

The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2020

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TRUMP'S PICK BARRETT SWORN IN AS SC JUSTICE WORLD

IMPLEMENT COMPOUND INTEREST WAIVER BY NOV 5, RBI TELLS BANKS BUSINESS

DYNAMIC CORRUPTION A CHALLENGE: PM BACK PAGE

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2020

India, US ink key defence pact BECA

Say bilateral ties extend beyond China threat | Pompeo pays tribute to Galwan martyrs

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27 India and the US today signed the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA), a military pact reserved for close Pentagon allies, and resolved to jointly undertake development and infrastructure projects abroad to counter Chinese aggression in security and economic domains.

BECA allows access to US generated satellite imagery that is used in precision strikes by armed drones and long-range missiles. The geospatial mapping of the land mass will be available to India in real time. The contours of the landmass need to be known accurately to launch precision strikes at long distances.

In a joint statement at the end of the third 2+2 summit, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defence Secretary Mark Esper welcomed the signing of BECA and the move to enhance maritime information sharing and domain awareness. Later, the two visiting US ministers called on PM Narendra Modi. They also met NSA Ajit Doval.

Jaishankar and Pompeo in their statements on Tuesday



BOOSTING TIES: (From right) External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defence Secretary Mark Esper during a press conference at Hyderabad House in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

2+2 SUMMIT TAKEAWAYS

MILITARY: BECA allows India access to geospatial data needed to fire long-range missiles and fly armed drones

ENERGY: MoU's term extended for cooperation with India's Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership

HEALTH: Discussing an MoU between ICMR and US National Institute of Allergy

and Infectious Diseases to collaborate on infectious diseases, including Covid

NARCOTICS: An India-US counter-narcotics working group to be set up, first virtual meeting later this year

EARTH SCIENCES: MoU signed for technical cooperation in earth observation and earth sciences

CHINA ANTI-DEMOCRACY

Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is no friend to democracy, rule of law, transparency and a prosperous Indo-Pacific.

Mike Pompeo, US SECY OF STATE

RAJNATH: US FIRMS CAN BENEFIT FROM EASED FDI RULES

After the 2+2 dialogue, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said: "We have invited the US companies to invest in India and take advantage of the 74% FDI under the automatic route." [BACK PAGE](#)

TERROR UNACCEPTABLE

We reiterated the importance of peace & stability for all countries in this region... and that cross-border terror is completely unacceptable.

S Jaishankar, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER

indicated that the purpose of the Indo-US 2+2 went beyond the China threat.

It is in the interest of major countries like India and the US to give security a greater

salience in their foreign policy, Jaishankar said.

Pompeo began by assailing the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), which, he said, was "no friend to democracy, rule

of law, transparency and a prosperous Indo-Pacific".

Dwelling on his trip in the morning to the martyr's memorial, Pompeo pointedly noted that he paid

respects to all those who had laid their lives, including "the 20 who died in the Galwan Valley" defending the world's largest democracy.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Punjab Bills will harm farmers' interests, claims Agri Ministry

VIBHA SHARMA
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

The three farm Bills passed by the Punjab Assembly recently will "limit" the farmers' competitiveness, "disincentivise" private investment and "hinder" the overall growth of the agriculture sector, claims an assessment by the Union Agriculture Ministry.

It said provisions in the Punjab Bills were in contradiction with the central Acts. The Bills suggest that implementation of the central Acts will depend on the notification in the official gazette by the state

To hinder private investment in farm sector'



Farmers and their families protest near Amritsar. PHOTO: VISHAL KUMAR

despite these being already in force. "Such a change in the date of implementation of the

central Acts with a retrospective effect is unlawful," it adds.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Cases below 40K first time in 3 mths

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

Barring Kerala, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Delhi, which accounted for half of the new cases in last 24 hours, the Covid pandemic is declining across India when most countries in Europe and the US are witnessing a severe second wave.

VK Paul, Member, Health, NITI Aayog, said India's new cases fell to 36,470 for the first time in three months and active cases stood at 6,25,857, the lowest in 11 weeks.

"The active cases are now merely 7.88 per cent of the

COVID-19 CASES INDIA

RECOVERED 72,01,070
FRESH FATALITIES 488
TOTAL DEATHS 1,19,502

WORLD

TOTAL 4,39,43,166
RECOVERED 3,22,77,956
DEATHS 11,66,752

UNLOCK NORMS STAY

Ruling out further relaxation in curbs, the Centre on Tuesday said unlock guidelines issued on September 30 will remain applicable till November 30

total cases... This week, we will meet the states reporting higher daily new cases," said Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan.

Paul said the vaccine situation was dynamic and the world still had no single vaccine licensed for use after phase-3 trials.

Meanwhile, ICMR DG Balram Bhargava said a US study had shown the presence of the virus on particulate matter, which proved that there could be linkages between pollution and Covid mortality. — TNS

Riding on Hero MotoCorp, majestic Harley makes India comeback

VIJAY C ROY
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27

The US motorcycle maker Harley-Davidson has made a comeback in India after discontinuing sales and production operations in September. The New Delhi-based legendary Hero MotoCorp, world's largest maker of motorcycles and scooters in terms of unit volumes, today

Delhi-based firm to develop, sell and service US bikes

MARKET FOR PREMIUM BIKES

- Nearly 20,000 bikes costing above ₹3 lakh are sold in the country every year
- Northern region, including Delhi, UP, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh, HP and J&K, contributes 25-30% to total sales

announced that the two will ride together in India.

The agreement comes

against the backdrop of Harley announcing its business overhaul under "The Rewire" plan



in September to change its working model in India.

"Hero MotoCorp will sell

and service Harley-Davidson motorcycles," Hero MotoCorp said in a regulatory filing today. Sources said Harley's around 30 existing dealerships will also come under the Hero MotoCorp fold. Also, as part of a licensing agreement, Hero MotoCorp will develop and sell a range of premium motorcycles under the Harley-Davidson brand.

Hero MotoCorp sold

around 6.4 million scooters and motorcycles in 2019-20, while Harley sold around 2,470 motorcycles during the same period.

Harley, known for its heavy-touring bikes, struggled in India mainly because of high import duties. After 11 years of operations, it had in September discontinued sales and production as part of a global restructuring plan.

BIHAR PHASE-I POLL TODAY

71 seats (of the total 243) across 16 districts will go to the polls on Wednesday

2.14 CRORE VOTERS

31,380 POLLING BOOTHES

1,066 CANDIDATES

952 MEN

114 WOMEN

NEW NORMS

Amid Covid, maximum number of voters for a polling booth is down from 1,600 to 1,000



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2020

Centre amends laws, allows outsiders to buy land in J&K

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

More than a year after the nullification of Articles 370 and 35A of the Constitution, the Centre today paved the way for people from outside Jammu and Kashmir to buy land in the union territory by amending several laws.

The government issued a notification repealing 12 laws enacted by the erstwhile state of J&K and brought about changes in 14 other Acts. In



UT'S UP FOR SALE

The amendments are unacceptable. J&K is now up for sale and the poor with small land holding will suffer. Omar Abdullah, NC

the notification, the Centre omitted the phrase "permanent resident of the state" from Section 17 of the J&K Development Act that deals with disposal of the land in the union territory.

Before repeal of Article 370 and Article 35-A in August last year, non-residents could not buy any immovable property in J&K. However, the fresh changes have paved the way for non-residents to buy land in the UT.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Facebook's India policy head quits

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

Ankhi Das, the controversial India policy head of Facebook who allegedly opposed blocking of right-wing hate content, has quit the company.

Over two months ago, Das faced allegations of opposing enforcement of hate-speech rules against BJP and other right-wing leaders. She was also accused of posting messages in support of the BJP for years on a Facebook group of the company's employees. A US journal had reported that Das had trained the BJP for its social media campaign for 2012 Assembly polls. — PTI



which they later withdrew "under pressure". He said despite the threat, no security was provided to Nikita. ACP Anil Kumar, however, said the family had withdrawn the complaint after a compromise.

Tausif is the grandson of a former MLA and nephew of a former MP. — TNS

F'bad girl's killers held, key accused related to ex-MLA

FARIDABAD, OCTOBER 27

The police have arrested two youths allegedly involved in the killing of a 21-year-old woman outside a college in Ballabgarh on Monday. The victim, Nikita, was shot point blank range. The accused — Tausif (22) and Rehan (21) — have been remanded in police custody for two days.

Hundreds of local residents blocked the Ballabgarh-Sohna road for over four hours this afternoon.

Victim's father Mool Chand Tomar alleged Tausif was booked in a case of kidnapping in 2018 on their complaint, which they later withdrew "under pressure". He said despite the threat, no security was provided to Nikita. ACP Anil Kumar, however, said the family had withdrawn the complaint after a compromise.

CRPF to provide security to victim's kin, witnesses

family's counsel Seema Kushwaha that the need for transfer would arise after the investigation was complete.

The Bench made it clear that the CBI would file its reports before the high court, which would look into all aspects of the case.

It also directed that the security to the victim's family and the witnesses shall be provided by the CRPF within a week from today.

Hathras: Allahabad HC to monitor case

SATYA PRAKASH
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

The Supreme Court on Tuesday handed over the monitoring of the Hathras rape-murder case to the Allahabad High Court and made it clear that all aspects, including alleged illegal cremation of the victim, would be considered by the high court.

However, a Bench headed by Chief Justice of India SA Bobde kept open the issue of shifting of trial to Delhi in view of the ongoing investigation. It took note of the submissions made by victim

HP Cabinet nod to regular classes from November 2

SHIMLA, OCTOBER 27

Regular classes for colleges and school students from classes IX to XII will resume after more than seven and a half months from November 2, subject to strict adherence to standard operating procedures and guidelines of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Solan, Mandi, Palampur to get Municipal Corporations

The decision was taken by the state Cabinet today after getting a green signal from the Department of Higher Education. The department maintained that about 60 per cent of the parents favoured resumption of regular classes at the virtual parent-teacher meetings.

The Cabinet also gave its nod to promote students enrolled in the first and second year of undergraduate courses for the academic session 2019-20. It decided to raise the honararium for IT teachers outsourced by the education department by 10 per cent from April 1, 2020. — TNS

SAD slams proposed cut in states' tax share

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president Sukhbir Singh Badal on Tuesday lashed out at the Centre's proposed move to further slash the states' share in the divisible pool of revenue. He reiterated his party's demand that the states' share in this pool must be raised to 50 per cent "at the very least".

Sukhbir also called for a national initiative to protect the federal structure of the country. "Time has come for a nationwide awareness and movement for securing greater fiscal autonomy for all states. This is the only long-term solution to the Centre's growing hegemony."

TIME FOR SECURING FISCAL ECONOMY

Time has come for a nationwide awareness and movement for securing greater fiscal autonomy for all states. This is the only long-term solution to the Centre's growing hegemony.

Sukhbir Badal,
SAD PRESIDENT

Those at the helm of affairs need to understand this."

"It is unfortunate that the federal structure of the country has been under constant attacks from the successive governments at the Centre. Unfortunately, the present government is no exception. The states have already been reduced to the status of beggars at the Centre's door. The latest reported move is only one more step to impoverish them further and to make them complete slaves before the Centre," Sukhbir added.

Farm laws encroach on state domain: Economists

Say Bills passed by House not farmer-friendly too

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27

Eminent economists, hailing from Punjab and working in top institutions, have come up with a set of 20 policy briefs on resurrecting the state's sagging economy post the Covid-induced lockdown.

The policy briefs call for urgent reforms in agriculture produce marketing committees (mandis). The briefs state ideally the state APMC Act should be in tune with the Central Acts, but at least two of the three farm laws — The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act and The Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act — encroach on the state's domain and are anti-farmer.

Talking to *The Tribune*, Prof Sukhpal Singh at Centre for Management in Agriculture, IIM Ahmedabad, who has made this particular policy brief, said he was "disappointed" that the amend-

PROPOSALS FOR POST-COVID REVIVAL

- Remove infrastructure bottlenecks and institutional hurdles for industry
- Encourage dairy cooperatives and local milk grids linked to vendors
- Implement Emergency Credit Line Guarantee Scheme to revive industry
- Encourage crop diversification through crop rotation or agro forestry
- Strengthen supply chains for quality seeds, involve farmers' cooperatives

ments to the above mentioned Acts, passed by the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, would also be detrimental to the interests of farmers. "These aim at killing private participation in trade. If the Centre were to change the policy on foodgrain procurement, where would the farmers find buyers?" he reasons.

Interestingly, the policy briefs have recommended

Paddy trucks stuck at border, millers threaten legal recourse

Say business badly hit as basmati not being allowed to enter state

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27

Basmati rice millers in the state are up in arms against the state government for its alleged failure to protect them. Suffering huge losses as trucks carrying the basmati paddy from outside the state have been stopped by farmers from entering the state, they have now threatened to take legal recourse.

The Punjab Rice Millers and Exporters' Association said as many as 100 basmati rice millers had already been booked by the police, allegedly on charges of getting non-basmati paddy in the state for selling it to government agencies at the minimum support price (MSP).

"No one is checking if it is basmati or non-basmati paddy. Based on just hearsay, our trucks are being impounded," said Ranjit Singh Josan, vice-president of the association.

He alleged other than officials of market committees, farmer unions, too,



were stopping their trucks at the border villages and not letting them in. "Our business has taken a big hit," said Josan.

The association said it was disheartening to see such a stand being taken by farmers, without realising that it would impact them too.

Association director Ashok Sethi said this unnecessary harassment of the industry should stop and government machinery must ensure that the industry remained pro-

VEHICLES BEING SEIZED ON HEARSAY

No one is checking if it is basmati or non-basmati paddy. Based on just hearsay, our trucks are being impounded.

Ranjit Singh Josan, MILLERS ASSN V-P

Impounded paddy-laden trucks at the Nijarpura toll plaza near Amritsar. FILE PHOTO

gressive for uplifting the economic sentiment in the state.

Export containers carrying rice worth over Rs 5,000 crore are stuck at Ludhiana ICD and other locations, disrupting the entire supply chain and blocking the previous funds resulting in unprecedented financial crunch. This is also impacting the prices of basmati in the state, which have gone down considerably, he said.

Rice millers say that 25 lakh tonnes of basmati paddy, said Josan.

amounting to Rs 6,500 crore, was produced in Punjab last year.

"There are about 150 units of basmati millers in Punjab. A few varieties such as RS10, Sugandha, Sharbat and Sona Masoori are not available in Punjab. Additionally, the quantity of 150 and 1121 available is not appropriate for 150 units of rice mills. Due to these reasons, basmati millers have to purchase some paddy from inter-state as well," said Josan.

Cong: Plan to turn state into mandi impractical



PPCC president Sunil Jakhar interacts with farmers near Ropar.

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROPAR, OCTOBER 27

Punjab Pardesh Congress Committee (PPCC) chief Sunil Jakhar today said the SAD's demand to declare the entire state as one mandi (principal market yard) was impractical and would only work against the farmers' interests further.

Jakhar visited grain markets of Takhtgarh and Nurpur Bedi to interact with farmers regarding the new farm Acts. He said SAD president and former deputy Chief Minister Sukhbir Singh Badal had been demanding an immediate

promulgation of an ordinance to declare the state an agriculture market so as to ensure that corporates do not enter the grain markets.

The Congress chief said it was just not practical. "The idea of mandi is to regulate the purchase of farmers' produce. It would be impossible to manage every road, every school yard and every other open space, if the entire state is declared a mandi."

He said the SAD as well as AAP instead of training their guns at the Congress to settle the political scores should go after the Centre, the perpetrator of farm laws.

Farmer union claims farm Bills toothless

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27

The Bhartiya Kisan Union (Ekta Ugrahan), the largest farmer union in Punjab, has turned the heat on the Congress government in the state, saying it cannot be absolved of its responsibility towards farmers by passing three Bills to counter the Centre's farm Acts.

Says they are too weak to stop MNCs

In a press release, the union said though they appreciated the resolution passed by the Punjab Vidhan Sabha against the Acts, the three amendments were toothless to deal with the corporatisation of agriculture.

At a time when the other 30 farmer organisations in the state are opposing the BJP-led Centre for enacting three farm laws, BKU (Ekta Ugrahan) and Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee have turned the heat on the state government. It said the Bills were too weak and did not legally stop corporates from entering into the food procurement business.

No let-up in stir



Children protest along with their family members against the farm laws on a railway track near Amritsar on Tuesday. VISHAL KUMAR

Goods train suspension repressive step: BKU

Alleges Centre's move aimed at quelling stir

LUDHIANA, OCTOBER 27

The Bhartiya Kisan Union (Lakhawal) today termed the Railways' decision to suspend the freight trains a

repressive step against the protesting farmers.

BKU (Lakhawal) former general secretary Harinder Singh Lakhawal alleged the Narendra Modi government's latest move was

aimed at settling the political scores with the Congress government.

With the movement of freight trains

coming to a halt, the state

would face shortage of

essential supplies, especially coal which is critical for

power generation, he added.

Lahawal slammed the

Modi government for

allegedly trying to muzzle

the farmers' voice.

Farmers have a democratic right

to protest, which the NDA

government is trying to

silence... if pushed to the

wall, the farmers would

retaliate and take their agitation across the country," cautioned the BKU leader.

He alleged the Central farm Acts would not only spell doom for the farmers, but would also affect farm workers, arthiyas and transporters adversely, as these would favour the big business houses in the food-grain trade. — OC

Covid cases, fatalities dip to 30% in a month

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27
The state's Covid cases and deaths have declined to 30 per cent in October as compared to the figures of September.

As per the state government data, since March first week, when the first Covid case was reported, the number deaths and cases increased consistently till September. Covid, it seems, hit the peak in the state in September when 59,894 cases and 1,954 deaths were reported. However, the cases and deaths witnessed a steep decline in October. So far this month, the state has reported 17,851 cases and less than 731 deaths. The number is more than three times lesser than September.

On Tuesday, the state reported 353 cases and 13 deaths in the past 24 hours.

As per the media bulletin, the total number of cases has now reached 1,31,737 and deaths 4,138.

In the district-wise break-up of cases, Ludhiana topped the chart (50), followed by



A health official collects a swab sample in Nawanshahr.

COVID COUNT		
Months	Cases	Deaths
March	46	4
April	434	16
May	1,783	29
June	3,305	95
July	10,551	242
August	37,873	1,067
Sept	59,894	1,954
Oct (Till 27th)	17,851	731

Hoshiarpur (42), Patiala (34), Amritsar (26), Jalandhar and Fazilka (25 each).

Raninder skips ED hearing, now called on Nov 6

JALANDHAR, OCTOBER 27
Summoned by Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials on Tuesday in the alleged FEMA case, Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh's son Raninder Singh didn't appear and instead sought adjournment in the matter. The ED has now issued fresh summons to him for November 6.

Had to appear in the RS, says lawyer

His lawyer and Congress spokesperson Jaiveer Shergill said, "My client is the president of the National Rifle Association and was required to be present before the Parliamentary Standing Committee in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday for a hearing in relation to the Olympics-2021."

He said since the summons were vague and didn't mention in which context Raninder was called, his client also sought details from the ED about the matter in which he had been asked to appear.

Raninder had last appeared before the ED on July 21, 2016. He was asked to explain the alleged movement of funds to Switzerland and the creation of Jacaranda Trust. —TNS

Meanwhile, the number of active Covid cases have declined further to 4,089. At present, 105 patients are on oxygen support and 19 on ventilator.

As far as the deaths are concerned, the state reported 13 deaths in the last 24 hours. In the district-wise break-up, Jalandhar recorded maximum deaths (three); Ludhiana and Ropar (two each); Amritsar, Fazilka, Bathinda, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala and SAS Nagar (one each).

—TNS

Terror module: 4 convicted under Arms Act

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, OCTOBER 27

A local court has convicted four persons, who were part of a seven-member 'terror module' busted in 2017, under the Arms Act. However, all seven have been absolved of the charges under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) and Foreigners Act.

Defence counsel Navjot Singh Turna said Additional Sessions Judge Sarbjit Singh, Balkar Singh and Satinder Rawat were already

Singh Dhaliwal held Maan Singh Nihang, Sher Singh, Simranjit and Gurpreet Singh guilty under provisions of the Arms Act.

However, Maan Singh Nihang, Sher Singh, Simranjit and Gurpreet besides three others: Balwinder Singh, Balkar Singh and Satinder Rawat were absolved of the charges under UAPA and Foreigners Act. Defence counsel Navjot Singh Turna said Additional Sessions Judge Sarbjit

out on bail while the remaining four are lodged in different jails in the state.

As per an FIR registered at the Ramdas police station on May 21, 2017, Maan Singh Nihang, a resident of Samrai village near Shri Hargobindpur (Gurdaspur), and Sher Singh, a resident of Kartarpur (Jalandhar), were nabbed by the BSF and a huge quantity of arms and ammunition were recovered from them. It was alleged that the two had

links with terrorists in Canada and Pakistan and were trying to recover an illegal consignment of weapons smuggled from Pakistan when they were arrested.

During the investigation, five more persons were named in the case. It was claimed that the accused were in contact with one Gurjivan Singh, an alleged hardliner living in Canada who had arranged the weapons from Pakistan.

DSP held for 'sexually exploiting' woman

BATHINDA, OCTOBER 27

A DSP posted with Bathinda Special Task Force (STF) was arrested for allegedly sexually exploiting a woman in a hotel here on Tuesday evening.

Identified as Gursharan Singh, he along with his team had reportedly arrested an ASI, his wife and son with 212 gram of 'chitta'. Later, he started to sexually exploit the woman after she had come out on bail, while her husband and son were still in jail.

Subsequently, the woman approached a senior police official seeking action against the DSP in the matter.

the DSP in the matter.

The woman said the DSP had asked her to come in a hotel located near Hanuman Chowk on Monday. Acting on it, the team of Civil Lines police laid a trap and arrested the DSP from the hotel.

SSP Bhupinderjit Singh Virk said the accused was held from a hotel near Hanuman Chowk and was booked under relevant Section of the IPC. He has been sent to three-day police remand. Besides, a letter has been written to the department seeking action against him. —TNS



The mangled remains of the car in Nawanshahr. TRIBUNE PHOTO

Five days after Malout murder, cops clueless

MUKTSAR, OCTOBER 27

Five days after four unidentified armed attackers shot dead a youth, facing nearly a dozen criminal cases, in his car at Aulakh village on the Muktsar-Malout road here, the police are so far clueless. No one has been rounded up in this connection.

Ranjit Singh, alias Rana Sidhu, a former kabaddi player, associated with the NSUI, was travelling in his car along with pregnant wife to see a doctor at Aulakh village on Thursday when three persons chasing him in a car fired nearly 15 bullets and fled. He died on the spot.

Rajpal Singh, SP (D), Muktsar said, 'As per the autopsy report, 11 bullets were pulled out from the deceased's body. His family has not raised suspicion on anyone. But we are probing it from all angles. We are trying to locate the person who posted on Facebook from

Accused denied pre-arrest bail for removing man's turban

SAURABH MALIK

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27
The Punjab and Haryana High Court has made it clear that viewing lightly and in a casual manner the incidents of disrespect towards the signs and symbols of a religion may result in creating communal and religious tension in the society. It may affect peace and tranquillity.

The Bench was hearing a petition filed by Lakhveer Singh against the state of Punjab for pre-arrest bail in a case registered at City-1 police station in Mansa district on September 25 for 'injuring or defiling place of worship with intent to insult the religion of any class' and other offences under Sections 341, 323, 149, 109 and 295 of the IPC.

Sources claimed that it was a result of some old gang war as Rana was once linked with gangster Jaipal Ferozepur's gang. 'After Rana's close aides Jimmy Sidhu and Davinder Bambha were killed, he too had claimed that some people were trying to eliminate him,' said a relative of the deceased. —TNS

He said the facts and circumstances of the case did not warrant the grant of dis-

cretionary equitable relief of pre-arrest bail to the petitioner. Rather, his custodial interrogation was found to be necessary for complete and effective investigation for finding out how the incident was planned and executed. It was also required to find who were the other persons involved in the planning and providing indirect help in carrying out the incident.

"In case the custodial interrogation of the petitioner/accused is denied to the investigating agency that shall leave many gaps and loopholes, adversely affecting the probe, which is uncalled for. Thus, finding no merit in the instant petition, the same stands dismissed," Justice Madaan said.

Justice HS Madaan asserted India was inhabited by people belonging to various religions, races, castes and creeds. All

AAP activists protest outside minister's house

SCHOLARSHIP SCAM**PATIALA, OCTOBER 27**

Alleging Cabinet Minister Sadhu Singh Dharamsot's involvement in the multi-crore post-matric scholarship scam, the AAP's district unit on Tuesday staged a protest in front of his Nabha residence.

The leaders also protested his equating Capt Amarinder Singh with Guru Nanak Dev and sought an apology.

Earlier, they burnt Dharamsot's effigy outside his residence at Patiala Gate. They also staged a dharna there to protest the mistreatment at the hands of the local police.

The party leaders alleged that the shoddy way in which Dharamsot had been given a 'clean chit' in Rs 64-crore scholarship scam needs further probe. They sought a time-bound probe into the multi-crore scam by the CBI under the supervision of the High Court. —TNS

MLA Rinku hurt in mishap

JALANDHAR, OCTOBER 27

Congress MLA from the Jalandhar West constituency Sushil Rinku and two others were injured when the Fortuner SUV they were travelling in hit a tractor-trailer near Nawanshahr this morning.

The accident took place on the Nawanshahr-Chandigarh highway at Jadla village, 10 km ahead of Nawanshahr town, around 10.30 am when the MLA was heading to Chandigarh from Jalandhar for a meeting. The front portion of the vehicle hit the tractor-trailer coming from the wrong side.

The MLA suffered minor injuries on his left wrist, hand and legs. His driver Vicki Singh was seriously injured as his legs and hip were fractured. His gunman too was hurt. All three were taken to a private hospital in Nawanshahr.

MLA Hardev Laddi, who was heading to Chandigarh around the same time in his car, reached the hospital to take care of his colleague. Nawanshahr MLA Angad Saini also called on Rinku, who was discharged for being given preliminary treatment. He came back to Jalandhar in the afternoon. —TNS

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PUBLIC NOTICES

I, Virender Puri s/o Late Shri K.D. Puri r/o Commercial Building, Upper Mall, opposite CRI Kasauli, Distt. Solan (HP) have changed my name to Virender Kumar Puri. (CL20056546)

I, Reeta Puri w/o Shri Virender Kumar Puri r/o Commercial Building, Upper Mall, opposite CRI Kasauli, Distt. Solan (HP) have changed my name to Rita Puri. (CL20056547)

I, Seema Walia w/o Late Param Jeet Singh Walia r/o 613, Kacha Bazar, Ambala Cantt, declare in my son's (Krishna Walia) school record (S.D.Vidya School, Ambala Cantt) his father's name wrongly recorded as Param Jeet Singh instead of Param Jeet Singh Walia. Concerned note. (CL20056649)

I, Rama Rani spouse of Raj Kumar Dogra resident of SCF 6B, Sector 2, Talwara Township, Distt. Hoshiarpur, Pin 144216, have changed my name from Rama Rani to Rama Dogra as per affidavit dated 15.10.2020. (CL20056645)

I, Narinder Kumar s/o Hem Raj Joshi, VPO Badesron, Tehsil Garhshankar, Distt. Hoshiarpur, have changed the name of my minor daughter Kashish to Kashish Kumar. (CL20056651)

I, Manpreet Kaur w/o Ramesh Bakshmandir Singh r/o Village Mari Tanda, Tehsil Battala, Distt. Gurdaspur, have changed my name from Manpreet Kaur Ghota to Manpreet Kaur. Concerned note. (CL20056662)

I, Sandeep Kumar s/o Ramesh Chand, Village Babwali, Tehsil/ Distt. Gurdaspur, Pin Code 143521, India, have changed my name Sandeep to Sandeep Kumar. Concerned note. (CL20056664)

I, Anjla Kumari w/o No. 2701957K NK Late Kuldeep r/o Village Khanot, PO Barin, Tehsil Baldwin, Distt. Mandi HP. I declare that in my husband Army records my name wrongly entered Anjla Sharma. Please correct it Anjla Kumari as per my school certificate & Panayat records vide Affidavit No. 07AA 440719 dated 23.10.2020 before Executive Magistrate Baldwin Distt. Mandi. (CL20056667)

I, Dhananjay Kumar s/o Rakesh

Jaggi Purewal alias Jagjit Singh resident of 46A, Witton Lande, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 2AU England and residents of Uchi Dharamshala, VPO Shankar, Tehsil Nakodar, Distt. Jalandhar.

Versus General Public C.R.N. No.: PBMO01-003173-2020 Next Date:- 07.12.2020 Publication issued 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 07.12.2020 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 20.10.2020.

Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, CL20056537 Moga.

(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC) (Succession Case) In the Court of Baljeinder Kaur Additional Civil Judge, (Senior Division), Nakodar.

Jaggi Purewal alias Jagjit Singh resident of 46A, Witton Lande, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 2AU England and residents of Uchi Dharamshala, VPO Shankar, Tehsil Nakodar, Distt. Jalandhar.

Versus General Public C.R.N. No.: PBJLA-0000107-2020 Next Date: 13.11.2020

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 13.11.2020 at 10:00 a.m.

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

Dated, this day of 21.10.2020.

Sd/- Additional Civil Judge, (Senior Division), Nakodar.

I, Kamal Rajput, wife of Vijay Singh Rajput VPO Kandori, Tehsil Indora, District Kangra (HP) declare that my son Jaiveer Singh Rajput and his wife Mamta Rajput are out of my control. I disinherit both of them from my moveable/ immovable properties. (CL20056669)

I, Dharan Kaur w/o Sh. Sukhvir Singh r/o VPO Suhron Teh. Rajpura, Distt. Patiala (Pb) have changed my name from Dharan Kaur to Jaswinder Kaur. Concerned may note. (CL20056671)

I, Kamal Rajput, wife of Vijay Singh Rajput VPO Kandori, Tehsil Indora, District Kangra (HP) declare that my son Jaiveer Singh Rajput and his wife Mamta Rajput are out of my control. I disinherit both of them from my moveable/ immovable properties. (CL20056673)

I, Sanjay Dalal s/o Ramkishan resident 491/1, Shyam Colony, Rohtak, have changed my minor son name from Rishu to Rishu Dalal. (CL20056674)

I, Pushp Lata w/o Sanjay Dalal Resident 491/1, Shyam Colony, Rohtak, have changed my name to Pushp Lata. (CL20056680)

I, Sanjay s/o Ramkishan resident 491/1, Shyam Colony, Rohtak, have changed my name to Sanjay Dalal. (CL20056692)



Protesters at Punjabi University in Patiala on Tuesday. RAJESH SACHAR

No let-up in stir at Punjabi varsity

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, OCTOBER 27

The Punjabi University Teachers' Association (PUTA) along with A-class Officers' Association and Pensioners' Association on Tuesday staged a protest against the university administration and the state government over their demands on the campus.

Over 300 faculty members joined the protest march across the campus. Their demands include financial grants, ensuring autonomy of the university and timely disbursal of salary and pension.

The Joint Action Committee, a body formed by the employees comprising teaching, non-teaching faculty members and pensioners, has been staging protests over the demands for more than 65 days now. This is because the cash-starved university has not been able to disburse the staff's salary on time for months.

Nishan Singh Deol, PUTA president, said, "The state government's grant is only 12

per cent of the university's salary budget, which should otherwise be 100 per cent. The state government instead of ensuring autonomy raises unnecessary demands regarding the university's administrative decisions."

Avneet Pal Singh, PUTA secretary, said, "The government should release a grant to clear the pending payments of the university. It

should also increase the monthly grant from Rs 8.7 crore to Rs 30 crore." He alleged that the government had been blocking the university's grants over time and should refrain from the same.

A faculty member said: "We should be focusing on research and teaching but the university's condition has left us protesting on a daily basis."

The employees and pensioners said they would continue to protest in coming days too.

Malkeet Singh, a physical education teacher at Mahajara Ranjit Singh Public Senior Secondary School in Tarn Taran, said, "Covid lockdown has just been made as an excuse, whereas the irregularities prevailed for long in paying salaries, fixing grade and seniority. Teachers were forced to spare Rs 500 each as fund for the Tarn Taran elections. Teachers and non-teaching staff were made to contribute for whitewash and maintenance of school buildings. Due to such mental harassment, I chose to quit."

After the "Dharam Parachar", it is education that finds prominence in the SGPC's annual budget.

In 2019-2020 budget worth

Rs 1,205 crore, the SGPC had allocated Rs 238 crore for its

53 aided and non-aided schools and 37 colleges.

Though the 2020-2021 budget was squeezed to 18

per cent, Rs 215 crore was proposed for education institutions.

Teachers and non-teaching staff were made to contribute

Govt marks 1 yr with slew of projects

Khattar inaugurates 140 projects, lays stone for 166 others in 21 districts

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH/HISAR, OCTOBER 27
On the completion of one year of the second term of his government, Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Tuesday gave a bonanza of development works to the state.

The 'bhoomi pujan' of the runway for phase II of the integrated aviation hub was held in Hisar along with a state-level inauguration and foundation stone-laying ceremony.

The Chief Minister, in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala, inaugurated 140 projects and laid the stone for 166 others in 21 districts costing Rs 1,848.09 crore.

Khattar inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for 10 projects worth Rs 72.4 crore for Ambala, 19 projects amounting to Rs 119.68 crore for Bhiwani, 13 projects amounting to Rs 91.52 crore for Charkhi Dadri, 15 projects costing Rs 75.27 crore for Faridabad, 32 projects



CM Manohar Lal Khattar participates in 'bhoomi pujan' at the aviation hub in Hisar on Tuesday.

worth Rs 99.16 crore for Fatehabad, three projects amounting to Rs 18.76 crore for Gurugram, seven projects worth Rs 37.5 crore for Hisar, 17 projects amounting to Rs 88.64 crore for Jhajjar, 36 projects costing Rs 316.48 crore for Jind, 23 projects

amounting to Rs 169.15 crore for Kaithal, 10 projects amounting to Rs 42.14 crore for Karnal, six projects costing Rs 108.71 crore for Kurukshetra, projects worth Rs 4.07 crore for Mahendragarh, 18 projects amounting to Rs 59.31 crore for Nuh,

three projects amounting to Rs 17.38 crore for Palwal, 15 projects costing Rs 120.53 crore for Panchkula, 20 projects worth Rs 76.63 crore for Panipat, 10 projects worth Rs 69.85 crore for Rewari, 23 projects costing Rs 129.13 crore for Rohtak, 12 projects

worth Rs 53.17 crore for Sirsa and 13 projects costing Rs 78.61 crore for Yamunanagar.

Vidhan Sabha Deputy Speaker Ranbir Gangwa, Minister of State Anoop Dhanan, MP Brijendra Singh and MLAs Kamal Gupta, Jogiram Sihag and Vinod Bhayana were present on the occasion.

The Chief Minister brushed aside the farmers' agitation, terming it as a Congress's bogey. He said the Hisar airport was located at an ideal location.

"Earlier, the Airports Authority of India was inclined towards Jewar in Uttar Pradesh as an extension to the Delhi airport. It is now looking towards us for setting up a new airport. We aim to extend the runway by 3,000 metres in a year and a half," he said.

He said the second phase of the Hisar airport would be completed at a cost of Rs 165 crore. He said Class I officers had been given charge as secretaries in RTA offices to root out corruption.

Choose apt words while filing affidavits, says HC

SURABH MALIK
TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27

The High Court has made it clear that words are required to be chosen with caution while filing affidavits in response to contentions raised in petitions. The Bench has made it clear that badly chosen words can lead to complications.

The word of caution came in a case where Justice Mahabir Singh Sindhu's Bench was told that an affidavit filed in response to a petition regarding payment of wages was factually incorrect and the petitioner had not received the amount to date. The affidavit had also added that a single petitioner would not be replaced by "another set of contractual employee(s)".

The Bench was hearing a petition against Haryana and other respondents by Gaurav. He was seeking the quashing of an impugned notice dated February 11, whereby a three-

VERIFY FACTUAL POSITION

There is no hesitation to construe that delay, if any, was not intentional, but beyond the control of the deponent. At the same time, it deserves to be mentioned here that the deponent ought to have verified the factual position before making such assertions in a manner which may give cause to the petitioner to join the issue. **9**

Justice Mahabir Singh Sindhu, PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT

member committee was constituted to replace the petitioner with another employee.

In pursuance of the notice of motion issued by the court, a short reply dated September 29 by Dr Jasbir Singh Ahlawat, District Ayurvedic Officer, Palwal, was filed before the Bench on behalf of the respondents.

Justice Sindhu took note of the fact that a paragraph in the affidavit mentioned that "arrears of wages amounting to Rs 60,372 have since been paid to the petitioner. Hence,

the salary had now been received by the petitioner and he was not being replaced with some other employee.

Justice Sindhu observed the deponent had asserted the amount was paid to the petitioner on September 15, but he received it only on October 14. He noted the amount was deposited by the deponent for making the payment to the petitioner "on account of wages", but, as submitted by the state counsel, it was delayed due to some objections raised by the treasury.

Before parting with the order, Justice Sindhu added the salary had now been received by the petitioner and he was not being replaced with some other employee.

IAS cadre posts given to officers of other services

GEETANJALI GAYATRI
TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27
Resentment seems to be brewing among Haryana IAS officers over the "usurping" of the IAS cadre posts by other services in the transfer order issued by the state government recently.

While an IPS officer was posted as the Principal Secretary and another was given the charge of Managing Director of one of the two power utilities in the state, an IFS officer was also posted as the Principal Secretary. Further, the state government

OFFICER RESIGNS

■ Jagdeep Dhanda, president, HCS Officers' Association, has resigned
■ Sources say he resigned to express his resentment over the appointment of HCS officers in the Transport Department

experiment from time to time," an officer said.

Another officer maintained that if senior police officers were no longer needed for policing, the Home Secretary should review the cadre strength and reduce it rather than wasting the tax-

payers' money.

"Is the law and order situation perfect that the IPS has hands to spare at the senior level? Besides, in policing, officers of the rank of IGP and above don't go for investigation. Positions such as the Chairman of the Police Housing Corporation require administrative experience rather than specialisation in policing. In the Indian Forest Service, there are a number of posts which require no expertise. The government should consider posting IAS officers against these posts. They will do a better job there," he said.

Maintaining that posting police officers to weed out corruption is no solution, a senior officer said that today, the government was bending rules to post IPS and IFS officers against cadre posts. "Tomorrow, the government will bring in officers from the CRPF or the BSF," he said.

Sources in the government, however, defended its decision by maintaining that every officer was "overloaded" with departments and that hampered smooth working. They added the government wanted to utilise available resources to the maximum.

Hearing in AJL case to go online

BHARTESH SINGH THAKUR
TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, OCTOBER 27

A special court under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act in Panchkula on Tuesday issued notices to Leader of the Opposition Bhupinder Singh Hooda and senior Congress leader Motilal Vora, ordering them to appear in court through video-conferencing if physical hearing of the case does not get fully functional till the adjourned date," the order stated. The hearing is on November 27.

Notices issued to Hooda, Vora

allotment case.

During the resumed hearing on Tuesday, Special Judge Jagdeep Singh observed that neither the accused nor their counsels were present in court in view of the Covid pandemic.

"Since the matter pertains

to... legislators, and proceedings in such cases are to be conducted expeditiously, notices must be issued to the accused as well as their counsels to explore the possibility of conducting further proceedings through video-conferencing if physical hearing of the case does not get fully functional till the adjourned date," the order stated. The hearing is on November 27.

रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.-33004/99



REGD. NO. D.L.-33004/9

भारत का राजपत्र

The Gazette of India

सौ.जी.डी.एल.-अ.-22102020-222640

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असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

भाग-II --- खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii)

PART-II---Section 3 - Sub-section (ii)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 3310

नई दिल्ली, बुधवार, अक्टूबर 21, 2020/आस्विन 29, 1942

No. 3310]

NEW DELHI, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020/ASVINA 29, 1942

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 21st October, 2020

S.O 3736 (E).—In exercise of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening) two lane with paved shoulder/four laning etc., maintenance, management and operation of New Delhi - Ludhiana - Amritsar - Katra National Highway in the stretch of land from Km 211.3 to Km 228 (Malerkota Tehsil) in the district of SANGRUR in the state of PUNJAB, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section (1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the Competent Authority, namely, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Malerkota in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the Competent Authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land to be acquired under their notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the Competent Authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief Description of the land to be acquired with or without structures falling Newly Proposed in the stretch of land from Newly Delhi - Ludhiana - Amritsar - Katra National Highway in the stretch of land from Km 211.3 to Km 228 (Malerkota Tehsil) the district of SANGRUR in the state of PUNJAB.

State: PUNJAB	District: SANGRUR				
Sl. No.	Survey/ Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (in Local Unit)	Area (in Hectare)
Taluk: Malerkota					
Village: Bhogial					
1	10	Private	Agriculture / Gairumkin Moter Kotha	0.0042000(Hectare)	0.0042000
2	20	Private	Gairumkin /Moter Kotha	0.0042000(Hectare)	0.0042000
3	21	Private	Agriculture, Safede	0.3456000(Hectare)	0.3456000
4	22	Common (Government/ Private)	Agriculture, Safede / Gair mumkin	0.3035000(Hectare)	0.3035000
5	23	Private	Agriculture (Safede)	0.3372000(Hectare)	0.3372000
6	24	Private	Agriculture (Safede)	0.0464000(Hectare)	0.0464000
7	25	Private	Agriculture (Safede)	0.1728000(Hectare)	0.1728000
8	3	Private	Agriculture (Safede)	0.1265000(Hectare)	0.1265000
9	4	Private	Agriculture (Safede)	0.3372000(Hectare)	0.3372000
10	5	Private	Agriculture (Safede)/ Gairumkin Moter Kotha	0.6196000(Hectare)	0.6196000
11	6	Private	Agriculture /Gairumkin Moter Kotha	0.0337000(Hectare)	0.0337000
12	7	Private	Agriculture	0.0211000(Hectare)	0.0211000
13	8	Private	Agriculture	0.2150000(Hectare)	0.2150000
14	9	Private	Agriculture	0.4215000(Hectare)	0.4215000
Total					2.9885
[F. No. NHAI/PIU/LDH(Expway)/701/LA/2020/DAKE-1/3A32] RAJESH GUPTA, Dy. Secy.					

Former MLA's son booked

YAMUNANAGAR, OCTOBER 27
Bhupinder Singh, son of district president of JJP and former BSP MLA Arjun Singh, has been booked for pointing a gun at a person in Damopura village of Yamunangar district on Monday night.

The incident took place when several residents of Damopura assembled on the main road to stop overloaded vehicles.—TNS

paper.tribuneindia.com

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Expression of interest is invited from Govt. Office, Corporations, Banks, PSU, National and Multinational Companies for licensing out of office space at 2nd & 3rd floor consisting area 15,166 sq.ft. (7582.90 x 2 sq.ft.) at Over Bridge, Sector 17, Chandigarh for a period of 05 years at minimum reserve monthly license fee :-

Sr. No.	Description	Monthly Rent per sq.ft. (in Rupees) excluding taxes
1.	Office space at 2nd & 3rd floor consisting area 15,166 sq.ft. (7582.90 x 2 sq.ft.) at Over Bridge, Sector 17, Chandigarh	

The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

Freight trouble

Centre-state stalemate disrupting economic activity

AMID a legislative tug-of-war and political one-upmanship, the farmers' agitation in Punjab has triggered a faceoff between the state and the Centre over the operation of goods trains. On Monday, the Punjab Government asked Union Railway Minister Piyush Goyal to intervene after the Northern Railway extended the suspension of goods train services in the state till October 29 as protesting farmers were reportedly still blocking the tracks at some places. Putting the onus on the Punjab authorities, Goyal sought an assurance from the state government regarding the safety of trains and their crew members to restore freight services.

Throwing its weight behind the farmers, the Punjab Vidhan Sabha had passed three farm Bills on October 20 to counter the Centre's laws. The move prompted farmer bodies to relax their 'rail roko' stir, allowing the movement of goods trains while taking into consideration the shortage of coal and fertilisers. However, the Railways legitimately does not want conditions and stipulations that cannot be complied with. The protesters should not block the lifeline any longer.

The longer this stalemate lasts, the harder it will hit the economy not only of Punjab but also of the neighbouring state of Himachal Pradesh and the union territories of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh. Notwithstanding their differences over the farm laws, the Centre and the Punjab Government need to ensure that economic activity is not disrupted. With over 200 farmer unions from various states having decided to launch nationwide protests in the first week of November against the farm Acts, both governments must find a middle ground at the earliest. The Centre, in particular, needs to do a lot more to bridge the trust deficit. Though they have been on the warpath for over a month, farmer bodies are still awaiting a meeting with the Union Agriculture Minister. Their representatives had walked out of a meeting with the agriculture secretary in New Delhi a fortnight ago as no minister was present to hear them out. Giving short shrift to the protesters will only worsen the situation.

Bihar votes

Nitish Kumar eyes fourth term

CHIEF MINISTER of 15 years, Nitish Kumar faces strong anti-incumbency as Bihar votes for or against a fourth term for the Janata Dal (United) leader in what is being billed as a referendum on his performance. Seventy-one of the total 243 Assembly constituencies, spread over 16 districts, will go to polls in the first phase today. After the second and third phases on November 3 and 7, respectively, the results will be announced on November 10. Only last year, the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) won all but one of the Lok Sabha seats in the state, raising hopes of a repeat show in the Assembly elections. Nitish's third stint, however, has been a pale shadow of the first two. The prospects were dealt a further blow by the pandemic-induced lockdown, and the hardships faced by the migrants returning home.

The Rashtriya Janata Dal, the former ruling coalition partner ditched by Nitish to realign with the BJP in 2017, has been quick to cash in on the palpable anger on the street. The main Opposition party has propelled the development deficit and unemployment as key election issues, but translating the momentum into votes is what counts. For the RJD, that could be an uphill task. Made more difficult by NDA ally Lok Janshakti Party, which has muddled the electoral tussle by fielding candidates against Nitish's party. The BJP senses in it an opportunity to go one up on JD (U).

The caste arithmetic and shifting alliance configurations are a hallmark of Bihar elections, a robust political battlefield, but with historically low voting levels. The turnout would be of particular concern for every party this time, given the pandemic threat. With 7.3 crore voters, the Bihar Assembly election is not only the first major electoral exercise in India since the Covid-19 outbreak, but also the largest in the world so far. For the Election Commission, its successful conduct would count as a remarkable achievement.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Voters don't decide issues, they decide who will decide issues. — George Will

ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

The Tribune.

LAHORE, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1920

PUNJAB GOVERNMENT'S EXPLANATION.

THE Punjab Government's communique on the subject of the application of the Seditious Meetings Act to three districts in this province, which we reproduced from the *Civil and Military Gazette* yesterday, and which we have since received ourselves, has undoubtedly this to be said for it that the language is not unnecessarily bitter. It is a plain statement of the Government's case and not an angry statement, such as Sir Michael O'Dwyer would have issued on a similar occasion. It begins by recalling that "on several occasions during the year the Lieutenant-Governor has made appeals to the public in the Province to avoid strikes and to restore good feelings between the different communities of the Punjab and between those communities and the Government", that "with the object in view such restrictions as existed on the freedom of public speech were allowed to lapse some months before the close of the year and the fullest possible liberation of public speech was allowed", and "the Lieutenant-Governor found it necessary for the Government to make use of the powers given in law for controlling the right of public meeting." It goes on to say that during the five months which had passed since this warning "speeches given at public meetings in the Punjab have only too frequently been violent in character and have extended to wider and less intelligent audiences", that "many of those delivered during the last few weeks in the central area of the Province have been clearly aimed at promoting hatred between different communities and between the various communities and the Government", and that "a continuance of public speaking on these lines must in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor lead at no distant date to outbreaks of violence and disorder." While it is free from the O'Dwyerian spirit of bitterness, we cannot say that it makes out anything like a plausible case for the Government's action.

Test of governance

While joblessness has emerged as an election issue, Covid has not



NEERJA CHOWDHURY

SENIOR POLITICAL COMMENTATOR

THE Bihar Assembly polls and the byelections to 28 seats in Madhya Pradesh will be the first test of public opinion in India after the outbreak of Covid-19.

The pandemic has affected voter choices elsewhere. It is dominating the discourse in the US presidential poll. New Zealand PM Jacinda Ardern won a second term for successfully handling the coronavirus crisis. People are questioning — or endorsing — their leadership on the basis of what they have done or failed to do to tackle the health crisis.

This does not seem to be the case in India. At least not so far. Joblessness, compounded by Covid, has emerged as an issue in Bihar and Tejashwi Yadav's promise to create 10 lakh jobs has found resonance. It spurred the BJP to promise 19 lakh jobs. But there are no signs of Covid having emerged as a poll issue. Nor has there been visible anger against inadequate medical facilities in the rural and semi-rural areas, an abysmal failure of public healthcare.

Since reverse migration took place in March and April on a mass scale, little information has come from the villages on how those who returned home have coped. The Bihar verdict will therefore be a barometer of what matters to people today in the midst of the pandemic. Rarely have economic issues been a factor in Bihar polls; they have been mostly fought on caste alliances.

There are reports that Nitish Kumar has been losing ground. But so far, conventional wisdom had it that Nitish would make it because the 'other side' was in a state of disarray. The last days have



NOT ENOUGH: If Modi's campaigning is unable to bail out Nitish, it will show the nature of the crisis we confront today, which can't be dealt with by trotting out old formulae.

If the Bihar voter is gripped by anger, can MP, which had seen a similar phenomenon of migrant workers walking back and consequent loss of employment, be insulated?

shown huge crowds coming to Tejashwi's meetings. It may have less to do with Tejashwi and more to do with an underlying anger and helplessness in sections of the 'janata'. The response to RJD rallies has taken the party workers by surprise and created consternation in the Nitish camp.

If people are looking at 30-year-old Tejashwi, in preference to Nitish Kumar, under whose rule governance did improve compared to the Lalu-Rabri rule, though not enough, it is time to take note. If the PM's campaigning is not able to bail out the beleaguered CM—if that does happen—it will only go to show the nature of the crisis we confront today, which cannot be dealt with by trotting out old formulae.

Unlike Bihar, where the government, what is at stake in MP is the prestige and position of individual leaders. The one likely to be affected the most is Jyotiraditya Scindia who walked out of the Congress with 22 MLAs. It led to the fall of the Kamal Nath government—necessitating the

28 Assembly bypolls on November 3, the arithmetic is arraigned against the Congress.

The BJP needs only nine of these 28 seats to be able to form a government on its own. It has 107 seats in the 230-member House and is propped up in power with the support of four Independents, two BSP MLAs and a suspended SP legislator.

The Congress, on the other hand, will need to win all 28 seats to cross the halfway mark, given that it has 88 seats in the Assembly. Of course, Kamal Nath has stated that even if they manage to win 20-21 of these seats, they will be able to cobble together a government with the help of the 'others' who can always switch sides!

More than the survival of the government, what is at stake in MP is the prestige and position of individual leaders.

The one likely to be affected the most is Jyotiraditya Scindia who walked out of the Congress with 22 MLAs. It led to the fall of the Kamal Nath government—necessitating the

Lest they are left behind

RK SABOO

THE good news shared across the media in recent days has been the general slowing down in the spread of Covid-19 cases in the country. This is based on the falling growth rate, which has dropped below 1.5% per day, from 3% at the end of June. New cases that were close to touching 1 lakh per day have receded to below 70,000. Recoveries are significantly higher than new cases, resulting in fewer active cases. Besides, the mortality rate in India has been among the lowest in the world.

These figures bring some cheer, but, other than daily figures, and occasionally the vaccine status, we soon tire of Covid news. The Bollywood ruckus, or IPL, or Bihar news might

interest us more.

Yet, I have often found myself thinking about the Covid fatalities. Only 1.06% of detected cases have died. For families who failed to make it out of Covid, the statistic is no comfort. Recently, a close friend in Ambala passed away after about three weeks in hospital. He picked up the infection from the Rotary Cancer Hospital, where he was a trustee. His family is shattered.

I see the *raddiwala* make his rounds on a cycle every day in our sector. He must make his rounds to earn his daily bread. He wears his mask always, but still, going house to house, he faces a high risk of infection. If vulnerable persons like him catch the virus, it is hoped that the administration will take care of treatment. But if

he is the single bread-earner in the family, who will the family turn to in the event of a tragedy? The family might be at the mercy of fate — for their livelihood, and the future of children or elders in it. A civil society should not allow such families to be doomed. Such community enlightenment reflects the culture, educated, compassionate citizens. NGOs, philanthropic individuals, and associations must come forward and work together with the district authorities to identify and support such families.

About 50 years ago, my brother succumbed to a heart attack. He was 40. I was even younger. I have never forgotten how fragile life can be, and that we need to take care to safeguard it. And in the uncertain and dangerous times of the pandemic, one must

remember and reach out to the most vulnerable in our society. There may be a lull in the cases, but we must not be complacent. The disease may rebound, as we are seeing in the US and Europe.

As we enter our festival period, a news item on the first day of the Navratras caught my eye. In one of Kolkata's numerous *puja pandals*, the organising committee decided to install an idol of a woman migrant worker with her children, as a symbol of Maa Durga. Some persons objected to it, but I felt it was a novel way to convey the dignity of women and their struggles, and the omnipresence of the Almighty in every human being. And silently I prayed to Maa for her beneficence on all, especially the needy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Betrayal by MPs

Starting with the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A in 2019, there has been an aura of secrecy till the passing of an Act by Parliament. The CAA was passed and people against it started protesting only after its clearance by Parliament. Recently, three Bills relating to agriculture were approved by Parliament and most stakeholders came to know about these only when these were being passed. The agenda of Parliament is circulated well in advance to all MPs, but they don't bother about it. They don't study it and don't discuss it with voters and stakeholders in their constituencies. That is why the current trend of protests after passing of the legislation. It is a great failure of MPs, whether ruling or the opposition! It's nothing but betrayal.

VINAY KUMAR MALHOTRA, AMBALA

Cut out politics

One wonders where the intelligentsia of the country has disappeared. We have the best brains, yet there seems to be an absence of seriousness in handling important problems which the nation is facing. Sadly, it's the health sector which is being neglected. How is the country unable to muster

resources to help the farmers overcome the *parali* problem? It should be taken up as a national or, and cut out the politics.

COL KULBIR SINGH (RETD), CHANDIGARH

Impossible cutoffs

Every year, Delhi University sees a spike in cutoffs for admissions. But this year, the cutoffs have shot through the roof, with its many colleges releasing a 100 per cent cut-off. Being a DU aspirant myself, I perceive this trend as an unfavourable indicator of our education system. The massive surge in cutoffs is attributable to the fact that our system gives more importance to marks instead of knowledge and the holistic development of a student. Even students who get over 90 per cent are left with few options. I hope that the National Education Policy-2020 will emerge as a game-changer.

HARSHITA SHARMA, SONEPAT

Out of line

The scathing remarks by Maharashtra CM Uddhav Thackeray against Himachal Pradesh are neither warranted nor acceptable. It appears he is a novice and inexperienced politician. He must preserve the dignity of his constitutional post and avoid talking like a local

party worker. Recently, his controversial stand on some policy matters has damaged his public image.

DEEPAK, BY MAIL

Daughters are a blessing

I am a proud father of two daughters and strongly feel that daughters are the most adorable gift of God. When a daughter is born, I don't think that any couple has a feeling of regret, but orthodox people in our society make them feel time and again that it is a sad thing. They sympathise with you, consoling that it is God's will. Due to all this, in many cases even the happy parents start thinking that something bad has befallen them. My wife and I had ourselves experienced this bitter situation. But I am really happy that daughters are accepted whole-heartedly by the families. I may offend people in saying so, but daughters are far more lovable than sons.

BIR DEVINDER SINGH BEDI, SANGRUR

Positive change

Reference to 'Acceptance of daughters growing, shows survey'; it is a welcome change which will improve the sex ratio in northern states. Couples with one or two daughters only is also a good b

change to see, as traditionally, many couples would go for more children in the hope of having a son. Hopefully, it will reduce the population growth and discrimination against the girl child. One must accept any child as a blessing of God, irrespective of the gender. Every child is special and unique.

VIKRAMJIT SINGH, AMRITSAR

A chance bond

I was shocked to learn about the demise of Kuldip Singh Dhir (Obituary, October 18) and was reminded of Allama Iqbal's verse: 'Kalba-e-iflaas mein, daulat key kaashaaney mein maut/Dash-o-dar mein, shaihr mein, gulshan mein, veeraanney mein maut.' Dhir was a great admirer of my letters published in *The Tribune* and often asked me over the telephone to explain the meanings of difficult Urdu and Persian words. He appeared to be very gentle, polite and polished. Everytime, he asked me to see him when I visited Patiala, I recited the couplet: 'Milti hai kab ijaazat-e-deedaar dekhiey/Ab tak to telephone pe guft-o-shuneed hai.' Once, when I went to see him, he was not at home. May God bless his soul.

BHAGWAN SINGH, QADIANI

Shift from oil to renewables needs political will



SUSHMA RAMACHANDRAN

SENIOR FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

IN the US presidential debate, there was one key economic issue on which both candidates were at complete variance with each other. And that was fossil fuels. Democratic nominee Joe Biden vowed to transition from the oil industry to renewables. Incumbent President Donald Trump, on the other hand, remained friendly to the oil and gas sector, even terming these comments as big mistakes, given the reliance of several states' economies on this industry.

Biden clarified later that he only meant federal subsidies would be withdrawn from oil companies and also that fracking, widely considered hazardous to the environment, would not be banned.

This fractious debate over the need to phase out fossil fuels is not just taking place in the biggest economy; it is happening all over the world.

It is partly due to the Covid crisis and partly because of the growing recognition of the environmental impact. But the immediate predicament for the hydrocarbons sector has undoubtedly been the pandemic. The global oil industry, which was looking forward to higher prices and increased demand at the beginning of 2020, now faces a continued softening of prices as well as a prolonged spell of low global con-

sumption. Oil-exporting countries are expected to face a contraction in growth by 6.6 per cent this year, according to estimates by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

It may have been Covid which created the situation, but the spotlight is now also on the future of fossil fuels as climate change is becoming a reality. With the push being made on renewable energy and electric-driven vehicles in most countries, the long-term outlook for hydrocarbons looks increasingly pessimistic. European oil companies like Shell, BP and Total are already talking in terms of energy transition and integrating climate change into future plans.

Having said this, for the time being, these remain the dominant fuel of choice and even Biden conceded as much by saying that they are not going anywhere soon.

The global turmoil in the hydrocarbons sector has had its impact on this country as well. It has unsurprisingly had a positive effect, at least for the time being. For an economy facing a huge growth contraction of over 10 per cent this year, the dip in oil prices has become one of the positives of the Covid calamity. And this is not just a short-term phenomenon. It will likely continue right up to next year.

The IMF's latest economic outlook says a dramatic recovery of crude oil prices cannot be expected anytime soon. It predicts prices will be in the range of \$40 to \$50 per barrel in 2021. This is in contrast to the average of \$71 per barrel for the benchmark Brent crude in 2018. The decline is balm to the ears of a country that has to procure 85 per cent of its fuel needs from abroad and is currently the third largest oil importer in the world.



DILEMMA: Petroleum and coal sectors account for an enormous number of jobs. They also provide massive revenue to the government.

Petroleum in India has been kept out of the purview of GST. This enables the states to continue imposing heavy duties on petroleum products, making them a major source of revenue mobilisation. There is little incentive, therefore, to shift to renewable sources of energy in a big way. Even so, there has been commitment to expanding the scope of renewables in recent years.

The price crash earlier this year even helped the country to purchase enough crude to fill the gigantic caverns meant for 5.3 million tonnes of strategic reserves. These had been only half full till then. The opportunity to fill them at the rock bottom prices of around \$25 per barrel came in April and May, giving the country an extra nine days of crude oil stocks.

While this golden opportunity was grabbed in a timely manner, the government did not take an equally positive approach on retail pricing of petroleum products. Instead of passing on the benefits of lower world prices to consumers, it raised excise duties to mop up resources. At a time when the public was suffering grave hardships due to the industrial shutdown and job losses following the lockdown, it failed to ease the pain of

rising inflation by reducing fuel costs.

In the coming years, however, the country needs to prepare for shifting away from fossil fuels which includes coal as well as oil. The dark clouds of pollution hanging over many cities, including the capital Delhi, as well as sharp changes in climatic conditions, like unusual flooding, make it clear that more attention needs to be paid to the environment.

The dilemma in an emerging economy like India is the same as in a developed country like the US where Donald Trump still gets support for his anti-climate science point of view. The reason is the petroleum, coal and ancillary industries account for an enormous number of jobs in both countries. They also provide massive revenue to government coffers.

The significance of petroleum, specifically in this country, can be

gauged from the fact that it has been kept out of the purview of the Goods and Services Tax (GST). This enables the states to continue imposing heavy duties on petroleum products, making them a major source of revenue mobilisation. Thus, it is not just the Centre milking the oil sector by imposing excise duties, state governments too add their share to the tax burden borne by the consumer. The net result is that India now has the dubious distinction of levying the highest taxes on petrol in the world, as these comprise nearly 70 per cent of the consumer price.

There is little incentive, therefore, to shift to renewable sources of energy in a big way. Even so, there has been considerable commitment to expanding the scope of renewables in recent years. One of the reasons could be the tangible impact of climate change in the form of extreme weather conditions and natural disasters throughout the country.

One can only hope that the targets envisaged in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to an energy conference this week will ultimately be met. He maintained India is not only on track to meet its COP21 commitment of 175 gigawatts (GW) of energy generation from renewable energy by 2022, but has even extended the target to 450 GW.

The fact is, however, that the process of shifting from fossil fuels to renewable energy is going to be a slow and painful process. What is going to be critical in this respect will ultimately be the political commitment to carrying out this transition. Issues of revenue and employment are bound to be major constraints but if there is a will, there is always a way.

Centre's farm laws are an assault on agriculture



MANPREET SINGH BADAL

FINANCE MINISTER, PUNJAB

An absurd exercise threatens to undermine the very basis of Indian agriculture and rural economy. The farm laws, passed with the sole intent of benefiting a select group of chosen traders, will seriously hurt India's already precarious food situation. It will result in greater pauperisation of farmers, agriculturists and farm labourers, and impact the rural economy that thrives on agriculture. It threatens to undo whatever India has achieved in the past seven decades.

In the summer of 1985, a massive event was organised simultaneously at the Wembley Stadium in the United Kingdom and the John F Kennedy Stadium in the United States. An estimated 1.9 billion people across 150 nations watched the Live Aid concert.

As an aspiring law student in England, I was one of the 1.9 billion who watched this global event, as 70 of the world's biggest bands got together to raise money to combat hunger in Ethiopia.

Thirty-five years later, we are discussing hunger once again. This time, it is not Ethiopia, but India. India, the home of the Green Revolution now lags behind Ethiopia on the Global Hunger Index (GHI). The five countries ranked just above India are Tanzania, Burkina Faso, Congo, Ethiopia and Angola; while the five countries that rank just below India are Sudan, North Korea, Rwanda, Nigeria and Afghanistan.

In an alternative universe, a country facing such a 'serious' hunger issue would have embarked on a farmer-incentivisation programme on a massive scale, announced more state interventions to ensure better food production, procurement, storage, and distribution system, promoted farmers, and ensured adherence to time-tested norms of food procurement.

Almost simultaneously, as the nation discusses the embarrassing indicators in combating hunger, an absurd exercise is under way that threatens to undermine the very basis of Indian



ILL ADVISED: The three Acts are equivalent to throwing the baby out with the bathwater.

agriculture and rural economy. The farm laws, passed with the sole intent of benefiting a select group of chosen traders, will seriously hurt India's already precarious food situation.

It will result in greater pauperisation of farmers, agriculturists and farm labourers, and impact the rural economy that thrives on agriculture. In fact, the farm Acts will create paupers out of farmers, and they will only benefit the elite class of commodity traders for whom stocking and hoarding are some more malevolent ways of enriching themselves at the cost of the vast majority of Indians.

Let us go beyond the Ethiopian famine almost 35 years ago. Let us revisit another moment in history in 1965. Far away from Wembley stood a

frail-looking Indian Prime Minister addressing his compatriots at the Ramlila Grounds in Delhi. On that occasion, India's second Prime Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri, gave us a slogan: *Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan*.

Decades later, Indians relate to the messaging in this slogan very well. A vast majority of our jawans come from kisan families. Do not forget that the sword arm of India is nurtured in the farmlands of India.

In June this year, I went to condole the martyrdom of a soldier from Punjab who had sacrificed his life fighting enemy soldiers in the Galwan valley. The 22-year-old belonged to a small marginal farming family in Moga district, and he was one of the four bravehearts from Punjab who embraced

martyrdom. Not surprisingly, most of them come from farming families or families that rely on agriculture.

This creates another challenge for the majority of Indian families. Their families' livelihood is under attack from the ill-advised farm Bills hurriedly passed in September 2020, and their children are under attack from enemy fire.

To live up to the ideal of *Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan*, we need to nourish both, and while I have quoted an example from Punjab, let me reiterate that the farmer-soldier kindred is India's backbone.

Let us travel back another 20 years to revisit a tragic page of the Indian history — the Bengal famine of the 1940s. Experts term it an anthropogenic crisis, clearly stating that the famine was caused not by crop failures but due to lopsided government policies.

The colonial empire practised a denial policy, coupled with deceitful practices by traders and commission agents, unauthorised procurement, and war-time measures. This led to distress among farmers, a burgeoning black market, and withholding of stocks, trader speculation and hoarding. The lack of state-sponsored procurement and distribution schemes and abstinence from Indian farmers and agriculturists' interest led to one of the worst humanitarian crises in the previous century. Millions of deaths, population displacement, land grab, pauperisation, and exploitation of women and children followed. Historians opine that the Bengal famine

is a faultline in Churchill's legacy.

This was the backdrop against which India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru delivered a historic speech in Parliament (1952), stating: "If our food front cracks up, everything else will crack up too."

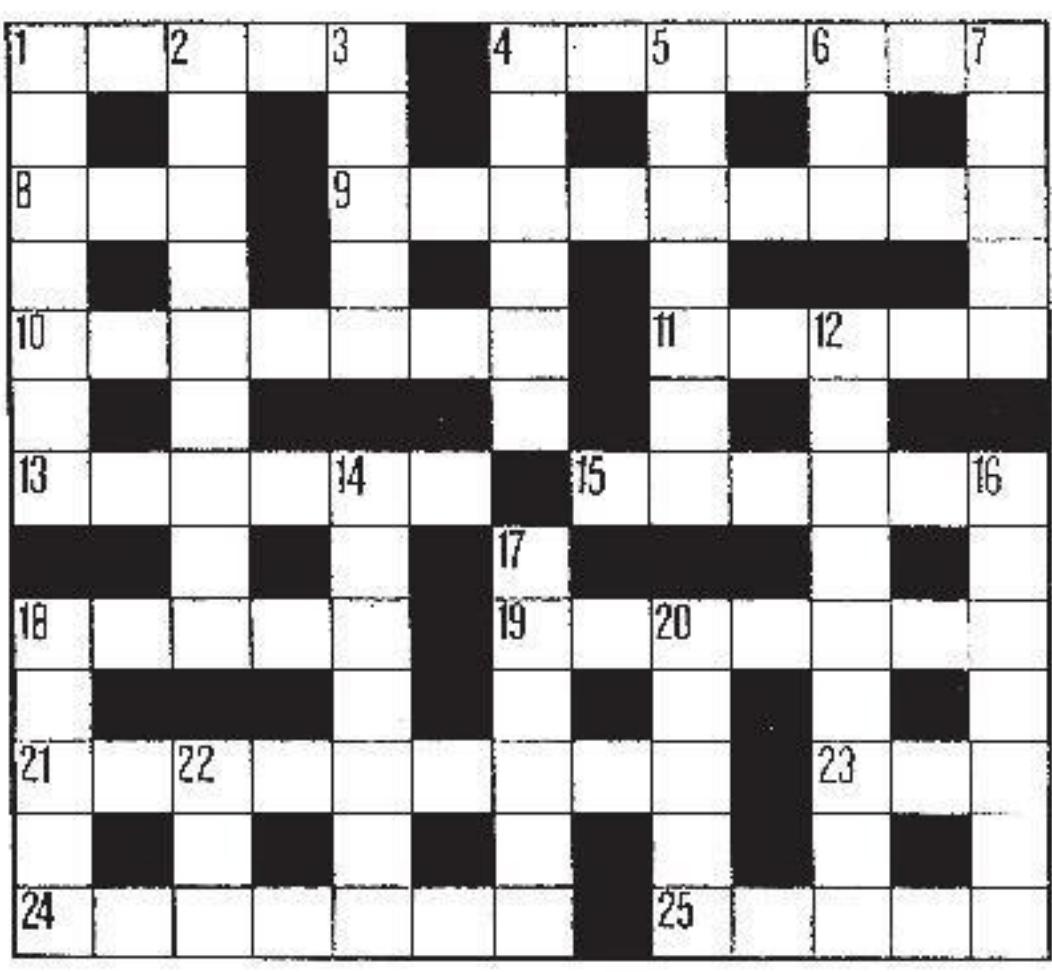
It paved the way for India's agricultural development and became the bedrock of India's Green Revolution. A slew of measures was pursued by successive governments, leading to the establishment of the Minimum Support Price (MSP), the establishment of farm markets, the network of mandis, and a procurement and distribution system that has stood the test of time.

Seven decades later, the three agriculture Acts of 2020 are equivalent to throwing the baby out with the bathwater. The MSP and mandi systems are the heart of the Indian agriculture. The government threatens to undo whatever India has achieved during the previous seven decades by introducing this free-for-all.

Indians are already reeling from twin assaults — the ill-advised demonetisation of 2016 and the inept response to the Covid-19 crisis. The first crisis affected our businesses like never before. The second battered the livelihoods of millions of wage earners, labourers and citizenry alike. The 2020 farm laws are the third attack, and this is an assault on Indian agriculture.

These three reckless moves are a body blow that India cannot afford. And no Live Aid concerts would be able to undo the harm.

QUICK CROSSWORD



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

Across: 1 Longfellow, 8 Trace, 9 Combine, 10 Address, 11 Alert, 12 Singer, 14 Pom-pom, 17 Enter, 19 Suggest, 21 Service, 22 Clear, 23 Wordsworth.
Down: 2 On and on, 3 Geese, 4 Excess, 5 Lumbo, 6 Waive, 7 Pentameter, 8 Transverse, 13 Earlier, 15 Prevent, 16 Assess, 18 Throw, 20 Gecko.

ACROSS

- 1 Mixture (5)
- 4 Express approval of (7)
- 8 Unplayable tennis service (3)
- 9 Gained illicitly (3-6)
- 10 Sudden strong urge (7)
- 11 Heavy dark wood (5)
- 13 Exceptional creative ability (6)
- 15 Motionless (2,4)
- 18 Small shoot (5)
- 19 To make believe (7)
- 21 To a thorough degree (6,3)
- 23 A double act (3)
- 24 Drunk (3-4)
- 25 To deposit for security (5)
- DOWN**
- 1 Relevance (7)
- 2 Enlightening experience (3-6)
- 3 Cotton twilled fabric (5)
- 4 Joined in common cause (6)
- 5 Specific plan (7)
- 6 Perform a part (3)
- 7 Dirty-looking (5)
- 12 Not closely defined (4-5)
- 14 Outrageous (7)
- 16 Larva of frog (7)
- 17 Maintain (6)
- 18 Supply meagrely (5)
- 20 Laud (5)
- 22 Understand (3)

SU DO KU

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

EASY

CALENDAR

OCTOBER 28, 2020, WEDNESDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat	2077
■ Shaka Samvat	1942
■ Kartik Shaka	6
■ Kartik Parvishtha	12
■ Hijri	1442
■ Shukla Paksha Tithi 12, up to 12:54 pm	
■ Vyaghata Yoga up to 1:48 am	
■ Purvabhadrapad Nakshatra up to 9:11 am	
■ Moon in Pisces sign	

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

FORECAST

SUNSET: WEDNESDAY 17:38 HRS
SUNRISE: THURSDAY 06:35 HRS



Sunny Partly Cloudy Cloudy Rainy Foggy

CITY MAX MIN

Chandigarh	31	14

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रजिस्टरी सं. डी.एल.-33004 / 99



भारत का राजपत्र

The Gazette of India

सौ.जी.डी.ए.ल.-15102020-222401
CG-DL-E-15102020-222401

असाधारण

EXTRAORDINARY

भाग II -खण्ड 3-दायरेपत्र (ii)
PART II-Section 3-Sub-section (ii)

प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 3134|
No. 3134]नई दिल्ली, सोमवार, अक्टूबर 12, 2020/आस्विन 20, 1942
NEW DELHI, MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020/ ASVINA 20, 1942

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(Northern Railway)
(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 12th October, 2020

S.O.3545 (E). In exercise of power conferred by sub-section (1) of section 20A of Railway Act 1989 (24 of 1989) (hereinafter referred to as th said Act), the Central Government after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which have been given in the scheduled annexed here to, is required for execution of the special railway project, namely, Chandigarh-Baddi New Rail Line, in the District Solan of Himachal Pradesh, hereby declare its intention to acquire such land;

Any person interested in the said land may, within a period of 30 days from the date of publication of the notification in the official gazette, object to the execution of such land aforesaid purpose under Sub-section (1) of section 20D of the said act.

Every such objection shall be made to the competent authority, namely, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Nalagarh, District Solan HP, in writing and shall set out the ground thereof and the competent authority shall give the objector an opportunity of the being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner, and may, after hearing all such objection and after making such further enquiry, if any, the competent authority think necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the competent authority under sub section (2) of section 20D of the said act shall be final.

The plan and other detail of the land cover under this notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the competent authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquire with or without structure falling within the District Solan for Special Railway Project, namely, Chandigarh-Baddi New Rail Line in the state of Himachal Pradesh

Sr. No.	Name of the Tehsil/ Taluk	Name of the Village	Habdast no./ Mustee	Survey Number/ Khasra No./Block No.	Area to be Acquired in Hectare
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Baddi	Saraj Mazra Labana	205	669/553 min 532 min 673/533 min 673/533 min 677/533 min 680/533 min Kita = 6	0.0376 0.1656 0.0565 0.0565 0.1129 0.7301 0.7301
				412	0.0602
				413	0.1054
				415	0.0979
				416	0.0715
				417	0.2559
				441 min	0.1129
				443 min	0.1129
				454	0.0527
				370 min	0.1881
				369 min	0.0376
				449	0.2069
				457 min	0.1505
				440 min	0.0753
				460	0.0753
				461 min	0.0661
				465 min	0.1881
				466	0.1468
				467 min	0.1129
				475	0.2898
				475/1 min	0.1129
				473	0.2597
				474 min	0.0226
				472 min	0.0188
				470 min	0.0376
				1080/494 min	0.1129
				1080/494 min	0.1129
				495 min	0.1618
				496 min	0.0753
				501	0.3273
				502	0.1844
				503	0.1693
				505 min	0.0753
				776 min	0.0188
				767 min	0.0753
				408	0.1731
				409	0.1505
				405	0.0226
				406	0.0376
				407	0.0376
				418	0.0715
				666 min	0.0188
				420	0.0753
				422	0.0979
				423	0.0904
				424	0.0263
				425	0.0527
				445	0.2371
				446	0.0118
				450 min	0.0753
				500 min	0.0226
				766	0.0791
				734	0.3801
				436 min	0.0188
				765 min	0.1505
				745 min	0.1129
				744 min	0.1645
				743 min	0.2371
				739	0.1430
				738 min	0.0753
				733 min	0.0226
				735 min	0.0188
				735/1 min	0.0753
				706 min	0.0753
				703 min	0.0489
				705 min	0.1505
				708 min	0.0376

Sr. No.	Name of the Tehsil/ Taluk	Name of the Village	Habdast no./ Mustee	Survey Number/ Khasra No./Block No.	Area to be Acquired in Hectare
2	3		Hadbast no./ Mustee	Survey Number/ Khasra No./Block No.	Area to be Acquired in Hectare
				5	6
				723 min	0.0753
				724 min	0.0188
				722 min	0.0753
				716 min	0.1129
				674 min	0.0188
				675 min	0.1129
				673 min	0.0151
				414	0.1054
				419	0.0866
				426	0.2521
				427 min	0.1505
				437	0.2521
				438	0.2371
				439	0.0527
				369	0.2258
				421 min	0.2522
				1551/450 min	0.0376
				448	0.0866
				449/1	0.1129
				449/2	0.1693
				676 min	0.0188
				715 min	0.0376
				766	0.0791
				Kita=89	9.7485
				Kalyanpur	201
					533
					412 min
					434
					435
					436
					438
					439
					442
					456
					457
					458
					459
					471 min
					440
					441
					443
					444
					445
					452
					535
					437
					455 min
					446
					447
					448
					449
					410
					411 min
					413
					415
					418
					420
					450
					451
					453
					877 min
					460
					539
					416
					466
					534 min
					536
					538
					462
					463
					464
					465
					414</

Sr. No.	Name of the Tehsil/ Taluk	Name of the Village	Hadbast no./ Musteel	Survey Number/ Khasra No./Block No.	Area to be Acquired in Hectare
1	2	3	4	5	6
				41 min	0.0753
				44 min	0.0753
				Kita=12	1.1555
	Landewal	202		171	0.0640
				157	0.0640
				158	0.0715
				160	0.0753
				155	0.0904
				156	0.0640
				161	0.0941
				162	0.1280
				163 min	0.2784
				169	0.0452
				170	0.0828
				159	0.0791
				152 min	0.0038
				153 min	0.0489
				154 min	0.0113
				Kita = 15	1.2008
	Kainduwal	200		173 min	0.2625
				174 min	0.0376
				175	0.0489
				176	0.0450
				177	0.0226
				178	0.0320
				179	0.0226
				180 min	0.1450
				181	0.0791
				182	0.1957
				183	0.0376
				184	0.0527
				185	0.0226
				186	0.1317
				187	0.2069
				188	0.0866
				189	0.0677
				190	0.0564
				191	0.1129
				192	0.0376
				193	0.0452
				194	0.0226
				195	0.0602
				196	0.0904
				197	0.1250
				198	0.667
				199	0.1619
				201	0.0263
				203	0.0376
				219	0.1055
				220	0.0670
				224	0.0376
				225 min	0.0170
				226	0.1881
				227	0.0564
				228	0.0791
				229	0.0339
				230	0.0339
				231	0.0414
				232	0.0263
				233	0.0715
				234	0.1580
				235	0.0564
				236	0.1054
				237 min	0.0489
				236/1	0.0226
				238	0.0113
				239	0.0376
				240	0.0930
				241	0.0979
				242	0.0640
				243	0.0452
				244	0.1167
				245	0.0602
				246	0.0301
				247	0.0376
				248	0.0151
				249	0.0452
				250	0.0753
				251	0.0226
				252	0.6283
				253	0.0075
				254	0.0452
				255	0.0188
				256	0.0452
				257	0.0904
				258	0.0301
				259	0.0075
				260 min	0.0188
				265	0.0225
				267	0.0301
				268	0.0263
				269	0.0288
				270	0.0376
				271	0.0376
				273 min	0.0712
				274	0.0562
				275	0.1067
				251/1	0.0151
				258/1	0.0376
				277 min	0.0376
				306 min	0.0565
				Kita=83	5.7148
	Bilanwali Gujran	198		406	0.1656
				405	0.0715
				420	1.2055
				403	0.0151
				404	0.0979
				402	0.0753
				408	0.1468
				409	0.1167
				383	0.1125
				382	0.0562
				947/342	0.0452
				948/342	0.0677
				343	0.2529
				340	0.1580
				334 min	0.0376
				335	0.3951
				337	0.3349
				338	0.0753
				339	0.1994
				371	0.2296
				372	0.2296
				377	0.1129
				373	0.0753
				336	0.0750

Sr. No.	Name of the Tehsil/ Taluk	Name of the Village	Hadbast no./ Musteel	Survey Number/ Khasra No./Block No.	Area to be Acquired in Hectare
1	2	3	4	5	6
				374	0.0602
				378	0.0376
				379	0.0414
				380	0.1468
				381	0.0750
				410	0.0226
				418	0.0564
				344 min	0.0753
				341	0.0753
				Kita=34	4.9949
			Haripur Sandoli	206	0.01242
				520	0.01242
				521 min	0.1505
				523	0.0941
				760/556 min	0.0678
				761/556 min	0.0678
				759/556 min	0.1272
				762/556	0.0075
				524	0.0753
				528 min	0.0565
				527	0.1919
				561 min	0.1656
				560 min	0.2258
				901/581	0.0414
				902/581	0.0376
				900/581	0.0151
				480	0.0301
				481	0.3161
				482	0.2258
				483	0.1693
				484	0.0564
				486	0.1129
				487	0.3725
				488	0.2145
				490	0.0640
				588	0.1205
				589	0.0838
				590	0.0527
				941	0.0715
				492	0.0640
				584	0.1957
				575 min	

Sumdoh-Gramphu road cries for repairs



ROAD ROT

DIPENDER MANTA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MANDI, OCTOBER 27

A few stretches of the Sumdoh-Kaza-Gramphu highway are in a poor condition in Lahaul and Spiti district and require urgent repairs. The 205-km road that connects the Manali-Leh highway with the Hindustan-Tibet highway has strategic importance as the country shares border with China in the Spiti valley.

Residents of the Spiti valley told *The Tribune* that the 20-km Gramphu to Bathal stretch of the highway was in a bad condition at few places such as Chhatru and Chhota Dara, and required repairs.

This highway is under the control of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), which is planning to widen it, as per the direction of the Central Government, for



The poor condition of the Sumdoh-Kaza-Gramphu road near Chhota Dara in Lahaul Spiti.

defence purposes.

Kesang Raapchik, president of the Taxi Operators Union Kaza, said, "The BRO has maintained the road well from Kaza up to Sumdoh towards the Kannaur side and similarly from Kaza towards Gramphu up to Losar. But from Bathal up to Gramphu, a stretch of around 20 km is in a bad condition at few places".

Sonam Targey, a resident of the Spiti valley, said, "Due

to the strategic importance

of this highway, residents of the valley are urging the state and Central governments to widen it to boost tourism in the region".

Ravi Thakur, former Congress MLA of Lahaul and Spiti, said, "The widening of the highway is a long pending demand of the people of the Spiti valley. A proposal in this regard is under implementation and we urge the state and Central governments to

accomplish the task in time".

Brigadier MS Baghi, Chief Engineer (Project Deepak), BRO, said that the maintenance of the highway was under progress. The administrative approval for the road project was pending with the Union Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways. As soon as the process is completed, the BRO would start the next course of action to widen the highway, he added.

The Cabinet decided to conduct

the elections to the three new municipal corporations in January next year along the Dharamsala Municipal Corporation. The six new nagar panchayats to be created are Kandaghat in Solan district, Amb in Una district, Ani and Nirmad in Kullu district and Chirgaon and Nerwa in Shimla district. As a result, the total number of nagar panchayats will rise to 28 and the municipal corporations to five while the number of municipal councils will reduce from 31 to 28.

The Cabinet also gave nod to the reorganisation of the Ner Chowk and Karsog municipal councils in Mandi district and Jwali nagar panchayat in Kangra district by excluding and including some areas.

In view of resistance by local villagers to their inclu-

sion in the municipal corporation, the Cabinet decided to exempt land and buildings in newly included areas

of these urban local bodies from the payment of general tax for three years and retain customary rights, as

Cabinet approves upgrade of Palampur, Solan, Mandi MCs

Decides to create six new nagar panchayats, fill vacant posts

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, OCTOBER 27

The Himachal Cabinet today decided to upgrade the Solan, Mandi and Palampur municipal councils (MCs) to municipal corporations and create six new nagar panchayats, taking the total number of urban local bodies to 61. Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur presided over the meeting.



Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur presides over the state Cabinet meeting in Shimla on Tuesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

MAJOR DECISIONS TAKEN DURING MEETING

- Solan, Mandi and Palampur civic bodies to be upgraded to municipal corporations
- Elections to the three corporations to be held in January along with the Dharamsala corporation
- Six nagar panchayats to be created are Kandaghat in Solan, Amb in Una, Ani and Nirmad in Kullu and Chirgaon and Nerwa in Shimla
- Nod given to the reorganisation of Ner Chowk and Karsog municipal councils in Mandi and Jwali nagar panchayat in Kangra
- Land and buildings in newly included areas of these urban local bodies to be exempt from general tax for three years and customary rights to be retained
- Janmarch programme to be restored
- 43 posts of leading fireman and 11 posts of driver-cum-pump operator to be filled
- 22 posts of copyist in 22 subordinate courts of HP to be filled on a regular basis
- Health sub-centre at Tyoda in Kangra to be upgraded to a primary health centre

provided in Wazib-ul-Urz in the record of rights.

The Cabinet also decided to restore the 'Janmarch' programme after more than eight months from November 8 to ensure speedy redress of public grievances nearer to their homes.

In a major relief to 221 power projects of 1,060 MW, the Cabinet decided to allow one-time amnesty by redefining zero date for projects, which are under investigation and in the clearance stage where implementation agreements had already been signed, and redefine the scheduled commercial operation date for projects under construction.

It approved filling of 43 posts of leading fireman and 11 posts of driver-cum-pump operator in newly opened fire posts at Sansarpur Terrace in Kangra district, Bhabanagar and Sangla in Kinnaur district and Patlikuhal in Kullu district. It also gave nod to creating and filling of 22 posts of copyist in 22 subordinate courts of the state on a regular basis.

Besides, it allowed filling of nine posts of different categories in the State Food Commission and upgrade of the health sub-centre at Tyoda in Kangra district to a primary health centre.

Raids conducted to check onion hoarding

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE



A retailer can't stock more than 20 quintals

"Some shops were raided in Solan yesterday and some were inspected in Shimla today," he said.

Onion is being sold from Rs 60 to 80 in the market. As per the notification issued by the Centre, a retailer can't stock more than 20 quintals.

"Instructions have been issued to the officials to monitor the prices of onion," said Food and Civil Supplies joint director Ravinder Thakur.

To check hoardings and profiteering following a sharp spike in the onion price, the Food and Civil Supplies Department has asked its officials to keep an eye on its price and carry out inspections and raids.

"Desirous agency (ies) may send their application along with requisite documents, certificates etc to the office of the undersigned within 15 days from publication of this notice through online mode only. The terms of reference, eligibility criteria, scope of works, deliverable and other conditions can be downloaded from our website <https://htptenders.gov.in>

Sd/- Commissioner of Industries, Himachal Pradesh.

Allow Aadhaar data access to identify bodies, says DGP

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, OCTOBER 27

Writes letter to UIDAI CEO to work out a mechanism

Himachal DGP Sanjay Kundu today wrote a letter to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), requesting him to work out a mechanism to grant limited access for sharing Aadhaar data with the state police for the purpose of identification of unidentified bodies.

About 100 unidentified bodies are recovered in different parts of the state every year. They remain unidentified in the absence of documents or identifiable articles found on them and if limited access to

the deceased persons. Moreover, limited data access could also be helpful in reuniting the lost mentally challenged and minors with their families.

The move would come as great relief to the family members of the deceased who could at least cremate their loved ones, he said.

"The right to human dignity is not restricted to living human beings but is available after death also," he added.

He quoted a court judgment, which said that it was the obligation of the state to provide a decent burial to a deceased, as per his/her religious belief.

₹7.80 lakh given to orphaned child

DALHOUSIE, OCTOBER 27

Deputy Speaker Hans Raj today handed over an FDR for Rs 7.80 lakh as the disaster relief amount to Rohit Kumar (11), whose mother and brother died in an accident at Churah.

He provided phones to 77 ASHA workers. He also gave FDRs under the 'Beti Hai Anmol Yojana' to 38 beneficiaries.

He said during the financial year, Rs 80.75 lakh had been provided to 768 beneficiaries. Under the Mother Teresa Scheme, Rs 13.79 lakh had also been given to 345 children and 278 mothers while under the Mukhyamantri Kanyaadaan Yojana, Rs 7 lakh was provided to 17 girls and under the Pradhan Mantri Matri Vandana Yojana. —TNS

5 die, 231 new cases

SHIMLA, OCTOBER 27

As many as 231 Covid cases were reported in the state today, taking the total tally to 20,817. Besides, five persons died of coronavirus, raising the fatality figure to 293. Two deaths were reported in Kullu and one each in Hamirpur, Mandi and Sirmaur districts.

The highest number of 51 cases were reported in Mandi, followed by 48 in Kullu, 39 in Kangra, 38 in Shimla, 15 in Kinnaur, 14 in Bilaspur, eight in Sirmaur, five in Solan, four each in Una and Lahaul and Spiti, three in Chamba and two in Hamirpur. The total number of active cases stood at 2,521. Meanwhile, a record number of 4,669 tests were done today. —TNS

HP COVID TRACKER

Recovered	17,974
Active cases	2,521
Positive cases	20,817

DISTRICT-WISE COUNT

DISTRICT	+VE	DEATHS
Una	1,517	15
Solan	3,560	36
Kangra	2,938	61
Chamba	1,109	15
Hamirpur	1,203	13
Sirmaur	2,234	17
Mandi	2,761	35
Bilaspur	1,223	7
Shimla	2,295	65
Kullu	1,352	23
Kinnaur	302	5
Lahaul & Spiti	323	1
Total	20,817	293

Woman IAS officer not allowed to attend havan

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, OCTOBER 27

IAS officer Ritika Jindal, who is deputed as tehsildar at Solan, was stopped from participating in a havan organised at Goddess Shoolini's temple here on Saturday.

Jindal protested the denial of permission to participate in the havan and said it was a matter of woman's respect.

She had gone to visit the temple to take stock of the arrangements and urged priests to allow her to participate in the havan. They argued that no woman had

been permitted to participate in the havan. Goddess Shoolini is the ruling deity of the area.

Jindal said there was a need to change such thinking where women were discriminated against and as a woman, she would stand for equality.

Jindal, who is a native of Moga in Punjab, is a 2018 batch IAS officer.

It was incidentally the last day of her posting at Solan and has now joined at Nalagarh in the same capacity.

One consumer, two power bills in Nurpur

NURPUR, OCTOBER 27

IN A QUANDARY

- Rajeev Kumar was issued a bill for ₹1,374 on October 20 for which the due date for payment was mentioned as October 24
- When he tried to clear the bill through online mode, he was surprised to know that the amount was ₹1,785 and the due date for payment was October 31.



the bill on October 20 for Rs 1,374 in which the due date for making payment was mentioned as October

24. He said when he tried to clear his bill through online mode, he was surprised to know that his bill amount

was Rs 1,785 and the due date for making cash payment was October 31.

Anil Kumar and Harsh Kumar of the same locality also got the dual bills.

Prem Kumar, Assistant Engineer, electrical subdivision, Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd (HPSEBL) said the problem had happened due to a software glitch. —OC

Notice Inviting EoL - original

MD-cum-CEO, Dharamshala Smart City Limited invites online tenders from the eligible bidders for the following works:

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Letter No.	Type of Contract	Cost of Processing Fee	Date of Issue of EoL	Last date for Submission of EoL (Offline)	Date of Opening of EoL
1.	EoL for selection of Concessioner to Design, Build, Maintain & Operate a Waste Processing Plant with an Energy Generation Component on EPC Mode for Dharamshala Municipal Area*	DSCL/Waste to Bio-Gas Plant -111/2019-1190 Dt. 27.10.2020	EPC Mode	Rs. 10,000/-	29.10.2020, 12.00 Noon	23.11.2020, 02.00 p.m.	23.11.2020, 03.00 p.m.

Note: 1. All the tender documents can be downloaded from the website: www.hptenders.gov.in

2. All Addendums/Corrigendum will only be published in the above website

3. For any queries please contact us at dsc1tender@gmail.com or phone no. 01892-226677 / 226075.

Sd/- MD-cum-CEO, Dharamshala Smart City Limited.

Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti Division Kaza.

DPR/HP/3960

HIM SUCHANA

PAGD slams Centre for lifting curbs on land purchase in UTs

Gupkar alliance vows to fight new laws on all fronts — political and legal

ADITI TANDON

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

The People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration on Tuesday condemned the Centre's move to lift curbs on the purchase of land in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and pledged to fight the attempt on all fronts — political and legal.

The seven-party front slammed the development related to repeal of Jammu and Kashmir land laws as highly prejudicial to the interests of locals saying the move is an affront to the apex court which is seized of a legal challenge to the August 5, 2019 decisions reorganising J&K into two UTs and abrogating Article 370.

The Centre's intervention strips permanent residents of J&K and Ladakh of hitherto exclusive rights to acquire and hold immovable property in the state.

Terming the Home Ministry order a huge betrayal of the people of J&K and Ladakh, PAGD spokesperson Sajjad Lone said it was a massive assault on the rights of locals and "grossly unconstitutional".

"The repeal of Big Estates Abolition Act — the first-ever agrarian reform in the subcontinent — is an insult to the sacrifices of thousands of freedom fighters and farmers who fought against an autocratic and oppressive rule and a crude attempt to rewrite history. The order made in exercise of powers under the Reorganisation Act, 2019, is yet another



WILL AFFECT ECOSYSTEM

“The assault on exclusive property rights apart, changes in urban development laws and creation of security zones are bound to prejudicially affect the environment and the ecosystem in the fragile regions of J&K and Ladakh in utter disregard of grave environmental concerns. Sajjad Lone, PAGD SPOKESPERSON

brazen violation of the principle of constitutional propriety of fundamental importance to a constitutional democracy," Lone said.

The People's Conference chief recalled the legal challenge to the August 5, 2019, developments in the Supreme Court and questioned the propriety behind the Centre's moves.

"With a serious challenge to the August 5, 2019, decisions before the top constitutional court of the country and the constitutionality of the J&K Reorganisation Act under judicial scrutiny, the Centre is under an obligation to desist from such acts out of respect for the apex court," Lone said alleging the meas-

ure as "unconstitutional" and one "clearly designed to pre-empt the outcome of the challenge before the SC".

"The assault on exclusive property rights apart, changes in urban development laws and creation of security zones are bound to prejudicially affect the environment and the ecosystem in the fragile regions of J&K and Ladakh in utter disregard of grave environmental concerns," Lone said.

National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah also separately termed the newly introduced J&K Development Act, which comes into effect immediately, hostile to the interests of locals and said, "The amendments

to the land ownership law have put J&K and Ladakh up for sale. With these new laws, tokenism of the domicile certificate has been done away with as purchasing non-agricultural land has been made easier. The new laws are unacceptable to people of J&K and Ladakh. Omar Abdullah, NC VICE-PRESIDENT

Sinha said his mantra for Jammu and Kashmir revolved around 'four Ps' — peace, progress, prosperity and people.

"The sanctioning of over 10,000 cases under the B2V3 (back to village-3) self-employment programme, economic package and 'My Town My Pride' highlights the UT government's commitment to empower the youth which is one of the foremost priorities of J&K government," he said.

Sinha said 15,309 applications had been received, out of which 10,828 were sanctioned and an amount of Rs 100 crore was disbursed to 6,734 applicants, identified under the B2V3.

"We had taken up a target of covering at least two persons in each panchayat who were in need of financial assistance for self-employment," he added.

He said the administration was committed to cover every single aspirant within the UT, who wished to set up his/her own business.

"What distinguishes the effort this time is the fact that unlike in the past, where borrowers had to make several rounds of the bank to get a simple loan, the banks have been more than forthcoming towards helping the people," he said.

The officers went to the villages under the B2V3

10,000 loan cases approved for budding entrepreneurs

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 27

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday announced sanction of over 10,000 loan cases for the union territory's budding entrepreneurs under various programmes.

Sinha said his mantra for Jammu and Kashmir revolved around 'four Ps' — peace, progress, prosperity and people.

"The sanctioning of over 10,000 cases under the B2V3 (back to village-3) self-employment programme, economic package and 'My Town My Pride' highlights the UT government's commitment to empower the youth which is one of the foremost priorities of J&K government," he said.

Sinha said 15,309 applications had been received, out of which 10,828 were sanctioned and an amount of Rs 100 crore was disbursed to 6,734 applicants, identified under the B2V3.

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"What distinguishes the effort this time is the fact that unlike in the past, where borrowers had to make several rounds of the bank to get a simple loan, the banks have been more than forthcoming towards helping the people," he said.

The officers went to the villages under the B2V3



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha provides financial assistance to a woman entrepreneur at Raj Bhawan in Srinagar on Tuesday. PTI

₹100 CR DISBURSED TO 6,734 APPLICANTS

“As many as 15,309 applications were received, out of which 10,828 have been sanctioned. An amount of ₹100 crore was disbursed to 6,734 applicants, identified under the B2V3 (back to village-3) self-employment programme. Manoj Sinha, J&K LT GOVERNOR

and 'My Town My Pride', and identified the aspirants, the L-G said.

Sinha called upon J&K Bank to not only extend financial assistance to these entrepreneurs but also provide hand-holding to them so that the youth who opted for self-employment could set up sustainable businesses and flourish in their lives.

The Lt Governor also handed over a cheque for Rs 250 crore to J&K Bank as commencement of disbursement of 5 per cent interest subvention and coverage of restructured accounts following 2014 floods and 2016 agitation.

"This is only the beginning and as and when requests are received for further disbursement, we will continue to meet these requests in a timely manner," he added.

Providing much-needed relief to the business community, the Lt Governor also announced that from January 1 next year, the GST would be reimbursed timely and automatically without delays.

He said the government was strengthening the grass-roots democratic setup as a three-tier Panchayati Raj system was being implemented for the first time in J&K. — PTI

452 fresh Covid cases in J&K

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 27

Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday recorded 452 fresh Covid-19 cases and seven fatalities in a day, which pushed the infection tally in the union territory to 92,677 and death toll to 1,451, officials said.

Of the fresh cases, 194 are from the Jammu region and 258 from the Kashmir valley, they said, adding that Srinagar district reported the highest 118 new cases, followed by 109 in Jammu district.

There were 6,990 active Covid cases in the union territory, while 84,236 patients had recovered so far, officials said.

Of the seven deaths today, four were from the Jammu region and three from the Valley. — PTI

Rijiju apprised offootball promotion

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

From downtown Srinagar to the sensitive Pulwama, Bandipora or Sopore, football fever has gripped Jammu and Kashmir, thanks to a plethora of activities being carried out by the trailblazing Real Kashmir FC (Football Club).

RKFC chairperson Sandeep Chattoo on Tuesday met Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju and apprised him of the work being done by the club towards promotion of football in the Valley as well as the issues facing it at the moment. Rijiju assured the club full cooperation. — PTI

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL TEACHERS TRAINING AND RESEARCH

Sector - 26, Chandigarh 160019
(Established by Government of India, Ministry of Education)

www.nitttrchd.ac.in
e-mail: director@nitttrchd.ac.in, ssb@nitttrchd.ac.in

TENDER NOTICE

e-tenders are invited for hiring manual frisking service required during recruitment examination. Tender details are available on the Institute website and complete tender documents giving details of service and other conditions are available on Chandigarh administration website: <http://www.etenders.chd.nic.in>. Last date for uploading e-tenders is 1700 Hours on 21/11/2020. DIRECTOR

Office of ADGP TECHNICAL SERVICES, Punjab, Chandigarh

Punjab Police Headquarters, Sector 9A, Chandigarh – 160009

Advertisement regarding Notice Inviting e-Tender

ADGP Technical Services, Punjab, Chandigarh intends to float an e-Tender on 18.11.2020 tentatively which will be uploaded on <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> (e-procurement portal of Punjab Government) for the "Selection of Implementation Agency for the Development, Implementation, and Maintenance of CCTNS & HRMS mobile and Web app with AI powered search and quality validation technology" and invites pre-Tender queries for the same regarding the draft Tender Document.

The Draft Tender Document and tentative key dates are available on Punjab Police Website <http://www.punjapolicewebsite.gov.in>.

For any queries, please Contact Ms Surbhi Marwaha, PPS, DSP/IT/Technical Services, Punjab, Chandigarh Punjab Police Headquarters, Sector-9A, Chandigarh.

Contact No. 0172-2748100-06 Extn 2709, (+91) 9466433841

(Between 9:30 A.M to 4:30 P.M on any working day).

Sd/- DSP/CCTNS, Technical Services, Pb. Chg.

NOTICE

The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Nohradhar invites following offline tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from eligible Contractors for the following work through offline process:-

Sr. No.	Description	E/Cost	E/Money	Time	Cost of Form
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1	Providing LWSS to PC Habitations Charna, Dana Ghaton, Ganog, Jamni Koti, Jarag, Koti Dhamian, Maina Gharel & Rajana in Tehsil Sangrah H.P. (SH)- Providing FHTC to balance households of various G.P. under Jal Shakti Section Andheri.	321090/-	6450/-	3 Months	250/-
2	R/M of various LWSS/GWSS under Jal Shakti Division Nohradhar. (SH)- Providing and Supplying G.I. fittings for Sub-Division Nohradhar, Haripurhada and Sangrah.	499550/-	1000/-	2 Months	250/-

The application for purchase of tender documents shall be entertained up to 4.00 P.M. dated 04.11.2020, non-refundable, in cash or by money order as per cost shown above. The tenders shall be received in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Nohradhar up to 2.00 P.M dated 05.11.2020 and shall be opened on the same day at 3:00 P.M. in the presence of intending contractors or their authorized representatives, if any.

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Nohradhar.

DPR/HP/3914

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG

OFFICE ORDER

The tender for the work 'AIR & MIO WSS Suni in Tehsil Suni, Dist. Shimla, HP (SH: Replacement of Filter media)' called vide this notice NIT No. JS-DS-CB-Tender-NIT-20/21-3544-60 dated 09.10.2020, which was due to be opened on 23.10.2020 at 3.30 P.M. is hereby extended and now shall be opened on 30.10.2020 at 3.30 P.M. due to administrative reasons.

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Shimla Rural Division, Suni.

DPR/HP/3973

(HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPAK)

DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD GOVT MEDICAL COLLEGE, KANGRA AT TANDA (HP).

E-mail:- principal.tanda@gmail.com

Telephone No. = 01892-267115

Website: <https://www.hptenders.gov.in>

No.HFW-H(DRPGMC)/e-tender/2020- Dated

Notice Inviting E-Tender

E-tenders in two bid system (techno-commercial and financial bid) are invited for the supply of machinery & equipment for the Deptt of Pathology, CTVS & Radiology of Dr. RPGMC, Kangra at Tanda. The detailed tender document can be viewed and downloaded from website: <https://www.hptenders.gov.in> from 30/10/2020 to 26/11/2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Both techno-commercial and financial bid must be submitted online from 10/11/2020 to 26/11/2020 upto 1.00 P.M. In addition, techno-commercial bid duly signed & stamped alongwith EMD and tender fee must be submitted in physical form in the office of the undersigned on or before 26/11/2020 upto 1.00 P.M. Tenders received without earnest money, tender fee & physical copy of techno-commercial bid shall be rejected straightaway. The tender will be opened on 26/11/2020 at 3.00 PM. The bidders are advised to visit the aforesaid website regularly for any corrigendum, modifications and clarifications in respect of this tender. Any clarification regarding the tender document may be sent via email to acftanda@gmail.com before 06/11/2020. The Principal, Dr. RPGMC, Kangra at Tanda reserves all the rights to accept/reject any or all the tender offers without assigning reason.

Joint Director (Admn.)
Dr. R.P. Govt. Medical College
Kangra at Tanda (H.P.).

DPR/HP/3914

PUNJAB MANDI BOARD NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS

TENDER NOTICE NO: 7 (2020) DATED 27.10.2020

Executive Engineer @ Punjab Mandi Board Tarn Taran invites online bids from eligible bidders enlisted with Punjab Mandi Board for Repair of Internal Roads and Upgradation of Auction Platform with Cement Concrete at Principal Yard Bhikhawind, M.C. Bhikhawind, Distt. Tarn Taran. For detail, terms and conditions of notice inviting bids, refer to website www.etender.punjabgovt.gov.in

Corrigendum, if any, will only be issued on website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, @ Punjab Mandi Board, Tarn Taran.

POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

The Hospital Engineer (Civil), PGIMER Chandigar



E-Auction is hereby invited on behalf of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation Chandigarh request for E-Auction for plastic waste at Solid Waste Plant, Sector 25 (W), Chandigarh.

Note:-

- Tender document along with terms and conditions are available w.e.f. 26.10.2020 at 9.00 A.M. on e-tendering official website <http://eauction.gov.in>
- The tender shall be uploaded upto 03.11.2020 at 5.00 P.M.
- The Auction will be start on 10.11.2020 at 9.00 A.M. to 3.00 P.M.
- The bidder shall have to submit their bids on-line in Electronic Format with Digital Signatures for participation in the E-tendering process.

Executive Engineer

SWM Municipal Corporation Chandigarh

FROM PAGE 1
India, US ink defence...

During talks, the two sides discussed a wide array of issues, including deeper partnership in health, space, nuclear energy, supply chains, trade and energy fields, besides people-to-people ties.

The meeting took place a week before the US poll and a month before India and the US would be joined by Japan and Australia for a combined show of naval strength under the Malabar series of war games.

Welcoming Quad cooperation, the four ministers resolved to impart economic content through a dialogue among the development organisations of the four countries. The ministers emphasised the need for concerted action against all terrorist networks and called on Pakistan to bring to justice the perpetrators and planners of all attacks, including Mumbai, Uri and Pathankot.

The statement devoted considerable space to the fine print of defence cooperation as well as formulations on the South China Sea and the Indo-Pacific. The two countries also resolved to jointly build deterrence capacity of regional countries.

PRESS NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Thunag invites tender on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractor for the following work(s) through e-tendering process:-

Name of Work: Providing LWSS for Balichowki and Multi village group piped water supply scheme for part of Balichowki Block of District Mandi (H.P.) (SH- Construction of intake well, WTP 1.40 MLD, Pump houses 1st, 2nd & 3rd Stages, MRBs, SRs at various location, P/L/J/T of M/SERWGI rising main, gravity mains, distribution system, S/E of pumping machinery of raw water stage, 1st, 2nd & 3rd stage automation including trial run for 90 days on full designed capacity and defect liability period of Six months after completion of trial run)

Estimated Cost :- Rs. 31,40,03,665/-

Earnest Money :- Rs. 31,40,100/-

Cost Tender Document :- Rs. 2500/-

Time Limit :- 18 Months

Schedule of tendering:-

1. Site Visit	From 26.10.2020 to 30.10.2020 between 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.
2. Pre-Bid Meeting date	03.11.2020 at 11.00 A.M. in the office of Engineer-in-Chief Jal Shakti Vibhag, Jal Shakti Bhawan, Tutti-Kandhi Shimla (HP)
3. Last Date of entertaining pre bid queries	30.10.2020 at 5.00 P.M.
4. Bid Submission Start Date	24.10.2020 at 11:30 A.M.
5. Bid Submission End Date	05.11.2020 at 5:00 P.M.
6. Physical Submission of Earnest Money Deposit and Cost of Tender form if not submitted online.	06.11.2020 at 10:30 A.M.
7. Opening of Eligibility criteria & Technical bid (Cover-I)	06.11.2020 at 11:00 A.M.
8. Opening of Financial bid (Cover-II)	Date to be notified separately

Last date of filling/uploading the tender through e-tendering **05.11.2020 up to 5:00 p.m.**

The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be obtained from the website www.hiph.org.in.

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Thunag Distt Mandi, HIM SUCHANA AVAM JAN SAMPAK DPR/HP/3932

TENDER NOTICE
HIMACHAL PRADESH FOREST DEPARTMENT
(Nai Rahein Nai Manzilein)
e-Procurement Notice

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Tender Reference No:

- The Divisional Forest Officer, Palampur Forest Division, Distt. Kangra on behalf of Governor of HP invites online bids on item rate, in e-tendering system in 2 cover system for the undermentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms. Eligible bidders are contractors registered with HPPWD/CPWD.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost As per HPSR-2009	Earnest Money	Cost of Tender	Time Allowed
1	Construction of Driver Room and Store in Forest rest House at Bir in Forest Range Bir under Palampur Division during 2019-20	73982/-	14800/-	500/-	Three months
Sub Work -	Construction of Driver Room and Store in Forest rest House at Bir				

Availability of bid document and mode of submission: The Bid document is available online and bid should be submitted in online mode on website <http://htenders.gov.in>. Bidder would be required to register in the website, which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder required to have digital signature certificate from one of the authorized certifying Authorities.

3. Key Dates:-

Sr. No.	Activity	Date and Time
I	Date of online publication	From 26.10.2020 at 06:00 p.m.
II	Downloading of e-tender Document	From 27.10.2020, 10.00 a.m. to 10.11.2020 up to 5:00 p.m.
III	Date of submission of e-tendering	From 27.10.2020, 10.00 a.m. to 10.11.2020 up to 5:00 p.m.
IV	Physical submission of Earnest Money Deposit and Cost of tender document and other Technical documents	Up to 05:00 p.m. on 10.11.2020
V	Date of Bid Opening	11:00 a.m. on 11.11.2020

4. Tender details:-

The e-tender documents shall be uploaded online in 2 (two) covers:-

i) Cover-1 shall contain scanned copies of "Eligibility document/Eligible information".

ii) Cover-2 shall contain "BoQ/Financial Bid" where contractors will quote his offer for each item.

5. Cover-1 shall contain scanned copies of following "eligibility information" (Scanned copies to be uploaded).

i) The Earnest Money only in the shape of small saving instruments, or Fixed Deposit, duly pledged in favour of Divisional Forest Officer, Palampur.

ii) The cost of tender form only in the shape of Demand Draft only in favour of Divisional Forest Officer, Palampur of work.

iii) Certificate of registration with any State/Central Govt. in appropriate class and discipline.

iv) PAN and GST registration.

v) Work experience of minimum one year for executing of works.

vi) Turnover of minimum 10 Lakhs per annum.

6. Cover-2 shall contain BoQ where contractor will quote his offer for each item.

7. The tenders of the contractors/firms who fails to fulfil the eligibility information (as per Cover-I) will be summarily rejected.

8. Submission of original document:- The bidders are required to submit:-

i) Original Demand Draft towards the cost of bid document.

ii) Original bid security/EMD in the favour of DFO, Palampur and other Technical document as mentioned in point No. 5, in the O/o Divisional Forest Officer, Palampur Forest Division, and Distt. Kangra (H.P.) as specified in key dates as mentioned in point No. 3, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.

9. Bid Opening Details: The bids shall be opened on 11/11/2020 in the O/o Divisional Forest Officer, Palampur Forest Division, Distt. Kangra (H.P.) by the authorized officer. In their own interest the tenders are advised to be present along with original documents at the time of opening tenders.

10. If it happens to be holiday on the date of opening of bid as specified, the bid will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue and no separate notice will be given in this regards.

11. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period not less than 120 days after the dead line for bid submission.

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

13. The competent authority on behalf of Governor of HP reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason.

14. Registration of HP Sales Tax/GST is essential: Other details can be seen in Bid document.

Divisional Forest Officer,
Palampur Forest Division,
Palampur (Distt. Kangra).

Covid antibodies fall rapidly, says UK research

LONDON, OCTOBER 27

The hope for long-term immunity from Covid-19 was thrown into doubt on Tuesday, as a UK study concluded that protective antibodies in people fall "quite rapidly" after a coronavirus infection.

Imperial College London's research, which tested more than 365,000 persons in England, found that antibody response to the novel coronavirus that causes Covid-19 wanes over time, which indicates that any level of immunity could last only a few months.

"Seasonal coronaviruses that circulate every winter and cause common colds can re-infect people after six to 12 months," said Professor Wendy Barclay, a virologist who was one of the researchers on the study.

"We suspect that the way the body reacts to infection with this new coronavirus is similar to that," she said.— PTI

Punjab Bills...

There is a clause in the Punjab law suggesting that no sale or purchase of wheat and paddy will be valid unless the price paid is equal to or greater than the MSP announced by the Union Government, whereas the Acts do not deal with the MSP at all, it says.

"The Acts provide for mutual agreement on the price between the buyer and the seller based on market forces and independent of the MSP. This will allow farmers to mutually finalise prices with buyers based on quality, variety etc. in addition to continued access to MSP procurement by the government," it adds. The analysis by the Agriculture Ministry is expected to be included in Centre's observations on the Bills.

Centre halts...

the RDF while calculating incidental charges to be paid to the state. In another letter, the ministry observed that the fund was being misused. Punjab Food and Civil Supplies Minister Bharat Bhushan Ashu said he would write to the Centre and seek justification for stopping the RDF payment.

A new body — J&K Industrial Development Corporation — has been set up and if it is unable to acquire land, the government can invoke the provisions of the Right to Fair Compensation Act and acquire the land on behalf of the corporation for public purposes.

The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act (RERA), 2016, will now also be applicable in the UT. National Conference leader Omar Abdullah said the amendments were "unacceptable".

Barrett as the 115th Supreme Court Judge by 52-48 votes on Monday, pushing the top court

in a more conservative direction for generations to come.

Barrett, a 48-year-old religious

YOUNGEST SINCE CLARENCE THOMAS

- Amy Coney Barrett is the 115th Supreme Court justice of the United States
- At 48, she's the youngest justice since Clarence Thomas joined the Supreme Court in 1991 at the age of 43
- No justice has assumed office so close to a presidential election



EX GRATIA TO BORROWERS

- Housing loans, education loans, credit card dues, auto loans, MSME loans, consumer durable loans and consumption loans are covered under the scheme
- The scheme mandates ex gratia payment to certain categories of borrowers by way of crediting the difference between simple interest and compound interest for the period between March 1 and August 31

loans, MSME loans, consumer durable loans and consumption loans are covered under the scheme.

The scheme mandates ex gratia payment to certain categories of borrowers by way of crediting the difference between simple interest and compound interest for the period between March 1, 2020 and August 31, 2020 by respective lending institutions.

Housing loans, education loans, credit card dues, auto loans, MSME loans, consumer durable loans and consumption loans are covered under the scheme.

In a tweet, office of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said "RBI advises all lending institutions to be guided by the provisions of the scheme for grant of ex gratia pay-

ment of difference between compound interest and simple interest for six months to borrowers in specified loan accounts and take necessary action within the stipulated timeline," the RBI said in a notification.

In a tweet, office of Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said "RBI advises all lending institutions to be guided by the provisions of the scheme for grant of ex gratia pay-

ment of difference between compound interest and simple interest for six months to borrowers in specified loan accounts and take necessary action within the stipulated timeline".

The Finance Ministry had issued the operational guidelines on October 23, in the backdrop of the Supreme Court's direction to implement the interest waiver scheme. — PTI

THE CONTROVERSY

■ Amazon on Sunday won an injunction from a Singapore arbitrator to halt Future Retail Ltd's (FRL) deal to sell assets to Reliance Industries

■ Amazon alleged FRL had breached certain contract provisions it entered into last year in a separate deal with the US firm

provisions it entered into last year in a separate deal with the US firm.

wholesale, logistics and some other businesses to Reliance for \$3.38 billion, including debt.

The dispute centres around FRL's decision in August to sell its retail,

had clauses saying the Indian group couldn't sell its retail assets to anyone on a "restricted persons" list, including any firms from Reliance chief Mukesh

Amber's group. The deal specified any disputes would be arbitrated under Singapore International Arbitration Centre rules.

An order by the arbitrator reveals how Amazon argued that Future breached agreements which barred it from selling retail assets to entities, including Reliance, whose boss Ambani is Asia's richest man. It also shows the level of concern at Future if the deal breaks. — Reuters

VICTIMS' AGE

7-11 YRS

MOST OF THEM FROM

AFGHANISTAN

Mandeep recalls late father's wish after unbeaten fifty against KKR

SHARJAH, OCTOBER 27
Punjab's Mandeep Singh, who has been showered with affection and praise for bravely focussing on cricket after the recent death of his father, yet again showed his mental fortitude on Monday night.

The Kings XI Punjab opener scored an unbeaten 66 off 56 balls, adding 100 runs for the second with Chris Gayle, to help their team easily beat Kolkata Knight Riders by eight wickets.

His father, Hardev Singh, a former Punjab Sports Department official, had been suffering from a liver infection and died in a Mohali hospital on Friday evening. Mandeep attended his last rites through a video call.

Playing his second match after his father's death, an emotional Mandeep said he wanted to follow his father's instructions on the field. "My father used to tell me that 'you should remain not out in every game' and that is what I wanted to do today," Mandeep said after KXIP's win.

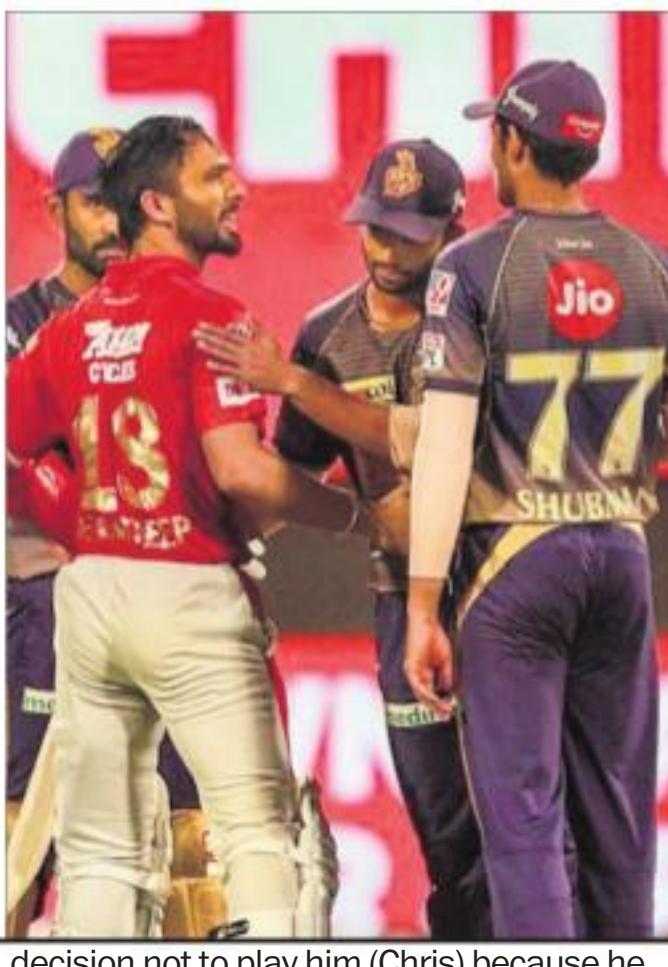
Finishing the game

"Even before the game I spoke to Rahul (team captain), that 'let me play my

Batting for Dad!



ABOVE: Kings XI Punjab's Mandeep Singh after completing his half-century; RIGHT: Mandeep talks to Kolkata Knight Riders' Shubman Gill after the match. PTI



ABOVE: Kings XI Punjab's Mandeep Singh after completing his half-century; RIGHT: Mandeep talks to Kolkata Knight Riders' Shubman Gill after the match. PTI

GAYLE FACTOR

Chris Gayle, who made 51 off 29 balls, was not included in the playing XI in the initial few matches. KXIP haven't lost a match after his return, taking full points from five matches in a row. Rahul said Gayle, who has made 53, 24, 29, 20 and 51 in their five wins, was very determined to perform. "It was a very hard

decision not to play him (Chris) because he was batting really well. This is the hungriest I have ever seen him in the last seven-eight years that I have played with him. He is running his ones and twos, so that's refreshing," Rahul said. "He's always positive, always pushing the youngsters. It's great to have someone with that much experience."

game, even if I take few balls I can win games for the team'. I think my father would be really happy that I finished the game," Mandeep said.

On Saturday, Mandeep had taken the field against Sunrisers Hyderabad and when he went into the middle, some of the opposing team players condoled with him. They included Sunris-

ers leg-spinner Rashid Khan, who himself had lost his father while playing in Australia's Big Bash League two years ago.

Skipper KL Rahul said the mental toughness shown by Mandeep has rubbed off on the entire squad.

"It's so hard when you are away from your family. With the bubble, you don't have the close ones. The

kind of toughness he (Mandeep) has shown has rubbed off on other boys as well," Rahul said.

"The way he played today, it makes everyone emotional. He's gone through a rough time... Just to put his hand up, be there and finish the game for the team would make him proud and make his father proud," Rahul added. — TNS, agencies

*Read under Team, Played, Won, Lost, Points

131 in 19 overs.

Brief scores: SRH: 219/2 (Saha 87, Warner 66, Pandey 44*; Ashwin 1/35, Nortze 1/37); DC: 131 all out (Pant 36, Rahane 26; Rashid 3/7, Natarajan 2/26, Sandeep 2/27). PTI



Riddhiman Saha hit 2 sixes and 12 fours in his 45-ball 87. PTI

Gavaskar intrigued by extent of Rohit injury before Australia tour

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

The extent of Rohit Sharma's hamstring injury has intrigued batting great Sunil Gavaskar after the opener was seen practising on Monday, hours after his omission from India's tour of Australia on fitness grounds. Mumbai Indians captain Rohit missed his team's last two matches in the IPL currently underway in the UAE with the injury.

The selectors omitted him from both the Test and limited-overs squads and the cricket board (BCCI) said its medical team would "continue to monitor the progress" without elaborating on the injury. Hours later, Mumbai Indians posted a video of their captain practising "in full flow" in Abu Dhabi, which baffled many.

"We are talking about the Test matches, which are a month-and-a-half way," Gavaskar told IPL broadcaster Star Sports after Monday's match. "If he is practising in the nets for Mumbai Indians, then hon-

estly I don't know what kind of injury it is. I think a little bit of transparency, a little bit of openness about what actually is the problem with him will help everybody."

Indian team players usually don't comment on team selection matters. India and Australia will lock horns in a four-Test series for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in December-January, which will be preceded by six short-form Internationals.

India have named Prithvi Shaw, KL Rahul and Shubman Gill in the Test squad

and one of them could partner Mayank Agarwal at the top of the batting order. Agarwal's own fitness is not beyond doubt but the BCCI was characteristically taciturn about it when naming the opener in all three squads. The 29-year-old has missed Kings XI Punjab's last two IPL matches and Gavaskar criticised the lack of clarity around Agarwal's suspected leg injury.

"For an Indian cricket fan, they ought to know what happens to two of their key players," the former India captain said. — Reuters

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Open Tender Notice No. 12/2020-21

Open tenders through E-tendering are invited by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/G, Northern Railway, Ambala from the willing contractors for following work upto 15.00 hrs on the date of closing shown against the work and will be opened thereafter.

S. N.	Open Tender No.	Name of work	Date of Closing/ Opening	Approx. Cost	Earliest Money	Completion period	Validity period	Cost of tender form
1	30-Elect/T-22/2020-2021 (Open Tender)	Electrical work in connection with Heritage restoration of Station Building of KLK-SML section under ADEN/SML over Ambala Division	18.11.2020	Rs. 1470191.36	Rs. 2940/-	04 Months	45 Days	NIL
2	30-Elect/T-23/2020-2021 (Open Tender)	Electrical work in connection with Raising & Extension of Platform no: 1 & 2 upto 24 coaches at JUDW in the section of SSE/WL/SRE under ADEN/SRE over Ambala Division.	18.11.2020	Rs. 15000021.61	Rs. 30000/-	04 Months	45 Days	NIL

1. Tenderer(s) are required to upload scanned copies of all related eligibility documents including PAN/TIN as per conditions. The required Earliest Money & Tender Document Cost will be acceptable On-Line payment through Net Banking or Payment Gateway payment only well before & upto 1500 Hrs of closing date & time of tender.
2. Tenderer(s) should have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate to participate in E-Tendering of Works Tenders.
3. For details please log on to IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in.

No. 30-Elect/T/Notice/12/2020-Dated: 26.10.2020

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Worried over Oly preparations, India plans shooting GPs

VINAYAK PADMADEO

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

With uncertainty looming over international shooting tournaments due to the prevailing Covid-19 situation, the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) is worried that Indian shooters might head to next year's Tokyo Olympics without any competitions.

NRAI, thus, has plans to host at least four Grand Prix tournaments before the Tokyo Games.

It is understood that NRAI president Raninder Singh has discussed this with the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the Sports Ministry, but a formal proposal is yet to be submitted to the authorities.

Surging numbers

Fresh doubts have emerged over holding sports events amidst a fresh surge in the number of Covid cases in Europe and the USA — the USA has been reporting around 60,000 cases per day, while Europe has reported more than a million new cases in the past one week alone.

With the numbers expected to rise further, the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) events, starting with the Shotgun World in Cairo in February-March

Four events planned next year, NRAI to foot all bills

next year, may not be held. New Delhi is scheduled to host the combined World Cup of rifle, pistol and shotgun competitions in March 2021, and this competition too is under a cloud of uncertainty.

First-timers

NRAI is especially worried about Indian shooters who will be participating in their first Olympics.

The ISSF top brass is on board with NRAI's plans. The Tribune has learned that NRAI will be footing all the bills — including return tickets, boarding, transport and even the ammunition and targets — of the shooters who will show up for the events.

Raninder Singh, who is also an ISSF vice-president, did not comment on the development.

As per initial plans, shooters who had either entered the finals of last year's World Cups and World Championships, besides those invited for the season-ending World Cup Finals, will be invited for the proposed Grand Prix in India.

Son assisted by Kane again to lead Spurs to win

BURNLEY: The partnership between Harry Kane and Son Heung-min is developing into the most prolific in Premier League history. Son headed in from Kane's flick-on to secure a 1-0 win at Burnley yesterday, making it the 29th time they have combined for a goal. It was the ninth time in six league matches this season alone. Only Frank Lampard and Didier Drogba have linked up for more goals — 36 — in the Premier League during their time at Chelsea.

Meanwhile, in Milan, AC Milan's perfect start to the Serie A season ended with a 3-3 draw against Roma but they still moved two points clear of Napoli and Sassuolo. AP

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Reputed firms shall be shortlisted for presentation and discussion Qualitative Requirement (QRs) containing requirement along with terms and conditions as per UGC (Open and Distance Learning Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 shall be supplied to the shortlisted firms for Techno-commercial proposals.

PRDH/83436

REGISTRAR

PRDH/83419

Ajay Jayaram makes winning start

SAARBRUCKEN (GERMANY): Indian shuttler Ajay Jayaram notched up a dominating straight-game win over Belgium's Maxime Moreels in the men's singles opening round of the SaarLorLux Open Super 100 tournament here today. The former world No. 13 beat Maxime 21-8 21-8 in just 19 minutes at Saarlandhalle Saarbrucken. Jayaram will next face the Netherlands' third seed Mark Caljouw. Defending champion Lakshya Sen, 2018 winner Subhankar Dey and young Malvika Bansod are also in the fray. PTI

नीलामी सूचना

चौथेरी रात्रि रिंग विश्वविद्यालय लोहे, एन्सुपीनियम, गता, कागज, उत्तरपुस्तिका, पुराने अखंक इत्यादि को खुली बोली के माध्यम से बेचने जा रहा है। इच्छक बोलीदाता दिनांक 02.11.2020 को सुबह 9 से 12 बजे तक सामान की जांच हेतु Assist. Registrar (General & Purchase), विश्वविद्यालय परिसर में संरक्षित कर सकते हैं। बोलीदाता दिनांक 02.11.2020 को 10:00 pm बजे टीका रु. 1000 (केवल एक हजार रुपए) नकद या डिमोड ड्राइव (In favor of Registrar, CRSU payable at Jind) जमा करवा कर बोली में भाग ले सकते हैं। बोली के नियम व शर्तें मौके पर बता दी जाएं। अधिक जानकारी विश्वविद्यालय की वेबसाइट crsu.ac.in पर उपलब्ध है।

PRDH-83427

कुलसंचिव

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT COLLEGE SIDHRAWALI, DISTRICT GURUGRAM

Tenders are invited from registered Service Providers for providing services of group C & D employees at DC Rate. Sealed tenders superscribed as – Tenders for outsourced Services along with a copy of authentic license, Registration number and PF Certificate must reach the Principal Government College, Sidhrawali, District Gurugram latest by 04.11.2020.

Principal, Government College Sidhrawali, District Gurugram.

PRDH/83431

सार्वजनिक सूचना

सर्वसाधारण के सूचित किया जाता है विश्वविद्यालय लोहे, एन्सुपीनियम, गता, कागज, उत्तरपुस्तिका, पुराने अखंक संख्या SEC/2/ME/2020/1403 Dated: 06.10.2020 के अनुसार 1 जनवरी 2020 को बोलीदाता दिनांक 02.11.2020 को सुबह 9 से 12 बजे तक सामान की जांच हेतु Assist. Registrar (General & Purchase), विश्वविद्यालय परिसर में संरक्षित कर सकते हैं। बोलीदाता दिनांक 02.11.2020 को 10:00 pm बजे टीका रु. 1000 (केवल एक हजार रुपए) नकद या डिमोड ड्राइव (In favor of Registrar, CRSU payable at Jind) जमा करवा कर बोली में भाग ले सकते हैं। बोली के नियम व शर्तें मौके पर बता दी जाएं। अधिक जानकारी विश्वविद्यालय की वेबसाइट crsu.ac.in पर उपलब्ध है।

संचिव,

नगरपालिका, इन्हीं में भाग ले सकता है। सफल बोलीदाता को बोली की कीमत का 100% मौके हो तो वह दिनांक 03.11.2020 तक कार्यालय, नगरपालिका, इन्हीं में दावा/आपत्ति पेश कर सकता है।

BRIEFLY



A policewoman leaves for election duty for the first phase of the Bihar poll on Tuesday. PTI

ADR moves SC against electoral bonds scheme

New Delhi: Ahead of the Bihar Assembly poll, the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) has moved the Supreme Court seeking urgent hearing of its PIL challenging the electoral bonds scheme for funding political parties. "Right before the Bihar elections, the SBI, in the XIV Phase of sale, has been authorised to issue and encash electoral bonds through its 29 authorised branches with effect from October 19 to October 28, 2020," the plea filed through advocate Prashant Bhushan stated. TNS

Tejpal case: SC extends trial completion deadline to Mar 31

New Delhi: The SC on Tuesday extended till March 31 next year the deadline for completion of trial in the rape case against Tehelka magazine founder Tarun Tejpal. The order came from a Bench, headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan after Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, submitted that the trial judge had made a request for extension of time. PTI

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Modi: Dynastic corruption a major challenge for country

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27 Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said "dynastic corruption" is a major challenge for the country and lamented that it has become a part of political tradition in many states.

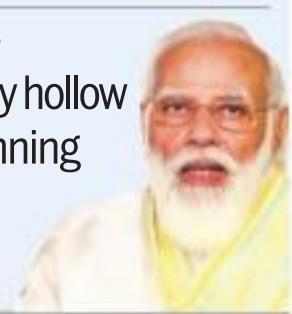
Addressing a national conference on vigilance and anti-corruption, organised by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), he said, "Corruption which goes on from one generation to another makes the country hollow like a termite."

"Today, I am going to mention another big challenge before you. This challenge has been gradually growing in the past decades and has taken a formidable shape

'ERA OF SCAMS IN CRORES BEHIND US'

Corruption which goes on from one generation to another makes the country hollow like a termite. The era of corruption running into thousands of crores is behind us.

Narendra Modi, PRIME MINISTER



and form in the country. This is the challenge of dynastic corruption (*bhrashtachar ka vanshvaad*), that is, corruption which is carried forward by one generation after another," the PM said.

"In the past decades it has been seen that when one generation involved in corruption escapes punishment, the next generation tends to be more brazen in committing such acts," PM Modi noted

while saying: "He sees that when nothing has happened to the one who earns crores at home, then his confidence is further enhanced."

The PM impressed upon the fact that there was "a need to have systemic checks, effective audits, capacity building and training against corruption". He said, "Fighting corruption is not a job of a single agency but is a collective responsibility."

Mother killed for opposing girls' harassment

MUZAFFARNAGAR (UP), OCT 27

A 55-year-old woman was allegedly beaten to death by four persons for opposing their attempts to sexually harass her daughters at Nara village. Mansurpur SHO KP Singh said a case had been registered against Akash, Gopi, Binendra, and Rajesh.

The family complained that on Monday, the accused entered her house and attacked Sevti Devi (55). — PTI

Crackdown on hawala operatives in Pb, Hry

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

Income Tax Department sleuths have raided hawala operatives and individuals, who prepare fake bills, across Punjab, Haryana and Delhi and recovered cash and jewellery worth Rs 5.26 crore, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said today.

The searches were carried out on 42 premises in Delhi-NCR, Haryana, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Goa on Monday, the CBDT said.

The action was carried out against "a large network of individuals running the racket of entry operation (hawala like operation) and generation of huge cash through fake billing", CBDT officials said.

During the raids, Rs 2.37 crore cash and jewellery worth Rs 2.89 crore was found along with 17 bank lockers, which were yet to be searched, the officials said.

"The search has led to seizure of evidences exposing the entire network of the entry operators, intermediaries, cash handlers, the beneficiaries and the firms and companies involved. So far, documents evidencing accommodation entries (hawala) of more than Rs 500 crore have already been found and seized," the CBDT later said in a statement.

Fake bills ₹5.26 cr cash, jewellery seized during searches at 42 locations

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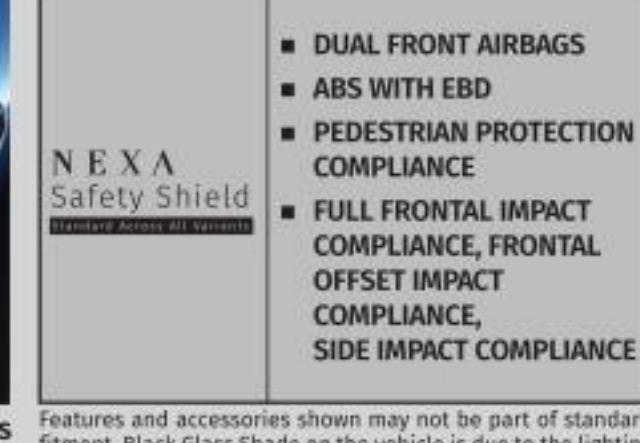
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SC junks PIL on implementation of farm laws

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed a PIL seeking directions to the government to implement the recently enacted farm laws, saying it can't issue such a general direction.

"You can't ask for a general direction to implement a law," a Bench, headed by Chief Justice of India SA Bobde, said while rejecting Hindu Dharma Parishad's PIL that had also demanded banning all protests against the three farm laws.

The Supreme Court had on October 12 issued a notice to the Centre on petitions challenging the validity of the farm laws that triggered protests in various parts of the country, particularly Punjab.

It had the Centre to respond in six weeks to the petitions filed by the Chhattisgarh Kisan Congress and others. The petitioners include, Congress MP from Trissur in Kerala TN Prathapan, DMK MP Tiruchi Siva, RJD MP Manoj Jha and Bhartiya Kisan Party.

In its petition filed on October 5, the Bhartiya Kisan Party contended that the new farm laws violated the basic features of the Constitution. — TNS

US firms can benefit from eased FDI rules: Rajnath

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 27

After a series of reforms in the defence manufacturing sector, India on Tuesday laid out how US companies could take advantage of policy changes to bring production lines and even complete export orders.

After the 2+2 dialogue between India and the US, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said: "We have conveyed to the Secretaries (Mike Pompeo and Mark T Esper) about creating an eco-system for defence industry through partnership and investment."

Replying to a question, he said: "India offers opportunity of shifting production and global supply chains in the wake of disruptions due to the pandemic. We have invited the US companies to invest in India and take advantage of the 74 per cent FDI under the automatic route or even a larger equity with government approval."



We have conveyed to Secretaries Mike Pompeo and Mark T Esper about creating an eco-system for the defence industry through partnership and investment

Rajnath Singh, DEFENCE MINISTER

assembly lines could be used for exports of goods and services to Asia. Also, the US-made equipment operating in Asia could be maintained at facilities in India.

"We hope our message is carried back to the US Government and industry," the Defence Minister said.

A joint statement said "ministers decided to work together to realise the development of their respective defense industries".

The two sides stated their intention of fast-tracking projects under the existing framework of the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI). India looks forward to the participation by the US Government and defence industry at the upcoming Aero India in February 2021.

Recognising the importance of cooperation in defence innovation, the ministers welcomed the inaugural meeting between the Indian Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO-iDEX) and the US Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) in July this year.

MRF

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