

# The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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14 GET DEATH PENALTY FOR  
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AF FOR BIGGER INDIA ROLE IN  
PEACE PROCESS BACK PAGE

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WEDNESDAY | 24 MARCH 2021

## During Corona Take Care, in Festival Time Stay Aware

S Sanitization | M Mask | S Social Distancing

Do Not Gather In The Markets, Avoid Crowd | Celebrate Festival With Family At Home | Do Not Go Outside Unnecessarily, Avoid Touching Anyone | Follow All The Guidelines To Be Safe From Corona

Be Alert, Be Safe



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## Jab for 45-plus from April

Daily cases above 40K for 4th day | Focus back on test-track-treat

TREBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23  
Reeling under an emerging second surge of Covid-19, the government on Tuesday decided to expand the inoculation coverage to include everyone above 45 years of age from April 1.

The decision was taken during a Cabinet meeting chaired by PM Narendra Modi. "Everyone above 45 years of age (with or without comorbidities) would be eligible for vaccination from April 1," Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said.

The decision came as the country logged more than 40,000 cases for the fourth straight day and the number of people with mutant strains (UK, South Africa and Brazil) rose to 795. Besides, the case

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

EDIT: COVID RESURGENCE

5,00,75,162 VAX SHOTS

given so far – 15,80,568 till 7 pm on Tuesday, the 67th day of inoculation

3,45,377 ACTIVE

cases, a rise of 10,731 over the last 24 hours

NEW GUIDELINES PUSH FOR MORE RT-PCR TESTS

- The Centre on Tuesday issued fresh guidelines, asking states to strictly enforce (T3) protocol
- It also sought other containment measures and stepping up of the vaccination drive
- States and UTs told to increase the share of RT-PCR tests to 70 per cent or more
- The list of containment zones must be uploaded onto the government websites
- Police and MC authorities shall be responsible for strict adherence to containment norms

MAHA, PB LEAD SURGE

Maharashtra (24,645 cases), Punjab (2,274), Karnataka, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu accounted for 80.90% of the fresh 40,715 cases reported in last 24 hours on Tuesday.



Health workers collect samples at a municipal school in Mumbai. PTI

UK STRAIN FOUND IN 81% OF PUNJAB SAMPLES

The Union Government on Tuesday intensified genome sequencing after Punjab reported UK variant in nearly 81 per cent of its 401 samples subjected to sequencing

Expressing concern, CM Capt Amarinder Singh said it was



essential to vaccinate more and more people to break the transmission chain

SC to hear Maha ex-top cop's CBI probe plea today

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23  
The Supreme Court will on Wednesday hear a petition filed by former Mumbai Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh, seeking a CBI probe into corruption charges against Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh.

Fadnavis meets Home Secy, demands inquiry

Param Bir's petition is listed before a Bench of Justice SK Kaul and Justice R Subhash Reddy. He has sought directions to the Maharashtra Government, Centre and the CBI to immediately take into custody the CCTV footage from Deshmukh's residence.

The BJP, meanwhile, escalated pressure on the Maha Vikas Aghadi government, challenging Deshmukh's statement on his movements during the period he was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

No compound, penal interest for moratorium period: SC

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23  
The Supreme Court today directed that no compound or penal interest be charged from borrowers for the six-month loan moratorium period announced by the RBI last year in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. The

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# Power consumers to get relief soon

25-50 paise per unit tariff cut for domestic users likely | No increase for others

RUCHIKA M KHANNA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 23

There is relief in sight for power consumers in Punjab. Come April, domestic power consumers in the state will pay slightly less for power consumption, while other categories will not have to face any tariff hike.

With Assembly elections round the corner and the Congress government under fire from the Opposition over the high power rates, the government is learnt to be keen on extending its largesse to domestic power consumers. The tariff for this category could go down by 25-50 paise per unit.

## PSERC SEEKS GUARANTEE ON SUBSIDY PAYMENT

- With power utilities coming out of the red, a part of the profits could be used to ease the domestic consumers' burden
- The new power tariff is expected to be announced by Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission soon
- It is seeking a guarantee from the state government for payment of subsidy to be given to consumers, mainly farmers



Highly placed sources in the Power Department told The Tribune that with the state power utilities, especially the Punjab State Power

Corporation Limited, coming out of the red, a part of the profits could be used to ease the burden on domestic consumers. Interestingly, the

PSPCL has sought a tariff hike of eight per cent in its annual revenue requirement submitted to the power regulator in December.

The new power tariff is expected to be announced by Punjab State Electricity Regulatory Commission (PSERC) as soon as it gets a guarantee from the state government for payment of subsidy to be given to different categories of consumers, mainly farmers. "We are awaiting a written assurance from the government for the power subsidy bill. Once we get it, the new tariff order will be announced," confirmed Kusumjit Sidhu, chairperson, PSERC.

The subsidy bill of the state

government in 2021-22 is expected to be over Rs 10,600 crore, including Rs 7,180 crore for farmers, Rs 1,513 crore for domestic consumers and Rs 1,928 crore for industrial consumers. Other than this, the arrears of the previous years are to be carried forward, taking the total bill for 2021-22 to Rs 14,000 crore.

Jasvir Singh Dhiman, president of the PSEB Engineers' Association, told The Tribune that the state government is yet to release Rs 6,930 crore towards power subsidy for the current fiscal. "Giving subsidy to consumers is fine, but it should not be at the cost of the fiscal health of the state power utility," he added.

## MP opens debate on Finance Bill, seeks urban MNREGA

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

The Congress today opened a debate on the Finance Bill, 2021, in the Lok Sabha, accusing the government of offering tax relief only to the rich, while burdening the poor and demanded urban MNREGA.

Congress' Fatehgarh Sahib MP Amar Singh urged Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to withdraw excise duties on petrol, diesel and customs duty hikes on nuts, bolts, electronic toys and rail projects.

He demanded urban MNREGA, withdrawal of farm laws and mapping of Covid-19 induced losses in the informal sector.

"If you have decided to punish the farmers, it is another matter. But you should withdraw the farm laws. Of the eight core sectors of economy, only agriculture grew during Covid-19 times and you have cut agri-



Fatehgarh Sahib MP Amar Singh speaks in the Lok Sabha. PTI

### Revive MPLAD fund immediately: Pneet

culture budget," Singh said.

He pointed to Rs 1.50 lakh crore of corporate tax waiver last year, asking why the government was not reducing fuel prices. The MP said 24 per cent of the Centre's revenue was now coming from cess and surcharges and these revenues were not being shared with cash-strapped states. — TNS

## Shwait for rail link between Asr, Ayodhya

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

BJP Rajya Sabha member Shwait Malik today asked the government to consider establishing a rail link between two pilgrim centres of Amritsar and Ayodhya, as this would help promote religious tourism in a big way.

Raising the issue during zero hour in the House, Malik said Ayodhya, the birth place of Lord Ram, had a special place in the hearts of people, irrespective of their "caste, community and religious belief". "People had for long wanted a grand temple of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya and now it is coming to reality," Malik said.

Similarly, Amritsar, he said, is a Guru Nagari and famous for Harminder Sahib. Therefore I demand between these two special pilgrimage centres, the government should consider running a train. — TNS

## Govt: No decision on direct transfer of fertiliser subsidy

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

The government on Tuesday said it had not yet taken a final decision on the implementation of direct cash transfer (DCT) of fertiliser subsidy to farmers but the issue was under its consideration.

"The direct cash transfer of fertiliser subsidy to farmers has been under discussion at various forums. A committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary has been set up to develop the broad contours of the DCT framework. In its meeting on January 16, 2020, the panel had recommended constitution of a nodal committee to formulate and implement the DCT," Fertiliser Minister Sadanand Gowda said today during the question hour in the Lok Sabha. He said the nodal committee had held two meetings but no decision had yet been taken for the DCT implementation. The government also said

the Department of Fertilisers had constituted a 'Chintan Shivir Working Group' to examine the feasibility of introducing a direct fertiliser subsidy transfer to farmers, criteria for selection of farmers and their entitlement.

To a question by the Bathinda MP as to which stakeholders the Centre had consulted from Punjab and what was the view of the state government, Gowda said, "Consultations have been held nationally. It is only after we finalise the issue I will be able to tell you what the Punjab Government view is." — TNS

## Martyrs remembered at stir sites

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 23

Hundreds of farmers in Punjab, who are staging dharnas at 68 places in the state to protest the three farm laws, today observed the martyrdom day of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru.

Wearing yellow turbans, dupattas and bands, protesters remembered the sacrifices made by the martyrs and pledged to continue their struggle until the three laws were withdrawn. BKU (Dakau) general secretary Jagmohan Singh Patiala said a large number of farmers also reached the protest sites at Singhu and Tikri border today.

At Chalela village in Patiala, a huge rally and protest march was organised. A massive protest was also organised at Barnala. — TNS



Farmers hold pictures of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev on their martyrdom day during a protest in Barnala. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## Road rechristened Bhagat Singh marg

SANGRUR, MARCH 23

Angered by the naming of an under-construction sports ground after local Congress leader Sanjay Gaba in Capt Karm Singh Nagar, family members of freedom fighters today put up a banner naming the ground after martyrs Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru. Sanjay Gaba is the brother

### Say wrong precedent has been set

of Sangrur Improvement Trust Chairman Naresh Gaba.

"It has set a wrong precedent. Now, families of other political parties would demand institutes and parks named after their deceased family members," said Harinder Kalsia, president of Freedom Fighters Successors' Organisation Punjab.

Naresh Gaba said the due process was followed to name the ground and none can change it. — TNS



Congress leaders pay tribute to Bhagat Singh in Nawanshahr.

system of 80 KW at the museum for Rs 33 lakh, and lighting of the building facade at Rs 18 lakh and both projects would be completed by June 2021," the minister said.

Arora said Khatkar Kalan village was not merely a native place of Sardar Bhagat Singh but it was also a source of inspiration for the generation to come. The 'Shardhanjali Samaroh' was organised by the Punjab Government to commemorate the 'Martyrdom Day'. — TNS

## Akalis hold candle march in all districts

CHANDIGARH, MARCH 23

The Youth Akali Dal (YAD) today held a candle march at all district headquarters in the state to commemorate the martyrdom day of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh and also paid homage to the 300 farmers who have laid down their lives during the ongoing agitation against the

### Remember martyr, deceased farmers

central agricultural laws.

YAD members, taking out a candle march with portraits of the martyr, held placards bearing the name of farmers who sacrificed their lives in the ongoing agitation. YAD President Parambans Singh Romana said the state was witnessing the Pagri Sambhal Jatta movement against the central farm laws similar to what was seen during the British rule. — TNS

## Minister, MLAs pay homage to freedom fighters at Hussainiwala

FEROZEPUR, MARCH 23

Cabinet Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa today rode on a tractor to reach National Martyrs Memorial, Hussainiwala, along with his Vidhan Sabha colleagues to pay floral tributes to martyrs Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev.

On board the tractor were Ferozepur (Urban) MLA Parinder Singh Pinki, Laddi Gehri, husband of Ferozepur (Rural) MLA Satkar Kaur Gehri, Anumeet Singh Sohni and Zira MLA Kulbir Singh, who was in the driver's seat.

DIG (Ferozepur Range) Hardyal Singh Mann, Deputy Commissioner Gurpal Singh Chahal, SSP Bapuji Singh Meena also paid the tribute to the gallant martyrs. Randhawa said keeping in view the Covid-19 pandemic, no state-level function had been planned this year. He said the youth should realise the dreams of



Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa and other Congress MLAs on their way to National Martyrs Memorial, Hussainiwala. TRIBUNE PHOTO

the martyrs for which they sacrificed their lives.

Disseminated to the people to make them aware of the rich tradition of sacrifices.

Lauding the contribution of Punjabis in the Independence movement, he said we should feel proud of the fact that despite having a population of only 2.5 per cent in the country, 80 per cent of martyrs belonged to Punjab. He stressed the message of the martyrs must be

## Centre fears facing us: Farm leaders

Tribune News Service

NAWANSHahr, MARCH 23

'Khoon se likha itihas hum syahi se nahee mitne denge, bech diye honge rail aur jahaz tune, lekin apne desh ke kisan ko nahee bilkun denge', a poetic attack on the Narendra Modi government resonated in the Kisan Mazdoor Ekta Mahasabha to mark the martyrdom of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev, at Banga.

Organised by the Bhartiya Kisan Union (Doaba), the mahasabha saw people from all walks of life, including youth, NRIs, famous singers and farmer leaders from the Samyukt Kisan Morcha. Young farmer leaders from Haryana also marked their presence in the event.

Senior farmer leader Balbir Singh Rajewal made a scathing attack on the gov-

ernment. "A senior minister once told us during the meeting: 'Koi aisa rasta labbo, jide naal sarkar di vi izzat bach jaaye, tuhada vi kamm ho jaaye' (find out a middle ground that would help us save our face and solve your purpose too). That means the government has accepted the

defeat and they don't have the courage to face our delegation anymore," he said.

Another farmer leader, Dr Darshan Pal, said whether the Modi government initiated fresh talks or not, the farmers wouldn't come back without getting the three central farm laws withdrawn.



People attend the Kisan Mazdoor Ekta Mahasabha in Banga on Tuesday. PHOTO: MALKIAT SINGH

### YOUTHS REACH DELHI

On a call given by the Samyukt Kisan Morcha to commemorate martyrdom day of Bhagat Singh and his comrades, a large number of youngsters on Tuesday reached Delhi. They brought the soil from seven places with them.

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24th March 2021**

**is being observed across the State**

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FOR MORE THAN 2 WEEKS



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# Nawan Narua PUNJAB



**Punjab makes rapid strides  
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“ We recognise the importance of inclusive and sustainable industrial growth in order to realise the goal of ‘Ghar Ghar Rozgar & Karobar Mission’ for creation of adequate job potential. We have already initiated multiple reforms to ensure an investor-friendly ecosystem in Punjab to make it an attractive destination for Investment. ”

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

Rs.5 per unit variable electricity tariff for industry

Rs.3172 crore Industrial power subsidy

Investor friendly 'Industrial & Business Development Policy-2017'

'Punjab Right to Business Act-2020' to ease regulatory burden

Truck unions abolished

Invest Punjab ranked 'Top Performer IPA' with 100% score by Govt. of India

Ease of doing business initiatives-Auto renewals, Combined inspections, Online land allotment

Rs.73,000 crore Industrial investment on ground

2.82 lakh jobs created  
Investment from 10 countries

Automatic Deemed Approvals for new industries

1100 Acre Land Bank for Industrial manufacturing cluster at Rajpura

Online land banks created for 45 focal points

Hi-tech cycle valley coming up at Ludhiana

Revival of Industrial Town of Mandi Gobindgarh

Pharmaceutical Park in 130 acres at Wazirabad (Fatehgarh Sahib)

One Time Settlement (OTS) for VAT Assessee

OTS for dues of PSIDC and PFC

Enacted "Punjab Anti-Red Tape Bill, 2021" for fast delivery of services

Punjab Innovation Mission for start-ups

Punjab Student Entrepreneurs Scheme

Single Window System for regulatory clearances at district level

Shops and commercial establishments allowed to open 24x7

Public Procurement (Preference to Make in Punjab) Order 2019 to support local industries

# The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

## Covid resurgence

People in the working age group should be vaccinated

**E**XACTLY a year after India imposed the world's strictest lockdown in order to contain Covid-19, the second wave of the pandemic is spreading across the country. The daily caseload has reached around 47,000, the highest in the past four months or so, even as the fresh coronavirus infections have been rising at a faster rate than the recoveries for the past over 10 days. The worst-affected states have started reimposing restrictions, with Punjab enforcing night curfew in the districts where the situation is deteriorating fast. The efficacy of such steps, however, remains questionable.

The nationwide lockdown from March-end to May-end last year had impacted millions of lives as well as livelihoods. The economy, which had slipped into recession, is still struggling to regain the pre-Covid growth rate. Going by this nightmarish experience, another lockdown is ruled out. The Maharashtra Government has made it clear that people must follow Covid-19 safety protocols if the state is to avoid another lockdown. This holds true for the rest of the country as well. The basic drill — wearing masks, washing hands and maintaining social distancing — is still as relevant, if not more, as it was a year ago. The violators should be strictly dealt with as per the law so that it deters others from becoming reckless. Even though the election season is in full swing, the onus is on political leaders to encourage Covid-appropriate behaviour at rallies and exhort their supporters to arrange smaller gatherings. Political and social congregations that turn out to be super-spreaders of the virus will jeopardise India's valiant fight against the pandemic.

It is also critical to extend the vaccination programme beyond the limit of 45 years set by the Centre on Tuesday. People in the working age group (25-60 years) need to be covered at the earliest so that they can keep contributing to economic recovery without the fear of getting infected. Though the daily caseload is rising, it is nowhere near the peak of around 98,000 that was witnessed in September last year. This should inspire confidence among all stakeholders and spur them to minimise the damage caused by the second wave.

## Mixed bag of honour

National Awards can't afford to lose credibility

**M**URMURS have already begun and barbs are already being pointed, if not hurled, at some of the recipients of the 67th National Awards. As a rule, the National Awards are considered the ultimate badge of honour, a true hallmark of cinematic talent celebrating excellence in Indian cinema. Of late, alas, the prestigious awards have been losing their sheen and the announcements are invariably followed by controversies. Aspersions are already being cast on the Best Actor Award for Kangana Ranaut, who has in the recent past transformed into an unofficial spokesperson of the ruling party at the Centre. As she picks up her fourth National Award, more than eyebrows are being raised.

Most of the jury's choices can be faulted. Despite the rich haul of Malayalam cinema, the Best Feature Film award for Priyadarshan's *Marakkar: Arabikadalinte Simham* is a reminder that the country's top awards recognise cinema that apes *Baahubali*-kind of historicals, if not outright Bollywood *masala*. Moreover, Manoj Bajpayee, an actor par excellence, and gifted actor Dhanush deserve the Best Actor Award. Even in the case of Kangana, beyond her party affiliations, she remains a talented actor. Yet, the National Awards can't be seen as a reward for party loyalists. Nor should these be handed out to appease certain sections of fans, as the award to Sushant Singh Rajput starrer *Chhichhore* in the Best Hindi Film category is being read by many sceptics.

Undeniably, no award jury can ever arrive at a 'please-all' formula and as veteran director Shyam Benegal once said, 'another jury will come out with a different set of winners.' Yet those at the helm of saluting the best must not only be fair but like Caesar's wife be above suspicion. The National Awards are far too prestigious to come under the shadow of censure. Amidst the circus which other award shows have become, the National Awards must stand tall. These should neither fall prey to increasing Bollywoodisation nor to partisan selections.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Politics is the art of making your selfish desires seem like national interest. — Thomas Sowell

## ON THIS DAY...100 YEARS AGO

# The Tribune.

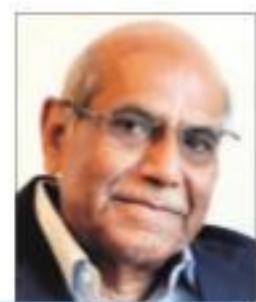
LAHORE, THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1921

## THE FALLACY OF REPRESSION.

ONE of the lessons of history is that repression can never kill the spirit of freedom. There are no two countries in the world where repression has been tried more vigorously than in Russia and in Ireland, and of one of the two, at any rate, it may be asserted that if ever there was a country where repression might have been expected to succeed, it was that country. Yet in both cases, the failure of repression has been as complete as it has been ignominious. In our own country, too, repression has been tried again and again, though it must be said that barring one or two exceptional periods, it has not been tried on anything like the scale on which it has been tried either in Russia or in Ireland. And here, as in the other two cases, repression has invariably failed in its object. In all three cases, repression has had an effect diametrically opposite to what its advocates had anticipated. It has accentuated the spirit of freedom which it set on to suppress, and strengthened the determination of the people to do everything in their power to transform the existing system of government into a system controlled by the people themselves. Such, however, is the blindness of power that whenever there is a renewed upheaval among the people, one of the first remedies which suggests itself is repression. It was so in the days of the Home Rule movement when a local Government did not hesitate, in the exercise of its uncontrolled authority, to intern a venerable lady whose fault was that she had applied her rare gifts of eloquence and organisation to educating and preparing the people of India for amending Home Rule. It was so in the days of the anti-Rowlatt Bill agitation, the sequel to which will remain one of the saddest chapters in our own, if not in all, history. It is so at the present moment when several of the local Governments appear to have resolved upon a renewal of repression.

# Political drama at Anchorage

The competitive coexistence with China that the US may be envisaging is unlikely



SHYAM SARAN

FORMER FOREIGN SECRETARY AND SENIOR FELLOW, CENTRE FOR POLICY RESEARCH



FACE-OFF: If the US objective was to put China on the defensive, the opposite has been achieved. REUTERS

India must retain multiple options to deal with challenges; Quad's credibility as a countervailing coalition in the Indo-Pacific remains to be established.

years back because this is not the way to deal with the Chinese people.'

Two, the Chinese interlocutors made a clear distinction between what the US and the West and India, too, call the 'rules-based international order', which they rejected, and instead upheld the international order based on the UN Charter. Clearly, China will play the geopolitical game by its own rules or, at the very least, will insist on negotiating new terms of engagement where its interests must be deferred to.

Three, while some analysts have welcomed plain speaking by US officials in front of the international press, this indulgence in full-blown rhetoric invited an even more aggressive riposte from the Chinese side. This should have been expected. If the objective was to put China on the defensive, the opposite was achieved. The polemical statements by the US officials were a departure from the normal protocol on such occasions when there is a polite exchange of pleasantries before the press before substantive talks take place behind closed doors. If the audience for these remarks was the

American domestic constituency, it should have been expected that China would go one better for covering its own flank back home. One does not know what was the outcome of the substantive discussions but it is clear that the kind of competitive coexistence that the US may be envisaging going forward is unlikely. Putting convergent interests such as climate change in separate insulated boxes while sharpening confrontation on other issues of divergence is difficult to sustain in practice.

From the Chinese perspective, the US effort to shore up its alliances and partnerships in confronting China is seen as lacking in credibility. The chief argument put by China is that the US and its allies have deep economic and commercial interests in China which contradict the politics of confrontation. The US will have to find a persuasive argument to counter this. While decoupling in the high-tech sectors, such as semi-conductors, is a reality, this does not extend to the very broad spectrum of trade between China and its key developed country partners.

What is the outlook for US-China relations under the Biden administra-

tion? There have been occasions in the past when the US has been written off as a declining and spent power but it has displayed remarkable resilience and capacity for renewal. The opening of American relations with China in 1970 was seen by China, and even several US allies, as a means of counterbalancing an increasingly powerful Soviet Union. The end of the Vietnam War in defeat, and the delinking of the US dollar from the gold standard later in the 1970s, reinforced perceptions of relative decline. A decade later, a similar situation arose with the rise of Japan and the conclusion of the Plaza Accords which devalued the dollar vis-a-vis the Japanese yen and key currencies. When I was serving in Japan from 1986-89, one witnessed a sense of triumphalism, and even arrogance, not very different from what we see today in China. And yet this proved to be merely a prelude to the American unipolar moment that lasted from the end of the Cold War right up to the global financial and economic crisis of 2007-8. The trajectory of US-China relations will be determined in the main by the success of the Biden administration in what is called the 'building back better' economic strategy. US excellence in technology is still unmatched and no other power has the global reach that the US military has. Therefore, the key ingredients of renewal are certainly there. Biden has also understood the importance of countering the prevailing pessimism about democracy, including among democracies themselves. The authoritarian model exemplified by China has proved to be more potent than may have been expected. Whether democracies can regain their faith in democracy's tenets remains an open question. This also implies that India must retain multiple options to deal with its most pressing challenges, including enhancing its developmental prospects, dealing with adversaries both on its northern and western borders and managing a fractious neighbourhood. Quad can only serve as one option and its credibility as a countervailing coalition in the Indo-Pacific remains to be established.

## Too loud for comfort

ALKA KASHYAP

**C**OMING to the city from the tranquil hills and getting accustomed to the din of modern life had posed an interesting challenge for me. In the cacophony of loudspeakers, vehicles, machines and gadgets, I realised that in the past few years, our voices too had reached a crescendo. For in the humdrum of things, we were constantly shouting to make ourselves heard, when the same things could have been said in a calmer tone. I often had to filter through the piercing tones around me to decipher the real meaning of the words.

People's need to roar during normal conversations has me in a spot of both-

er. My aunt's full-throated talk on her cellphone could be heard from two blocks away, and had earned her the nomenclature, 'Decibel aunty'. The younger or rather the headphone generation, as I call them, would inevitably talk loudly to overcome the jangling in their own ears. My routine discussions with the gardener had reached a queer pitch, as each time he would adopt a higher verbal strain, I would often look around furtively and walk away lest someone mistook it for a fight.

My flight to India would be the noisiest. It seemed my country mates were so fond of their voice that they made sure the others did not miss their blessed volume. Their ear-splitting calls across the

cabin were good enough to crush any soft-spoken person's eardrums.

When and how had we become so was hard to say, but we had upped the ante in every aspect of our lives, be it clothes, music, functions or conversations. Our movies would show the courtroom drama, as a clash of the titans, with fierce overtones. Thankfully, real-life courts were just the opposite.

So did Amitabh Bachchan's calm and controlled baritone. I would emulate him whenever I got into a squawky mode with my children. The moment I rolled out the instructions in a lower base, they would instantly fall in line.

I grew up hearing the soothing

tones of Doordarshan news readers. The deafening slugfest of present-day news mongers now mercilessly shatters the peace of my drawing room.

My Irish teacher in school would always insist on us being as graceful as queens. She would ask, 'Does it behave a queen to shout at others?' Certainly not! And in turn, we would all try to be soft and sweet with one another.

In the modern-day jamboree, it was hard to sit for all the kings and queens, who would rather not holler around and lose their crown. No wonder, the need for a rejuvenating break, far away from the madding crowd, was a good idea. Perhaps we could all do better with a peaceful volume in our daily lives too.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Need academic leaders

Refer to 'In need of some learning'; present-day VCs listen only to the dictates of their political and bureaucratic godfathers and are purely at their mercy. We want a VC to be an academic leader, and not a paper shuffler or even a manager. The excessive visibility of administration in our universities and colleges has together produced an academic aridness, the extent of which is yet to be realised by the public at large. The anarchic environment in which our institutions of higher education have been functioning for sometime has made it impossible to distinguish between bad management and bad leadership. This may be due to a failure of strategy or a failure of character. But institutions could be well managed and yet be poorly led. Universities live by self-regulation. No university is likely to be better than what its VC wants it to be. Hence, the importance of the right choice.

ANIL BHATIA, HISAR

### University row

Apropos of the Ashoka University row, the future of India's youth is tied to the excellence of its institutions of higher education. Ashoka University, a private non-profit university, and an unprecedented example of collective public philanthropy, was committed to 'maintaining the

highest intellectual and academic standards'. The resignation of Pratap Bhanu Mehta puts a question mark on those claims and credentials. One of India's pre-eminent scholars, he has been compelled to step down, first as VC and now as professor. The circumstances indict the university's establishment as much as they point fingers at the political regime. Mehta's exit is a seminal moment because it points to the university's unwillingness to protect the freedom of expression and ideas.

LAL SINGH, AMRITSAR

### Fair probe a must

Reference to 'The stinking feeling'; politicians and the police are two inseparable elements, but the vendetta going on between the two parties should end. Politics must not be played in this whole game. Let there be free and fair investigation. The tussle between the Centre and the state is just making things messier. Meanwhile, different security agencies should stop stepping on one another's toes and politicians should stop interfering, so they can regain the trust of the public.

AKASH BHAKRI, PHILLAU

### Investigate allegations

The former Mumbai Police Commissioner deserves to be applauded for

showing courage against the Maharashtra Government. It is a hazardous task to run a coalition government because each partner knows about their misdeeds and also that they will be ignored because the Chief Minister will always remain under pressure to save his government. The Maharashtra Government should go for a thorough probe into the allegations levelled by the former Police Commissioner.

RAVINDER KUMAR JAIN, LUDHIANA

### 'Brokered' peace

Apropos of 'UAE "brokered" Indo-Pak truce', does 'New India' need peace to be orchestrated by external forces? Is it healthy for our sovereignty and does it bolster the concept of 'aatmanirbhartha'. India might be having admirable strategic and economic relations with the UAE, but it should not allow these ties to cast a shadow over India's ascendancy. Nevertheless, people on either side await absolute peace, for they are the ones losing their kin at the border.

AKSHAY KAPOOR, AMRITSAR

### Temple upkeep

Apropos of '1,200-yr-old temple a victim of govt apathy', it is disappointing that an ancient cluster of magnificent temples, symbolising

our rich heritage and glorious history, is crumbling. It is a pity that no Central or state agency specialising in protecting and restoring such valuable monuments has taken any positive step so far. Given its unique location and architectural excellence, the government should also explore the potential of developing it as a tourist spot by providing basic infrastructure at some cost.

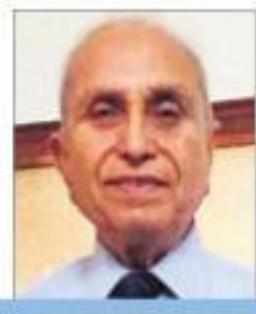
JAGDISH CHANDER, JALANDHAR

### Centre vs Kejriwal

The Central government, in the garb of ensuring clarity of laws for running the Delhi Government, is going to grab the powers of the elected government in Delhi by bringing in the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment Bill 2021) in Parliament. In fact, this amendment will undo the law laid down by the Supreme Court, whereby the powers of the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, who is the mouthpiece of the Centre, have been well defined. All know that the Lieutenant Governor is creating problems for the elected government of Delhi. This Bill, when it becomes an Act, will destroy the fabric between the Centre and the Government of Delhi which is not a good sign for democracy in India.

SOHAN LAL BHUMBAK, BY MAIL

# Like the private armies of the politicians



**BL VOHRA**  
FORMER DGP, TRIPURA

**W**HY are state police forces now like the private armies of politicians in power in India? Why is this unholy nexus there between the police and the politicians? We have come to such a pass that the richest businessman of India is being threatened by this unholy nexus in Mumbai due to which the case has drawn so much media attention. Of course, assistant police inspector Sachin Waze is a foot soldier who was backed by the powers that be. However, this nexus is not confined to Mumbai alone. It's almost everywhere in India. Kolkata, where the police work at the behest of those in power, going to the extent of confronting the CBI sometime back, Rajasthan where illegal phone tapping is done or UP where cases under sedition are registered without solid grounds in many instances, are also such examples. And this has been happening over the years in the regimes of all political parties in our country. The police are politicised and criminalised with the result that the common man is not getting justice which is his right. People at large are disgusted with this nexus and want answers and solutions.

For this, history will have to be gone through first. The British gave

us colonial police which used brute force to keep itself in power. The Police Act, 1861, says that the police have to report to the state. Our new rulers at the time of independence made no effort to change the force, from the ruler's police into the police service for the common man. Even today, 74 years after independence, we are governed basically by the same 160-year-old Police Act.

Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee explained it well at a gathering in which I was present—that initially, in the first two decades or so after Independence, politics was generally pure. In the next generation of politicians, some of them started taking the help of criminals who had money and muscle power to make them win and remain in power. In the third phase, the following generation of criminals became smarter. They thought that why help others to come to power, why not themselves be in power? They succeeded and today we have around 40% MLAs and MPs with a criminal record, a figure which has grown steadily in each election, and they have a bright future also.

In this endeavour, they needed the help of the police badly. Fortunately for them, the structure of the police in the country helped them. They realised that the police were under their control as it was answerable to the politicians in power and they grabbed this opportunity with both hands. They ensured that the colonial police system remains reporting to the political bosses. They went not one, but many steps further also. They took control of the recruitment, postings and transfers, punishments and rewards, dictating

against whom to take action or not etc. By formal orders of various state governments, these powers were taken over by the state governments systematically.

Today, MLAs bring their own team of government officials, especially policemen of different ranks, to their jurisdiction, by right. Insulting policemen in public or hounding them are commonplace. They also regularly use, misuse, discard and abuse policemen of various ranks depending on their need in blatant

disregard of rules and regulations, propriety and conscience. The beauty is that they leave no evidence behind as they get all the dirty paperwork done by the officials and policemen, who are caught finally, if at all. Same will happen most likely in the present controversial Mumbai case.

**UNSAVOURY DETAILS:** The Waze case points to an unholy nexus between the police and politicians. PTI



on this account, though there still are outstanding examples of officers standing up to the masters. The legitimate question is why then is the leadership failing? Well, the recruitment, training and postings of the officers are the areas to be looked into which can be put in two words, 'police reforms'. Now this is where the problem lies. The politicians, irrespective of whichever party they belong to, are one unit as far as retaining control over the police is concerned, as it serves their purpose. So, they will never let a law pass or a procedure implemented, changing the present system. They haven't even bothered about the orders of the Supreme Court on police reforms passed in 2006, circumventing those smartly.

What else is the instrument left with the public to bring police reforms and solve its problems and have police to serve them? A public agitation like the one we had for the freedom of India is the need of the hour now because the cry of the police fraternity supported by many well-meaning people is not having any effect.

The police have to become accountable to the law, the Constitution and to Parliament, and not to the political masters. It is necessary if India has to fast become a five trillion dollar economy for which a safe and secure environment is required for all citizens and investors. Besides, it is essential to give to every Indian, especially the poor, the backward, the underprivileged, the weak and the women, justice, safety and security. But will such an agitation happen on a large scale? We can only pray.

## Better vaccination rate can rein in coronavirus



**SUBIR ROY**

SENIOR ECONOMIC ANALYST

State leaderships should take back the task of implementing precautionary measures for Covid-19 from the police and give the job to political workers. They have to implement the rule as a social movement, using persuasion and firmness. Streets in urban centres should be full of young people wearing distinctive badges and hectoring people to follow the rules. If this can be made into an all-party initiative, then nothing like it.

**N**OW that the country is clearly in the throes of a second wave of Covid-19 infection, it is critical to have a quick and correct focus for the public policy needed to fight back. It is important not to repeat unthinkingly what was done last year when India went in for the quickest, longest and most severe lockdown in the world. Right then, there was no knowledge on a successful response to the pandemic and the Indian lockdown was a kind of shot in the dark.

A clear sign that our leaders have learnt from the past is provided by the prescription Maharashtra's former BJP chief minister Devendra Fadnavis has indicated. He has come out against a complete lockdown as an impractical option. Why? It will adversely affect the livelihood of the people, especially the poor. Instead, harsh restrictions need to be imposed and areas with surges monitored.

It is critical to remember that the lockdown of last March was in many ways counter-productive. It confined India's urban poor to their homes where anything up to 10 people shared a room and had little access to water so as to ensure frequent handwashing. That was the easiest way for many of them to get infected. Then, after the migrant labour among them lost their jobs and their urban shack homes, they took to the highways to trudge back to their villages, sometimes halfway across the country, taking their infection along with them to their homes



**REBOOT THE SYSTEM:** Correct focus in public policy is needed to ward off Covid-19. PTI

from whence they had come.

This migrant labour's trudge back home has been described as the biggest migration since partition which was tragically counter-productive. Hence, the learning — don't go for complete lockdowns, be selective in the preventive steps you take, but ensure that they are rigorously followed.

As the world has learnt a lot since early 2020, it is imperative to examine the policies and practices which have worked or failed across the world. The latest World Happiness Report (for 2021), which has the theme of the impact of Covid-19 on global happiness, looks at the successes in East Asia, Australia and New Zealand and notes that policies can be effective when citizens are compliant (East

Asia) and more freedom-oriented (Australia and New Zealand). These policies centred around test, trace and isolate to contain community spread and travel bans to stop trans-border spread. People's morale improved when governments acted and with better morale, compliance improved.

The success in Asia-Pacific in controlling infection did not come at the cost of economic growth (on the other hand, the Indian economy contracted hugely last year). The successful formula lay in decisive intervention (test, trace and quarantine) as well as personal hygiene (masks, handwashing).

The Asia-Pacific success in controlling infection is in sharp contrast to the failure in the North Atlantic. The success resulted from policies

imposed top down by governments which were matched by bottom-up compliance of the people. The North Atlantic, on the other hand, is imbued with a more individualistic culture in which assertions of personal liberty and concern for privacy of personal information were paramount.

What can India learn from this and implement, given its existing political system? The Centre has to lay down policies and the states have to do most of the implementing. A lot swings on the administrative ability of individual states and the kind of political culture that prevails in it. It goes without saying that the administrative practices of Kerala have to be followed, instead of those of say Bihar.

Kerala took an early lead in controlling the infection, but thereafter suffered successive waves possibly because of rules of personal behaviour being excessively relaxed and thereby neglected. It has also had to continually grapple with trans-border infection carried by its armies of migrant workers returning home.

It is also necessary to examine why Maharashtra, blessed with strong administrative capabilities, is now in the grip of an intense second wave. Of all the reasons offered, the most convincing is that the state, with a professional work culture, went full tilt in getting back to work. Mumbai suburban trains became crowded and social distancing was at a discount.

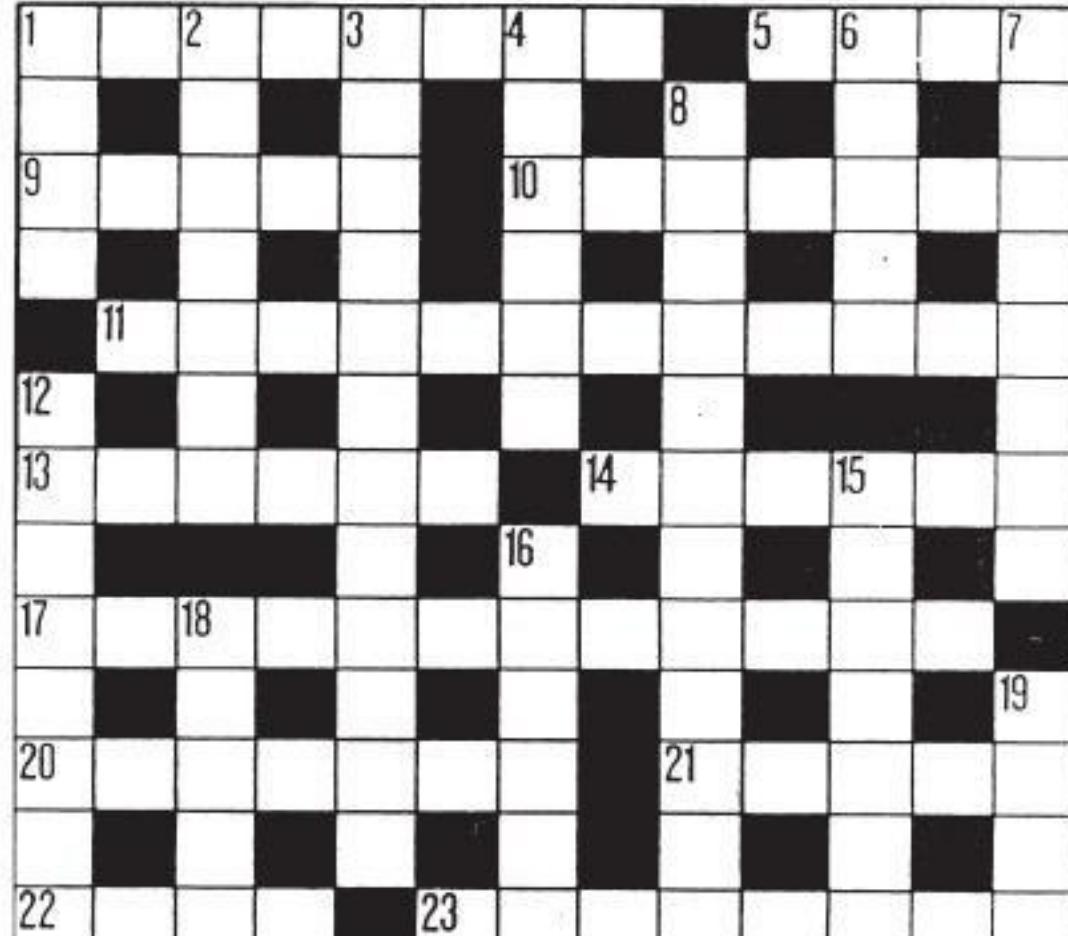
In contrast, lifting of restrictions on occupancy in suburban trains serving Kolkata experienced only around 50 per cent of earlier regular traffic.

Perhaps, most importantly, there is a need to re-examine the practice of leaving in the hands of the police the task of imposing mask wearing and social distancing rules in public places. The police have for the most part tried to achieve results by levying nominal fines. It is necessary for the state leaderships to take back this initiative and give the job to political workers. They have to implement the rules as a social movement, using a mixture of persuasion and firmness. Streets in urban centres should be full of young people wearing distinctive badges designed for the purpose, and if necessary, hectoring people to follow the rules. If this can be made into an all-party initiative, then nothing like it.

What we are looking at is an agenda for the next three months in order to curb the second wave. In that time frame, vaccination cannot be of much help. Only around 5 crore of India's 130 crore people have been given one shot each so far. It takes around two months or a bit more after the first shot is taken for immunity to kick in and herd immunity cannot be expected unless at least 60 per cent of the population is vaccinated.

Extensive vaccination is hugely needed as a long-term goal so that from the second half of the year, the country can look forward to getting near to decisively beating the virus. But for that, the vaccination rate has to improve quickly. Here, the state governments have their work cut out.

### QUICK CROSSWORD



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

**Across:** 1 Scale down, 8 Ozone, 9 Surmise, 10 Ignite, 11 Repeal, 12 Loathing, 15 Tug of war, 18 Liquor, 20 Egoist, 21 Unearth, 22 False, 23 Near thing.  
**Down:** 2 Crude, 3 Lumber, 4 Disallow, 5 Nougat, 6 Solicit, 7 Beleaguer, 11 Rattle off, 13 Airliner, 14 Ignoble, 16 Faster, 17 Squash, 19 Often.

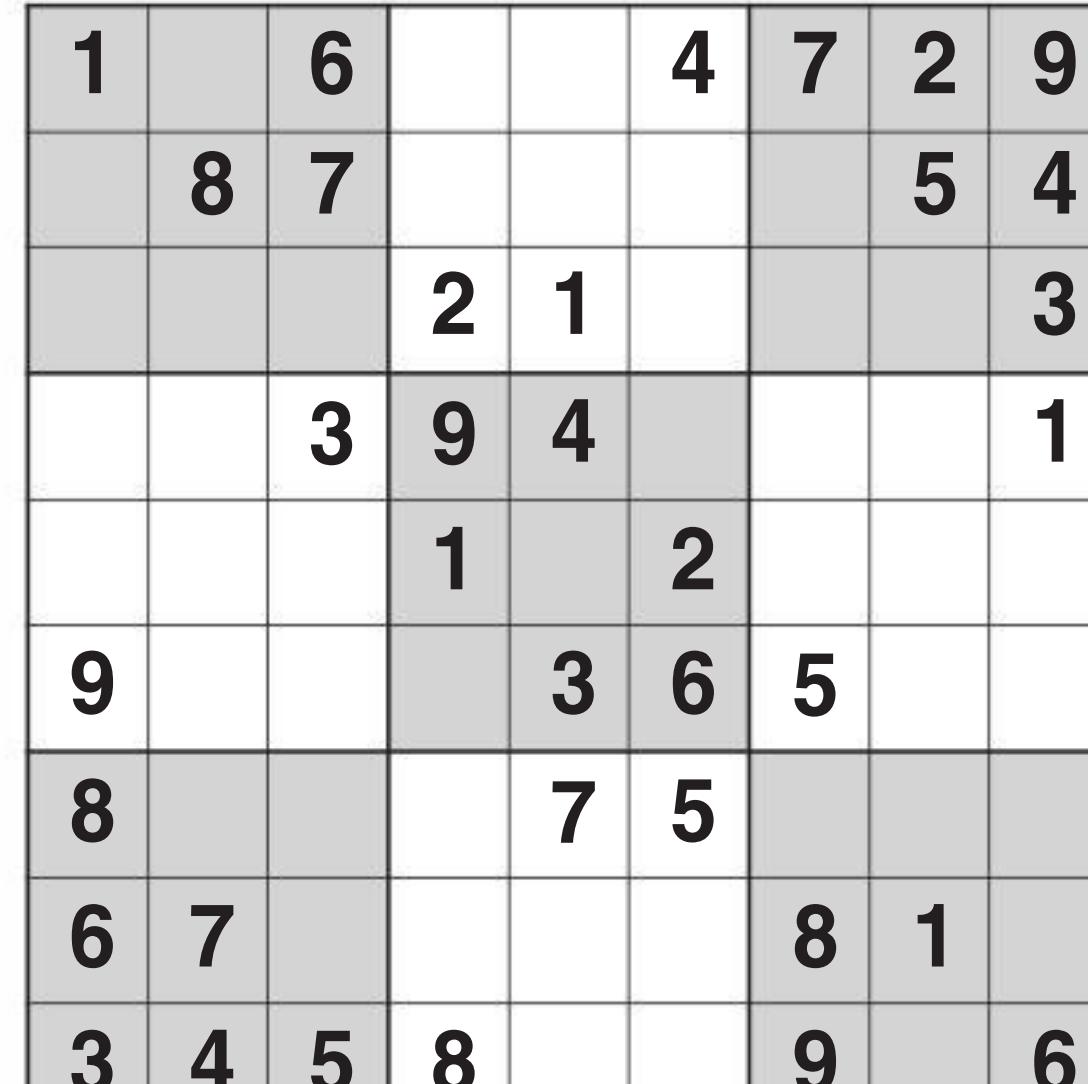
### ACROSS

- 1 Severe setback (4,4)
- 5 A note as a reminder (4)
- 9 Ship's propeller (5)
- 10 Make special display of (7)
- 11 Indifferent (12)
- 13 Opposed (6)
- 14 A change for the better (6)
- 17 Dismainfully superior (12)
- 20 Heavy fall (7)
- 21 Jeer at (5)
- 22 Move slowly forward (4)
- 23 To advantage (8)

### DOWN

- 1 Enjoy warmth and light (4)
- 2 Throw into confusion (7)
- 3 Kowtow (3,3,6)
- 4 To counterbalance (6)
- 6 Rejoice (5)
- 7 Exaggerated (8)
- 8 Treat as essential (4,1,5,2)
- 12 Wholesale slaughter (8)
- 15 Exceptional (7)
- 16 River of southwest Asia (6)
- 18 Tine of fork (5)
- 19 A support (4)

### SU DO KU



### CALENDAR

MARCH 24, 2021, WEDNESDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat	2077
■ Shaka Samvat	1943
■ Chaitra Shaka	3
■ Chaitra Parvishte	11
■ Hijri	1442
■ Shukla Paksha Tithi 10, up to 10.24 am	
■ Atiganda Yoga up to 11.41 am	
■ Pushya Nakshatra up to 11.12 pm	
■ Moon in Cancer sign	
■ Gandmoola start 11.12 pm	

### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

### FORECAST

SUNSET: WEDNESDAY 18:36 HRS  
SUNRISE: THURSDAY 06:20 HRS

CITY	MAX	MIN
Chandigarh	28	16
New Delhi	31	19
Amritsar	25	13
Bathinda	28	14
Jalandhar	29	14
Ludhiana	29	15
Bhiwani	31	14
Hisar	29	14
Sirsia	30	14
Dharamsala	18	8
Manali	10	3
Shimla	15	6
Srinagar	12	5
Jammu	20	15
Kargil	09	-02
Leh	10	-02
Dehradun	29	14
Mussoorie	16	10

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**I, Rajiv s/o Kishan Lal, Punjabi Colony, Gohana (Sonipat), have lost document 3410 dated 03.11.2009 for Plot No. 308, Sector 7, Gohana. This document has not been misused.** (CL20112185)

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**I, JC32755Y N/Sub Krishan Chand s/o Shri Bhajan Dass r/o Village Dumehar, PO Kadharhgarh, Teh. Sunni, Distt. Shimla (HP) declare that the name of my wife was wrongly mentioned as Rakeshi Verma in my service record. It may please be corrected as Rakeshi Verma vide Affidavit dated 23/03/2021.** (CL20112306)

**I, No. JC 521617M Ex. Sub Sanjay Kumar s/o Sh. Jaginder Singh r/o VPO Chalet Tehsil Ghaniar Distt. Una (HP) declare that the correct name of my daughter is Anjali and wrongly entered as Anjalee in my Army service record. It may be corrected all concerned note.** (CL20112172)

**I, Reetika Amit Davis w/o Amit Davis r/o 2287/29, Street-1, new Mohar Singh Nagar, Ludhiana, Punjab, that before marriage my name was Reetika Kahlon change my name to Reetika Amit Davis. (CL20112213)**

**I, Rupinder Kaur w/o Sh. Inderjeet Singh r/o H.no. 1478, Sector-29B, Chandigarh (U.T.) have changed my name to Usha Rani. (CL20112227)**

**I, Army No. 15141545N Rank Ex-Nk Kamal Thakur s/o Sh. Man Singh Unit 14 Med Regt r/o Village Kot, P.O. Kwarag, Tehsil Kandaghat, District Solan, HP- 173215 declare that in my Army service records my wife's name mistakenly entered as Madhu Thakur but her correct name is Madhu Bala. All concerned note.** (CL20112237)

**I, Anita, spouse of Rajesh Kumar Doctor House No. 119, Tribune Model Gram Baltana, Tehsil Derabassi, Distt. SAS Nagar, Punjab, have changed my name from Chanda to Chanda Mukhija (CL20112271)**

**I, Vijay Uppal s/o Late Sh. Mangat Ram Uppal r/o 718, Sector-22A, Chandigarh declare that my son Pankaj Uppal and his wife Deepika Uppal are out of my control. I disown them from all my moveable/immovable property. I shall not be responsible for any of their acts and anybody dealing with them shall do so at their own risk.** (CL20112315)

**COURT NOTICE**

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)** In the Court of Sh. Prabhjot Singh Kaleka, Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division) Ludhiana.

CNR No. PBLD02-003269-2019

Next Date:- 23.04.21

Mukti Bala widow of Tarun Sachdeva, r/o Sector 32, Ludhiana.

Versus General Public

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=ladakh

Dated, this day of 26.04.2021

**TOILET**

**In the Court of Sh. Devinder Kumar Family Court, Faridkot.** Principal Judge Family Court, Faridkot.

Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, Faridkot.

Dated, this day of 15.03.2021.

**MOHALI**

Sd/- Principal Judge Family Court, Faridkot.

Dated, this day of 22.03.2021

**SHED/GODOWN**

**In the Court of Sh. Arun Gupta Civil Judge (Junior Division), Khanna.** Sunita Verma Versus APIL Ambuja Housing and Infrastructure Limited CNR No.: PBLDA0-00575-2019 Next Date: 19.05.2021

Publication issued to:

A/P No. 8: Vinode Thomas, Nominee Director of APIL Ambuja Housing and Urban Infrastructure Limited- 232-B, Second Floor, Okhla Industrial Estate Phase-III, New Delhi presently at Corporate Office The Master Piece, Golf Course, Road, Sector 54, Gurugram Pin Code: 122022 (Haryana).

DF No: 9/A: Neha Jain, Secretary of APIL Ambuja Housing and Urban Infrastructure Limited- 232-B, Second Floor, Okhla Industrial Estate Phase-III, New Delhi presently at Corporate Office The Master Piece, Golf Course, Road, Sector 54, Gurugram Pin Code: 122022 (Haryana).

DF No: 10: Ranjit Kaur w/o Sh. Swaran Singh r/o Sh. Ram Singh r/o Village Bullepur, Tehsil Khanna, Distt. Ludhiana.

DF No: 11: Sabjit Singh r/o Sh. Ram Singh r/o Sh. Bishal Singh r/o Village Bullepur, Tehsil Khanna, Distt. Ludhiana.

DF No: 12: Swaran Singh r/o Sh. Ram Singh r/o Sh. Bishal Singh r/o Village Bullepur, Tehsil Khanna, Distt. Ludhiana.

DF No: 13: Angrej Singh r/o Sh. Ram Singh r/o Sh. Bishal Singh r/o Village Bullepur, Tehsil Khanna, Distt. Ludhiana.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 19.04.2021 at 10:00 a.m.

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=ludhiana

Dated, this day of 05.03.2021.

**TOILET**

Sd/- Civil Judge, (Junior Division), CL20112142

**SHED/GODOWN**

**In the Court of Sh. Amit Kumar Grover Civil Judge (Senior Division), Khurkhetra.** Kuljit Singh Versus General Public CNR No.

For details logon to https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\_notice&district=khurkhetra

Dated, this day of 19.03.2021.

**TOILET**

Sd/- Civil Judge (Sr Division), CL20112286

**SHED/GODOWN**

**In the Court of Ms. Roopa Dhalwal, PCS Additional Civil Judge Sr. Division, Nangal.** CBRB0-000243-2020 Next Date: 22.04.2021

Niveen Banga d/o Parshotam Lal Banga r/o Villa Meda Majra, Tehsil Nangal, Distt. Rupnagar

Versus General Public

Publication issued to:

General Public

Suit for declaration to the effect that the plaintiff namely Niveen Banga whose place of birth is 593 NTPC, Vidyanagar, Uncha Amritpur, Block Dard, Distt. Gurdaspur which is correct birth place of the plaintiff and birth place mentioned in the passport bearing No. S3958303 of plaintiff issued by Regional Passport Office Chandigarh by mentioning birth place of plaintiff as Meda Majra, Nangal, Punjab is wrong illegal and beyond ascertaining the true facts.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s)



**PUNJAB MANDI BOARD**

E-Mail- pmb.xenclhd@punjab.gov.in

**NOTICE INVITING ONLINE BIDS****TENDER NOTICE 06 (2021) DATE 23.03.2021**

On behalf of Governor of Punjab, Executive Engineer (C) Punjab Mandi Board Ludhiana Invites bids from Eligible bidders registered with Punjab Mandi Board For Construction/Upgradation of RCC Bridges on various link roads under MC Jagraon, Kila Raipur and Mullapur. Distr Ludhiana For detail, terms and conditions of notice inviting bids, refer to website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in/>

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

Sd/-Executive Engineer (C),  
Punjab Mandi Board Ludhiana.**SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA,  
REGIONAL CENTRE, CHANDIGARH/ZIRAKPUR,  
(KHELO INDIA)**

F. No. SAI/RC/ZIR/2021-22/01      Dated: 23.03.2021

**NOTICE**

Reference ADVERTISEMENT NO. SAI/RC/ZIR/2021-22/1st Batch dated 10th March, 2021 regarding Engagement of Young Professional in NCOE Dhamashala (H.P.). It is informed that the recruitment process of Young Professional (ARM) stands cancelled due to administrative reason.

The recruitment process of other posts will continue as mentioned in the above said advertisement.

Director Incharge (Offg.),  
Sports Authority of India, Regional Center Zirakpur.**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB  
DEPARTMENT OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION, PUNJAB**

Tel 01632-244425 Email dscw.dsfc.ferozepur@punjab.gov.in

**E-Tender No. - DSWC/DSCW/FZR/2020-21/03**

Earth work for excavation of trenches for laying of underground pipeline, lowering and jointing of 350 mm, 400 mm, 450 mm and 600 mm diameter RCC pipes, fixing of air vent pipes, risers, alfa alfa valves and construction of haudies at different locations of Ferozepur and Fazilka Districts with total estimated cost of Rs 85.18 Lakhs

Last Date of Bid Submission: 09:00 AM, 31.03.2021

Corrigendum if any shall be published on tendering portal itself

For participation, please visit: <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in>Vijay Kumar Singla,  
Divisional Soil Conservation Officer,  
Ferozepur.

DPR/Pb/2938

**Department of Water Supply and Sanitation  
Government of Punjab  
(Under NABARD XXIII)**

No. 1135      Dated: 23.03.2021

1. The Executive Engineer, W/S and Sanitation Division No. 1, Tarn Taran invites bids (to be submitted in the e-Procurement Portal) for the construction of following works:

Sr. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (in Lakh)	Bid Security EMD (in Rs.)	Date/Time of submission of Bid
1	Water Supply Scheme Village Nikki Manochahal (Manochahal Khurd (OH/PC) bifurcation of Existing Water Supply Scheme Wan, Block Tarn Taran Dist. Tarn Taran Under Nabard-XXIII. DWSS-W-DIV09-6136.	43.47 Lakh	Rs.87,000/-	From 24.03.2021 to 08.04.2021 up to 17:00 hrs.

Date &amp; Time of opening of Technical Bid:- 09.04.2021 at 02:00 hrs.

Completion Period:- 6 months

2. Bidder advised to note minimum qualification criteria &amp; instruction in bidding document.

3. Visit <http://eproc.punjab.gov.in> for detail and downloading documents.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,

W/S and Sanitation Div. No. 1, Tarn Taran.

Phone No. 0185222688 Email id [ewss\\_tt@yahoo.in](mailto:ewss_tt@yahoo.in)

DPR/Pb/2928

**PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.**Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office,  
The Mall, Patiala – 147001

Corporate Identification Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813

Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in)**E-Tender Enquiry No. 321/P-2/EMP-W-11811 Dtd: 22.03.21 &****ID: 2021\_POWER\_62345\_1**

Scope of Work: Rewinding of stator winding of 01 no. of 340kW/ 595 RPM, 6.6 KV HT Motor of Coal Mills Stage-Ill, GGSPTP Roopnagar

Time period: As per NIT.

EMD: Rs.10,000/-

Date &amp; time up to which tender shall be received : 29.04.21 &amp; 11:00 AM

Date &amp; time of opening of tender : 06.05.21 &amp; 11:30 AM

Tender specification can only be downloaded from website

<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in/> & no hard copy of the same will be issued by this office.

Note:

1. In case any difficulty regarding uploading of the tender the prospective bidders are requested to get clarification from this office or M/s e-procurement System Government of Punjab. Contact No.+91-(172)-29728463. It is also requested to get their digital signature well in time so as to submit tenders through e-tendering only.

2. It is informed that in case tender process is not completed due to any reason, no corrigendum will be published in newspapers. Details regarding corrigendum may be seen on website:- [eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://eproc.punjab.gov.in)

RTP-11/21

DPR/Pb/2921

**Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya  
Kothipura Distt. Bilaspur HP**

Phone No. 01978280342

**NOTICE**

It is to inform that the last date for submission of Tenders for the session 2021-22 has been extended up to 06.04.2021 (4.00 p.m.) due to administrative reasons. Now the Tenders will be opened on 07.04.2021 at 11.00 a.m. Other terms & conditions will remain same.

Sd/- PRINCIPAL

**PRESS 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

1	Augmentation of LWSS Mandoli and Badwana in GP Andheri Tehsil Sangrha Distt. Sirmour (SH):- Supplying & erection of Centrifugal pumping machinery with allied accessories and Providing, laying, jointing & Commissioning of MSERW pipe and laying, jointing, testing and commissioning of GMS pipe line in Rising Main for Phase-I & Phase-2).	488645/-	9800/-	3 Months
2	R/M of LS Shilla Bag in GP Dibber Tehsil Rajgarh Distt. Sirmour (HP) (SH:- C/O Head wear and protection work to protect the source) under CRF	331408/-	6650/-	3 Months
3	Providing LWSS to Nagar Panchayat Rajgarh in Tehsil Rajgarh Distt. Sirmour H.P (SH:- Providing, Laying & Jointing of GMS pipe line in distribution system and inter connectivity for Phase-1 & 2).	338615/-	6800/-	3 Months

Cost of form:- 250/- each

The application for purchase of tender documents shall be entertained up to 4.00 p.m. dated 26.03.2021, 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 27.03.2021 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,  
[eproc.tribuneindia.com](http://eproc.tribuneindia.com) Jal Shakti Division Nohradhar.

# Pak opposes hydro projects at Indus water dialogue with India

New Delhi justifies designs of Pakal Dul and Lower Kalnai plants

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

Pakistan raised objections over the designs of Pakal Dul and Lower Kalnai hydropower plants in Jammu and Kashmir and sought more information on the projects in the two countries met here on Tuesday, sources said. India justified its stand on the designs.

The Pakal Dul Hydro Electric Project (1,000 MW) is proposed on the Marusab river, a tributary of the Chenab river, in Kishtwar district in Jammu and Kashmir. The Lower Kalnai project is proposed in Kishtwar and Doda districts.

The two sides also discussed a host of other issues under the Indus Waters Treaty during the annual Permanent Indus Commission meeting. The two-day meeting, which started on Tuesday, is taking place after a gap



India's Indus Commissioner PK Saxena with his Pakistani counterpart Muhammad Mehar Ali Shah in New Delhi. FILE

of over two years. The last meeting took place in Lahore in August 2018.

The Indian delegation was led by PK Saxena, India's Indus Commissioner, and his team from the Central Water Commission, the Central

Electricity Authority and the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation. The Pakistani delegation was led by its Indus Commissioner Syed Muhammad Mehar Ali Shah. The delegation arrived here on Monday evening.

This year's meeting is the first between the two commissioners after the August 2019 nullification of the provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution that gave special status to the state of J&K.

The meeting also assumes significance as this is the first important engagement between India and Pakistan after militaries of the two countries had announced last month that they would strictly observe a ceasefire along the LoC and other sectors.

In 2019, the erstwhile state of J&K was also bifurcated into UTs — Ladakh and J&K. India has since cleared several hydropower projects. Of these, Durbuk Shyok (19 MW, Shankoo (18.5 MW), Nimu Chilling (24 MW), Rongdo (12 MW), Ratan Nag (10.5 MW) are in Leh; and Magdum Sangra (19 MW), Kargil Hunderman (25 MW) and Tamasha (12 MW) are Kargil. — PTI



Tourists walk on a snow-covered street in Gulmarg. PTI

## 300 vehicles stuck as landslides block NH

BANIHAL/JAMMU, MARCH 23

The Jammu-Srinagar national highway was on Tuesday closed for traffic following snowfall in Jawahar Tunnel area and multiple landslides between Banihal and Chanderkote, officials said.

Over 300 vehicles have been stranded on both sides of the highway due to the closure. The Jawahar Tunnel — the gateway to Kashmir — experienced snowfall this morning following which traffic was suspended between Banihal and Qazigund townships. They said incessant rains also lashed most parts of the highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country, for the third day on Tuesday, triggering landslides and shooting of stones from hillocks overlooking the highway at nearly a dozen places between Banihal and Chanderkote.

Parul Bhardwaj, DSP, Traffic, Ramban highway, said a few hundred vehicles were stranded between Nashri and Chanderkote since Monday night. "Despite incessant rains and the lurking threat of shooting stones, the men and machinery kept the highway open and the majority of the stranded vehicles in Ramban were cleared last night itself," he said. He said a major landslide had struck the highway overnight at Cafeteria Morh, while the road is also closed by debris at many places including Maroog, Monkey Morh, Panthiyal, Digdole, Sherbibi, Shabibas. Once the weather improves, all out efforts would be made to ensure early restoration of the highway, the officer added. — PTI

**'ALMOST CLEARED'**

Majority of the stranded vehicles in Ramban have been cleared. Parul Bhardwaj, DSP, Traffic

hundred vehicles were stranded between Nashri and Chanderkote since Monday night.

"Despite incessant rains and the lurking threat of shooting stones, the men and machinery kept the highway open and the majority of the stranded vehicles in Ramban were cleared last night itself," he said. He said a major landslide had struck the highway overnight at Cafeteria Morh, while the road is also closed by debris at many places including Maroog, Monkey Morh, Panthiyal, Digdole, Sherbibi, Shabibas. Once the weather improves, all out efforts would be made to ensure early restoration of the highway, the officer added. — PTI

## Terror cases down: Govt

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

Minister of State (MoS) for Finance Anurag Thakur on Tuesday tore into the Congress in Rajya Sabha for raising questions on the development and progress of J&K since its creation into UTs.

While Gohil took a jibe at the government for not taking along the populace, Hussain said that tourism sector had gone to seeds and unemployment and terrorism had increased in the past two years. — TNS

Shaktisinh Gohil and Syed

DPR/HP/2907

Ph. No.: 01765-505368, Fax No.: 01765-505332  
E-mail: mcvgvg@ymail.com

ਦਰਬਤ ਨਗਰ ਕੌਮਲ, ਗੋਬਿੰਦਗੜ੍ਹ।

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL GOBINDGARH**

Ref..... GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB Dated .....

Tender Reference No. : E-tender-ME/AME/01(2021)

E-tender-ME/AME/02(2021)

The Department of Municipal Council GoBindgarh, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib invites bid for Supply Works and Civil Works.

Closing Date and Time : : Closing Date: 06.04.2021 Time up to 10:00 A.M.

Closing Date: 15.04.2021 Time up to 05:00 P.M.

For details log on to : <http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in>

Note:- Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender Notice shall be published on the above website only.

Sd/- Assett. Municipal Engineer, Municipal Council, GoBindgarh.

Sd/- Municipal Engineer, Municipal Council, GoBindgarh.

Executive Officer, Municipal Council, GoBindgarh.

Sd/- Administrator, Municipal Council, GoBindgarh.

DPR/HP/2907

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**PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.**  
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)  
Corporate Identification Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813  
Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in) (Contact No. 96461-19299)

Tender Enquiry No: 05/2020-21/PWMDI Dated 23.03.2021

Dy. Chief Engineer/PP&MDI circle; PSPCL, E-4, Shakti Vihar, Patiala, invites E-tender for manufacturing, stacking, curing and testing of 30,000 No. Reinforced cement concrete (500mm dia & 75 mm thick) Anchor Blocks at Pilot Workshop, PSPCL, Sarna (Pathankot). For detailed NIT & tender specification, please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 24.03.2021 from 02:00 PM onwards.Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any, will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> C125/21 DPR/Pb/2946

**केंद्रीय विद्यालय उभावाल, संगरूर (पंजाब)**  
KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA UBHALAW, SANGRUR (PUNJAB)  
CBSE SCHOOL CODE. 24569 & Affiliation No. 1600044  
Website : [www.ubhalaw.kvs.ac.in](http://www.ubhalaw.kvs.ac.in)  
E-mail : [kvubhalawprincipal@gmail.com](mailto:kvubhalawprincipal@gmail.com)  
Tele. 01672-264005, 264008 Date :- 22/03/2021

F.2215/KVUBHALAW/2020-21/registration/ Date :- 22/03/2021  
**केंद्रीय विद्यालय उभावाल**  
ज़िला-संगरूर (पंजाब)-148001  
फोन नं. 01672-264008, 264005फोर्मों/आपूर्तिकर्ताओं के पंजीकरण के लिए आवेदन  
विविध वर्ष 2021-22 हेतु फर्नीचर (स्टील एवं लकड़ी), फर्ट एवं उपकरण, गोले साइन बोड, कैम्पर लाइटिंग और सोन्हरेवर्स एवं सर्वधिक स्टेशनरी, शिखान सामग्री, पुस्तकालय हेतु पुस्तकें, खेलकूद, परीक्षा, विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला संबंधित सामग्री, विद्यालय पत्रकार, छात्रानुसंधान उत्क्राम, 24 घंटे सुरक्षा व्यवस्था और सारांश की आवाज हेतु फोर्मों एवं आपूर्तिकर्ताओं के पंजीकरण के लिए आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं। PAN/TAN/TIN/CST/VAT नंबर सहित पंजीकरण हेतु पंजीकृत डाक द्वारा आवेदन प्राप्ति के लिए अंतिम तिथि 24.04.2021 है। अधिक जानकारी विद्यालय की वेबसाइट <http://ubhalaw.kvs.ac.in> पर उपलब्ध है।

प्राचार्या, श्रीमती अंजना गंगार, केंद्रीय विद्यालय, उभावाल, संगरूर (पंजाब)।

DI-23500

**National Highways Authority of India**  
(Ministry of Road Transport & Highways)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is for information of general public for User fee rates for Toll Plaza Bachhwan on Phagwara – Rupnagar section of NH-344A are as under w.e.f 01-04-2021

**Bachhwan Toll Plaza km. 70.240 section Phagwara – Rupnagar from km. 40.410 to 80.820.**

S. Particulars No.	Amount in Rs.			
	Single trip	Return trip in a day	Monthly Passes for single trips	Fee for commercial vehicles registered within the district
1 Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	55	85	1860	30
2 Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle or Mini Bus	90	135	3000	45
3 Bus or Truck (2 axles)	190	285	6290	95
4 3 axle commercial vehicle	205	310	6860	105
5 Heavy Construction Machinery (HCM) or Earth Moving Equipment (EME) or Multi Axles Vehicle (MAV) (Four to Six Axles)	295	445	9860	150
6 Oversized Vehicles (Seven & more Axles)	360	540	12005	180

Note :- For the year 2021-22 the rates for monthly pass for a person who owns a mechanical vehicle registered for non-commercial vehicle and resides within a distance of 20km from the toll plaza is has been worked out as ₹ 285/-.

Project Director, PIU-Jalandhar

**National Highways Authority of India**  
(Ministry of Road Transport & Highways)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is for information of general public for User fee rates for Toll Plaza Chak Bamniya on Lambra-Shahkot-Moga section of NH-703 are as under w.e.f 01-04-2021

**Chak Bamniya Toll Plaza km. 50.835 section Lambra-Shahkot-Moga from km. 12.000 to 77.200.**

S. Particulars No.	Amount in Rs.			
	Single trip	Return trip in a day	Monthly Passes for single trips	Fee for commercial vehicles registered within the district
1 Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	105	155	3435	50
2 Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle or Mini Bus	165	250	5550	85
3 Bus or Truck (2 axles)	350	525	11630	175
4 3 axle commercial vehicle	380	570	12685	190
5 Heavy Construction Machinery (HCM) or Earth Moving Equipment (EME) or Multi Axles Vehicle (MAV) (Four to Six Axles)	545	820	18240	275
6 Oversized Vehicles (Seven & more Axles)	665	1000	22200	335

Note :- For the year 2021-22 the rates for monthly pass for a person who owns a mechanical vehicle registered for non-commercial vehicle and resides within a distance of 20km from the toll plaza is has been worked out as ₹ 285/-.

Project Director, PIU-Jalandhar

**National Highways Authority of India**  
(Ministry of Road Transport & Highways)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is for information of general public for User fee rates for Toll Plaza Behram on Phagwara – Rupnagar section of NH-344A are as under w.e.f 01-04-2021

**Behram Toll Plaza km. 15.300 section Phagwara – Rupnagar from km. 0.000 to 40.410.**

S. Particulars No.	Amount in Rs.			
	Single trip	Return trip in a day	Monthly Passes for single trips	Fee for commercial vehicles registered within the district
1 Car, Jeep, Van or Light Motor Vehicle	90	135	2960	45
2 Light Commercial Vehicle, Light Goods Vehicle or Mini Bus	145	215	4785	70
3 Bus or Truck (2 axles)	300	450	10025	150
4 3 axle commercial vehicle	330	490	10935	165
5 Heavy Construction Machinery (HCM) or Earth Moving Equipment (EME) or Multi Axles Vehicle (MAV) (Four to Six Axles)	470	705	15720	235
6 Oversized Vehicles (Seven & more Axles)	575	860	19140	285

Note :- For the year 2021-22 the rates for monthly pass for a person who owns a mechanical vehicle registered for non-commercial vehicle and resides within a distance of 20km from the toll plaza is has been worked out as ₹ 285/-.

Project Director, PIU-Jalandhar

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION**

**PUNJAB RURAL WATER & SANITATION SECTOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECT****INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB),****THROUGH E-TENDERING SYSTEM**

(eproc.punjab.gov.in)

The Executive Engineer, Water Supply &amp; Sanitation Divn No.2, Ferozepur on behalf of Chairman GPWSC Basti Nankpura, Guruharsai Distt, Ferozepur invites bid from eligible bidders for the works detailed in the following table, the bids shall be on lumpsum/item rate basis.

Sr. No. Post Age Qualification

1. PGT (English)-01 21 to 50 years from SI No. 1 to 10 as on 01 Jul 21. Women candidate and physically challenged candidate will be given age relaxation upto a maximum of five years. Ex-Servicemen will also be given age relaxation as per provisions of Edn Code 2020.

2. PGT (Hindi)-01 Mandatory Qualification: A Master Degree in Hindi from any university recognized by Govt. of India/UGC/AICTE with a minimum of aggregate marks of 50% in the subject and 50% marks in the aggregate.

3. PGT (Physics)-01 Mandatory Qualification: A Master Degree in Physics/Electronics/Applied Physics/Nuclear Physics from any university recognized by Govt. of India/UGC/AICTE with a minimum of aggregate marks of 50% in the subject and 50% marks in the aggregate.

4. PGT (Chemistry)-01 Mandatory Qualification: A Master Degree in Chemistry/Bio Chemistry from any university recognized by Govt. of India/UGC/AICTE with a minimum of aggregate marks of 50% in the subject and 50% marks in the aggregate.

5. PGT (Biology)-01 Mandatory Qualification: A Master Degree in Botany/Zoology/Life Sciences/Bio Sciences/Genetics/Micro Biology/Bio Technology/Molecular Biology/Plant Physiology provided the candidate has studied Botany &amp; Zoology at Graduation Level from any university recognized by Govt. of India/UGC/AICTE with a minimum of aggregate marks of 50% in the subject and 50% marks in the aggregate.

6. PGT (Mathematics)-01 Mandatory Qualification: A Master Degree in Mathematics/Applied Mathematics from any university recognized by Govt. of India/UGC/AICTE with a minimum of aggregate marks of 50% in the subject and 50% marks in the aggregate.

7. PGT (Computers)-01 Mandatory Qualification: B.E. or B.Tech (Computer Science/IT) or an equivalent Degree or Diploma from an Institution/University recognized by the Govt. of India.

OR

M.Sc. (Computer Science)/MCA or equivalent from a recognized University.

OR

B.Sc. (Computer Science)/BCA or equivalent and Post Graduate Degree in any subject from a recognized university.

OR

PG Diploma in Computer and Post Graduate Degree in any subject from a recognized university.

OR

'A' level from DOEACC and Postgraduate Degree in any subject OR

'B' or 'C' level from DOEACC

Mandatory Qualification: A Master Degree in MPE/ME/PE/CE (10 years experience) from any university recognized by Govt. of India/UGC/AICTE with a minimum of aggregate marks of 50% in the subject and 50% marks in the aggregate.

Mandatory Qualification: Diploma in counselling from a recognized university or B.A/B.Sc. Psychology with Educational Psychology/Counselling Psychology from a recognized university or M.A/M.Sc. in counselling Psychology with counselling Psychology as specialization or M.A/M.Sc. in Applied Psychology with counselling Psychology from a recognized university.

Mandatory Qualification: Diploma in psychology from a recognized university or B.A/B.Sc. Psychology with Educational Psychology/Counselling Psychology from a recognized university or M.A/M.Sc. in Applied Psychology with counselling Psychology from a recognized university.

Note:-

1) Other details including eligibility criteria of bidders can be seen in the bidding documents on websites: <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>. Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the User ID and Password for participating in e-tendering may obtain the same by registering in the e-procurement portal (<https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>). The contractors once registered can participate in any of the department tenders of Government of Punjab. All other details can be seen in the bidding document. For any clarification/difficulty regarding e-tendering process flow, please contact on our helpdesk Numbers 0172-279126, 279126.

2) Bidder have to pay the Bid security through online must be furnished through e-payment facility available at website.

3) Corrigendum, if any, will be given on above website &amp; will not be advertised in newspapers.

On behalf of Chairman GPWSC

Sd/- Executive Engineer,

W/S &amp; Sanitation Division No. 2, Ferozepur.

Vill Basti Nankpura

Block Guruharsai, Distt. Ferozepur.

**SANJAY GANDHI POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES**  
Rasbari Road, Lucknow-226014  
Phones: 05 (522) 2494000, 2494011, 2494030  
FAX: 91-522-2668017, 2668129  
Email: [registrar@sgpgi.ac.in](mailto:registrar@sgpgi.ac.in)

**Cancellation of Faculty Advertisement No. I/38/ER/ACAD/2020-21 & its Corrigendum**

The Advertisement No. I/38/ER/ACAD/2020-21 and its Corrigendum for Faculty Appointment is hereby cancelled.

ADVT.No.: I/56/ER/ACAD/2020-21 DIRECTOR

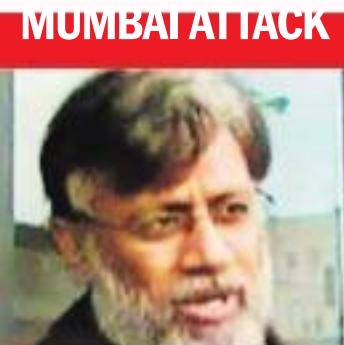
**BATHINDA IMPROVEMENT TRUST**  
GONIANA ROAD, BATHINDA – 151001Phone No. 0164-2251340, e-mail: [improvementbt@gmail.com](mailto:improvementbt@gmail.com)

**KV NO. 4, JALANDHAR CANTT.  
NOTICE FOR REGISTRATION OF FIRMS  
for 2021-22**

Detailed notice for registration of firms is placed on the Vidyalaya website. Last date is 30.04.2021. Please visit [www.no4jalandhar.kvs.ac.in](http://www.no4jalandhar.kvs.ac.in)

Sd/- Principal

22.03.2021 DI-23441

**MUMBAI ATTACK**  
**Biden admin: Certify India's request to extradite Rana**

WASHINGTON, MARCH 23

The Biden administration has urged a federal court to certify India's request to extradite Pakistani-origin Canadian businessman Tahawwur Rana, who is sought for his involvement in the 2008 Mumbai terror attack.

Assistant US Attorney John Lulejian, in his submission before a federal US court in Los Angeles, said Rana, 59, met the criteria to be extradited to India for his trial in the Mumbai terrorist attack.

On February 4, Rana's attorney had opposed his extradition.

US District Court Judge in Los Angeles Jacqueline Chooijan has scheduled the extradition hearing for April 22.

The United States respectfully requests that following the April 22, 2021, extradition hearing, the Court certify India's request for Rana's extradition for the Secretary of State's surrender decision," Lulejian said in his 61-page court submission on Monday — PTI

1. Availability of bidding document on website from 24.03.2021 at 10:00 to 12.04.2021 at 4:00 p.m.  
2. Part I bid named Technical Qualification part of bid will be opened on 15.04.2021 at 11:30 a.m.

Note:

1. For any clarification regarding e-tendering process, please contact this office e-tendering helpline of 0172-2791326, 2791226, 01632-223633.

2. All other details can be seen in the bidding document uploaded on [www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in).

3. Corrigendum, if any, will be given on above website &amp; will not be advertised in Newspapers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,

W/S &amp; Sanitation Divn. No. 1, Ferozepur.

DPR/Pb/2930

**GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT****E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE  
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

1. The Executive Engineer (HQ), Rural Development Department, SDA Complex, Block No. 27, Kasumpti, Shimla-9 (H.P.) on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh invites the online bids on item rate in electronic tendering system in 2 cover system for the undermentioned work from the eligible and approved contractors/Firms registered with HPPWD Department.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Approx. value of work (in Lacs)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	1- Tender Processing fee 2. Document Fee (Rs.)	Period of Completion
1	Special Repair of Water Supply, Sanitary Installation, Sewerage and Repair of leakage in Sunken Portion. New AC installed, AC, RO & Fire extinguishers repair & refilling etc. at DAC Ferozepur, Distt. Ferozepur.	10.69	21380/-	As per site 1000/-	3 months

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

3. Key dates:-  
1. Date of Online Publication 31.03.2021, 11.00 Hrs  
2. Document Download Start and End Date 31.03.2021, 11.00 Hrs up to 07.04.2021, 17.30 Hrs  
3. Bid Submission Start and End Date 31.03.2021, 11.00 Hrs up to 07.04.2021, 17.30 Hrs  
4. Physical Submission of EMD and Cost of Tender Document 07.04.2021, 11.00 Hrs  
5. Date of Technical Bid opening, Evaluation of Technical Bid followed by opening of Financial Bid 08.04.2021, 11.00 Hrs

4. TENDER DETAILS:- The Tender Document shall be uploaded online in 2 cover:-

i) Cover-1 shall contain scanned copies of all "Technical Documents/ Eligibility information."

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

5. SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS:- The bidders are required to submit (a) original demand draft towards the cost of bid document and (b) original bid security/Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of FDR duly pledged in favour of Executive Engineer (HQ), Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Shimla-9 and other Technical Document in the O/o Executive Engineer (HQ), RDR & PR, Shimla-9 as specified in key dates Sr. No. 3 on tender opening date, failing which the bids will be declared non-responsive.

6. LIST OF MACHINERY, TOOL, PLANT:- The bidders must have to submit/upload the list of machinery/tools/equipment in the form of affidavit.

7. CONTRACTOR'S REGISTRATION:- The bidders have to produce the enlistment of competent authority in appropriate class valid at the time of tender and upload as pdf.

8. GST REGISTRATION:- The bidders have to produce/upload the GST registration at the time of tender and upload as pdf.

9. EMPLOYEES PROVIDENT FUND:- The bidders have to produce/upload the EPF No. as pdf.

10. PAN NO.- The bidders have to produce/upload the PAN No. in pdf.

11. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:-

The bidder must have successfully completed one similar nature of work not less than 40% of estimated cost during the last 5 years (without liquidated damages or compensation) for job No. 3.

i) Work done certificate and work in hand certificate:- The bidders have to submit/upload the list of work which are completed/in hand (progress) in the proforma shown General rule No. 19 in Schedule "F". These statements should be countersigned by the Engineer-in-charge not below the rank of Executive Engineer or equivalent in State/Central Govt. PSUs with his seal. The original/attested copies of same may be submitted at the time of physical submission of

ii) Affidavit:- Contractors have to submit an affidavit wherein mentioned that they have not more than two works in hand in Rural Development Department.

12. BID OPENING DETAILS:- The bids shall be opened on 08.04.2021 at 11:00 Hrs in the O/o Executive Engineer (HQ), Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Block No. 27, SDA Complex, Kasumpti, Shimla-9 and by the authorized officer. In their interest the tenderer are advised to present along with original documents at the time of opening of tenders. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day and shall remain valid for acceptance for a period of 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.

13. The bids for the work shall remain valid for acceptance for a period of 120 days after the deadline date for bid submission.

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

Executive Engineer (RD&PR),  
Block No. 27, SDA Complex,  
Kasumpti, Shimla-9.

# India abstains from UNHRC vote on Sri Lanka resolution

Sandeep Dikshit

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

Faced with pressure from its electoral allies in Tamil Nadu and the need to maintain long-term ties with Colombo, India today abstained from a UN Human Right Council resolution on Sri Lanka.

The resolution was passed with 22 countries for and 11 against, while 14 abstained from voting.

India's abstention was in contrast to the stand taken by other neighbours of Sri Lanka such as Bangladesh, China, Russia, Pakistan and the Philippines were among those which voted no while Nepal, like India, abstained from the vote.

Votes largely came from European countries, Uruguay and Brazil. Japan, which recently lost a container terminal deal in Sri Lanka, abstained from the vote.

The resolution against Sri Lanka is for war crimes against Tamils and is among the series of such resolutions the UNHRC has been bringing for a decade. India abstained from voting in 2014 and had voted in favour of a similar resolution in 2012.

The preset draft resolution is based on a report submitted by the Office of the High Commissioner for human rights in January.

The report warned that Sri Lanka is "on an alarming path towards recurrence of grave human rights violations" and that "failure to deal with the past continues



Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena looks at a copy of the result of the UNHRC resolution to document war crimes in Colombo.

REUTERS

**TWIN PRESSURE FROM TAMIL ALLIES, COLOMBO**

■ The resolution titled 'Promotion of Reconciliation Accountability and Human Rights in Sri Lanka' was adopted by the UNHRC after 22 members out of 47-member Council voted in favour of it.

■ Eleven members voted against the resolution tabled by the Core Group on Sri Lanka consisting of countries like the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany.

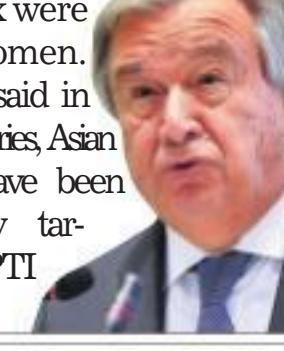
■ Tamil parties had called on PM Modi to vote in favour of the resolution but that would have jeopardised the prospects of India.

Worried over rise in violence against Asians: UN chief

UNITED NATIONS, MARCH 23  
UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has expressed profound concern over the rise of violence against Asians and people of Asian descent during the pandemic, saying thousands of incidents through the past year perpetuated a "centuries-long history" of intolerance, stereotyping and abuse.

Guterres' statement comes against the backdrop of multiple shootings this month in and around Atlanta that killed eight persons, among whom six were Asian women.

Guterres said in some countries, Asian women have been specifically targeted.— PTI



## Oxford probes alleged bullying of Indian student

LONDON, MARCH 23

The University of Oxford on Tuesday said a probe was on and that it "investigates thoroughly" every complaint related to harassment or equality, following allegations of cyber bullying surrounding Rashmi Samant, the first Indian woman to be elected president of the Oxford Student Union, who was forced to resign amid controversy over some of her past social media posts.

Some British Hindu groups have also raised concerns around comments made online by a university staffer from the history faculty with the police, urging an investigation. The police force confirmed that it had "received a report of an alleged hate incident". The comments under scrutiny, posted with an image of Samant's family on Instagram by Dr Abhijit Sarkar, categorised their home state of Karnataka as a "bastion of Islamophobic forces".— PTI



Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife Sara cast their vote. AP/PTI

**ISRAELI VOTERS SEAL NETANYAHU'S FATE**

■ Israelis returned to polling stations on Tuesday for the fourth time in two years.

■ It is being seen as a referendum on PM Netanyahu's

continuance at the helm amid his ongoing trial on corruption charges.

■ The unity government collapsed in December. PTI

## 14 sentenced to death for bid to kill Hasina

DHAKA, MARCH 23

Fourteen Islamist militants were on Tuesday given death sentence by a Bangladeshi court here for attempting to kill Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in 2000.

Judge Abu Zafar Md Kamruzzaman of Dhaka's Speedy Trial tribunal-1 pronounced the verdict as nine of them were brought to the court from jail to face the trial in person. The remaining five convicts are on the

run. They were tried in absentia and defended by state-appointed lawyers.

"The verdict will be executed by a firing squad to set an example, unless the law bars it," the judge said. Otherwise, the convicts could be hanged in line

with the prevailing practice, following mandatory review of the death sentences by the HC Division of the SC under the Bangladesh law, the judge said.— PTI

The proposed delay will provide the Department of Labour with time to consider the rule's legal and policy issues and issue an upcoming Request for Information, and gather public comments on methods for determining prevailing wage levels.— PTI

## Immigrants' wage calculation delayed

WASHINGTON, MARCH 23

The Biden administration has proposed an 18-month delay in the effective date of a final rule on calculating the prevailing wages of certain immigrants and non-immigrant workers, including those on the popular H-1B visas.

The proposed delay will provide the Department of Labour with time to consider the rule's legal and policy issues and issue an upcoming Request for Information, and gather public comments on methods for determining prevailing wage levels.— PTI

## BUSINESS

USD \$	Euro €	Pound £	JPY ¥	Yuan ₠	CAD \$	AUD \$	SGD \$	HKD \$	BSE 280.15	NSE 78.35	Gold ₹ 44,000	Silver ₹ 66,000
₹72.43	₹85.96	₹99.84	₹0.66	₹11.13	₹57.75	₹55.60	₹53.92	₹9.33	50,051.44	14,814.75	(MCX)	(MCX)

# Adani buys controlling stake in Gangavaram Port for ₹3,604 cr

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone on Tuesday said it will acquire controlling interest in Gangavaram Port Ltd (GPL) from DVS Raju and family for Rs 3,604 crore taking its stake in GPL to 89.6%.

GPL is located in the northern part of Andhra Pradesh next to Vizag Port.

"Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ), India's largest private ports and logistics firm, is acquiring the 58.1% stake held by DVS Raju and family in Gangavaram Port Limited (GPL)," the company said.

The acquisition is valued at Rs 3,604 crore.

APSEZ had announced acquisition of Warburg Pincus' 31.5% stake in GPL on March 3 this year

■ GPL is the second largest non-major port in Andhra Pradesh with a 64 MT capacity established under concession from Government of Andhra Pradesh that extends till 2059.

GPL on March 3, 2021, and together with this acquisition, APSEZ would have 89.6% stake in GPL.

"Ports play a major role in shaping the future. Through APSEZ's 89.6% stake in Gangavaram port, the Adani Group will greatly expand its pan-

India cargo presence. As India's largest private sector port developer and operator, we will accelerate India's and AP's industrialisation," Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani said in a tweet.

# Angad, Ganemath add to gold haul

Win mixed team skeet gold with top show in final

Tribune News Service

NEW DELHI, MARCH 23

Angad Vir Singh Bajwa and Ganemath Sekhon won the only gold on offer at the ISSF World Cup today as they beat the Kazakh pairing of Alexandr Yechshenko and Olga Panarina in the final of the skeet mixed team competition.

The Indian pair won the gold by a comfortable margin of 33-29 to cap off a wonderful competition for the skeet shooters. Today's win was India's second on the skeet ranges after the men bagged the team gold yesterday. Ganemath, who



Angad Vir Singh Bajwa and Ganemath Sekhon after winning the skeet mixed team gold. PHOTO: NRAI

became the first Indian woman skeet shooter to win an ISSF World Cup medal on Sunday, had also won the silver in the women's team competition.

However, the second Indian pair — Mairaj Ahmad Khan and Parinaaz Dhaliw-

al — missed winning the bronze medal after going down 31-32 to the Qatar pairing of Rashid Hamad and Reem Al-Sharshani.

**Three in finals**  
In the men's 50m Rifle 3 Positions competition, all

## World Cup Medal tally

	G	S	B	Total
IND	7	3	4	14
USA	2	1	1	4
KAZ	1	2	1	4
IRI	1	1	-	2
DEN	1	-	-	1
GBR	1	-	-	1

three Indians have qualified for the finals. Sanjeev Rajput topped the qualification rounds with a score of 172. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar qualified on the sixth position after scoring 1165, while Niraj Kumar was the last one to make the cut for the final with a total of 1165 points.

Indian girls dominated the precision round of the women's 25m pistol competition. Rahi Sarnobat was first with a score of 291, followed by Chinky Yadav with 289. Manu Bhaker was third with 288.

# Shafali, Rajeshwari star in Indian women's consolation win

LUCKNOW: World No. 1 T20I batswoman Shafali Verma blasted 60 runs off 30 balls after left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad's fine bowling display to power India to a consolation nine-wicket win over South Africa in the third and final match here today. Gayakwad picked up three wickets for just nine runs to help India restrict South Africa Women to 112/7 and then Verma and captain Smriti Mandhana (48 not out off 28 balls) shared 96 runs for the opening wicket to canter to an easy win with nine overs to spare. Shafali hit seven fours and five sixes during his blistering knock while Mandhana

had nine boundaries in his unbeaten innings. SA Women clinched the three-match T20I series 2-1, having won the first two matches. PTI

**Brief scores:** SA Women 112/7 (Luus 28; Gayakwad 3/9, Reddy 1/18); India Women 114/1 in 11 overs (Verma 60, Mandhana 48\*)

## HOLI FESTIVAL & OTHER SPECIAL TRAINS

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during the Holi Festival, Railways have decided to run the following Festival & Other Special Trains as per schedule given below:-

Train No. & Name	From	To	Frequency	Dates/period
04032 Anand Vihar (T)-Varanasi Jn. Superfast Exp. Special	Anand Vihar (T)	Varanasi Jn.	Wed, Fri, Mon	Upto 31.03.21
04031 Varanasi Jn.-Anand Vihar (T) Superfast Exp. Special	Varanasi Jn.	Anand Vihar (T)	Tue, Thu, Sun	Upto 31.03.21
04034 H. Nizamuddin-Trivandrum Central Superfast Exp. Spl.	H. Nizamuddin	Trivandrum	Friday	on 26.03.21
04033 Trivandrum Central-H. Nizamuddin Superfast Exp. Spl.	Trivandrum	H. Nizamuddin	Wednesday	on 31.03.21
04036 Anand Vihar (T)-Jogbani Superfast Express Special	Anand Vihar (T)	Jogbani	Daily	Upto 30.03.21
04035 Jogbani - Anand Vihar (T) Superfast Express Special	Jogbani	Anand Vihar (T)	Daily	Upto 31.03.21
04038 H. Nizamuddin-H.S. Nanded Superfast Express Special	H. Nizamuddin	H.S. Nanded	Thursday	25.03.21 & 01.04.21
04037 H.S. Nanded-H. Nizamuddin Superfast Express Special	H.S. Nanded	H. Nizamuddin	Saturday	27.03.21 & 03.04.21
02445 New Delhi-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Superfast Express Special	New Delhi	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	Daily	Upto 30.03.21
02446 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-New Delhi Superfast Express Special	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	New Delhi	Daily	Upto 31.03.21
04998 Bathinda-Varanasi Jn. Superfast Express Special	Bathinda	Varanasi Jn.	Sunday	on 28.03.21
04997 Varanasi Jn.-Bathinda Superfast Express Special	Varanasi Jn.	Bathinda	Monday	on 29.03.21
04608 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-Varanasi Jn. Express Special	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	Varanasi Jn.	Sunday	on 28.03.21
04607 Varanasi Jn.-Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Express Special	Varanasi Jn.	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	Tuesday	on 30.03.21
04424 H. Nizamuddin-Lucknow Superfast AC Express Special	H. Nizamuddin	Lucknow	Monday	on 29.03.21
04423 Lucknow-H. Nizamuddin Superfast AC Express Special	Lucknow	H. Nizamuddin	Thursday	25.03.21 & 01.04.21
04520 Nangal Dam-Kolkata Superfast Express Special	Nangal Dam	Kolkata	Saturday	on 27.03.21
04519 Kolkata-Nangal Dam Superfast Express Special	Kolkata	Nangal Dam	Monday	on 29.03.21
04222 Lucknow-Kolkata Express Special	Lucknow	Kolkata	Tue, Fri	Upto 30.03.21
04221 Kolkata-Lucknow Express Special	Kolkata	Lucknow	Wed, Sat	Upto 31.03.21
04050 Anand Vihar (T)-Kamakhya Express Special	Anand Vihar (T)	Kamakhya	Friday	on 26.03.21
04049 Kamakhya-Anand Vihar (T) Express Special	Kamakhya	Anand Vihar (T)	Tuesday	on 30.03.21
04422 Anand Vihar (T)-Lucknow Superfast Express Special	Anand Vihar (T)	Lucknow	Wednesday	Upto 31.03.21
04421 Lucknow-Anand Vihar (T) Superfast Express Special	Lucknow	Anand Vihar (T)	Tuesday	on 30.03.21
04924 Chandigarh-Gorakhpur Express Special	Chandigarh	Gorakhpur	Thursday	on 25.03.21
04923 Gorakhpur-Chandigarh Express Special	Gorakhpur	Chandigarh	Friday	on 26.03.21
04426 H. Nizamuddin-Pune Superfast AC Express Special	H. Nizamuddin	Pune	Tuesday	on 30.03.21
04425 Pune-H. Nizamuddin Superfast AC Express Special	Pune	H. Nizamuddin	Thursday	25.03.21 & 01.04.21
04412 Anand Vihar (T)-Gaya Superfast Express Special	Anand Vihar (T)	Gaya	Fri, Mon	Upto 29.03.21
04411 Gaya-Anand Vihar (T) Superfast Express Special	Gaya	Anand Vihar (T)	Sat, Tue	Upto 30.03.21
04040 New Delhi-Barauni Superfast Express Special	New Delhi	Barauni	Tue, Fri	Upto 30.03.21
04039 Barauni-New Delhi Superfast Express Special	Barauni	New Delhi	Wed, Sat	Upto 31.03.21
04046 Anand Vihar (T)-Patna Jn. Superfast Express Special	Anand Vihar (T)	Patna Jn.	Fri, Sun, Tue	Upto 28.03.21
04045 Patna Jn.-Anand Vihar (T) Superfast Express Special	Patna Jn.	Anand Vihar (T)	Sat, Mon, Wed	Upto 29.03.21
04510 Nangal Dam-Lucknow Express Special	Nangal Dam	Lucknow	Monday	on 29.03.21
04509 Lucknow-Nangal Dam Express Special	Lucknow	Nangal Dam	Tuesday	on 30.03.21
05115 Chhapra-Delhi Loknayak Express Special	Chhapra	Delhi	Saturday	Upto 26.06.21
05116 Delhi-Chhapra Loknayak Express Special	Delhi	Chhapra	Sunday	Upto 27.06.21
02595 Gorakhpur-Anand Vihar (T) Humsafar Express Special	Gorakhpur	Anand Vihar (T)	Mon, Tue, Thu	Upto 29.06.21
02596 Anand Vihar (T)-Gorakhpur Humsafar Express Special	Anand Vihar (T)	Gorakhpur	Tue, Wed, Fri	Upto 30.06.21
09731 Jaipur-Delhi Sarai Rohilla Express Special	Jaipur	Delhi S. Rohilla	Daily	Upto 31.03.21
09732 Delhi Sarai Rohilla-Jaipur Express Special	Delhi S. Rohilla	Jaipur	Daily	Upto 31.03.21
07003 Secunderabad-Gorakhpur Express Special	Secunderabad	Gorakhpur	Thursday	on 25.03.21
07004 Gorakhpur-Secunderabad Express Special	Gorakhpur	Secunderabad	Tuesday	on 30.03.21
09049 Surat-Muzaffarpur Express Special	Surat	Muzaffarpur	Friday	on 26.03.21
09050 Muzaffarpur-Surat Express Special	Muzaffarpur	Surat	Sunday	on 28.03.21
02511 Gorakhpur-Kochuveli Express Special	Gorakhpur	Kochuveli	Fri, Sun	Upto 27.06.21
02512 Kochuveli-Gorakhpur Express Special	Kochuveli	Gorakhpur	Tue, Wed	Upto 30.06.21
05029 Gorakhpur-Pune Express Special	Gorakhpur	Pune	Thursday	Upto 24.06.21
05030 Pune-Gorakhpur Express Special	Pune	Gorakhpur	Saturday	Upto 26.06.21
05018 Gorakhpur-Lokmanya Tilak (T) Express Special	Gorakhpur	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	Daily	Upto 08.04.21
05017 Lokmanya Tilak (T) - Gorakhpur Express Special	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	Gorakhpur	Daily	Upto 10.04.21
02597 Gorakhpur-Chhatrapati Shivaji(T) Express Special	Gorakhpur	Chhatrapati Shivaji(T)	Tuesday	Upto 29.06.21
02598 Chhatrapati Shivaji(T)-Gorakhpur Express Special	Chhatrapati Shivaji(T)	Gorakhpur	Wednesday	Upto 30.06.21
05101 Chhapra-Loknayak Express Special	Chhapra	Loknayak Tilak (T)	Tuesday	Upto 29.06.21
05102 Loknayak Tilak (T)-Chhapra Express Special	Loknayak Tilak (T)	Chhapra	Friday	Upto 02.07.21
05022 Gorakhpur-Shalimar Express Special	Gorakhpur	Shalimar	Monday	Upto 28.06.21
05021 Shalimar-Gorakhpur Express Special	Shalimar	Gorakhpur	Tuesday	Upto 29.06.21
02587 Gorakhpur-Jammu Tawi Express Special	Gorakhpur	Jammu Tawi	Monday	Upto 28.06.21
02588 Jammu Tawi-Gorakhpur Express Special	Jammu Tawi	Gorakhpur	Saturday	Upto 03.07.21
05097 Bhagalpur-Jammu Tawi Express Special	Bhagalpur	Jammu Tawi	Thursday	Upto 01.07.21
05098 Jammu Tawi-Bhagalpur Express Special	Jammu Tawi	Bhagalpur	Tuesday	Upto 29.06.21
02581 Manduadih-New Delhi Express Special	Manduadih	New Delhi	Daily	Upto 30.06.21
02582 New Delhi-Manduadih Express Special	New Delhi	Manduadih	Daily	Upto 01.07.21
02530 Lucknow Jn.-Patliputra Express Special	Lucknow Jn.	Patliputra	except Thu, Sun	Upto 30.06.21
02529 Patliputra-Lucknow Jn. Express Special	Patliputra	Lucknow Jn.	except Thu, Sun	Upto 30.06.21
05045 Gorakhpur-Okha Express Special	Gorakhpur	Okha	Thursday	Upto 24.06.21
05046 Okha-Gorakhpur Express Special	Okha	Gorakhpur	Sunday	Upto 27.06.21
05009 Gorakhpur-Mailani Express Special	Gorakhpur	Mailani	Daily	Upto 30.06.21
05010 Mailani-Gorakhpur Express Special	Mailani	Gorakhpur	Daily	Upto 01.07.21
05043 Lucknow Jn.-Kathgodam Express Special	Lucknow, Jn.	Kathgodam	Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri & Sun	Upto 30.06.21
05044 Kathgodam-Lucknow Jn. Express Special	Kathgodam	Lucknow, Jn.	Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri & Sat	Upto 01.07.21
05001 Muzaffarpur Jn.-Dehradun Express Special	Muzaffarpur Jn.	Dehradun	Monday	Upto 28.06.21
05002 Dehradun-Muzaffarpur Jn. Express Special	Dehradun	Muzaffarpur Jn.	Saturday	Upto 26.06.21
05005 Gorakhpur-Dehradun Express Special	Gorakhpur	Dehradun	Wednesday	Upto 25.06.21
05006 Dehradun-Gorakhpur Express Special	Dehradun	Gorakhpur	Tue, Thu	Upto 29.06.21
05023 Gorakhpur-Yesvantpur Jn. Express Special	Gorakhpur	Yesvantpur Jn.	Tuesday	Upto 29.06.21
05024 Yesvantpur Jn.-Gorakhpur Express Special	Yesvantpur Jn.	Gorakhpur	Thursday	Upto 01.07.21
08237 Korba - Amritsar Jn. Express Special	Korba	Amritsar Jn.	Tri-Weekly	Upto 25.06.21
08238 Amritsar Jn.-Korba Express Special	Amritsar Jn.	Bilaspur Jn.	Tri-Weekly	Upto 27.06.21
08215 Durg - Udhampur				

## Didi shuns 'safe seat' to take on Adhikari

SHUBHADEEP CHOUDHURY

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, MARCH 23** Overcoming the temptation to contest from a 'safe seat', CM Mamata Banerjee didn't file her nomination from Tollygunge, the deadline for which ended on Tuesday.

She is now all set for a contest against her former ally Suvendu Adhikari from Nandigram. Aroop Biswas, sitting MLA, was once again named in the TMC list as party candidate from Tollygunge, but he deliberately kept a low profile so that there was no confusion in case "Didi" decided to contest from the seat.

Meanwhile, the BJP today released its final list of 13 candidates for the WB polls. The list comprises prominent faces, but veteran actor Mithun Chakraborty, who joined the BJP earlier this month, finds no mention.

The BJP sprang up a surprise by naming Lt Gen Subrata Saha (retd), a member of the National Security Advisory Board and former commander of the Kashmir Corps, as its candidate from Rashbehari.

Ashok Lahiri, economic adviser to then Vajpayee as well as Mammoohan Singh gov-



Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee boards a helicopter in Purulia. PTI

**BJP FINAL LIST OUT, MITHUN NOT IN FRAY**

- The BJP has released its final list of 13 candidates for the WB Assembly polls
- The list comprises prominent faces, but veteran actor Mithun Chakraborty, who joined the BJP earlier this month, finds no mention

ernments, got ticket from Balurghat. He was earlier allotted Alipurduar, but his candidature was changed to Balurghat owing to some technical reason. While Supriyo Thakur, younger brother of sitting BJP MP Shantanu Thakur, will contest from Gaighata, Debabrata Mazhi will fight from Chowrangee.

## In Assam, BJP vows 'corrected' NRC, 8 lakh jobs in pvt sector

Party chief Nadda releases poll manifesto with 10 commitments

### ASSEMBLY POLLS 2021

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, MARCH 23**

The BJP today promised a "corrected National Register of Citizens (NRC)" in poll-bound Assam along with jobs for youth, including in the private sector, cycles for girl students and strengthened connectivity, infrastructure, education, health and women empowerment.

Announcing the Assam manifesto, BJP president JP Nadda said the party was making 10 commitments to help Assam take the next big leap in the next five years.

Nadda said the BJP would work towards a "corrected NRC" to protect "genuine Indian citizens and detect infiltrated people".

"We will work on a corrected NRC for Assam's protection. We will protect genuine Indian citizens and



detect infiltrators to ensure the Ahom civilisation stays safe," he said.

The Citizenship Amendment Act, which caused widespread protests in Assam, is not mentioned among the 10 points of the manifesto. However, Nadda said the Central legislation would be implemented in letter and spirit.

Meanwhile, the BJP promised "Mission Brahmaputra", under which reservoirs to conserve extra water and save the people from floods are planned and the "Orunodoo Scheme" under which 30 lakh deserving families will be paid financial support of Rs 3,000 per month.

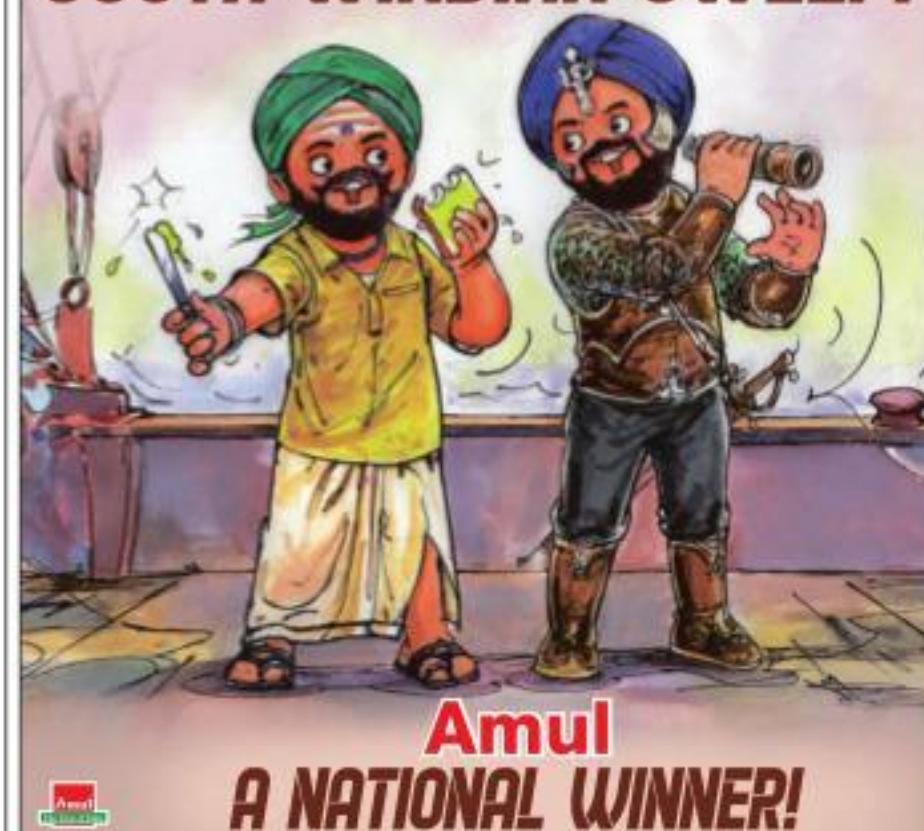
"Assam will become the fastest job creator state in the country. The BJP has committed to provide 2 lakh jobs in the public sector, of which 1 lakh will get jobs by March 31, 2022," he said, adding that the party would also provide 8 lakh jobs in the private sector. The BJP is contesting elections in alliance with the Asom Gana Parishad (AGP) and the United People's Party Liberal.

### Assures flood control, protection of rights

- The manifesto says BJP will provide free education to every child, make arrangements to control floods in Assam
- It further gave assurance that payments made to women under 'Orunodoo' scheme will be increased to ₹3,000 from current ₹830, and eligible residents will be empowered with land rights

BJP leader Himanta Biswa Sarma holds a roadshow, ahead of Assam Assembly polls, at Titabor in Jorhat district. PTI

### SOUTH INDIAN SWEEP!



dacunha/AB/733

### NIA offered bail, ministry for joining BJP: Activist Gogoi

**GUWAHATI, MARCH 23**

Anti-CAA activist Akhil Gogoi, in a letter from jail on Tuesday, alleged physical and mental torture in custody and claimed he was offered instant bail by NIA interrogators if he joined either the RSS or the BJP.

The accident took place around 5 am on the Gwalior-Morena road when the bus driver apparently tried to avoid hitting a person on the road, said state Transport Minister Govind Singh Rajput.

### 12 women die in auto-bus collision in MP

**GWALIOR, MARCH 23**

Twelve women and a man were killed after the auto-rickshaw they were travelling in collided with a speeding bus in Old Chawni area of Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday.

The accident took place around 5 am on the Gwalior-Morena road when the bus driver apparently tried to avoid hitting a person on the road, said state Transport Minister Govind Singh Rajput.

Were employed as cooks at anganwadi centre

The women, who worked as cooks at an 'anganwadi kendra' in Stone Park area, were returning home after work, Gwalior Collector Kaushendra Vikram Singh said. They were supposed to travel in two auto-rickshaws, but one of them was out of order, so they crammed into one vehicle, he said. While eight women and the auto-rickshaw driver died on the spot, the others succumbed to injuries in a hospital. — PTI

## Want greater role for India in peace process: Af minister

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE



Afghan Foreign Minister Haneef Atmar (L) with National Security Adviser Ajit Doval during a meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

### AFGHANISTAN VOWS TO PROTECT SIKHS, HINDUS

New Delhi: Describing the Hindus and Sikhs in Afghanistan as "proud citizenry" of his land, Afghanistan Foreign Minister Hanif Atmar said it would be the responsibility of the government to provide them protection and security. "We got to do that," he said at a press conference here. Asked about the numbers of Sikhs and Hindus in Afghanistan, he said the numbers were not known as the Census was overdue. TNS

unfortunately against India as well. So, India has a role not just in Afghanistan but with other regional and international partners," he underlined.

## Desire cordial ties, but trust imperative: Modi to Imran

**NEW DELHI, MARCH 23**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi wished his Pakistan counterpart Imran Khan on Pakistan National Day today, saying that India desired cordial ties, which could only be achieved in an environment of trust devoid of hostility, is imperative.

The PM said, "At this difficult time for humanity, I would like to convey my best wishes to you and the people of Pakistan for dealing with the challenges of the pandemic." — TNS

### IN BRIEF

#### Two sisters found dead at UP village

PILIBHIT (UP): Two teenage sisters were found dead under mysterious circumstances at Jasauli village here, the police said on Tuesday. The girls, aged 17 and 19, had gone out to answer the nature's call on Monday night, but did not return. One of them was found dead in a field, while the other was found hanging. — PTI

#### Assault Court upholds 2-year jail to AAP MLA

**NEW DELHI:** A Delhi court on Tuesday upheld an order sentencing AAP MLA Somnath Bharti to two years in jail for assaulting the AIIMS security staff in a case registered in 2016. After the pronouncement of the order, Bharti was taken into custody, a lawyer said. — PTI

## LS passes Finance Bill



Members object to incorporation of 27 changes in LIC Act

"You have done this to avoid scrutiny in Parliament. We could have looked at it separately," said Dr Amar Singh (Congress).

Replies to observations by 25 members, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman held out the hope of petrol and diesel being brought under GST. — TNS

## 'Foreigners' can apply under CAA once rules in place: Govt

**NEW DELHI, MARCH 23**

The government today said the foreigners covered under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, (CAA), 2019, might submit applications for grant of Indian citizenship after appropriate rules were notified by the Centre.

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, MoS for Home Nitayananand Rai said, "The foreigners covered under the amended Act may submit applications for grant of Indian citizenship after appropriate rules are notified by the Central Government." The minister was responding to Congress MP VK Sreekandan's question asking whether the process of granting Indian citizenship to refugees under the CAA "will begin once the process of Covid vaccination ends". — TNS

### 130 still missing in U'khand floods: MHA

citizenship after appropriate rules are notified by the Central Government." The minister was responding to Congress MP VK Sreekandan's question asking whether the process of granting Indian citizenship to refugees under the CAA "will begin once the process of Covid vaccination ends". — TNS

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## Tribute to Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Rajguru

**NEW DELHI, MARCH 23** Prime Minister Narendra Modi today led the nation in paying tribute to Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru describing their sacrifice as an inspiration for every generation of the country.

It was on this day in 1931 that the British government executed Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru. The day is marked as "Shaheed Diwas" (Martyrs' Day).

They were hanged for killing British police officer JP Saunders as an act to avenge the



BKU's Rakesh Tikait during 'Rajasthan Kisan Mahapanchayat' at Vidhyadhar Nagar Stadium in Jaipur on Tuesday. PTI

## Despite odds, India emerged stronger: PM

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday told BJP MPs that despite facing odds such as tension at borders and earthquakes during the pandemic, India had emerged stronger and the entire world realised its potential. Addressing the BJP parliamentary meeting, Modi said during Covid, there were other tensions as well, but defying all odds, India emerged stronger. — TNS