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# Women lead rallies to garner more support for Delhi stir

PARVESH SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SANGRUR, DECEMBER 21

Women in villages are organising special rallies to exhort people to join the batches scheduled to leave for Delhi on December 26 and 27. Enthusiasm in women to participate in the protest against the Central farm laws is more than their male counterparts. More and more women are committing themselves to leave for the national capital.

“My mother-in-law and husband are at the Tikri border. Now I am also planning to join them on December 26. My daughter-in-law and son would take care of our house,” said Satwant Kaur (50) from Balian village during a rally to mobilise support for the protest and to pay homage to farmers who lost lives during the protest.

With essential commodities no more a concern, as these are being provided by various NGOs, the focus of women is now on joining their family members in huge numbers in Delhi on



**WILL OUTNUMBER MEN**

“The participation of women has gone up. They are coming out in large numbers to drum up support for the protest. We hope on December 26-27, they would outnumber men in joining the march to Delhi.”

Gurlabh Singh Mahal, ACTIVIST

Women hold a rally to exhort people to join the Delhi stir on December 25-27, in Sangrur.

December 26 and December 27. Before November 26, women were conducting marches across villages to collect ration for the protest, but now it's all about ensuring maximum participation.

“My husband has been at the Tikri border since the protest began. He has been sharing the feedback about the strength of the protest with us daily. Sometimes he predicts a long battle, but sometimes he says the victory is not

away as the Central Government keeps changing stance,” said Jagir Kaur, a Thalesa village resident.

Some have their own “compelling” reasons to delay their march to the national capital. “Our buffalo has delivered a male calf two days ago and now both are fine. I would leave for Delhi on December 26 to join the protest with my husband, who is already there. My father-in-law will stay at home while my daughter and son are also

here,” said Gurbhajan Kaur, another woman.

As part of the Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ugrahan) plans, on December 20, homage was paid to deceased farmers. From December 21 to 23, memorial processions will be organised in villages. After village-level tributes to “martyrs”, block-level tributes will be paid on December 24 and. Around 30,000 more state residents are expected join the protest at Delhi on December 26-27.

## 15,000 more from Amritsar to join protest

BATHINDA, DECEMBER 21

Responding to the call given by the farmer unions, thousands of farmers are expected to leave for the national capital from December 25-27. Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan) secretary Shingara Singh Mann said: “A group of 15,000 farmers from Amritsar would leave for Delhi through the Singhu border on December 25. As many farmers will head to the national capital from the Khanouri border on December 26. On December 27, thousands of farmers will leave from the Dabwali border.”

Thousands of farmers have been staying put at several Delhi border points for the past 26 days, demanding a repeal of the new farm laws. They continued to step up their preparations in view of staying put in this harsh weather as temperature continue to drop in and around Delhi.

As the time is passing by, the protest is getting more response as people from even non agriculture background are heading for Delhi to participate in the protests on daily basis. — TNS



Members of the Punjab Police Retired Association hold a rally in Amritsar. VISHAL KUMAR

## Withdraw farm laws: Ex-IAS officers

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 21

Former senior IAS officers of Punjab have extended their support to the agitation by farmers, and appealed to the Centre to withdraw the three agriculture laws.

In a meeting held today, at least 18 former IAS officers, including former Chief Secretaries, discussed the impact of the farm laws. They praised the unity maintained by the farm unions and the peaceful protest being organised at the borders of Delhi.

### Say will impact agri sector adversely

The retired officers also paid their homage to the 38 farmers who lost their lives during the protest and urged the Punjab Government to grant monetary compensation to the families of the victims. They also expressed their concern that in the event of withdrawal of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and government pur-

chase of foodgrains, as is feared after the enactment of the laws, the already debt-stressed farming sector would be pushed to economic decline.

Those present in the meeting included Swaran Singh Boparai, MS Chahal, Ramesh Inder Singh, KS Sidhu, JR Kundal, Kulbir Singh Sidhu, Iqbal Singh Sidhu, TR Singal, Kulbir Singh, SK Sandhu, SR Ladhar, JK Singh, Shivdular Singh Dhillon, Karamjit Singh Sra and Harkesh Singh Sidhu. — TNS

## Back from Capital, 2 more farmers die

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SANGRUR, DECEMBER 21

A farmer died last evening in Balad Kalan village of Sangrur. Deceased Hakam Singh was unwell after attending the Delhi protest.

“Hakam was unwell and died last evening after he came back from the Delhi protest. The Punjab Government should give compensation to his family,” said Sukhdev Singh, general secretary of the Bhawanigarh unit of the BKU (Dakaunda).

Meanwhile, succumbing to financial stress, a farmer allegedly ended life by hanging himself in Ferozepur. The deceased has been identified as Kulbir Singh (50), a resident of Kari Kalan village in Guruharsahai subdivision.

As per information, Kulbir was under stress due to rising debt. Sandeep Singh, son of the deceased, said his father gone to Delhi on

### SUICIDE BID AT SINGHU

A 65-year-old Punjab farmer protesting against the farm laws attempted suicide by taking some poisonous substance near the Delhi's Singhu border on Monday, the police said. Niranjana Singh, who hails from Tarn Taran, was admitted to the Rohtak's PGIMS and his condition is stated to be stable. He is a marginal farmer with just two and a half acres of land.

December 11 to join the farmers' protest and after staying there for nine days, he returned home yesterday. “My father was upset over the condition of farmers at the protest. Yesterday night, he went to the fields and hanged himself,” he said.

Sources said the victim owned around 1.75 acres while his three brothers had three acres each. Due to debt, he had sold his land recently.

## No job to family of deceased, union threatens to intensify stir

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, DECEMBER 21

The BKU Sidhupur faction continued their protest outside the district administrative complex for four months now, demanding a government job to next to the kin of farmer who died after consuming some poisonous substance in Jaito.

The union members rued that the administration had been making “hollow promises” over the matter and it's time that they intensify their stir now.

Resham Singh Yatri, a union leader, said, “The administration has merely been giving assurances but it has failed to deliver on them till now. We have been staging protests for the past over four months and will continue to do so until the family member of the deceased farmer, Jagsheer Singh, is given a government job.”



Farmers protest outside the DC office in Bathinda. PAWAN SHARMA

### Taking up matter on priority: Bathinda DC

A meeting in this regard was conducted with Bathinda Deputy Commissioner on Monday, who has given an assurance that a senior official from the tehsil office has been tasked to get the matter

resolved on priority basis. Meanwhile, farmers observed a two-minute silence to pay homage to deceased farmers, who have died during the agitation at the Delhi borders.

## Youth ready to enter poll fray

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JALANDHAR, DECEMBER 21

“Punjabio! Punjab nu barbaad karan valian partiyan da khehra chaddo. Aao mil ke Punjab di jawani, kisani, pani ate Punjab diyan zameenan bachaiye (Punjabis! Stop chasing parties destroying the state. Come, let's save Punjab's youth, farmers, water and its lands),” reads one of the

many slogans of the ‘Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan’ party.

Formed by young men, including farmers, advocates, scholars and youths, advocating change in the state in the wake of the farmers' protest, the party claims it will contest the 2022 Assembly elections from all 117 seats.

An elderly farmer seated by a farm union flag, a farmer ploughing his fields and the “Amar Jawan Jyoti” sign are

the images which mark a poster of the party.

“Khud larange election khud badlange Punjab (We'll fight election and change Punjab ourselves),” announces a slogan sprawled across its posters circulating on the social media. Party chief Baljit Singh Aulakh said, “Successful governments have systematically overlooked the farmers' plight. We plan to change that.”

## After backlash, Sangrur admn withdraws tent house order

Had asked owners not to give equipment for protests without permission

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SANGRUR, DECEMBER 21

When the farm agitation against the Central farm laws is gaining momentum across Punjab and at Delhi, an order issued by the Sangrur Subdivisional Magistrate (SDM) Babbandeep Singh Walia directing local tent house owners not to give any tents or sound systems to any protesters without the permission of the administration has caused resentment.

After the order went viral on social media, the Sangrur administration withdrew it. In his order, the SDM had directed that for any protest or rally, tent house owners and sound system owners should not give any equipment without the permission



Temporary tents set up by Bhartiya Kisan Union members during their protest against the farm laws at the Delhi border on Monday. PTI

### Order had gone viral on social media; AAP sees bid to crush dissent

Singh alleged the administration wanted to prevent protests against the Congress government, which had failed to fulfil its promises.

“Apart from the creating problems in the agitation of the common man against the Punjab Government, the order would have also creat-

ed problems for our farmers, who are protesting against the Central laws,” he said.

Sangrur DC Ramvir said they had withdrawn the order. “Though it was a routine order and had nothing to do with the protest of farmers, we have withdrawn it,” he said.



Farmers raise slogans against the Central laws at the Tikri border on Monday. MUKESH AGGARWAL

## Will shut all toll plazas: Abohar farmers

ABOHAR, DECEMBER 21

A group of young farmers organised a protest against the new farm laws near a phone tower in Dharam Nagari here today. They announced their decision to boycott the BJP and products of a leading mobilephone service provider. They raised slogans against the BJP leaders for “spreading misinformation” about the agitation.

In a neighbouring area, a dharna which had started in support of the agitation on the toll plaza on the Suratgarh highway continued for the second day on Monday.

### FORCE SHUTDOWN OF MOBILE SERVICES

**Fazilka:** Some farmers allegedly shut operations of a private company's mobile towers at Raranwali Mandi and Nukerian villages in Fazilka to protest the farm laws. Several mobile numbers lost network in the area. “The towers were shut but no loss to any property has been caused,” said Sunil Kumar, Sarpanch of Nukerian village.

The staff was not allowed to charge toll from commuters.

Farmer leader Amit Godara said the Modi government

was bent on turning the farmers into labourers. Sarpanch Baldev Singh said all toll plazas on the highways would be covered under the protest.

Farmers, who had started indefinite dharna and reportedly forced closure of a big corporate's shopping mall near Hanumangarh today.

They adopted “Gandhigiri” to motivate people to boycott products of big corporates. The protesting farmers halted vehicles and offered rose to commuters before making an appeal for boycott of the products. — OC







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## COURT NOTICES

## In the Court of

Sh. Amrinder Singh Shergill,  
Principal Judge,  
Family Court,  
Batala.  
CNR No.:

PBGDF-20002802020

Next Date: 19.02.2021

Vijay Luxmi

Versus

General Public

Notice to:

General Public

In the above titled petition the respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that the respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 19.02.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

For details login to [https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=gurdaspur](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=gurdaspur)  
Given under my hand and the seal of the court this  
30.10.2020.

Sd/-  
Amrinder Singh Shergill,  
Principal Judge,  
Family Camp Court,  
CL20075741 Batala.

## (U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of  
Ms Renu Goyal  
Civil Judge,  
(Junior Division),  
Dasuya.

Bikramjit Singh s/o Surinder Kaur d/o Udharm Singh, r/o Village Jhinger Kalan, Tehsil Dasuya, Distt. Hoshiarpur. Through his G.P.A. Sukhdev Singh s/o Resham Singh r/o Village Atwarpur, Tehsil and Distt. Hoshiarpur.

....Plaintiff

Versus

Gernal Public

....Defendant

CNR No.:

PBH0A0-000895-2020

Next Date: 15.02.2021

Publication issued to:

General Public

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 15.02.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 16.12.2020.  
Sd/- Civil Judge,  
(Junior Division),  
CL20075745 Dasuya.

## (U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of  
Baljinder Kaur  
Additional Civil Judge  
(Senior Division),  
Nakodar.

Paramjit Kaur wd/o Sukhdev Singh s/o Lal Singh 2. Ranjodh Singh son of Sukhdev Singh both resident of Village Sand, Tehsil Shahkot, Distt. Jalandhar.

Versus

General Public

Petition U/S 372 of Indian Succession Act for grant of Succession Certificate in respect of the estate left by deceased/ Late Sukhdev Singh s/o Lal Singh r/o Village Sand, Tehsil Shahkot, District Jalandhar.

CNR No.  
PBJLA0-000002-2020  
Next Date: 24.02.2021

Notice to: General Public

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 24.02.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 12.12.2020.  
Sd/-  
Additional Civil Judge  
(Senior Division),  
CL20075745 Nakodar.

## COURT NOTICES

## (U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of  
Sh. Ranjit Kumar Jain  
Principal Judge, Family Court,  
Hoshiarpur.

Hardeep Kaur aged 24 years wife of Jasvir Singh, d/o Balbir Singh r/o Village Chahalpur, Tehsil Garhshankar, District Hoshiarpur. ...Petitioner

Versus

Jasvir Singh son of Assa Singh resident of Village Dagham, Tehsil Garhshankar, District Hoshiarpur. ...Respondent

Petition U/s 13 of Hindu Marriage Act  
CNR No.  
PBHO01-007660-2018  
Next Date: 16.02.2021

Publication issued to:  
Jasvir Singh son of Assa Singh resident of Village Dagham, Tehsil Garhshankar, District Hoshiarpur.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 16.02.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 04.12.2020

Sd/- Principal Judge,  
Family Court  
Hoshiarpur.

CL20075756

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## (U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

(Succession Case)

In the Court of

Baljinder Kaur

Additional Civil Judge,

(Senior Division), Nakodar.

Santokh Singh Gill son of Devi Chand r/o Village Lohian Khas,

Tehsil Shahkot now resident

1923, MCCUNE AVE YUBA CITY CALIFORNIA USA.

Versus

General Public

CNR No.

PBJLA0-000135-2020

Next Date: 04.03.2021

Petition/Application US/372 of the Indian Succession Act 1925 for the grant of Succession Certificate of the Estate of Jeeto w/o Devi Chand r/o Village Lohian Khas who died on 29.12.2019 at YUBA CITY CALIFORNIA USA

Notice to: General Public

General Public

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 04.03.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 12.12.2020

Sd/- Additional Civil Judge

(Senior Division),

Nakodar.

CL20075761

## (U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)

In the Court of

Amita Singh

Civil Judge (Senior Division)-

N.R.I Court, Jalandhar.

Jatinder Kumar

Vs.

General Public

CNR No.:

PBJL02-002971-2020

Next Date: 19.01.2021

Suit for grant of decree of declaration as prayed for

And

Suit for grant of decree of Permanent Injunction as prayed for

Publication issued to:

General Public

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 19.01.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of

09.12.2020.

Sd/- Civil Judge

(Senior Division)-

N.R.I Court,

Jalandhar.

CL20076122

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## Politicians shouldn't use judiciary to settle factional disputes: HC

SAURABH MALIK

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 21

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has cautioned the politicians against converting judicial turf into a political battlefield for settling factional disputes. "Politicians would be well-advised not to abuse the process of the court to settle their pre-election issues and disputes," Justice Sanjay Kumar of the High Court asserted.

The warning came on a bunch of petitions filed by five of the 16 accused for quashing the summoning orders and a complaint alleging attempt to murder and other offences under Sections 307, 336, 148 and 149 of the IPC, along with provisions of the Arms Act.

Justice Kumar asserted complainant Sukhpal Singh, it appeared, resolved his differences with the accused in the complaint case and a com-



## WORD OF CAUTION FOR LEADERS

The warning came on a bunch of petitions filed by five of the 16 accused for quashing the summoning orders and a complaint alleging attempt to murder and other offences under Sections 307, 336, 148 and 149 of the IPC, along with provisions of the Arms Act

promise deed dated September 5 was prepared. When the fact was brought to the court's notice, the parties were directed to appear before the trial court to get their statements recorded on the settlement of their disputes.

The Bathinda Additional Sessions Judge, subsequently, submitted a report. She recorded the complainant's statement that the complaint case was result of party factions and firing had not taken place during the quarrel between

the supporters of rival parties. He further stated it was a petty dispute during the pre-election period in which no injury was sustained by any person. He also affirmed that a compromise had been struck in relation to cross-version case.

After going through the submissions, Justice Kumar asserted: "In the light of the developments, no cause remains for the trial court to invest further time and effort in adjudicating this complaint case".

Justice Kumar added a word of caution would optimistically yield the required result at least in future. Allowing the petitions, Justice Kumar quashed the complaint dated November 20, 2013, pending before Judicial Magistrate (First Class), Phul, Bathinda district. Summoning order dated July 6, 2017, were also quashed.

## Faridkot medical varsity cancels 28-day winter break of faculty

FARIDKOT, DECEMBER 21

Baba Farid University of Health Sciences (BFUHS) on Monday announced to cancel the 28-day winter vacation to the faculty.

Earlier, 74-day summer break was also denied to the teaching faculty in medical, dental and other colleges affiliated to the university.

The teaching faculty in all government medical, dental, nursing and pharmacy colleges was demanding the state government to announce the winter break. The faculty in medical colleges had announced to suspend the OPDs and teaching for two hours from January 1 if the teachers were denied the break.

However, in a letter issued to the principals of all colleges affiliated to the BFUHS, the medical university wrote that the issue regarding the winter vaca-

Says not feasible to allow vacation due to Covid situation

## GRAVE INJUSTICE

“Denying a vacation is grave injustice to the teaching faculty even when the Supreme Court has asked the authorities to consider granting a break to the doctors engaged in Covid duties for over nine months.

DS Bhullar, GEN SECY, TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

tion to the faculty was discussed with the state government and it was decided that the break was not feasible to be allowed due to delayed admission to the MBBS, BDS courses and the

resumption of classes, and due to the Covid pandemic.

The Punjab State Medical and Dental Teachers' Association alleged that due to Covid, the summer vacation for the faculty of medical and dental colleges under the BFUHS was cancelled this year. Now, despite the number of Covid patients coming down drastically in medical colleges across the state, there should not be any other reason for not allowing the winter vacation to the faculty.

Many faculty members might have planned family functions and other programmes during the expected winter vacation. While the PGIMER, Chandigarh, has already declared the winter vacation despite it having a huge rush of patients, the teachers in colleges affiliated to the BFUHS have been denied the break. — TNS

## HC takes cognisance of firearms trafficking

CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 21

Taking cognisance of firearms trafficking, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has asserted that the threat posed by it was unhealthy for the existence of a civilised society and "very much terrible to the stability and development of our country".

Describing the problem as "multi-dimensional", Justice Ashok Kumar Verma of the High Court asserted that firearms were manufactured and traded both licitly and illicitly, thereby making the identification and tracking of illegally manufactured and trafficked firearms "very complex". Some firearms were produced legally, but thereafter diverted into the illicit market.

"Notably, illicit firearms are used in committing terrorist and heinous criminal activities by terrorist organisations, insurgents, gangsters and organised criminal groups having nexus with sleeping partners, private groups, free agents, weapon dealers,

## Dismisses bail pleas in 2014 case

straw purchasers, who add more fuel to the problem," Justice Verma added.

The assertion came on a bunch of two petitions filed against the State of Punjab and other respondents by accused, who had approached the court for grant of regular bail in an FIR registered on October 18, 2014, at the Kotwali police station in Faridkot district.

The state counsel had claimed that the case related to unlawful and illegal trafficking of foreign make weapons in an organised manner into the country and then to Punjab through Bihar and Uttar Pradesh by a gangster, who was now a proclaimed offender in this case along with his gang members. The accused were using the weapons for nefarious activities. After hearing the arguments, Justice Verma dismissed the pleas. — TNS

## IN BRIEF

## SGPC suspends 2 employees

**Amritsar:** The SGPC has suspended two of its employees allegedly for having association with former SAD leader Sucha Singh Langah. It is learnt that Karam Singh, manager of Gurdwara Shaheed Asthan Chhote Sahibjaade in Fatehgarh Sahib, and a granthi (priest), have been put under suspension with immediate effect by SGPC president Bibi Jagir Kaur for performing 'akhand path' at the gurdwara in Langah's behalf and honouring him with 'siropa'. TNS

## 29 govt staffers found absent

**Fazilka:** Subdivisional Magistrate (SDM) Keshav Goyal on Monday conducted an inspection at the offices of Market Committee, Municipal Council and Punjab Mandi Board, and found several employees absent from duty. Goyal said 18 employees, including the secretary of the committee; 10 MC employees, including the executive officer; and an employee of the Punjab Mandi Board, were not present in their respective offices. oc

## 15-year-old's murder case solved, 2 held

RAVI DHALIWAL

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATALA, DECEMBER 21

Twenty-four days after the crime, the police claimed to have solved the murder case of a 15-year-old boy by arresting his brother-in-law and his accomplice today.

DSP (City) Parvinder Kaur said the boy, Karan, was kidnapped by his brother-in-law Navjot Singh and his co-conspirator Aman Kumar because they were eyeing his property valued at Rs 8 lakh. "The minor was abducted on November 26 following which his parents tried to locate their son for two days. On November 28, they lodged an FIR with the Civil Lines police station claiming that their son was missing for the past 48 hours. We launched a manhunt but failed to arrive at any consensus on where the boy must have gone. After questioning the parents, we had a lurking suspicion that Navjot and Aman may be involved. However, we did not have conclusive evidence to nail the duo," said Kaur.

After keeping a watch on the activities of the accused for a few days, the cops started questioning following which they admitted to having thrown Karan's body in the Vallah canal on the Batala-Amritsar road.



Vinerjeet Kaur

## Muktsar woman cracks Delhi judicial exam

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, DECEMBER 21

Vinerjeet Kaur (30), a resident of Rukhala village in Gidderbaha subdivision here, has cleared the Delhi Judicial Service Examina-

## Secures 22nd rank in third attempt

tion-2019 by securing the 22nd rank. She has got 601 marks out of 1,000 in the exam, the result of which was declared on Friday.

"It was my third attempt. I am thankful to my family and teachers for their support. My father is a farmer and brother is settled in Canada. I have studied in Shimla, Chandigarh, Hisar and Delhi," said an elated Vinerjeet, who did her LLB and LLM from Delhi. Her parents Gurlal Singh Sandhu and Rajbir Kaur said they were proud of their daughter and were getting a lot of congratulatory phone calls.



A renovated toilet at the Abohar bus stand for the convenience of passengers. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## Ranked among filthiest towns, Abohar to get 11 modern toilets

RAJ SADOSH

ABOHAR, DECEMBER 21

The subdivisional town of Abohar, which was ranked one of the 10 most filthiest towns in the Swachh Survekshan in 2015 and figured in the list of three dirtiest towns in the above 1 lakh population category in north India last year, will get 11 ultra-modern toilets.

The Municipal Corporation has got the nod to get these toilets constructed. Besides other amenities, free sanitary napkin vending machines for women will also be provided. At present, women from various villages visit the town for shopping, but no such amenity is available to them.

## Sanitary napkin vending machines to be installed

Superintending Engineer Sandeep Kumar said, "A total of 11 ultra-modern toilets are being constructed at the bus stand, at Mal-out Chowk, Nehru Park, Jai Prakash Narayan Park, Tehsil Complex, Rani Jhansi Market, Sant Nagar, Iron Merchants Market, Hanumangarh Road and outside the Civil Hospital. A blueprint of the project has been finalised by MC Commissioner Abhijeet Kaplish."

Each toilet will cost Rs 7.5 lakh. In each block, two seats each for women

and men will be fixed, besides two urinals for men. Along with this, automatic sanitary napkin vending machines will be installed for the convenience of women. A private firm will be contracted for cleanliness and care of these toilets. The contractor will ensure fault-free working of toilets from 6 am to 10 pm. The project will play an important role in improving the grading of the town under the Swachh Survekshan. At present, women face a lot of problems due to the lack of such facilities here.

Meanwhile, the MC has renovated a toilet at the main bus stand to provide some relief to women.



# Vij's infection hit Covaxin trials: Experts

**SUSHIL MANAV**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 21** Health experts associated with clinical trials of Bharat Biotech's vaccine candidate Covaxin admit that Covid infection to Anil Vij days after getting the first shot has created apprehensions and adversely impacted trials.

However, the experts maintain that Covaxin being a "killed vaccine" is perfectly safe and infection to the minister has nothing to do with the vaccine jab.

"Killed vaccine, also known as inactivated vaccine, consists of virus particles grown in culture and then made to lose their disease-producing capacity. In contrast, live vaccines use antigens which are alive but attenuated," explained Dr Dhruv Chaudhary, head of pulmonary and critical care department at the University of Health Sciences in Rohtak, heading clinical trials in the state.

Dr Chaudhary said it was unfortunate that people were not coming forward in as good numbers as expected. He said he understood that people were apprehensive after Vij contracted Covid nearly two weeks after getting the jab.

He added that people

**POOR RESPONSE NO HINDRANCE**

“Even if there are less volunteers from one state, they can be added from some other state. It is for the first time that Haryana has participated in any clinical trial of this dimension. The first two phases have been hugely successful.”

**Amneet P Kumar, DG, MEDICAL EDU**

should understand that vaccine trials were "randomised double blind placebo controlled" trials, which meant that neither the volunteer nor those administering the vaccine knew who got the vaccine and who got a placebo.

He said "un-blinding" would be done from computers only after trials were completed and presence of antibodies in volunteers checked.

He said many volunteers getting Covaxin jabs during trials were doctors and healthcare workers, who would not have volunteered for trials had there been any problem with the vaccine.

Amneet P Kumar, Director General, Medical Education and Research, Haryana, said

less number of volunteers from Haryana would not hinder clinical trials.

"Clinical trials are being conducted across the country. Even if there are less volunteers from one state, they can be added from some other state. It is for the first time that Haryana has participated in any clinical trial of this dimension. The first two phases have been hugely successful," she said.

As far as infection to the minister was concerned, he got the jab on November 20 and was to be given the second dose on December 18, but contracted the virus on December 5.

"All those who get the vaccine are told not to lower guard. Nearly 100 mediapersons assembled near Vij when he was getting the dose. He then travelled to Panipat, where he attended some social gathering. He was in the same car with Panipat MLA Pramod Vij, who later tested positive for Covid. The vaccine has nothing to do with Vij's infection," Dr Chaudhary added.

He said the results of Covaxin across the country were positive and permission for its emergency use was likely to be granted by regulators.



## 28 students test positive in Jhajjar

**RAVINDER SAINI**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**JHAJJAR, DECEMBER 21** In all, 28 students have tested positive for Covid in the district in the past two days. A majority of them are either asymptomatic or have mild infection, hence they have been advised to stay in isolation at home.

The students got their test done from government health centres to get a medical certificate for attending classes in schools.

As per the directives of the Education Department, a medical check-up of the students is mandatory before joining the school. A written consent from

parents is also required.

Classes for Class X and XII students are being conducted in government and private schools across the state from December 14 for three hours daily — 10 am to 1 pm — while the sessions for Class IX and XI students restarted today. However, their attendance was found below expectation on the first day.

"Many parents are not ready to get medical check-up of their children done. Hence the students' strength is not encouraging. But it is likely to rise in the coming days as we are motivating the parents to send their wards to the schools," a teacher said.

# JJP MLA bats for repeal of laws, better farm reforms

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**

**HISAR, DECEMBER 21** Ramkumar Gautam, Jan-nayak Janta Party (JJP) MLA from Narnaund, has advocated for better agricultural reforms to ameliorate the condition of farmers, who, he said, have been suffering losses for decades.

"The Centre should immediately repeal the three new laws and introduce better ones after having consulted representatives of farmers' organisations who are spearheading the agitation," Gautam told the media here on Monday.

He is among the five JJP MLAs who have come out in support of farmers protesting



Ramkumar Gautam

at the Delhi borders for more than 25 days. The JJP, an ally of the BJP, has 10 MLAs.

Gautam said, "Businessmen and their families enjoy the luxuries of life. They own a fleet of cars and their children live a blissful life. Farmers, on the contrary, struggle hard to earn basic needs. They never gets an opportunity to experience the joys of life. Their children remain unemployed and, as a result, get addicted to drugs."

The country would be stronger if farmers were in better condition, he said.

On the contentious Sutlej-Yamuna Link (SYL) canal, Gautam urged the state government to discuss the matter with farmers' outfits of Punjab and Haryana, and chalk out a roadmap.

"Punjab has been denying Haryana its due share of SYL waters. As Haryana farmers have welcomed their Punjab brethren with open arms, it becomes imperative on Punjab to respond in the same vein and give Haryana its share of water," he added.

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"Punjab has been denying Haryana its due share of SYL waters. As Haryana farmers have welcomed their Punjab brethren with open arms, it becomes imperative on Punjab to respond in the same vein and give Haryana its share of water," he added.



Farmers protets at Reliance fuel station in Ratia on Monday.

## Dharna at Reliance fuel station in Ratia

**HISAR, DECEMBER 21**

Farmers have started an indefinite dharna at the Reliance fuel station in Ratia on Monday. They pitched tents and forced the fuel station operators to shut the premises.

Farmer leader Mandeep Singh said the farmers would convene a mahapanchayat at the grain market in Fatehabad on Wednesday to decide the further course of action.

He further said the farmers would submit a memorandum to BJP's Fatehabad MLA Dura Ram and urge him to withdraw support from the state government. "The BJP has been trying to create division among farmers of Haryana and Punjab by flagging the SYL canal," Singh added. — TNS

day to decide the further course of action.

He further said the farmers would submit a memorandum to BJP's Fatehabad MLA Dura Ram and urge him to withdraw support from the state government. "The BJP has been trying to create division among farmers of Haryana and Punjab by flagging the SYL canal," Singh added. — TNS

# Public servants must serve, not rule: High Court

**SAURABH MALIK**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**CHANDIGARH, DECEMBER 21** In a stern warning to public servants, the High Court has told them that they were engaged for the service of the public and not to rule over them. The ruling came in a case where the sanction of building plan was sought, but officials of a municipal committee "sat over the file and did not respond in time".

Justice Kshetarpal asserted, "compassionate empathy" was required to be one of the traits or qualities of everyone manning a public office. The Constitution emphasises that the public servants are required to treat everyone equally, irrespective of caste, creed, religion or economic condition.

Justice Kshetarpal, HIGH COURT

**EMPATHY REQUIRED**

“Compassionate empathy is required to be one of the traits or qualities of everyone manning a public office. The Constitution emphasises that the public servants are required to treat everyone equally, irrespective of caste, creed, religion or economic condition.”

**Justice Kshetarpal, HIGH COURT**

it was required to be regularised or compounded. "The objective is not to demolish the buildings, which are permissible to be constructed in accordance with the rules framed there-under."

Section 201 of the Act stated that no person would erect, re-erect or commence the process without sanction of the building plan from the committee concerned. The proviso to Section 208 of the Act made it clear that the Municipal Committee may accept composition fee prescribed in the rules, instead of requiring alteration or demolition of any such building. In exercise of powers under the Act, the state government had notified the Haryana Municipal Building Bye-laws, 1982, and the Haryana Building Code, 2017, he stated.

## 5-yr-old raped, killed in Jhajjar

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**

**JHAJJAR, DECEMBER 21** The five-year-old daughter of a labourer from Madhya Pradesh was allegedly raped and murdered by a 27-year-old man residing in the same locality here on Sunday night.

Vinod alias Munna, already booked in eight cases, was arrested after the body was found in his house. Jhajjar

### Accused already booked in eight criminal cases

SP Rajesh Duggal said a case had been registered.

"A police team entered the house by breaking open the main door. The girl was found dead inside. The cause of death will be known after postmortem examination,"

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

**Admission Notice for vacant seats of MBBS/BDS course under NEET UG-2020 (Mop Up Round)**

Fresh Online applications alongwith registration fee @ Rs.5000/- (2500/- for SC candidates) +18% GST are invited through university website from NEET UG-2020 Qualified Candidates w.e.f. **22.12.2020 to 23.12.2020 (till 05:00 PM)** for admission to vacant seats of MBBS/BDS courses. **Note:** For Detailed schedule, Vacancy and updates visit us at [www.bfuhs.ac.in](http://www.bfuhs.ac.in)

**Walk in Counseling (Physical) for Stray Vacancy Round for MBBS Course under NEET UG-2020**

Physical Counseling for vacant seats for MBBS Course under NEET UG-2020 (if any) will be conducted on **31.12.2020 (02:00 PM)** at **Senate Hall, BFUHS, Faridkot.** **Note:** For Detailed schedule, Vacancy and updates, visit us at [www.bfuhs.ac.in](http://www.bfuhs.ac.in)

**REGISTRAR**

**CONTROLLER, PRINTING & STATIONERY, PUNJAB,**  
Sector 18-A, Chandigarh. Telephone No. 0172-2549041  
CPS/PB/2021/04

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed Tenders in two-bid system (Technical & Commercial), for Fixing of Patti/Hanging Tape on (1 lakh approx) Wall Calendars, are invited so as to reach in the office of the undersigned up to 5:00 p.m. on 04.01.2021. The Technical Bids will be opened on 05.01.2021 at 11:00 a.m. and the Commercial Bids to be **intimated later** on in the presence of tenderers or their authorized representatives. The Tender Document comprising 'Conditions governing the Tender' etc. can be had from the office of the Superintendent (Publication), Govt. Press, S.A.S. Nagar (Punjab) on any working day during office hours by paying Rs. 150/- in cash or by money order of Rs. 200/- for speed post. Tenders received only in time in the Schedule 'A' along with requisite Earnest Money and duly signed Conditions governing the Tender' on all pages, shall be considered.

**Sd/- Deputy Controller (Technical) Printing & Stationery, Punjab, Chandigarh**

DPR/Pb/120754

**EMPANELMENT OF LABORATORIES FOR CIVIL CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL TESTING AND GEO TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS**

**CORRIGENDUM**

Refer to our advertisement published in this newspaper on 04.12.2020 regarding **Empanelment of Civil Construction Material Testing Laboratories and Geo Technical Investigation Laboratories for various statutory towns/cities of Punjab State.** This is to inform that due to administrative reasons schedule of receiving and opening of applications has been changed. The revised schedule is as under:-

Date and time of receiving of Applications	Date and time of opening of Applications
08.01.2021 upto 5:00 PM	11.01.2021 at 3:00 PM

All other terms & conditions shall remain the same.

**Divisional Engineer (S)**

**PUNJAB URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
PUDA Bhawan, Sector 62, SAS Nagar (Punjab)

**TENDER NOTICE**

1. Sealed tenders are invited by Guardians of Governance District Head Gurdaspur for purchase of furniture and allied items.

2. Details of furniture and allied items are given on website [defencewelfare.punjab.gov.in](http://defencewelfare.punjab.gov.in)

3. Technical and financial bids should be given in separate sealed envelopes duly marked, otherwise bids of the firms should be treated as invalid.

4. Rates for each item to be quoted separately.

5. Tender to be dropped in the Tender Box by 28 Dec 2020 on 1430 hrs at Guardians of Governance District Headquarters Gurdaspur and shall be opened on 29 Dec 2020 at 15:30 hrs.

6. District Head, Guardians of Govrnance (GoG) Gurdaspur reserves all the rights to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reasons.

**Sd/- District Head**

**District Headquarters Guardians of Governance**  
**C/O District Defence Service Welfare Office**  
**Gurdaspur. Mobile No. 9316093905**  
**E-mail ID: goggurdaspur@gmail.com**

DPR/Pb/120755

**ਪੰਜਾਬ ਰਾਜ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨ**  
**ਐਸ.ਜੀ.ਓ. ਨੰ. 220-221, ਸੈਕਟਰ 34-ਏ, ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ**  
**ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ**

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਰਾਜ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿਚ ਮਾਨਯੋਗ ਐਸਟੀਮ ਕਾਰ ਅਤੇ ਇਕ ਬਜਾਜ ਚੌਕਰ ਸਕੂਟਰ ਵਿਕਰੀ ਲਈ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹਨ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਵੇਚਣ ਅਤੇ ਸ਼ਰਾਵਾਂ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ ([www.pshrc.net](http://www.pshrc.net)) 'ਤੇ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹਨ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਖਰੀਦ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਕਰਮਚਾਰੀ, ਸੇਵਾ-ਨਿਵਾਰਤ ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਕਰਮਚਾਰੀ, ਸਾਬਕਾ ਐਮ.ਪੀ., ਸਾਬਕਾ ਐਮ.ਐਲ.ਏ., ਜੰਗੀ ਵਿਧਾਵਾ, ਐਮ.ਪੀ.ਐਚ. ਅਤੇ ਐਮ.ਐਲ.ਏ.ਵ. ਅਪਣੀਆਂ ਪੇਸ਼ਕਾਰੀ ਰੱਖ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ। ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਰਗਾਂ 'ਤੇ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਇਹ ਵੀ ਕਰਨਾ ਆਮ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਵੀ ਖਰੀਦ ਲਈ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੋਣਗੇ ਅਤੇ ਉਹ ਵੀ ਅਪਣੀਆਂ ਆਵਾਜ਼ਾਂ ਰੱਖ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ। ਹਰ ਵਰਗੀਕ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਵੇਚੀ-ਵੇਚੀ ਪੇਸ਼ਕਾਰੀ, ਬਣਦੀ ਅਨੁਮਤੀ ਮਨੀ ਹੋ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ। ਇਸਦੇ ਡਰਾਫਟ ਸਮੇਂ, ਸੀਲਬੰਦ ਲਿਫਟ ਵਿਚ, ਮਿਤੀ 11.01.2021 ਤੱਕ ਡਾਕ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਜਾ ਨਿੱਜੀ ਪੱਧਰ 'ਤੇ ਨਿਰਧਾਰਤ ਮਿਤੀ ਨੂੰ 4.00 ਵਜੇ (ਦੁਪਹਿਰ ਬਾਅਦ) ਤੱਕ, ਸਕੱਤਰ, ਪੰਜਾਬ ਰਾਜ ਮਨੁੱਖੀ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਕਮਿਸ਼ਨ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿਖੇ ਭੇਜੀ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ ਹੈ।

**ਸਕੱਤਰ।**

DPR/Pb/120760

**EMPANELMENT OF AGENCIES TO CARRY OUT SURVEY WORK**  
**CORRIGENDUM**

Refer to our advertisement published in this newspaper on 3-12-2020 regarding **Empanelment of agencies to carry out survey and demarcation work for various statutory towns/cities of Punjab State.** This is to inform that due to administrative reasons schedule of receiving and opening of applications has been changed. The revised schedule is as under:-

Date and time of receiving of Applications	Date and time of opening of Applications
07-01-2021 upto 5:00 PM	08-01-2021 at 3:00 PM

All other terms & conditions shall remain the same.

**Divisional Engineer (S)**

**PUNJAB URBAN PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
PUDA Bhawan, Sector-62, SAS Nagar (Punjab)

**PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD**  
**NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS**  
BID No. ETENDER/EE/PWSSD/ROPAR/28/2020/Date: 21.12.2020  
<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

On the behalf of Chief Executive Officer, Pb. W/S and Sew. Board Chandigarh, Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn. Ropar invites bids from the eligible bidders as per DNIT conditions for the work detailed below:-

Sr. No.	Name of the work	Amount/ Time Limit
1.	Drilling and Development of 1 No. T/wells of size 300mmx300mm upto 350 Mtr. depth complete in all respect in park of Aman City Extension-2 at Kharar.	Rs. 32.42 Lac 3 Months
2.	Construction of RCC foundation and columns for Gantry Crane at 15 MLD Mounds at Barari Nangal.	Rs. 0.97 Lac 1 Months

Closing date & Time for Sr. No. 1 → 05.01.2021 up to 5:00 p.m.  
Closing date & Time for Sr. No. 2 → 12.01.2021 up to 5:00 p.m.

For detailed login to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.

Note: Any Corrigendum(s), to the Tender/RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn., Ropar. (01881-292030)**

DPR/Pb/120786

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION PUNJAB**  
**Invites Online Bid for the following work:-**

1. Providing Improved Access to water through household connections in Existing Water Supply Scheme Behak Hasta Uttar Block Jalalabad Distt. Fazilka (UNDER PRWSSIP 2a(i)/J.M.).

**App. Cost Rs. 9.69 Lacs**

**Availability of Bidding Document of Website : Dt. 22.12.2020 at 17:00 Hrs. Pre-bid meeting will be held on : Dt. 28.12.2020 at 12:30 Hrs. The deadline for submission of bids online : Dt. 06.01.2021 at 17:00 Hrs. Technical Part of bid will be opened on : Dt. 07.01.2021 at 13:00 Hrs.**

Financial Part of Bid will be opened after the technical evaluation and will be intimated on website.

For details login to: <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

**Note: Any Corrigendum to the Tender Notice shall be published on the website only.**

**Sd/- Chairman GPWSC**  
**Village Behak Hasta Uttar Block**  
**Jalalabad & Distt. Fazilka,**  
**C/o Executive Engineer,**  
**W/S & Sanitation Division, Fazilka.**  
**Tel Phone & Fax No. 01638-261348**  
**E-mail: eewss.divfazilkapb@yahoo.com**

DPR/Pb/27

**ICAR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH ON BUFFALOES, SIRSA ROAD, HISAR (Haryana)**  
Phone No. 01662-281611, website [www.cirb.res.in](http://www.cirb.res.in)  
F. No. 9-185/CPS/2020-21 Dated the 21st Dec., 2020

**E-Tender Notice**

Online tenders in two bid system i.e. (1) Technical bid (2) Price Bid are invited from eligible bidders/firms/agency for supply of Up Right Phase Contract Microscope with Warm Stage and Imaging System. Bid Submission end Date is 11.01.2021 up to 2.30 p.m. For details, login to website <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>. The Tender I.D. 2020\_DARE\_604489\_1.

**Sd/- Head of Office**

DI-16526

**ਚੌਧਰੀ ਰਾਜਬੀਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਵਿਸ਼ਵਵਿਦਿਆਲਯ, ਜੀਂਦ**  
**Chaudhary Ranbir Singh University, Jind**

(Established by the State Legislature Act 28 of 2014 and recognized U/S 2(f) & 12-B by UGC Act 1956)

**Ph.D. ADMISSION NOTICE (2020-21)**

Application Forms for admission to Ph.D. Courses through **ENTRANCE TEST** for the Academic Session 2020-21 are invited from the eligible candidates. Application Form is to be submitted to the concerned Chairpersons latest by **09.01.2021 (up to 5:00 p.m.)**. The prospectus for admission to Ph.D. Courses including Ph.D. Ordinance, Application Form, Schedule for Admission, Fee Structure, No. of Vacant Seats (category wise) in each Department for admission is available on the University website: [www.crsu.ac.in](http://www.crsu.ac.in)

PRDH/2202/11/1/2021/1049/31/4 **REGISTRAR**

**NATIONAL SEEDS CORPORATION LIMITED**  
A Govt. of India Undertaking - "Mini Ratna" Company  
Plot No. 24, Industrial Area, Phase-9, Mohali (Pb.) 160062  
(Regional Office : Mohali-Chandigarh)  
Ph.: 0172-2214388/ 2215388

No. III (Dhaicha/OS)/NSC/CHD/20-21 Dated: 21.12.2020

**NOTICE INVITING E - TENDER**

National Seeds Corporation (A Govt. Of India Undertaking) Mohali invites E-Tenders in two bids system (Technical & Financial) for Purchase of 20,000 qtls of Dhaicha TL seeds.

Bids can be submitted up to 01:00 p.m. on 11.01.2021 and will be opened same day at 2.00 p.m. The complete details of NIT may be obtained from the website [www.indiaseeds.com](http://www.indiaseeds.com) & <https://indiaseeds.eproc.in>. In case of any addition/ deletion/ modification; will be uploaded on the website only.

**Regional Manager**

**ਪੰਜਾਬ ਸਰਕਾਰ**  
**ਖੁਰਾਕ ਸਿਵਲ ਸਪਲਾਈਜ਼ ਅਤੇ ਖ਼ਪਤਕਾਰ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਵਿਭਾਗ**  
**ਸ਼ਾਰਟ ਟਰਮ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਨੋਟਿਸ**

ਡਾਇਰੈਕਟਰ, ਖੁਰਾਕ ਸਿਵਲ ਸਪਲਾਈਜ਼ ਅਤੇ ਖ਼ਪਤਕਾਰ ਮਾਮਲੇ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਪੰਜਾਬ ਦੁਆਰਾ "ਦੀ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਫੂਡਸਪਲਾਈਜ਼ ਲੈਂਡਰ ਕਾਰਟੇਜ ਪਾਲਿਸੀ 2020-21, ਖੁਰਾਕ ਸਿਟਾਂ ਦੀ ਲੈਂਡਰ ਅਤੇ ਕਾਰਟੇਜ ਪਾਲਿਸੀ 2020-21 ਅਤੇ ਬੈਂਚ ਪੱਤਰ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਕਾਪੀਆਂ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ [www.foodsuppb.nic.in](http://www.foodsuppb.nic.in) 'ਤੇ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹਨ, ਤਹਿਤ ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ ਵਿਚ ਸਾਰੀਆਂ ਸਰਕਾਰੀ ਖਰੀਦ ਏਜੰਸੀਆਂ ਦੇ ਬਲੂਜ਼ ਕਲਸਟਰ ਦੇ ਲੈਂਡਰ ਕਾਰਟੇਜ ਦੇ ਕੌਮ ਲਈ ਮੁੜ ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰ ਮੰਗਿਆ ਜਾਵਾ। ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਕੌਮ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਪਾਲਿਸੀ-ਹਦਾਇਤਾਂ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ [www.foodsuppb.nic.in](http://www.foodsuppb.nic.in) 'ਤੇ ਡਾਊਨਲੋਡ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਇਸ ਕਲਸਟਰਾਂ ਦੇ ਲੈਂਡਰ ਕਾਰਟੇਜ ਦੇ ਕੌਮ ਲਈ ਪਾਲਿਸੀ-ਹਦਾਇਤਾਂ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਕੰਟਰੋਲਰ, ਖੁਰਾਕ ਸਿਵਲ ਸਪਲਾਈਜ਼ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਤੋਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕੀਤੀਆਂ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ।

ਲੜੀ ਨੰ.	ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ	ਲੈਂਡਰ ਕਾਰਟੇਜ ਦੇ ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਸਬੰਧੀ
1	ਟੈਂਡਰ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ਾਂ ਦੀ ਡਾਊਨਲੋਡਿੰਗ ਅਤੇ ਤਕਨੀਕੀ ਬੋਲੀ (ਭਾਗ-1) ਅਤੇ ਵਿੱਤੀ ਬੋਲੀ (ਭਾਗ-2) ਨੂੰ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ ਅਤੇ ਸਮਾਂ	ਮਿਤੀ 23.12.2020 ਤੋਂ 30.12.2020
2	ਤਕਨੀਕੀ ਬੋਲੀ (ਭਾਗ-1) ਨੂੰ ਖੋਲ੍ਹਣ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ, ਸਮਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਜਗ੍ਹਾ	ਮਿਤੀ 30.12.2020 ਬਾਏ. 02.00 ਵਜੇ (ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਕੰਟਰੋਲਰ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿਖੇ)
3	ਵਿੱਤੀ ਬੋਲੀ (ਭਾਗ-2) ਨੂੰ ਖੋਲ੍ਹਣ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ, ਸਮਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਜਗ੍ਹਾ	ਤਕਨੀਕੀ ਤੌਰ 'ਤੇ ਭੋਜ ਬੋਲੀਕਾਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਅਧਿਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।

ਨੋਟ:- ਇਸਤਿਹਾਰ ਲਈ ਸੋਧ ਜੋੜਕ ਹੇਠੀ ਡਾ ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰ ਪੋਰਟਲ <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> 'ਤੇ ਅਪਲੋਡ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ। ਕੋਈ ਵੀ ਵੱਖਰਾ ਪਬਲਿਕ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਜਾਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।

**ਸਹੀ/- ਜ਼ਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਕੰਟਰੋਲਰ, ਖੁਰਾਕ ਸਿਵਲ ਸਪਲਾਈਜ਼ ਅਤੇ ਖ਼ਪਤਕਾਰ, ਮਾਮਲੇ ਵਿਭਾਗ, ਐਸ.ਏ.ਐਸ. ਨਗਰ।**

DPR/Pb/30



# The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

## Pressure tactics

IT raids on arhtiyas reek of coercion

EVEN as the Centre is reaching out to the protesting farmer unions in a renewed bid to end the stalemate over the farm laws, the blatant use of pressure tactics to weaken or sabotage the agitation has struck a discordant note. The timing of the income tax raids on the premises of several arhtiyas across Punjab makes it easy to put two and two together. Both the state government and farmers’ leaders have alleged that the due process was not followed: the raids were held within days of issuing notices to the suspected defaulters, without waiting for their replies; the local police were not kept in the loop, with the CRPF being deployed to provide security to the I-T officials. It’s apparent that the arhtiyas are being targeted for backing the farmers, with whom they have a time-tested relationship. Some leaders and supporters of the ruling party at the Centre have even said that the commission agents are leading or sponsoring the agitation and that ‘real’ farmers are nowhere in the picture. Such false narratives have only widened the trust deficit between the government and the farmers.

The agitation has also been under threat from the trolls and mischief mongers who are spreading fake news and vilifying the protesters on social media. Equal to the challenge, the farm unions have established an information technology cell to counter negative propaganda. The importance of effective and timely communication is not lost on the farmers. The tech-savvy ones have not only been active on popular cyber platforms but are also keeping tabs on the malicious campaigns being conducted to undermine their cause. In an obvious cyber attack, the social media handle of the farmers’ forum was blocked on Sunday evening. Following widespread outrage over the ‘blackout’, the handle was restored a few hours later. It was a small but significant victory for the protesters.

With the Supreme Court acknowledging the farmers’ right to stage a peaceful protest, the government is well advised to confine itself to the negotiating table. Coercion or vendetta can do untold damage to the credibility of the powers that be and worsen the situation.

## Mutating coronavirus

New strain underpins need for caution

THE novel coronavirus continues to pose new challenges, throwing life out of gear. While it is normal for any virus to mutate as it spreads across populations, a particularly virulent variant of the coronavirus that has emerged in the United Kingdom has sparked worry and renewed defensive action. Alarmed by the mutated version of the virus that is feared to be 70 per cent more contagious and has led to a big spike in Covid-19 cases, the UK government has clamped a strict lockdown in its southeastern region, allowing only essential services. Revoking the earlier relaxations okayed for Christmas celebrations, it has put the safety and health of its citizens ahead. To avoid a potential influx of carriers, several countries are scurrying to ban flights from Britain over the new strain. So as to not squander the gains of the dip in infections in the past few weeks, India has also, rightly, opted for caution and halted flights till the year-end.

This development has put the spotlight on the Covid vaccine and its efficacy against all mutations. Inoculations are already underway in England and are expected to start sometime in January in India. Scientists who are monitoring the situation, fortunately, are confident that with all guns blazing at the virus, we may yet get the better of it. They see the immunity developed through vaccination as the best shield against the mutating virus.

Thus, it is imperative that vaccine trials are carried out smoothly so as to meet the aim of their rollout next month. The PGIMS, Rohtak, which is conducting clinical phase III trials of the indigenous Covaxin, has hit a bump. Some volunteers are reluctant to take the shots as one participant got infected after taking one of the two doses required. Meanwhile, the UK experience also underpins the importance of strictly following Covid-appropriate behaviour. Complacency can hamper the fight against the formidable microscopic adversary that is continuously adapting itself.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

It is difficult and even dangerous to make predictions, especially about the future of bilateral relationship. — Patrick Mendis

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

## The Tribune.

LAHORE, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1920

### The Convocation Address.

CONSIDERING the unusual nature of the circumstances under which it had to be prepared, the Convocation address of Sir John Maynard must be pronounced a notable performance. It could, of course, be no substitute for the address to which the University and the public generally had looked forward, but which an accident, Sir John very appropriately began by regretting, deprived them of the profit and pleasure of hearing. Sir Ashutosh is, indeed, “a unique figure in Indian education,” and it is no disparagement of Sir John Maynard or any other member of the Civil Service, whether in this province or elsewhere, to say that he cannot speak on the subject with the first-hand knowledge, the personal experience or the unquestionable authority of one who has done more for University education in our time than any other living educationist, and whose great work, “has been the creation of a real University, engaged in teaching and in the research which is the inevitable accompaniment and condition of all higher teaching.” But if Sir John could not take the place of Sir Ashutosh, he did the next best thing, and dwelt upon that aspect of University education which lies nearest to Sir Ashutosh’s heart. Beginning with a statement of the circumstances under which medieval Universities started, how while all of them began as voluntary gatherings of scholars and sought to keep alive learning in a world which was busy with fighting, they evolved on different lines, how most of them took all knowledge for their province, how in medieval Oxford and in most of the great medieval Universities, there was no examination at all, the Vice-Chancellor went on to explain how the idea of examining Universities came into prominence, and for a time threatened to supplant the medieval type.

# Containment threat to China

Dangers and opportunities from confrontation with US figure on Politburo agenda



MANOJ JOSHI

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SOME people think that the Biden era may see a reduction in the pushback that China has been facing. But the Chinese themselves are bracing for an intensification of that pressure and, indeed, a wider challenge. This is evident from the recent references to ‘National security’ in discussions in the higher echelons of the Communist Party of China (CPC). Not to forget, of course, the ramming through of the National Security Law in Hong Kong earlier this year. Earlier this month, the CPC’s apex body, the politburo, held a study session on national security, the first on the subject since 2014, when the subject discussed was counter-terrorism.

Politburo group study sessions, usually chaired by General Secretary Xi, are aimed at providing the Chinese leadership in-depth briefings on issues of the day. In this case, the invitee speaker was Yuan Peng, head of the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR), a think tank associated with the Ministry of State Security that runs China’s intelligence apparatus. He’s probably the first international relations scholar to be accorded this privilege.

Yuan is a specialist in US-China relations who has worked his way up the CICIR, one of the most influential Chinese think tanks. Details of what Yuan said are not available. But his previous writings and background suggests that the danger and opportunities from the confrontation with the US is very much in the politburo’s mind.

A flavour of Yuan’s ideas is available in a lengthy article he wrote in June on the website aisixiang.com.



SECURITY SCENE: The US has stepped up its challenge which is worrying Beijing. REUTERS

## The Chinese are seeking to finesse a situation to ensure growth without being undermined by their adversaries.

He made the following points: the epidemic was comparable to a world war and the existing international order was unsustainable; the world economy is in full recession, only one step away from the Great Depression; relations between major powers are changing, while the antagonism of the Sino-US relations has come to the fore; the centrality of the Asia-Pacific region has become clearer; globalisation was facing a counter-current and global governance faced an unprecedented crisis; the disputes over systems, models and technology have become the core of international politics; China was engaging the world on its own terms after the century of humiliation.

Given the rise of China, and the relative weakness of the US, Yuan expected that Washington would be tough towards China and “containment and suppression will intensify.” He concluded his lengthy article by arguing that Covid’s lesson was on the need for reorganising the relationship between development and security. The Covid threat had shown how the security of China could be threatened in unconventional ways. China

needed to ensure that it was safe against a broad spectrum of threats that confronted the country.

Some of this thinking was evident in the resolutions of the fifth plenary session (5th Plenum) of the CPC at the end of October that had been called to discuss the 14th (2022-2027) Five Year Plan. The basic theme of the plan is the importance of “technology self-reliance...(as) strategic support for national development.” But two new areas were introduced. One was the need to integrate development and security to “build a higher level of peace and safety in China.” The other was on building economic and military strength together.

In his remarks at the Politburo Study Session, Xi referred to the 5th Plenum’s call to integrate ‘high quality development’ with ‘high-level security’ to guide the country in the 14th Plan period. He outlined a 10-point agenda for holistic national security architecture and predictably emphasised the importance of the “absolute” leadership of the CPC and the need for a centralised and unified leadership. Only this system could fulfill the country’s need

for a “strong security guarantee” for the “China Dream”.

China is a “national security state”, which reportedly spends more on internal security, than external. But the Chinese system is highly stratified, with a command system emphasising a top-down approach. To make it more flexible and resilient is probably the challenge that Xi Jinping and his colleagues in the Politburo are trying to meet.

Right now, to add to their worries, though somewhat belatedly, the US has stepped up its challenge to China in the South China Sea. This effort is also accompanied by an ideological challenge to the CPC. US government officials like Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Deputy National Security Adviser Matt Pottinger, insistently identify the CPC as the fountain of all evil. Earlier this month, the US imposed tighter visa regulations for party members and their close relatives. Considering anyone who is someone in China is in the CPC, the restrictions will disproportionately affect the Chinese elite.

The Chinese are now seeking to finesse a situation where their continued economic growth requires them to open up their service and financial sectors to the world, while preventing their adversaries from using this to undermine the CPC control of China. They need to do this in a context where the old consensus on engaging China has broken down and countries are increasingly looking at ways and means to come together to confront China in a range of contentious areas in the western Pacific, to the rules of international business and behaviour.

Mind you, there is nothing in the tone and tenor of Beijing that suggests that the Chinese are backing off in any of these areas; indeed, what they are doing is to shore up their security and push on their set direction. As scholar Tai Ming Cheung has noted, a key feature of the Xi Jinping era have been the efforts to turn China into a ‘national security fortress’.

# Name as the gateway to fame

RK SABOO

WHEN I first visited the US in 1964, the film *Jungle Book*, based on Rudyard Kipling’s book, was very popular. The role of the ‘Elephant Boy’ was played by Sabu. So, whenever I introduced myself to people, the next question inevitably was, “Are you related to Sabu, the Elephant Boy?” This was so unflattering that I decided to change my introduction to “I am Saboo, and no, I am not related to the Elephant Boy.”

A close friend, author of a weekly bulletin, writing about me inadvertently, spelled my name “Sabu”. She realised the faux pas and apologised, despite my telling it was not an issue. Names of persons follow different

traditions. In North India, we are most familiar with the system of a first name followed by a surname. However, in many communities in South India, the second name is the given name, and the first is that of the father. So, naturally, both the first and the given names change with each generation. Sometimes, the name of the native place and that of the grandfather is added, making names long, and the need to use multiple initials.

Long names are also common in Hispanic America. I had a friend in Brazil — Paulo (his given name), followed by Viriato (his mother’s), Corrêa (his father’s) and then da Costa (his village). Introducing was always an amusing and time-consuming experience.

Like clothes, names too tend to be in or out of fashion. In my generation,

names like Usha, Prem, Raj, Dharam were common. In a dipstick study done at a local school, I found that 25 years ago, the five most popular names for girls were Neha, Sugandha, Shikha, Isha and Priyanka. But not even one of them is in the top five today — the most popular now are Mehak, Ananya, Khushi, Nishtha and Gunjan. For those interested, the most fashionable names among teenaged boys appear to be Aditya, Arnav, Armaan, Dhruv and Raghav.

Changing name trends are probably explained by the desire among parents to find uncommon names for their children. Sometimes they go overboard. Bishan Singh Bedi, our legendary spin bowler, named his first son Gavasinder, after his equally famous contemporary Sunil

Gavaskar. I am sure it remains unique even today. And I cannot forget that in 1979, when debris from the crashing satellite Skylab threatened areas across Asia, a child in Patiala was named Skylab Singh. He made all the headlines. But I read later that he wasn’t unique; a child in Thailand shared this funny name.

And then there are pseudonyms. Writers, artists and actors seem to adopt them the most. I can only imagine that it is because the new names are considered luckier or better sounding. Mark Twain, the famous American author, was originally Samuel Clemens. And the name of the City Beautiful’s architect was Charles-Edouard Jeanneret, before he moved to Paris from Switzerland and became Le Corbusier.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Accept govt’s offer

Talks with the government regarding the farm laws have yielded little. Though the government is ready to amend the laws, as demanded, it is reluctant to repeal them. In view of a deadlock, farmers should think of finding a middle ground. The government has been making conciliatory gestures, but it is stopping short of scrapping the law. Efforts should be made in right earnest to resolve the problem at the earliest.

JASWANT SINGH, CHANDIGARH

#### Fight for MSP

Two points are to be made regarding the demand for MSP: wages are protected under the Minimum Wages Act in India since 1948. Why can’t there be a legal protection for MSP for farm produce? Secondly, companies don’t even pass on the benefits of reduction in corporate tax or GST to the consumers, as directed by the government. How can we expect them to pay a fair price to the farmers in the absence of a law protecting the MSP?

RAKESH RAI, BY MAIL

#### Taking Dhaka for granted

At a virtual meeting with Sheikh Hasina, PM Modi emphasised that Bangladesh was a major pillar of

India’s Neighbourhood First policy. India-Bangladesh bonds have steadily grown stronger. This is exemplified by increasing connectivity, investment and sub-regional cooperation under the BBIN initiative. Taking this momentum further, the virtual meeting saw the two sides ink seven agreements and revive the cross-border rail link that was snapped during the 1965 war with Pakistan. However, China is also trying to increase its footprint in Bangladesh with investment plans. Bangladesh has joined China’s BRI. Pakistan has also been looking to revive its ties with Bangladesh. Given this, India shouldn’t take its ties with Bangladesh for granted. Issues such as the CAA and NRC have created a negative impression. Harping on them for domestic political purposes can jeopardise mutual ties. India must not let political rhetoric derail diplomatic gains.

SK SINGH, BY MAIL

#### Strive for peace

Reference to ‘Capturing entire gamut of India’s wars’; after every war, recommendations are tabulated about weak points and how to avoid the chinks in future. That results in an enormous drain on the economy for security issues which

are actually non-productive. Growth and development of the nation is adversely affected due to wars. We may start with our region so that people live in prosperity, and later expand the sphere of such endeavours to rule out hostility.

SUBHASH VAID, NEW DELHI

#### Truth is out

Refer to ‘On track to justice’; isn’t it shocking and shameful that all this is happening in the state headed by CM Yogi Adityanath? What message is the state government giving where a 19-year-old Hathras girl succumbed to gangrape and was cremated in the dead of night against her family’s wishes? It smacks of burying the truth rather than bringing the guilty to book.

PREM SINGH, BY MAIL

#### Ensuring law and order

The confirmation by the CBI that the 19-year-old Hathras victim was gangraped unmasks the complicity of the UP police in burying the truth and shielding the perpetrators. When the protests erupted, the theory of conspiracy was floated. Attempts were made to stigmatise the victim’s family and their sympathisers. The state government should ensure justice for the victim’s family by acting firmly against

those out to create lawlessness.

ROSHAN LAL GOEL, LADWA

#### Some fight left

The Left in Kerala must be envied for the strength and cohesion of its cadre that helped it tackle the visitations of nature and win handsomely in the recent local bodies’ elections. The Indian Left, evolving as part of the Congress around 1920, veered and lost ground in 1928, to move back towards the Centre. Swinging towards Marxism in 1942, it lost lustre and re-allied with the Congress in the 1960s. Then its rigidity over the nuclear deal with the US led to its isolation and the loss of Bengal and Tripura. At a crucial juncture of a near-existential crisis, the pragmatic Kerala Left, in turning progressive, could yet reanimate the Left movement.

R NARAYANAN, NAVI MUMBAI

#### Saving fish

Apropos of ‘Golden Mahseer saved from extinction in HP’, it is a good initiative. Because of human greed, many fish species are on the verge of extinction. In Peru, a huge reservoir was created and some varieties of fish that were facing extinction were nurtured. Such measures can be taken in our country too.

SHANKAR CHATTERJEE, HYDERABAD



# Finding a way out of the agrarian impasse



A large number of farmers — mainly from Punjab, Haryana and western UP, supported by farmers from other states — have been camping in the bitter cold on Delhi’s borders in protest against the three agriculture-related Acts which may be called in brief the agriculture trade liberalisation Act, contract farming promotion Act and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act. After a series of discussions with the farmers, the Central Government has agreed to make certain amendments.

In the trade liberalisation Act, there is a provision that allowed private parties to set up mandis. It is provided that the state government will not be able to levy any fee, tax or cess on transactions in these mandis or regulate these in any way. This will obviously give an unfair advantage to the private mandis. Farmers apprehend that this will enable the private mandis to offer better terms. As a result, trade will gradually shift from the regulated mandis to the private mandis, leading to the withering away of the former. These mandis, particularly in Punjab and Haryana, have played a crucial role in ensuring a proper price to farmers for their produce through a system of open auction. Once these are weakened, private traders functioning in unregulated mandis will be able to exploit the farmers and purchase their

produce at a throwaway price. Moreover, the state government will lose the income from market fee, rural development cess etc, which is used for the development of infrastructure in these mandis and the surrounding rural areas. To allay this genuine apprehension, the Centre agreed to permit the state governments to levy fee, taxes and cess in the private mandis on a par with government mandis and regulate the traders setting up and operating in these mandis. This will provide a level playing field to both sets of mandis and may benefit the farmers by providing healthy competition.

In the contract farming promotion Act, there is a provision that bars the jurisdiction of civil courts in the disputes between the farmers and other parties regarding any matter arising out of the contract. Farmers felt that the alternative mechanism provided in the Act, viz, conciliation board appointed by the SDM and appeal to the DCs will deprive them of justice as they may act under political pressure due to the clout of the powerful corporates. To allay this apprehension, the Government of India agreed to remove the provision barring the jurisdiction of civil courts.

Harvesting of wheat and paddy takes place in a small period of about a month. Market arrivals at that time are so heavy that under free market conditions, prices would slump to extremely low levels. Since farmers, particularly the small ones, do not have the holding capacity, they will have to sell these at rock-bottom prices while the traders will gain handsomely as they sell later when prices rise. Unlimited procurement of wheat and paddy at pre-announced Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the government has ensured that the famers are able to get



PROTEST PATH: The prolonged agitation is not only causing hardships to the farmers but also damaging Punjab’s economy . PTI

The government may offer to enact a law to repeal two Acts and simultaneously enact another law after incorporating the modifications already agreed. In either case, a written commitment may be given by the Centre to continue the present practice of procurement at MSP of all the wheat and paddy that may be offered at that price.

fair price for their produce. Farmers apprehend that the intention behind encouraging the private traders to buy in private mandis is to give up or reduce the procurement by government, particularly since government stocks at present are well above the requirement for PDS and buffer stock. This will remove a major safety valve which has sustained the farmers, particularly in Punjab and Haryana, by enabling them to sell all their produce at MSP. To allay this apprehension, the Centre has offered to give a written commitment to continue procurement at MSP as at present.

The Centre’s view is that having agreed to make changes to allay the genuine apprehensions of the farmers, there is no justification for them to continue the agitation. Farmers are not sat-

isfied with the concessions, there is also trust deficit and they apprehend that the concessions made may not be honoured. They demand repeal of the Acts. The government considers that these Acts are necessary to modernise agricultural marketing, promote private investment in post-harvest activities like storage and food processing and that these are in the interests of the country and the farmers. It is, therefore, unwilling to repeal the Acts.

The prolonged agitation is causing serious hardships to the agitating farmers and damaging the economy of Punjab where rail services continue to be affected. The stir may produce disaffection against the Central Government which may be exploited by separatists and may even create disaffection among the defence personnel hailing from the

families of agitating farmers. It is, therefore, necessary to find a way to end the impasse without any delay.

One of the following two alternatives may satisfy the basic interests of both the parties and may, therefore, help to break the impasse: First, the government may offer to enact a Bill through an ordinance to be ratified in the Budget session, incorporating the modifications already agreed plus a provision permitting a state government, if it so desires, to notify that either or both of these Acts, or any specific provisions thereof, will be applicable in the state from a date to be notified later. This will enable a state like Punjab where farmers are apprehensive about the adverse effect of the Acts even after modifications to postpone their implementation.

Secondly, the government may offer to enact a law to repeal the two Acts and simultaneously enact another law after incorporating the modifications already agreed with additional provision suggested above.

In either case, a written commitment may be given by the Centre to continue the present practice of procurement at MSP of all the wheat and paddy that may be offered at that price.

The amendments to the Essential Commodities Act do not harm the farmers in any way and would, in fact, help them as these would encourage purchase by traders, food processing units, export houses etc, thus providing them an additional avenue for marketing of their produce. So long as the government remains committed to buying at MSP, there is no risk of these buyers beating down the price. It should be possible to convince the farmers about it once the apprehensions about the other two Acts are allayed.

# Tread warily on Maritime Theatre Command



Merely articulating a joint doctrine does not mean we are ready to put aside years of inter-service rivalry and single service operating peculiarities. The IAF was the first to express reservations on the proposed theaterisation, for fear of its valuable air power assets being parcelled out to new entities. We should take our time evolving into an Integrated Defence Force such as that of Israel or Japan.

THE historical backdrop to India’s penchant for theaterisation goes back to the 1999 Kargil war and the two committees that followed — headed by K Subrahmanyam and Naresh Chandra — which made a slew of recommendations to the government regarding higher defence management. The creation of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) was prime among those recommendations and the incumbent can be seen at work now, the latest salvo being the Integrated Maritime Theatre study by the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS) that is due for submission shortly. This study supposedly recommends the creation of the Maritime Theatre Command (MTC), earlier referred to as the Peninsular Theatre Command. Be that as it may, the ongoing border stand-off with China threatens to reinforce India’s land-oriented war focus.

There is no gainsaying the fact that like the Kargil Review Committee (KRC) diktats, India’s defence planning for the coming years needs to factor in our country’s strategic location and world view, given how we are seen as a virtual fulcrum power between the Mediterranean and South China seas, enhancing the critical need to keep the Sea Lines of Communication open during peace and war. The creation of an Integrated Maritime Command could be seen in this light, also giving much-needed fillip to India’s expected emergence as a viable maritime entity. In order to be able to effect the desired power projection matrix in the region as also to main-



IMPERATIVE: It is high time India asserted itself as a maritime power. PTI

tain good relations with other seafaring nations such as Japan, Australia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia, a strong maritime organisation is inescapable. There’s also a need to coordinate our strategic posture meaningfully with other littoral states such as Sri Lanka, Maldives, Madagascar, Iran and Oman. It is thus high time India asserted itself as a maritime power.

Presently, we have seven commands each in the Army and the Air Force and three regional commands in the Navy. Besides, we have the integrated CDS, Strategic Forces Command and Andaman & Nicobar Integrated Command already functional. It is understood that the agenda for the CDS is to reorganise the existing single service

commands into five integrated commands for enhanced operational and functional efficiency. The Indian Armed Forces Joint Doctrine Manual came out in 2017; it talks about the atterisation of the military, including the creation of the then Peninsular Theatre Command and now the MTC, an Air Defence Command under the IAF’s aegis and three Army Theatre Commands — west, north and east — to deal with the threat from Pakistan and China. The MTC, whose implementation is expected as early as 2022 once the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) gives its approval, would address the overall maritime threat. Organisationally, no additional liabilities of posts or ranks are expected, the structure itself being culled from the

existing command structures of the Army, Navy and Air Force. The Navy, of course, would see the churning first, with the proposed merger of its Western and Eastern Commands. As per the VCNS study’s recommendation, the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) would apparently lose his importance to a Maritime Theatre Commander to whom the Western and Eastern Naval C-in-Cs would report. The CNS’s role is expected to be reduced to ‘raising, training and sustaining’ the Navy.

The reported naval proposals have understandably created a flutter among the traditionalists in all the three services. The ‘extremists’ feel that the move for theaterisation is akin to ‘fixing what ain’t broke’. After all, the Indian armed forces have done well in all wars so far with the existing system, they aver. Integrated war-fighting could well be made a reality through mandatory tri-service postings and service courses, they further argue. But the KRC’s and Naresh Chandra Committee’s viewpoint about the need for ‘integrating and restructuring the security ecosystem’ has validity too.

India has a need to retain its influence in its defined strategic space, which includes the ability for overseas deployment of the military for political intervention or evacuation of its citizens. Some of this capability was demonstrated recently in the evacuations necessitated from Sri Lanka, Maldives and the Middle East during the Covid-19 crisis. However, care should be exercised to ensure that we do not attempt to overhaul a working system unneces-

sarily, bringing in change for the sake of change. Integrated commands for special forces, space and logistics may be more urgent in terms of achieving effective integrated war-fighting in the subcontinental context. Theaterisation could perhaps wait a few years, and be done in a phased manner. Merely articulating a joint doctrine does not mean we are ready to put aside years of inter-service rivalry and single service operating peculiarities. The IAF was the first to express reservations on the proposed theaterisation, for fear of its valuable air power assets being parcelled out to different new entities, at times also headed by a non-specialist C-in-C. Now, it does take a while for any nation to make such drastic changes in its war-fighting philosophy and so also we should take our time evolving into an Integrated Defence Force such as that of Israel or Japan.

Integration of the Ministry of Defence and the service headquarters, integration of defence manufacturing, integration of tri-service logistics, communications and procurements are other low-hanging fruit the government could target initially. Given the volatile security situation in our neighbourhood, we do not have the luxury of ambling through an organisational change such as theaterisation, compromising war-fighting efficacy ad interim. Therefore, much more of war-gaming, think tank inputs and hands-on experience through international exercises would be called for before the Indian military treads the path of new-fangled concepts such as Theatre Commands.

QUICK CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

1 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue (5,5)

8 A lightweight wood (5)

9 A deliberative body (7)

10 Offence (7)

11 A flowering shrub (5)

12 Perceive presence of (6)

14 Circumvent (6)

17 A synthetic polymer (5)

19 Great slaughter (7)

21 Bete noire (7)

22 Disgruntled (3,2)

23 Misleading clue (3,7)

**DOWN**

2 Large marine flatfish (7)

3 Papal 3-tiered crown (5)

4 A team game (6)

5 As a rule (7)

6 Be pre-eminent (5)

7 Disreputable member of group (5,5)

8 A Strauss waltz (4,6)

13 Compete (7)

15 Uninhibited freedom of action (7)

16 In short supply (6)

18 A light beer (5)

20 Have recourse (5)

SU DO KU

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

MEDIUM

CALENDAR

DECEMBER 22, 2020, TUESDAY

- Vikrami Samvat 2077
- Shaka Samvat 1942
- Posh Shaka 1
- Posh Parvishite 8
- Hijari 1442
- Shukla Paksha Tithi 8, up to 6.15 pm
- Vyatipaata Yoga up to 12.09 pm
- Uttarabhadrapad Nakshatra up to 1.37 am
- Moon in Pisces sign
- Gandmool start 1.37 am

YESTERDAY’S SOLUTION

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

FORECAST

SUNSET: TUESDAY 17:26 HRS

SUNRISE: WEDNESDAY 07:17 HRS

CITY	MAX	MIN
Chandigarh	19	07
New Delhi	23	05
Amritsar	17	06
Bathinda	22	05
Jalandhar	18	05
Ludhiana	18	06
Bhiwani	22	06
Hisar	22	07
Sirsa	21	07
Dharamsala	13	04
Manali	14	02
Shimla	15	07
Srinagar	09	-06
Jammu	20	06
Kargil	-05	-15
Leh	-08	-17
Dehradun	20	06
Mussoorie	16	07

TEMPERATURE IN °C



# 3-phase panchayat poll on Jan 17, 19, 21

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SHIMLA DECEMBER 21**  
The State Election Commission (SEC) today announced the panchayat elections in three phases on January 17, 19 and 21.

As per the election schedule announced, the nominations could be filed on December 31, January 1 and 2. The papers would be scrutinised on January 4 while withdrawals would take place on January 6 between 10 am and 3 pm. The papers would be filed on January 6 between 10 am and 3 pm. The list of the contesting candidates showing the symbols allotted to them shall be affixed.

The polling would take place in three phases on January 17, 19 and 21 next year from 8 am to 4 pm. The votes

## THE SCHEDULE

- The nominations can be filed on December 31, January 1 and 2
- The papers will be scrutinised on January 4
- Withdrawals will take place on January 6 between 10 am and 3 pm.



would be counted the same day in the case of the election of ward members, up-pradhans and pradhans of gram panchayats. The counting of votes for the members of panchayat samitis and zila parishads would be taken up on January 22 at the block headquarters. However, the election programme shall

not apply to all panchayati raj institutions (PRIs) in Key-long and Kaza development block. It shall also not apply to gram panchayats and panchayat samitis of Pangi development block, Karjan and Soyal gram panchayats in Naggar development block and Jaban and Namhog gram panchayats in Anni development block of Kullu. The elections to the four gram panchayats are due in June 2021.

The programme would not apply to the pradhans of all gram panchayats of Shimla district and pradhans of all gram panchayats in Dharampur development block of Mandi district in view of the stay orders granted by the High Court.

# BJP sets up poll management panel

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SHIMLA DECEMBER 21**

Though not contested on party symbols, the results of the urban local bodies and panchayati raj elections will be a reflection on the three-year BJP regime, forcing the ruling party to use its might in ensuring its victory.

Now with the dates for both urban local bodies (ULB) and panchayat elections being announced by the State Election Commission today, the political fervour will gain momentum even though in a restricted manner on account of Covid restrictions.

The BJP is already in the election mode as it has been gearing up its cadres for quite some time.

The results will not just be a litmus test for the BJP regime, but also a reflection of the public mood, especially on the state of affairs since



CM Jai Ram Thakur with BJP's Suresh Kashyap in Shimla.

the outbreak of Covid. The Congress on the other hand will try to capitalise on accusing the BJP regime of failing to manage the Covid situation, resulting in Himachal having the highest positivity rate in the country.

With the BJP being in no mood to waste time, the party constituted the Panchayati Raj State Election Management Committee at a meeting held here today. The members of the committee will include state organisation secretary Pawan Rana, the in-charge of the four parliamentary constituencies

Jamwal (Hamirpur), Trilok Kapoor (Kangra), Rakesh Jamwal (Mandi) and Puroshottam Guleria (Shimla), Urban Development Minister Suresh Bhardwaj, Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Minister Virender Kanwar and state BJP Mahila Morcha president Rashmi Dhar Sood.

Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur today chaired a meeting for ensuring the coordination between the government and the party organisation.

The meeting was attended by Suresh Kashyap and the in-charge for parlia-

## OPPN BANKS ON MLAS

With former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh no longer active, it will be left to the legislators concerned and local leaders to garner support for the party-backed candidates in the panchayat elections.

mentary constituencies.

On the other hand, the Congress is yet to get into the election mode even though Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee (HPCC) president Kuldeep Rathore is interacting with party office-bearers. However, it is largely the sitting party legislators and former MLAs, who will have to activate the party cadres for the polls.

With former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh no longer active, it will be left to the MLAs concerned and local leaders to garner support for party-backed candidates in the polls.

# Heroin worth ₹1 cr seized in Mandi

**MANDI, DECEMBER 21**

The police seized 337 grams of heroin worth Rs 1 cr from two persons travelling in a car near Nagchala in Mandi district this morning. The police personnel on patrolling duty stopped the car for rash driving, which was without a number plate. SP Shalini Agnihotri said on checking the vehicle, nothing was found. But on suspicious behaviour of the driver, a gazetted officer was called from the electricity department. A search of both of them was conducted and 337 grams of heroin was recovered from the driver.

The accused were supplying heroin in Mandi, Bilaspur and Kullu", she added. One accused was native of Ambala, while the other was from Punjab. They have been arrested. — TNS

# Chambaman found in Ludhiana

**CHAMBA, DECEMBER 21**

The Chamba police found a missing resident of Chamba from Ludhiana after about 30 years, Chamba SP Arul Kumar said here today. He was identified as Ayub Khan of Chuwara village under Sarahan post office. — OC

# Now, 24X7 services at Una health centre

OUR CORRESPONDENT

**UNA, DECEMBER 21**

Rural Development Minister Virender Kanwar launched 24x7 emergency health services at the Community Health Centre (CHC) at Thanakalan village in Bangana subdi-

vision of the district today.

The Community Health Centre is at present providing only medical services during the day and patients in emergency have to travel to the Una district hospital, located 18 km away, for treatment. Kanwar said that a digi-

tal X-ray machine would also be made available at the Community Health Centre within a fortnight. Later, the minister inspected the ongoing construction work of the new CHC building at Thanakalan village at a cost of Rs 6 crore. He

added that the building would be completed within a year.

Kanwar said that one of the six tele-medicine centres proposed to be set up in the state under the aegis of the Rural Development Department would come up at Thanakalan.



A tourist vehicle skids at the north portal of the Atal Tunnel at Sissu in Lahaul and Spiti. PHOTO: JAI KUMAR

# 294 new Covid cases reported

**SHIMLA, DECEMBER 21**

With 294 new cases today, the total number of positive cases reached 52,623 in the last 24 hours. Nine persons succumbed to the virus today, taking the fatality figure to 873 in the state. While four persons died in Shimla, two breathed last in Kangra. — TNS

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE					
The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division No. II, Kullu at Bhunter invites offline tenders on short time basis on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following works:-					
Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	EMD Cost of Tender	Time of Completion (months)	Cost of form
01	Providing FHTC of various WSS in GP shat Jalugran in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of village Balgani, Charani, Dadranal, Dhara, Gurubehar Guru Rasharan, Kapri & Kufidhar)	425925	8518	One	250
02	Providing FHTC of various WSS in GP shat Jalugran in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of Village Saranauli, Shat, Bhotaranal)	440445	8808	One	250
03	Providing FHTC of various WSS in GP shat Jalugran in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of Village Dainthala, Hesirasharan, Jalugran, Kapri & Nakadhar)	377524	7550	One	250
04	Providing FHTC of various WSS in GP shat Jalugran in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of village Paset, Romance, Sharni & Tungdhar)	379944	7598	One	250
05	Providing FHTC of various WSS Deori Manyashi of CV Manyashi in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Deori Manyashi)	402098	8041	One	250
06	Providing FHTC of various WSS Deori Manyashi of CV Manyashi in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Deori Manyashi)	335085	6701	One	250
07	Providing FHTC to WSS Pini Talpini in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Pini Talpini)	414323	8286	One	250
08	Providing FHTC to WSS Pini Talpini in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Pini Talpini)	426161	7103	One	250
09	Providing FHTC to WSS Nagladi, Gushani, Shili, Mashiyar, Bathad, Chipni in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Nagladi Gushani)	373709	7474	One	250
10	Providing FHTC to WSS Nagladi, Gushani, Shili, Mashiyar, Bathad, Chipni in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Nagladi Gushani)	231700	4634	One	250
11	Providing FHTC to WSS Nagladi, Gushani, Shili, Mashiyar, Bathad, Chipni in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Bathad Chipni)	467137	9342	One	250
12	Providing FHTC to WSS Nagladi, Gushani, Shili, Mashiyar, Bathad, Chipni in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Bathad Chipni)	211146	4222	One	250
13	Providing FHTC to WSS Nagladi, Gushani, Shili, Mashiyar, Bathad, Chipni in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Mashiyar)	411080	8221	One	250
14	Providing FHTC to WSS Nagladi, Gushani, Shili, Mashiyar, Bathad, Chipni in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Mashiyar)	334470	6879	One	250
15	Providing FHTC to WSS Nagladi, Gushani, Shili, Mashiyar, Bathad, Chipni in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Shili)	401738	8034	One	250
16	Providing FHTC to WSS Linger Bansu, Pahnala, Bhulang, Shikari Shilani, Baga Bai, Khilli & Kareri in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Linger Bansu)	309922	6198	One	250
17	Providing FHTC to WSS Linger Bansu, Pahnala, Bhulang, Shikari Shilani, Baga Bai, Khilli & Kareri in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Padhar, Pahnala Parkashi)	336338	6726	One	250
18	Providing FHTC to WSS Linger Bansu, Pahnala, Bhulang, Shikari Shilani, Baga Bai, Khilli & Kareri in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Nardi, Shalini Shikarishila)	340075	6801	One	250
19	Providing FHTC to WSS Suchain in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Suchain)	417674	8353	One	250
20	Providing FHTC to WSS Suchain in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Suchain)	737166	8743	One	250
21	Providing FHTC to WSS under GP Punthal & Kasol in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Jaree)	402422	8048	One	250
22	Providing FHTC to WSS under GP Punthal & Kasol in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Kasol)	473364	9467	One	250
23	Providing FHTC to WSS under GP Punthal & Kasol in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Kasol)	442735	8854	One	250
24	Providing FHTC to WSS under GP Punthal & Kasol in Tehsil Bhuntar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Jaree)	225544	4510	One	250
25	C/o LWSS Deori Palach, LWSS Tinda Sharan Bajohi, Gagoon Laida Tiroo, WSS Dhuru Ropa Sharai in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Chanon)	253640	5072	One	250
26	C/o LWSS Deori Palach, LWSS Tinda Sharan Bajohi, Gagoon Laida Tiroo, WSS Dhuru Ropa Sharai in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Chanon)	384936	7698	One	250
27	C/o LWSS Deori Palach, LWSS Tinda Sharan Bajohi, Gagoon Laida Tiroo, WSS Dhuru Ropa Sharai in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Targali & Palach)	252148	5042	One	250
28	C/o LWSS Deori Palach, LWSS Tinda Sharan Bajohi, Gagoon Laida Tiroo, WSS Dhuru Ropa Sharai in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Providing FHTC to each house of WSS Thanicher & Kalwari)	280496	5609	One	250
29	C/o LWSS Deori Palach, LWSS Tinda Sharan Bajohi, Gagoon Laida Tiroo, WSS Dhuru Ropa Sharai in Tehsil Banjar, Distt. Kullu, H.P. (SH:- Laying and Jointing of GI pipe Gravity main)	295357	5907	One	250
Last date sale of tender forms:- 28.12.2020 up to 5:00 p.m. and opened on 29.12.2020 up to 12:30 p.m. The tender forms/NIT and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website <a href="http://www.hiphp.org">www.hiphp.org</a> or from office of the Executive Engineer up to date specified above.					
(Er. Ravinder Kumar Sharma) Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division No. II, Kullu at Bhunter.					
DPR/HP/5194 HIM SUNCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK					

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE			
The undersigned invites bids from general public for auction of Old Condemned Vehicles (4 Nos.) as per following detail:			
Sr. No.	Make and Model	RC No.	Reserve Price
1.	Maruti Suzuki Gypsy - 1998	PB11L0065	93,750
2.	Toyota Kirloskar Qualis - 2003	PB11V9466	1,02,500
3.	Hindustan Motors Ambassador - 2003	PB11Z5353	87500
4.	Hindustan Motors Ambassador - 2006	PB11AD7488	87500
The auction will be held at the office of undersigned on BSF Road, Gurdaspur on 24.12.2020 i.e. <b>Thursday between 09.00 a.m. to 03.00 p.m.</b> For further details, contact Nazar Branch at O/o AETC, Gsp.			
Sd/- Assistant Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Gurdaspur.			
DPR/Pb/21			

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB	
Tender/RFP Reference No. 7006	Dt. 18.12.2020
The Department of Water Supply & Sanitation Division Khanna Providing and installing of 100mm i/d straight tubewell up to 150 mtr. depth, Pump Chamber, Pumping Machinery, Disinfection Unit and Distribution System and O&M for 3 months complete in all respect at water supply scheme village Kot Sekhon Basti, Block Khanna, Distt. Ludhiana under PRWSSIP. (Under Sub Component-1-a(iii)/JJM	
Availability of Tender Online for bidding : 22.12.2020 at 10:00 Hrs. to 04.01.2021 up to 15:00 Hrs.	
Last date & Time for submission of Bid : 04.01.2021 at 15:00 Hrs.	
For details login to: <a href="https://eproc.punjab.gov.in">https://eproc.punjab.gov.in</a>	
Note: Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender RFP Notice shall be published on the above website only. For further assistance regarding e-tendering please contact: 0172-2970263, 0172-2970284.	
Sd/- Chairman GPWSC, Village Kot Sekhon Basti Block Khanna Distt. Ludhiana.	
DPR/Pb/28	

OFFICE OF SENIOR MEDICAL OFFICER I/C CIVIL HOSPITAL JAGRAON	
TENDER NOTICE	
Sealed tender are invited from all the contractor for the auction of Security & Sanitation contract of Civil Hospital, Jagraon (Distt. Ludhiana). For one year. It is compulsory for contractor to obtain E.S.I. Card, E.P.F. Card, Service Tax No., Company Registration No., and company should be experienced 3 years in this field. Tender form along with terms & conditions can be obtained upto 12:00 PM on 22-12-2020 to 28/12/2020 from the Reception office of undersigned on cash payment of Rs. 2000/- .The tender form should reach in this office on dated 28/12/2020 upto 2:00 p.m. After 2:00 p.m Tender forms cannot be accepted in any circumstances it can be treated as rejected form. These tenders will be opened on same day 28/12/2020 afternoon at 2:15 P.M. in the presence of the Contractors/Representatives. All the contractors have to deposit security of 1,00,000/- (One Lakh only /Per Tender) Amount of the Tender amount in the form of Demand Draft in favour of Senior Medical Officer I/c Civil Hospital, Jagraon with the filled form which will be Refundable/Adjustable	
Note: If there will be any holiday on Dt. 28/12/2020 process will done on next working day.	
Corrigendum/Addendum, if any will be issued on website only.	
Sd/- Senior Medical Officer, I/c Civil Hospital, Jagraon.	
DPR/Pb/20	

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA	
Ministry of AYUSH	
Financial assistance for skill development in AYUSH Sector	
Ministry of AYUSH invites application in the prescribed format under Central Sector Scheme for Skill Development under Champion Services Sector Scheme for Medical value Travel for the year 2020-21 from the institutions recognized by Central Council of Indian Medicine (CCIM)/ Central Council for Homoeopathy (CCH)/Healthcare Sector Skill Council under Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.	
2. Financial assistance to conduct skill development training in AYUSH sector up to Rs. 1.5 lakh (for short term courses)/3.00 lakh (for midterm course) per training program will be provided to the institutions and Rs. 9000 will be provided to the students as stipend.	
3. The eligible institutes may submit complete applications in prescribed format along with the required documents/information to judge the eligibility of the institution. The detailed guidelines are available on the website of the Ministry of AYUSH i.e. <a href="https://main.ayush.gov.in/schemes">https://main.ayush.gov.in/schemes</a>	
4. The applications in triplicate complete in all respect along with check list should reach to the Advisor (Ay.), Champion Services Sector Scheme Medical Value Travel, M/o Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy, Room No. 207, 2nd Floor, Ayush Bhawan, B-Block, GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi – 110023 on or before 10th January, 2021.	
davn 17201/11/0023/2021	

# Ice renders travel risky on Manali-Keylong road

**DIPENDER MANTA**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**MANDI, DECEMBER 21**

Journey on the Manali-Leh highway between Manali and Keylong via the Atal Tunnel has become risky due to the deposit of frost and ice in the road these days. As the temperature was plummeting below freezing point at several places from the Solang valley towards Lahaul, frost is depositing on the road during morning and evening hours. It makes the road slippery making the movement of vehicles in the area extremely risky.

The Himachal Road Transport Corporation has stopped its bus service

between Manali and Keylong for the last one week as driving bus on this route was fraught with danger.

DK Narang, Regional Manager of HRTC Depot, Kullu and Keylong, told The Tribune that due to the deposit of frost in the shadow area between Manali and Keylong, it was unsafe to drive a bus on this route. The deposit of frost and icing on the road makes driving risky. So, in view of public safety, the bus service has stopped on this route from the last one week.

Some videos were going viral on social media in which vehicles were seen colliding with each on this road as they were skidding because of snow and frost.

# Snow leopard count rises in Himalayan national park

Authorities plan census to know exact population

**DIPENDER MANTA**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**MANDI, DECEMBER 21**

The authorities of the Great Himalayan National Park (GHNP), Kullu, are planning a census of snow leopards in the park in the coming days to know their exact population. The GHNP is located in Banjar subdivision of Kullu district.

Suneet Bhardwaj, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) of the GHNP, says, “The population of snow leopards has increased in the Great Himalayan National Park, Kullu, in the past few years. The movement of snow leopards was captured on camera for the first time in the GHNP area by the Wildlife Institute in 2018. Researchers of the Nature Conservation Foundation had in 2019 installed trap cameras in different locations in the GHNP and the movement of snow leopards and their cubs was captured at 19 places”.

The DFO said, “Now, the GHNP authorities have an official document that shows the snow leopard population is increasing in the park. Earlier, we had noticed only adult snow leopards in the GHNP area but last year the



## ON THE VERGE OF EXTINCTION

A snow leopard is a rare species of wildlife animal, which is on the verge of extinction. It is listed as vulnerable on the red list of the International Union for Conservation of Nature because its global population is estimated to be less than 10,000 mature individuals and is expected to decline by about 10 per cent by 2040.

researchers of the Nature Conservation Foundation captured pictures of cubs of snow leopards in trap cameras, which revealed that this rare species of wildlife is also breeding here. It is a good sign for the GHNP, which is a habitat of different species of wildlife, flora and fauna”. He said, “The GHNP authorities have not yet ascertained the exact leopard population but the process is underway to conduct a census”.

“The GHNP was awarded

the UNESCO World Heritage Site status in 2014, in recognition of its outstanding significance for biodiversity conservation. The park protects over 1,000 plant species, including many medicinal herbs, 31 mammal and 209 bird species, as well as amphibians, reptiles and insects. Four of the GHNP's mammal species and three of its bird species, including musk deer and western horned tragopan, are globally threatened,” said the DFO.

GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA		TENDER NOTICE	
Sr. No.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE
1.	PNCHAYATI RAJ AMBALA	1. PDG E.T. IN KNOWLEDGE CENTER IN VILLAGE BHUSHA, BALCHERA, BHAGAL, PAI, RAMTHALI DISTT. KATHIHAL 2. PDG E.T. IN KNOWLEDGE CENTER IN VILLAGE SAKRA, TEER, SANGROLI, SANCHAND KITHANA DISTT. KATHIHAL	11.12.2020 31.12.2020
2.	PNCHAYATI RAJ AMBALA	SELECTION OF CONSULTANCY FIRM FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT FOR REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING CONVENTIONAL LAMPS WITH LED LAMPS OR INSTALLATION OF NEW LED STREET LIGHTS WITH NEW POLES AND CABLES (AS THE CASE MAY BE) ALONG WITH CENTRALIZED CONTROL & MONITORING SYSTEM (CCMS) WITH 07 YEARS OF OPERATION & MAINTENANCE IN THE MAHAGRAM VILLAGES IN THE STATE OF HARYANA	17.12.2020 11.01.2021
3.	PWD B&R AMBALA	CONSTRUCTION OF BUDHA STUPA IN DISTRICT KURUKSHETRA (CM ANNOUNCEMENT NO.24169 DATED 30/10/2018). + 1 OTHER WORKS	14.12.2020 04.01.2021
4.	BLOCK DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATS OFFICER, PALWAL	CONST. OF VYAYAMSHALA+ 9 OTHER WORKS	16.12.2020 26.12.2020
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : <a href="http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a> or <a href="http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in">www.etenders.hry.nic.in</a>			



# J&K decides fate of 4K candidates today



**NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 21**  
The fate of nearly 4,200 candidates for the 280 District Development Council (DDC) seats in Jammu and Kashmir will be decided tomorrow, as the authorities will take up the counting of votes polled in the eight-phase elections in the union territory (UT). According to officials in the State Election Commission, a total of 4,181 candidates, including over 450 women, were in the fray for the 280 DDC seats, as the elections were the first



**57L VOTERS EXERCISED THEIR FRANCHISE**

The polling was held over eight phases beginning November 28 and ending December 19 as 51 per cent of the 57 lakh eligible voters exercised their franchise in the elections, which were largely peaceful.

**FIGHT FOR 280 SEATS**

According officials in the State Election Commission, a total of 4,181 candidates, including over 450 women, were in the fray for the 280 DDC seats, as the elections were the first large-scale democratic exercise since erstwhile state was reorganised into two UTs — J&K and Ladakh.

large-scale democratic exercise since erstwhile state was reorganised into two UTs — J&K and Ladakh with special provisions under Article 370 were abrogated on August 5 last year. The polling was held over eight phases beginning November 28 and ending on

December 19 as 51 per cent of the 57 lakh eligible voters exercised their franchise in the elections, which were largely peaceful. Seven Kashmir-centric mainstream political parties, including the National Conference and the Peoples Democratic Party, contested the poll in an alliance

under the banner of the Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) formed for the restoration of Article 370. The Congress was initially a part of the PAGD but distanced itself from the alliance as the BJP targeted the opposition party for being in league with the “Gupkar Gang”.

Meanwhile, all necessary arrangements have been made for counting of votes, which will begin at 9 am in all 20 districts of the UT State Election Commissioner KK Sharma on Sunday reviewed preparations and other arrangements for the counting process.

## Floating ambulance



A shikara-ambulance, equipped with health facilities, floats on the Dal Lake, ahead of its operations, in Srinagar on Monday. Tariq Ahmad Patloo, a houseboat owner, is the man behind the initiative. The floating ambulance service will help dwellers living in houseboats. **PII**

## No rule of law, Mehbooba on detention of PDP's two leaders

**Srinagar:** Two senior PDP leaders were detained on Monday by a Central agency for questioning in a money laundering case, evoking sharp reaction from party chief Mehbooba Mufti who claimed there was “no rule of law” in Jammu and Kashmir. Reports here said officials of the investigating agency detained Sar-taj Madni, who is also a maternal uncle of Mehbooba Mufti, and Peerzada Mansoor Hus-sain in Anantnag district. — IANS

## 232 fresh Covid cases; with three fatalities, toll rises to 1,844

**Srinagar:** Jammu and Kashmir on Monday recorded 232 new Covid cases taking the infection tally to 1,18,495, while the death toll due to the disease rose to 1,844 with three fatalities, officials said. Of the fresh cases, 103 were from the Kashmir division and 129 were from the Jammu division of the union territory, they said. The officials said Jammu district recorded the highest number of 97 cases, fol-lowed by 36 in Srinagar district. — PTI

# NC leaders slay ED action on Abdullah

**JAMMU, DECEMBER 21**  
National Conference (NC) leaders here on Monday assailed the attachment of properties of party president Farooq Abdullah and said the action was “political vendetta” aimed at weakening the political party of Jammu and Kashmir. The Enforcement Directorate on Saturday attached residential and commercial properties worth nearly Rs 12 crore of the former Chief Minister of the erstwhile state in an ongoing case of alleged money laundering. “The timing of the unfortunate action at the conclusion of the (DDC) election makes it all the more murkier and raises questions on the intent of the BJP, which has now mastered the art of using the agencies for furthering its political agendas,” over 60 senior party leaders led by



provincial president Deven-dar Singh Rana said in a joint statement here. The statement, issued from the party headquarters by former ministers and legislators among others, said the action speaks volumes about the “desper-ation” in the BJP rank and file as the NC was further consolidating its roots in the union territory. Such coercive tactics will not deter the party which is a mass movement,” the statement said. — PTI

# Large-scale voting is victory of democracy: Shahnawaz

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 21

A day before the results, BJP national spokesperson and J&K DDC election in-charge Syed Shahnawaz Hussain today called peo-ple’s participation in the recent elections as “victory of democracy”. Addressing a press confer-ence in Srinagar, he said people had shown their faith and trust in democra-cy of the country. “It is a collective and moral victory of the people as they participated active-ly in the elections. It will further strengthen Kashmi-rat, Jamooriyat and Insaniyat,” Hussain said, according to a statement.

He said, “People have sent strong message to anti-national elements who had some other intentions. They are frustrated now as they have seen brisk polling during the elections. It is a



## PEOPLE TERRIFIED IN PAST 7 DECADES

“It is for the first time that people came out in large numbers as they were terrified in the past seven decades

Syed Shahnawaz Hussain, J&K DDC POLL IN-CHARGE

fact that despite pressures from various quarters, peo-ple came out in large num-bers and elected their rep-resentatives.

## UK flights suspended over new strain fears

This development calls for enhanced epidemiological surveillance, enhanced contain-ment and other mea-sures to effectively tackle the challenge,” Health Secre-tary Rajesh Bushan said in an urgent communication to his Civil Aviation counter-part Pradeep Singh Kharola. Bhushan noted that an interjection of a SARS-CoV2 variant virus through air passengers could pose criti-cal risks for pandemic man-agement in India. The monitoring group also suggested that Covid-positive people be quaran-tined or isolated and nega-tive ones be advised a weeklong home isolation.

FROM PAGE 1

# Leopard count up

and biodiversity,” Javadekar added. As for region-wise distri-bution, the highest number of 8,071 big cats was found in central India and eastern ghats, which include Mad-hya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Odisha, Chhattis-garh, Jharkhand, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. In the western ghat region, which comprises Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Kerala, there are 3,387 leopards and 1,253 leopards in Shivalki and Gangetic Plains, which includes Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Bihar. In northeast hills, there are just 141 leopards. Leopards are among the most adaptable carnivores and known to exist very

**PROTECTING ECOLOGY**  
“Increase in the population of tigers, Asiatic lions and now leopards shows how India is protecting its environment, ecology and biodiversity

Prakash Javadekar, ENVIRONMENT MINISTER

close to human habitations. According to a study, there are four distinct sub-population of leopards in India with high genetic variations — leopards in western ghats, the Deccan Plateau semi-arid region, the Shivalik mountains and the Terai region in north India. — TNS

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATS**  
**Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, Mohali**  
**(Punjab State Rural Livelihoods Mission)**

Applications are invited for the post of One Project Manager (Non-Farm) at HQ Mohali and two Block Program Managers (one in Block Gurusarhari, Distt Ferozepur and other is at Block Valtola/Cholla Sahib, Distt Tarantaran) under Punjab Rural Livelihoods Mission on contractual basis Last date of applying is 31/12/2020 Further details & Application Performa is available on website [www.pbrdp.gov.in](http://www.pbrdp.gov.in)

**Sd/- Joint Development Commissioner-cum-CEO, Ajeevika, Punjab.**

DPR/Pb/120749

**PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD**  
**E TENDER NOTICE No. PWSSD/MOGA/2020/17 Dated 21.12.2020**  
**www.eproc.punjab.gov.in**

On behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Chandigarh, Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sewerage Division, Mogha invites bids from eligible bidders for the works detailed below.

Sr. No.	Name of Work
1	Name of work:- Providing, Laying, Joining, Cutting and Testing of SW Pipe lateral Sewer, Construction of RCC-cum-Brick Masonry main Sewer, Construction of Manhole Chambers, Dismantling and Reconditioning of Roads, Sewerage House Connection and all other works contingent thereto complete in all respects at Dawarena Road (Dera Hukami Nath, Shere Punjab Nagar and Bakila Wali Gali) at, Kotkapura Distt. Faridkot (Part-B)
2	Name of work:- Providing, Laying, Joining, Cutting and Testing of SW Pipe lateral Sewer, Construction of RCC-cum-Brick Masonry main sewer, Construction of Manhole Chambers, Dismantling and Reconditioning of Roads, Sewerage House Connection and all other works contingent thereto complete in all respects at both sides of Dawarena road, (Sangat Singh Nagar, Maharaja Ranjit Singh Nagar, Bhathe Wali Gali) at Kotkapura Distt. Faridkot (Part-C)

Last date & time for online submission of bids shall be : **14/01/2021 up to 5:00 PM**  
For detailed items & conditions refer to website <http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in>  
**Note:-** Corrigendum will be published on department's website only.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew Divn, Mogha.**

DPR/Pb/120821

**Tender/RFP for Services like AMC, housekeeping etc. Government of Punjab**  
**Tender Reference No.16 of 2020**

The Department of PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD re-invites online bids for:-

Sr. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Providing, Installation Microcontroller Software GSM based pump control panel including maintenance for two years at Nakodar Town, Distt Jalandhar.
2.	Supplying one number of four wheeled push type mounted Mouse Mini Jetting Machine with high pressure water triplex plunger pump of discharge up to 13.0LPM coupled with Auxiliary Diesel Engine (other details as per attached Technical Specifications) at Nakodar for Annual Maintenance Sewerage Scheme under the Jurisdiction of Sub Division, Nakodar.
3.	Hiring a car for Division Office, Pb. W/S & Sewerage Division No. 1, Jalandhar for the year 2021 period 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021.
4.	Construction of Earthen Bandh around Pond, repair of MPS including civil work, electrical work & mechanical work and making path for STP at Shakhit Town, Distt. Jalandhar & all other works contingent thereto.

**Important dates for Sr. No. 1 to 2 are as under:-**  
i) Last date and time for online submission of bid for tenders up to 16:30 hrs.  
ii) Date and time of opening of Technical Bid for tenders at 14:00 hrs.

**Important dates for Sr. No. 3 to 4 are as under:-**  
14.01.2021 up to 16:30 hrs.  
15.01.2021 at 14:00 hrs.

**Note:-** The above dates are given for L&C Societies. For Sr. No. 1 to 2 the Last date and time for online submission of bid for tenders Contractors/Agencies will be 12.01.2021 up to 16:30 hrs. and Opening date for tender is 13.01.2021 at 14:00 hrs. and for Sr. No. 3 to 4 the Last date and time for online submission of bid will be 19.01.2021 up to 16:30 hrs. and Opening date for tender is 20.01.2021 at 14:00 hrs. Other terms and conditions refer to website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>. Corrigendum, if any, will be issued on website only.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Punjab W/S & Sew. Divn. No. 1, Jalandhar.**

DPR/Pb/120821

**Government of Punjab**  
**Tender Notice Reference No. 46 Dt. 21.12.2020**

On behalf of the Governor of Punjab, Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, PWD B&R, Sangrur invites online bids for the following works:-

Sr. No.	Item	Quantity
1	Construction of gates at various places in Sangrur	4
2	Construction of H/L Bridge 31.30 Mtr. long over Ghaggar Branch Crossing Akbarpur to Matran including approaches road diversion, dismantling old structure in Distt. Sangrur under NABARD-XXV Scheme.	1
3	Construction of District Library at Sangrur.	1

For details logon to:- <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>  
**Note:-** Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender Notice shall be published on the above website only.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Provincial Divn., PWD B&R, Sangrur (Pb.).**

DPR/Pb/16

**ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ**  
**http://eproc.punjab.gov.in**  
**ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰਿੰਗ ਨੋਟਿਸ ਨੰਬਰ: 11 ਮਿਤੀ: 15.12.2020**  
**Secure Online Submission of Tenders**

ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਦੀ ਲਈ ਆਮਦਨਾਮੀ ਸਿਸਟੀਮ (ਸ) ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ, ਨਵੀਂ ਦਰਾ ਮੰਡੀ, ਲਾਹੌਰ ਤਹਿਤ ਵੱਡੇ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਮੰਡੀ ਬੋਰਡ ਨਾਲ ਰਜਿਸਟਰਡ ਖੇਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਵੱਡੇ ਪੱਧਰ ਦੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ/ਦੁਆਰਾ ਪਾਸ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਬੱਧ ਹੋਣ ਵਾਲੇ ਈ-ਟੈਂਡਰਿੰਗ ਨਵੀਂ ਆਮਦਨਾਮੀ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> ਰਾਹੀਂ ਟੈਂਡਰਾਂ ਦੀ ਸੀਲ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ।

ਵਰਕ ਕੋਡ ਨੰ.	ਕੰਮ ਦਾ ਨਾਂ	ਅੰਦਾਜ਼ਾ ਲਗਾਤਾਰ ਟਿਕਾਣਾ ਕਰਨਾ	ਬਿੱਡ ਦਾਖਲ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਆਖਰੀ ਮਿਤੀ
1	ਕੰਮ ਮੁਕੰਮਲ ਕਰਨ ਦਾ ਸਮਾਂ	ਕੰਮ ਦਾਖਲ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਆਖਰੀ ਮਿਤੀ	ਕੰਮ ਦਾਖਲ ਕਰਨ ਦੀ ਆਖਰੀ ਮਿਤੀ

**ਤਰ:** 2020-043  
ਭੋਆਚੀ ਪੇਕਵਾਲੀ ਯੂਜ਼ੀਂ (ਵੇਟੀਆਂ ਤੋਂ ਨਿਰੀਖਣ ਪੇਂਟ੍ਰਾਮ) ਮਾਰਕੀਟ ਕਮੇਟੀ ਨਿਰੀਖਣ ਪੇਂਟ੍ਰਾਮ, ਸਿਲਾਹੌਰ ਤਹਿਤ (Length 530 Km Width 375 ਮੀ.) ਸਮੇਂ ਦੀ ਨਿਰਾਣ: 6 ਮਹੀਨੇ

**ਨੋਟ:** 1. ਕੰਗਰੇਸ਼ਨ ਕੋਲ ਵੈੱਬਸਾਈਟ 'ਤੇ ਹੀ ਚਿੱਤਾ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ।  
ਬਰਤਨ: 1. ਸੀ.ਐਸ.ਟੀ. ਦੀ ਕਟੌਤੀ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦੀਆਂ ਹਦਾਇਤਾਂ ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ।  
2. ਜੇਕਰ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਬੋਰਡ ਵਾਲੇ ਨਿਰ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਛੁੱਟੀ ਦਾ ਐਲਾਨ ਹੋ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਟੈਂਡਰ ਅਗਲੇ ਅਨੁ.ਕਾਸ ਵਾਲੇ ਦਿਨ ਬੰਨ੍ਹੇ ਜਾਣਗੇ।

**Sd/- Executive Engineer (C) Punjab Mandi Board Tarn Taran.**

DPR/Pb/1

**NO:-HFW-RMP/Tender/Canteen/2020-21**  
**OFFICE OF THE MEMBER SECRETARY, RKS-CUM-MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT, MGMSC KHANERI, RAMPUR BSR, DISTT. SHIMLA, H.P.**  
**"NOTICE INVITING TENDER"**

Sealed Tenders are invited from the interested parties for providing **Canteen Services at MGMSC Khaneri (Rampur Bsr), Distt. Shimla, H.P.** for 2020-21 and the tender document can be obtained till 5.1.2021 upto 5.00 pm on any working day on payment of Rs. 500/- only. Duly completed tender form alongwith an **earnest money (Rs. 50,000/- fifty Thousand only)** in the form of FDR/ Demand Draft/Bankers Cheque/Bank Guarantee from any of the commercial bank in **favour of Member Secretary, RKS-cum-Medical Superintendent, MGMSC Khaneri (Rampur Bsr)**, should be submitted till 7.1.2021 upto 11.30 pm and the same will be opened on the same date i.e. 7.1.2021 at 2.30 pm by a Tender Opening Committee constituted for this purpose in the presence of Tenderers or their authorized representatives who are present. The terms & conditions may be read carefully and strictly complied with before submitting the tenders. The bids must be submitted in sealed envelope, clearly marked as "Tender for Canteen". Tenders not conforming to the essential requirements, as per Terms & conditions (Annexure-A) will be rejected and no correspondence thereof shall be entertained whatsoever. The undersigned reserve the right to accept or reject any or all the tender without assigning any reason.

**Member Secretary RKS-cum-Medical Superintendent, MGMSC Khaneri, Rampur Bsr. Distt. Shimla, H.P.**

DPR/HP/5205

**PUNJAB HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION**  
**INVITATION OF BIDS**  
**Tender reference No. Bid No. 38 e-tender/PHSC/JEE (W)/2020-21**  
**Dated: 21.12.2020**

The Department of Punjab Health Systems Corporation, Mohali invites online bids for Balance Work of Providing and Installation of fire Fighting & Fire Detection System in the Existing at DH Faridkot, DH Mansa and Balance Work of Construction of 01 No. MO Residence at DH Faridkot.

Closing Date:- **12.01.2021 up to 17.00 Hrs.**  
For details logon to: [www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in).  
**Note:-** Any Corrigendum(s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer (W) For Managing Director**

DPR/Pb/120793

**HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**  
**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**  
**☎01905-272269 Fax:- 272862 Email: ee-dhar-hp@nic.in**  
**No: PW-DPD-CB-Tender/2020:18432-54**  
**Date 21/12/2020**

The Executive Engineer, Dharampur Division, HPPWD Dharampur, Distt: Mandi (H.P.) on behalf of Governor of H.P invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering systems from the eligible class of contractors registered with HPPWD for the work as detailed in the table.

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)	Starting Date for downloading Bid	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Deadline for submission of Bid.
1	Construction of 50 Bedded Hospital at Thra Tehsil Dharampur Distt Mandi (H.P.) (SH: Site development, Building portion, W.S. & S.I., Boundary Wall and Gate, Septic Tank and Soak Pit, Solar Water Heater and Photo Votlic Cell.)	17,15,71,791/-	01.01.2021	5,00,000/-	14.01.2021

The bidders are advised to note other details of tender from the department website [www.htenders.gov.in](http://www.htenders.gov.in).

**ON BEHALF OF GOVERNOR OF H.P. Executive Engineer, Dharampur Division, HPPWD Dharampur, Distt: Mandi (H.P.)**

DPR/HP/5210

**PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE No. 37/PWSSD/2 Dated: 21.12.2020**  
**https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

On behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Board, Chandigarh, Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Divn. No. 2 Patiala invites bids from eligible bidders for the works detailed below:-

Sr. No.	Description of Work	Earnest Money	Cost of document/ Tender Processing Fee (Rs.)	Period of Completion	Approx. Value of the Work (In Lacs)
1.	Survey, Soil testing, design supply & construction, installation & Commissioning of Sewage Treatment Plant of 3.00 MLD Capacity at Amloh basis on any suitable, sustainable and proven technology including other apartment works on turnkey basis as per DNIT including Operation & Maintenance for a period of 60 months after complete stabilization period of 3 months or more and all other works contingent thereto.	Rs. 7,50,000/-	Rs. 1,000+5000 As per taxes	09 Months	Lump Sum

**1. Important dates are as under:-**  
i) Period of availability of tender online shall be : From 22.12.2020 to 11.01.2021 up to 05:00 p.m.  
ii) Last date and time for online submission of bid shall be : 11.01.2021 up to 05:00 p.m.  
iii) Date and time of opening of Technical Bid : 12.01.2021 at 03:00 p.m.  
\*For detailed terms and conditions refer to website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> If any corrigendum issued will be loaded & seen at website.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer, Punjab W/S & Sew. Divn No. 2., Patiala.**

DPR/Pb/120820

**HIMACHAL PRADESH IRRIGATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**\*FOR E-TENDERING\***

The Executive Engineer I&PH Division Anni District Kullu (H.P.) invites tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following work through e-tendering process:-

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest Money	Time Limit	Cost of Tender
1.	Construction of Assistant Engineer Office & Residence at Jal Shakti Sub Division Dalash in Anni Block Distt. Kullu H.P.(SH: Construction of Assistant Engineer office, residence and approach road at Jal Shakti Sub Division Dalash)	Rs. 77,35,145/-	Rs. 1,09,850/-	24 Months	800/-

1 Last Date of filling/uploading the tender through e-tendering: 26.12.2020 up to 05:00 p.m.  
The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website [www.htenders.gov.in](http://www.htenders.gov.in) or from office of above Executive Engineer, up to date specified above.

**HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK**

DPR/HP/5201

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB PWD B&R BRANCH**  
**NOTICE RE-INVITING ONLINE BIDS**  
**TENDER NOTICE NO. 14 DATED 21.12.2020**

On behalf of Governor of Punjab, Executive Engineer, Provincial Division PWD B&R Br., Hoshiarpur invites bids from eligible bidder enlisted under "All road works" category with PWD (B&R) for the works approved under Special Repair of Link Roads Program 2020-21 (Phase-II) falling under his jurisdictions detailed in the following table. The bidders may submit bids for any or all of the following works(s).

Sr. No.	Name of MC	Group No's whose tenders being called	Total No. of groups	Availability of tender online from	Last date and time of submission of tender online
1	Hoshiarpur	1 to 2	2	21.12.2020 to 31.12.2020	31.12.2020 up to 5.00 p.m.

\*For detailed terms and conditions refer to website <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> Corrigendum, if any, will be issued on website only.

**Sd/- Rajinder Singh Gotra, Executive Engineer, Provincial Division PWD B&R Br., Hoshiarpur. Ph. No. 01882-222511 Mob. 98888-30735**

DPR/Pb/10

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DEPARTMENT, PUNJAB**  
**e-tender Notice No. : WSSD Division No. 1 Pathankot/Tubewell-2020-21**

For & on behalf of Governor of Punjab, the Executive Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation Division No. 1, Pathankot invites online item rate/Lump Sum tenders for the following work(s):-

Sr. No.	Name of Work	1) Estimated Cost	2) Earnest Money	3) Processing Fee	4) Cost of Tender Fee	5) Time Limit
1	2	3				
1	BIFURCATION OF VILLAGE PAPIAL FROM EXISTING WATER SUPPLY SCHEME AZIPIR KHURD & VILLAGE NAWAN PIND FROM EXISTING WATER SUPPLY SCHEME CHANNI MUKIMPUR (MH-PC), BLOCK GHAROTA, DISTT. PATHANKOT (UNDER WORLD BANK PRWSSP 1a(ii)JJM)	1) 36.50 Lakh 2) 73004/- 3) As per website 4) 100/ 5) 6 month + O&M 3 months = 9 months				

**TENDERING SCHEDULE is as below:**

1	Sale & Submission of Tender document Closing Date & Time online	Date from 21.12.2020 to 12.01.2021 up to 12.00 hours
2	Date and Time of Opening of Technical bid	Date 12.01.2021 at 15.00 hrs.

**Note:**

- Other details including eligibility criteria of bidders can be seen in the bidding document on website: <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>
- Conditional tenders shall not be accepted.
- In case date fixed for opening of bid is declared as holiday, then the bid will be opened on the next working day at the same time.
- Corrigendum, if any, will be issued on website only.

**Sd/- (Er. Anuj Sharma), Executive Engineer, W/S & Sanitation Division No. 1, Pathankot. Telephone No. 0186-2920977.**

DPR/Pb/3



HIMACHAL PRADESH  
JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG

\*CORRIGENDUM\*

The following amendments may please be read as in PWD-6 of online tender for the various works of Providing flood Protection/Channalization of Seer Khad from Barchwar to Jahu bridge in Tehsil Sarkaghat, Distt. Mandi H.P. invited vide this office No. J.S.Skt-CB-EA-I-Tender/2020-13382-480 Dated:- 17.12.2020 and to be opened on 12.01.2021:-

1. Sr. No. 5 of PWD-6 The phrase "Exemption of earnest money shall not be allowed" is hereby deleted.

Other terms and condition shall remain unchanged.

Executive Engineer,  
Jal Shakti Division, Sarkaghat.

DPR/HP/5211

HIMACHAL PRADESH  
JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Online bids on items rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer, JSV Division, Rohru, Distt Shimla (H.P.) on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh, in electronic tendering system in two covers for the undermentioned work from the contractors/firms of appropriate class enlisted with Himachal Pradesh JSV Department. Which Shall be opened on 01.01.2021

Sr. No.	Description/Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Earnest money	Time	Cost of form
1	<b>NAME OF WORK:-</b> Providing LWSS to Village Kashani in G.P. Tikkar, Tehsil Tikkar, Distt. Shimla (H.P.) (SH:- Site development for all Civil Structures, C/o Anckor Block for R/main, C/o Sump well at Node1 10,000 Litrs Cap., C/o Delivery Tank at Node2 10,000 Litrs Cap. C/o 1 No. Pump house, Sanitary protection around the Civil structures and Providing laying and jointing of Rising main for API- L-210 and GI (Heavy and Medium) class pipe for stage-Ist and laying and jointing of (Light) class G.I. pipes for distribution network and Supplying and erection of Pumping Machinery & its allied accessories for stage 1st Only) under NABARD	3427628/-	68600/-	6 Months	400/-
<b>Tender ID 2020_HPIPH_43322_1</b>					
2	<b>NAME OF WORK:-</b> Remodelling of LWSS to Khadrals Bazar and Bajesthal and its Surrounding area in G.P. Khangteri, Tehsil Rohru, Distt. Shimla (H.P.) (SH:- Development of site for various structures, C/o RCC Intake Chamber =1No., C/o RCC Storage Tank =1 No. of 15,000 liters capacity , 1 Nos. 30,500, Liters capacity, C/o RCC Sump well =2 Nos. of 43,000 liters capacity each, C/o RCC Delivery Tank = 1 No. of 43,000 liters capacity and, C/o 1 No. Pump house, Sanitary protection around the all civil structures and Providing laying and jointing of Rising main for API- L-210 and GI (Heavy and Medium) class pipe for stage-I, II and laying and jointing of (Light) class G.I. pipes for distribution network and Supplying and erection of Pumping Machinery & its allied accessories for all stages) under JUM	10705796/-	147100/-	1 year	1500/-
<b>Tender ID 2020_HPIPH_43316_1</b>					

For term and condition NIT on the Portal <http://hptenders.gov.in> may be referred.

Executive Engineer,  
Jal Shakti Division, Rohru.

No-IPH-RD-AB-Tender/2020      Dated:-      DPR/HP/5216

Directorate of Medical Education and Research, Haryana

e-mail: dgmer.haryana@gmail.com

Telephone: 0172-2560799/2584533

SCO No.- 7 Sector- 16, Panchkula

Public Notice

SHRI ATAL BHARI VAJPAYEE GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE, CHHAINSA FARIDABAD HARYANA

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Advt. No. Rectt./01/2020      Dated:- 17.12.2020

Applications are invited to fill up the following Teaching Faculty posts by way of walk-in interview on contract basis for a period of one year for the SHRI ATAL BHARI VAJPAYEE Govt. Medical College at Village Chhainsa, Tehsil Ballabgarh, Faridabad. The applicant may visit on the departmental website [www.dmerharyana.org](http://www.dmerharyana.org) for further details.

DETAILS OF POSTS (120)

Sr. No.	Name of Posts	Number of Posts	Consolidated Salary (per month)
1	<b>Professors (06):-</b> I. Medicine II. Surgery III. Obst. & Gynae IV. Anatomy V. Physiology VI. Biochemistry	01(GC) 01(GC) 01(GC) 01(SC) 01(GC) 01(GC)	1,25,200/-(FPL 17)+NPA
2	<b>Associate Professors (20):-</b> I. Pathology II. Medicine III. Pediatrics IV. Surgery V. Orthopedics VI. Obst. & Gynae VII. Anesthesiology  VIII. Radiodiagnosis IX. Anatomy X. Physiology XI. Biochemistry XII. Microbiology XIII. Pharmacology XIV. TB & Chest XV. Dermatology XVI. Psychiatry XVII. Emergency Medicine	01(GC) 02(GC) 01(SC) 02(GC) 01(GC) 01(SC) 02(GC& 1(GC)) 01(GC) 01(ESM) 01(GC) 01(SC) 01(GC) 01(BC(A)) 01(BC(B)) 01(SC) 01(GC)	1,18,500/- (FPL 14)+NPA
3	<b>Assistant Professors (24):-</b> I. Pathology II. Forensic Medicine III. Community Medicine (SPM) IV. Anatomy V. Physiology VI. Biochemistry VII. Medicine VIII. Surgery  IX. Ophthalmology X. ENT XI. Obst & Gynae XII. Anesthesiology XIII. Radiodiagnosis XIV. Dental XV. Emergency Medicine	01(GC) 01(GC) 01(GC) 02(GC&ISC) 02(GC) 02(GC&ISC) 03(IBC(A), & GC & ESM) 03(2GC&ISC) 01(BC(A)) 01(BC(B)) 02(ISC&1GC) 02(GC) 01(BC(A)) 01(GC)	67,700/- (FPL 11)+NPA
4	<b>Tutor/Demonstrators (14):-</b> I. Anatomy II. Physiology III. Biochemistry IV. Pharmacology V. Pathology VI. Microbiology VII. Forensic Medicine VIII. Community Medicine (SPM)	03(GC) 03(ISC&2GC) 03(2GC&ISC) 01(BC(A)) 01(GC) 01(ESM) 01(GC) 01(SC)	M.Sc(NON-MEDICAL)- 56100/-(FPL-10)  MBBS-56,100/-(FPL)+NPA MD/MS-67,700/-(FPL-11)+NPA
5	<b>Senior Residents (24)</b> (i) Medicine (ii) Pediatrics (iii) Surgery (iv) Orthopedics (v) Ophthalmology (vi) ENT (vii) Obst & Gynae (viii) Anesthesiology (ix) Radiodiagnosis (x) Chest & TB (xi) Dermatology (xii) Psychiatry (xiii) Emergency Medicine	03(GC) 01(SC) 03(GC) 01(SC) 01(GC) 01(BC(A)) 02(GC&IESM) 01(GC) 02(ISC&IGC) 01(BC(A)) 01(BC(B)) 01(SC) 06(1ESM, 3GC, IBC(A) & ISC)	67,700/- (FPL-11)+NPA
6	<b>Junior Residents (32):-</b> I. Medicine II. Pediatrics III. Surgery  IV. Orthopedics V. Ophthalmology VI. ENT VII. Obst. & Gynae VIII. Chest & TB  IX. Dermatology X. Psychiatry XI. Emergency Medicine	06(5GC&1SC) 02(1GC&1SC) 06(2GC, IBC(A), IESM & 2SC) 02(1GC&IBC(A) & 1BC(B) & 1SC) 02(GC) 04(2GC, 1BCA & 1SC) 02(GC) 02(1GC & 1SC) 2(GC) 02(1GC & 1BC(A))	56,100/-(FPL-10)+NPA

Director General,  
Medical Education & Research,  
Haryana, Panchkula.

# 10 WORLD

## New UK Covid strain reaches Australia; 2 travellers infected

### No proof to suggest it's deadlier, says Indo-US physician Vivek Murthy

SINGAPORE/WASHINGTON, DEC 21 Australia today said it had detected cases of the new fast-spreading Covid strain, identified in the United Kingdom. Two travellers from the UK to Australia's New South Wales state were found carrying the mutated variant of the virus that Britain has said could be up to 70% more infectious.

Both are in hotel quarantine, and the recent spike in infections in Sydney is not linked to this, authorities said.

The new UK strain has prompted Britain's European neighbours and several others including Canada, Iran and India to close their doors to travellers from the country. Much is unknown about the strain, but experts said current vaccines should still be effective against it.

Asian nations including Japan and South Korea said they were monitoring the new strain even as they battle a rise in infections at home. Hong Kong banned



Vehicles queue up while medical personnel collect samples to conduct Covid test at a Bondi Beach centre in Sydney. REUTERS

TRACKING VIRUS	
NATIONS	DEATHS
US	3,25,160
BRAZIL	1,86,818
MEXICO	1,18,202
UK	67,616
ITALY	69,214

WORLD METER  
TILL DEC 21, 10 PM

EU regulator gives conditional nod to BioNTech-Pfizer drug

flights from Britain. The Chinese special administrative region said on Monday that people arriving from Britain before December 22 would have to quarantine for three weeks instead of two.

South Korea, which imposes a 14-day quarantine on everyone entering the country, said it was reviewing

new measures for flights from Britain. Britain is one of 23 countries that India shares an "air bubble" with. In Washington, Indian-American physician Vivek Murthy, US President-elect Joe Biden's pick for Surgeon General, has said there is no evidence to suggest that the new Covid variant was any

deadlier. Murthy, 43, said that there was no reason to believe that the vaccines already developed would not be effective against it. President-elect Joe Biden will receive his first dose of the Covid vaccine on live television as part of a growing effort to convince the American public the inoculations are safe. — Reuters

# The Tribune

## Japan to spend more on defence sector amid Chinese threat

TOKYO, DECEMBER 21 Japan's Cabinet approved a ninth straight increase in the nation's defence budget as the government bolsters funding to develop longer-range cruise missiles and stealth fighters to counter potential threats from China and North Korea.

The record 5.34 trillion yen (USD 51.7 billion) defence budget planned for fiscal 2021 is the first under Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga and is a 1.1 per cent increase over the current year's budget. It is set for parliamentary approval early next year as part of a 106 trillion yen (USD 1.03 trillion) national budget totaling for the fiscal year beginning in April.

The budget plan includes the costs to develop extended-range missiles that can be fired from destroyers or fighter jets, defence ministry officials said. That's part of Japan's new missile deterrence plan adopted by Suga's Cabinet last Friday that would allow Japan to expand missile deployment in areas includ-



Strengthening military power is Japan PM's priority. FILE

**\$51.7 BILLION BUDGET**

The record 5.34 trillion yen (USD 51.7 billion) defence budget for next fiscal is 1.1 per cent increase over the current year's budget.

ing islands it controls in the East China Sea that are also claimed by Beijing. Suga's government is carrying on the priorities of his predecessor, Shinzo Abe, a military hawk. Under Abe's nearly eight-year tenure, Japan expanded its military's international role amid a growing perceived threat from China and North Korea. — Agencies

## We'll thrive without Brexit deal, says British Premier

LONDON, DECEMBER 21 Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Monday that there were still problems in Brexit trade talks and that Britain would thrive without a deal.

"The position is unchanged: there are problems," Johnson told reporters when asked if there would be a trade deal. "Its vital that everybody understands that the UK has got to be able to control its own laws and also that we've got to be able to control our own fisheries."

"WTO terms would be more

than satisfactory for the UK. And we can certainly cope with any difficulties that are thrown our way. Not that we don't want a deal but that WTO terms would be entirely satisfactory," he said.

Unless Johnson can strike a trade deal with the EU in the next 10 days, the UK will leave the bloc's informal membership on December 31.

Meanwhile, pressure is mounting on the UK to extend the Brexit transition period to prevent further chaos on the borders. — Agencies

## Oli blames partymen for Parl dissolution

KATHMANDU, DECEMBER 21 Nepal's embattled Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli on Monday defended his move to abruptly dissolve Parliament, saying he was forced to seek a fresh mandate through elections as the rift within the ruling Nepal Communist Party severely affected his government's functioning.

Oli on Sunday sprang a surprise on his rivals and got the President to dissolve Parliament, a controversial move amidst a prolonged tussle for power between him and former premier Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' within



Protesters being detained in Kathmandu on Monday. AP/PTI

the ruling dispensation. In a special address to the nation, Oli said that he was forced to dissolve Parliament and announce mid-term elec-

tions after he learnt about a plan to move a vote of no-confidence against him. Oli, who is also one of the two chairmen of the ruling party, said

that the intra-party rift in the ruling Nepal Communist Party severely affected the government's functioning. Oli has rejected the ruling party's decision to take disciplinary action against him, saying he was forced to dissolve Parliament after "conspiracies" were hatched against him. Oli said the decision taken of the second chair of the party was against the party statute. "Since I am the first chair, any meeting called by the other chair will not be legitimate," lawmaker of the dissolved House Krishna Rai quoted Oli as saying. — PTI

BUSINESS

USD \$

EUR €

POUND £

JPY ¥

YUAN ¥

CAD C\$

AUD A\$

SGD S\$

HKD HK\$

₹73.79

₹89.68

₹97.67

₹0.71

₹11.30

₹57.46

₹55.27

₹55.11

₹9.55

Paysharp launches B2B payment solution for companies

B2B virtual account and payment solution provider Paysharp is offering flat transaction charges of Rs 12 for all transactions beyond Rs 2,000 to enterprises. The company has achieved profitability within seven months of its launch.

Sonalika registers record 71% domestic growth

Sonalika Tractors has clocked an extraordinary domestic growth of 71% in November by selling 11,478 tractors, surpassing the estimated industry growth of around 49%. Cumulatively, it has recorded (domestic + exports) sale of 92,913 tractors during April to November, 2020.

Mrs Bectors Food IPO oversubscribed 198 times

Mrs Bectors Food Specialties' initial public offer of Rs 540.54 crore was oversubscribed 198 times. The IPO opened on December 15 and closed on December 17. The price band was fixed at Rs 286-288 per share.

Platina world's first fully recyclable packaging tube

EPL Limited (formerly Essel Propack Limited) has received global recognition from the Association of Plastic Recyclers, USA, for its Platina Tube with an HDPE closure. Platina is the first fully sustainable and completely recyclable tube in the world, including shoulder and cap, to get this recognition.

Ambay Eye Care, Ludhiana, to provide free check-up

Ambay Eye Care & Lasik Centre, Ludhiana, will provide free eye check-up (OPD) services to senior citizens from 9 am to 1 pm from January 1. Meanwhile, Manhas Eye Care & Lasik Centre, BRS

The Tribune CORPORATE BROADBAND

Nagar, Ludhiana, will provide free eye check-up to everyone from 4 pm to 6 pm from January 1.

6th Edition of GMMSA Expo India from February 26

The Garments Machinery Manufacturers and Suppliers Association (GMMSA) has announced that the 6th Edition of GMMSA Expo India - 2021 will be held from February 26 to March 1, 2021, at Dana Mandi, Bahadurke Road, Ludhiana. The expo provides solution to every process in garmenting, right from handling of raw fiber to finished garment.

Hotel Association of India launches Punjab chapter

The Hotel Association of India (HAI) has launched the 'HAI State Chapter' for Punjab as part of its renewed focus to provide a unified voice to the hospitality sector and aid in the resurgence and sustenance of the industry following the global pandemic. The association has also appealed to Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh to accord "industry status" to the hospitality sector.

Orthonova Hospital begins stitchless spine surgery

Dr Harprit Singh has introduced a revolutionary technique at Orthonova Hospital, Jalandhar. With this technique, disc surgery and spine decompression surgery is performed without any stitch by an endoscope and the patient is able to walk within an hour and discharged on the same day.

Pokhriyal launches Chandigarh varsity's 'CUCET 2021'

Union Minister for Education Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal has launched national level entrance-cum-scholarship test 'CUCET 2021' of Chandigarh University. The university is offering academic scholarships

## Bears back in action, investors lose ₹6.59 lakh cr

### Sensex sinks 1,407 pts, Nifty down 432

MUMBAI, DECEMBER 21 Snapping its six-session record-setting streak, equity benchmark Sensex crashed 1,407 points on Monday as a new strain of the coronavirus in the UK clobbered global markets and cast a cloud over the economic recovery expected next year.

A sharp drop in the rupee and profit-booking after the recent rally added to the selling pressure on Dalal Street, traders said.

The Sensex plunged 1,406.73 points or 3% to close at 45,553.96. This was its biggest single-day fall since May 4 this year. Similarly, the Nifty tanked 432.15 points or 3.14% to finish at 13,328.40.

The m-cap of BSE-listed companies dropped by Rs 6.59 lakh crore. European markets swooned while safe-haven assets like gold and the US dollar strengthened after the UK government

ONGC WORST HIT

- All Sensex components ended in the red, with ONGC leading the pack by tumbling 9.15%
- IndusInd Bank, M&M, SBI, NTPC, ITC, Axis Bank and PowerGrid shed up to 6.98%
- The market capitalisation of all BSE-listed companies dropped by ₹6.59 lakh crore to stand at ₹178.79 lakh crore

## Future deal: HC declines to injunct Amazon from writing to regulators

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 21 The Delhi High Court on Monday allowed Amazon to oppose before regulators a Rs 24,713-crore deal by Future Retail Ltd to sell assets to Reliance Retail but said the US e-commerce giant's attempt to control Future Retail is violative of FEMA and FDI rules.

Asking statutory authorities/regulators to take a decision on Amazon's objections in accordance with the law, Justice Mukta Gupta, however, did not void Future Retail's Board approval for the Rs 24,173-crore deal with richest Indian Mukesh Ambani's firm Reliance Retail. — PTI

epaper@tribuneindia.com



# Panghal on right path

Southpaw made his right hook work in winning two gold in Europe

VINAYAK PADMADEO  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 21

Boxer Amit Panghal sounds content. Not only has he had two great months on the road with the national boxing team, he also won two gold medals — one in the Alexis Vastine International tournament in France and the second at the Cologne Boxing World Cup. Now back home in Mayna, Rohtak, he is feasting on the one thing he misses most on the road — *tawa roti* and *churma* made by his mother. “It is the first time I am home in over two-and-a-half months, so I am happy. We have been given some time off after our foreign exposure and home is where you can relax a bit. But this doesn’t mean I’ll be off training! It’s just that the load will be lighter,” Panghal told *The Tribune* on Monday.

The boxing team, both men and women, today returned to the country after spending over two months out on a training-cum-exposure trip that started in Assisi, Italy. The tour culminated with participation at the Cologne World Cup in Germany, where the Indians won nine medals, including three gold medals.

“Frankly speaking, it was good that we got the opportunity to go out to train and compete because it was getting difficult to stay motivated without competitions. And thankfully, we as a team did well in terms of winning medals and that showed that we are on the



Left-handed Amit Panghal said he has been trying to use his right hook more often. PHOTO: BFI

“It is true that I used to observe my opponents in the first round. That was my style but the coaches have been telling me to start positively from the first round and I was able to do that on this trip. I picked up a few points from my right this time. ...it will take some more time to fully adapt to this but I am working hard” Amit Panghal

right path,” Panghal said.

## Some tweaks

While Panghal was happy with two gold medals in the flyweight category on the tour, he was more pleased with the fact that he was able to execute a few changes in his boxing style that chief coach AC Kutappa and high performance director Santiago Nieva wanted him to work on. Essentially a counter-puncher, Panghal was starting cautiously in the first round of most of his bouts.

With the new rules, if there’s a neck-to-neck fight in the second round, the referees have shown a ten-

dency to award the round to the boxer who won the previous round.

Panghal’s 0-5 loss to Ukraine’s Shakhobidin Zoirov in the 2019 World Championship final in Yekaterinburg was a prime example of him starting slow and then being unable to make a comeback.

In addition, the southpaw had a tendency to rarely use his right hook as he was more comfortable with using his left jab. “Both I and Santiago have been telling him to work on these things. He is a clever and accomplished boxer but we cannot afford to start slowly at any tourna-

ment, let alone at the Olympics. If you stay passive in the first round, then it becomes very difficult to recover,” Kutappa explained. “But on this tour, we saw a change and he has started to use his right more. He landed a few right hooks too. So he is on the right track,” the chief coach added.

Panghal agreed that enhancement in his boxing style was needed to stay with the times. “It is true that I used to observe my opponents in the first round. That was my style but the coaches have been telling me to start positively from the first round and I was able to do that on this trip,” the Asian Games gold medalist said.

“I picked up a few points from my right this time. It is a work in progress and it will take some more time to fully adapt to this but I am working hard,” he added.

# Messi dragged ill feeling from failed Barca exit into this season

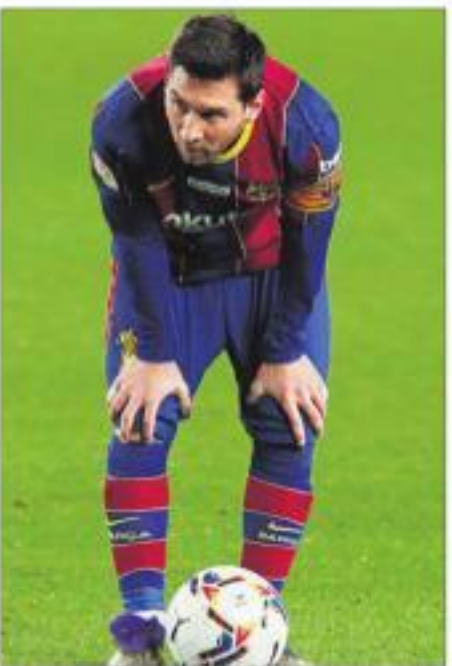
BARCELONA, DECEMBER 21 Lionel Messi has admitted the ill feeling between him and Barcelona over his attempt to leave the club in the close season has affected his form this season, in which he has posted his lowest goal and assist tallies in 13 years.

Messi caused consternation at Barca when he sent the club a burofax (official notice) that he wanted to leave in August, but then president Josep Maria Bartomeu blocked the move and the Argentine committed to stay this season to avoid a legal battle.

He has less than seven months left on his contract and is able to negotiate with other clubs from January.

“Everything that happened before the summer, how the season ended, then the burofax and everything else... I dragged everything into the start of the season a bit,” Messi said in an interview with Spanish television channel *La Sexta*. “The truth is right now I’m feeling fine but in the summer I had a very bad time.”

The Argentine struck for the 643rd time for Barca on Saturday to equal Pele’s



“Everything that happened before the summer, how the season ended, then the burofax and everything else... I dragged everything into the start of the season a bit. The truth is right now I’m feeling fine but in the summer I had a very bad time” Lionel Messi

GOALS Messi has scored in all competitions this campaign, five of which came from the penalty spot

ASSISTS In 13 league games. He contributed 21 last season

goals record for a single club. However, he has drastically

underperformed this campaign, as have his side, who trail leaders Atletico Madrid by eight points in La Liga.

Messi, who finished top scorer in La Liga last season and routinely gets more than 40 goals each year for his club, has only scored nine times in all competitions this campaign, five of which came from the penalty spot.

He also has no assists in 13 league games after contributing 21 last season, making the start of this campaign his worst since the 2007-08 season, when he was 20 years old and suffering from injuries.

Barca face elections on January 24 to pick the successor to Bartomeu, who resigned in October, and Messi remained tight-lipped on where his future lay, saying he was fully focused on helping his side return to form. “Right now I’m feeling good and looking forward to fighting for every competition we have ahead,” he said. “I know the club is in a difficult moment at institutional level and on the pitch and everything surrounding Barca right now is difficult, but I’m feeling excited.” — Reuters

## ATK Mohun Bagan pip Bengaluru FC

MARGAO (GOA): David Williams struck a peach of a goal to open his account and help ATK Mohun Bagan beat heavyweights Bengaluru FC 1-0 in the Indian Super League here today. The Australian showed great control and composure to give ATK a 33rd-minute lead. The Mariners remained behind Mumbai City on goal difference despite being on 16 points from seven matches.

**United hit Leeds for six** MANCHESTER: Manchester United crushed Leeds United 6-2 in the Premier League on Sunday. United’s win, with two goals each for midfielders Scott McTominay and Bruno Fernandes, sent Ole Gunnar Solskjaer’s side up to third on 26 points. AGENCIES

# Benzema helps Real win fifth game in a row

EIBAR, DECEMBER 21 Real Madrid forward Karim Benzema kept up his impressive run of form by scoring and providing two assists in a 3-1 win away to Eibar on Sunday, taking the champions level on points with La Liga leaders Atletico Madrid.

The French forward got Real off to a flying start by scoring in the sixth minute, trapping a chipped pass from Rodrygo with his right foot and calmly finishing into the net with his left for a fifth goal in his last four matches in all competitions.

He was the architect of Madrid’s second goal in the

13th, beating a defender by the byline and cutting the ball back to the edge of the area, where Luka Modric was waiting to slam it high into the net with one touch.

Eibar got back into contention with a curling long-range strike from Kike Garcia in the 28th minute. However, Zinedine Zidane’s side sealed the points with a Lucas Vazquez goal in stoppage time, created by another fine pass from Benzema, to make it five wins in a row in all competitions. Real join leaders Atletico on 29 points, although Atletico have two games in hand. — Reuters

# Get Rahul to open, Gill at No. 5: Gavaskar

NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 21

Legendary Indian batsman Sunil Gavaskar wants KL Rahul to open in place of an out-of-form Prithvi Shaw and the promising Shubman Gill to play in the middle-order in the second Test against Australia starting December 26.

India lost the opening Test by eight wickets, crumbling to their lowest ever Test score of 36 during the debacle.

“India will look at making two changes. Firstly, maybe KL Rahul should replace Prithvi Shaw as an opener. At No. 5 or No. 6, Shubman Gill should come in. His form has been good. Things can change if we start well,” Gavaskar said on an online channel YouTube channel ‘Sports Tak’ on possible changes in the line-up.

He did caution that if India can’t stay positive, a 4-0 whitewash might just be on the cards. “India have to believe that they can come back in the remainder of the Test series. If India don’t find the positivity, then a 4-0 series loss can happen,” Gavaskar said.

“India should start the Melbourne Test well, it’s necessary for them to step onto the ground with a lot of positivity. Australia’s weak point is their batting,” he said.



Sunil Gavaskar wants KL Rahul (in pic) to open in place of Prithvi Shaw. FILE

Gavaskar feels that the anger among the fans after the 36 all out in the first Test is natural. “It’s natural that there is anger after such a performance. But in cricket, anything can happen,” he said.

Gavaskar also rued the missed catches which also reduced the lead to a mere 53. “Had we held on to our catches well and had good field placements, there might not have been any problem. Tim Paine and Marnus Labuschagne would have gotten out early. We could have got a lead of 120 runs. Australia got ahead in the Test because of those dropped catches, they got the lead down to 50 runs,” Gavaskar added. — PTI

## Jadeja in for Vihari?

ADELAIDE: The Indian team management will be keenly monitoring Ravindra Jadeja’s progress leading up to the Boxing Day Test against Australia. If fit, the all-rounder could walk into the playing XI in place of Hanuma Vihari.

Jadeja, who suffered a concussion during the first T20I, also sustained a hamstring injury which ruled him out of the first Test. However, over the past few days, Jadeja has slowly returned to the nets. It has been learnt that the senior all-rounder is recovering well but it can’t be said with certainty that he will be a 100 per cent fit for the second Test in Melbourne starting on December 26.

“If Jadeja gets fit to bowl long spells, then there is no debate at all. Jadeja replaces Vihari on the basis of his all-round skills,” a senior BCCI source told PTI. With Mohammed Shami already ruled out of the series because of a wrist fracture, India might just be tempted to go in with five specialist bowlers instead of the usual four.

## Practice cancelled

The Indian team had a scheduled practice session at the Adelaide Oval today but due to steady rain, it had to be cancelled. With skipper Virat Kohli set to leave for India tomorrow and the squad travelling to Melbourne, the skipper apparently had a chat with his team on the way forward after the 36 all-out debacle.

Meanwhile, senior batsman Rohit Sharma can start training from January 3 ahead of the Sydney Test. He is currently in quarantine in a two-room apartment in Sydney. PTI

## Sindhu, Saina to compete for first time since Covid break

NEW DELHI: India’s top shuttlers PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal will be seen in action for the first time since the coronavirus-forced break when they compete in three upcoming tournaments in Bangkok, including the prestigious BWF World Tour Finals. With Olympics qualifications in mind, the Badminton Association of India (BAI) today announced an eight-member squad to participate in the three tournaments scheduled in January. Sindhu and Saina - along with B Sai Praneeth, Kidambi Srikanth, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, Chirag Shetty, Ashwini Ponappa and N Sikki Reddy — will begin their campaign at the Thailand Open from January 12. PTI

## CA to honour Australia’s Indigenous pioneer

MELBOURNE: The player of the match in the upcoming Boxing Day Test between India and Australia will be awarded with the Johnny Mullagh Medal as a tribute to honour the captain of Australia’s first sporting team to tour internationally. Mullagh was the leader of the 1868 Aboriginal tour to the United Kingdom. Mullagh, whose real name was Unaarrim-in, captained the Indigenous squad on its 1868 tour and played in 45 of 47 matches. He was a skillful all-rounder. PTI

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AIIMS/BI/RC/122 Date: 22.12.2020  
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 Applications are invited for the following Group-B posts on contractual basis: Physiotherapist-02, Radiology Technician-06, Warden-03, Programmer-02, Audiometry Technician-01.  
 The Walk-in interview for these posts will be conducted in AIIMS, Bathinda on 04.01.2021. The application form and details of various posts with terms and conditions are uploaded on the website of institute [www.aiimsbathinda.edu.in](http://www.aiimsbathinda.edu.in). All aspirants are advised to keep visiting AIIMS Bathinda website on regular basis for any further updates.  
 davep 17184/11/0007/2021 **DIRECTOR, AIIMS, Bathinda.**

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 (ISO 9001:2015 प्रमाणित / CERTIFIED)  
 दूरभाष : 0172-2639641, 2639643, फैक्स : 91-0172-2639642  
 क्र. संख्या/172/E-14/31/83/2017 DAVT करा.बी.नि.आ.अ. चंडी दिनांक : 19.12.2020

**E-TENDER NOTICE**  
 Medical Superintendent, ESIC Model Hospital, Chandigarh, invites E-tender under two bid system through e-procurement (CPPP Portal) for “Empanelment of Local Chemist(s) for purchase of drugs, dressings & Surgical Consumables” Tender documents are available online from 22.12.2020. Please visit the websites [www.esic.nic.in](http://www.esic.nic.in) & <https://eprocure.gov.in> [eprocure/app](https://eprocure.gov.in) for details and all further information.  
 DI-16559 **(Medical Superintendent)**

**INDIAN RAILWAYS DIESEL LOCO MODERNISATION WORKS PATIALA - 147003**  
 Tel.: 2396000, 2396001, Fax No.: 91-0175-2306413  
**E-AUCTION NOTICE No. 45/2020-2021**  
 DMW/Patiala will be conducting a live E-Auction sale through the Website ([www.irops.gov.in](http://www.irops.gov.in)) for which schedule as under:

Time of Auction	10.00 Hrs to 17.00 Hrs.		
	11.01.2021	08.02.2021	08.03.2021
Dates of E-Auctions	21.01.2021	18.02.2021	17.03.2021
	29.01.2021	26.02.2021	29.03.2021

Description of scrap	Scrap Ferrous, Non-Ferrous & Misc. etc. lying in Scrap Depot of DMW
E-Auction website	<a href="http://www.irops.gov.in">www.irops.gov.in</a>
The contact no. for further details & query:	SMM/D(Sale) Mob. No. 98779242711 CDMS Sale Mob. No. 98779596903

2836/2020

**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE**  
 For & on behalf of the President of India, Chief Workshop Manager, N.Rly. C&W workshop, Jagadhri Workshop/Yamuna Nagar invites open e-tender for the following work:

1.	Name of work	Manufacturing, assembly, supply & commissioning of Roller blinds in LHB coaches at Northern Railway Jagadhri Workshop.
2.	Location	Northern Railway, Carriage & Wagon Repair Shop, Jagadhri Workshop, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana-135002
3.	Tender Value	Rs. 1940736/-
4.	Quantity	1920 Roller Blinds
5.	Cost of Tender form	Nil
6.	Earnest money amount	Rs. 38800/-
7.	Completion period of the work	24 months from the date of issuance of Letter of Acceptance
8.	Date & Time for submission of tender form	22.01.2021 till 15.30 hrs.
9.	Opening of tender	22.01.2021 till 15.35 hrs. Tender opening will be done any time after the tender closing time. The tenderers are not required to be present during the opening. Railway reserves the right to open the tender any time after closing of tender.
10.	Website particulars	<a href="http://www.irops.gov.in">www.irops.gov.in</a>

No: 6-S/54/Tender/2019-20 Dt: 21.12.2020 2838/2020  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES ANSARI NAGAR, NEW DELHI — 110608 EXAMINATION SECTION**  
 Advertisement No. 200/2020

No. F.AIIMS/Exam.Sec./Advt./4-11/(SR/SD-JAN-21)/2020 Date: 18.12.2020  
**Competitive Examination (Stage-I) for Recruitment to the post of Senior Residents/ Senior Demonstrators for the January 2021 session at AIIMS, New Delhi**  
 Online applications are invited from Indian Citizens as per Govt. of India Residency Scheme, for the tenure posts of Senior Residents/Senior Demonstrators for a maximum period up to 3 years. These posts include existing vacant posts, backlog vacancies of SC, ST, OBC and the posts which are likely to fall vacant (Stage-I) between 01.01.2021 to 30.06.2021. Details of posts can be seen on website. The Examination will be conducted in online (CBT) mode only followed by Interview (Stage-II) of eligible candidate.

Online Registration for applications		
Opens on	Closes on	
18th December, 2020 (Friday)	07th January, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. (Thursday)	
Date of Entrance Examination		
Date of Exam	Duration of Exam.	Exam City
Date of Exam will be declared later	10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	4 Metro cities in India (Delhi/NCR, Mumbai, Kolkata & Chennai)

Admit cards of eligible candidates will only be uploaded on the website. If the status of Registration Form or Admit Card is not available on website, applicant should immediately write an email through **Registered email** to the Assistant Controller (Examinations), AIIMS, New Delhi-110608 on [aiims.srsdexams@gmail.com](mailto:aiims.srsdexams@gmail.com) along with candidate name, exam/test, subject applied, candidate ID and specific query/clarification.  
**Important:** For Prospectus, number of post, eligibility criteria, detailed information etc. please visit the website [www.aiimsexams.org](http://www.aiimsexams.org). All applicants are required to visit the website regularly since all subsequent Cancellation/Addendum/Updates will be uploaded in the website only.  
 davep 17112/11/0023/2021 **ASSISTANT CONTROLLER (EXAMS.)**

**STATE INSTITUTE OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY, NILOKHERI (KARNAL)**  
 (Under Department of Technical Education, Govt. of Haryana)  
 (Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra)  
 Website: [www.gecnilokheri.ac.in](http://www.gecnilokheri.ac.in). E-mail: [directorgecnlokhri@gmail.com](mailto:directorgecnlokhri@gmail.com), Contact No. 01745-247002/247003  
**INSTITUTE LEVEL COUNSELLING-CUM-ADMISSION NOTICE (2020-2021) for B. Tech. and B. Tech. (Lateral Entry)**  
 Application on prescribed performa from eligible candidates are invited for filling up **Vacant/Leftover seats** for admission to B.Tech. and B.Tech. (Lateral Entry) Courses (Computer Science & Engg., Electronics & Communication Engg., Mechanical Engg. and Civil Engg.) as per the following schedule:-

Course	Counselling Criteria	Schedule of Application Submission	Display of Merit List	Display of Seat Allotment List on Institute Website	Fee Submission	Admission Criteria
<b>B.Tech. &amp; B.Tech. (Lateral Entry)</b>	By hand in the Institute or through E-mail at <a href="mailto:admsietnlk@gmail.com">admsietnlk@gmail.com</a> on or before 23.12.2020 (up to 01:00 p.m.)		On Institute Website	On Institute Website	24.12.2020* to 25.12.2020*	<b>B.Tech.</b> JEE-2020 CRL Rank/ Marks of Qualifying Examination i.e. 10+2 (Non-Medical)
<b>B.Tech. &amp; B.Tech. (Lateral Entry)</b>	On the Spot Physical Counselling 29.12.2020 to 30.12.2020 on daily basis	By hand in the Institute on daily basis on 29.12.2020 (Up to 12:00 Noon) 30.12.2020 (Up to 12:00 Noon)	On Institute Notice Board	On Institute Notice Board	Through POS Machine by Debit Card In the Institute on the day of Physical Counselling Itself	<b>B.Tech. Lateral Entry</b> Marks of Qualifying Examination i.e. Diploma in Engineering

\* The application form can be downloaded from Institute Website ([www.gecnilokheri.ac.in](http://www.gecnilokheri.ac.in)).  
 \*The candidates to whom seat will be allotted, will be provisionally admitted subject to the verification of all the eligibility documents and deposition of semester fee of Rs. 29800/- through POS Machine by Debit Card in the Institute or online in the Institute Account through the link sent on their Registered Mobile Number as per the aforesaid schedule of Fee submission.  
 PRDH/1031/11/1/2021/1055/31/4 **Director- Principal**

**TODAY ON TV**  
 ISL  
 ODISHA VS NORTHEAST  
 STAR SPORTS 7:30PM



# Sena links Ram Temple fund drive to 2024 polls, BJP refutes

**MUMBAI, DECEMBER 21** The Shiv Sena on Monday alleged that the mass contact initiative to collect funds from public for the construction of Ram Temple in Ayodhya was akin to “canvassing” for the 2024 general elections in the name of Lord Ram.

An editorial in Sena mouthpiece ‘Saamana’ said it was never decided that the grand temple would be constructed through public donations, and “political campaigning in the name of Lord Ram has to be stopped at some point of time.”

“But the issue of public donations is not simple. It is political,” it alleged.

Shri Ram Jannabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust’s general secretary Champat Rai last week said the Trust was



**HITTING BACK**

- The BJP dismissed the charge, saying it was not a political issue for the party
- It accused the Shiv Sena of creating hurdles in the donation initiative “in which people are participating voluntarily”

going to start a mass contact and contribution campaign across the country for construction of the temple.

“It will be built using domestic funds collected from the general public through a mass contact programme as the Trust doesn’t

have required approvals for accepting donations from abroad,” Rai said.

The Marathi daily, without naming any party or organisation, said, “The temple, basically, is not being built for political gains of a political party, but for unfurling the pennants of Hindu pride of the country.” It claimed four lakh volunteers will implement the mass contact initiative. “This mass contact programme is campaigning for the 2024 Lok Sabha polls in the name of Lord Ram. The political campaigning in Lord Ram’s name has to be stopped at some point,” it said.

The editorial asked who the volunteers (for the mass contact drive) exactly were and sought clarity on their parent organisation. — PTI

# Kishor: BJP will struggle to cross double-digit mark in Bengal polls

**KOLKATA, DECEMBER 21** A day after Home Minister Amit Shah left West Bengal after his two-day high-voltage campaign in the state, election strategist Prashant Kishor on Monday claimed on Twitter that the BJP would struggle to cross the double-digit mark in the Assembly polls.

Kishor, who has been roped in by TMC supremo Mamata Banerjee to strengthen her party’s poll prospects, said he would quit the microblogging site if the saffron party does any better than what he predicted.

“For all the hype amplified by a section of supportive media, in reality BJP will struggle to cross double digits in West Ben-

**WILL QUIT TWITTER IF PROVEN WRONG**

“For all the hype amplified by a section of supportive media, in reality BJP will struggle to cross double digits in Bengal. Please save this tweet and if BJP does any better I must quit this space! Prashant Kishor, POLL STRATEGIST

**COUNTRY WILL LOSE POLL STRATEGIST**

“Given the ongoing BJP tsunami in Bengal; once the new government is formed, the country will have to lose an election strategist. Kailash Vijayvargiya, BJP NATIONAL GEN SECY

gal,” he tweeted.

“Please save this tweet and if BJP does any better, I must quit this space!” Kishor added.

The saffron party, which

recently received a shot in the arm after political heavyweight Suwendu Adhikari, a TMC MP, and nine MLAs joined its camp, has asserted that it would win over 200 seats in the upcoming polls.

BJP national general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya, in response to Kishor’s tweet, said the country would end up losing a poll strategist after Bengal elections. “Given the ongoing BJP tsunami in Bengal; once the new government is formed, the country will have to lose an election strategist,” Vijayvargiya quipped on Twitter.

The Assembly elections are likely to be held in West Bengal in April-May. — PTI

# Russia allays India’s concern over relations with Pakistan

**NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 21** The Russian envoy to India on Monday cleared the air over Moscow’s strengthening ties with Pakistan and reiterated its offer for the advanced Su-57 fighter.

“I sincerely do not think India should be worried about Russia’s commitment to respecting its sensitivity,” said Russian deputy ambassador Roman Babushkin at a virtual

press conference when asked about Moscow’s recent military exercises and involvement in an ambitious trans-country pipeline in Pakistan.

Russian Ambassador to India Nikolai Kudashev said Moscow was committed to sharing “almost everything” with India to realise the vision of ‘aatmanirbhar Bharat’. This included unveiling Su-57 in India next February. — TNS

# India, Vietnam draw up 3-yr roadmap to strengthen ties

Ink military pact to promote defence manufacturing

**TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE**

**NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 21** India and Vietnam on Monday adopted a “Joint Vision for Peace, Prosperity and People” during an hour-long virtual summit between Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Nguyen Xuan Phuc.

To implement this vision, a plan of action for 2021-2023 was also signed between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries, which identifies concrete follow-up actions, said Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary (East), at a media conference after the event.

India and Vietnam also

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- India symbolically presented Vietnam a high-speed guard boat and also launched two other vessels
- Vietnam will get \$5 million to establish IT infrastructure at a Nha Trang university

signed seven agreements in scientific research, nuclear and renewable energy, petrochemicals, defence and cancer treatment.

In defence cooperation, a key pillar of bilateral ties, both PMs identified defence industry cooperation as a priority, with India symbolically handing over a high-speed guard boat

and launching two other vessels manufactured in India.

“On Indo-Pacific, they affirmed that a peaceful, stable, secure, free, open, inclusive and rules-based region is in the common interest of all countries,” said Das. They also discussed the keel-laying of seven vessels being manufactured in Vietnam, under the \$100 million Indian defence Line of Credit. The two sides signed the “Implementing Arrangement on Defence Industry Cooperation” agreement to ensure confidentiality of defence exchanges inked in 2013 to further defence manufacturing collaboration.

## OBITUARY

**Motilal Vora** (Dec 20, 1927-Dec 21, 2020)

# Longtime AICC treasurer, he was part of Sonia’s inner circle

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 21** Congress veteran Motilal Vora, a longtime confidant of party chief Sonia Gandhi, passed away today, a day after his 93rd birthday.

Discharged from AIIMS-New Delhi following Covid treatment a month ago, he was admitted to Fortis Escorts here for treatment for urine infection.

Vora led an active political life spanning five decades, his first stint being as an MLA in the Madhya Pradesh Assembly in 1972. He was a six-term MLA until 1990 — a duration that



included his stint as state Chief Minister between 1985 and 1988 and again from January to December 1989.

A longtime AICC treasurer and part of the controversial Young India-National Herald enterprise that led to a court case,

Vora entered Parliament for the first time in 1988 as a Rajya Sabha member. This was a brief stint and he resigned in 1989. He re-entered the Rajya Sabha on April 4, 2002, and served as a member for three terms until April 9, 2020.

Apart from his parliamentary career, Vora, fondly called “Babu ji”, had a remarkable career in the Congress organisation serving as a key member in Sonia Gandhi’s inner circle.

Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said Vora was a true Congress leader with a lot of administrative and political experience.

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