOLAN, JANUARY 11**

The ruling BJP faced embarrassment in the four civic body elections in Solan district yesterday as it won only 14 seats while the Congress won 18 seats. Independent candidates bagged four seats.

The victory in the Nalagarh civic body poll was the lone face saver for the BJP while it lost the key Arki nagar panchayat and Parwanoo Municipal Committee (MC) elections.

The BJP's performance in the Parwanoo civic body elections was dismal despite it being the home turf of Health and Family Welfare Minister Rajiv Saizal. Candidates supported by the BJP could win only three of the nine seats while a woman candidate, who was denied a ticket, won as an Independent. Besides, wife of a local BJP leader, who was also denied a ticket, also fought the elections as an Independent and emerged victorious.

The BJP had fielded eight women candidates for nine seats but only two emerged victorious. On the other hand, four Congress-supported candidates won in Parwanoo.

The BJP could not muster a majority in the Baddi MC poll where it won four of the nine seats. The Congress also bagged four seats while an Independent candidate won one seat. The fate of the Baddi and Parwanoo MCs is now dependant on the Independent candidates. The Congress, on the other hand, has a slight edge in the civic bodies though it has secured a clear majority in Arki nagar panchayat. The Opposition will have to pull up its socks if it has to win the forthcoming panchayat poll, as the party lacks proper planning and a coordinated approach.

The forthcoming panchayati raj and Solan MC elections would further throw light on the performances of the two parties.

## In Sirmaur, BJP ahead of Cong

SOLAN, JANUARY 11

The ruling BJP won 18 of the 33 seats in three civic body elections in Sirmaur district yesterday, maintaining its stronghold among the urban voters. The Congress could win only 11 seats while Independent candidates and others bagged the remaining four seats.

"The absence of proper planning and the failure to plug dissidence cost the Congress dear in the Nahan and Paonta Sahib MC elections where several rebels were in the fray. Though the Congress lost a few seats by a thin margin, the margins of defeat were big on other seats because of weak candidates," observed a senior Congress leader. He added that the poll campaign was weak and lacked meticulous planning. The dismal performance of the Congress also exposed factionalism, which does not augur well for the forthcoming panchayat poll. — TNS

## 69 cases take Covid tally to 56,521

SHIMLA, JANUARY 11

With 69 new cases being reported in the state today, the tally of Covid cases has reached 56,521.


Meanwhile, two deaths have been reported due to the virus in the last 24 hours. — TNS

STATE TRACKER

Positive cases56,521

Deaths949

DISTRICT-WISE COUNT



DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Una	2,814	40
Solan	6,622	70
Kangra	8,008	195
Chamba	2,917	50
Hamirpur	2,959	48
Sirmaur	3,272	29
Mandi	9,828	120
Bilaspur	2,896	24
Shimla	10,229	262
Kullu	4,393	83
Kinnaur	1,331	16
Lahaul & Spiti	1,252	12
Total	56,521	949

### E-TENDER NOTICE

No. JUI/Const./74-W-45/2020-21/PF/Sana, Dated: 08.01.2021  
Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction)-I, North-Western Railway, Jodhpur for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders (Two packet system), for the following work:- (1) Tender No.: JUI/Const./T- 12/ 2020-21/ THM- Sanu (2) Name of the work with its location: Reconstruction of Platform wall of Goods Platform (with RCC wall) at Sonu Yard of Thaiyat Hamira- Sonu section of Jodhpur division (3) Approx. cost of work: ₹ 21,44,52,723.28/- (4) Earnest Money to be deposited: ₹ 12,22,300.00/- (5) Tender Closing date & time: 30.01.2021 upto 14.00 hrs (6) Definition of similar nature of work: "Any RCC work." (7) Scope and Scheme of construction: 7.1 Total 5 High Level goods loading Platforms & 2 Rail level goods unloading PFs are to be re-constructed/ constructed within 6 month of award of contract in following 3 stages & completion period as mentioned therein: (i) Loading Platform edges 1 & 2 (line no:4) within 60 days from the date of blocking of line. The quantity of Steel, Cement & Concrete will be approximately 300 MT, 2280 MT, 5560 cum (Mass CC-1230 cum and RCC 4330 cum) respectively. (ii) Loading Platform edge 4 (line no:7) within 45 days from the date of blocking of line. The quantity of Steel, Cement & concrete will be approximately 150 MT, 1140 MT, 2780 cum (Mass CC - 615 cum and RCC - 2165 Cum) respectively. (iii) Loading Platform edges 5 & 6 (line no:8) within 60 days from the date of blocking of line. The quantity of Steel, Cement & concrete will be approximately 300 MT, 2280 MT, 5560 cum (Mass CC- 1230 cum and RCC 4330 cum) respectively. (iv) Both unloading Platforms i.e. 1 & 2 are to be constructed simultaneously (one by one) with loading Platforms. (v) Penalty of ₹ 25,000 per day shall be levied for delay beyond completion period (i.e. beyond 60 days for Platform edges 1 & 2, beyond 45 days for Platform edge 4 & beyond 60 days for Platform edges 5 & 6), if delay is purely on contractor's account. (vi) Above completion period includes curing period also. (vii) Drawings of High Level Goods loading Platform wall and Rail Level Goods unloading Platform wall is part of Tender Document. 7.2 Agency has to install and make Concrete Batching plant functional at site or will have the contract with RMC agency of required capacity/per day supply within 15 days of award of work. 7.3 Required number of Transit mixtures & concrete pumps beside other required machineries and T&Ps are to be arranged within 15 days. (8) Detail of particular, where e-tender can be seen & filled up: www.ireps.gov.in (9) Official email address: dycecj@nwr.railnet.gov.in 15-DK/21 Please join us on f b i nwrRailways

Email ID: xenbddcanal@gmail.com

**WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**  
Website: eproc.punjab.gov.in

**NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS**

**E-Tendering Notice No. BDD/BDC/2020-21/1 Dated: 11.01.2021**  
On behalf of the Governor of Punjab, Executive Engineer, Bist Doab Division, Jalandhar invites bids from eligible bidders through E-Tendering process for Four No. of works, Serial No. 1 to 4 work on Contract Agreement basis for concrete lining of distributaries of Bist Doab Canal system. Total amount of these work is **1120.72 Lacs**. The intending Contractors/Agencies/L&C Societies can view the detail of these Tender on website: <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> Closing date and time of submission of Bid **03.02.2021 at 12.30 p.m.** For detail login to: <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>  
**Note:-** Any corrigendum(s), if any, will be published on the above website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
Bist Doab Division, Jalandhar.

DPR/Pb/699

### ਜਲ ਸਰੋਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ

#### ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰਿੰਗ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਨੰਬਰ 06/2020-21, ਮਿਤੀ 08.01.2021

#### ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਪੇਸ਼ਕਾਰੀ

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਦੇ ਰਾਜਪਾਲ ਜੀ ਦੀ ਤਰਫ਼ ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਵੇਰਵਿਆਂ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਿੱਚਈ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਤੋਂ ਮਨਜ਼ੂਰਦਾਰ ਅਤੇ ਯੋਗ ਨਿਰਦਾਰ/ਨਿਰਮਾਣ/ਮੇਂਟੇਨੈਂਸ ਐਂਡ ਰੀਪੇਅਰਿੰਗ ਆਫ਼ ਰੇਟਰਾ ਬੁੱਚ ਦੇ ਕੰਮ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ ਮਹਿਕਮੇ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> 'ਤੇ ਏਪੀਆ ਜਾਣਾ। ਜੇਕਰ ਕੋਈ ਕੰਪਨੀ/ਫਰਮ/ਅਭਿਵਾਨਕ ਲਗਾਇਆ ਜਾਵੇ ਹੋ ਰਾ ਮਹਿਕਮੇ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਹੀ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।

- ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਕੰਮਾਂ ਲਈ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ ਵਿੱਚ ਦਿੱਤੀਆਂ ਟੈਂਡਰਿੰਗ ਲਈ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ ਨਾਲ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਮਾਨਕਾ ਮੰਡਲ ਆਈ.ਐਮ. ਡਾਕੂਮੈਂਟ ਦੇ ਸਹਾਯਕ ਹੋਣਗੇ।
- ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰਿੰਗ ਪ੍ਰਕਿਰਿਆ ਵਿੱਚ ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਵਿਕਰੀ, ਬੁਲੀਆਂ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰਨਾ, ਹਕੂਮਤ ਵਿਆਨਾ ਜਾਂ ਹਕੂਮਤ ਵਿਆਨਾ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ ਸਹੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> ਉੱਪਰ ਵਿਸਤ੍ਰਿਤ ਐਨਾਊਂਸੀ. ਟਾ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ।
- ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਕੰਮਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਪੁੱਛਗਿੱਛ ਲਈ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 94639-02933 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।
- ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਦੇ ਲਈ ਕਿਸੇ ਸਮੇਂ/ਮਿਤੀ ਦੇ ਲਈ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੇਠਲੇ/ਉਪਰਲੇ ਨੰਬਰ 0172-2791326, 0172-2791226 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।
- ਡਿਟੈਲਡ ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਸ਼ਰਤਾਂ/ਕੰਡੀਸ਼ਨਾਂ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> 'ਤੇ ਵੇਰਵੇਗੀ ਜਾਣਾ ਸਹੀ/- ਰਾਜਪਾਲਗੀ ਏਨੀਮੀਅਰ ਮਾਨਕਾ ਮੰਡਲ ਆਈ.ਐਮ. ਡਾਕੂਮੈਂਟ।

DPR/Pb/704



# Security alert after recovery of mortar fuses used by Pak army

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11  
After finding evidence of new and more deadly support that the terrorists are getting from the Pakistani establishment, the Jammu & Kashmir Police have alerted all other security forces, including the Army, involved in guarding LOC and international border.  
Officials in the security establishment here said the J&K Police had recovered three Point Detonating (PD) fuses, used by the Pakistani army in their 82 mm mortar shells, from a terrorist in north Kashmir two weeks back.  
The Pulwama police, which on the eve of New Year, had intercepted a vehi-

TWO JAISH ASSOCIATES HELD IN PULWAMA

- **Srinagar:** Security forces on Monday arrested two overground workers of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) from Pulwama district, the police said.
- A police official said the arrested persons were transporting arms and ammunition of the militants in the Awantipora and Tral areas of the district and passing sensitive information to the JeM terrorists.
- The official said incriminating material, including explosives and ammunition, was recovered from the arrested duo — Shezaan Gulzar Beigh and Waseem-ul-Rehman Sheikh. — PTI

cle and recovered the PD, but since they were unaware of such material, they termed it “unique grenade”, the officials said. It was found from the possession of a known overground worker (OGW) of The Resistance Front (TRF), Asif Gul, who kept it inside a sack full

of charcoal, they added.  
The TRF is a shadow outfit of the banned Lashker-e-Taiba terror group. Gul had picked up the consignment from north Kashmir and was on his way to deliver it to his cadres in south Kashmir, the officials said.  
Later with the help of the

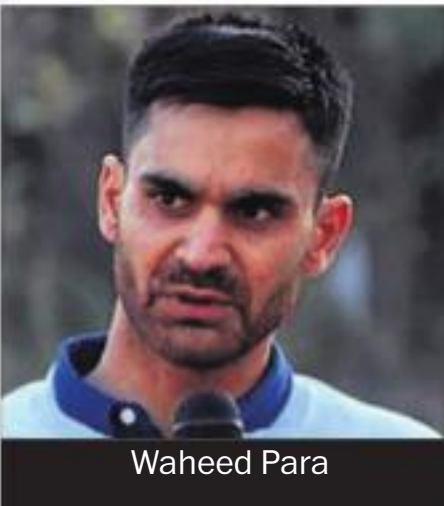
Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), including the CRPF and BSF, senior officials of the police headquarters in Srinagar came out with a conclusion that it was a PD used by the Pakistani army for the 82 mm mortar shells, they said, adding that later a report was shared with other security agencies, including the Army, which has now taken up the matter with all seriousness.  
A senior CAPF personnel, while explaining the damage potential of the PD, said it is generally used during fabrication of an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) to increase maximum impact, as it helps in super-quick detonation of explosives or at times can delay the impact mode for a bigger damage.

## Teen hurt in Pak shelling in Poonch

JAMMU, JANUARY 11  
A 14-year-old boy was seriously injured on Monday in Pakistani shelling along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district, officials said.  
Mohammad Jehangir was hit by splinters when a mortar shell exploded near his house in the Shahpur sector during intense shelling by the Pakistan army, the officials said.  
The injured boy was being shifted to hospital, the officials said.  
The Shahpur sector witnessed heavy mortar shelling by the Pakistan side twice during the day, prompting strong retaliation by the Indian Army, the officials said.  
The Pakistan army first targeted the forward posts and villages in the sector at 11.30 am and then around 4 pm, the officials said. — PTI

# Youth PDP chief Para held again

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 11  
Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) youth wing president Waheed Para, who was granted bail by a National Investigation Agency (NIA) court on Saturday, was arrested again on Monday by the J&K Police over a case related to an alleged nexus involving politicians, terrorists and secessionist forces, officials said.  
The case was registered by the Criminal Investigation, Kashmir range, which has been probing terror cases and has filed over two dozen FIRs.  
Para was produced before a court in Jammu which remanded him in the police custody till January 18, the officials said, adding that he would be brought to Srinagar for questioning.  
He was arrested by the NIA on November 25 in a case related to his alleged links with Hizbul Mujahideen terrorists.  
PDP president and former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti had expressed concern over his detention and sought intervention of Lt-Governor Manoj Sinha for securing his release. — PTI



Waheed Para

## Srinagar NH closed after road caves in

BANIHAL/JAMMU, JANUARY 11  
The Jammu-Srinagar national highway was closed for traffic after a portion of the road caved in near Ramban town, officials said on Monday, adding that the repair work would take at least five days.  
A portion of the road near Kela Morh, 4 km ahead of the Ramban district headquarters, sank after a concrete retaining wall of the bridge collapsed, leading to the sinking of the road on Sunday evening, the officials said.  
“The construction company concerned has started the restoration work on the damaged portion of the road but it will take at least five days to complete the work,” SSP (Traffic), National Highway, Jatinder Singh Jowhar said.  
The highway was opened for traffic only on Sunday. —PTI

# Homoeopathic medical college for UT soon: Jitendra

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11  
J&K is set to soon get its first homoeopathic medical college, as Union Minister Jitendra Singh, an MP from the Udhampur constituency, has informed that he has been in touch with the Ministry of AYUSH in this regard.

Jitendra Singh said, now since Prime Minister Narendra Modi giving special impetus to indigenous and alternative systems of medicine and with the government setting up a separate Ministry of AYUSH and getting International Day of Yoga approved by the United Nations, the Union territory would soon

LONG-PENDING DEMAND OF RESIDENTS

“People of J&K had been demanding a homoeopathic college for long and the issue remained pending for several years, as no previous government ever took cognisance of public representations for such an institution.”

Jitendra Singh, UNION MINISTER

have such a campus, as this was being actively pursued and he was personally in touch with Union AYUSH Minister Shripad Naik.  
Officials close to the development said Jitendra Singh had been informed that the UT Administration had identified land measuring over 60 kanals for the college.

# 113 new cases in J&K, 10 in Ladakh

SRINAGAR, JANUARY 11  
J&K on Monday recorded 113 new Covid cases, while one death took place in the last 24 hours, taking the infection tally to 1,22,651 and the death toll to 1,911, officials said.  
Of the fresh cases, 46 were from the Jammu division and 67 from the Kashmir division of the Union territory, they said.  
The officials said Srinagar district recorded the highest of 42 cases, followed by 35 in Jammu district.  
While four districts — Doda, Samba, Reasi and Ramban — did not report any fresh cases, 14 other districts had fresh cases in single digits, the officials said.  
Meanwhile, the UT reported one Covid death from the Jammu division in the last 24 hours.  
**Leh:** Ladakh reported 10 new Covid cases, pushing the UT's virus caseload to 9,618, while 16 patients recovered from the infection in a day, officials said on Monday.  
All the new cases were detected in Leh district. —PTI

ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਅਹਿਮਦਗੜ੍ਹ

ਪਬਲਿਕ ਨੋਟਿਸ (7 ਦਿਨ)

ਅਹਿਮਦਗੜ੍ਹ ਸ਼ਹਿਰ ਦੇ ਹੇਠੇ ਪਾਣੀ ਦੀ ਸਾਂਭਾਲ ਲਈ ਤਰਕੀਬਨ 16 ਏਕੜ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਦੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਹੈ। ਚਾਵਾਨ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ ਅਲਬਾਰ ਵਿਚ ਛਪਣ ਤੋਂ 7 ਦਿਨਾਂ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ ਅੰਦਰ ਆਪਣੀ ਜ਼ਮੀਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕਾਰਜਾਤ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਵਿਖੇ ਦਫ਼ਤਰੀ ਸਮੇਂ ਦੌਰਾਨ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ।

ਸਹੀ/- ਪ੍ਰਸ਼ਾਸਕ, ਸਹੀ/- ਕਾਰਜਸਾਧਕ ਅਫ਼ਸਰ, ਨਗਰ ਕੌਂਸਲ, ਅਹਿਮਦਗੜ੍ਹ।

DPR/Pb/703

IN THE COURT OF CALA-CUM-S.D.O.(C), PAONTA, DISTRICT SIRMAUR

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to all concerned right holders through this Public Notice that the notification under section 3D of National Highway Act 1956, has been published in the Tribune and Divya Himachal Newspaper on 18.09.2020 for widening and construction etc. of NH-707 Kmt. 0.00 to 89.500 Kmt. for the acquisition of land of following village for public purpose:-

Name of Tehsil	Name of Village	Area in Hectare
Kamrau	Barwas	0.3245
	Kamrau	2.0439
	Baldwa-bohal	0.3539
	Kando-duuana	0.0379
	Bokala-pab	0.4637
	Shilla	0.0337
	Chadeu	0.3793
Shillai	Ashyari	1.3485
	Pab	0.0126
	Shillai	0.7671
	Bandli	0.2824
	Siri-kiari	1.1085
	TOTAL	7.1560

In pursuance of section 3G(3) of National Highway Act, 1956, it is hereby informed to all concerned right holders that claim for compensation, in respect to schedule published under section 3D of NH Act, 1956, in The Tribune and Divya Himachal News Papers on 18-09-2020, should be submitted to the Competent Authority of Land Acquisition (CALA)-cum-Sub Divisional Officer (C), Paonta Sahib, in his office at Paonta Sahib, up to 27-01-2021, personally or through authorized agent/legal practitioner failing which the compensation will be determined and announced, as per the norms fixed by the Government, on 29-01-2021 at Tehsil Office Kamrau in the forenoon and at Shillai in the afternoon.

CALA-cum-S.D.O. (C), Paonta, Distt Sirmaur, H.P.

INDIAN RAILWAYS

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the Northern Railway that the 25 kV, 50 Hz, AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction line shall be treated as live at all time and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line.

Section	Date
Batala (Km Location 01/04, chainage 01/149.00) to Qadian (Km Location 20/02, chainage 20/112.75) section on UP/DN line, Qadian SSP and including AT's in BAT-QDN section of Firozpur Division, Northern Railway.	20.01.2021

INTRODUCTION OF 25 kV AC TRACTION "WARNING TO ROAD USERS"

It is notified for information of the Public that in connection with introduction of 25 kV AC electric traction over Batala (Km Location 01/04, chainage 01/149.00) to Qadian (Km Location 20/02, chainage 20/112.75) section on UP/DN line, Qadian SSP and including AT's in BAT-QDN section of Firozpur Division, Northern Railway, height gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with clear maximum height 4.78m above road level with a view to prevent loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wire(Contact Wire), Which shall be at a height of minimum 5.5m above the rail level at level crossings.

Public are hereby notified to observe the height specified above for the purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the load carried in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under any circumstances.

The dangers of a load of excessive height are as follows:-

i) Danger to the height gauge and consequent obstruction to the road as well as the railway line.

ii) Danger to the materials or equipment carried or the vehicle itself.

iii) Danger of fire and risk of life due to contact with or dangerous proximity to the conductors.

No. 17-Elec/CITRD/JUC/127 Date: 11.01.2021

74/2021

KEEPING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Government of India

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Directorate General of Hydrocarbons

DGH

ENGAGEMENT OF SECURITY & CO-ORDINATION OFFICER, DGH ON DEPUTATION BASIS

Reference earlier DGH advertisement on 10.12.2020 for the engagement of Security and Coordination Officer, on deputation from Armed Forces, Central Armed Police Forces, Central Police Organizations and State/UT Police. This is to inform that last date for the same has been extended and now eligible candidates may apply latest by 22.01.2021 through e-mail at: [admnhr@dghindia.gov.in](mailto:admnhr@dghindia.gov.in). For further details and updates, please visit our website [www.dghindia.gov.in](http://www.dghindia.gov.in) under job opportunities section.

Head (HR), DGH

Notice inviting Applications for the posts of two Member (Official) and one Member (Non Official) of Punjab Public Service Commission.

Applications are invited for filling up of two vacancies of Member (Official) and one vacancy of Member (Non Official) of the Punjab Public Service Commission by eminent persons having impeccable integrity, high calibre, and administrative experience. The following points should be kept in mind while making the application:

(a) The applicant must clearly mention the pendency of any civil, criminal, administrative or any other proceedings against him/her that may have a bearing on his/her integrity and character.

(b) The applicant should have held office for atleast 10 years under the Government of India or under any State Government, to be considered for the post of Member (Official).

(c) The applicant should be less than 62 years of age as on 01.01.2021.

(d) The applicants who have already applied against the earlier advertisement dated 24.09.2020 need not apply again as their earlier applications will be duly considered.

The applications alongwith the complete bio-data including the information as mentioned at (a) & (b) above, should reach the office of Secretary Personnel, Government of Punjab (PP-3 Branch), Room No. 14, 6th floor, Punjab Civil Secretariat, Sector 1, Chandigarh by 05:00 PM on 05.02.2021.

Sd/- Secretary, Department of Personnel Govt. of Punjab.

DPR/Pb/694

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION PUNJAB

TENDER NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS

For and on behalf of Governor of Punjab, The Executive Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation, Division No. 2 Patiala invites bids from eligible bidders for the name of work detailed in the following table. The Bidders may submit bids for the following works on website <https://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in>

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Approx. value of Work	Bid Security	Tender Processing Fee (Rs.)	Period of completion
1	2	3	4	5	9
1.	Providing Improved Access to Water through Household connections in existing Water Supply Scheme Bakraha of Block - Patran, Distt. Patiala under sub-component 2a (i) of Punjab Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Sector Improvement Project and Jal Jiban Mission.	Rs. 4,97,429/-	Rs. 9,950/-	As per Website	4 Months

Availability of Bidding documents From Date 12.01.2021 to on Website Date 25.01.2021 (17:00 HRS.)

Last Date and Time for Receipt of Bids Online Date 25.01.2021 (17:00 HRS.)

Time and Date of Opening of Technical Bids Online Date 27.01.2021 (12:15 HRS.)

For Detailed Terms and Conditions of the notice inviting bids refer to website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

Sd/- Chairman GPWSC, Village BAKRAHA, BLOCK PATRAN, DISTRICT PATIALA O/o Executive Engineer, W/S & Sanitation Div. No. 2, Patiala. PIN Code:- 147101 Email: [xenrws\\_pta@yahoo.co.in](mailto:xenrws_pta@yahoo.co.in)

DPR/Pb/630

PUNJAB ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

SOLAR PASSIVE COMPLEX, PLOT NO. 1 & 2, SECTOR 33-D, CHANDIGARH, Ph: 0172-2663328, 2663382 Fax: 0172-2662855, [www.peda.gov.in](http://www.peda.gov.in), [paramjitsingh@peda.gov.in](mailto:paramjitsingh@peda.gov.in)

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

Punjab Energy Development Agency (PEDA) is the State Designated Agency for implementation of Energy Conservation Activities within the State of Punjab, invites tender for Supply & Installation of Energy Efficient BEE 5 Star labelled BLDC ceiling Fans 1400 mm at PEDA Office Building, Chandigarh. The tender document may be obtained from the office of the undersigned on any working day up to 4:00 PM on or before 28.01.2021 on payment of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only) in cash or through demand draft in favour of Punjab Energy Development Agency payable at Chandigarh. The complete sealed tender accompanied with demand draft of Rs. 10,000/- as EMD in favour of Punjab Energy Development Agency payable at Chandigarh will be received up to 3:00 PM on 29.01.2021 and technical bid will be opened on the same day at 3:30 PM. PEDA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tender without assigning any reason.

DIRECTOR

भा.कृ.अनु.प.- केन्द्रीय आलू अनुसंधान केन्द्र CPRI

पोस्ट बैग नं. 1, पोस्ट ऑफिस मॉडल टाउन, जालंधर-144003

ICAR-CENTRAL POTATO RESEARCH STATION

Post Bag No. 1, Post Office Model Town, Jalandhar-144003

No.F.VI12016/JAL/FFO/1085

Dated: 8 January, 2021

E-TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of the Secretary, ICAR, The Head, ICAR-CPRS, Jalandhar invites e-tenders consisting two parts i.e. Technical and Financial bid from the Registered Contractors/Service providers on the prescribed tender form for execution of the following works on contract basis at CPRS, Jalandhar.

S. No.	Name of the work	Period	Tender ID
1	Execution of various field/farm operations.	01.04.2021 to 31.03.2022	2021_DARE_607554_1
2	General cleaning and sweeping work.	01.06.2021 to 31.05.2022	2021_DARE_607551_1

The tender documents along with detailed terms & conditions can be downloaded from our website [www.cpri.icar.gov.in](http://www.cpri.icar.gov.in) or GOI CPPP website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure.app>. The tender can be uploaded/ submitted up to 11.00 AM on 04.02.2021 on CPP Portal. The technical bids will be opened on 05.02.2021 at 11.00 AM on CPP Portal. The financial bids in respect of only those contractors whose technical bids is found responsive will be opened on 10.02.2021 at 11.00 AM on CPP Portal.

Sd/- (Dr. Raj Kumar) HEAD

Office located at Village Badshahpur, Jalandhar 2-KM from TV Tower towards Nakodar, Telephone No. (O) 0181-2791474, FAX: 0181-2790863, e-mail [cprsjalandhar@gmail.com](mailto:cprsjalandhar@gmail.com)

DI-17957

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION PUNJAB

TENDER NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS

For and on behalf of Governor of Punjab, The Executive Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation, Division No. 2 Patiala invites bids from eligible bidders for the name of work detailed in the following table. The Bidders may submit bids for the following works on website <https://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in>

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Approx. Value of Work	Bid Security	Tender Processing Fee (Rs.)	Period of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Providing & installing of 150 mm nominal size dia straight shallow tubewell 61 mtr. Deep with PVC pipe & PVC strainer (Pipe & Strainer with pipe ISI Marked) including pumping machinery complete in all respect at Kath Mathi (11743), Mehmadpur (11756), Paharpur (11767), Chuahpur Kalan (11704), Dhakraba, Bhedpura, Rajgarh, Dilwarpur (11716), Fatehpur Jattan (11723), Chuahpur Marasian (11705) of Block Patiala Bahman Majra (12593) of Block Patran, Dwarakapur (11711), Kamaspur (12303), Badhanpur (12303), Behmana Bajigar Basti (12272), Harizan Basti (14489), Khanpur Gorian, Ugoke (12339), Kotala Nassru (12304), Patti Sodhian (14560) of Block Samana, District Patiala.	Rs. 34,52,900/-	Rs. 69,000/-	As per Website	3 Months

Availability of Bidding documents on Website From Date 12.01.2021 to Date 26.01.2021 (17:00 HRS.)

Last Date and Time for Receipt of Bids Online Date 26.01.2021 (17:00 HRS.)

Time and Date of Opening of Technical Bids Online Date 27.01.2021 (12:15 HRS.)

For Detailed Terms and Conditions of the notice inviting bids refer to website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

Sd/- Executive Engineer, W/S & Sanitation Div. No. 2, Patiala. PIN Code:- 147101 Email: [xnrrws\\_pta@yahoo.co.in](mailto:xnrrws_pta@yahoo.co.in)

DPR/Pb/614

ਡਾਇਗਨੋਸਟਿਕ ਸਮਾਜਿਕ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਤੇ ਬਾਲ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ ਐਸ.ਸੀ.ਓ. ਨੰਬਰ: 102-103, ਸੈਕਟਰ-34-ਏ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ

ਪਬਲਿਕ ਨੋਟਿਸ

ਸਮਾਜਿਕ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਤੇ ਬਾਲ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਅਧੀਨ ਚਲਾਏ ਜਾ ਰਹੇ ਆਂਗਨਵਾੜੀ ਸੈਂਟਰਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਕੰਮ ਕਰ ਰਹੀਆਂ ਆਂਗਨਵਾੜੀ ਵਰਕਰਾਂ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਸੁਪਰਵਾਈਜ਼ਰ ਦੀ ਸਿਲੈਕਸ਼ਨ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਰਾਜ ਦੀਆਂ ਆਂਗਨਵਾੜੀ ਵਰਕਰਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਅਰਜ਼ੀਆਂ ਦੀ ਮੰਗ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਵਿਚ ਰਾਜ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦੀ ਰਖਵਾਂਕਰਨ ਪਾਲਿਸੀ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਰਿਜ਼ਰਵੇਸ਼ਨ ਦਾ ਲਾਭ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।

ਇਸ ਸਬੰਧ ਵਿਚ ਇੱਕੁਛ ਆਂਗਨਵਾੜੀ ਵਰਕਰ, ਜੋ ਅਰਜ਼ੀ ਦੇਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਜਾਂ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਹੋਈ ਅਰਜ਼ੀ ਵਿਚ ਕੋਟਾਗਿਰੀ ਬਦਲਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ ਸਬੰਧਤ ਬਾਲ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਪ੍ਰਾਜੈਕਟ ਅਫ਼ਸਰ ਦੇ ਦਫ਼ਤਰ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ। ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਆਂਗਨਵਾੜੀ ਵਰਕਰਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਅਰਜ਼ੀਆਂ ਦਿੱਤੀਆਂ ਗਈਆਂ ਸਨ, ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦਾ ਵਰਣਾ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਉਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਦੁਬਾਰਾ ਅਰਜ਼ੀ ਦੇਣ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ। ਅਰਜ਼ੀਆਂ ਦੇਣ ਦੀ ਅਖੀਰਲੀ ਮਿਤੀ 31.01.2021 ਹੈ।

ਸਹੀ/- ਡਿਪਟੀ ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟਰ (ਸ.ਸ.), ਸਹੀ/- ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟਰ, ਸਮਾਜਿਕ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਤੇ ਬਾਲ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ।

ਸਮਾਜਿਕ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਆ ਅਤੇ ਇਸਤਰੀ ਤੇ ਬਾਲ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ।

DPR/Pb/658

INDIRA GANDHI MEDICAL COLLEGE

SHIMLA - 171001

No. HFV(MC-A) ICMR (VRDL)/Micro/2012- Dated:

ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited to fill up the following post on co-terminus basis in Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla under the project/ Scheme entitled "Viral Diagnosis Research Lab in the Department of Microbiology, ICMC, Shimla funded by Govt. of India, Health & Family Welfare, Department of Health Research, New Delhi initially for a period of one year or completion/winding-up of the Project/ Scheme whichever is earlier. The project/Scheme may be extendable on the recommendation of the funding agency. The duly filled Applications along with testimonials are required to be submitting in original in the office of the undersigned on or before 22.01.2021 till 5.00 p.m.

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Number of post(s)	Duration	Age limit	Remuneration (Per Month)
1.	Laboratory Technician	1	One year	18-30	25,000.00

The educational qualification, remuneration, age criteria and other terms and conditions for filling up this post is at Annexure-A, which is available on the ICMC website [www.igmcshimla.edu.in](http://www.igmcshimla.edu.in) on Recruitment Link. The criteria of selection against the post shall be on the basis of marks obtained in the essential qualification and having valid experience certificate.

Principal, ICMC, Shimla-1.

DPR/HP/5256

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

PWD B&R BRANCH

NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS

Bid No. 19/2020-2021

Dated: 06.01.2021

1 On behalf of the Governor of Punjab, Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, Pb. PWD B&R Br. Amritsar invites bids from eligible bidders for the works detailed in the following table. The bids shall be on the percentage rate basis. Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) format of Lump Sum Contracts. The bidders may submit bids for any or all the following works:-

Sr. No.	Name of Project/ Work/Works	Bid Security/ Earnest Money (Rs.)	Cost of documents/ Tender Fee (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Approx. Value of the Project/ Work (Rs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Supply, erection, testing and commissioning of 1.25 No. 26 Passenger (1768Kgs) 1.25 MPS Nextra Strecher with machine Room lift attached to SGND Hospital at Amritsar.	Rs. 70200/-	Rs. 5,000/-	6 (Six Months)	Rs. 35,10,000/-
2	S/E of Extinguisher Balls in Sub Station & LT Panel Rooms of GNDH Amritsar & Medical College at Amritsar.	Rs. 18,000/-	Rs. 2,000/-	2 (Two Months)	Rs. 9,00,000/-

4. Period of availability of Tender-in-Line/Date & Time of online bid submission and date & time of opening of Bids are as given below:-

Availability of Tender online for bidding		Last date & Time for online Submission of Bids	Date & Time of Opening of Tender	
From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
06.01.2021	21.01.2021	21.01.2021 (Up to 5.00 p.m.)	22.01.2021 at 11.00 a.m.	To be intimated later on

● For detailed terms and conditions of the notice inviting bids refer to our website <http://eprocpcbwd.gov.in>

● Corrigendum/addendum, if any, will be issued as website only

\*\* The eligible bidders who do not possess DSC (Digital/Signature Certificate) may get the same issued from approved agencies and for any other query may contact helpline No. 0172-6626678-8.

Sd/- (Er. Jaswinder Singh), Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, PWD B&R Br., Amritsar. Phone: 0183-2274284.

DPR/Pb/593





GLOBE TROT



**BABY'S DAY OUT:** Pigeons fly away as a kid walks towards them on a cold winter day in a park in Moscow, Russia. REUTERS

**Women can read at Mass, but can't be priests: Pope**  
**ROME:** Pope Francis changed church law on Monday to explicitly allow women to do more things during Mass, while continuing to affirm that they cannot be priests. Francis amended the law to formalise and institutionalise what is common practice in many parts of the world. AGENCIES

**India-born renowned Urdu poet dies in Karachi**  
**KARACHI:** India-born renowned Pakistani Urdu poet and author Naseer Turabi (75) died of heart attack in Karachi on Sunday. Born on June 15, 1945 in Hyderabad, he is survived by his wife and two sons. Naseer's most famous work includes ghazal 'Woh Humsafar Tha' which he wrote against the backdrop of the Dhaka Fall. PTI

# Dems begin process to impeach Prez Trump

**WASHINGTON, JANUARY 11**  
Congressional Democrats began a push on Monday to force US President Donald Trump from office, introducing one article of impeachment accusing him of inciting insurrection over an attack on the Capitol last week.

The Democratic-controlled House of Representatives is expected to take up the matter as early as Wednesday. Passage would make Trump, a Republican, the only president in US history to be impeached twice.

Thousands of Trump supporters stormed the Capitol last week, forcing lawmakers who were certifying Biden's victory into hiding in a harrowing assault that left five dead. Speaker Nancy Pelosi, many of her fellow Democrats and a handful of Republicans say the President should not be trusted to serve out his term, which ends on January 20.

Earlier, Republicans blocked an effort to immedi-



National Guard members reach the US Capitol days after Trump supporters stormed the building in Washington. REUTERS

**BURNS TO LEAD CIA**

■ Joe Biden will tap a former career diplomat in William Burns to lead the CIA, his transition team said.

■ Burns has been an ambassador to Russia and led talks that resulted in Iran N-deal. REUTERS

**WARNINGS IGNORED**

■ Despite ample warnings, US Capitol Police did not bolster staffing to tackle riots, a report said.

■ "They were left naked," Rep. Maxine Waters, D-California, said about the police. AGENCIES

ately consider a resolution asking Vice President Mike Pence to invoke the US Constitution's never-used 25th Amendment to remove an

unfit president.

The House is expected on Tuesday to vote on the resolution calling for use of the 25th Amendment. — Reuters

## Egypt, Germany, France, Jordan meet to revive Mideast talks

**CAIRO, JANUARY 11**  
Egypt on Monday hosted the foreign ministers of Germany, France and Jordan to discuss ways to revive peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians, a week before President-elect Joe Biden takes office.

In Cairo, the Foreign Ministry said the aim of the meeting was to urge the Palestinians and Israelis to negotiate a "just and comprehensive political settlement" on the basis of achieving a Palestinian state with east Jerusalem as its capital on territory Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast war.

The Palestinians suffered numerous setbacks under the outgoing administration of President Donald Trump and complained about what they say were pro-Israeli steps from Washington. Trump has sidelined the Palestinian Authority, recognised Jerusalem as Israel's capital and moved the US Embassy there from Tel Aviv—Agencies



School students during a demonstration against online classes at the Ministry of Education, Rome, on Monday. AP/PTI

## UK in race against time for Covid vaccine rollout

**LONDON, JANUARY 11**  
Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday said Britain was in a race against time to rollout Covid vaccines as deaths hit record highs and hospitals run out of oxygen, with Chief Medical Officer Chris Whitty saying the pandemic's worst weeks were imminent.

A new virus variant threatening to overwhelm the health service with hospitals overloaded with patients.

Its death toll (81,000) is the world's fifth-highest one while more than three million peo-

TRACKING VIRUS	
NATIONS	DEATHS
US	3,83,517
BRAZIL	2,03,202
MEXICO	1,33,706
UK	81,431
ITALY	79,203
WORLDWIDE, TILL JAN 11, 11 PM	

ple have tested positive.

Over 15 million people in Britain will be vaccinated by next month. — Reuters

## Extremely...

FROM PAGE 1  
the SC unless the Lordships find that it violates the fundamental rights or constitutional schemes. Law has to be without the power to legislate, only then it can be stayed. No petitioners have raised any such issues."

"We have an apprehension that someone will do something... which will lead to breach of peace. Each one of us will be responsible if something goes wrong. We don't want anybody's blood on our hands," the Bench said.

The courts made it clear that it couldn't restrain peaceful protest, saying it was for the police to deal with the situation, not the court.

"We want to ensure there is no violence or bloodbath. If somebody breaks the law, you take action..."

"We should not be understood that we are protecting any law breaker. We propose to pass this order to prevent loss of life and property," the Bench noted. The farmers' unions were represented by senior advocates Dushyant Dave, HS Phoolka and Colin Gonsalves. Dave said he needed to take instructions as there were a number of farmers' bodies involved in the agitation.

The Bench asked Phoolka to persuade women and old farmers to leave the stir due to the cold and Covid.

## Court denies release of funds for Mallya in UK

**LONDON, JANUARY 11**  
A UK court hearing an urgent application on Monday refused to sanction the release of substantial sums held with the Court Funds Office (CFO) as part of bankruptcy proceedings being pursued against liquor tycoon Vijay Mallya by a consortium of Indian banks, led by the State Bank of India (SBI).

Judge Sebastian Prentis, who presided over a remote hearing at the Insolvency and Companies Court (ICC) of the High Court in London, con-



cluded that Mallya had failed to provide the "basic information" required for such a validation order and agreed only to allow sufficient funds to cover an appeal hearing scheduled in the bankruptcy case for Wednesday. — PTI

## Search on for Indonesia plane's black boxes

**JAKARTA, JANUARY 11**  
Indonesian navy divers scoured the floor of the Java Sea on Monday as they searched for the black boxes of a Sriwijaya Air jet that nosedived into the waters at high velocity with 62 people aboard.

The Boeing 737-500 jet disappeared minutes after taking off from Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, during heavy rain on Saturday, and the search so far has yielded plane parts and human remains but no sign of survivors.

Authorities have said signals from the boxes containing the cockpit voice and flight data



Indonesian ships search for the wreckage of Sriwijaya Air passenger jet that crashed into Java Sea near Jakarta. AP/PTI

recorders were detected between Lancang and Laki islands in the Thousand Island chain just north of Jakarta's coast. Officials said they have marked a location

where the sounds were being emitted from the black boxes. More than a dozen helicopters, 53 navy ships and 20 boats, and 2,600 rescue personnel are searching for it. — Agencies

## Jakarta wants better India ties

**New Delhi:** Indonesia on Monday indicated its preference to expand military ties with India but remained wary of joining an expanded version of Quad.

I think countries would establish their layers of diplomacy based on how they look at their environment, said outgoing Ambassador of Indonesia to India Sidharto Reza Suryodipuro. He felt the economic leg of ties needed to be strengthened. — TNS

## BUSINESS

USD \$	EURO €	POUND £	JPY ¥	YUAN ¥	CAD C\$	AUD A\$	SGD S\$	HKD HK\$
₹73.40	₹89.22	₹98.88	₹0.70	₹11.34	₹57.53	₹56.71	₹55.16	₹9.48

**BSE**

486.81  
49,269.32

**NSE**

137.50  
14,484.75

**GOLD**

₹49,310  
Mumbai (MCX)

**SILVER**

₹63,900  
Mumbai (MCX)

## Sensex breaches 49,000-mark for first time; IT, HDFC stocks sparkle

**MUMBAI, JANUARY 11**  
Equity benchmarks Sensex and Nifty soared to lifetime highs for the second straight session on Monday as encouraging corporate earnings prompted investors to accumulate IT, finance and auto stocks.

After touching a record intra-day high of 49,303.79, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 486.81 points higher at 49,269.32, closing above the 49,000-level for the first time. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty surged 137.50 points to finish at its fresh lifetime high of 14,484.75. It hit a record 14,498.20 during the session.

IT stocks led the rally after TCS on Friday reported a 7.2% jump in December quarter net to Rs 8,701 crore and projected double-digit revenue growth for FY22.

HCL Tech was the top gainer in the Sensex pack, vaulting 6.09%, followed by Infosys, HDFC, Maruti, Tech Mahindra, Bajaj Auto and M&M. On the other



**BOTH INDICES AT LIFETIME HIGH**

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hand, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, Reliance Industries, L&T, Kotak Bank and SBI were among the lag-

gards, shedding up to 1.92%. According to Binod Modi, Head-Strategy at Reliance Securities, domestic equities

remained in the grip of bulls with benchmark indices registering fresh highs as robust earnings performance by TCS and D-Mart bolstered investors' confidence.

"Continued improvement in Covid recovery rates and announcement of vaccination process from January 16 offered comfort to markets. Further, expectations of sharp recovery in corporate earnings led by sustained rebound in key economic data may propel market to witness fresh highs in the near term," he stated.

FPI flow may continue to remain favourable given status of global economy, stance of global central bankers and weak dollar, he said, adding that domestic equities can also witness pre-Budget rally in the coming weeks considering broad expectations of pro-growth measures. Sector-wise, BSE IT, tech, auto, FMCG, realty, telecom and healthcare indices rallied up to 3.63%. — PTI

## WTO backs govt move to cut farm subsidies

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**

**NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11**  
The World Trade Organisation's (WTO) review of India's trade policies has expressed concern over the high level of government intervention in the agriculture sector.

Members recognised the importance of the sector in supporting livelihoods and food

security. At the same time, they urged India to reform its agricultural policies as they continue to be based on "significant levels" of domestic and export support for key crops, including through subsidies for certain crops, said a summary report at the end of the review that has taken place after five years.

The three farm Acts that

are at the centre of the farmers' agitation are also aimed at reducing government intervention in agriculture.

The review was skeptical about programmes such as Make-in-India and Self-Reliant India and preferences granted to local suppliers in the government procurement regime. Members welcomed these initiatives, while raising concerns about the possi-

ble trade restrictions they could introduce, urging India to be mindful of any trade implications.

It noted that India's trade policy had remained largely unchanged since the previous review. There is continued heavy reliance on instruments such as the tariff, export taxes, minimum import prices, import and export restrictions, and licensing.

### The Tribune CORPORATE BROADBAND

#### Sushma Group unveils first holiday home project in HP

Real estate developer Sushma Group has ventured into Himachal by launching a residential project 'SushmaElementa'. The project offers an ideal destination for holiday home in Kasauli. Spread across six acres, the project will be developed with an investment of Rs 50 crore.

#### Nikon India announces 'Shorts on Nikon — Season 5'

Nikon India has announced the 5th season of "Shorts on Nikon", videography and filmmaking contest. Intended at encouraging videographers and filmmakers to share their creativity, this campaign is focused on providing a platform to showcase the special work of these creators from wedding, wildlife and filmmaking genres.

#### LG unveils wireless earbuds with innovative technology

LG has expanded the Tone Free line-up with introduction of its most-advanced truly wireless earbuds — HBS-FN7 and HBS-FN6. It is equipped with UVnano charging cradle with ultraviolet light that sanitises the earbuds, eliminating 99.9% bacteria while charging.

#### Mahindra Logistics rolls out electric last-mile delivery service

Mahindra Logistics has launched its cargo last-mile delivery service under the brand name 'EdeL'. Recognised for its 3PL services, it has entered into new service line of sustainable last-mile logistics and fulfilment with 'EdeL' for customers in e-commerce, FMCG and other markets.

#### Diplast Group launches new products at dealers' meet

Diplast Group recently organised prime dealers' meet at Dappar. The objective of the meet was to introduce new

products such as dustbins, toilets, compost bins etc. and take dealers' views on doubling the turnover.

#### Skoda Auto to drive in mid-sized SUV 'Kushaq'

Skoda Auto has christened its mid-sized SUV — the first vehicle designed and developed under the purview of the 'INDIA 2.0' project, as the 'Skoda Kushaq'. "Skoda Kushaq is proposed to be introduced over the next 18 months," said Zac Hollis, brand director, Skoda Auto India.

#### Punjab unaided colleges' body celebrates foundation day

The Punjab Unaided Colleges Association (PUCA) celebrated its 6th foundation day recently. Mohinder Singh KP, chairman, Punjab State Board of Technical Education & Industrial Training, was the chief guest.

#### LIC policyholders can revive lapsed policies till March 6

To encourage continuation of risk cover in the current circumstances of Covid pandemic, LIC has given an opportunity to its policyholders to revive their lapsed policies. It has launched a special campaign till March 6 for its customers to revive their individual lapsed LIC policies.

#### Bajaj Auto's market cap crosses ₹1 lakh crore

Bajaj Auto has become the first two-wheeler company globally to cross a market cap of Rs 1 lakh crore. The company's scrip closed at Rs 3,479 on the NSE (on January 1), making its market cap to Rs 100,670.76 crore.

#### LIC introduces new feature in 'ANANDA' application

Life Insurance Corporation of India has introduced the feature of online proposal deposit collection in ANANDA,

where the customer can pay the online proposal deposit through payment gateway using various options.

#### Gurgaon Rotary Club sponsors 66 children heart surgeries

Rotary Club of Gurgaon Harmony Iberis, through a global grant of Rs 1.65 crore, has sponsored a heart lung machine and funded 66 life-saving child heart surgeries at Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Palwal, Haryana, amidst the Covid pandemic.

#### JK Tyre ties up with Hyundai Motor India for Creta

JK Tyre has become an exclusive tyre partner with Hyundai for Creta. Through this association, it is offering best-in-class technology, unmatched performance, comfort and handling to the top-end variants of the Creta with its UX Royale 215/60 R17 tyre.

#### ITC's Dermafique launches bio-cellulose face masques

ITC's skincare brand — Dermafique — has launched its first bio-cellulose face masques. Co-designed by dermatologists, the masques are crafted with biodegradable bio-cellulose fibers. It provides hydrating sheet masking experience with bio-cellulose sheet masks which are derived from 100% natural coconut water.

#### MG Motor unveils all-new Hector 2021 range

MG Motor India has launched the all-new Hector 2021 range priced at Rs 12.89 lakh onwards. It comes loaded with several first-in-segment features, dual-tone exteriors and interiors, and a plethora of options to choose from. It is now available in 7-seater avatar along with 5 and 6-seater options.

#### Avon Cycles opens new dealership in Ludhiana

Avon Cycles has opened an exclusive dealership at HK Grover Sons in Haibowal Kalan, Ludhiana. The latest range of bicycles and electric scooters will be available at this dealership spread over a sprawling 1,500 sq ft area.



Visitors earn draw as Vihari and Ashwin bat out 42 overs

**SYDNEY, JANUARY 11**  
A battered and bruised India team batted with great resilience through the final day to snatch a remarkable draw in the third Test against Australia here today, leaving an engrossing series tied at 1-1 heading into the final match in Brisbane.

A hobbling Hanuma Vihari combined with Ravichandran Ashwin to defy Australia's attack in a partnership over the last three hours of the match that kept alive India's hopes of a second successive series triumph Down Under.

The sixth-wicket stand was worth only 62 runs but immeasurably more in terms of morale for a squad that has endured quarantine, alleged racial abuse from fans and a catalogue of injuries.

"Our talk this morning was all about showing character, fight till the end and not thinking of the result," said India skipper Ajinkya Rahane. "A special mention to Vihari and Ashwin, the way they batted and showed

# Incredible India



Hanuma Vihari and Ravichandran Ashwin celebrate after securing the draw against Australia. AP/PTI

their character. Looking forward to Brisbane now."

**Persistent Aussies**  
Australia's frontline bowlers, who skittled the tourists for 36 in the first Test, threw everything they had at the Indian batsmen on a Day 5 wicket at Sydney

Cricket Ground that did not deteriorate as much as they had hoped. India finished on 334 for five, 73 runs short of the victory target of 407 that Australia had handed them after declaring on 312/6 at tea on Sunday. "We certainly created chances to win the game.

Just did not hold our catches, myself in particular," said Australia captain and wicketkeeper Tim Paine. "We have to cop the blame for that, wear it, move on and look forward to Brisbane."

**Pant gives hope**  
A brilliant 97 from Rishabh

Pant and a typically obdurate 77 from Cheteshwar Pujara had given India a glimmer of hope that they might just be able to chase down their imposing target. Pant, who was a serious injury doubt on Saturday after taking a nasty blow to his elbow, slugged 12 fours

"This is as good as winning a Test match. When you come abroad and play a match like this, it was really special, as I said. It's as good as victory"

Ajinkya Rahane, INDIA CAPTAIN

"We certainly created chances to win the game. Just did not hold our catches, myself in particular. We have to cop the blame for that, wear it, move on and look forward to Brisbane"

Tim Paine, AUSTRALIA CAPTAIN

Rishabh Pant hit 3 sixes and 12 fours in his 118-ball 97. AP/PTI



and three sixes to take the game to the Australians.

The pair put on 148 for the fourth wicket before Pant was caught at backward point three runs shy of his century to give off-spinner Nathan Lyon his second wicket of the day. It was huge relief to the home side, who must have had flashbacks to Ben Stokes's innings of 135 not out at Leeds in the 2019 Ashes that enabled England to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

Pujara was the chalk to Pant's cheese, eking out his

runs from 205 deliveries over 285 minutes before Josh Hazlewood finally got something out of the second new ball to penetrate his defence and shatter his wickets.

Once they departed, however, a draw was clearly the only target for India.

**Hampered**  
Vihari, clearly hampered by a hamstring injury suffered while running for a single before tea, scored at a rate that made Pujara look like a limited overs slogger.

Vihari's 23 runs came from

SCOREBOARD				
AUSTRALIA 1st innings 338				
INDIA 1st innings 244				
AUSTRALIA 2nd innings				
INDIA 2nd innings (Overnight 98/2)				
R Sharma c Starc b Cummins	52			
S Gill c Paine b Hazlewood	31			
C Pujara b Hazlewood	77			
A Rahane c Wade b Lyon	4			
R Pant c Cummins b Lyon	97			
H Vihari not out	23			
R Ashwin not out	39			
Extras: (LB 3, NB 6, W 2)	11			
Total: (5 wickets, 131 overs)	334			
FOW: 1-71, 2-92, 3-102, 4-250, 5-272				
Bowling	O	M	R	W
Mitchell Starc	22	6	66	0
Josh Hazlewood	26	12	39	2
Pat Cummins	26	6	72	1
Nathan Lyon	46	17	114	2
Cameron Green	7	0	31	0
Marnus Labuschagne	4	2	9	0
Man of the Match: Steve Smith				

161 deliveries, while Ashwin was barely more expansive with 39 from 128 balls. At one stage, 41 deliveries passed without a run being scored.

Ashwin came out to bat ahead of Ravindra Jadeja, who dislocated his left thumb in the first innings to add to India's long injury list.

Steve Smith was named Man of the Match for his innings of 131 and 81 and Australia will be hoping he maintains his form at the Gabba, where they are unbeaten in 31 Tests going back to 1988. — Reuters

**131** OVERS India batted in the fourth innings. The last time India batted for longer was in 1979, when they batted 150 overs against England to save the Test. India have batted longer than 100 overs in the fourth innings on only five occasions since 1979

**6** INSTANCES when a team has batted more than 130 overs to save a Test in Australia

**256** BALLS Hanuma Vihari and R Ashwin faced in their sixth-wicket partnership. There have only been three times when more balls were played for the sixth wicket in the fourth innings in a win or a draw

## GRIT AND DETERMINATION

Really proud of Team India! Special mention to Rishabh Pant, Cheteshwar, Ashwin Ravi and Hanuma Vihari for the roles they've played brilliantly. Any guesses in which dressing room the morale will be high.

Sachin Tendulkar

Hope all of us realise the importance of Pujara, Pant and Ashwin in cricket teams... Batting at 3 in Test cricket against quality bowling is not always hitting through the line... Almost 400 Test wickets don't come just like that. Well fought India. Time to win the series. Sourav Ganguly

Loved the fight and determination of India all day today. Starting with Pant and Pujara, and then for Vihari and Ashwin to withstand Australia and look largely

**148** RUNS added by Cheteshwar Pujara and Rishabh Pant for the fourth wicket. This is the highest fourth-innings fourth-wicket stand for India. It broke a 72-year-old record held by Vijay Hazare and Rusi Modi, who added 139 against West Indies in Mumbai

**134** INNINGS played by Pujara to reach the 6000-run mark in Tests. He became the 11th Indian to reach the mark. Only five have taken fewer innings — Sunil Gavaskar (117), Virat Kohli (119), Sachin Tendulkar (120), Virender Sehwag (123) and Rahul Dravid (125)

in control for most of the day was very impressive. Can't wait for Brisbane now. Ricky Ponting

...Feel so so proud of the team. Pant showed why he needs to be treated differently and grit showed by Vihari, Pujara and Ashwin was unbelievable. Virender Sehwag

Unbelievable grit, determination and character shown by Team India. What an unbelievably spirited effort and some serious grind. Well done men. Test cricket at its best. KL Rahul

Even a half-strength, battled, bruised, injured, ridiculed, abused, bio-bubble fatigued India is difficult for a full strength Australia to beat at home. No praise high enough for this herculean effort.

Wasim Jaffer

## BRIEFLY

**MUMBAI**  
**Delhi thrash Mumbai, Haryana also win**  
Delhi started their campaign in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy with a thumping 76-run win over domestic heavyweights Mumbai in an Elite Group E game at the Wankhede Stadium here today. Meanwhile, Haryana beat Andhra Pradesh by six wickets. After Jayant Yadav and Yuzvendra Chahal stopped Andhra at 107/6, CK Bishnoi took Haryana home with an unbeaten 42.

**MARGAO**  
**ISL: Mumbai City beat Mohun Bagan**  
Mumbai City FC asserted their dominance by beating ATK Mohun Bagan 1-0 in a hotly-contested Indian Super League match here today.

**RIYADH**  
**Al-Attiah wins eighth stage to rein in leader Peterhansel**  
Qatar's Nasser Al-Attiah won the eighth stage of the Dakar Rally to claw back more than

three minutes from leader Stephane Peterhansel.


**NEW DELHI**  
**Tejaswini beats Anjum in 50m rifle 3P trials**

Senior Indian shooter Tejaswini Sawant upstaged Punjab's Anjum Moudgil in a battle of two Olympics quota holders to win the women's 50m rifle 3 positions T1 trials here today. The former world champion from Maharashtra aced the qualifying field with 1171 before prevailing over her younger rival Anjum with an effort of 458.7. Anjum finished second with 457.8. Earlier, Anjum had qualified third with a 1167. AGENCIES

## TODAY ON TV

ISL  
NORTHEAST VS BENGALURU  
STAR SPORTS 7:30PM

EPL  
SHEFFIELD VS NEWCASTLE 11:30PM  
BURNLEY VS MAN UNITED  
WOLVES VS EVERTON  
1:45AM (WEDNESDAY)  
STAR SPORTS




Government of Haryana

## Our Youth - Our Pride

# National Youth Day


12 January, 2021



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**- Manohar Lal**  
Chief Minister, Haryana

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# National Youth Day



## 12th January, 2021



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## HARYANA STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY, PANCHKULA



## BRIEFLY

**Army to conduct recruitment rally for women from Jan 15**

**Chandigarh:** The Army will conduct a recruitment rally in Ambala from January 15 to induct women soldiers into the Corps of Military Police. This is the second such rally to be held in this region since the Army opened its doors in 2019 to enlist women in cadres below officer rank. TNS

**Centre's heritage conservation panel clears new Parl building**

**New Delhi:** The Centre's Heritage Conservation Committee on Monday cleared the project for the construction of the new Parliament building. Housing Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the building was over 90-year old and the new project would not undermine the current heritage structure. TNS

**AAP MLA Bharti arrested in UP, youth throws ink at him**

**Amethi:** AAP MLA Somnath Bharti on Monday had ink hurled at him in Rae Bareilly and was held later for allegedly making objectionable remarks last week. He was arrested for criminal intimidation and promoting enmity between groups, the police said. PTI

# Two-day coastal defence drill 'Sea Vigil-21' kicks off today

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

A major exercise to test military readiness at sea along the coastline of the country starts tomorrow. The two-day exercise involving all stakeholders, states and Central government agencies will set the tempo of operations, including "transition from peace to conflict".

This is the second edition of the biennial pan-India coastal defence exercise "Sea Vigil-21". It will be conducted on January 12 and 13.

The exercise, inaugural edition of which was conducted in January 2019, will be undertaken along the entire 7,516-km coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone of India. It will involve all 13 coastal states and Union Territories along with other maritime stakeholders, including the fishing and coastal communities.

"The scale and conceptual

**13 COASTAL STATES, UTs TO PARTICIPATE**

- The exercise will be undertaken along the entire 7,516-km coastline and Exclusive Economic Zone of India
- It will involve all 13 coastal states and Union Territories

along with other maritime stakeholders, including the fishing and coastal communities

- The exercise is a build-up towards the next step and level exercise called "Tropex"

expanse of the exercise is unprecedented in terms of the geographical extent," the Indian Navy said on Monday. "The exercise provides

opportunity, at the apex level, to assess preparedness in the domain of maritime security and coastal defence," it added. Exercise 'Sea Vigil-21' is

expected to provide a realistic assessment of our strengths and weaknesses and thus will help in further strengthening maritime and national security. The exercise is being coordinated by the Indian Navy. The entire coastal security set up was re-organised after the 26/11 terror attack at Mumbai which was launched using the sea route.

Assets of the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, Customs and other maritime agencies will participate in the exercise.

Ministries of Defence, Home Affairs, Shipping, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Fisheries and Customs, state governments and other agencies of Centre and state are coordinating.

The exercise is a build-up towards the next step and level exercise called "Tropex" (Theatre-level Readiness Operational Exercise), which is expected to be conducted at month-end or early February.

## CDS in Ladakh to review security

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

Within a week of having visited forward areas in Arunachal Pradesh, the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Bipin Rawat, is now on a two-day visit to Ladakh to assess and review ground requirements of the force deployed at forward locations along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), the de facto boundary with China.

Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhaduria visited high-alti-

tude advanced landing strips in Ladakh today.

Troops of India and China are literally in eyeball to eyeball situation along the LAC since early May 2020.

General Rawat will be briefed by 14 Corps Commander Lt Gen PGK Menon and other commanders on the ground.

Earlier this month, Rawat visited forward airbases in Arunachal and interacted with soldiers of the Army, ITBP and Special Frontier Force deployed there.



IAF chief RKS Bhaduria in Ladakh.



All-woman crew of the inaugural AI flight from San Francisco to Bengaluru, (from L) Capt Papagari Thanmai, Capt Zoya Aggarwal, Capt Akansha Sonware and Capt Shivani Manhas, at the Kempegowda airport. PTI

- An all-woman cockpit crew successfully landed in Bengaluru on Monday.
- Longest commercial flight (17 hours) in the world to be operated by any Indian airline. PTI

"I was on top of the world. I would rather call it top of the North Pole because the North Pole was the world for me when I was commanding Boeing-777 200 LR. Capt Zoya Aggarwal

## SC won't stay probe into phone call between ex-judge, magistrate

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

The SC today refused to stay the Andhra HC order which directed probe into an alleged phone conversation between its former judge Justice (retd) V Eswaraiah and a suspended trial court magistrate.

Justice Eswaraiah admitted

that it is his private conversation which does not disclose any crime and therefore does not warrant any investigation, but "transcript of the conversation is a bit incorrect". The Bench told Justice Eswaraiah to file an affidavit and said it will hear the matter on Jan 18. — PTI

## Nadda launches poll campaign in Assam

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

BJP national president JP Nadda on Monday asserted that his party would return to power in Assam in the upcoming elections, bagging over 100 of 126 Assembly seats, as the Sarbananda Sonowal-led government had worked for the all-round development of the state.

However, this time around, it seems the party is faced with another challenging task apart from winning the elections, and which is maintaining a fine balance in the state leadership — primarily between incumbent CM Sarbananda

Sonowal and his top minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

Observers say if the BJP returns to power, Sarma would not be a minister in the state government. The high-profile leader, who led from the front on Covid and the BJP's pet project, the CAA, "will either have to be made the Chief Minister or be accommodated in the Centre with some important portfolio". "The BJP has been working peacefully for the development of Assam, taking into consideration the interests of all communities," Nadda said. — TNS

## WHO team to visit China on Jan 14

BEIJING, JANUARY 11

China said on Monday that a group of experts from the WHO was due to arrive in the country on Thursday to probe the origins of the Covid pandemic, ending the uncertainty and delay which drew sharp criticism from the world health body. Experts from the WHO would conduct a field visit to China on January 14, the state-run CGTN quoted China's National Health Commission as saying in a report.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said China supported scientists around the world to conduct a global study on the origins of the virus. — PTI

## India, US negotiating trade concerns: Report

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 11

India and the US are negotiating on a wide range of trade concerns, including greater access to the Indian market for American agricultural products, potentially in exchange for America restoring New Delhi's status under the Generalised System of Preferences, accord-

ing to a Congressional report.

President Donald Trump in 2019 terminated India's designation as a beneficiary developing nation under the key GSP trade programme after determining that it has not assured the US that it will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets. — PTI

## Hospital deaths: NHRC notice to Maha Govt, DGP

NEW DELHI, JANUARY 11

The NHRC has sent a notice to the Maharashtra Government and the state police chief over the death of 10 newborn babies in a fire at Bhandara district general hospital, seeking a detailed report on the incident within four weeks, officials said on Monday. — PTI

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