

# The Tribune

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

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**ASHWIN STARS AS INDIA THRASH ENGLAND BY 317 RUNS** **SPORT**

**CAIRN MOVES US COURT TO MAKE INDIA COUGH UP \$1.2-BN AWARD** **BUSINESS**

**LAWS TO BENEFIT SMALL FARMERS: PM** **BACK PAGE**

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WEDNESDAY | 17 FEBRUARY 2021

## Pangong pullback by Feb 24

Verification by physical visits, drones | Commanders to meet after a week

**AJAY BANERJEE**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16** India and China have started the process to physically verify each other's military positions on the Pangong Tso banks following the disengagement process that started on February 10 along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh.

"The first phase of disengagement will be a two-week process and is expected to be over between February 22 and 24," said sources, hinting that commanders of both sides could meet any time after February 24.

The verification process is being done using permissible means like physical visits as well as drones and cam-



The disengagement process is nearing completion at the Pangong lake area in eastern Ladakh. PTI

### DISMANTLING BUNKERS, HELIPADS PART OF DISENGAGEMENT

■ Pullback verification teams submitting reports to their respective commanders

■ De-induction of troops, tanks, artillery guns is going as per schedule, sources say

■ Pullback includes dismantling all infra like bunkers, helipads created after April last year

eras, sources said, adding that the de-induction of troops, tanks, artillery guns,

etc, was going as per schedule. The teams for verification on either side are sub-

mitting detailed reports to their respective commands. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

## HC relief for Muluk; Disha can meet kin

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16**

A Delhi court today allowed environmentalist Disha Ravi access to her family and lawyers and to warm clothes and books. It also directed the police to furnish a copy of the FIR to Disha's family along with a copy of the remand application.

Disha, who is in police custody till February 19 in the toolkit case, will be allowed to meet her lawyer for 30 minutes and family for 15 minutes daily.

Beed (Maharashtra)-based engineer Shantanu Muluk got 10-day relief from arrest from the Bombay High Court even as the court reserved orders until tomorrow on

Delhi cops seek info from Zoom app

### NO LAPSES IN ARREST

Disha's arrest was made as per law. The law doesn't differentiate between a 22-year-old and a 50-year-old.

SN Shrivastava, DELHI POLICE COMMISSIONER

**INDIAN MISSION'S OPEN LETTER TO BRITISH MP ON FARM STIR**

**CAN'T USE SEDITION LAW TO QUITEN DISQUIET: DELHI COURT**

**REPORTS ON WORLD, BACK PAGE**

lawyer Nikita Jacob's plea. The Delhi Police have cast the net wide and are investigating, among others, a foreigner **CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

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## ED files plaint against Hooda

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed a prosecution complaint against former Haryana CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda, four retired IAS officers and 16 others in a money laundering case linked to the allocation of over a dozen industrial plots worth more than Rs 30 crore in Panchkula in 2013. **INSIDE**

### IN BRIEF

#### 5 test +ve for S Africa, Brazil Covid variants

**CHANDIGARH:** The Centre is mulling mandatory RTPCR tests to rule out Covid in returnees from South Africa and Brazil after five persons from these nations tested positive for mutant strains. **BACK PAGE**

#### LPG cylinder up ₹50; petrol ₹99.87 in Raj

**NEW DELHI:** Petrol price soared to Rs 99.87 a litre in Rajasthan on Tuesday, the highest in the country. With a hike of Rs 50, LPG cylinder now costs Rs 769 in Delhi. — PTI

#### OTT platforms to be regulated, SC told

**NEW DELHI:** The Centre on Tuesday told the SC it was contemplating measures to regulate OTT platforms such as Netflix and Amazon Prime. **BACK PAGE**

## 45 killed as bus plunges into canal in MP's Sidhi

**SIDHI/REWA (MP), FEBRUARY 16** At least 45 persons, including 20 women, were killed when a bus skidded off the road and plunged into a canal in Madhya Pradesh's Sidhi district on Tuesday morning.

The accident took place near Patna village, 80 km from the **CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**



NDRF team carries out rescue operation in Sidhi, MP. PTI

## Bedi removed as Puducherry L-G

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16**

Hours after the Congress government lost majority in Puducherry following the resignation by an MLA, President Ram Nath Kovind removed Lieutenant-Governor Kiran Bedi and gave additional charge of the post to Telangana Governor

BJP bid to woo turncoats as Cong loses majority after another MLA quits



Tamilsai Soundararajan.

The change of guard is being seen as the ruling BJP tactic to placate turncoat Congress MLAs, some of who wanted Bedi replaced.

Local Congress leaders had long been accusing Bedi of hampering the development of Puducherry, an agenda the BJP wants addressed as **CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

## Nearly 2,800 trees to go for HP 4-laning project

**AMBIKA SHARMA**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**SOLAN, FEBRUARY 16**

As many as 2,793 trees will be axed for the Paonta Sahib-Hatkoti four-laning project as the apex court has allowed the diversion of forest land for 138 projects in the state.

The total road length is 149

km out of which 45-km stretch falls in Uttarakhand. The 104-km stretch of the road that falls in Himachal will be four-laned at a cost of Rs 1,351.62 crore.

"As many as 2,793 trees will be axed for four-laning **CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

**EDIT: SC NOD FOR HP PROJECTS**



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# Counting of votes for 116 local bodies today

Repoll at Patran & Samana booths peaceful | Micro-observers deputed at hypersensitive wards

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

With the successful conduct of the repoll at three booths of Patran and Samana municipal councils in Patiala district today, the counting of votes in seven Municipal Corporations, barring Mohali, and 109 Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats will be held tomorrow.

A total of 9,222 candidates are in the fray for 2,302 wards in the state. On February 14, a voter turnout of 71.39 per cent was recorded. The repoll in Patran and Samana MCs passed off peacefully. Officials said 87.72 per cent votes were polled at booth 11 of ward No. 8 in Patran, while 57.72 per cent turnout was witnessed at booths 22 and 23 of ward No. 11 in Samana.

EVMs were damaged at



Voters queue up to cast their vote at a polling station in Patran on Tuesday. PHOTO: RAJESH SACHAR

both places during the elections held on Sunday as unidentified persons carrying rods and sticks ransacked booths in broad daylight. While miscreants had taken away the control unit of an EVM and torn some documents in ward No 8, two EVMs were completely damaged in ward No. 11. Following this, the police registered cases against unidentified persons while the Election Commission ordered repoll in both wards.

Officials today said 366 men and 277 women voters turned out in ward No. 8 of Patran, while 609 men and 516 women cast their vote in Samana. They said the counting of votes will be carried out on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the State Election Commission said the counting of votes for Mohali

would take place on February 18 after repolling in two booths was ordered post reports of irregularities. The polling will be held tomorrow.

The commission had received a report from Sub Divisional Magistrate-cum-Retiring Officers (RO), Mohali, through the Deputy Commissioner-cum-District Election Officer, SAS Nagar, of irregularities during polling and a request regarding repolling in booth No 32 and 33 of ward No 10. The PSEC on Tuesday also ordered deputy commissioners to appoint micro observers for vote counting of sensitive and hypersensitive wards.

On the counting of votes, the Commission ordered to depute IAS, PCS or other senior officials as micro observers in sensitive and hypersensitive wards.

# Oppn crying foul in face of defeat: Capt

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh has termed the allegations of the BJP and AAP on rigging of the civic polls a typical case of crying foul in the face of their imminent defeat in the elections, the results of which will be announced on Wednesday.

"It's a panic reaction to their inevitable wipeout in these polls," said the Chief Minister, adding that the BJP and AAP, as well as the SAD, were all set to be completely trounced in these municipal polls as these parties had lost the trust of the people of Punjab.

Captain Amarinder alleged all these parties had worked together to ruin Punjab, with the black farm laws the latest in the long line of their anti-people and anti-Punjab actions. He added that the shock of their total rejection had unnerved their leaderships, who are desperately seeking refuge in lies and excuses to cover up their impending failure.

Urging the Opposition parties to stop whining and start introspecting on their policies and programmes, he alleged as in the case of the Republic Day violence in Delhi, violence in the municipal council polls were the handiwork of the BJP and AAP working in collusion to seize the polls by hook or by crook.

Ridiculing BJP's Tarun Chugh over his remarks that the people of Punjab were living in terror and fear, Captain Amarinder said the people of

## THEY'LL BE REJECTED

“Why will my government or my party try to sabotage an election that we are clearly winning? The results will show Punjab's rejection of anti-people policies & actions of Opposition parties.

Capt Amarinder Singh, CM



the whole country were, in fact, living under the dread of the tyrannical central government, which had given up even the pretense of being a democratic regime. "The BJP-led government at the Centre has become so despotic that it cannot tolerate the minimum of dissent, even on social media, which is why they probably believe that other parties are also running repressive regimes where ever they are in power, he added. The Congress has always upheld the Constitutional principles of democracy and the freedom of the citizens, and continues to do so in Punjab and other states where it is ruling, he said.

As for Arvind Kejriwal's AAP, that party was nothing more than a tool of the BJP to spread misinformation, and promote its anti-people agenda, said the Chief Minister, adding that the lies of these parties were clearly motivated by their petty political agenda.

## Cong MLA's aide booked for attack on AAP men

TARN TARAN, FEBRUARY 16

The Patti police have booked Lakhbir Singh, alias Kala of Kirtowal, a close aide of MLA Harminder Singh Gill, and four Congressmen for allegedly attacking AAP workers during polling on Sunday.

A case under Section 307, 148 and 149 of the IPC, and Sections 25, 27, 54 and 59 of the Arms Act was registered on Monday after a video that had gone viral.

Manbir Singh, AAP worker of Bhikhiwind, claimed that he received bullet injuries.

AAP leader Laljit Singh Bhullar was also allegedly tortured and was admitted to a hospital in Amritsar.

The police, in the FIR, had written that Manbir was not ready to record his statement. Dhruvan H Nimbale, SSP, has denied any incident of firing in Patti. The police have not arrested any accused yet. — OC

## Cabinet to discuss Budget session on Feb 19

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh has convened a Cabinet meeting on February 19 to decided upon the schedule of the Budget session, which will be held in March.

A senior government functionary said though the Budget session had been planned from March 1 to March 10, the final decision would be taken by the Cabinet. Being the last Budget for the Congress government that would be facing the state Assembly polls early next year, a lot of announce-

### TAKE UP CONTRACT FARMING ACT IN HOUSE

“I will request the CM to discuss the Contract Farming Act, 2013, during the Budget session to expose the SAD and BJP. If need be, the Act should be repealed.

Sunil Jakhar, PCC President



ment related to unfulfilled promises made in the 2017 Assembly elections and fresh populist measures are expected to be made.

With the farmers' agitation against the farm laws still con-

tinuing, the Congress government will again bring the state amendment Bills to negate the central Acts as the Governor had failed to send the earlier Bills to the President.

In a special session held in

## Fazilka villagers, traders oppose proposal to set up liquor unit

OUR CORRESPONDENT

FAZILKA, FEBRUARY 16

Traders have also joined the agitation started by residents and farmers against the setting up of a liquor unit in Fazilka.

Ashok Gulbadhar, president, Beopar Mandal, Fazilka, said they had shot off a letter to the Chief Minister through the Deputy Commissioner to shelve the proposal of setting up a liquor unit in Heeranwali village which could cause



BJP leader Surjit Kumar Jyani and others hold a dharna in Fazilka.

pollution and health hazards for residents.

The dharna entered the second day today. The protesters blocked the Fazilka-Abohar highway near Hiranwali Maur.

Farmer Manoj Jhinja said the Bar Association, Arhtiya Association and Pesticide Dealers' Association had expressed their solidarity with the protesting villagers.

Former BJP Health Minister Surjit Kumar Jyani and AAP leader Arun Wadhwa sat on the dharna with the farmers today.

## Back from stir, Moga farmer dies at hospital

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MOGA, FEBRUARY 16

A farmer from Moga district, who suffered uneasiness due to cold weather conditions, died while undergoing treatment at a hospital, officials of the district administration said today. The deceased has been identified as Jagdev Singh, alias Jagga (52), a resident of Kotla Meher Singh Wala in Bagha-purana subdivision of Moga.

He had joined the dharna a few weeks back. A couple of

### Was unwell due to exposure to cold

days ago, he suffered uneasiness due to high blood pressure. Villagers brought him back and got him admitted to a hospital in Bathinda where he died late last night. Jagdev was not a member of any farm or labour organisation. He was an independent farmer and gone to the protest site along with other residents of his village.

## Rlys cancels, diverts trains for tomorrow's 'rail roko'

MOGA, FEBRUARY 16

The farmer unions' call for the 'rail roko' on Thursday has forced the Railways to either cancel or divert several trains in the northern part of the country.

The Northern Railway has cancelled the Darbhanga-Amritsar Express Special till February 17. The Nanded-Amritsar Express will short-terminate at Chandigarh. On February 19, it will short-originate from Chandigarh and remain partially cancelled between Chandigarh-Amritsar.

The Korba-Amritsar Express will short-terminate at Ambala. Consequently, on February 19, it will short-originate from Ambala and remain partially cancelled between Ambala-Amritsar.

The Ajmer-Amritsar Express will short-terminate at Jalandhar city. On February 18, it will short-originate from Jalandhar city and remain partially cancelled between Jalandhar city-Amritsar.

The Mumbai Central-Amritsar, Bandra Terminus-



### COVID-HIT SERVICES TO RESUME SOON

■ The Northern Railway has announced to resume regular services of 35 pairs of trains, which were hit by Covid and farmers' agitation, in the region soon. A railway official said five pairs would commence their normal run in a couple of days

■ The proposed unreserved mail/express trains would run between Udhampur-Pathankot; Pathankot-Joginder Nagar-Pathankot; Ferozepur-Bathinda-Ferozepur; Amritsar-Pathankot-Amritsar; and Banihal-Baramulla-Banihal

Amritsar, Jaynagar-Amritsar Express Special trains on February 17 will be diverted to run via Beas-Tarn Taran-Amritsar. The New Jalpaiguri-Amritsar and Amritsar-Haridwar Express Special will be also diverted to run via Beas-Tarn Taran-Amritsar on February 17. Meanwhile, in its efforts to

restore the train movement post Covid-induced lockdown and the farmers' blockade last year in a phased manner, the Northern Railway has announced to resume regular services of 35 pairs of passenger, express and mail trains in the region soon. — TNS

## No help from unions: Deceased's grandad

JALANDHAR, FEBRUARY 16

Hardip Singh Dibdiba, grandfather of Navreet Singh who died riding a tractor on January 26 in New Delhi, today said farmer unions should own up those who were part of the agitation and became victims of the 'state-sponsored violence'.

Addressing a press conference accompanied by MLA Sukhpal Khaira here, Hardip Singh said, "I do not want to demoralise the union leaders but they must do some course correction and move forward. They have to learn lessons from the consequences of events and only then they can become strong. They must fight for the release of activist Nodeep Kaur. They must support people like Deep Sidhu and Lakha Sidhana."

He said, "These people had joined the agitation at their call. So what if our children stepped a little ahead during the agitation? They must understand that the crowd that moved towards Delhi had no one to guide them. If they come out now and support their own teams against the Centre's propaganda, victory will be of farmers."

Hardip Singh alleged his grandson had been gunned down. "Even that day, there was no claimant for Navreet's body. When I



### YET TO RESPOND

“No one from the farmer unions contacted me till his bhog. A day after he died, I called up two union leaders, they did not take my call... there is no response from them even till today.

Hardip S Dibdiba, NAVREET'S GRANDFATHER

reached there, people asked me what should be done. I said Navreet was a part of the agitation and his body is the property of agitation, so they should decide but no one from the union came forward", he said. Khaira said, "Soon we will form an action committee to take up cases of all victims of agitation. Their families need our support. Nineteen protesters are still missing. We need to work for them too." — TNS

## 2 die in Sangrur after consuming spirit

SANGRUR, FEBRUARY 16

Two waiters died during the past 24 hours in Sunam after allegedly consuming spirit they had stolen from a wedding ceremony while another one is stated to be out of danger.

As per information, three persons, who worked as waiters, allegedly stole a bottle of spirit during a marriage in

### Not a case of spurious liquor, say police

Jakhepal village.

"The waiters consumed it on Sunday leading to the death of Karm Singh and Kesar Singh last night. But neither their families nor their friends informed us and cremated

both bodies in the morning. After getting information, we reached their colony but they are not willing to share any information," said Manjit Kaur, Subdivisional Magistrate, Sunam. "It's not a case of spurious liquor as the two died after consuming spirit. Further investigations are on," said Vivek Sheel Soni, SSP, Sangrur. — TNS

## Civic bodies, PRIs seek more financial powers

RUCHIKA M KHANNA

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

The urban local bodies (ULBs) and panchayat raj institutions (PRIs) need to be empowered financially and through building their capacities. The Punjab Government should give the local bodies their due share in taxes and allow these to raise their own too.

These should be allowed to expand their tax base for collecting property tax and explore options for collecting pollution tax, sanitation tax and advertisement tax.

Considering that the state's own tax net is shrinking post GST roll-out, the only way forward will be expanding the tax net, imposing new taxes and cutting down on expenditure.

These are the suggestions given by representatives of

### THREE PROVISIONS

- First, via share of net taxes collected by the state (4 per cent is to be given) — 70% rural areas and 30% urban bodies
- Second, the assignment of certain taxes in part or whole
- Finally, the widening of the tax base of these bodies themselves

various local bodies to the Sixth Punjab Finance Commission, headed by former Chief Secretary KR Lakhnopal.

The commission is considering these suggestions so as to strengthen the local bodies and make these entities, said Lakhnopal, in an interview with *The Tribune* here today.

"We are not restricting our scope to giving the ULBs and PRIs grants, which may be larger than what was previously given by the other commissions. What is more important is what is happening to the growth trajectory of the state government

and in turn how it is affecting the PRIs and ULBs. Thus, we are talking to all stakeholders, especially after the report of the Union Finance Commission is released. We know about the grants Punjab will get, after the recommendations of the Sixth Pay Commission are received and action taken on the recommendations of the pay commission," he said, adding that it was because of the delay in submission of these two reports that they would take a few more months before they submit their own report. Lakhnopal told *The Tri-*

bune that mere transfer of resources to these bodies would be of little avail unless the structural issues faced by these are sorted out. Most important structural issue is the political consensus between all political parties on whether they intend to make these bodies self-governing entities.

"This cannot come from bureaucrats or commissions. Because the principle of this is very sanguine — the principle is that the government should be closer to the people. That is why you need to make these local and rural governments powerful - financially and capacity wise," he said.

The chairman said barring Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Telangana, West Bengal, Gujarat and Maharashtra, other states have failed to build up strong ULBs and PRIs.



Farmers protest at Ghazipur border on Tuesday. MANAS RANJAN BHUI

## Kavi sammelan at Ghazipur planned

GHAZIPUR, FEBRUARY 16

As fatigue takes a toll on farmers who have been protesting here for the past 83 days, the Kisan Andolan Committee has decided to up its game to enthuse the crowd once a week. It plans to hold 'kavi sammelan' and 'mushaira' to boost the morale of protesters. "We have to hold such events to retain the interest

of the youth. We are in the process of organising a 'kavi sammelan'. We will make an announcement once the dates are decided," Jagtar Singh Bajwa, member, Kisan Andolan Committee, Ghazipur, said.

The protest site wears a deserted look whenever Rakesh Tikait is travelling for a kisan panchayat. — TNS



# Pak allows Nankana Sahib jatha to visit other shrines

**MASSACRE CENTENARY** Pilgrims to leave tomorrow for 8-day visit

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, FEBRUARY 16

The Pakistan government has allowed 505 pilgrims, visiting Nankana Sahib to commemorate the massacre centenary, to visit other prominent Sikh shrines in the country too.

Sponsored by the SGPC, the jatha, led by Akal Takht officiating Jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh, will cross the Attari-Wagah border on February 18 and head to Janam Asthan, Nankana Sahib.

Earlier, the jatha was allowed to celebrate the 551st birth anniversary of Guru Nanak Dev, but their movement was restricted to Sri Nankana Sahib only in the wake of Covid threat.

The Covid screening report has been made mandatory. The SGPC had conducted a two-day special Covid testing camp that



## THE SCHEDULE

<b>Feb 18</b>	Janam Asthan, Nankana Sahib
<b>Feb 19</b>	Gurdwara Sacha Sauda, Farooqabad
<b>Feb 21</b>	Main event at Nankana Sahib
<b>Feb 22</b>	Gurdwara Panja Sahib, Hasan Abdal
<b>Feb 23</b>	Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore
<b>Feb 24</b>	Kartarpur Sahib & Rori Sahib, Gujranwala
<b>Feb 25</b>	Back through Attari-Wagah border

concluded on its premises here today. Various “gurmat” programmes have been scheduled in Pakistan.

As per the eight-day programme, the jatha will visit Gurdwara Sacha Sauda, Farooqabad, on February

19. The main event will be held at Nankana Sahib on February 21. The following day, they will visit Gurdwara Sri Panja Sahib in Hasan Abdal; Gurdwara Dera Sahib, Lahore, on February 23, where dinner will be hosted at the Governor's House. On February 24, they will visit Gurdwara Sri Kartarpur Sahib and Rori Sahib, Gujranwala, and come back to Lahore. On February 25, the jatha will return through Attari-Wagah JCP.

The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), too, will commemorate the occasion under the leadership of its president Bibi Jagir Kaur. The event will be held at Godharpur village in Gurdaspur district, which is associated with the kin of Shaheed Bhai Lachhman Singh Dharowali, martyr of Nankana Sahib a century ago.

## Saini's bail plea rejected

FARIDKOT, FEBRUARY 16

The District and Sessions Judge here today adjourned the hearing in the anticipatory bail of former DGP Sumedh Singh Saini to February 23.

Saini approached the court to seek bail to evade likely arrest. The court has summoned the ex-DGP on February 18 after the SIT, probing the Kotkapura and Behbal Kalan police firing incident on October 14, 2015, had filed a chargesheet against him here on January 18. Saini has been chargesheeted in an attempt-to-murder case. Saini has also approached the court for inspection and to seek the copy of the chargesheet. As the public prosecutor, on behalf of SIT, is opposing the inspection and the copy of the chargesheet until the former DGP appears before the court, the decision on his application has also been adjourned to February 18. — TNS



Sumedh Singh Saini

## Cong MLA 'abuses' tailor, audio clip viral

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MUKTSAR, FEBRUARY 16

Congress MLA from Gidderbaha Amrinder Singh Raja Warring has courted a controversy as his alleged audio clip of abusing and threatening a Muktsar-based tailor has gone viral on the social media.

Manpreet Singh, a leading tailor of Muktsar town, said: “I stitched some clothes for Warring in the past two-three years. When I asked for the charges of Rs 27,000 from his personal assistant and refused to stitch more clothes, Warring abused me over the phone. Though he threatened me, he made the payment by sending his gunmen. The matter is resolved now. I don't know how the audio clip went viral.”

Speaking over the phone, Warring said: “I paid him Rs 27,000 last month. I have the bills. But I am surprised how this audio clip went viral now. Like always, Sukhbir Singh Badal is behind this controversy. The tailor did not even demand money when I last visited his showroom along with a

HITS OUT AT SUKHBIR

“I paid the tailor ₹27,000 last month. I have the bills. But I am surprised how this audio clip went viral now. Like always, Sukhbir Badal is behind this controversy”

Amrinder Singh Raja Warring, GIDDERBAHA MLA



relative. Later, he returned some unstitched clothes. Thereafter, he made the audio viral.” He added, “When he insulted me, I too used some harsh words. I am a human first and an MLA later. We know each other for the past around 20 years. Now, I publicly say that if I am yet to pay money to anyone, he/she can come to my office with the proof. I don't want any controversy.”

Famous for special fitting of “Muktsati kurta pyjama”, the tailor's list of customers includes Capt Amarinder Singh, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, Sukhbir Badal, Atul Nanda, Rana Gurjit Singh besides some actors and singers.

## Security up as bullet shells found in Afghan shipment

Officials say packed along with herbs accidentally | Automated truck scanner not fully operational

GS PAUL

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMRITSAR, FEBRUARY 16

The vigil at the integrated check post (ICP) has been tightened after empty bullet shells were found in a consignment of herbs brought from Afghanistan through Attari-Wagah border on Sunday.

The Customs and BSF were immediately put on alert, but preliminary inquiry pointed out that it was an accidental

development.

Officials said around 15 shells were found in a truck loaded with “Kakra Singhi” herb, which is used in preparation of ayurvedic medicines for cough, fever, vomiting and diarrhoea, found in Afghanistan.

During a random check, three empty fire shells were found in the consignment that arrived on February 14. Upon thorough search, 12 more were found.

## WORN OUT, RUSTY

“The Kakra Singhi herb is found in Kandhar, hideout of anti-social activists. It's dug out with lot of waste. These bullet cases, totally worn out and rusty, must have accidentally been carried along. — An official

“The Kakra Singhi herb is found in dense forest area of Kandhar, notorious for hide-

out of anti-social and terrorist activists. This herb is dug out with lot of waste, including sand and stones. These bullet shells must have accidentally been carried along and were packed in the sack as it is. These were totally worn out and rusty,” said an official.

Nonetheless, citing the seizure of 32-kg gold bars from an apple-laden truck coming from Afghanistan in December 2018, an official said this incident has put the

security agencies on toes.

The automated full body truck scanner worth Rs 23 crore has been hanging in balance since March 2017 when it was announced by then Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiran Rijiju. The rummaging of goods' truck is done manually by the Customs with the help of sniffer dog squad.

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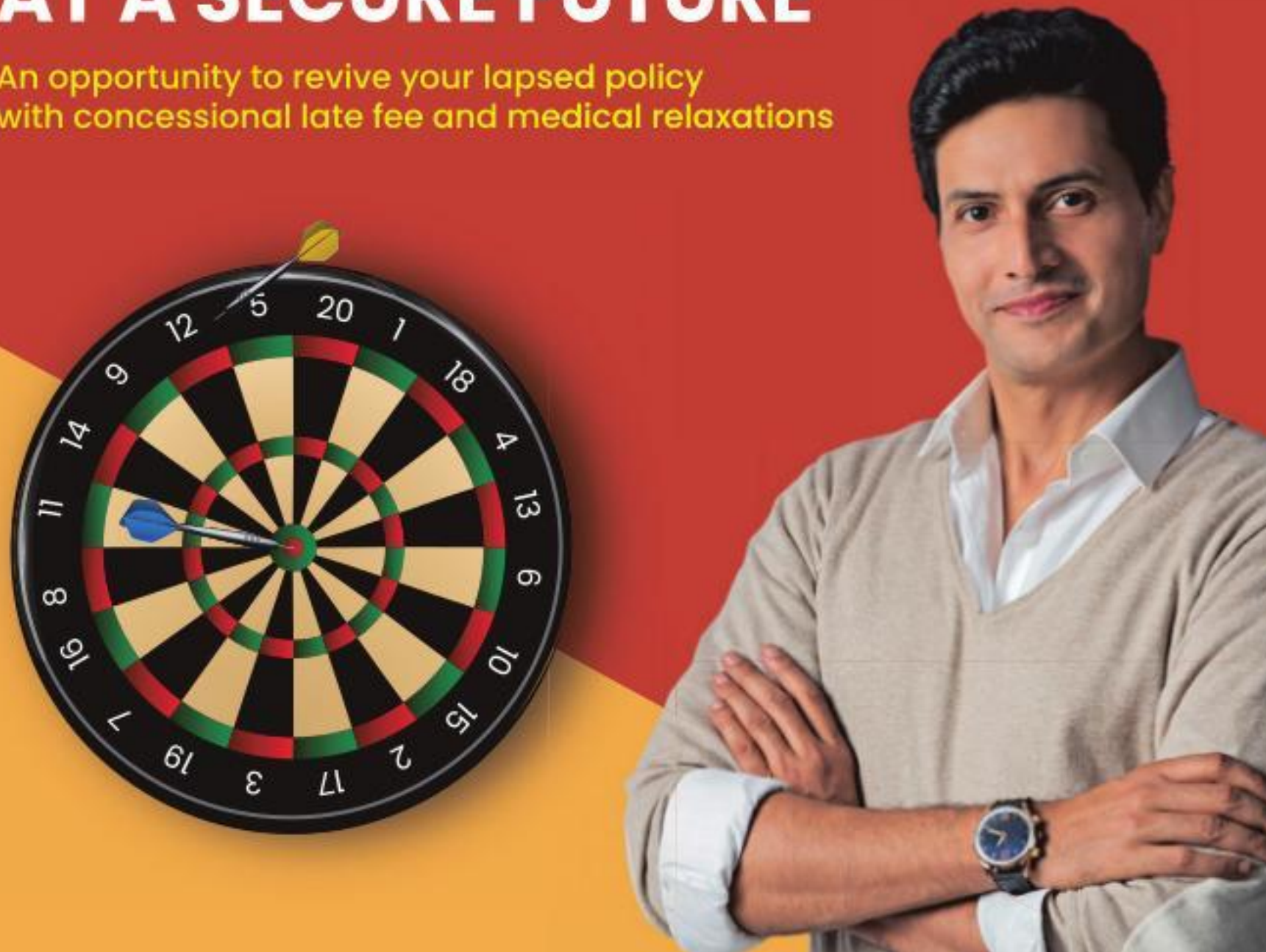


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# Why not nail probe officers for corruption: HC to Ropar SSP

SAURABH MALIK  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has asked the Ropar SSP to explain why an FIR should not be registered against the investigating or other officers concerned under the Prevention of Corruption Act for favouring three accused and not arresting them.

Justice Arvind Singh Sangwan asserted that the arrests were not made despite the fact that the anticipatory bail was dismissed up to the High Court. Besides, two inquiries, conducted on the representation given by one of the accused, were dismissed by senior police officers. It demonstrated that the investigating/other officers were well aware of all facts, yet failed to arrest the accused.

For the purpose of filing the affidavit, Justice Sangwan set a 10-day deadline. "It is made clear that if the affidavit is not filed, the SSP will remain present in the court on the next date of



POLICE FAILED TO ARREST ACCUSED

Justice Arvind Singh Sangwan asserted that arrests were not made despite the fact that the anticipatory bail was dismissed up to the High Court. Besides, two inquiries, conducted on the representation given by one of the accused, were dismissed by senior police officers. It demonstrated that the investigating/other officers were well aware of all facts, yet failed to arrest the accused.

hearing," Justice Sangwan asserted, while fixing the case for further hearing in February last week.

The directions came on a petition filed by Gurcharan Singh against the State of Punjab and other respondents for taking strict action against the accused named in the FIR registered on July 5, 2019, for outraging the religious feelings, wrongful restraint, criminal intimidation and

other offences under Sections 295-A, 355, 341, 323, 506 and 34, IPC. The Bench was told that the accused were roaming freely and not being arrested despite committing heinous crime.

The counsel for the petitioner submitted that a respondent-accused got an FIR registered on July 7, 2020, against the petitioner. It showed that respondent-accused came to the police station for the FIR registra-

tion. But he was not arrested despite dismissal of the anticipatory bail application by the High Court.

After hearing arguments and going through the documents, Justice Sangwan referred to an affidavit which said the anticipatory bail of the accused was dismissed by an Additional Sessions Judge. A representation by a respondent-accused to the police was also dismissed after an inquiry. It was also stated that the respondent-accused filed anticipatory bail applications, which were also dismissed by the High Court.

Justice Sangwan asserted: "Surprisingly, after all efforts made by the respondents-accused to evade arrest, the investigating officers now came to their rescue and instead of arresting them, issued a notice under Section 41-A, CrPC, directing them to join the investigation. This procedure adopted by the investigating officers/concerned officer(s) called for an explanation by the SSP..."

## High Court begins monitoring cases against MPs, MLAs

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

Pursuant to an order passed by the Supreme Court, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has initiated the process of monitoring the progress of cases pending against MPs and MLAs. It has, to begin with, appointed amicus curiae in the matter.

The Union of India and the Chandigarh Administration have also assured the Bench of Justice Rajan Gupta and Justice Karamjit Singh of assistance. The Bench asserted that each HC would register a suo motu case with the title "In Re: Special Courts for MPs/MLAs" to monitor the progress of cases. The writ petition would be heard by a division Bench to be constituted by the Chief Justice. A senior advocate would be appointed as amicus curiae and the state would be represented by the Advocate-General or an Additional Advocate-General.

A police officer of rank not below the IGP would be present in the court on each hearing to furnish requisite information. Each special court would send a monthly status report to the HC, which would issue directions to ensure speedy disposal of cases. — TNS

## Finish works by March 31 or face action, GMC officials told

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

PATIALA, FEBRUARY 16

Medical Education Minister OP Soni today directed the authorities of the Government Medical College (GMC) to finish the ongoing developmental works in time or face action.

The minister issued the warning to all the officials concerned of the Public Works Department (PWD), Punjab Health System Corporation (PSHC) and other departments.

Soni reminded the authorities of the March 31 deadline to complete all the ongoing works. He said, "I will visit the college a day or two before the deadline, and if I find any work incomplete, the official concerned will face the consequences."

In the meeting with the stakeholders, the minister said the Chief Minister wanted to bring back the lost sheen of the GMC and Government Rajindra Hospital. Therefore, no laxity would be tolerated.

When *The Tribune* inspected a few ongoing



Medical Education Minister OP Soni during a meeting in Patiala.

### CLERICAL STAFF PROTEST, LOCK MAIN GATE

Following a protest by the clerical staff at the entry gate of the medical college, OP Soni was 'miffed' with the authorities for not handling them well. The protesters reportedly locked the main gate as a mark of protest. The Patiala police, led by SP Hundal, intervened and helped the minister enter the college from another gate.

developmental works at the GMC on Tuesday, it found that nothing substantial had changed on the ground since the minister's last visit on December 22.

The new multi-storey institute building, which was lying non-functional for around three years, is still at the same stage. The minister said, "The work is on. We have given

six months to complete the building."

Dr Rajan Singla, principal, GMC, said, "The deadline is for minor renovation works at the college and hospital. The big developmental works, including the institute building and multi-level parking at the Rajindra hospital, will take time because there are no funds to speed up the work."

## Result of service selection board exam declared

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

The Subordinate Services Selection Board, Punjab, today uploaded the result of the written test conducted on January 31 to fill the vacancies of Assistant Superintendent.

This was stated by Raman Behl, chairman, Subordinate Services Selection Board, Punjab. He said he hoped that the successful candidates would be ready for the next phase of the recruitment process (physical aptitude test). The dates for the aptitude test would be announced soon, Behl said. He said further action was being taken under the recruitment drive launched by the board to recruit district collector, canal revenue patwari and junior draftsman. — TNS

## Road fatalities drop by 15% in 2020

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16

Punjab witnessed a significant decline of 15 per cent in road accident fatalities and 18 per cent reduction in road accidents in 2020 as compared to the previous year, DGP Punjab Dinkar Gupta said here today.

As per data, a total of 5,194 accidents were registered in 2020 while 3,866 people lost their lives in road accidents in the same year.

DGP Gupta said during the ongoing Road Safety Month (January 18 to February 17, 2021), the Punjab Police organised 521 road safety camps and 542 road safety seminars besides holding 152 awareness rallies across the state, and sensitised around 1.33 lakh students from schools and

18% reduction in mishaps as compared to 2019



3,866 people were killed in road accidents last year. FILE PHOTO

colleges and 1.28 lakh citizens about road safety and traffic rules.

He said considering road safety as a major concern, the police were leaving no

stone unturned to make the roads safer for commuters.

DGP Gupta said a pilot project 'Accident Resolution Team- ART' was initiated in Patiala district

under which teams led by the Station House Officer (SHO) visited and inspected the black spots in their respective jurisdictions. The Patiala police formulated 25 such ARTs and as many as 20 rectifications have already been realised, mostly on the Patiala-Sirhind road, resulting in a remarkable decline in the accident rate.

A standard operating procedure to prevent deaths due to stray animals had been formulated by the police and cattle accident black spots were also being identified, said the DGP, adding that 25 such black spots, mostly in the Malwa belt, had been earmarked and reflective tapes were being tied around the necks of stray cattle to avert accidents.

## Chinese kite string injures kid in Bathinda

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

BATHINDA, FEBRUARY 16

A Chinese kite string caused grievous cuts on the neck and thumb of a six-year-old kid in the Basant Vihar area of the city on Monday.

The victim has been identified as Yuvan, alias Yuvi. Ashish Bansal, relative of the victim, said, "My nephew was standing outside his home when a Chinese string got entangled in his neck. By the time the family members

### Sale on despite ban

came to know about it, the string had already injured him on the neck. He was immediately taken to a private hospital, where he got 25 stitches and underwent a one-hour operation."

The district administration had banned the sale and storage of China-made metal and zinc-laced strings, but in the absence of proper checks by the authorities, shopkeepers openly sell these. Several raids have been conducted in the past and stocks seized, but in vain. Notably, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) had also imposed a complete ban on the sale, storage, production and transportation of Chinese string, which is often used for flying kites.

## Illegal constructions continue in Sangrur, dept to submit report

PARVESH SHARMA  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SANGRUR, FEBRUARY 16

The ineffectiveness of orders of senior authorities of the Local Government Department can be gauged from fact that 16 months after the order to maintain status quo, construction of many illegal buildings is still going on.

A team of the department conducted an inspection of illegal buildings on Thursday, but locals do not have any hope as earlier, a team of the vigilance wing of the department had inspected the same buildings but failed to stop the construction.

"On the directions of senior authorities, we have inspected 14 buildings being constructed without the approval of building plans. We have sought records from the Sangrur Nagar Council (NC). We will submit a detailed report to our seniors," said Avtar Singh, municipal engineer of the Ahmedgarh NC.

As per sources, on September 11, 2019, during a meeting in Chandigarh, it had come to light that the construction of 14 buildings was going on in violation of building bylaws and master plan in the municipal limits of Sangrur. Senior authorities had directed the Sangrur NC authorities to pre-

“On the directions of senior authorities, we inspected 14 buildings being constructed without the approval of building plans. We have sought records from the Sangrur Nagar Council. We will submit a detailed report to our seniors.

Avtar Singh, ENGINEER, AHMEDGARH NC

vent more construction of these illegal buildings and maintain the status quo.

"It's all happening with the connivance of NC officials and politicians. The owners of these illegal buildings have been constructing their buildings at a fast pace after paying huge bribes to the officers concerned. We will start a protest for the demolition of these buildings," said Avtar Singh, AAP leader from Sangrur.

EO of Sangrur NC Ramesh Kumar said a special team of his department had inspected the illegal buildings and sought records from his office. "We have been trying to maintain status quo and also filed cases in the court," he said.

## ₹10-crore heroin recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT

FAZILKA, FEBRUARY 16

In a joint operation, personnel of the Border Security Force and the Punjab Police seized 2 kg of contraband, suspected to be

heroin, worth about Rs 10 crore, from a farm in BOP Gatti of Fazilka district this morning.

The contraband, packed in socks, was lying in the fields of Balwant Singh Teja in Rohela village.

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Rajinder Singh Father  
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## HC notice to Centre over blocking of NHs

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16 The Punjab and Haryana High Court today issued notice of motion to the Union of India and other respondents on a petition seeking action against persons who had dug up NHs and other roads following the farmers' agitation.

The petitioner submitted that the persons had intentionally blocked highways and the roads by putting nails, barricades and other "iron and allied items". Directions were sought to the Delhi DGP to remove obstacles created by its force. A judicial inquiry in the matter was prayed for.

The matter was brought to the court's notice by Ravinder Singh Bassi for issuance of directions for "opening" NHs blocked and obstructed by the Delhi Police. Among other things, the petitioner contended that NHs could not be blocked. Appearing before the Bench, the petitioner referred to provisions of the National Highways Act, 1956, in support of his contentions. Taking up the matter, Justice GS Sandhawalia fixed March 15 as the next date of hearing.

## Tikait pushes for 'farm cabinet'

SUNIT DHAWAN  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, FEBRUARY 16 Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) national spokesperson Rakesh Tikait on Tuesday demanded the creation of an 'agriculture cabinet' for addressing the concerns of farmers effectively.

Addressing the gathering at a farmers' mahapanchayat on Sir Chhotu Ram's birth anniversary at his memorial in Sampla, Tikait said several ministries and departments were looking after the farm sector.

"There is no agriculture ministry or minister in the country. The minister we are talking to has only 18 per cent charge of agriculture while the rest is being taken care of by other ministries," he stated.

Pointing to dismantling of the mandi regime, Tikait remarked that agriculture-related laws enacted during the tenure of Sir Chhotu Ram were now being "broken" in his state.

"The MSP regime brought prosperity to farmers in Punjab and Haryana. Farmers in Uttar Pradesh come to Haryana



BKU leader Rakesh Tikait addresses a mahapanchayat at Garhi Sampla village in Rohtak. TRIBUNE PHOTO

NO AGRICULTURE MINISTRY, MINISTER IN COUNTRY

There is no agriculture ministry in the country. The minister we are talking to has only 18% charge of agriculture while the rest is being taken care of by other ministries. Rakesh Tikait, BKU LEADER

MAHAPANCHAYAT CALLS FOR COMPLETE 'RAIL ROKO'

A mahapanchayat organised under the aegis of the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Samiti at Mohana village in Sonapat on Tuesday resolved not to allow the Railway authorities to run trains on February 18.

Protesters will assemble at the Sonapat railway station on

February 18 and sit on railway tracks between 12 noon and 4 pm," said samiti leader Ishwar Singh Rathni. He said the protest would be peaceful.

Rathni said residents of 40 villages attended the mahapanchayat and extended support to the farmers' agitation. TNS

TRIBUTES TO CHHOTU RAM

Farmers paid floral tributes to Sir Chhotu Ram in Kamal on Tuesday. They garlanded his statue. Later, they proceeded to the Bastara toll plaza and chalked out their strategy for the 'rail roko'. Farmer leaders visited villages to garner support for the protest on February 18. TNS

to sell their produce, but this practice has been stopped by the government," he maintained. He exhorted farmers to stay united and appreciated the contribution of members of the Sikh community to the agitation. He said farmers' panchayats would also be organised in West Bengal, Maharashtra,

## Mahapanchayats cancelled in Pb

RAVINDER SAINI  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SONEPAT, FEBRUARY 16 The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) on Tuesday decided to cancel all conferences and mahapanchayats announced by various farm organisations in Punjab in the days to come. Its leaders asserted that ensuring the success of their 'rail roko' on Thursday was their priority.

The decision to cancel conferences and mahapanchayats was taken at a meeting of 32 farm organisations at the Singhu border to chalk out their strategy for further strengthening the agitation. The decision was announced by SKM leaders during a press conference on Tuesday evening.

"There is no need for conferences and mahapanchayats in Punjab at this stage. All 32 organisations from Punjab have unanimously decided to cancel all conferences and mahapanchayats. We have decided to concentrate on making the 'rail roko' successful and raising

## Child succumbs in Rohtak akhara shooting case

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

ROHTAK, FEBRUARY 16 The death toll in the multiple murder which took place at a Rohtak 'akhara' on Friday evening rose to six on Tuesday with Sartaj, a four-year-old boy who was among those shot at allegedly by a wrestling coach, succumbing to his injuries at the local PGIMS.

The boy, who had been shot in the head, was kept on ventilator support at PICU for three days, but his life could not be saved. Sartaj's parents — wrestling coach Manoj Malik and Railways official Sakshi — were gunned down in the multiple murder.

Wrestling coach Satish and wrestlers Pooja and Pradeep were also killed while another coach Amarjit was injured in the incident. The prime accused in the case, wrestling coach Sukhwinder, was arrested in a joint operation by the Delhi Police and Rohtak police in Delhi on Saturday.

"He has been brought to Rohtak on production warrant. He was produced before a local court, which remanded him in police custody for four days," said DSP (Sampla) Narender Kadyan.

## ED frames charges against Hooda in plot scam

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16 The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed a prosecution complaint (PC) against former Haryana CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda, four retired IAS officers and 16 others in a money laundering case linked to the allocation of over a dozen industrial plots worth more than Rs 30 crore in Panchkula in 2013.

4 ret'd IAS officers, 16 others also named as accused

DID NOTHING WRONG

The matter is sub judice. I have full faith in judiciary. Nothing wrong was done. The truth will come out. Bhupinder Hooda, FORMER CM

The PC has been filed before a special PMLA court in Panchkula under Sections 3 (money laundering), 4 (punishment for money laundering), 44 (offences to

be tried by special courts), 45 (offences to be cognisable and non-bailable) and 70 (offences by companies) of the PMLA.

The case dates back to

2011-12 when Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda was the Chief Minister and Chairman of HUDA.

The plots, located at Industrial Area, Phase-I, Panchkula, were offered between Rs 31.74 lakh and Rs 64 lakh. The ED said the plots were allotted to "acquaintances of the then CM".

The Haryana Vigilance Bureau filed a case in 2015 and subsequently, the CBI and the ED filed their respective cases.

## Bail granted to DIG

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

AMBALA, FEBRUARY 16 Anticipatory bail was granted to DIG Ashok Kumar by the court of Additional Sessions Judge Sundeep Singh on Tuesday. He has been booked in a case of voluntarily causing

hurt, obscene act and criminal intimidation, on the complaint of Home Minister Anil Vij's brother Kapil Vij.

DIG's advocate Satinder Singh Garg said: "The anticipatory bail of Ashok Kumar has been approved by the court on Tuesday."

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MX	23/03/2021	30/03/2021

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Empanelment of Skill Training Providers under DAY- NULM

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Palika Bhawan, Talland

Shimla - Himachal Pradesh

E-mail: [himachal.sulm@gmail.com](mailto:himachal.sulm@gmail.com) Website: [www.ud-hp.in](http://www.ud-hp.in)

No. UD-HF(2)-2/19-NULM-Empanelment (STPs)- Date : 18.02.2021

Request for proposal is invited from reputed Firms/Institutes/Agencies for placement linked Skill Development Trainings under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojna - National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM). Detailed document and terms and conditions may be downloaded from website <https://hptenders.gov.in>.

Last date for submission of proposals online on the prescribed proforma is 05.03.2021 by 05:00 PM.

(R. K. Gautam), Director (UD)-cum State Mission Director (DAY-NULM) Himachal Pradesh

DPR/HP/746

Govt. P.G. College Education Society (GPGCES) Rajgarh Road Solan Distt. Solan (HP)

WALK-IN-INTERVIEW on 24-02-2021 (ACADEMIC SESSION 2021-22)

Govt. P.G. College Education Society Solan invites the interested and eligible candidates for Walk-in-Interview (dt. 24 -02-2021) on temporary engagement as Guest faculty on period base for under mentioned post for the academic session 2021-22.

Department of BCA/PGDCA: 01 Post

Qualification Eligibility: MCA/M.Sc.IT/M.TECH in Computer Science with at least 55% and Qualified NET/SLET.

Terms & Conditions: (1) All the engagement will be purely on temporary basis only for the session 2021-22. (2) the remuneration will be paid out of the funds collected from the students and the same will be paid subject to the availability of funds. ( 3) The engagement is governed by the conditions/rules laid down by the GPGCES. (4) Candidates are required to report at 9:30 a.m. along with Bio-Data with photograph, original and photocopies of all the certificates in the office of undersigned on 24.02.2021.

Sd/- Chairperson,

Govt. P.G. College Education Society (GPGCES), Rajgarh Road, Solan, Distt. Solan (HP).

epaper@tribuneindia.com

DI-20572

PUNJAB AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION

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Phone: 0172 2651561, 2657472 CIN: U5129CH1966SGC002630 [www.punjabagro.gov.in](http://www.punjabagro.gov.in)

Short Term e-tender Notice

Short term e- tenders under two bid system i.e. Technical and Financial Bids are invited from the suppliers of gypsum for Agriculture use as per IS 6046-1982 in packing of HDPE Bag of 50 kg stitched as per IS 9755-1999 with superior quality nylon thread on F.O.R basis on annual rate contract.

Date of applying & submission of e-tender 18.02.2021 at 10.00 A.M to 24.02.2021 at 5.00 P.M.

Opening of technical bid 25.02.2021 at 10.00 A.M

Opening of commercial bid After opening and evaluation of Technical bid

E-tender, documents, fee and EMD shall be submitted only through online transaction on Govt. portal <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in/> and the tender form along with detailed notice inviting tender (NIT) and terms and conditions can also be downloaded from the same tendering portal.

Any further communication or corrigendum will be uploaded online only. For any query, email on [proc.agro@punjab.gov.in](mailto:proc.agro@punjab.gov.in) or contact on Mobile No. 9888381347

DPR/PB/1551

General Manager(AS)

DISTRICT INDUSTRIES CENTRE, PLOT NO. 39, INDUSTRIAL AREA PH.-II, CHANDIGARH

Office Telephone: 0172-267006-07, Email id: [dimsmeutchd@gmail.com](mailto:dimsmeutchd@gmail.com)

E-Tender (Short Term) Notice

District Industries Centre, U.T., Chandigarh invites short term tender through e-tendering to engage a professional agency for Survey Study and preparation of State Level Up-gradation Plan (SLUP) under Prime Minister's Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme (PM FME Scheme) for units based in Chandigarh involved in manufacturing/processing of Bakery Products.

Name of Work Contract	Earnest Money	Start Date and Time of uploading of e-tender	End Date and Time of uploading of e-tender	Date and Time of opening Online Technical Bid
To conduct Survey Study and preparation of SLUP under PMFME Scheme for units based in Chandigarh involved in manufacturing/ processing of Bakery Products.	Rs. 50,000/-	17.02.2021 at 10:00 A.M.	02.03.2021 at 05:00 P.M.	03.03.2021 at 11:00 A.M.

Conditions: Detailed Terms and Conditions are available in e-tender document.

1. The competent authority reserves all rights to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason.

2. The bid document can be downloaded from the Govt. website i.e. <https://etenders.chd.nic.in>. However for general information, guidance and reference, the tenderer can approach to office of District Industries Centre, Plot No. 39, Ind. Area, Ph-II, Chandigarh.

Sd/- Director Industries-cum-General Manager, DIC, U.T., Chandigarh.

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Counsellor: Post Graduate in Psychology with experience in Adolescents/career counselling

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# The Tribune

ESTABLISHED IN 1881

## Privacy at stake

Need to address concerns over personal data protection

Is Sone's personal data safe from prying eyes? This question is of vital significance for a digitally active India, which is estimated to have over 80 crore smartphone users by 2022. In August 2017, the Supreme Court had ruled that the right to privacy is a fundamental right of Indian citizens. Now, the apex court has echoed the citizens' apprehensions about loss of privacy and reaffirmed its duty to protect this right, while telling WhatsApp that 'you may be a 2 or 3 trillion dollar company, but people value their privacy more than your money.' WhatsApp is being accused of adopting double standards — one privacy policy for Europe and an altogether different one for India. The company claims that its new policy for India is similar to the one applicable in the US, Australia and other countries, whereas Europe has its own data privacy law.

India is sorely missing an all-encompassing legislation for protecting a citizen's right to privacy. The Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019, which provides a framework for safeguarding the privacy of individuals' personal data that is processed by various entities, was tabled in the Lok Sabha on December 11, 2019, and later referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee for scrutiny. With the committee reported to have suggested 90-odd amendments, it will take time for the law to take shape.

Data harvesting has become a cause for concern not only in India but all across the world. In 2018, the UK Information Commissioner's Office had fined Facebook 5,00,000 pounds for processing the personal data of users unfairly by allowing app developers access to their information and that of their friends 'without sufficiently clear and informed consent'. Microblogging platform Koo, projected as a counter to Twitter, is under fire from critics for allegedly leaking users' data. In another disturbing trend, classified evidence gathered by investigating agencies is being divulged to a section of the media, such as WhatsApp chats in the Sushant Singh Rajput case. India's data protection legislation must have a self-regulatory mechanism for government entities, besides a clearly delineated set of rules for private players. What's more, the law should inspire confidence among the consumers.

## SC nod for HP projects

Ensuring green growth remains a challenge

WHILE the clearance given by the three-judge Green Bench of the Supreme Court to a surfeit of development schemes — including hydro and hybrid power projects — in Himachal Pradesh may be a welcome sign of judicial alacrity, the state will have to assess the limits to which it can stretch itself in the quest for development, especially in the aftermath of the Chamoli mishap. Only recently, residents of Lahaul-Spiti had protested against the setting up of hydropower projects in the area, apprehending adverse consequences after the Uttarakhand tragedy. While the court has made it clear that the diversion of forest land for the purpose is subject to conditions, it will have to be ensured that these are fulfilled so that the environmental fallout can be checked. With the rescue operation far from over in Uttarakhand, the grimness of the tragedy is only too stark a reminder for exercising caution in the implementation of such projects.

Because of its geography, Himachal Pradesh faces the dilemma of development. While tourism and horticulture have been the mainstay of its economy, the state has been trying to attract industries for which it also needs the required infrastructure. The state has immense potential for hydropower, but its cost-effectiveness and viability also need to be assessed. The incentives offered have helped in making the shift, even leading to migration of industry to Himachal from adjoining states because of the disparities. While the state has been pitching for green growth and sustainable development, it will have to tread warily when it comes to implementing the projects because of its fragile ecology.

Undertaking construction on a massive scale can have its pitfalls in the shape of soil erosion, landslides and the drying up of streams. Diversification is a corollary to saturation and the transition from agriculture to industry has to be made keeping in view the fact that growth can have its limits. Harnessing nature can lead to progress but damage to ecology can prove to be counterproductive, impacting human lives, resulting instead in locational and occupational displacement.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Every success story is a tale of constant adaption, revision and change. — **Richard Branson**

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

## The Tribune.

LAHORE, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1921

### Legalised Autocracy.

COULD Mr. Shastri make any exception, consistently with his general position, even in the case of the measures in regard to which he said he was not quite sure if they could be struck off immediately? What was the main argument on which he relied? "The purpose and aim of the Reforms", he said, "could not be better expounded than in the weighty words addressed to the Council on the inauguration day by the Viceroy than whom no more authoritative exponent of the subject could be conceived. In that address, the Council heard for the first time that the principle of autocracy was definitely abandoned. This resolution practically asked the Government to adopt the first of the many steps that would be required before the principle of autocracy was in fact extinguished from the statute book. It was impossible that popular liberty, confidently hoped for with the inauguration of the new Council, could ever be achieved if the repressive laws remained in their present form." Is this not to say, in other words, that all the repressive measures must go, at least in their present form, because the principle of popular liberty, embodied in the Reforms, is inconsistent with the maintenance of measures which are directly antagonistic to that principle and are, indeed, based on its complete negation? And if this is the view of Mr. Shastri, if he like the rest of his educated and patriotic countrymen thinks that these measures are neither more nor less than legalised autocracy, with what consistency could he make an exception in favour of such a measure, for instance, as the Seditious Meetings Act which was condemned with unsurpassable strength by independent members of the Viceroy's Council like the late Mr. Gokhale and Sir Rash Behari Ghosh when it was first enacted though at that time there was no intention of making it permanent, and which now constitutes an unjustifiable interference with one of the people's rights?

# Change of heart in heartland

Jats of west UP, who had gravitated to BJP in the last decade, are turning away from it



NEERJA CHOWDHURY  
SENIOR POLITICAL COMMENTATOR

WHO could have thought that Rakesh Tikait would become the 'chehra' of the farmers' movement that has been going on for the last six months? Or that his tears would bring thousands out of their homes to sit by his side to safeguard the 'izzat' of the community and the honour of kisans?

Rakesh Tikait was considered a weak link in the chain of farmers groups protesting for the repeal of the farm laws. People in west UP used to say that he was no patch on his father, Mahendra Singh Tikait, who had brought Delhi virtually to its knees in 1988 and done it without aligning with any party. Visits to his village Sisauli in those days revealed the respect the senior Tikait commanded among the farming community, and the easy access everyone had to him. After he died in 2011, his older son Naresh took over the reins of the organisation and Rakesh became the spokesman for the Bharatiya Kisan Manch.

Rakesh Tikait's efforts to get into politics did not succeed. He was close to the BJP, in particular to Rajnath Singh. After the clashes between Jats and Muslims in Muzaffarnagar, he organised a mahapanchayat there in 2013, which deepened the divide between the two communities. While he helped the BJP, he contested on the Ajit Singh-headed RLD's ticket in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections. He lost, as did the other RLD candidates, during the Modi wave. Again, in 2019 he helped the BJP, and enabled the win of several candidates.

But today, despite his earlier proximity to the BJP, it would be more difficult for him to do business with



ALL SET: For the Jats now, it is an 'aar paar ki ladaai'. PTI

The farmers' stir has weakened the BJP in Punjab, dented it in Haryana, and damaged it in western UP. It is not good news for the party because elections are due in UP and Punjab in a year's time.

the government, even if he wanted to, because of the growing anger among the Jats towards the BJP — unless he manages to deliver something that the farmers consider 'honourable'. If a tough farmer like Tikait had been reduced to such helplessness, it was, the Jats felt, an 'aar paar ki ladaai'. Tikait has vowed to sit at Delhi's border till October, and daily families are joining him from the hinterland.

Today, Jatland is in ferment. The Jats of western UP, who had gravitated to the BJP in the last decade, are turning away from it. Families who had become saffronised in 2013 are today vowing not to be taken in by 'anti-Pakistan or anti-Muslim propaganda' of the BJP 'next time'. They openly talk about having been 'misled'.

The Jats' *ghar wapsi* to the RLD may have begun.

The other significant development is the cautious rapprochement that has begun between the Muslims and the Jats estranged by the Muzaffarnagar violence. The Muslim kisans who had left the BKU to form their own organisation are reaching out to

the Tikaits again, and the Jats to them. The Jat-Muslim combination was the keystone of Chaudhury Charan Singh's politics. He included the OBCs in this coalition, around a larger kisan identity, installing non-Congress governments from Punjab to Bihar in 1967. The BJP may feel it can ride the anger of the Jats. The Jats are not numerically large, unless other communities join hands with them. It is early days yet, but RLD's Jayant Chaudhary has already reached out to Akhilesh Yadav of the Samajwadi Party, exploring the possibility of an alliance in the 2022 UP elections, which could give them electoral advantage in western and central UP.

Mayawati is too unpredictable, and from all accounts, may take a position which would go to help the BJP. Dalit leader Chandrashekhar Azad's reach is limited. The Jats of western UP have had a ripple effect in Haryana. Though farmers from Haryana had joined their fellow kisans from Punjab in the protest on the Delhi border, Tikait's tears widened and intensified their involvement.

# Unexpected lesson in empathy

SONIKA SETHI

THE life of a teacher is not easy, for teaching is not confined merely to the four walls of a classroom, nor do the working hours cease with the ringing of the bell. Teaching is a constant process of upgrade, where every moment you learn new things, not only as a teacher, but also as a human being. As Robert John Meehan said, 'Your life as a teacher begins the day you realise that you are always a learner.' I learnt my first lesson as a teacher within a few weeks of the commencement of my career and I have no qualms about admitting that it not only made me a better teacher, but also a better individual.

At the onset of my career, I was obsessed by the fact that I should come across to my students as a 'nonsense' type of person. My entire focus was towards being a strict disciplinarian as maintaining decorum in class was a Herculean task. Since most students were from a rural or semi-urban background, they made sure that a fresh appointee and a convent school-educated teacher like me felt ill at ease among them. They would intentionally speak in chaste Haryanvi and often use vocabulary that sounded Greek to me. They did all in their power to make me feel like a fish out of water.

My last lecture ended at 2.30 in the afternoon. Some of the students

would approach me pleading to let them leave 15 minutes early as they had a bus to catch. My permission resulted in a lot of commotion and restlessness as half of the class stood up to leave. They all had buses to catch! Unable to differentiate between the genuine ones and those playing truant, I put a ban on anybody leaving before time.

One evening, while on way to the market, I spotted three boys from my last class at the bus stop. I stopped my scooter and called out, 'You constantly harangue me about allowing you to leave early because you have a bus to catch and here you are still loitering around at 5 pm!'

Respectfully and humbly, one of

the boys replied, 'Madamji, the bus leaves at 2.30. If we leave the class at quarter past two, we are able to make it. In case we miss it, the next bus to our village comes after three hours. Right now we are waiting for it. At this hour, the bus will be overloaded and we will not even get a seat.'

I was full of remorse. The next day, when I went to meet my last class, I asked all the students who had a bus to catch to write an application, get it signed and leave whenever they wanted, without seeking my permission. I learnt the first lesson of my life as a teacher — learn to empathise with your students, for they would learn better from you when they respect you than when they fear you.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Hasty action

Apropos of 'The arrest of Disha Ravi', there was no direct evidence against her except tweeted messages. There are far more sensitive tweets on many of our domestic issues and no such hurry is shown to take any action. The magistrate's decision to remand her in custody without her counsel being present shows a bias against her. Even Ajmal Kasab got a fair trial. Is ex-CJI Gogoi rightly lamenting that 'even if I approach the court, I will not get justice?'

CAPT AMAR JEET (RETD), BY MAIL

#### Toolkit a tool

Invoking 'sedition' charges against Disha Ravi, and the manner of her arrest, are symptomatic of all that is wrong with democracy in our country. The former indicates its fragility; the latter, its crumbling edifice. Using the 'toolkit' for launching a protest is the zeitgeist of the times, transcending borders. From Hong Kong, Taiwan, Thailand and countries of the Arab Spring, it has reached home. The most worrying trend, however, is the cavalier attitude of the young Duty Magistrates who routinely throw the rule-book out of the window with impunity. Is it because of their inexperience or sheer deference to the

ruling dispensation? Whatever the case may be, this trend needs to be arrested. There is no substitute for proper training and mentoring by senior judges.

LT COL GS BEDI (RETD), MOHALI

#### Gaps in justice

When a 22-year-old social activist is arrested for sedition and other flimsy allegations, the duty magistrate gives an unusual five-day police remand, though the person has no criminal record or past history. It invites questions on the judiciary. Globally, toolkits are used by activists to seek the truth on controversial matters, with no criminal angle at play. The farmers' agitation has attracted worldwide attention from activists of all hues, and must be seen through the prism of seeking the 'truth'.

BM SINGH, AMRITSAR

#### Suppressing dissent

Does the government want to suppress the voice of the youth? Article 22 (protection against arrest and detention) gives you the right to have a counsel, but Disha Ravi did not get an opportunity to defend herself with a counsel of her choice. Is the government so partial that it's denying a citizen her right? Does it tell us that the

Delhi Police are working under the influence of the government?

HARSHJOT KAUR, PATIALA

#### Coalition govt better

Efforts are on to derail the farmers' agitation and create fear among them. Has an FIR been registered against those who attacked protesters at the Singhu border recently? Kangana Ranaut has not yet been arrested for dubbing farmers as terrorists. The government passed the laws without involving all stakeholders and has adopted an adamant attitude on the matter. A coalition government is good for India rather than a majoritarian government that has a 'one-track' mind. The economy is already in a shambles; reviving it should be the priority.

VS AHLUWALIA, BY MAIL

#### Inter-faith marriages

Reference to 'Irrespective of faith', inter-caste marriages in the middle class of India have become very common and are willingly performed by parents and are accepted by society. The positive effect of these mixed marriages is the less importance given to caste and comparatively more importance given to qualification and economic potential of the persons getting

married. Practically, now caste is important only in politics for getting tickets and collecting votes during elections, otherwise the old caste biases are gone. The hatred due to castes is no more. Similarly, if we start accepting inter-faith marriages, communal harmony would prevail in our society. Young people are educated and becoming economically independent. Parents and society in general would have to accept inter-faith marriages.

PREM PARKASH PUNJ, AMRITSAR

#### Money laundering

Privatisation of banks has become a well-planned money laundering ploy. Merger or privatisation of the bank means putting the common man's money at the disposal of corporate defaulters. The government is selling these banks at throwaway prices to corporate defaulters, who will become the owners of these banks with the help of the silent *netas*. Employees of these banks are facing the risk of losing their jobs, and pensioners of these banks have a bleak future. Over six lakh pensioners and crores of bank depositors are left to fend for themselves. The common man must come forward and raise his voice against such moves.

SC DHALL, ZIRAKPUR



# BJP exposing chinks in Mamata’s armour



FOR months, even after a spectacular score in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections in West Bengal, the BJP floundered in a labyrinth of dilemmas that offered no easy exit before the 2021 Assembly poll. The BJP’s dilemmas were framed on three aspects: core ideology vs governance; the national as opposed to the regional/local; and projecting a chief ministerial candidate or not.

The issue with hard-selling the RSS’s fundamental beliefs, founded on the ‘supremacy’ of Hinduism and ultra-nationalism, was that they militated against West Bengal’s social and cultural convictions and were initially rejected by the opinion moulders who influence political leanings.

After thrashing around for several months, the BJP found an anchor to fasten its line of attack on the Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee, melding the very elements that earlier looked incongruous.

The year 2020 offered a big breakthrough to the BJP. The pandemic and the Amphan cyclone shaped its campaign. A health crisis and a natural calamity made for a potent mix because in the BJP’s perception,

while Covid-19 management exposed Mamata’s ‘incompetence’, the devastating cyclone reflected on her government’s ‘lack of preparedness’ and highlighted the alleged corruption involved in relief distribution, complaints of cutbacks in direct benefit transfers and diverting funds allocated for reconstructing homes to underserving persons. When the targeted beneficiaries protested, they were reportedly intimidated by workers of the Trinamool Congress (TMC).

West Bengal’s ‘party society’, a feature that evolved into an institution under the Left Front, is the bane and boon of its politics. Committed workers and confirmed voters of a party/coalition can ask for the moon and get slivers of favours. When the Left Front cadre shifted allegiance to the TMC, it hauled the ‘party society’ with it. The patronage, reward and punishment remained, except that while the Left had enough and more time to finesse the system, the TMC fumbled, unable to prioritise its patrons: the defectors or the original rank and file.

The anomaly created a sub-sect of haves and have-nots. The latter, disillusioned by unfulfilled expectations and unrewarded loyalty, looked for options. But the first hint of ‘disloyalty’ was quashed by retribution that took the form of assaults, frame-ups and denial of governmental welfare schemes.

The Left or the Congress might have been an alternative but for the fact that their base moved to the BJP in 2019. Therefore, although sections of the voters might have pined for a return to the Left, the CPM and its allies did not have a leg to stand on. Additionally,



West Bengal’s ‘party society’ is the bane and boon of its politics. Committed workers of a party can ask for the moon and get slivers of favours. When the Left Front cadre shifted allegiance to the TMC, it hauled the ‘party society’ with it, except that the TMC fumbled, unable to prioritise its patrons: the defectors or the original rank and file.

**SIGNS OF UNEASE:** A stream of key TMC leaders has deserted the party. PTI

when a party’s ideology had to be spelt out, the Left and the Congress were bracketed with the TMC.

There ended the difference. The BJP projected itself as the TMC’s bona fide alternative, overcoming its generic weaknesses such as the lack of a robust organisation and local leaders. The last Lok Sabha elections popularised the slogan ‘*Prothame Ram, pore Vaam*’ (first Ram, then the Left).

The BJP’s biggest success in West Bengal was embedding Ram in the state’s religious iconography. The Ayodhya ‘movement’ never fired the imagination of Bengali-speaking Hindus. However, the notions of ‘Hindu pride’ and ‘nationalism’ became the

bywords for Hindu empowerment after the BJP cashed in on Mamata’s concerted moves for the minorities that lent themselves to the ‘appeasement’ charge. The allegation stuck on her and chanting ‘Jai Shri Ram’ became as kosher as venerating Durga. It was construed as an act of defiance against Mamata’s politics of ‘reverse polarisation’.

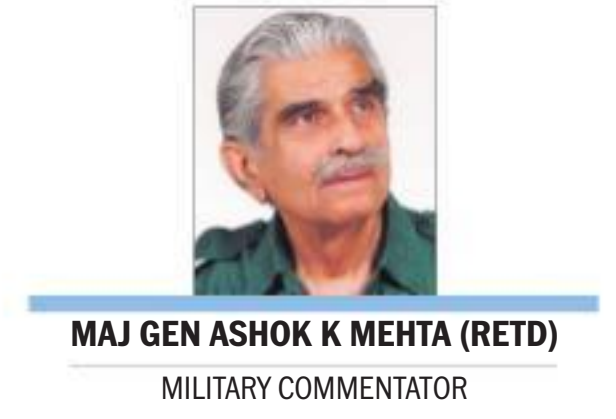
The campaign against Mamata’s governance (or lack of it) segued into the larger themes of faith and nationalism as the BJP embarked on another project of taking Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay’s poem *Vande Mataram* across West Bengal and emphasising the ‘nationalist’ overtones of the novel

*Anand Math* that contains the poem.

The incipient signs of unease within the TMC were visible when a stream of defections began. Before 2019, Mamata lost a key political confidant, Mukul Roy, to the BJP. The BJP was invested in Roy for his organisational skills and vast network among the TMC’s adherents and hoped for early payoffs.

Suvendu Adhikari, a leader of significance from Nandigram, the epicentre of the revolt against the Left Front government over land acquisition that turned around Mamata’s fortunes, deserted her and went to the BJP. Adhikari’s entry was heralded by a huge public meeting on his home turf that was presided over by Amit Shah, the Home Minister.

# LAC withdrawal plan gives China the edge



The government, which has demonstrated immense resolve by matching soldier for soldier and height for height, determined to stand up to China, seems to have suddenly cracked and, surprisingly, given in to Beijing’s pressure. Unacclimatised to deployment in winter, it was the PLA that was keen to pull back and descend from the heights which it had occupied for the first time after 1962. The alacrity with which Chinese tanks, guns and troops pulled back last week was surprising.

KEEPING politics aside, relevant questions need to be asked about the ongoing LAC withdrawal plan. One of India’s worst fears of squandering gains on the ground for restoring the adverse situation on the LAC is turning out to be true. China looks set to get what it has wanted: not all, but most of it, including consummation of its 1959 claim line.

India has committed intelligence, operational and, now, negotiating lapses while managing the border standoff with China. After rejecting, it has conceded to a Chinese proposal of September 2020 containing a segregated agreement on phased disengagement, de-escalation and de-induction north and south of the Pangong Tso lake, according to which India will vacate the pivotal commanding heights on the Chushul range on its side of the LAC for a Chinese pullback from Finger 4 to Finger 8, an outright 8-km intrusion into Indian territory.

That is not all. Indian troops will move from Finger 4 to west of Finger 3. The space vacated will become a buffer zone in which patrolling will be suspended.

Still worse, there is no iron-clad linkage of this agreement with subsequent negotiations on the Gogra/Hot Springs, Demchok and especially Depsang where the Chinese have intruded 18 km and imposed a patrolling ban for the Indian forces.

After yielding so much, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh informed Parliament that he ‘did not concede anything’, which was clarified the next day by an MoD statement reading, ‘did not concede any territory.’ This is equivalent to the government’s earlier claims that the Chinese ‘have not intruded’ and ‘no territory has been lost’, when the facts on the ground were different.



**WORRISOME:** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh’s statement in Parliament gave little reassurance of the status quo ante on the LAC as of April 2020. PTI

The Chinese have imposed the Galwan model of disengagement weightied against India.

How can Singh describe the surrender of strategic space on the dominating Kailash heights as a tradeoff for withdrawal from the Fingers area astride the frozen lake along with the restriction of movement on the Indian side of the LAC as ‘not conceding’, especially after letting China cherry-pick the withdrawal option?

In September 2020, the Chinese had posed this selective disengagement, but with the proviso that India, which had occupied Chushul heights on August 29/30, first withdraws from the heights and only then would the Chinese vacate the intrusion between Fingers 4 and 8.

At the time, many defence and strategic experts had warned the government against falling into China’s trap of conceding the one towering advantage it had gained and one which had unnerved the Chinese until the bottom line of restoration of status quo pre-April 2020 was achieved.

After a long rethink, China agreed to a simultaneous withdrawal, dropping the precondition that India, which moved first to occupy the Kailash range, should be the first to withdraw.

Clearly, the Chinese have brushed aside the demand for the restoration of status quo ante. The Chinese have never used the terminology of restoring status quo ante, but instead used restoring peace and tranquility in border areas. So far, the Chinese had categorically refused to discuss Depsang, which locks up the Indian strategic garrison of Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO).

Singh referred to this in Parliament: ‘The House should also know that there are still some outstanding issues with regards to deployment and

patrolling at some other points along the LAC in eastern Ladakh.’

He did not name Depsang, a veritable dagger pointing towards DBO, the capture of which has for long been on the Chinese operational agenda. DBO links up with the 5,180-sq-km Shaqsgam valley — gifted by Pakistan to China in 1963 — which connects with the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

The loss of DBO will unhinge the India-occupied Siachen snow wall separating the Pakistani forces and the Chinese PLA. China has unilaterally established blocks at Depsang to prevent Indian troops from moving to their traditional patrolling points on the LAC.

The Congress has questioned the government on the selective disengagement, worrying that Singh’s statement gave little reassurance of the status quo ante as of April 2020.

It also lamented the fact that the government had agreed to withdraw from the dominating heights without any quid pro quo by China. When MP Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury sought a clarification in the Lok Sabha on these issues, strangely Parliamentary Affairs Minister Arjun Meghwal interrupted him, saying that he should be proud of the country’s defence forces.

In the Rajya Sabha debate, the Chair did not allow clarifications in order to uphold national unity and security. When former Defence Minister AK Antony rose to speak, Railway Minister Piyush Goyal rushed to urge his silence. During last year’s debate, the Chair, Vice President Venkaiah Naidu, had twice requested Singh to brief a select group of MPs on the situation along the LAC separately. But he has not done so till this day.

The government, which has demonstrated immense resolve by matching soldier for soldier and height for height, determined to stand up to China, seems to have suddenly cracked and, surprisingly, given in to Beijing’s pressure. Unacclimatised to deployment in winter, it was the PLA that was keen to pull back and descend from the heights which it had occupied for the first time after 1962. The speed and alacrity with which Chinese tanks, guns and troops pulled back last week was surprising.

To obfuscate the advantage-China withdrawal deal, government officials have been planting stories about the consummate skills of the national security trio — the Defence Minister, Foreign Minister and National Security Adviser — in achieving the breakthrough and restoring India’s image as well as its deterrence of defence, diplomacy and international partnerships.

The Chinese have a penchant for changing goalsposts. They cite principles, with ‘those who advanced first must withdraw first’ being the most common and also the most flouted one.

The negotiations are likely to end up in China’s ‘two steps forward, one step backward’ approach, retaining Depsang, as predicted earlier, and Singh admitting to ‘substantially restoring the situation’ to that existing prior to the standoff.

By agreeing to the strategically stunted and segmented withdrawal plan north and south of the Pangong lake, and forfeiting the preponderant advantage of the commanding heights on the Chushul range for a couple of Fingers will probably go down as a ‘break-through blunder’ in ensuring that India’s quest for the restoration of status quo ante on the LAC is never met.

QUICK CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

1 That's reasonable (4,6)  
8 Gather in large numbers (5)  
9 Let loose (7)  
10 Playhouse (7)  
11 Slice into pieces (3,2)  
12 Filament (6)  
14 A pearl-producing mollusc (6)  
17 An additional clause (5)  
19 Large French country house (7)  
21 Grotesque (7)  
22 Outmoded (5)  
23 Lower in prestige and price (10)

**DOWN**

2 A dilettante (7)  
3 Refrain from exacting (5)  
4 Revulsion (6)  
5 Ill-fated (7)  
6 Courage (5)  
7 Look for the best bargain (4,6)  
8 Regard as important (3,5,2)  
13 A plane's complement (7)  
15 A braced supporting framework (7)  
16 Irresistibly funny person (6)  
18 Stupefied (5)  
20 Viper (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

**Across:** 1 Resume, 4 Hollow, 9 Balance, 10 Tight, 11 Storm, 12 Venture, 13 Fill the bill, 18 Unknown, 20 Undue, 22 Point, 23 Embroid, 24 Region, 25 Unrest.  
**Down:** 1 Robust, 2 Salvo, 3 Minimal, 5 Often, 6 Leg-pull, 7 Withier, 8 Heavy-handed, 14 Inking, 15 Bourbon, 16 Bumper, 17 Zealot, 19 Outdo, 21 Drone.

SU DO KU

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

HARD

CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 17, 2021, WEDNESDAY

■ Vikrami Samvat2077

■ Shaka Samvat1942

■ Magh Shaka28

■ Phalgun Parvishite6

■ Hijari1442

■ Shukla Paksha Tithi 6, ----

■ Shukla Yoga up to 2:37 am

■ Ashwin Nakshatra up to 11:49 pm

■ Moon in Aries sign

■ Gandmool up to 11.49 pm

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

FORECAST

SUNSET: WEDNESDAY 18:12 HRS

SUNRISE: THURSDAY 07:00 HRS

CITY

MAX

MIN

Chandigarh	27	11
New Delhi	28	11
Amritsar	20	10
Bathinda	26	10
Jalandhar	25	10
Ludhiana	25	10
Bhiwani	26	11
Hisar	27	08
Sirsa	26	11
Dharamsala	17	07
Manali	15	02
Shimla	17	07
Srinagar	17	0
Jammu	23	10
Kargil	-02	-11
Leh	-04	-15
Dehradun	25	09
Mussoorie	15	04

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**Required Nurse for day-care** hospital Urban Estate, Dugri Ludhiana, food accommodation, good salary. 77175-38490. (CL20097490)

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**Urgently required experienced Sales Executive** for Punjab, Telecaller and MIS Data Operator for Zirakpur office. Auto parts distributor in Zirakpur. Contact 94178-50815. (CL20097619)

**Mata Gujri Institute of Nursing,** Village Mehmadpur, PO Adampur, Distt. Jalandhar. Applications are invited to the following posts - 1. Principal cum Professor, 2. Vice Principal cum Professor, 3. Clinical Instructors. Contact immediately 95014-00883, 98157-00883. Email: mginadmpur@gmail.com (CL20095042)

**VICTORIA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL MUKERIAN & TANDA** (Fully AC Classes/ Buses) Teachers required for **KG-Wing, Primary y-Wing, all subjects upto +2, All Sports and Activities.....** Decent Salary with many other facilities. Note: Those who already applied need not to apply again. E-Mail: vis\_muk@yaho.co.in (CL20095971)

**Mount Litera Zee School, Faridkot** requires PGT- Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Maths, Economics, Business Study, Commerce, Psychology, History, Geography, Sociology, Pol. Science, English, Physical Education. TGT- Maths, Science, Social Science, English, Hindi, Punjabi. PRT- All subjects. KGT qualification- PGT with B.Ed., CTET, PTET, NTT, English fluent. Minimum 3 years experience in CBSE/ IB/ ICSE Board. Salary as per CBSE norms. No bar for deserving candidates. Send your CV with latest photograph at Email: principal.faridkot@mountlitera.com or submit at the Reception within ten days upto 25.2.21. Contact: 94172-50161, 98768-40161. (CL20096274)

**Malout Institute of Pharmacy,** Approved by PCI, AICTE & Affiliated to PSBTE & IT, Chandigarh. Opposite Jakhu Petrol Pump, Malout- Muktsar Highway Malout-152107. Applications are invited from eligible candidates for following posts of No. 1 Designation Lecturer, No. of Posts 04, Qualification M.Pharm or B.Pharm with 3 years teaching experience. Qualification pay scale as per PCI. Interested candidates can send their resume on: psbes.malout@gmail.com or Call on 98722-58000. (CL20096499)

**SPPS Convent School Begowal (Distt. Kpt)** (Pb). C.B.S.E. Affiliated, required Staff PGTs- English, Accountancy, Biology, Maths (25000-30000) TGTs- All subjects (20000-25000) NTTs - (10000-15000) Walk-in Interview on 21st Feb. 2021 in school campus. Timings: 11.00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Mail your resume on sppsconventschool@hotmail.com Free transport from Jalandhar, Kartarpur and Bhogpur. Contact No. 98763-65988. (CL20096779)

**Bhai Mohri Ji Mem. Pub. Sen. Sec. School,** Gurusar (MUKTSAR) Aff. to CBSE, Requires, PGT- ENG, HIS, POLSCI, TGT- ENG SCI, SST, HINDI And for Primary Classes Apply to the Principal Within 5 days After the date of Adv. Cont- 98159-11298, Email- bmssschool@gmail.com (CL20097465)

**ROYALE CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL** Bohri Road, Wazir Bhullar, Beas **Requires the following staff:** **PRT:** General/ETT/NTT/Graduate/B.Ed. **TGT:** All Subjects (Masters/B.Ed.) **Counsellor:** M.A. Psychology & Diploma in Guidance & Counselling. **Laboratory:** M.Lib/B.Lib. **Trained Staff for the Infirmary** **Lab. Assistant:** Computer and Science **Front Desk Receptionist:** Graduate **Accounts Clerk:** a/Com./M.Com. Qualification as per CBSE Norms. Candidates should have fluency in English, be Computer Literate and preferably CTET Affiliated. Apply by 23rd Feb 2021. Application Forms are available at school reception. You can also apply online through the website [www.rcsbeas.com](http://www.rcsbeas.com) **rcsbeas@gmail.com** (CL20097570)

**Rigveda International School,** Tohana, Distt. Fatehabad, Haryana requires Principal. Candidate must be passionate, dynamic, visionary and excellent in communication. Salary no bar. 98967-00288, 94163-17909. rigvedainternationalchool@gmail.com (CL20097487)

**Nishan-E-Sikhi International School,** Khadar Sahib requires PRTs: English-B.A. with Elective English, B.Ed., Math- B.Sc. (Non- Medical), B.Ed., Social Science- B.A. History/ Political Science/ Economics, B.Ed., Special Educator- Graduate with B.Ed./ Diploma (Special Education), Lab Assistant- +2 (Med./ N.M). Salary PRT 15,000/-, Lab Assistant- 8,000/- Apply online at: [www.nshikhischool.com](http://www.nshikhischool.com) Before 27.02.2021. 62801-98553, free transport facility from Amritsar and existing routes. (CL20097573)

**Nishan-E-Sikhi International School,** Khadar Sahib requires PGTs- Physics-M.Sc. Physics, B.Ed., Chemistry-M.Sc. Chemistry, B.Ed., English- M.A. English, B.Ed., Physical Education- M.P.Ed., PGT- Biology/ TGT Science (Bio)- M.Sc. Botany/ Zoology, B.Ed., PGT/ TGT Mathematics- M.Sc. Mathematics, B.Ed. TGTs- Punjabi- B.A. Punjabi, B.Ed. Fine Arts- M.A./ B.A. Painting/ Fine Art, TGT Social Science- M.A. History/ Pol. Sci./ Economics, B.Ed. Salary PGT 25,000/-, TGT 20,000/- Apply [www.nshikhischool.com](http://www.nshikhischool.com) before 27.02.2021. 62801-98553, Free transport from Amritsar. (CL20097574)

**Dr. Holmes Academy, NH-54,** Goniana-Bajakhana Road, Jeeda (Bathinda).Contact: +919417159746, +919417141789. Staff required: NTT, PRT, TGT, PGT (all subjects), & Receptionist. Qualification should be as per CBSE norms. Interested candidates can send their resume via Email: drholmesacademy@gmail.com (CL20097261)

**The Millennium School Patiala, VPO** Nandpur Kesho, Sirhind Road, Patiala. Required- Excellent and experienced staff. 1. PGTs: (Post-Graduation & B.Ed.) Computer Science, Physical Education, Physics II. Kindergarten Teacher (Graduation & B.Ed./ NTT). Walk in interview- Sunday, February 21, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or Apply at: foepatiala@themillenniumschoos.com Send your CV and a coloured passport size photograph through mail. Attractive remuneration and benefits. Candidates who have applied earlier need not apply again. Important: No entry inside school without VOS mask (without valve). (CL20097439)

**Dentist (BDS) required for Dr. Satnam Singh Dental Clinic,** Arya Samaj Road, Navanshahr. Contact: 98143-28481. (CL20097587)

**Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura,** near Chandigarh requires Marketing Manager, Brand Manager, Area Sales, Manager, Field Officer in all District Head of North India. MBA/ M.Tech/ M.Com./ B.Tech. may apply. Send your CV on: careers@aryans.edu.in (CL20097501)

**DAV College Hoshiarpur.** Applications on the prescribed proforma available with DAV College Managing Committee Hoshiarpur are invited for post of Principal DAV College Hoshiarpur on Regular Basis from eligible candidates in accordance with qualification/ conditions as per latest norms laid down by Panjab University/ UGC/ State Govt. Send application with nine photocopies of proforma through registered post or submit in person with a copy to Dean College Development Council PU Chandigarh within 30 days from date of publication of advertisement. Reservation for SC/ ST candidates and persons with disabilities will be followed as per rules. D.L. Anand Secretary 01882-241760. (CL20097537)

**A leading residential school (Affiliated to CBSE)** immediately requires PGT: Math, Commerce, Chemistry, TGT: English, Social Science, Kindergarten Teachers (Montessori Trained), Dance Teacher (Classical & Western), Software developer (VBA, VB.Net, MS-SQL (Server), electrician. Qualification and salary as per CBSE norms. Minimum experience for Teaching Posts 5 years. Email your updated resume at principal.ksa@gmail.com , Contact: 73411-12103. Kirpal Sagar Academy, Rahon, Nawanshahr. (CL20097551)

**NIRALI** CHANGING THE FUTURE **SR. SALES EXECUTIVE** AREA : PUNJAB Graduate with 3-5 years of Experience. Should be based in Chandigarh / Ludhiana & willing to travel extensively. Candidates from building material preferred. Good career growth opportunities. Apply with photo & last Salary drawn to: **admn@NiralING.com** **www.NiralING.com** (CL20097442)

**Required 2 Executives for Loan** Software Company one to provide Support and one for Sales, with experience in Loan Software use, knowledge of Loan Accounting and fluent in English. 96661-07000. Send Resume to aman@jaguarsoftwareindia.com (CL20097575)

**Heritage Public School Bhawanigarh** (Sangrur) Punjab. A Co-educational Sen. Sec. School affiliated CBSE-Delhi requires PGT- English, Geography, Sociology, TGT- Social Science, Science, PRT, Kindergarten (NTT), Dance Teacher. Librarian, Medical Attendant, male Supervisor qualification as CBSE norms. Candidate must be fluent in English. Free transport facility from Patiala, Nabha. Accommodation for outstationed candidates. Mail resume at principal.hps@yahoo.com 98140-81137, 77103-11137. (CL20097613)

### MEDICAL/SURGICAL

**New Lifeline Hospital, Zirakpur** announces extra corporeal membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) facility. ECMO is true life saver. ECMO is the ultimate life support system for heart, lung and liver failure patients. Many precious lives can be saved both in adults and children. 98141-04203. (CL20097447)

**A reputed hospital in Panipat** needed Gynaecologist. Residential facility available. Cont. Mrs. Santosh 96492-74029, hameshasantosh@gmail.com (CL20097585)

### BUSINESS

**Expression of interest: Silver Oak** Pet Care Ludhiana, Punjab invites proposals for: State of the Art Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Canine Parlour, Canine Gym and Premier Pet Products. Premises available. Interested parties may contact: 98728-99931, sirmadgvasu@rediffmail.com (CL20097210)

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

### ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

**A-One Associates:** 98151-54979, Email: [rajceev69@yahoo.com](mailto:rajceev69@yahoo.com) Office: SCO 76-77, 1st floor, Sector 8-C, Chandigarh. Showrooms full/ floorwise available/ wanted for MNC's, Bank all Chandigarh/ Mohali. For lease/ sale/ purchase. Quick deals. (CL20097557)

### RENT/LEASE

**Office for rent in Industrial Area** Phase 2, Chandigarh. 99887-76673/ 92162-63309. (CL20096054)

### LOST & FOUND

**It is notified for the information** that my original qualifying examination certificate of main Secondary examination of year 2008 and Roll No. 2174751 issued by CBSE has been actually lost. Name of Candidate: Jatinder Singh s/o Pal Singh, Address: Village Kumbra, Mohali. Mob: 80543-32400. (CL20097623)

**I, Prabha Handa** bought unit OBSC/ Type-A/ FF/ 566 in Omaxe SilverBirch Chd. Extn. New Chandigarh, builder buyer agreement for this unit lost, if found contact Hiteer 97118-00149. (CL20097643)

### TENDER NOTICE

**YPS Mohali desires to install CCTV,** PA equipment and lay related network. Interested vendors to send proposals to Director, YPS Mohali in sealed envelopes within 4 days from the date of advertisement. Director reserves the right to reject any or all quotations without assigning any reasons. (CL20097588)

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**I, Shubham s/o Sunil Sharma** r/o H.No. 786, Mahadev Colony, BCW Surajpur, Panchkula-134102 have changed my name to Shubham Sharma. (CL20097502)

**I, Ajay s/o Surrender** r/o Sushil Dairy Walli Gali, Punjabi Chowk, Narwana (Distt. Jind), have changed my name to Ajay Jain. (CL20097521)

**I, Nidhi Kansal d/o Arvind Kumar** r/o Gandhi Nagar, Mandi Gobindgarh (Fatehgarh Sahib), have changed the name of my minor daughter Krishika to Krishika Kansal. (CL20097528)

**I, Roshan Lal s/o Raghu** Village Ropari, Tehsil Sarkaghat, Distt. Mandi H.P. declare that my name wrongly mention in my daughter Reeta Devi School Certificate 8th, 10th, 12th class as Feena. Please enter correct name Roshan Lal. All concerned note. (CL20097546)

**I, Vattan Singh s/o Shri Harpal Singh** r/o H.No. 395, VPO, Hallomajra, Chandigarh have changed my name to Vatan Singh. (CL20097580)

**I, Lovepreet Kumar s/o Satpal** r/o Mohalla Dharampura, Qadian Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur, Punjab have changed my name from Lovepreet to Lovepreet Kumar. Please concerned note. (CL20097586)

**I, Maninder Kumari w/o Sunil Dutt,** VPO Sikandarpur, Distt. Jalandhar, have changed my name to Maninder Kaur. (CL20097598)

**I, Kiran Goel w/o Arvind Gupta,** resident of H. No. 177, Ward No. 8, Gurmali Park, Tibba Road, Basti Jodhewal, Ludhiana, have changed my name to Kiran Gupta. (CL20097602)

**I, Anuradha d/o Vinay Mohan Gulati** r/o # 1509, Sector 70, Mohali, have changed my name from Anuradha to Anu Arora. (CL20097609)

**I, Disha Kumari D/o Shri Rajinder Kumar,** V & PO Rajpura, Tehsil & Distt. Chamba (HP), have changed my name to Reeya Minhas. Concerned please note. (CL20097611)

**I, Kiran Gupta w/o Sanjeev Kumar** r/o B-IV-134, Mahia Street, Chauri Sarak, Ludhiana have changed my name to Neha Jain. (CL20097650)

**I, Manjinder Kaur w/o Parminder Singh** r/o Bir Behman, Distt. Bathinda have changed my name from Manjinder Kaur to Baljinder Kaur. (CL20097641)

**I, Rakesh Kumar Gogia s/o Gobind** Ram Gogia r/o 50, Urban Estate, Phase-2, Patiala declare that my name has wrongly been mentioned as Rakesh Gogia in the school records (YPS School, Patiala) of my son Rhythm Gogia. It may henceforth be corrected as Rakesh Kumar Gogia for all the purposes. (CL20097544)

**I, Seema Devi w/o No. 13760080Y** Hav. Sudesh Kumar r/o Village Kurna, PO Saleti, Tehsil Rakkar, District Kangra (HP), have changed my daughter's name from Ruchi Rana to Ruchi, vide affidavit No. 14AA899394, dated 07.02.2021 before Notary Public Rakkar (HP). (CL20097627)

### COURT NOTICES

**In the Court of Ms. Lavleen Sandhu** CJJD, Nawanshahr. (Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar) CNR No.: PBSB02-001451-2019 Next Date: 4.03.2021 at 10.00 a.m. Balwinder Singh son of Gurcharan Singh r/o House No. B-VI/281, Kothi Road, Nawanshahr District SBS Nagar, Punjab India at present residing care of her father Sh. Hazura Singh r/o New Colony, Badungar, Near Gurudwara Sahib, Patiala and others. Defendants

Versus

Harwinder Kaur, aged about 37 years w/o Balwinder Singh s/o Gurcharan Singh r/o House No. B-VI/281, Kothi Road, Nawanshahr District SBS Nagar, Punjab India at present residing care of her father Sh. Hazura Singh r/o New Colony, Badungar, Near Gurudwara Sahib, Patiala and others. Defendants

**Suit for Permanent Injunction** Notice to Defendant U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC 1. Harwinder Kaur, aged about 37 years, w/o Balwinder Singh s/o Gurcharan Singh r/o House No. B-VI/281, Kothi Road, Nawanshahr District SBS Nagar, Punjab India at present residing care of her father Sh. Hazura Singh r/o New Colony, Badungar, Near Gurudwara Sahib, Patiala. 2. Hazura Singh aged about 65 years son of Gurbax Singh r/o New Colony, Badungar, Near Gurudwara Sahib, Patiala. 4. Ravneet Kaur, aged about 35 years d/o Hazura Singh aged about 65 years son of Gurbax Singh r/o New Colony, Badungar, Near Gurudwara Sahib, Patiala, now wife of Sahib Singh r/o Backside Thapar Engineering College, Patiala.

In above title suit the defendant(s) could not be served. It is order that Defendant(s) should appear in person or through counsel dated 04.03.2021 at 10.00 a.m. the detail logon to Next Date, Purpose of Case, Orders and Judgements as well as other case information is available on: [https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=sbsnagar](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sbsnagar) Given under my hand and seal of the court on 03.02.2021. Sd/- (Lavleen Sandhu) Civil Judge, (Jr. Divn.), SBS Nagar. CL20095252

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)** In the Court of Ms. Manni Arora, Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Sangrur. Gurdeep Singh Versus Surjeet Kaur CNR No. PBSG02-000716-2017 Next Date: 19.03.2021 Publication issued to: 1. Surjeet Kaur w/o Balaur Singh son of Chanan Singh, r/o BOEFGWANGS, GADE-13, 8700-HORSENS, DENMARK. 2. Harvinder Singh s/o Balaur Singh s/o Chanan Singh r/o BOEFGWANGS, GADE-13, 8700-HORSENS, DENMARK. 3. Kuldeep Kaur d/o Balaur Singh s/o Chanan Singh r/o BOEFGWANGS, GADE-13, 8700-HORSENS, DENMARK. 4. Hosiar Singh s/o Chet Singh r/o Kothi No. 223, Phase-1, Mohali.

In above titled case, the defendant(s)/respondent(s) could not be served. It is ordered that defendant(s)/respondent(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 19.03.2021 at 10:00 a.m. For details logon to [https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=sangrur](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=sangrur) Dated, this day of 12.02.2021 Sd/- Additional Civil Judge (Senior Division), Sangrur. CL20097506

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ASHOK PAL SEN

## Mandi royal family scion passes away

MANDI, FEBRUARY 16

Ashok Pal Sen (91), scion of the Mandi royal family, died today at his residence here. He was the son of Late Joginder Pal Sen, king of Mandi state during the British rule.

Family sources said he was unwell for the past few days. His condition deteriorated this morning.

## He was son of Joginder Pal Sen, king of Mandi state during British rule

Congress and BJP leaders expressed condolences to the bereaved family. His funeral will be held tomorrow on the banks of the Beas. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

KK Nutan, a prominent writer and historian of Mandi town, said, "Ashok Pal Sen was like a younger brother to me. The Mandi royal family contributed significantly to the development of Mandi town before Independence. Raja Siddhi Sen, the 10th king of Mandi state, made Mandi town 'Shiva nagri' (the town of Lord Shiva) by constructing 14 unique temples." — TNS

## CLASSIFIEDS

### COURT NOTICES

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)** In the Court of Ms. Pooja Singla Additional Civil Judge, (Senior Division), Kurukshetra. Hardarshan Singh Virk Versus Sukhdev Singh Majithia Suit for Declaration CNR No.: HRKU02-001224-2020 Next Date: 03.03.2021 Publication issued to:

1. Sukhdev Singh Majithia son of Gurlabh Singh. 2. Shivjit Singh Majithia son of Gurlabh Singh. 3. Gurmev Kaur daughter of Gurlabh Singh. All residents of Regal Building, Cannaught Place, New Delhi. C/o DA-8 Restauraan Delhi.

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 03.03.2021 at 10.00 a.m.

For details logon to [https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=kurukshetra](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=kurukshetra) Dated, this day of 15.02.2021. Sd/- Additional Civil Judge, (Senior Division), Kurukshetra. CL20097578

**(U/o 5 Rule 20 CPC)** In the Court of Sh. Indejeet Singh Civil Judge, Junior Division, Chandigarh. Vishal Enterprises Versus Celeste Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. CNR No.: CHCH02-003210-2018 Next Date: 14.04.2021 Publication issued to:

1. Celeste Hospitality Pvt. Ltd., Timber Trail Resorts, Tehsil Parwanoo, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh. 2. Celeste Hospitality Pvt. Ltd. through its Director Akash Gang, Timber Trail Resorts, Tehsil Parwanoo, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh. 3. Surbhi Garg w/o Akash Gang Director Celeste Hospitality Pvt. Ltd., Timber Trail Resorts, Tehsil Parwanoo, District Solan, Himachal Pradesh.

2nd Address: Plot No. 136-407, 61, Industrial Area, Chandigarh.

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 14.04.2021 at 10.00 a.m. For details logon to [https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district\\_notice&district=chandigarh](https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=district_notice&district=chandigarh) Dated, this day of 09.02.2021. Sd/- Civil Judge, Junior Division, Chandigarh. CL20097639

# SC order will help complete 605 pending projects: CM

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, FEBRUARY 16

Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur today said 605 projects which had been delayed for want of forest clearances would now be completed following Supreme Court directives.

He said the total forest land involved in all these projects was 685.58 hectares and had been pending for want of clearance under the Forest Conservation Act and the Forest Rights Act (FRA). "Several important development projects had been delayed for want of approval from the Union Minister of Forest and Environment," he stated.

He said two major projects which had been given nod were Rs 1,337-crore Green Corridor National Highway, Sirmaur, and two-lane National Highway 20A (New NH 503), Dharamsala, worth Rs 61.48 crore sanctioned by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.



The total forest land involved in these projects is 685.58 hectares.

## BIG PUSH FOR STATE'S DEVELOPMENT

■ Out of these 605 projects, the SC has permitted Forest Conservation Act clearances to 138 projects, said the CM

■ It has permitted 465 projects under the Forest Rights Act

■ Two major projects that been given nod are the Green Corridor NH, Sirmaur, and two-lane NH-20A, Dharamsala

The Rs 46.80-crore Dhaulasidh Hydro Electric Project in Hamirpur had also been approved.

The Chief Minister said out of these 605 projects, the Supreme Court had permitted FCA clearances to 138 projects which included 20 electric projects, 88 road projects, five each of drink-

ing water projects, three bus stand projects, two degree colleges, treasury office buildings and sewage treatment plants.

These approved projects also included IIT-Kamand, schools, car parking lots, sub market yard, police post, gau sadan, ropeway Manali, helipads, bridges and Shiv

# BJP, Congress intensify poll campaign in Mandi



TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

MANDI, FEBRUARY 16

The BJP and the Congress have intensified their campaigns in Mandi for the Municipal Corporation poll. The elections are due next month in the state.

It is expected that the MC elections would be held on party symbols. It has forced both BJP and the Congress to work hard to ensure victory of party candidates.

The Congress high command has deployed senior leader GS Bali, MLA Vikramaditya Singh and a few

### PARTY SYMBOLS

■ It is expected that the Municipal Corporation elections would be held on party symbols

■ It has forced both BJP and the Congress to work hard to ensure victory of party candidates

other leaders to lead poll campaign for party candidates in the district.

District Congress Committee president Prakash Chaudhari has asked the candidates to submit their applications till February 17. According to party sources, Bali, Vikramaditya Singh, MLA Under Singh and a few senior leaders will arrive in Mandi on February 18 to chalk out future strategy for the poll.

Chaudhari has claimed that the Congress will win more than 10 seats in the district. He challenged Chief Minister Jai Ram

Thakur to conduct the MC polls on party symbols.

The BJP, on the other hand, has also intensified its election campaign with Irrigation and Public Health Minister Mahender Singh Thakur conducting meetings with people in various wards.

Sources said feedback about candidates had been taken and a final decision would be taken soon to allocate party tickets in all 15 wards of the district. It is expected that the Chief Minister will also join the election campaign to ensure victory of party candidates.

# Mild snow, rain in Shimla, nearby areas

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, FEBRUARY 16

People in Shimla and its surrounding areas had a pleasant surprise as weather changed suddenly and the state capital experienced mild snowfall, accompanied by thunderstorm and rain.

The region had a clear day in the morning and chilly winds swept the town but dark clouds overcast the sky, reducing the visibility to a few metres.

Vehicular traffic was hit due to poor visibility and vehicles were forced to move at a snail's pace with headlights on even during the day. Some other districts in the mid hills such as Kullu, Mandi, Sirmaur, Solan, Kangra, Chamba, Lahaul and Spiti and Kinnaur also experienced rains and snow.

While the snow did not last long in Shimla town and melted soon, Jakoo hill was covered under thin coating of snow while adjoining tourist destination of Kufri recorded 3 cm snow. The day tempera-



# NC leader held under UAPA for hate speech

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 16 National Conference leader Hilal Lone has been arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) for allegedly delivering a hate speech at a rally during last year's District Development Council elections in Bandipora, a senior police official said on Tuesday.

Lone, the son of National Conference's member of Parliament Mohammad Akbar Lone, was arrested on Monday from the MLA Hostel here where he was being held captive since December last year, the official said.

He was booked under various sections of the UAPA in an FIR registered at a police station in Hajin in north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

The official said the case related to a speech he made during the public rally while campaigning

## BJP HAS DOUBLE STANDARDS

“The BJP has a completely different standard when it comes to hate speech from its own leaders. They can call for hands to be cut off, people to be murdered and it's fine. Hilal Lone makes a speech and anti-terror laws are used to book him.” Omar Abdullah, NC VICE-PRESIDENT

## CENTRE SHAMELESSLY BOOKING J&K LEADERS

“GOI (Government of India) continues to shamelessly book Kashmiri mainstream leaders under UAPA for 'hate speech'. The truth is that there won't be enough room in Indian prisons if their own ministers, lawmakers and noxious IT Cell were brought to book for inciting communal passions against minorities.” Mehbooba Mufti, PDP CHIEF

in the DDC polls in Hajin. On December 25 last year, he was detained in Bandi-

pore's Sumbal area and then shifted to the MLA Hostel here. — PTI

# Militants trigger IED explosion to target CRPF vehicle in Anantnag

SRINAGAR, FEBRUARY 16 Militants triggered an improvised explosive device (IED) blast to target a security forces' vehicle in Anantnag district on Tuesday, but there was no loss of life, the police said.

Militants targeted a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) bunker vehicle in the Pazzalpora area of Bijbehara in south Kashmir's Anantnag district, a police officer said.

He said the blast damaged a few civilian vehi-

cles, but there was no loss of life reported.

The security forces fired a few shots in the air after the blast, the official said, adding that the area was cordoned off and a hunt was launched to nab the attackers. — PTI

## 2,800 trees to be axed...

this road. This includes 1,454 trees in non-forest area and 1,339 in Renuka ji and Paonta Sahib forest area. Permission for axing trees in the non-forest area has already been accorded, while the SC verdict has paved the wave for the axing of trees in forest area,” said Ashok Chauhan, Conservator of Forests, Nahan.

“The apex court's nod will enable us to hand over the land to the private firm that has been awarded the project. It is likely to be completed in 30 months after the work begins,” said an official in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

The project is covered under the Green National Highways Corridor Project that aims at enhancing effectiveness of the transport network with cost and natural resource efficiency. The World Bank has provided assistance for the project. This road has key significance for the region.

# Pangong pullback within week

They will report back once the tanks, troops, guns and all vehicles are back at their home bases. The pull-back includes dismantling of all infrastructure, including bunkers, helipads, housing units and tents, created after April last year. “The land has to be brought back to the April 2020 status,” officials said.

Once the process is done, commanders of the rank of Lt General are slated to meet within 48 hours and chalk out the next phases.

The first phase of the disengagement for both sides entails withdrawing from positions on the north and south bank of the Pangong Tso, a 135-km glacial lake. The next phases will see talks for similar pullback at Depsang, Gogra and Hot Springs, all located along the 823-km LAC in eastern Ladakh. Since April 2020, there has been a massive build-up on both sides.



The disengagement process is on in eastern Ladakh. PTI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh told the Rajya Sabha on February 11 about the future course on the pull-back. “There are still some outstanding issues with regard to deployment and patrolling at some other points along the LAC in eastern Ladakh. These will be the focus of further discussions with the Chinese side,” he said.

Along the LAC in eastern Ladakh, there are locations where troops of both

# Foreign envoys' 2-day J&K visit from today

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

Envoys from Europe and Africa will visit Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday to assess the development work and the security situation in the Union territory, especially after the successful completion of the District Development Council elections, officials said on Tuesday.

They said during their two-day visit, the envoys would receive first-hand information on the development work undertaken by the UT Administration after abrogation of the special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019.

Showcasing the efforts of

## Diplomatic exercise to counter Pak propaganda

■ This was another diplomatic exercise being undertaken by the government to counter the propaganda that was being orchestrated by Pakistan at international forums, the officials said.

■ The envoys would be briefed about the security situation by senior officers involved with the law-and-order situation in the Kashmir valley, especially attempts of Pakistan to push terrorists into India through the LoC and also about the frequent ceasefire violations, they said.

the Centre for ensuring democracy at the grass-roots level, the newly-elected members of the DDC would be meeting besides holding a meeting with a few prominent citizens and Administrative Secretaries.

Strengthening of democratic institutions at the grass-roots level would be

significantly highlighted, the officials said, adding that during a presentation the envoys would be shown how panchayats had been empowered by giving them financial powers.

On the second day, the ambassadors would visit Jammu where they would be meeting Lt Governor Manoj

# HC relief for Muluk..

FROM PAGE 1

“having links” to a proponent of the ISI's K2 (Khalistan-Kashmir) desk. Alongside Disha, lawyer Nikita Jacob and Muluk, the police are probing Pieter Friedrich.

“Friedrich has been on our radar since 2006 when he was spotted with Bhajan Singh Bhinder (Iqbal Chaudhary), a vocal proponent of the ISI's K2 desk,” said a Delhi Police officer. Friedrich's name, the police said, had been cited in the “who to follow” part of the toolkit Disha and her associates allegedly created and shared with global climate activist Greta Thunberg to call for global action on January 26.

The police wrote to videocon-

ferencing app Zoom for details of 70 persons who attended a January 11 meeting allegedly called by pro-Khalistan outfit Poetic Justice Foundation to prepare the toolkit. The cops say Canada-based Khalistan backer Mo Dhaliwal anchored the meeting “with an aim to create misinformation and cause disaffection against the Indian government”.

The Delhi Commission for Women issued a notice to the Delhi Police, asking for a report by Friday on why they did not allow Disha a lawyer of her choice. Though the police reiterated that due process was followed at the time of her arrest, the DCW said there were lapses.

# 45 dead as bus plunges...

FROM PAGE 1

Sidhi district headquarters, when the ill-fated bus was on its way to Satna from Sidhi, a senior official said.

A search operation involving State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel and the local authorities was still on at the site, the official said.

Rescuers have retrieved 45 bodies from the canal so far, said Rewa Divisional Commissioner Rajesh Jain. “A total of 45 bodies — 24 of men, 20 women and a child — have been recovered in the Bansagar canal until now,” he said, adding that a magisterial probe has been ordered to ascertain the cause of the accident. — PTI

# Protest against offline exams



Women college students protest the decision of conducting offline examinations in Jammu on Tuesday. PTI

**PUNJAB SKILL DEVELOPMENT MISSION**  
SCO 149-152, 11nd Floor, Sector 17-C, Chandigarh  
Notice inviting Request for Proposal (RFP)  
for Selection of Private Training Partner for Setting up, Operation and Maintenance of Health Sector Skill Development Centre (HSSDC) with placement facility at Faridkot, Punjab on PPP format.  
**No. PSDM/2020/903** **Dated: 15.2.2021**  
Punjab Skill Development Mission (PSDM) invites the Request for Proposal (RFP) which can be downloaded from Mission's website **www.psdm.gov.in** for finalization of Private Training Partner for Setting up, Operation and Maintenance of Health Sector Skill Development Centre (HSSDC) with placement facility at Faridkot, Punjab on PPP format. Interested Training Partners should submit their proposals online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** on or before 13/03/2020 upto 3:00 PM along with Bid Document Fee of Rs. 5,000/- (Rs. Five Thousand only) and Bid Security of Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rs. Two Lac Fifty thousand only). In case of any change in the RFP document, it will be uploaded on the Mission's website **www.psdm.gov.in**  
**Sd/- Additional Director,**  
**Punjab Skill Development Mission**  
DPR/Pb/1553

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE**  
**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS**  
Applications are invited from the eligible candidates for one post of Member in Punjab Infrastructure Regulatory Authority (PIRA) under Section 5 of Punjab Infrastructure (Development and Regulation) Act 2002. The educational qualifications, experience, application format, etc., can be downloaded from the website of PIDB: **www.pidb.org** & **www.pbfinance.gov.in**. The other details regarding PIRA including roles and responsibilities or its functions may also be seen at the website **www.pidb.org** & **www.pbfinance.gov.in**. The applicants who had applied through advertisement dated 04.12.2019 will not be required to re-apply as their applications will also be considered along with fresh applications. The applicants should send their applications to **vacancy.pira@gmail.com** Last date for receipt of applications is 09.03.2021.  
**Principal Secretary (Finance)**  
DPR/Pb/1539

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Applications are invited from the interested Government servants, retired Government servants, Ex-MP/Ex-MLA, War Widows and MP/MLAs for the sale of following vehicle on first cum first serve basis. The vehicle can be inspected on any working day in this office between **09:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.** Interested applicant should reach this office by **03.03.2021 up to 11.00 A.M.** to fulfil the formalities regarding purchase of vehicle. The applicant shall deposit earnest money equivalent to 10% of the reserve price through Demand Draft (Refundable) along with the application. The successful applicant shall have to collect the vehicle within **72 hours** after depositing the balance amount of the rate quoted in the application, failing which the vehicle will be offered to the next applicant and earnest money deposited by him shall be forfeited.  

Vehicle No.	Type	Model	Reserved Price
PB-12E-6444	Ambassador Car (Petrol)	2001	87500/-

The undersigned reserves the right to reject any offer without assigning any reason.

**Sd/- Additional Director, IAOR, Punjab**  
**Vit te Vojana Bhawan, Sector 33-A,**  
**5th Floor, Chandigarh.**  
DPR/Pb/1547

**PUNJAB SKILL DEVELOPMENT MISSION**  
SCO 149-152, 11nd Floor, Sector 17-C, Chandigarh  
Notice inviting Request for Proposal (RFP)  
for Selection of Private Training Partner for Setting up, Operation and Maintenance of Multi Skill Development Centre (MSDC) with placement facility at Hoshiarpur, Punjab on PPP format.  
**No. PSDM/2020/905** **Dated: 15.2.2021**  
Punjab Skill Development Mission (PSDM) invites the Request for Proposal (RFP) which can be downloaded from Mission's website **www.psdm.gov.in** for finalization of Private Training Partner for Setting up, Operation and Maintenance of Multi Skill Development Centre (MSDC) with placement facility at Hoshiarpur, Punjab on PPP format. Interested Training Partners should submit their proposals online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** on or before 13/03/2020 upto 3:00 PM along with Bid Document Fee of Rs. 5,000/- (Rs. Five Thousand only) and Bid Security of Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rs. Ten Lac only). In case of any change in the RFP document, it will be uploaded on the Mission's website **www.psdm.gov.in**  
**Sd/- Additional Director,**  
**Punjab Skill Development Mission**  
DPR/Pb/1552

# Bedi removed as Puducherry L-G

political equations in Puducherry change ahead of the upcoming elections.

The Congress government lost majority after MLA A John Kumar resigned today, leaving the Congress with 10 lawmakers and its supporter DMK with three, besides an Independent.

Two Congress MLAs had resigned on January 25 and joined the BJP. In all, four party lawmakers resigned and a fifth was earlier disqualified for anti-party work.

The Puducherry Assembly has 30 members and three nominated ones. With changed equations, both the ruling and the Opposition sides have 14 MLAs each. The Congress lost numbers in the Assembly just a day before Rahul Gandhi's visit for a campaign. This will be Gandhi's first visit here.

Bedi was appointed LG in 2016 and has since been

## BJP BID TO WOO CONGRESS MLAS

■ Move being seen as BJP tactic to placate turncoat Congress MLAs

■ Some of them wanted Bedi replaced ahead of Assembly elections

■ Cong govt now has 14 MLAs in 30-member Assembly

involved in a war of words with CM V Narayanasamy who, in a rare act, staged a dharna outside the Raj Bhavan in 2019 demanding Bedi's recall.

Soundararajan, the former Tamil Nadu BJP chief, was appointed Telangana Governor in September 2019. The Congress had won 15 seats in the 2016 polls. It wrested power with three DMK and one Independent MLA. The Opposition AIADMK has four MLAs, All India NR Congress seven and the BJP three nominated MLAs.

**CORRIGENDUM**  
**HIMACHAL PRADESH HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (HPNDP)**  
(Govt. of Himachal Pradesh)  
Dyerton Bizzhub, Talland Bypass, Shimla, H.P. — 171001  
**Request for Application for Matching Grant Scheme from eligible applicants/entrepreneurs**  
In continuation with earlier Advertisement published in the leading newspapers on 29th January, 2021 on the subject cited above, the last date for submission of application form is extended up to 22/02/2021.  
**Project Director,**  
**Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project (HPNDP).**  
DPR/HP/742

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

### PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to all concerned right holders through this Public Notice that for widening/construction etc. Kmt. 0.00 to 89.500 Kmt. Section of NH-707, Paonta-Gumma Road, the Notification under section 3D of National Highway Act, 1956, has been published in The Tribune and Amar Ujala News Papers on 30-11-2020, to acquire land for public purpose of following villages:-

Name of Tehsil	Name of Village	Area in Hectare
Kamrau	Kamrau	0.0505
	Baldwa-bohal	0.7291
	Kando-dugana	0.0084
	Bokala-pab	0.0926
Shillai	Chadeu	0.0421
	Ashyari	0.1070
	Shillai	9.7454
TOTAL		10.7751

In pursuance of section 3G(3) of National Highway Act, 1956, it is hereby informed to all concerned right holders that claim for compensation, in respect to schedule published under section 3D of NH Act, 1956, in **The Tribune and Amar Ujala News Papers** on 30-11-2020, should be submitted to Competent Authority of Land Acquisition (CALA)-cum-Sub Divisional Officer (C), Paonta Sahib, in his office at Paonta Sahib, up to **22-02-2021**, in person or through authorised agent/ legal practitioner failing which the compensation will be determined and announced, as per the norms fixed by the Government, on **26-02-2021 camp at Tehsil Office Kamrau.**  
**CALA-cum-S.D.O. (C),**  
**Paonta, Distt Sirmaur, H.P.**

**GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB**  
**TNEDR NOTICE REFERENCE NO. 13**  
The Department of Public Works (Building & Roads) invites online bids for following:-  

Sr. No.	Item	Quantity
1.	Construction of Christian Community Hall at Fatehgarh Churian, Distt. Gurdaspur for the year 2020-2021 P.M.-10, State Level Initiatives (Punjab Nirman Programme) Est. Cost Rs.:- 24.88 Lacs Earnest Money Rs.:- 0.50 Lacs Time Limit:- 3 Months Tender Fees:- Rs. 5,000/- Each	1

Closing Date and Time:- 26.02.2021 on 05.00 P.M.  
For Details logon to: **http://eproc.punjab.gov.in**  
**Note:-** Any corrigendum(s) to the Tender Notice shall be published on the above website only.

**Sd/- (Er. Manmohan)**  
**Executive Engineer**  
**Provincial Division, PWD B&R Br.,**  
**Gurdaspur.**  
**eepdgdsdpwdb@gmail.com**  
**96460-36125**  
DPR/Pb/1545

**RESERVE BANK OF INDIA**  
Foreign Exchange Department Sector-17, Chandigarh  
**www.rbi.org.in**  
**Cancellation of Full Fledged Money Changers Licences**  
By exercising the powers conferred under Section 10 (3) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act 1999, the Reserve Bank of India has revoked the Full Fledged Money Changer's (FFMC) licences issued to the following companies for undertaking money changing activities due to under mentioned reason:  

S. No.	Name & Regd. Office Address	Licence No. & Date	Date of Cancellation	Reason for Cancellation
1	Mrs. Bhagwati Forex Pvt. Ltd. 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Guru Lajpat Market, Near Bus Stand, Batala, Distt Gurdaspur	FE CG FFMC 142/2012 dated 01.05.2012	01.12.2020	#
2	Mrs. Jupiter Forex Pvt. Ltd. Cabin No. 15, Second Floor, SCO 145-146, Sector 8C, Chandigarh	FE CG FFMC 210/2017 dated 14.12.2017	03.02.2021	#
3	M/s. Destination Hut Pvt. Ltd. SCO- 2441-2442, First Floor, Cabin No. 08, Sector-22-C, Chandigarh	FE CG FFMC 185/2016 dated 21.06.2016	09.02.2021	Voluntarily surrendered the licence
4	M/s. Geetu Forex Pvt. Ltd. Shop No. 02-B, Ground Floor, Gurjeet Market, Dhangu Road, Pathankot	FE CG FFMC 106/2006 dated 01.09.2006	11.02.2021	Voluntarily surrendered the Licence

# The Company has contravened the provisions of Section 10(4) of FEMA 1999 by not following the directions issued to it from time to time. Consequent to revocation of FFMC license, the FFMCs are prohibited to undertake the money changing activities. Money changing activities of FFMCs are defined in Master Direction No. 3/2015-16 dated 01.01.2015 which is available on **www.rbi.org.in**  
**Regional Director**

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH**  
**EMPLOYEES WELFARE CANTEEN**  
**TENDER/QUOTATION NOTICE**  
The Employees Welfare Canteen, PGIMER, Chandigarh has to make various purchases through rate contract as per the details shown in the table below. The manufacturer/their authorized dealers/distributors/wholesale suppliers can offer their minimum rates as per terms & conditions contained in the Tender Form/Quotations:-  

Tender/Quotation	Enquiry No.	Name of the items required for purchase	Due Date & Time
Tender	EWCG/RCO/2021/02	Pulses and Grocery (Rate contract for one year)	
Quotation	EWCG/VEG/2021/03	Vegetables (Rate contract for Six months)	08.03.2021 till 01.00 PM
Quotation	EWCG/MLK/2021/04	Milk & Milk/Dairy products (Rate contract for Six months)	
Quotation	EWCG/EGG/2021/05	Egg (Hen) (Rate contract for Six months)	

The Tender Form/Quotations along with specification of the products are available on the website **www.pgimer.edu.in** and **www.eprocure.gov.in**.  
The Tender/Quotations will be received physically on or before due date and time at **Employees Welfare Canteen C/o Welfare Department, PGIMER, Chandigarh (Tel. No. 0172-2755085)**. These shall be opened on the same date at 03:00 P.M. in the presence of the authorized intending tenderers. Tenders not submitted on the prescribed form/not accompanied by the required Earnest Money shall be summarily ignored. The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders received without assigning any reason therefor.  
**DY. GENERAL MANAGER (EWC),**  
DI-20537

**Office of ADGP TECHNICAL SERVICES, Punjab, Chandigarh**  
**Punjab Police Headquarters, Sector 9-A, Chandigarh — 160009**  
**Notice Inviting e-Tenders**  
ADGP Technical Services, Punjab, Chandigarh intends to float an e-Tender on 17.02.2021 which will be uploaded on **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** (e-procurement portal of Punjab Government) regarding the below mentioned Annual Maintenance Contracts:-  

Sr. No.	Particular	Qty.
1.	Annual Maintenance Contract for repair of Desktop Computer	1685
2.	Annual Maintenance Contract for repair of Duplex Laser/MFP printer	951
3.	Annual Maintenance Contract for repair of UPS (1KVA, 2KVA & 5 KVA)	405
4.	Annual Maintenance Contract for repair of Thin Client	7

**Note:-** For any amendments regarding the Annual Maintenance Contract, Corrigendum will be uploaded on **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** (e-procurement portal of Punjab Government), Punjab Police Website **http://www.punjabpolice.gov.in/** and Punjab Government website **http://www.punjab.gov.in/**  
For any queries, please contact Sh. Tarvinder Singh, PPS, DSP/Mod/ Technical Services, Punjab, Chandigarh Punjab Police Headquarters, Sector 9-A, Chandigarh. Contact No. **0172-2748100-06 Extn. 2124**, Mobile No. **94176-32475** (Between 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. on any working day).  
**Sd/- (DSP/Mod/TS)**  
**for Inspector General of Police-cum-Chairman,**  
**Tender Committee, TS, Punjab, Chandigarh.**  
DPR/Pb/1549




**HIMACHAL PRADESH  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
\*CORRIGENDUM\***

The tender for the work 4.6, 8.10 to 12 called vide this office letter No.6297-6302 dated 3/2/2021 subsequently to be opened on 18/02/2021 at 11.00 AM is hereby postponed and will now be available for downloading on 17/2/2021 to 25/2/2021 upto 10.30 AM, and will be opened on same day at 11.00 AM due to administrative reasons.

**Executive Engineer,  
Jhandutta Division,  
H.P.PWD. Jhandutta**

DPR/HP/5816

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL  
EDUCATION & RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH**

**NOTICE FOR WALK-IN INTERVIEW**

The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh intends to fill up the **JUNIOR RESIDENT** (Non Academic) posts on ad-hoc basis in the department of Internal Medicine & General Surgery to run emergency services at PGIMER, Chandigarh through walk-in interview. The tenure of these posts will be up to **30.06.2021**. The candidates willing to appear in the above said walk-in interview should visit the website of the Institute i.e. [www.pgimer.edu.in](http://www.pgimer.edu.in) for further details like number of seats, pay scale and eligibility criteria. The willing candidates must reach for interview in the O/o Dean (Academic), PGIMER, Chandigarh on **24.02.2021 strictly by 02.00 PM** along with application form, self-attested photocopies and original certificates of age, qualification, experience and caste etc.

DI-20538

**Professor In-charge (Academic)**

**CORRIGENDUM NOTICE**

In partial correction to notice published earlier by HPPTCL (Himachal Pradesh Power Transmission Corporation Limited) in 'Amar Ujala' on dated 03.01.2021 and 'The Tribune' on dated 02.01.2021, in respect of "Disclosure of Tariff Petition for 33/220kV GIS Substation at Karian along with 220kV D/C Transmission Line to PGCIL Pooling Substation at Chamera-II as filed by HPPTCL before the Himachal Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission for the Period COD (12.05.2018) to FY 2023-24".

2. Proposed Charges for the Control Period may please be read as under:-

Particulars	FY 20 Proj.	FY 21 Proj.	FY 22 Proj.	FY 23 Proj.	FY 24 Proj.
1 Proposed ARR (in rupees lakhs)	1216.54	1259.63	1272.13	1282.54	1268.40
2 Capacity(MW)	25	40	40	40	40
3 Transmission Charges(Rs/MW/month)	405513	262423	265027	267196	264250

All other information shall remain unchanged.

**General Manager (Projects)  
HPPTCL, Shimla-05**

DPR/HP/741

**GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, JASSIA (ROHTAK)  
NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR  
OUTSOURCE OF SERVICES**

Sealed Tenders (Separate Technical & Financial Bids) are invited from the eligible service providers having valid registration number, EPF/ESI/GST registration numbers and having at least 3 years' experience of providing manpower (Skilled & Unskilled) services on outsource basis for cleaning & up keeping, security and multi-tasking help in Laboratories, Library services to be rendered in the college. The interested bidders may collect Tender Form from the college on non-refundable payment of Rs. 500/- in cash or in the form of crossed Demand Draft in favour of '**Principal, Govt. College Jassia**' payable at Rohtak between 20/02/2021 to 01/03/2021 on any working day between 9.00 am to 3.00 pm except public holidays. The last date of receipt of Bid will be 01.03.2021 up to 3.00 pm and bids will be opened on 01/03/2021 at 3:15 pm in Principal office. The bid should be accompanied by EMD of Rs. 10,000/- in the form of crossed DD in favour of above mentioned account. The service provider will be abide by the terms & conditions of outsource policy and relevant labour laws of the government. Bids with service charges of 2% (Two percent) or less than 2% (Two percent) will not be considered. The Service charges should be mentioned up to maximum 2 decimals only otherwise the bid will be rejected. In case the rates quoted by the bidders are same, the decision will be taken by draw of lots in the presence of participants. The concession depicted in Cooperation Department Notification No. 8366-C-7-2016/13818 dated 08.12.2016 will be provided only to Cooperative Labour and Construction Societies. If Cooperative Labour and Construction Societies fail to tender or do not accept the work then open tenders will be invited from both i.e. contractor/service providers and Cooperative Labour and Construction Societies. Other necessary details are provided in the tender document. The undersigned reserves the right to alter the rules of bid and to cancel the Tender without assigning any reasons thereof.

**Sd/- Incharge  
Outsource**  
PRDH-1031/11/4/2021/1812/31/4

**Sd/- Principal,  
Govt. College Jassia (Rohtak)**

**TENDER NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS**

Online tenders on quoted rate basis for below mentioned work are invited from the eligible consultants/ consulting firms as per eligibility criteria of the DNIT.

Name of the Work		Estimated Cost	Earnest Money
Consultancy services for surveying existing Sewerage network and designing of missing sewerage network system in the area of illegal colonies, PGs, buildings near Lovely Professional University, Phagwara as per plan attached Locating/ Selecting suitable Land for STP, consultancy for STP of required capacity of suitable modern and economical technology to achieve the latest parameters as fixed by PPCB and NGT including Detailed Project Report, design and drawings, tender documents, evaluation of bids, proof checking of documents of agencies and fortnightly supervision up to completion of construction and stabilization of STP		To be quoted by the agency	Rs. 1,00,000/-

Tender Processing Fee		Period of Completion	
As per website		As per bidding document	
Online availability of tender for bidding	Last date & time for submission of Online bids	Date & time of opening of tender in O/o DE (PH), JDA, Jalandhar	
From	To	Technical Bid	Financial Bid
17.02.2021 5:00 PM	12.03.2021 11:00 AM	12.03.2021 11:00 AM	15.03.2021 03:00 PM
Conduct of Pre-bid Meeting		Online link will be sent to interested applicants who will contact DE (PH) on e-mail id <a href="mailto:dephjdajda@gmail.com">dephjdajda@gmail.com</a>	
Date & time of Pre-bid meeting : On 24.02.2021 at 12:00 noon.			
1. For detailed terms & conditions refer to our website <a href="https://eproc.punjab.gov.in">https://eproc.punjab.gov.in</a>			
2. For any clarification/ difficulty regarding e-tendering process contact <b>0172-2970263, 2970284.</b>			
Divisional Engineer (PH)			

**JALANDHAR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
SCO-41, PUDA Complex, Ladowali Road, Jalandhar

**GOVT. 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 & Sanitation Division, Ferozepur at Zira on behalf of **Chairman, GPWSC** invites, eligible bidders for the works detailed in the following table, the bids shall be on lump sum/Item rate basis.

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Approx. value of work (in Lacs)	Bid Security (Rs.)	1. Tender Processing Fee	Period of Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Invitation of Bids for Water Supply Scheme Maujagrh Churian Machhi, Block Makhu, Distt. Ferozepur under PRWSIP Sub 1a (iii)/JMM	48.08	96160/-	As per website	10 Months + 3 Months O&M

1. Availability of bidding document on website from **18.02.2021 at 11.30 a.m. to 04.03.2021 at 4.00 p.m.**

2. Pre-Bid Meeting at Superintending Engineer, WSS Circle, Ferozepur office on dt. **25.02.2021 at 11.30 a.m.**

3. The deadline for submission of bids online is **04.03.2021 at 5.00 p.m.**

4. Part I bid named Technical Qualification part of bid will be opened on **05.03.2021 at 11.30 Hours**

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 helpline numbers **0172-2970263, 2970284, 01632-228110**.

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 uploaded only on website.

**On behalf of Chairman, GPWSC,  
Vill. Maujagrh Churian,  
Block Makhu, Distt. Ferozepur.  
Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
WSS Sanitation Division, Ferozepur at Zira.**

# Suu Kyi faces new charge as junta intensifies crackdown

YANGON, FEBRUARY 16 Police in Myanmar filed a new charge against ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi, her lawyer said on Tuesday, in a move that may allow her to be held indefinitely without trial as part of an intensifying crackdown by authorities who seized power in a February 1 coup.

The new charge was for breaking a law that has been used to prosecute people who have violated Covid restrictions, lawyer Khin Maung Zaw said after meeting with a judge in a court in Naypyitaw. Because of changes to the Penal Code instituted by the junta last week, it could allow her to be detained indefinitely without court permission. Meanwhile, the military assured people that it would hold an election and hand over power to the civilian government. "Our objective is to hold an election and hand power to the winning party," Brigadier General Zaw Min Tun, spokesman for the ruling council, said. Since the February 1 coup, the junta has ratcheted up the pressure on protesters resisting the takeover, including



A soldier looks at a banner pasted on an armoured vehicle by protesters in Yangon. REUTERS

## CHARGE FABRICATED, SAYS BORIS JOHNSON

British PM Boris Johnson said new charges against former Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi had been fabricated by the military and were a clear violation of her human rights. We support citizens, he said. REUTERS



A MONK PROTESTS IN MANDALAY

## SANCTIONS NOT NEEDED: SINGAPORE MINISTER

Singapore's foreign minister said the Myanmar situation was alarming but he did not support widespread sanctions on the country in response to the coup there, which could hurt ordinary citizens. REUTERS

breaking up some demonstrations and ordering internet access blocked.

Meanwhile, long queues of people were seen at the Central Bank amid speculation

online that the military was seeking to seize money from it. — Agencies

# 5 get death sentence for killing blogger in B'desh

DHAKA, FEBRUARY 16 A special anti-terrorism tribunal on Tuesday sentenced five members of a banned Islamist militant group, including a fugitive army major, to death and a sixth man to life in prison for killing a prominent Bangladeshi-American atheist blogger, Avijit Roy, in 2015. Roy, a 42-year-old Bangladesh-born US citizen, was hacked to death by

## Avijit Roy had been criticising religious fundamentalism

Islamist militants just after he left a book fair at the Dhaka University on February 26, 2015. His wife Rafida Ahmed was injured. Roy was an outspoken critic of religious fundamentalism. — PTI

# Foreign workers' quota faces cut in Singapore

SINGAPORE, FEBRUARY 16 Aiming at moderating the country's reliance on foreign labour, Singapore on Tuesday announced that the S Pass quota for foreign workers in manufacturing sector would be cut from 20 per cent to 15 per cent in phases over the next two years. The S Pass allows mid-level skilled foreigners to work in Singapore. Workers on S

Passes must earn a fixed monthly salary of at least \$2,500 and are typically degree or diploma holders, such as technicians. From January 1 next year, firms in the manufacturing sector can have only up to 18 per cent of their workforce be foreign workers on S Passes, Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat said in his Budget speech. — PTI

## BUSINESS

USD \$	EURO €	POUND £	JPY ¥	YUAN 元	CAD C\$	AUD A\$	SGD S\$	HKD HK\$		BSE 49.96 52,104.17	NSE 1.25 15,313.45	GOLD ₹47,340 Mumbai (MCX)	SILVER ₹69,200 Mumbai (MCX)
₹72.69	₹88.41	₹101.28	₹0.69	₹11.28	₹57.51	₹56.66	₹54.94	₹9.40					

## Bitcoin vaults above\$50,000 for first time

LONDON, FEBRUARY 16 Bitcoin rose above \$50,000 on Tuesday to a new record high, building on a rally fuelled by signs that the world's biggest cryptocurrency is gaining acceptance among mainstream investors. Bitcoin hit a new high of \$50,602, and was last up 5% at \$50,300. It has risen around 72% so far this year, with most of the gains coming after electric carmaker Tesla said it had bought \$1.5 billion in bitcoin. It also said it would accept the currency as payment. But Tesla was only the latest in a string of large investments that have vaulted bitcoin from the fringes of finance to company balance sheets and Wall Street dealing desks, as US firms and traditional money managers have started to buy a lot of it. — Reuters

# Cairn moves US court to make India cough up \$1.2-bn award

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16 Cairn Energy has filed a case in a US district court to enforce a \$1.2-billion arbitration award it won in a tax dispute against India, a court document showed, ratcheting up pressure on the government to pay its dues. In December, an arbitration body awarded the British firm damages of more than \$1.2 billion plus interest and costs. The tribunal ruled India breached an investment treaty with Britain and said New Delhi was liable to pay. Cairn asked the US court to recognise and confirm the award, including payments due since 2014 and interest compounded semi-annually

**TAX DISPUTE CASE**

- In December last, an arbitration body awarded the British firm damages of more than \$1.2 billion plus interest and costs
- The tribunal ruled India breached an investment treaty with Britain and said New Delhi was liable to pay
- Cairn has asked the US court to recognise and confirm the award, including payments due since 2014 and interest compounded semi-annually

recovering its dues, potentially by seizing Indian assets, if the government did not pay, a source with knowledge of the arbitration case said. "If Cairn wins the case, it will be a step towards attaching and seizing Indian assets overseas, especially in the US," the source said. Reuters reported last month that Cairn was identifying India's overseas assets, including bank accounts and

even Air India planes or Indian ships that could be seized in the absence of a settlement. Cairn declined to comment but pointed to a February 9 Twitter post where it said chief eSimon Thomson was looking forward to meeting India's Finance Minister in Delhi next week. "We would request, along with others, that the Indian government move swiftly to adhere to the award that

**IN BRIEF**

**NEW DELHI**  
**RailTel IPO subscribed 2.64 times on first day**  
The IPO of telecom infrastructure provider RailTel Corporation of India was subscribed 2.64 times on the first day of subscription on Tuesday. The Rs 819.24-crore offer received bids for 16,13,74,220 shares as against 6,11,95,923 shares on offer, as per an update on the NSE. PTI

**NEW DELHI**  
**Amazon to start device manufacturing line in India**  
Amazon on Tuesday said it will begin manufacturing Amazon Devices, including Fire TV sticks, in Chennai later this year in partnership with Foxconn's subsidiary, Cloud Network Technology. While it did not share details of the capacity or investment for the project, Amazon said it will continuously evaluate scaling capacity to additional marketplaces/cities depending on the domestic demand. PTI

**NEW DELHI**  
**Mastercard, Razorpay in pact for small businesses**  
Global payments solution major Mastercard on Tuesday said it has partnered with fintech player Razorpay to drive digital payments acceptance by small businesses and start-ups in the country. The partnership will empower Indian micro, small and medium enterprises in digitising their operations. PTI

**NEW DELHI**  
**Unacademy acquires majority stake in TapChief**  
Edtech major Unacademy on Tuesday announced acquisition of majority stake in professional networking platform TapChief. As part of the deal, Unacademy will acquire a majority stake in TapChief, and enable the exit of all existing investors, a statement said. PTI

# Export credit way behind target in Haryana

VIJAY C ROY  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 16 Though timely availability of export credit is critical for exports, banks in Haryana are way behind the target. As far as export credit is concerned, the banks in the state achieved only 0.03% of the target (2% of total advances) from December 2019 to December 2020. According to exporters, the share of export credit in the state has fallen over past couple of years. This is a cause for concern especially for the MSME sector. "In the

STATISTICS AT A GLANCE		
Beneficiary	Goal	Achievement (Dec 2020)
Agriculture sector	18%	20%
Small & marginal farmers	8%	8%
Micro enterprises	7.5%	9%
Export credit	2%	0.03%



past few years, the share of export credit has come down and this is a cause for concern," said a banker requesting anonymity. The total disbursement of export credit was 0.10% in December 2018 and 0.04% in December 2019 against the designated target of 2%

of total advances. Concerned over the low disbursement, Haryana Additional Chief Secretary (Finance & Planning) TVSN Prasad has called a meeting of bankers operating in major export clusters such as Gurugram, Faridabad and Panipat to discuss impedi-

ments behind the low credit growth. "We need to find out reasons behind the slow growth in export credit. I will suggest lead district managers to convene a meeting soon to discuss the reasons and remove stumbling blocks," he said at the recently held State Level

Bankers Committee meet. Export finance plays a crucial role in enabling exporters to execute their orders efficiently. Export credit is required for short period both before and after the shipment of order. While the pre-shipment export finance is required as working capital for accomplishing timely production, packing and shipment of the orders, the post-shipment finance facilitates in sustaining exporters' business operations while still waiting to receive payments due from foreign buyers.

# Indian missions take on critics of farm laws

SANDEEP DIKSHIT  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16 In addition to the arrest of young environmentalist Disha Ravi, the farmers' agitation had ripples overseas, including a tense situation in Sydney and an aggressive stance by Indian missions that included specifically countering the Labour MP from Leicester East.

The Indian High Commission in London took on British Member of Parliament Claudia Webbe opposing the arrest of Disha Ravi and backing the farmers' agitation. In a four-page open letter, the High Commission invited the MP to "obtain facts and correct information from" the mission. It also pointed out that India's internal law and order is a sovereign subject and "not open to external interference". All the missions abroad have been active in support-

**'INTERNAL MATTER'**

- Indian High Commission in London takes on UK MP Claudia Webbe opposing the farm laws and Disha's arrest
- India said its internal law and order is a sovereign subject, not open to external interference

ing the farm laws. In Sydney, the police intervened to divert a car-rally by Indian diaspora groups supporting the farm laws which was allegedly moving in the direction of a gurdwara. The Australian Sikh Association "lauded the prompt police action". But a diaspora media outlet quoted the Sunday's "Tiranga Rally" participant Gayatri Sharma as stating, "It was unfortunate we have to change the route just because some Khalistani elements threatened to disrupt our peaceful rally."

## Preeti Sinha to lead UN agency

UNITED NATIONS, FEBRUARY 16 The UN Capital Development Fund has appointed Indian-origin investment and development banker Preeti Sinha as its Executive Secretary, whose focus will be on providing micro-finance assistance to women, youth, small and medium-sized enterprises in under-served communities. Sinha commenced her tenure as UNCDF Executive Secretary, the highest leadership rank in the institution, on Monday. Established in 1966, the New York-headquartered organisation provides micro-finance access to Least Developed Countries (LDCs), with the mandate to unlock potential of public and private finance. — PTI

## Pronita Gupta is Biden's aide

WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 16 A Person of Indian Origin (PIO), Pronita Gupta, an expert on labour issues, has been named US President Joe Biden's Special Assistant for Labour and Workers on the Domestic Policy Council. Gupta, who expertise in the areas of paid family and medical leave, pay equity, and other workplace labour standards, brings a deep commitment to advocating policies that improve job quality for workers. Meanwhile, House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi has proposed a 9/11-type independent commission to investigate the storming of the Capitol by supporters of former president Donald Trump on January 6. — PTI



Patel picks up five wickets, Ashwin three as India win by 317 runs to level series

CHENNAI, FEBRUARY 16  
Axar Patel and Ravichandran Ashwin completed the annihilation of clueless England batsmen today, the fourth day of the second Test, bringing India back into contention for the World Test Championship (WTC) final with a series-levelling victory today.  
Debutant Patel made full use of favourable conditions to bag 5/60 in 21 overs while Ashwin finished with a match haul of eight wickets. This and his classy 100 earned Ashwin the Man of the Match award.  
England were routed for a paltry 164 in the second session today as they pursued an unlikely victory target of 482. The 317-run margin is India's biggest ever against England in terms of runs.  
India have now risen to second in the WTC standings and with two matches to go, need to win the series 2-1 or 3-1 to qualify for the final against New Zealand in June.

**Comeback**  
After a crushing 227-run defeat in the first Test, Virat Kohli couldn't have asked for a better comeback before the crucial Day/Night Test in Ahmedabad starts in just over a week's time.  
Some critics, mostly from the English side, had criticised the pitch for being too spin-friendly, but two 100s and three 50s by Indian batsmen showed that runs could be scored here if one had the skill and application.  
The Indians won despite missing their best all-round, the injured Ravindra Jadeja, and their best pacer, Jasprit Bumrah, who was rested. Opener Rohit Sharma gave India a head start with a brilliant 100 on Day 1, setting the tone, and later Ashwin made the match his own.



Ravichandran Ashwin and Axar Patel picked up 8 wickets in England's second innings. PHOTO: BCCI

**Top stumping**  
England lost seven wickets for 111 runs in 35.2 overs today. India got the first wicket today when the young Rishabh Pant pulled off a

lovely stumping to get rid of Dan Lawrence (26 off 53 balls) off Ashwin. The ball had turned and travelled between the batsman's legs, but despite being unsighted,

Pant managed to effect the stumping with a dive.  
Ben Stokes hung around for 51 balls, scoring 8, but today he could not pull off one of his famous rescue acts against top-quality spinners. He was kept on a tight leash, and Ashwin removed him with one that did not turn — Stokes inside-edged it to his pads, the ball looped up and Kohli at second slip dived to his right to complete the catch.  
Captain Joe Root got a reprieve when his reverse sweep off Kuldeep Yadav, when on 32, was dropped by Mohammed Siraj at deep point.  
Patel, who had shown great accuracy by landing 90 per cent of his deliveries on the rough, finally got his reward when Ollie Pope (12) top-edged the ball while attempting a slog-sweep.  
Ben Foakes didn't stay

SCOREBOARD				
India 1st innings 329				
England 1st innings 134				
India 2nd innings 286				
England 2nd inn (Overnight 53/3)				
R Burns c Kohli b Ashwin				25
D Sibley lbw b Patel				3
D Lawrence st Pant b Ashwin				26
J Leach c R Sharma b Patel				0
J Root c Rahane b Patel				33
B Stokes c Kohli b Ashwin				8
O Pope c I Sharma b Patel				12
B Foakes c Patel b Yadav				2
M Ali st Pant b Yadav				43
O Stone lbw b Patel				0
S Broad not out				5
Extras (B 6, LB 1)				7
Total (All out, 54.2 overs)				164
FOW: 1-17, 2-49, 3-50, 4-66, 5-90, 6-110, 7-116, 8-116, 9-126				
Bowling				
	O	M	R	W
Ishant Sharma	6	3	13	0
Axar Patel	21	5	60	5
Ravichandran Ashwin	18	5	53	3
Mohammed Siraj	3	1	6	0
Kuldeep Yadav	6.2	1	25	2
Man of the Match: R Ashwin				
<< India's players celebrate on Day 4 of the second Test in Chennai on Tuesday. bcci				

long as he fell to Kuldeep Yadav (2/25), mis-timing a sweep shot into the palms of Patel at midwicket.  
Root's 92-ball, 133-minute vigil finally ended when Patel got him with a classical left-arm spinner's dismissal. Having beaten Root's edge a number of times, Patel got him with one that bounced up from a rough spot, took the edge of his bat and flew to Rahane at slip.  
Patel then removed Olly Stone to earn a five-for on Test debut.  
Moeen Ali, coming in at No. 9, spanked the spinners for five sixes and three fours to made 43 off 18 balls, England's highest individual score in the match.  
A smart Pant stumping off Yadav ended Ali's innings, bringing down the curtain on a highly satisfactory outing for Kohli and his men. — Agencies, TNS

Toss not a factor: Kohli

CHENNAI, FEBRUARY 16  
Indian captain Virat Kohli, interacting with the media after the win, said winning the toss in this match was not a decisive factor as the pitch helped spin bowlers right from Day 1.  
**Excerpts:**

**On winning toss**  
I don't think on this pitch it would have mattered so much, to be very honest with you, because if you looked at our second innings, on day three, we still applied ourselves, almost got 300 runs again. We believed that we could get runs on that pitch, and it wasn't unfair if the toss went either way.  
Both teams had to apply themselves, and that's what you want in Test cricket, whether you're playing on spinning tracks or on seaming tracks which have a lot of grass on it, both teams should be in the game from the first session onwards, and that was exactly the case on this pitch.

**On his second-innings approach after being dismissed for a duck**  
I've taken a lot of pride in improving myself very quickly, correcting mistakes, which probably I haven't done in the past on a few occasions, I've been rigid. But now, if I make an error I make sure in the very next innings I iron it out, because I understand that I need to be batting out there as much as possible in the middle, and that partnership with Ashwin was very important for us, almost 100 runs, I think he batted outstandingly well. I just decided in the second that I'm not going to go after the runs too much, not get ahead of the game. I'm going to trust my defence, I can bat four ses-



Virat Kohli was delighted with Axar Patel's performance on debut. PHOTO: BCCI

“It's a special, special moment for him. Actually, he would have played the first game as well if he didn't have that niggle. ... Very very happy for him, hope he builds it up from here on” Virat Kohli

INDIA RISE TO SECOND IN WTC TABLE

India need to win series 2-1 or better to qualify for the final									
Team	Series	Won	Matches	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points	% Points	
NZ	5*	3	11	7	4	0	420	70.00	
IND	6*	4	15	10	4	1	460	69.70	
AUS	4*	2	14	8	4	2	332	69.20	
ENG	6*	4	19	11	5	3	442	67.00	

\* Due to disruptions caused by Covid, standings are determined by percentage of points out of total points contested by a team.

sions on this pitch, no problem at all, and I'm going to trust my defence to get me out of trouble.

**On Patel's show on debut**  
It's a special, special moment for him. Actually, he would have played the first game as well if he didn't have that niggle, but yeah, he was very keen to step onto the field, and as a left-arm spinner, when you get that kind of a pitch where it's turning square and he bowls so fast, he was just all smiles, he couldn't wait to get the ball in his hands. Very very happy for him, hope he builds it up from here on, and has a very strong couple of games going forward, so he's always in the mix to play Test cricket for India.

Big Win 317

Runs is India's margin of victory, the team's biggest win over England by runs

100, 8

A 100 and 8 wickets by R Ashwin in the match, the third time he's achieved this feat in a Test

21

Test wins for India under Virat Kohli, matching the record of MS Dhoni. Kohli has led India to 21 wins in 28 Tests, Dhoni had done it in 30 Tests

1st time

Joe Root did not touch 50 in a Test match in India, in a total of 8 Tests

BRIEFLY

**KOLKATA**  
**Ahmedabad pink ball Test sold out: Ganguly**  
BCCI president Sourav Ganguly today announced that the pink ball Day/Night Test between India and England in Ahmedabad has been "sold out". The Test will begin on February 24 and the authorities have decided to allow 50 per cent spectators. "Ahmedabad is completely sold out. Happy to see normalcy back," Ganguly said.

**CHENNAI**  
**Shubman sustains blow on left forearm, taken for scan**  
India's opening batsman Shubman Gill has sustained a blow on his left forearm while fielding on the third day of the second Test against England and has been taken for a precautionary scan, the BCCI said.

**VASCO**  
**Ruthless Hyderabad send Kerala Blasters packing**  
Hyderabad FC defeated former champions Kerala Blasters 4-0 in the Indian Super League, climbing to third on the table. The result meant Kerala are out of the playoff race.

**LONDON**  
**Werner finds net as Chelsea beat Newcastle**  
Chelsea notched up their fourth league win in a row under new coach Thomas Tuchel and striker Timo Werner ended his goal drought as the Blues beat Newcastle United 2-0 to climb into the Champions League qualifying places. AGENCIES

TODAY ON TV

TENNIS  
AUSTRALIAN OPEN  
SONY SIX 5:30AM

ISL  
GOA VS ODISHA  
STAR SPORTS 7:30PM

EPL  
EVERTON VS MAN CITY  
STAR SPORTS 1:45AM  
(THURSDAY)

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE  
SEVILLA VS DORTMUND  
PORTO VS JUVENTUS  
1:30AM (THURSDAY)  
SONY TEN

Olympics boxing qualification event cancelled

LAUSANNE, FEBRUARY 16  
A global boxing qualifying tournament for the Tokyo Olympics has been cancelled and a European event was postponed from April to June.  
The International Olympic Committee said today plans were changed because of "current challenges to international travel and related restrictions in many countries" during the coronavirus pandemic.  
Boxers worldwide were to compete for 53 places in the

Tokyo lineup at a tournament in Paris in June. Those places will now be allocated equally across continents by world rankings based on results since 2017, the IOC said.  
Olympics entries from Africa and the Asia-Oceania region will now be allocated by rankings while boxers in the Americas and Europe can still earn qualifying places in the ring.  
An Americas tournament is scheduled for May 10-16 in Argentina, and the Euro-

Olympics entries from Africa and the Asia-Oceania region will now be allocated by rankings based on results since 2017

pean qualifiers should be in June at a venue to be decided. There will be eight men's weight classes and five women's weight classes at the Tokyo Olympics, which are set to open July 23.

**India's contingent unlikely to go past nine**  
**New Delhi:** With the IOC deciding to scrap the Olympics world qualifiers, India is unlikely to add to the nine who have made the cut for the Tokyo Games.  
Amit Panghal (52kg), Manish Kaushik (63kg), Vikas Krishan (69kg), Ashish Kumar (75kg), Satish Kumar (+91kg), M C Mary Kom (51kg), Simranjit Kaur (60kg), Lovlina Borgohain (69kg) and Pooja Rani (75kg) have qualified for the Games.

The remaining categories in which Olympics slots are still up for grabs in the Indian context are men's 57kg, 81kg and 91kg and women's 57kg. None of these categories feature Indians in the higher rankings.  
However, Indian boxing's high performance director Santiago Nieva expects some more qualifications. "Obviously, there is disappointment but we are still hopeful. We will wait for what the IOC comes up with," he told PTI. — AP, PTI

China, Japan to skip World Cup in Delhi

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16  
Shooting powerhouses China and Japan are among a host of countries skipping the ISSF World Cup in New Delhi, scheduled from March 18 to 29. The countries that have not sent in their entries are China, Japan, Germany, Russia, Australia, New Zealand, Kuwait and Malaysia, the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) said.  
A total of 42 countries have so far confirmed their entries

for the World Cup for rifle, pistol and shotgun.  
Prominent among the countries competing are South Korea, Singapore, USA, United Kingdom, Iran, Ukraine, France, Hungary, Italy, Thailand and Turkey.  
Meanwhile, NRAI today announced the team for the tournament. All the country's top shooters, including the 15 Tokyo Olympics quota holders, are going to participate in the event. — PTI

Serb beats Zverev to enter semifinals

MELBOURNE, FEBRUARY 16  
Novak Djokovic smashed a racquet, sending a piece of the frame flying. Later, he plopped himself down right there at the back of the blue court, looking forlorn as can be. He dropped the opening set against Alexander Zverev, one of the young guys trying to shove aside Djokovic and the rest of the Big Three. Djokovic trailed 0-3 in the third. And 0-3 in the fourth, too, eventually even facing a set point.  
Ah, but this is Djokovic we're talking about, the ultimate competitor. And this is Djokovic at the Australian Open, where no man ever has been better. So, naturally, Djokovic pulled himself together and pulled out the victory, reaching his ninth semifinal at Melbourne Park by eliminating fifth seed Zverev 6-7(6) 6-2 6-4 7-6(6).  
"I kind of regained my focus after I broke that racquet. Things started to shift a little bit for me in a positive direction," Djokovic said in his on-court interview in Rod Laver Arena about the way he mangled his equipment by hitting it against the court three times after netting a backhand return at 3-1 in the third set. "It was a relief for

Djokovic breaks the shackles



Novak Djokovic hits a backhand return against Alexander Zverev during their quarterfinal. AP/PTI

me, but I wouldn't recommend this kind of relief-channeling, if you want to call it," Djokovic said later.  
"Of course I'm not proud of that, but you go through a lot of different emotions, you go through an inner battle. Everyone is different. I have my own demons that I have to fight with."  
Djokovic is closing in on a ninth championship in Aus-

tralia, which would add to his own record for a man. And an 18th Grand Slam title overall, two fewer than rivals Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.  
Both men wore tape on their midsections today to help with abdominal issues; Djokovic was hurt during his third-round win against Taylor Fritz and said he hasn't been practising as normal on his off-days.

Several leading men have been injured in Australia, and Djokovic thinks a big reason for that is the unusual circumstances of players' needing to quarantine for two weeks upon arrival in the country because of the strict Covid-19 pandemic regulations Down Under.  
"What we are seeing is not normal. It's not what we are used to. Top players are the

“I kind of regained my focus after I broke that racquet. It was a relief for me, but I wouldn't recommend this kind of relief-channeling, if you want to call it” Novak Djokovic

fittest,” the top-ranked Djokovic said after his 23-ace performance against Zverev.

**What a debut**  
In the semifinals, Djokovic will face the surprise of the tournament: Aslan Karatsev, a 27-year-old from Russia who is ranked 114th and needed to go through qualifying rounds just to get into the main draw of a Major for the first time. "To be honest," Djokovic said, "I haven't seen him play at all before the Australian Open."  
No one ever had been to the final-four in his Slam debut, until Karatsev's 2-6 6-4 6-1 6-2 elimination of No. 18 Grigor Dimitrov, who was hurt by back spasms that made tying his shoes a chore.  
Dimitrov remained on court through the finish, but on Monday, injuries caused No. 9 Matteo Berrettini to withdraw before his match and No. 22 Casper Ruud to stop after the second set of his. — AP



“It's an unbelievable feeling. Of course, it's first time. First time in main draw; first time semis. It's incredible” Aslan Karatsev

Serena tops Halep

Serena Williams was not pleased with the way her play suddenly was slipping in the quarterfinals. After one mistake against second seed Simona Halep — who won the last time they played each other — Williams pointed at her racket strings and made a sour face, as if to indicate it wasn't her fault. After another, Williams looked up at her guest box with palms up and asked, "What is happening?" That dismay didn't last long. Williams recalibrated her shots with the help of terrific footwork, overcame 33 unforced errors and claimed the last five games, beating Halep 6-3 6-3 to return to the final-four at Melbourne Park for the first time since she won the tournament in 2017. "I just realised I was making a lot of unforced errors in those games that I lost. And I knew that I had an opportunity to play better," said



Serena Williams hits a backhand against Simona Halep. REUTERS

Williams, now two wins away from claiming her record-tying 24th Major title. She set up a showdown against No. 3 Naomi Osaka, a three-time Slam champ who will carry a 19-match winning streak into Thursday's semifinals. Osaka overpowered 71st-ranked Hsieh Su-wei of Taiwan 6-2 6-2, helped by serves that reached 196kmph. AP



IN BRIEF

Eminent jurist Rama Jois passes away

BENGALURU: Eminent jurist and former Governor of Bihar and Jharkhand, Justice (ret'd) M Rama Jois, passed away here on Tuesday. He was 89 and is survived by wife, son and daughter. Jois was not keeping well due to age-related ailments and suffered a cardiac arrest, family sources said. ¶

Chatterjee takes over as top UN envoy

BEIJING: Senior UN official Sid-dharth Chatterjee of India has formally taken over as the UN Resident Coordinator in China, a key posting of overseeing the work of 27 agencies, funds and programmes of the global organisation. He will be UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres's senior-most UN Representative in China as the UN Resident Coordinator. ¶

Portal, app for cantt residents launched

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh launched a portal and mobile app to provide civic services to over 20 lakh residents of 62 cantonments across the country. The portal (echhawani.govin) will allow residents to avail basic services like payment of taxes and fees. ¶

Agri reforms will benefit small, marginal farmers, asserts PM

‘Those spreading lies for petty political gains stand exposed’

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

Mounting another defence of the new farm laws, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said those spreading lies about the legislations for political gains stood exposed.

“The bundle of lies and misinformation being spread about the farm laws for political gains is now being exposed. Everyone is watching how people who made laws to enable the entry of foreign companies into the Indian agriculture market are spawning myths and trying to scare our farmers in the name of local companies,” the PM said, attacking the Congress-led UPA without naming it.

The PM was speaking virtually at the foundation stone laying ceremony of Maharaja Suheldev Memorial and development works at Chittaura Lake in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh.

Backing the farm laws, he said these would benefit small and marginal farmers the most. “As landholdings



Farmers at the Ghazipur border on Tuesday. MANAS RANJAN BHUI

NADDA, SHAH MEET BJP LEADERS FROM HRY, UP

BJP president JP Nadda on Tuesday held a meeting with top leaders and functionaries from Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, the states leading the stir along with Punjab. The meeting

aimed to discuss and devise the party's strategy amid the string of 'mahapanchayats' by protesting farm leaders. It was also attended by Home Minister Amit Shah and Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.

CLAIMS RAPID PACE IN INFRA DEVELOPMENT

■ Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday flaunted various new infrastructure projects and said if so much could be achieved in the first two months of the year, one could well imagine the number of projects that would be rolled out during the remaining part of the year.

■ He was addressing a webinar held to detail a roadmap for effective implementation of the provisions of Union Budget in development of infrastructure. ¶



shrink it becomes essential to form farmer produce organisations to protect small farmers,” he added.

In an outreach to farmers of Uttar Pradesh, where kisan mahapanchayats are being held routinely to oppose farm laws, the PM said despite the implementation

of new agricultural laws, paddy procurement from UP has been twice the last year.

“Procurement worth 65 lakh metric tonnes has already been done in UP. This is twice the size of last year. The state has also disbursed Rs one lakh crore to sugarcane farmers,” the PM said,

assuring farmers of the MSP.

He said attempts were on to connect small farmers with national markets through Kisan Rail. Referring to the Swamitva scheme of the Centre, the PM said the government was committed to protecting the homes of poor from illegal occupation.

U'khand disaster: 3 more bodies found, toll 58



Rescue operations at Tapovan in Chamoli district. ¶

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

JOSHIMATH, FEBRUARY 16

The cumulative toll in the Uttarakhand flashfloods has gone up to 58 with three more bodies found today. While two bodies were recovered from the Tapovan tunnel, one was found in the riverbed. As many as 146 persons are still missing. “The cumulative toll in the glacial disaster has

146 persons still missing

mounted to 58, while 146 persons are still missing,” a senior official of the search team said. One body was recovered from the tunnel around midnight, while another one was found around 2 am. Of the 58 bodies found so far, 31 have been identi-

fied and handed over to their families.

In all, 11 bodies have been recovered from the sludge-choked intake Adit tunnel of the NTPC's Tapovan hydropower project so far. The agencies involved in the rescue operations include the Indo-Tibetan Border Police, the National Disaster Response Force and the State Disaster Response Force.

Mulling measures to regulate OTT, Centre tells SC

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

The Centre on Tuesday told the Supreme Court that it was contemplating certain measures to regulate Over the Top (OTT) platforms such as Netflix and Amazon Prime.

Acting on a PIL seeking OTT regulation by an autonomous body, a Bench led by Chief Justice SA Bobde asked the government to spell out its stand in six weeks even as Additional Solicitor General KM Nataraj said the government was contemplating measures on the issue.

The top court had on October 15 last year issued notice to the Centre on a PIL seeking setting up of an autonomous body to regulate OTT platforms, which provide paid film and television content to consumers via a high-speed Internet connection. It had asked the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Internet and Mobile Association of India to respond to the PIL filed by advocate Shashank Shekhar Jha.

The government had earlier told the court in the Sudarshan News case that there was a need to regulate digital media in India. Jha wanted the top court to direct the government to set up a body for monitoring of content on different OTT/streaming and digital media platforms.



PLEA ON RETURN OF MPLAD FUNDS JUNKED

■ The SC on Tuesday dismissed a plea seeking direction to the Centre to return Rs 365 crore donated by MPs from MPLADS fund to PM CARES Fund for tackling exigencies emerging from the Covid-19 pandemic.

■ The Bench said it was not inclined to entertain the petition and dismissed it. Advocate Dushyant Tiwari said ₹365 crore were donated by lawmakers from MPLADS in the PM CARES Fund, in contravention of the guidelines. ¶

He pointed out that there was no law or autonomous body governing the digital content to monitor and manage these digital content available to the public at large without any filter.

None of the OTT/streaming platforms, including Netflix, Amazon Prime, Zee5 and Hotstar, have signed the self-regulation provided by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting since February 2020, the petitioner contended.

Sedition law can't be used to silence disquiet: Court

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

A Delhi court has said the law of sedition cannot be invoked to quieten the disquiet under the pretence of muzzling the miscreants.

Additional Sessions Judge Dharmender Rana made the observation while granting bail to Devi Lal Burdak and Swaroop Ram, who were arrested by the Delhi Police earlier this month for sedition and spreading rumours by posting fake videos on Facebook during the farmers' stir.

The court said invocation of Section 124-A (sedition) of the IPC was a “seriously debatable issue” in the case before it. “The sedition law cannot be invoked to quieten the disquiet under the pretence of muzzling the miscreants,” the judge said.

Burdak had allegedly posted a fake video on his Facebook page with the tagline “there is a rebellion in Delhi Police and around 200 police officials have given mass resignation”. Ram had shared a similar video. — PTI

Do not violate rights: Parl panel to probe agencies

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

Amid the Delhi Police action in the toolkit controversy and related issues, the parliamentary standing committee on home today told the heads of probe agencies under the government to ensure “citizen rights are not violated even by default during the course of the investigations and democratic procedures never given the go-by”.

The committee interacted with the chiefs of NIA, CBI, Delhi Police among other investigation agencies under the Home Ministry to discuss their budget requirements. — TNS

Meagre earning, no social security: Report highlights plight of truckers

SHUBHADEEP CHOUDHURY

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

A recent World Bank report on traffic crash highlighted the plight of truck drivers and its social impact in India.

The report, released by Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari, said while 53 per cent of truck drivers earned “a meagre income of Rs 10,000-Rs 20,000 per month, 93 per cent did not get any social security benefits such as provident fund, pension, health insurance, life insurance or gratuity”.

Quoting figures compiled by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways in 2018, the report said of the 1.5 lakh people killed in road crashes in the country, 15,000 (10 per cent) were truck drivers. Trucks were involved in over 57,000 crashes during this period.

According to the report, one of the biggest challenges in claiming compensation after a crash for truck drivers has been under-reporting of the incident and non filing of FIRs. Overall, about two-thirds (66 per cent) of the 420 truck driv-

RISKY RIDE: DRIVERS COMPRISE 10% OF CRASH VICTIMS\*



ers surveyed for the study hadn't filed an FIR after the crash. The study noted that despite having a high rate of crashes and resultant injuries, it was found that none of the respondent truck drivers had applied or benefited from any government-run scheme for compensation. They had neither laid claim to or benefited from any government scheme like cashless treatment at hospi-

tals, solatium fund for hit-and-run cases, or any other ex-gratia schemes at the central or state level. “The process of claiming insurance is fraught with challenges for vulnerable groups like truck drivers who often hail from LIH (lower income households) and disadvantaged sections of society,” the study observed. Only 40 per cent of the drivers were found to have life insurance.

Five cases of SA, Brazil variants

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

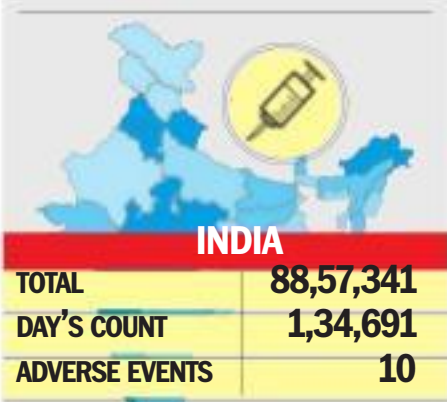
The government today said it was mulling mandatory RTPCR tests to rule out Covid-19 in returnees from South Africa and Brazil after five people travelling from these two countries reported mutant strains of the Sars-Cov2 virus.

“We are in constant consultations with the Ministry of Civil Aviation on the issue. We may make RTPCR tests mandatory for returnees from South Africa and Brazil. Flights from these two countries are not direct and are mostly routed through other countries such as in the Gulf. Discussions are underway on how best to check the possibility of Covid-19 spread through mutants reported in these countries. There will be a decision on this issue soon,” Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said on Tuesday.

The Indian SARS-CoV-2



COVID-19 VACCINATION



Notice to govt on job for judges, lawyers

The Supreme Court on Tuesday issued a notice to the Centre on a PIL seeking inclusion of judges, court staff and advocates in the priority category for Covid-19 vaccination. The Bench posted the matter for hearing after two weeks.

Genomic Consortia set up earlier to study potential mutations and their impact in India today reported 187 cases of UK variant in India; four cases of the South African variant and one case of the Brazil variant.

ICMR Director General Balram Bhargava said the National Institute of Virology had successfully isolated and cultured the UK mutant strain and early studies had shown that Covaxin was effective in neutralising the UK mutant impact.

“We have also isolated the strain from Brazil and are in the process of isolating the South African strain,” Bhargava added. The South African variant emerged in mid-December 2020. In India, the strain has been detected in four different SA returnees — Angola (1), Tanzania (1), South Africa (2). Brazil variant has spread to 15 countries. One case of the strain has been found in India.

Judge flirting with junior not acceptable: Top court

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

Maintaining that sending flirtatious messages to a junior officer was unacceptable, the Supreme Court on Tuesday made it clear that it didn't want to entertain a petition filed by a Madhya Pradesh judge against disciplinary proceedings initiated by the state high court in connection with a sexual harassment case. “To

flirt with a junior official is not an acceptable conduct for a judge,” a Bench led by Chief Justice of India SA Bobde said.

The court's comments came after senior counsel Ravindra Srivastava, representing the HC, said, “He is a senior judicial officer. His conduct should have been more appropriate while dealing with a woman officer.” — TNS

Deep Sidhu's custody extended

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 16

A Delhi court on Tuesday extended by seven days the police custody of actor-activist Deep Sidhu in connection with the Red Fort violence on Republic Day during the farmers' tractor parade against the Centre's three new agri laws. Sidhu was produced before Metropolitan Magistrate Bhujali after expiry of his police custody in the case. — PTI

HP JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG NOTICE FOR e-TENDERING							
The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Solan invites e-tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved and eligible contractors/firms for the following work through e-tendering process:							
Sr. No.	Name of work	Estimated cost	Earnest Money	Time of Completion	Tender ID	Cost form	Last date of filing/ uploading the tender through e-tendering up to
1.	Providing LWSS Sheel and adjoining villages in GP Top Ki Ber Tehsil and Distt. Solan H.P. (SH:- C/o Raw water sump well cap. 6500 litres, Sedimentation tank cap. 101000 litres, Filter bed, Sump well cap. 101000, Main storage tank cap. 101000, Sector storage tank cap. 27500 litres, Pump house, Pumping machinery, Rising main, Distribution system and protection work).	1,28,97,837/-	1,62,000/-	Two years	2021_HPIPH_44374_1	1500/-	25.02.2021 up to 11 A.M.
2.	Augmentation of LWSS Banasar Sandhog GP Banasar in Tehsil Kasauli Distt. Solan H.P. (SH:- C/o pump house cum attendant quarter, Providing & laying rising main 125mm dia, Providing & installation of 2 sets of 75 HP in 1st stage, Providing & laying rising main 100mm dia, Providing & installation of 2 sets of 75 HP in 2nd stage, Providing & laying rising main 100mm dia, Providing & installation of 2 sets of 50 HP in 3rd stage, Distribution system, Feeder pipe, C/o R.C.C main storage tank cap. 95000 litres., Sump well 1st stage cap. 50000 litres., Sump well 2nd stage cap. 75000 litres., Sump well 3rd stage cap. 90000 litres., R.C.C intake 1 No., R.C.C. sub storage tanks i.e. 5000 litres,6000 litres,10000 litres.)	1,31,09,538/-	1,63,600/-	Two years	2021_HPIPH_44384_1	1500/-	--do--
The tender forms and other details can be obtained from website <a href="http://hptenders.gov.in">http://hptenders.gov.in</a>							
DPR/HP/5831		HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK			Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Solan.		

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)					
The Executive Engineer, Division HPPWD Tanda at Nagrota Bagwan, Distt. Kangra, H.P. on behalf of Governor of H.P. invites the item rate bids, in electronic tendering system from the eligible class of contractors registered with HP PWD for the works as detailed in the table.					
Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Starting Date for downloading Bid	Earnest Money	Deadline for submission of Bid
1.	Periodic maintenance of Daulatpur Sunhi Sarotari to Kandi Road Under Annual Maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP0408VR041) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 23/000 to 24/000 & 24/000 to 25/000)	2163370/-	18.02.2021	39950/-	01.03.2021
2	Periodic maintenance of Daulatpur Sunhi Sarotari to Kandi Road Under Annual Maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP0408VR041) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 25/000 to 26/000)	863030/-	18.02.2021	17300/-	01.03.2021
3	Periodic maintenance of Yot to Palli Road Under Annual Maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP04-08VR0291) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:-Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 8/000 to 9/000)	1773126/-	18.02.2021	34100/-	01.03.2021
4	Periodic maintenance of Yot to Palli Road Under Annual Maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village roads) (HP0408VR0291) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:-Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 9/000 to 10/000 & 10/000 to 10/560)	2796544/-	18.02.2021	49450/-	01.03.2021
5	Periodic maintenance of Nagrota to Buner Road Under Annual maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP0406VR0531) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 4/000 to 5/000 & 5/000 to 6/000)	1573360/-	18.02.2021	31100/-	01.03.2021
6	Periodic maintenance of Dehra Arla to Gabla Andrar under Annual maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP0406VR0471) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 5/000 to 6/000 & 6/000 to 7/000)	2581294/-	18.02.2021	46250/-	01.03.2021
7	Periodic maintenance of Dehra Arla to Gabla Andrar under Annual maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP0406VR471) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:-Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 7/000 to 8/000)	1230487/-	18.02.2021	24650/-	01.03.2021
8	Periodic maintenance of Tagipur to Band road under Annual maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP04-08VR581) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 9/000 to 10/000 & 11/000 to 12/000)	1558610/-	18.02.2021	30900/-	01.03.2021
9	Periodic maintenance of Jalot Hardoo Mangrella Road under Annual Maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP0408NC02551) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 0/000 to 1/000)	737513/-	18.02.2021	14750/-	01.03.2021
10	Periodic maintenance of Nihargalu to Jalot Road under Annual Maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP0408VR0571) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 7/000 to 8/000 & 8/000 to 9/000)	1671695/-	18.02.2021	32600/-	01.03.2021
11	Periodic maintenance of Balot to Sahidi Marg under Annual Maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP0406VR1061) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 0/000 to 1/000 & 1/000 to 2/000)	1524193/-	18.02.2021	30400/-	01.03.2021
12	Periodic maintenance of Thanda Pani to Jagai Road under Annual Maintenance plan for the year 2021-22 (Village road) (HP04060120) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:-Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 2/000 to 3/000 & 3/000 to 4/000)	1590569/-	18.02.2021	31400/-	01.03.2021
13	Periodic maintenance of Kufri Patialkar Khas Thana Chhinwar Rounkhar Road under annual maintenance plan 2021-22 (PMGSY road) (HP04008VR082) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 2/000 to 3/000 & 3/000 to 4/000 & 4/000 to 5/000)	2603420/-	18.02.2021	46600/-	01.03.2021
14	Periodic maintenance of Ramehar Tangroti Dhaloon Road Under Annual maintenance plan 2021-22 (PMGSY Road) (HP0408NC0278) in Distt. Kangra (HP) (SH:- Providing and laying 30mm thick bituminous concrete pavement in Km 03/000 to 4/000 & 4/000 to 4/500)	1235334/-	18.02.2021	24750/-	01.03.2021
The bidders are advised to note other details of tenders from the department website <a href="http://www.hptenders.gov.in">www.hptenders.gov.in</a> .					
(On behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh) Executive Engineer, H.P.P.W.D. Division, Tanda at Nagrota Bagwan. HIM SUCHNA AVAM JAN SAMPARK					
DPR/HP/5812					